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HAMPTON TOWNE CRIER

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

April/May, 2004



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TIME FOR THE ANNUAL HAMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Sunday, April 25th
Serving 7:00 a.m. to Noon

NEW THIS YEAR: Come and meet your friends and neighbors at the new Hampton Heritage Center in Heritage Park off Rt. 84 just north of East Moline's Empire Park.

Plenty of paved parking! Enjoy the river view and see the carved Ginkgo tree while having breakfast!
Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage and our popular Biscuits & Gravy
Coffee, Milk and Juice
Donations at the Door



Sunday, April 25th

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(No Editorial this month)



Plan Ahead Community Calendar

APRIL, 2004

- 15 Hampton Fire/Rescue Auxiliary Meets 6:30PM at Firehouse
- No School at Hampton-Teacher's Institute
- 19 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Public Meeting/Discussion on the Budget at 6:00 p.m.**
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 20 Fire Dept. Business Meeting 7PM, Hampton Firehouse
- 23 **Arbor Day**
- 24 PTA Carnival at Hampton School 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Earth Day**
- 25 Hampton Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast at Heritage Center

MAY, 2004

- 3 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 7&8 All Hampton Yard Sale
- 9 **Mother's Day**
- 15 Brettun & Black Museum clean-up/Set-Up Day 10a.m.-Noon
- 17 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 19 Hampton School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. at School
- Historical Society Regular Meeting
- 21 Hampton-NO School-Teacher Institute
- 25 Hampton School Field Day* Tentative
- 26 Hampton School Awards Day* & 4th Quarter Ends.
- 26 Hampton School Kindergarten Graduation *Tentative
- 27 Hampton School Last Day of School *Tentative
- Hampton School 8th Grade Graduation *Tentative
- 30 Traditional Memorial Day
- 31 Memorial Day Observed
- Memorial Day Service-10AM Hampton Soldier's Monument**
- Brettun & Black Museum Opens for the Season

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In Honor of Arbor Day - April 29, 2004

Trees have played a major role in the growth of this area first as fuel for riverboats and railroads then as a building material for homes and a booming barrel making industry. Hence, it should be expected that a tree provided one of Hampton's most unusual sights and has been a topic of conversation ever since May 6, 2002.

The story of the Gingko tree and how it came to be inside the Hampton Heritage Center should make your next visit to the Center more interesting. There are no certain records of who planted the gingko but for many years, it grew behind the Village Hall in the corner of property owned by Charles and Ivy (Lee) Cox and lastly owned by Rick and Anita Gillespie.



One of Hampton's most unusual sights—a huge sculpted tree moving down the center of the road.

In 2002 one mystery was solved: For generations, the age of the Hampton Gingko tree was debated. Some claimed it was sacred to early Native Americans who made their summer camps here and traded along the river before the white men came. Others believed it was planted when the town was newly platted.

Although the Gingko species has been around since prehistoric times, the Hampton tree has not. Professional foresters counted the newly exposed rings as accurately as possible in the widest sections and proved the age to be between 124 and 126 years old.

The well-known tree became dangerous when it started dropping branches as disease invaded. The inevitable was delayed for several years by groups wanting to keep the high-maintenance tree standing. Rather than just cut down the historic landmark, Mr. Gillespie developed a plan that would benefit the community. The Gingko was truncated, leaving 18-20' branches above the ground that would be sculpted.

The Gillespies wanted the large sculptures done by a proven local artist but most of all, the theme of the images should reflect the culture, history and ecological influences of the area with no images of war.

The very complicated process began with Rebecca (Gillespie) Gould creating small sculptures which were photographed from every angle. Those images were digitally super-imposed on a grid that was placed over photographs of the remaining, standing, tree branches and trunk by Jim Gillespie. The daunting task of interpreting and converting the proposed images, charts and depth calculations into a huge sculpture fell to local teacher and artist Thom Gleich. Mr. Gleich's work is well known to those visiting Credit Island to see his figures representing Georges Seurat's famous painting, *Sunday Afternoon on the Island of LeGrande Jatte* or seen his *Majestic Hope* in the northeastern corner of Vander Veer Park.

While Mr. Gleich labored on this project out of doors, the Gillespies consulted with Hampton's President Scott Newberg on where best to display the tree to the public. The lawn of the Village Hall was briefly considered but it wasn't until the Heritage Center building became a reality that President Newberg found a perfect location. The sculpted tree was welcomed as an interpretive symbol of the influences on this area and made possible, grants from state, federal and environmental sources.

Mr. Gillespie paid \$3,300 in truncating (cutting and hauling) expense to make the Gingko ready to carve. He also paid an

additional \$2,900 in legal fees and miscellaneous expenses. To transfer title to the Village and insure that ownership was clear, the Village paid a total of \$1.00 for the tree to Mr. Gillespie. The expenses involved in developing of images was absorbed by the Gillespie family with their artistic and technical services donated. The Village Board agreed to handle the cost of the artists services and any moving expenses.

With public ownership clearly established and the sculpting in progress, the tree was only awaiting building progress on the Heritage Center before being moved. Early in the morning of May 6, 2002 numerous people began to gather between First and Second Avenues just behind the Village Hall.

It is worth repeating that many people and companies donated their time and equipment to this project: Union steel workers, contractors, area municipal workers, crane operators, haulers and foresters participated. Artist Thom Gleich took the day off to help work the 7 foot long chain saw for the hours it took to separate the tree from its roots. MidAmerican Energy temporarily disconnected power lines to clear the way while the sculpture moved down the street.

The Gingko was first loaded onto the low-boy trailer shown above, slowly hauled down to Heritage Park then, lifted high above the Center and through the incomplete, open roof of the Heritage building. Thom Gleich directed placement inside the building's glassed-in display area facing the river and the bike path. There couldn't have been a better symbol to incorporate into the new Heritage Center nor a more modestly priced one compared to any in this region.

The sculpted figures carved in the trunk and limbs represent key influences of our heritage in this region. When you visit, look for the puma, bald eagles, dove, fish corn and wheat stalks. The human influences are represented by a Native American, pregnant pioneer woman and a farmer with his dog. Medallion type reliefs show steamboats and the railroads that brought settlers, commerce and prosperity here. The Gingko currently displays 10 separate



sculptures. Additional figures have been proposed for the tree but have yet to be accepted or scheduled.

There has been a lot of mis-information about the expenses connected with the Gingko. The following are all the expenses we could identify in Village records as of 7/15/02. Phone interviews were made with Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Gleich to confirm any additional payments through March, 2004.

Paid to Rick Gillespie for the Gingko Tree	\$ 1.00
Paid to Hampton Crane	1,330.00
Paid for Lag Bolts to reinforce sculpture	9.12
Paid to Majestic Hope Enterprises for artist's labor	20,000.00
Paid to Green Thumbers Landscaping	802.50
Total less than 2% of total Heritage Center expense as of Mar., 2004	\$22,142.62

The Ginkgo has long been of interest to environmentalists so we are pleased that the tree was not just discarded. Before the original tree was truncated, numerous seeds were saved and have since been nurtured into 3 or 4 year old saplings that have begun to appear around town as "old timers" continue the Gingko heritage.

"If one sets aside time for a business appointment or shopping expedition, that time is accepted as inviolable. But if one says, 'I cannot come because that is my hour to be alone,' one is considered rude, egotistical or strange. What commentary on our civilization."

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

PROPERTY TAXES, WHY THEY ARE THE WAY THEY ARE, PART 2

by Trustee Kevin Irby

Last month we took a look at how an individual's property tax was derived. This month we will look at what it would cost to live somewhere else.

Taxes have been around practically since the beginning of government. Taxes are applied to an individual to pay for services that individual receives. It seems like taxes are always going up and people always complain. But before someone complains about the taxes they pay where they live they may want to consider what it might cost to live someplace else.

Within Rock Island County there are several townships. Within each of these townships there are several tax code areas. Where a community lies within the County depends on which township and taxing code they are located in. The Village of Hampton for example lies within Hampton Township and has two different tax code areas as set by the township. In other communities there may be as many as 4 or 5 taxing code areas for a community and some of these may even cross over into other townships.

In 2002 the County records indicate there were 884 taxable parcels in Hampton including residential, commercial and industrial. Of these there were 817 residential parcels. The Net Valuation of these residential parcels ranged from \$0.00 to \$355,766.00. The 2002 average Net Valuation of residential property in Hampton (reflected towards the bottom of the chart) was \$24,084.00.

The chart reflects that if you could take your home and pick it up and keep the same property value and locate it in a different tax code in a different community, what it would cost to live there in property tax only. Each community has different fees they assess for different things such as water rates, sewer rates, garbage fees, etc. Some communities have debt such as general obligation bonds or loans for equipment purchase. While the municipal rate may be low for a respective community compared to others they may not be budgeting enough to run the community. For example

if the community doesn't set aside money each year for the future replacement of a squad car, fire truck, backhoe, etc., then that community will not have money available when it comes time to make that purchase. The community may be forced to take out a loan while in turn interest is being applied making the overall purchase more expensive than it has to be. This in turn may cause the community to look at increasing the amount of money they collect the next year to offset the debt. All of these things need to be taken into consideration when looking at the chart which only reflects property tax values.

The chart shows seven different communities. Each community, as stated earlier, has several tax codes within the community and some even cross over into other townships. For brevity purposes, each community shown below has had all of their tax code district rates averaged for an overall look at that community. If you would like to know the individual tax code rate breakdown and where that area lies within a respective community you can contact Trustee Kevin Irby by email at kevini@revealed.net

Municipality	Carbon Cliff	East Moline	Hampton	Moline	Port Byron	Rapids City	Silvis
County Taxes	0.7850	0.7850	0.7850	0.7850	0.7850	0.7850	0.7850
Twp. Taxes	0.1788	0.1567	0.1788	0.1231	0.2148	0.1361	0.1788
R&B-Twp.	0.0724	0.0590	0.0724	0.0184	0.0794	0.0724	0.0724
R&B-Munic.	0.0724	0.0587	0.0724	0.0081	0.0630	0.0241	0.0724
Municipal	1.0184	1.7862	1.0898	1.8930	0.8220	0.3822	1.7374
School Munic.	4.2394	3.8202	3.2106	4.9790	3.8492	3.8363	3.9727
School-30-UT	1.9786	1.9786	1.9786	0.3295		0.8595	1.9786
Metro Air Auth	0.0630	0.0630	0.0630	0.0630			0.0630
Library	0.1454		0.1338		0.3638	0.2359	
B.H. Coll #503	0.3671	0.3671	0.3671	0.3671	0.3671	0.3671	0.3671
Illini Amb.	0.0496	0.0496	0.0496				0.0496
Cemetery Twp.	0.0075	0.0078	0.0094	0.0001		0.0083	0.0094
Fire District	0.1452					0.2274	
Metro-Transit		0.1322	0.0961	0.1322			0.1322
Special Service	0.3834			0.6007	0.0132	0.0101	
Tax Rate Total	9.5061	9.2439	8.0784	9.2973	8.5495	8.5414	9.4184
Avg Net Val. =	\$2,289.45	\$2,226.30	\$1,945.12	\$2,239.17	\$1,577.38	\$1,575.44	\$2,268.32
\$24,084.00							
Rank Low-High	6	4	3	7	2	1	5

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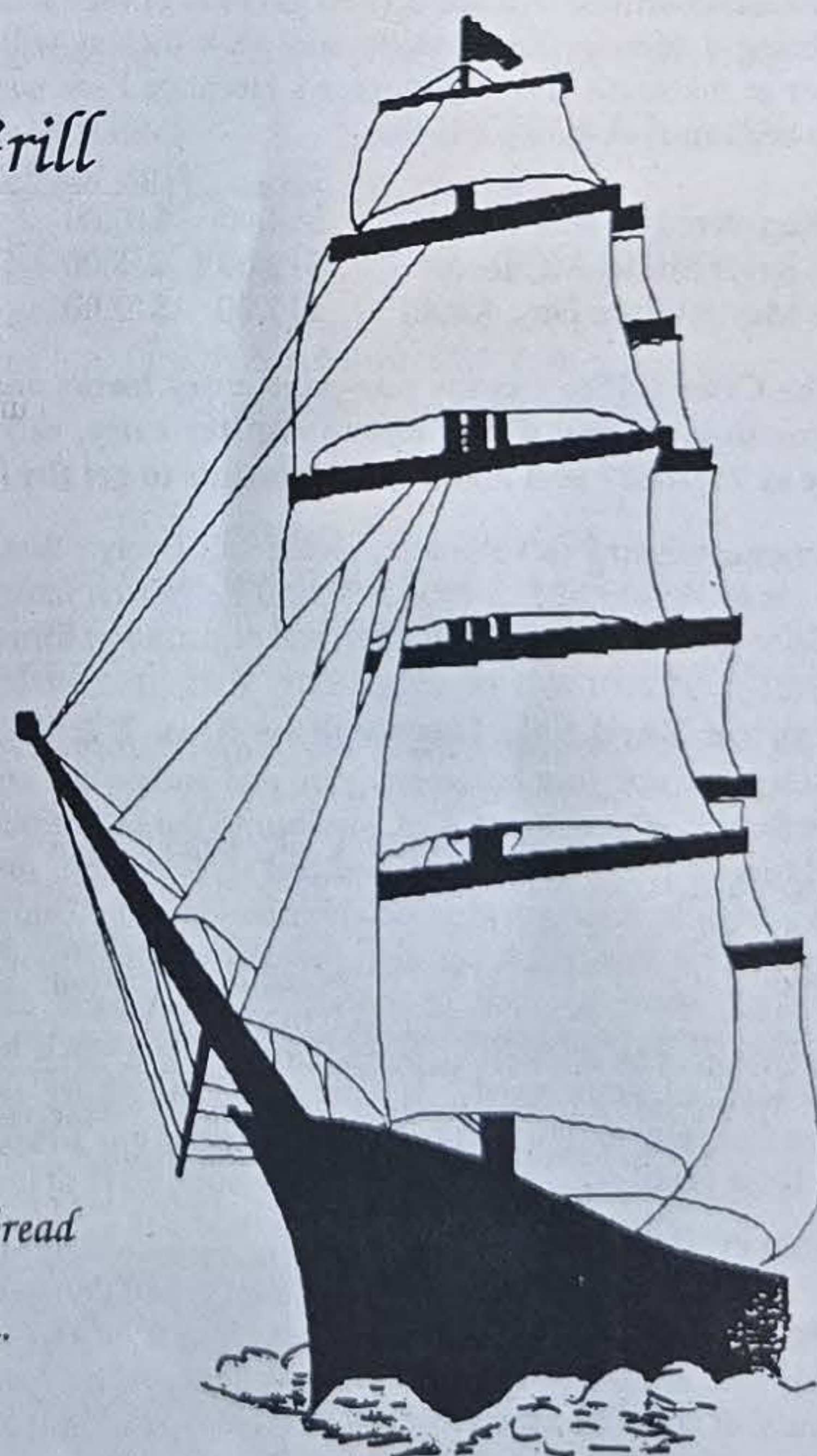
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**Come and celebrate on Sunday, April 18th
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*Jimmie Lee's has pulled into their new port-
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THE MISSING TOWNE CRIER PAGES

Quite a few blocks of information intended for the last issue of the Hampton Towne Crier did not get published last month. Some of the missing topics were announcements for St. Joseph's Ham Dinner (March 13th), a Recreation and Sports Ministry Seminar at the Wildwood Baptist Church (March 27th) and regretfully, all the area churches' Lenten Services schedule.

Apologies to all those with timed-event-announcements that didn't make it last month. We are creating a new system to make sure this doesn't happen again!

The Glad You Asked article (Part 2 in our series about the Better Business Bureau) and some reports on February and early March happenings are all included in this issue.

Area News Briefs:

Start Training for the 6th Annual June Bug Jog NOW!

Sign up now to run with the "Bug". The 6th annual 5K June Bug Jog Run/Walk is scheduled for Saturday evening, June 5, '04. It will be held in Hampton's Heritage Park just off Rt. 84. The event features a kids run for children ages 1-10, starting at 6 p.m.. They will run ¼ mile or ½ mile depending on their age. Parents or older siblings are permitted to run with the smaller children. All kids who run the race will receive a goodie bag and a medal. There will be special guests present to hand out the goodie bags.

The 5K will present awards to the first 3 finishers in each age category for runners and walkers (5 years for runners, 10 years for walkers). There will be 2 water stops on the course, and water, pop and snacks at the finish. The course is flat and scenic. Many nice door prizes will be given away. Proceeds for the race will assist local charities. All are invited to come out for a fun evening and bring a friend. Registration and pack pickup will be at the shelter at the south end of Hampton's Heritage Park near the boat ramp beginning at 4:30 p.m..

	5K	T-Shirt + Kids Race	No Shirt
Pre-Registered no later than 5/23	\$14.00	\$10.00	\$ 4.00
Rock River Strider Members	\$12.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 4.00
After May 30, Race Day, for all	\$17.00	\$12.00	\$ 5.00

The Crier Office has the one-page entry forms and detailed information. If you would like to register early, call the Crier office at 752-0627 and make arrangements to get the forms.

Anyone wishing to volunteer, please call Evelyn Watkins, Race Director at 309-496-9515 or 563-505-5074. Watch future issues of the Crier for additional information and registration forms.

Hampton Yard Sale Days will be May 7 & 8. It's time to start cleaning our your basement, yard and garage and setting aside items for this annual event. Don't wait until the last minute!

Throughout the entire area, not just in Hampton, residents are taking pride in their growing neighborhoods and cleaning up their yards. Some frustration has also been experienced with residents that don't seem to care or notice the cluttered, disorganized condition of their property. **Everybody: Step back and take a good look at your yard. It's time to contribute to a better image for your neighborhood and increase your property value by a little clean-up.** Help the elderly while you're at it.

Mystery Items of the Month

This all metal item was common in this area around the turn of the century. It could be seen most often in the now disappeared shanty town called "Happy Hallow". (The Golfmohr Golf Course now covers that area.) This was a hot item in it's time. Can you guess what it is?



The Hampton Historical Society had their spring meeting on February 18th at the school.



Historical Society members from as far away as Geneseo and Port Byron came for the special event. In keeping with the year of the Grand Excursion, a special slide show was given about the original, 1854 Grand Excursion steamboat flotilla which celebrated the railroad reaching of the Mississippi River. This year, the Grand Excursion will be reenacted from June 25 to July 5th with numerous activities along the river. The Hampton Historical Society hopes to give the slide presentation on several weekends at the Brettun & Black Museum which opens Memorial Day. Watch future issues of the Crier for dates and times.

Special Gatherings to Celebrate Special Birthdays

On March 6th, **Helen Graham** of Port Byron was honored on the occasion of her 90th birthday (March 5th) by relatives and friends. An open house was held at the Coe Township Hall.

Helen Wagner was born March 5, 1914 in Wilton, Iowa. She married Donald Graham of Muscatine on July 19, 1947. Mrs. Graham retired in 1975 after being employed for 30 years at the East Moline plant of International Harvester Co. as a material scheduler. She belongs to Zion Lutheran Church, Hampton.

March 14th, **Marilyn Ford Nightingale** of East Moline was honored at an open house at the River Valley District Library in Port Byron in celebration of her 80th birthday.

Marilyn Pratt, formerly of Hampton was born March 17, 1924 in Moline. She retired in 1984 as the school nurse for the Riverdale School District 100. Marilyn is a member of Church of the Cross in Port Byron.

Supporting our troops with letters

The Crier office has been sent an extensive list of soldiers deployed and service in the US that do not get anything during mail call. The list came with a request that we all choose several names at random and begin to write to them. The list was 11 pages long and impossible to print in this issue. Call the Crier office and get addresses or try viewing the MSN Website at: <http://by8fd.bay8.hotmail.msn.com/cgi-bin/metmsg?> Any school or organization that would like to organize a letter writing campaign to support these lonely troops may call 752-0627 and receive a copy of the complete list.

Talking Through the Fear

Submitted by F. D. Burton Phillips of Sullivan-Phillips Mortuary

It is always the unknown that is most frightening to talk about- or even to think about. Consider, for example the old monster movies-the less the hero knew about this adversary, the scarier the monster seemed.

For a long time, people have felt the same way in talking about death. Because no one really knows what will happen, the public generally has kept this important subject "under wraps", even among their own families.

Now, we see a new and healthier attitude toward death emerging across the nation. With the advent of thanatology courses in many schools, and the excellent studies that have described the grieving process, death has become a fit topic for discussion. We think that is wonderful! As the psychologists tell us, only by confronting those fears and uncertainties can anyone come to terms with what in reality is the final chapter of life.

We welcome your inquiries on this subject. We can recommend some fine books on death and dying, and suggest ways to conduct a family discussion. From a mental health standpoint, it is healthy to clear the air...for ourselves, and for our children.

Ask The Chiropractor?

By Dr. Dan Bobb of Bobb Chiropractic Center, PC

Dear Dr.,

What suggestions do you have for spring yard clean up and planting to prevent back injury and pain?

S. P. Hackers, Port Byron



Answer:

Spring fever strikes all of us the first 70- degree sunny day of April. If it occurs on a weekend it doubles the chances for people to overdue on their first time out into the yard after a long winter. There are some rigid rules for avoiding sore muscles and backs for those avid gardeners out there.

1. Dress for it. Layers of clothes allow for keeping out drafts and absorption of perspiration away from your body, keeping muscles warmer, and looser. This keeps a more even blood flow through the muscles while exerting them. This reduces lactic acid build-up, which is what makes them sore when you are done.

2. Place a rigid time limit on how long you will be working on the yard. If you have been exercising regularly (3x weekly) 2-3 hours the first time out is the max. Couch potatoes 1-2 hours max. Walking around the yard taking inventories of what you need, and to appreciate your work afterwards is rewarding and a great way to cool down (10-15 minutes). Also good for reducing muscle soreness.

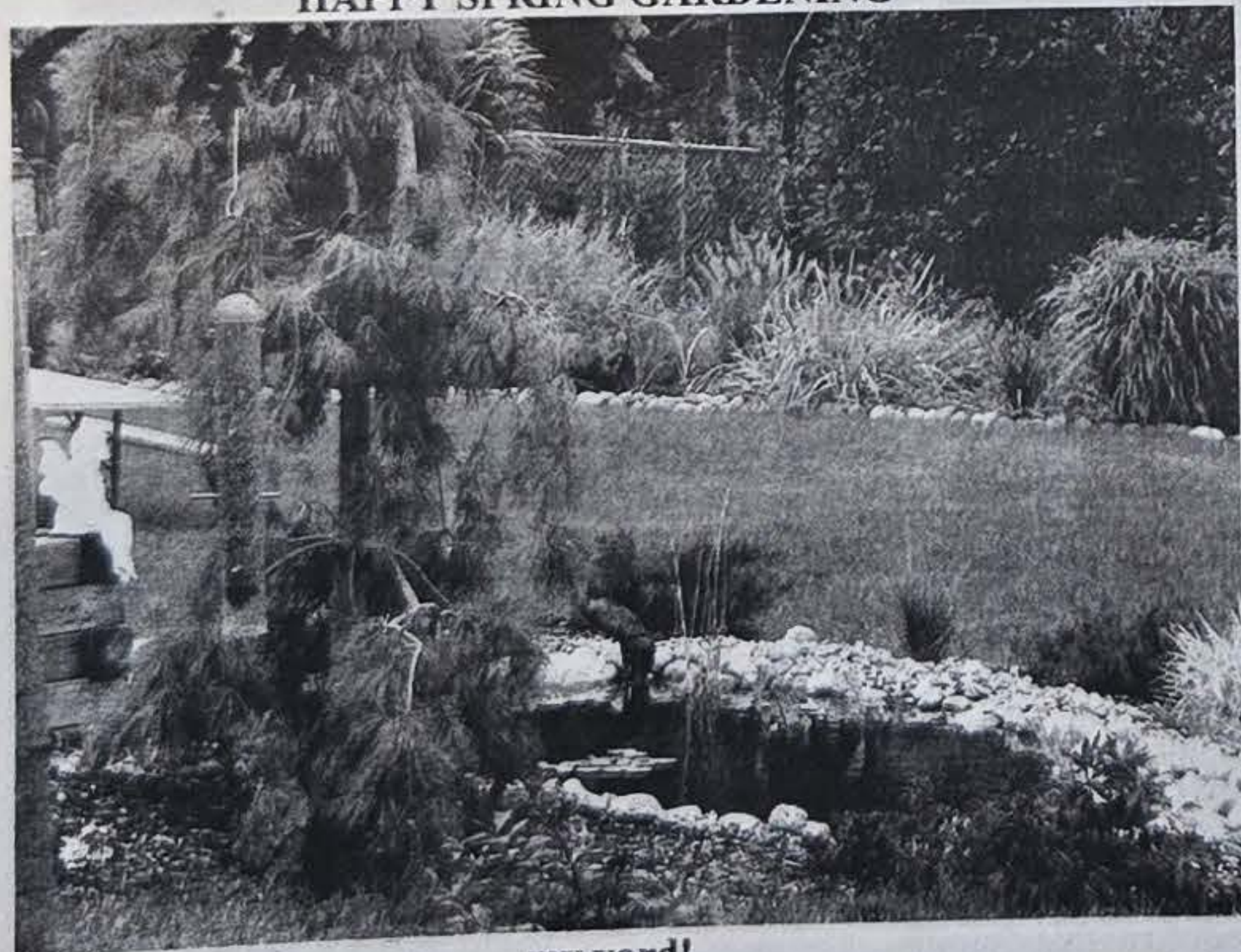
3. Mix it up! Don't rake for 2 hours straight! Rake for 15 minutes, switch from side to side during this process, using both sides of your body. Then clean up that pile, and do some other task for 15 minutes, like pulling out your dead flowers from last year. Watch your form, try not bending from the waist. Use kneeling pads for getting close to your work and reducing back fatigue. While kneeling avoid excessive reaching. This is a leading cause of knee pain and cartilage damage. Get up and move closer to the object, don't excessively reach while kneeling.

4. After walking your yard and admiring your work it is time to hit the showers. A nice hot shower/tub on all your sore muscles is next for 15-20 minutes. This helps flush more of the lactic acid out of the muscles fibers, to reduce soreness. Drinking an extra glass of water or two is always a good idea with exercise, to also help remove this substance.

5. Any joints that produce sharp pain in the next 12 hours should have ice applied to them for 15- 20 minutes. Reapply if necessary 2 hours latter. Sore muscles that ache or feel tight will respond best to another hot water application such as tub or shower.

6. Your family Chiropractor or MD should see any joint pain that persists as sharp pain, after 72 hours.

HAPPY SPRING GARDENING



my yard!

Send E-mail questions to "Ask the Doctor" via DrBobb@bobbchiropractic.com

When Jen Heming was freezing produce from their garden, she cleaned, blanched and cooled the vegetables. He husband's job was to package and label them. Some time later, she went to the freezer and was surprised to see packaged marked "Trees." "Why did you write that?" she asked her husband. He then confessed, "I couldn't spell 'broccoli'".



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Hampton United Methodist Church

4th Street at Second Avenue, Hampton

Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Toni Ross 1-877-204-5654

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



Most men would feel insulted if it were proposed to employ them in throwing stones over a wall, and then in throwing them back, merely that they might earn their wages. But, many are no more worthily employed now.

Henry David Thoreau

April Showers Call for Stormwater Pollution Solutions!

As the EPA celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, they would like us to remind you how important it is that, living so near the river, we all do our part to keep our water clean. Rainwater picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and pollutants before it flows into storm drains which discharge, untreated, directly into our waterways. We need to protect all our water sources for healthy swimming, fishing and drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water but there are ways that we can help.

Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on the lawn or unpaved surface so water is absorbed into the ground instead of running off into storm drains.

Check all your vehicles and machinery/equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs then clean up spilled fluids with absorbent materials like kitty litter or sand. Don't rinse spills into the storm drains. Properly dispose of tainted materials.*

Recycle used oil, automotive fluids at participating service stations and used paints and solvents at designated sites.*

Use all pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and delay application when the forecast calls for rain which will just wash them down the drains.

Select native plants and grasses that are drought and pest resistant as they use less water and chemicals to maintain them.

Sweep up your yard waste then compost or recycle when possible. NEVER put grass clippings on the street to drainage ditches.

Don't over water your lawn. Water during the cool of the day.

Cover piles of dirt and mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent these pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard.

Vegetate bare spots with grass or landscaping to prevent runoff.

During exterior repairs or remodeling, sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris, especially concrete, mortar, paint and cleaning solvents.

Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors. Filter and reuse paint thinner when using oil-based paints.

Reduce the amount of paved area in your yard and increase the vegetated area. Direct down spouts AWAY from paved surfaces onto lawns and other systems that will distribute water onto plants.

Pick up pet waste and dispose of it by flushing it. Leaving pet waste on the ground allows harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain.

Drain swimming pools only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels and where possible, drain pools or spas into the sanitary sewer system.

Store pool and spa chemicals covered to prevent leaks and spills.

Have septic systems inspected by a professional at least every 3 years and have the tank pumped as needed (usually every 3-5 yr.)

Protect septic tank: Don't park or drive over the tank area. Plant only grass over the tanks, never trees or deep rooted shrubs.

Flush responsibly: Don't flush paint, pesticides, oil or antifreeze. Don't flush diapers, paper towels or cat litter as they clog purification systems and damage processing equipment.

*Where to properly dispose of pollutants:

Hazardous waste-household chemicals-call then go to the Buffalo, Iowa landfill 563-381-1300

Old Appliances hauled away-FREE 1-800-917-1969

Used Oil and anti-freeze in sealed containers only may be recycled at Griffith's Auto Stop in Rapids City for a 60¢ per gallon or container disposal fee. Call them at 496-2200.

EMPTY Propane tanks: first ask large retailers if they will replace old valves for you or if they have a trade-in program. Otherwise the East Moline Land Fill will accept empty tanks.

If you have "odd ball" items to recycle or throw away, call the Rock Island Bi-State office and ask for the Waste Management Agency. They will give you official instructions: 309-793-6300.

That man is a success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who leaves the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem or a rescued soul; who never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had.

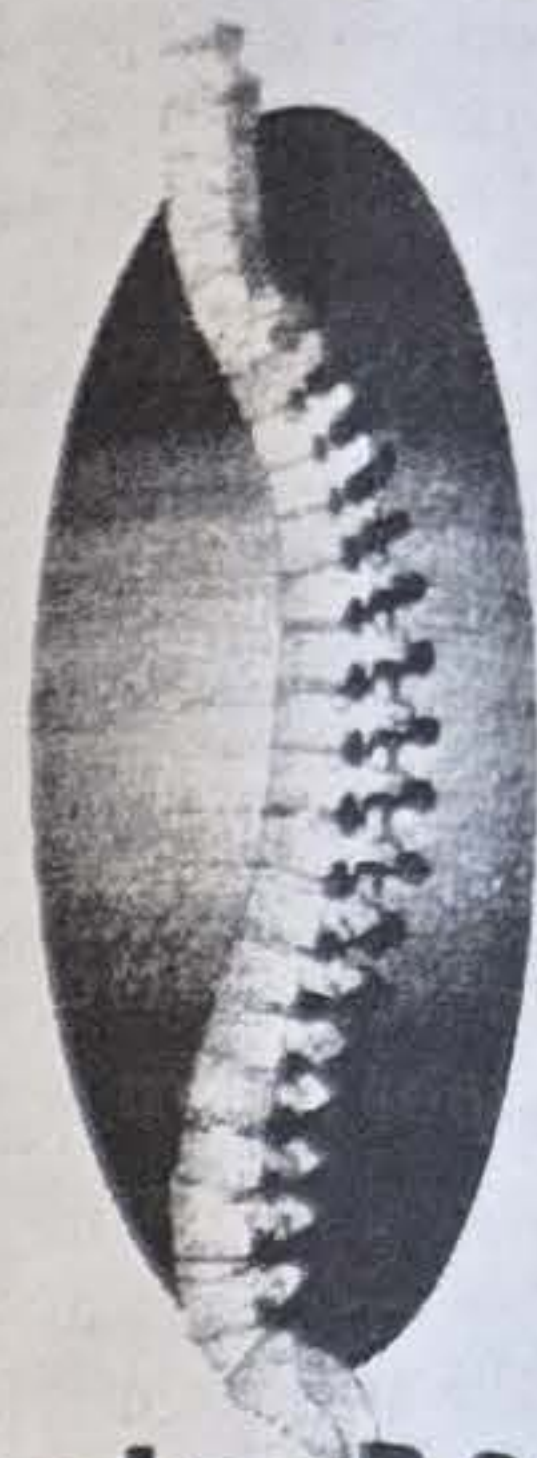
Robert Louis Stevenson

If You have Back pain or Neck pain,
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Dr. H. Dan Bobb
Dr. Armon Bert



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Hampton Welcomes Another New Business



Thursday afternoon, March 18th, Hampton Village President Scott Newberg and most of the Village Trustees participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Blimpie located at 501 State Avenue (Rt. 84). Steve & Lisa Zelle and Randy & Dianne Nichols of TRIZAN/BLIMPIE Subs & Salads who own the building as well as operate the Blimpie were all present.

The Blimpie is the first business to move into the new, 3-store mini-mall. To-date the two other stores are waiting occupants.

When asked what made Blimpie different from other chains, Dianne Nichols told us that all ingredients are sliced as needed. She said the resulting fresher flavor was well worth the extra effort. The repeat customers confirm this opinion.

The kids are always delighted to see Blimpie Bear waving to them from the drive into the parking lot.



We have gone completely overboard on security. Everything has to be secured, jobs, wages, hours - although the ultimate in security is jail, the slave labor camp and the salt mine.

Cola Parker, National Association of Manufacturers

BOOK & LIBRARY NEWS

By Dawn Porter

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

The week of April 19th is National Library Week. The East Moline Public Library will be giving classes to help patrons familiarize themselves with the new Quad-Linc system. Classes will be held Monday, April 19th, from 10 to 11 a.m.; Tuesday, April 20th from 7 to 8 p.m.; and Wednesday, April 21st from 3 to 4 p.m. You must call ahead and reserve a spot in the class. The library phone number is 755-3901.

The Friends of the East Moline Library are holding a spring raffle. The drawing is to be held April 17th so hurry down to the library to purchase your tickets. Tickets are only 50 cents. The prize, valued at \$125, includes gardening books, supplies, and an East Moline Centennial Monopoly game all packed in a Friends of East Moline Public Library Book Bag.

On June 4th at dusk the Friends will show the movie *SHOW BOAT* in coordination with The Grand Excursion. The summer reading program will kick off the following Saturday. Thanks to a donation from the Friends group the library now has Ken Burns' excellent documentary *THE CIVIL WAR* on DVD. This DVD is in the non-fiction section and can be checked out for a 3 week period at no charge.

Recommended reading: *They Marched Into Sunlight: War and Peace Vietnam and America October 1967* by David Maraniss. This book covers a weekend in October 1967 highlighting an anti-war demonstration/riot in Madison, Wisconsin and an ambush of an army battalion of the First Infantry Division known as the Black Lions in Viet Nam. The ambush is a very heroic story and the demonstration gives some insights into a difficult time. Hope you like it as much as I did.

SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

A man sat in his attorney's office. "Do you want the bad news first or the terrible news?" the lawyer said. "Give me the bad news first." "Your wife found a picture worth a half-million dollars." "That's the bad news?" asked the man incredulously. "I can't wait to hear the terrible news." "The terrible news is that it's of you and your secretary."

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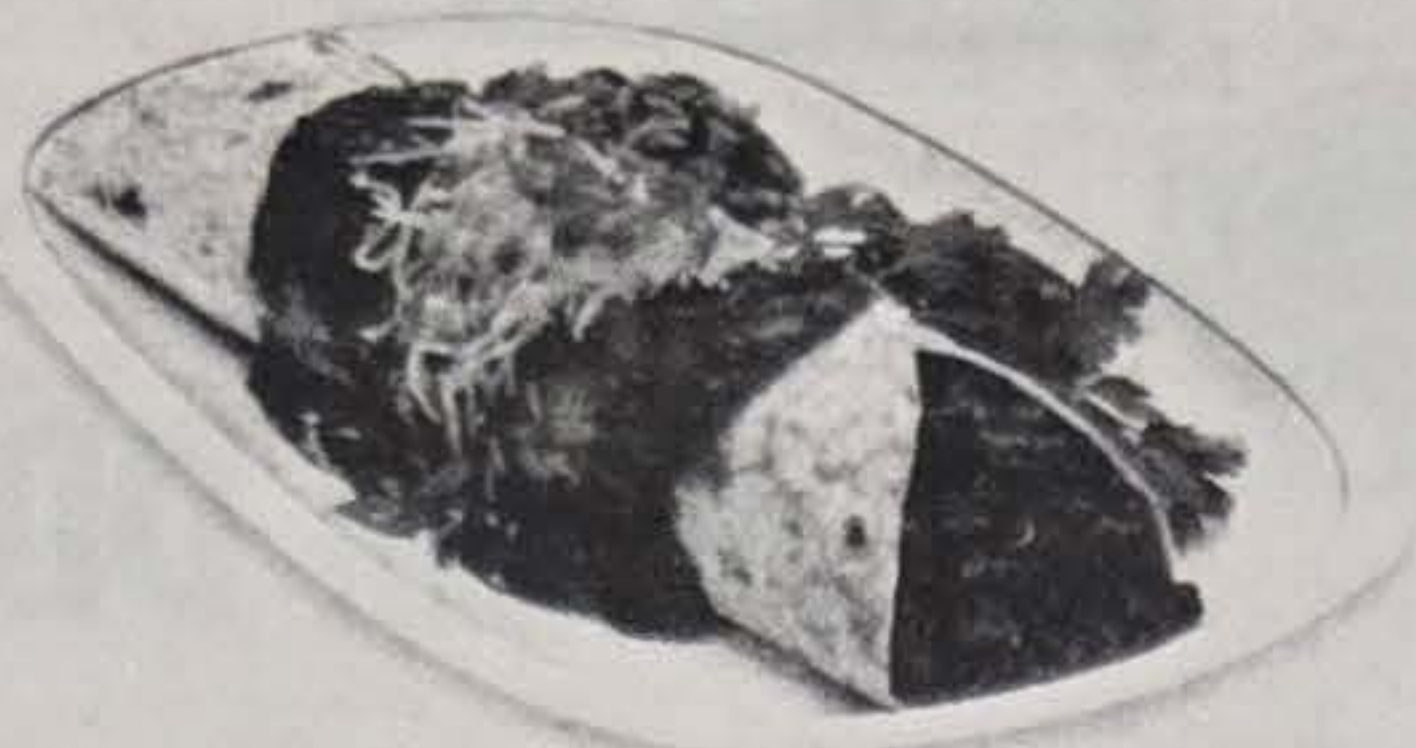
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Large Two Topping Pizza \$9.99 Expires 6/30/04	PICK-A-SIZE Single Topping Pizza With 14 Soft Garlic Breadsticks Medium \$9.99 Large \$11.99 X-Large \$12.99 Expires 6/30/04	FIVE TOPPING LARGE Choose From: Pepperoni • Beef • Sausage (add or Italian) Canadian Bacon • Pineapple Mushroom • Sauerkraut • Jalapenos Onion • Black Olives • Green Olives Tomatoes • Green Peppers \$11.99 Expires 6/30/04	DOUBLE DEALS Two Single Topping Pizzas 2 Medium \$11.99 2 Large \$13.99 2 X-Large \$16.99 Expires 6/30/04	SPECIALTIES Deluxe • Taco • Bacon Cheeseburger • All Meat • Veggie BLT • BBQ (Beef or Chicken) Chicken Fajita Medium \$11.99 Large \$13.99 X-Large \$15.99 Expires 6/30/04



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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.

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When your ship comes in, make sure you are willing to unload it.
Robert Anthony

In Appreciation

Thank you to Quinn's Hardware for donating bright safety paint for painting bollards (posts) on the bike path. Reports of injuries from running into the bollards have been received but totally removing the posts would allow cars, motorcycles, etc. to illegally drive along the path and present a worst hazard to cyclists. The painting of the bollards a bright green should alert cyclists to avoid collisions.



From Jane Cady to friends and neighbors: Thank you to Kelly and her niece Autumn (above) for thinning flower beds and raking my lawn. Thanks to Julia Short of Julia's in Port Byron for thoughtful flowers and the world's best fudge that really brightened a difficult week.

Anniversaries

Richard and Betty Mann will be honored at a 50th year open house on Saturday, April 17th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the East Moline Four Square Church. The Church is located at 900 Avenue of the Cities in East Moline. Your presence will be gift enough. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

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.

April 24 - Hampton School - CARNIVAL!

Saturday, April 24 from 4-7:00 PM plan to attend the annual PTA sponsored Carnival at the Hampton School. The Carnival is one of the most anticipated events each spring. Games of skill and chance, prizes, food and fun for all ages. The PTA needs additional volunteers to set up, run games and act as general helpers during the day.

Free-for-pick-up Copies of the Crier will no longer be available unless volunteers come forward to help distribute them to the retail locations of our advertisers. Each month, after almost 3,000 copies are processed for bulk and labeled mailing, hundreds of additional copies are hand-delivered to Crier advertisers to give to their customers. There are about 50 hand-deliveries to make between Port Byron on the north and East Moline on the south end of our coverage area. The physical demands of those final hand-deliveries are proving too much for your editor. Julia Short of Julia's Floral and Gifts in Port Byron has volunteered to handle most of the northern drop-offs. Are there others that will cover the southern route? Please call Jane Cady, editor at 752-0627. This is only a once-a-month task.

Spring Shape-up

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

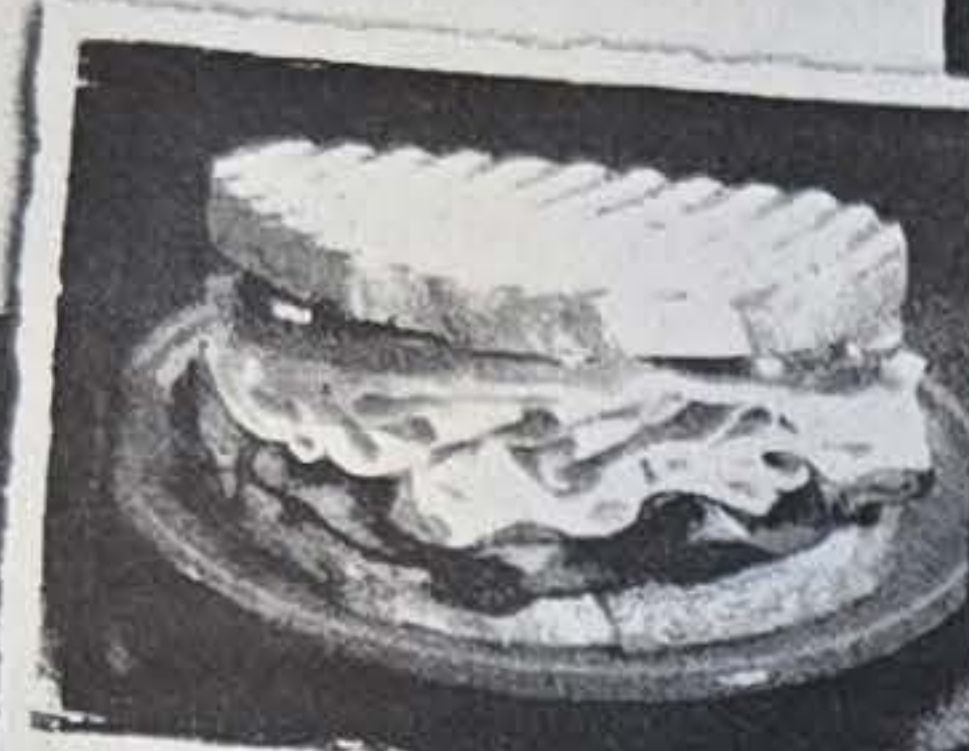
A Taste of San Francisco

- **Cable Car Club** — Tender roast beef, slow-cured ham, oven-roasted turkey and aged Swiss, topped with juicy tomatoes and fresh green peppers on San Francisco Sourdough bread
- **Fisherman's Wharf Tuna Melt** — Low-fat StarKist® tuna with cheddar cheese, juicy tomatoes and crisp onions on San Francisco Sourdough bread
- **Golden Gate Gourmet** — Italian-herb turkey and provolone cheese with fresh tomatoes, crisp onions and balsamic vinaigrette on San Francisco Sourdough bread
- **Union Square Ultimate Veggie** — A veggie delight! Fresh cucumbers, black olives, banana peppers, sliced tomatoes, crisp lettuce and Swiss cheese, splashed with balsamic vinaigrette on San Francisco Sourdough bread

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Congratulations:

Congratulations to Madeline Conway, our subscriber and avid reader in Naperville, Illinois for winning her local Science Fair with a project on how music effects blood pressure. She will now compete at the state level. Good Luck to You!

NOTE: Birthday, Anniversary, Obituaries for area residents, engagement, wedding announcements and announcements of upcoming events sponsored by not-for-profit organizations are all **free in the Crier**. We only ask that you meet the issue deadline of the 6th of each month. The Crier mails on or about the 15th of each month to plan your publicity accordingly. Any questions-Call Jane Cady, Editor at 309-752-0627. Sorry, the Crier does NOT print classified ads.

LATE BREAKING NEWS:

- **Condolences** to Sandy Carmack on the death of her Brother in Texas.
- Some Bike Helmet wearing youngsters have been pleasantly surprised to receive a small reward for being out and about town with their helmets on. HA! Caught you doing something right -- **Helmets are cool!**
- **Snow birds** are returning from their winter homes in Florida and points south. Snow birds: Many of you have your Criers sent to your winter quarters to keep in touch with home town news. Please help us keep costs down and call Jane at 752-0627. Let us know you are back and don't need special mailings. Thanks!
- Yard Waste **stickers** and excess garbage stickers are on sale at Village Hall and Porters.
- **Reminders:** As lawn mowing starts please remember that grass clippings may no longer be put on the street. They are a hazard to cyclists and the EPA regulations issued last fall say mulch grass, bag it or dry then, burn it. No one is permitted to burn anything on railroad property. That means on the ties or the graveled area next to the rails.
- April 29th at 6PM is the **Science Fair at Hampton School**. All are welcome to attend.
- May 12th **Cultural Arts Day** will be held at Hampton School. During this special day, students will learn about other cultures through several art projects, music and the written or spoken word.

I cannot see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he can look up into the heavens and say there is no God.

Abraham Lincoln

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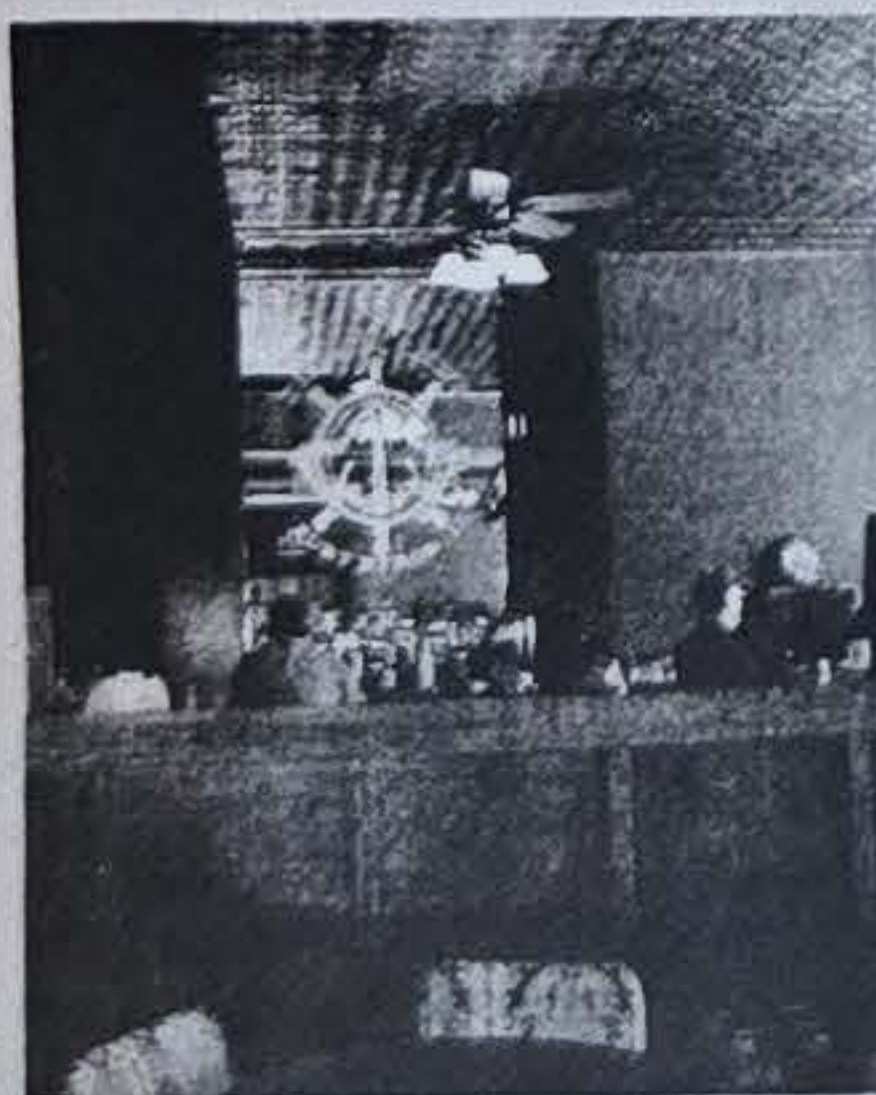
Missioner of Hope, Dru Smith to Speak at Church of the Cross



Dru Smith, formerly of Rock Island will be speaking at Church of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. on May 4th. She has been in Africa since 1999, most recently in Kitwe, Zambia setting up a shelter to house homeless children. She will tell you about the culture there and Piano House where they have such a huge influence on the children's lives. There is no charge for the evening but they are collecting toothbrushes and tooth paste for the children in the shelters. It would be appreciated if you would contribute brushes, etc. to their smiles!

Popular Rapids City Business relocates to Port Byron's Historic Waterfront

Diane DeVoss, owner of Jimmie Lee's Bar and Grill has, for months been working to refurbish what used to be the old Jensen Appliance Store at 108 South Main Street in Port Byron. As with any renovation project, discoveries were made that created delays in a crowded and already busy schedule. One such discovery was made when the old suspended ceiling was removed to reveal a genuine, patterned tin ceiling which has now been preserved. You'll notice it, above the long oak bar with the extra tall mirrored backdrop.



The new larger quarters allow a much larger dining area, separated from the game room (with pool table), and the classic bar where friends and neighbors meet. Throughout their new location across the street from the river, Jimmie Lee's has kept their nautical theme but enhanced the atmosphere by adding lots of antiques and period pieces.

Best of all, according to Diane, is the renovated kitchen. She has just received a broasting machine for pressure-frying chicken and other delicacies. For the 7 years Jimmie Lee's operated in Rapids City, they established a reputation for excellent lunches and dinners. All their desserts are home made; they're famous for their twice-baked potatoes and unusually tasty cole slaw. Find their ad in this issue for more menu items and plan on trying lunch or a night of casual dining in Port Byron.

Sunday evening, April 18th will be the much anticipated official opening at the Port Byron location. If you enjoy live blues, the well known R&B band of Ernie Peniston will appear to help celebrate the opening. Mark your calendars now and plan to be there!

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River Valley Library Schedule of Activities

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

April, 2004

- 15 10 a.m.-U&V-Ukulele and Vroom. Story Time
1 p.m.-Movie-*Cheaper by the Dozen*
- 22 10 a.m.-W is for Whale and Water. Story Time
- 24 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Book Sale upstairs meeting rooms
- 29 10 a.m.-XYZ-X-ray, YoYo and Zoo. Story Time

May, 2004

- 6 1 p.m.-Movie *Runaway Jury*
- 7 9 a.m.-Stamping Session
- 16 2 p.m.-Ladies Movie *Calendar Girls*
- 20 1 p.m.-Movie *Cold Mountain*

June, 2004

- 4 9 a.m.-Stamping Session
- 5 7 a.m.-? Shopping trip to Chicago

Port Byron-Used Book Sale & All-Town Yard Sale

Saturday, April 24th, the River Valley Library will participate in the All-Town Yard Sale by offering used books for sale in their upstairs meeting room. Port Byron residents signing up for the town sale* may drop by the library for a list of books. The Library will advertise this event in the Review and Dispatch. The book sale at the library will be held from 9:00a.m. to 1 p.m.. The yard sale will be until everyone decides to go home.

*After April 19th, you may stop by the library for a map of local yard sales.

Shopping Trip to Chicago

Please join the River Valley Library on Saturday, June 5th for a trip to Chicago. For \$30.00 per person, a bus will take us to the Michigan Avenue shopping area. There are many stores to choose from, including: Gap, Nordstrom's, Marshall Field's, Neiman Marcus, Sak's Fifth Avenue, American Girl Place, Banana Republic, Barneys New York, Chanel Boutique, Giorgio Armani, Gucci, Guess?, H&M, Hermes, LEGO store, Louis Vuitton, Marshalls, Niketown, Pottery Barn, Ralph Lauren, Talbots, Tiffany & Co., United Colors of Benetton, 900 North Michigan Shops (a mall which has over 70 stores), and Water Tower Place (a mall with over 100 specialty shops). Pick-Up time would be at 7AM, and we would return at 7PM. Call the River Valley District Library in Port Byron at 309-523-3516 for details and reservations.

River Valley Library now offering MOVIES!

River Valley Library show a movie on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month October-May for adults. Free pop and popcorn at every movie.

April 15: 1:00 p.m. *Cheaper by the Dozen* with Steve Martin

May 6: 1:00 p.m. *Runaway Jury*

May 20: 1:00 p.m. *Cold Mountain*

Sunday, May 16th is Chick Flick Sunday!

Ladies, join us at 2:00 at the library for *Calendar Girls*. Bring a snack to share and bring a friend!

Call 309-523-3440 or drop in to sign up for the Sunday fun.

Thanks to all who donated time, talents or food to the Friends of the River Valley Taco Dinner fundraiser. It was a great success and about \$500.00 was raised for the cabinet fund.

Come join Friends of the RV Library the 1st Friday of every month at 9AM with your stamps and ink pads to have some fun. The first stamping session will be May 7th. (A small cost may occur).

"A good archer is known not by his arrows but by his aim."

English Proverb



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FIVE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULDN'T WAIT TO PUT YOUR PROPERTY ON THE MARKET

By Terri Bullock Realtor, MelFoster

1. INTEREST RATES: Over history interest rates have fluctuated up and down. Currently, we know what rates are. If rates increase, buyers are knocked out of the marketplace. With fewer buyers in the marketplace, the chances of finding a buyer willing to pay your price decreases. You can't predict what's going to happen with interest rates. Nobody can. There is an advantage in dealing with a known set of circumstances.

2. NEW PROPERTY COULD COST MORE: Delaying your new property purchase could increase your overall cost. For example: let's say you're selling a \$100,000 property and looking to buy a \$150,000 property. If both properties appreciate at the same rate of 3% over the next six months, you gain \$3000. on your existing property, however, the \$150,000 property you delayed buying will now cost you \$154,500 or a net loss of \$1500.

3. TIME IS NOT ON YOUR SIDE: Sellers that have delayed putting their house on the market might find themselves in a "have to" sell situation, and have to accept an offer for less than they wanted. Once you have put your house on the market, you won't feel pressured to accept an offer that's less than you want.

4. SUPPLY AND DEMAND: Right now in the marketplace there are a certain number of buyers and a certain number of sellers. We are currently dealing with a known set of circumstances. There is no guarantee that in a few weeks, or a few months, there might be fewer buyers, or more sellers in the marketplace. Either way by waiting you are taking a gamble with accomplishing your real estate objectives.

5. TAX CHANGES: Currently we enjoy a number of benefits for owning property. See your accountant for tax advice. Should the federal government decide to change capital gains or interest deductions, you could risk the current tax advantages which you currently enjoy. The only thing that never changes is change itself.

It might be more convenient to wait to put your property on the market for various reasons. If you knew by waiting you could costing yourself \$3000. or more, would you still want to wait? Part of the reason you hire a professional is to provide you with all the facts so you can make an informed decision.



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East Moline, IL

755-3663

10:00AM-11:00PM

A WORD ABOUT TIMING.....

There are many factors that come into play when deciding to sell a property, and timing can be one of the most important factors.

It's important to work with a real estate professional that cares enough to take the time to learn about your particular real estate objectives. Just as a doctor or a lawyer should present all the fact for you to make an informed decision, look for a real estate professional that will give you all the facts when it comes to the sale of your property. If money is a consideration in the sale of your property, carefully consider each of the five ways sellers have lost money.

Whether moving up, or moving down, most people contemplating selling a property do so because they want to enjoy a better lifestyle. When is the best time to enjoy what YOU want?



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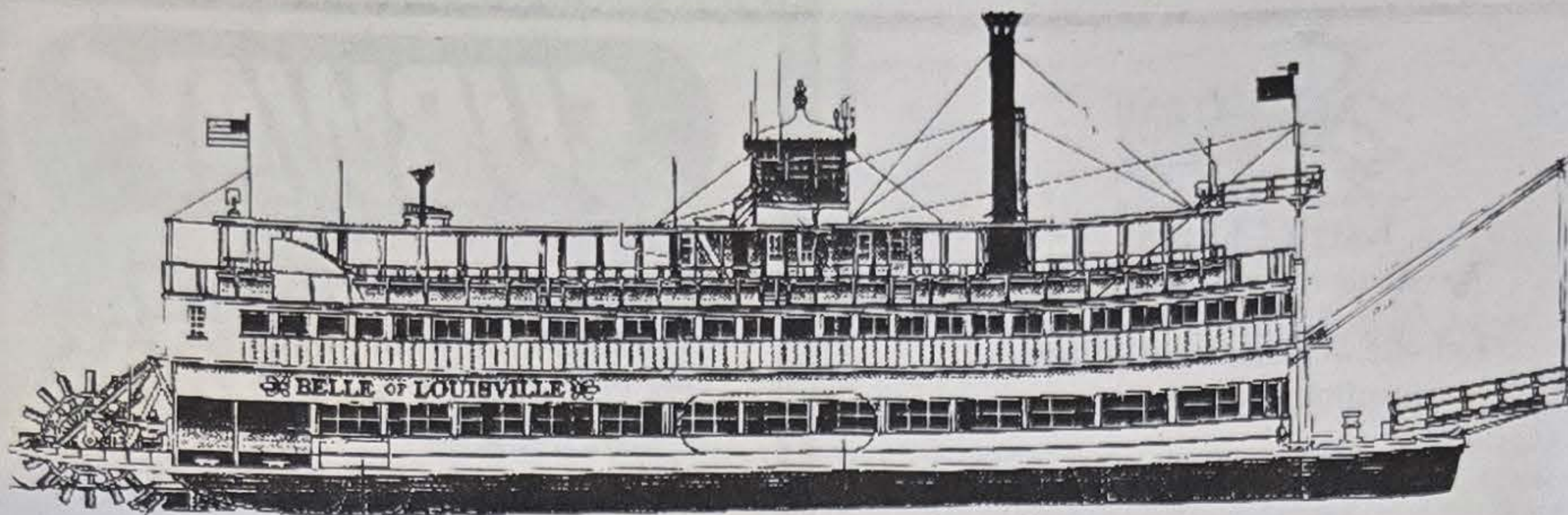
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More Paddling on the Mississippi

By Rocky Nelson

Since we will have a major re-enactment in June, of the Great Excursion that took place in 1854, we will devote a bit more space to the Mississippi steamboat, a truly "American" invention. It is an "American" invention because it came about because it was vitally needed. There was great pressure in our country to expand to the west. The easiest way for people to do this was via the rivers. The western rivers were nothing like the eastern rivers. The eastern rivers were more like the European rivers, which had been used for commercial traffic for centuries. The craft, which navigated their rivers were well suited to the eastern rivers across the sea. So, the boats used in the East followed the European models, which were totally wrong for the western rivers. We pointed out how Nicholas Roosevelt built the first steamboat to travel the Ohio and the Mississippi. We also mentioned some of the features of that boat that made it barely suitable for the swift, snag ridden, and variable depths of western rivers. Last time we also pointed out how the designs were modified to suit the western conditions, largely through the efforts of Henry Shreve. (Did you remember his name? I told you to.)

Some steamboats were side-wheelers, which had the advantage of being easier to steer and had a large capacity for cargo and passengers. Unfortunately, they had the disadvantage of being too big and wide to navigate anything but the large rivers. This led to the development of the sternwheeler, a boat with a wheel in the stern (back). The picture that accompanies this piece, is a diagram of the sternwheeler "Belle of Louisiana". Sternwheelers were much narrower than the side-wheelers and thus could go places that couldn't accommodate the wide paddle wheels. The "Belle of Louisiana" drew 5 feet of water. Actually, that was a lot for a sternwheeler, some of which drew only 18 inches. It was jokingly said "they could run on a heavy dew". Passengers usually preferred the side-wheelers, partly because they usually had larger accommodations, and also because the steering rods that enabled the pilot to steer the boat were so much longer and caused a noise and vibration that was undesirable. Unfortunately, for traffic on the smaller rivers the sternwheelers had to be used.

The lower Mississippi, starting at the confluence of the Ohio, is a much different river than the upper Mississippi, that we are familiar with. We have pointed out in previous columns that traffic on the upper Mississippi came later than on the lower river. The upper river is narrower, generally shallower, and has more navigational hazards. People working on the river generally confine themselves to working either the upper or lower river, seldom both. We have a resource in our community that is a gold mine of information about these topics. Mike Hanlin, who lives up by the I-80 bridge, has a family tradition tied up with the river, and is in fact, himself a licensed river pilot. Currently, though retired, he drives the boat for Chad Pregracke, our local environmental hero. Mike's dad was once skipper of the Delta Queen, and Mike himself started out working the river before he went into education and ended up working for United Township High.

Mike related once, that he had never worked the lower river and decided he would like to try it for himself and signed on in St. Louis on a southbound tow. Everything was uneventful until they got south of the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi. With the added volume of water the river flows much faster and shortly there was an announcement over the boat's intercom that Mike had never heard before. He asked a shipmate what it meant. The man replied nonchalantly, "Oh, that just means that we're out of control". Mike was astonished and asked what that meant. His shipmate explained that they could no longer slow down, stop, or do anything except steer. Mike had a bad feeling about this news and asked "What happens when we get to New Orleans?" The man replied "We'll probably be under control by then, but if we aren't they'll send out a tow boat to hook onto us and slow us down". Mike discovered one difference between the upper and lower river.

He also describes how, when the Ohio joins the Mississippi, the water in each is a different color and for some time it looks like two different rivers flowing beside each other, which of course, it is. Mike argues that the Ohio and the lower Mississippi are the river and the upper Mississippi is the tributary. The geographers and the geologists disagree but how many of them have ever worked the river?

Always put off till tomorrow what you shouldn't do at all.

Morris Mandel

SOUTH MOLINE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER EVENTS: April/May, 2004

Open Monday through Friday 9:00AM to 3:00PM All reservations must be paid a week in advance.

April 26, May 10 & 24: 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 food item for Quad City Food Pantry, get "Pantry Pack" bingo sheets FREE.

April 15, May 20: Senior Citizens Catered Dinner 5:00 p.m. Cost \$6.50. After dinner program and drawings for prizes. Participate in the fun and fellowship. Paid Reservations due at least 1 week in advance.

April 28, May 26: Lunch and Card Games Cost \$3.00 Cards & games follow lunch.

April 7, May 5: Euchre Tournament 12:30 p.m. Cost \$4.00. Played according to Hoyle Rules. Men & Women welcome

April 21: Senior Citizen Birthday Party 1:00 p.m. If you are 60 years or more, if your birthday is in February or March or April, you and a guest are invited for refreshments, games and prizes. Reservations are required by 4/16/04.

May 3: Genealogy Club 1:00 pm Learn how to research and preserve your family history

FREE AARP INCOME TAX PREPARATION EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY

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Glad You Asked - Part 2 in Our Series

Understanding The Scope of The Better Business Bureau

Limitations: Although the BBB helps consumers and businesses through information and business self-regulation, it is not a government agency, nor does it have law enforcement powers.

- The BBB cannot force a business to do what the customer wants, although most businesses work with the Bureau to ensure customer satisfaction
- The BBB does not have legal authority, although it can inform you of applicable laws and refer you to legal assistance
- The BBB cannot help either party involved in a dispute break a legal contract; however, the BBB will attempt to assist if misrepresentation or fraud is involved
- The BBB does not make recommendations or endorsements, but it can provide you with a list of member companies that have pledged to follow BBB standards
- The BBB does not appraise items or pass judgment on the price charged for merchandise, the operating efficiency of devices, or the length of time merchandise should last; however, it can process complaints regarding misrepresentation in these areas.

How the BBB can help you: As a private, non-profit organization, the purpose of the BBB is to promote an ethical marketplace. It does so by providing the following information and services to consumers and businesses:

Business Reports: Information on a business's performance in the marketplace, which can alert you to a history of unanswered or unresolved complaints, law enforcement actions, and advertising violations

Charity Reports: Information on charities and other soliciting Non-profits that seek public donations

Dispute Resolution: Help in resolving a complaint against a company, using conciliation, mediation and arbitration services when appropriate

Consumer Information Clearinghouse: Brochures, books, public library videos and Internet advisories on many important topics to assist consumers and businesses in making wise purchasing decisions

Business Ethics Promotion: Promoting truthful, accurate advertising and selling practices, both online and off-line, by monitoring advertising and seeking appropriate corrections

Fighting Fraud: Alerting consumers and law enforcement agencies about current marketplace scams and frauds.



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"He that cannot dance claims the floor is uneven.

Hindustan Proverb

Area Seniors: Pla s to Go, Things to Do

There is no excuse for seniors to be bored or to feel isolated when the UT Seniors organization is around or the South Moline Township Senior Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. All are welcome.

The Center building is run the South Moline Township offices on 15th Avenue in East Moline but is located at 637 - 17th Avenue in East Moline. The smoke and alcohol-free Center is rentable by any club or group by calling 755-3332. The United Township Seniors, Inc. is one club that regularly holds functions at the Center.



Donna Burrell and Betty Dogget man the Center. Rosalie Jensen is President of the UT Seniors, Inc. and Editor of their newsletter.

Co-operation between the Center staff and organizations keep the schedule filled with interesting and useful activities that are always listed in each monthly Crier issue. Lots of bingo and card games. (Bridge, 500; no poker but they do have Euchure tournaments). The East Moline library comes once or twice a month for a book exchange and Trinity frequently has foot and hand care clinics there for a very reasonable price. A Genealogy Club has just started to teach Seniors that finally have some time, how to research and preserve their family histories. The AARP has sent their trained, volunteer tax preparers to the Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays through April 15th to help low and moderate income individuals file their taxes. There is no charge for this service.



I've been talking to the Center for almost a year now and getting schedules from Rosalie Jensen. It wasn't until last week, with notebook and camera in hand that I had a chance to visit there. I was very impressed by the number of people that were obviously having a great time socializing, nibbling and playing games. Some told me they just enjoyed having a destination where they might find old friends, make new ones and get out of the house for a few hours. The SMT Center is a meeting place for all types of people and everyone is welcome from any of the towns in the area. Special events at the Center usually require paid advance reservations and have a small cost attached to keep up the building. There are no other costs. The UT Seniors, Inc. is a separate organization that uses the Center for some of their activities. To Join the UT Seniors at an annual dues of \$6.50, contact Rosalie Jensen or Floy Hull who usually can be found at the SMT Center.

NO NEW EASTER BONNET

By Franciska Rasmussen



Years ago it was the custom to have all new clothes for Easter. The churches would be gleaming with the beautiful hats and outfits worn by the women and the men were handsome in their new suits and ties. The children were also shining with new finery.

I did my best to see that my daughters Colleen and Francine were dressed in the finest we could afford. When finances were lean I would sew their pretty dresses but one year I could not even buy the fabric for it. This was the year my husband was laid off at Easter time. In those days when there was a lay off the checks would only come in about the time the men went back to work. So, my husband would go through the country picking up steel and iron to sell to the scrap yard in order to get money for groceries and gas for the car. There just was not any money for any thing else.

There is nothing as cruel as a small child because they will zap you with a cutting remark without thinking of how it might hurt some one. Little girls are especially mean.

There was no way I could help this situation because I did not want the girls to be hurt by their classmates who went to the same church. I did not want them to have to explain that Daddy was out of work was why they did not have Easter clothes. Well this is not what Easter is all about but it seems to come with it.

It was explained to the girls that I did not want them hurt by nasty remarks so we would not go to church on Easter. But, we go every Sunday and always on Easter. This was hard but that was it.

On Easter morning it was raining quite heavy and I woke them and said: "Get ready we are going to church. We will wear our rain coats and head scarves and I'll bet we won't see many Easter out fits there." This was true almost every one was in rain gear but a couple of die-hards

At school the next day not one girl said any thing about Easter clothes but a boy did. His name was Joe. He said " Francine I didn't see your new Easter Bonnet yesterday at church—how come? " To this she replied, " How come you wore your school jacket to church and not a new suit or your regular one? "

Joe said "what do you think I'm crazy wearing my new suit in that rain—it would be ruined". Well Francine told him " I think you answered your own question."

That Easter I think we all learned a lesson about material things and how they complicate our lives but it was a nice rain, which brought out many flowers.

Two Port Byron Poets Recognized

During Bix Beiderbecke's 101st birthday celebration, Dick Stahl, the Quad-Cities Poet Laureate emeritus awarded prizes to three poets for the "Ode to Bix" contest. This fund raising event, sponsored by the Davenport Public Library, the Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society, Friends of the Davenport Public Library and the Radisson helps produce funds for educational programs. Both from Port Byron, Joanne Wiklund took second place and Dan Mikulecky placed third in the contest.



Pictured left to right: Erma Ziegler, Melinda Loete and Betty Morgan, members of the coordinating committee. Photo taken & Submitted by Mary MaGee

Zion Lutheran Church Casserole & Salad Luncheon

Zion Lutheran Church at 1762 Hubbard Road, East Moline (Hampton Bluff) will have a Spring Casserole and Salad Luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 5th. Luncheon tickets are \$5.00 each and may be purchased at the door.

Proceeds will go to the Parsonage Window Fund. The church is applying for congregational matching funds through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Obituaries

J. Eugene Sullivan, 88 formerly of East Moline passed away March 15, 2004 in Brandon, Florida. He was born Feb. 20, 1916 in Clinton, Iowa, son of Edward C. and Sadie B. Jamison Sullivan. He married Goldie VanLanduit in 1938 who died in 1948. He then married Frances Jane Black in 1950. (She died in 1999). Mr. Sullivan owned and operated the former Primm-Sullivan (Now Sullivan-Phillips) Mortuary in East Moline.

Michael Searl, 45 of Port Byron passed away on April 3, 2004. Mr. Searl was born November 27, 1958 in Moline, son of Carroll and Dorothy VanPaemel Searl. He was a farmer, who also served as Zuma Township Road Commissioner for the past 16 years.

Birthdays

Belated Greetings to:

Megan Babcock - March 10 - Her first Year!

Susan Larson - March 16th

Rex Andrew Larson - March 25th

April

10 Elaina Victoria Ward -
Special Birthday wishes
from Mommy & Daddy!

23 Kirk Gillespie

27 Michael Thomas Franklin

29 Arnold L. "Bud" Donaldson

Bernadine Daniels will be 93. She requests that you remember her on May 7 & 8 during the All-Hampton Yard Sale as she has quilts and antiques she wishes to sell. (605-14th Ave. Hampton)

May

5 Peter Cady

6 Gabriel W. Cady

10 Marc Sinelli

12 Marvin Eimen

14 Floy Hull - Happy 89th!

22 Martha Rose Hayes

Elaina Victoria Ward



Wedding

Stephanie Toalson and Blake Covemaker will be married April 30th in St. Anne Catholic Church in East Moline.

Stephanie is the daughter of Michael and Nancy Toalson of Hampton. Blake is the son of Steven and Jeri Covemaker of Colona.

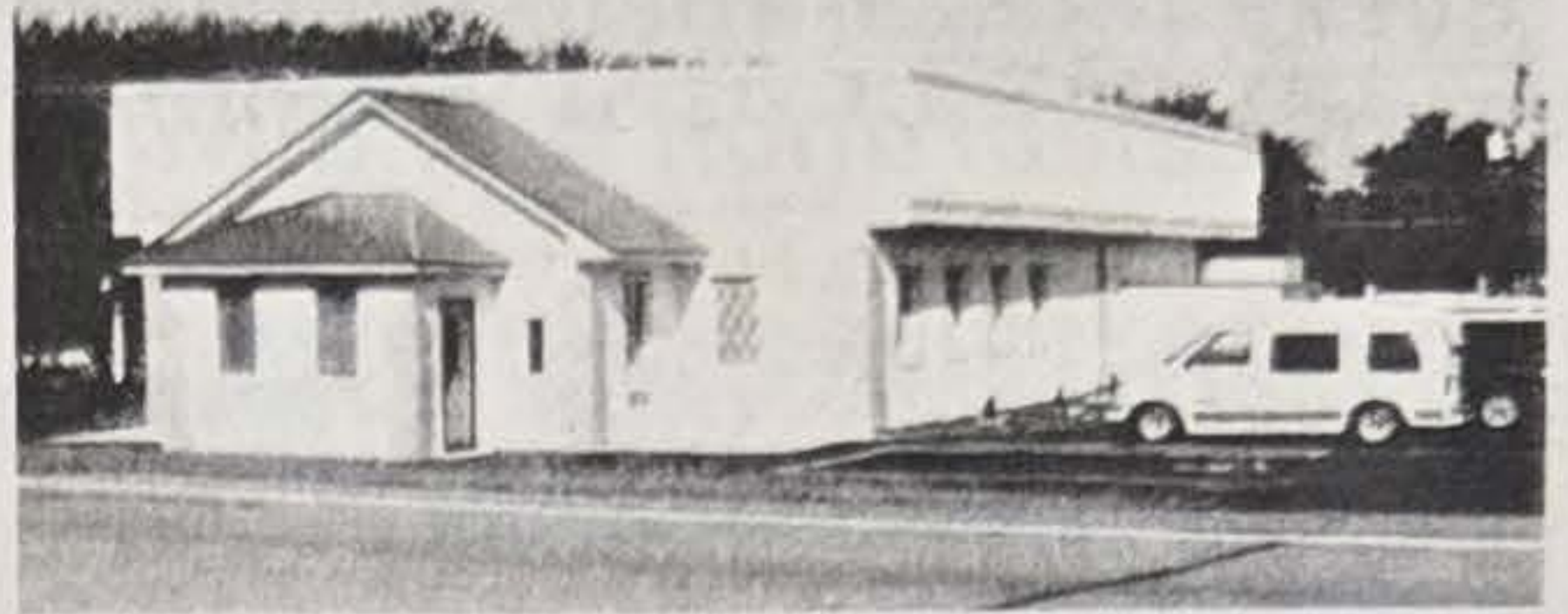
Reporters interviewing a 104 year-old woman:

"And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?" the reporter asked.

She simply replied, "No peer pressure."

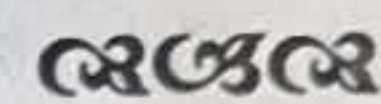
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When carbonated beverages were first put into bottles they were sealed with corks which frequently released the carbonation. To prevent this from happening, Charles G. Hutchinson invented the Hutchinson Bottle Stopper. The years, 1878. Old-timers will remember this assembly of stout wire and rubber washers which imparted its own peculiar flavor to the beverage. Pulled up tight, the Hutchinson Bottle Stopper sealed in the carbonation, the carbonation itself holding it there. Pushed inward, the beverage could be poured or swallowed direct from the bottle. The act of pushing in the stopper resulted in a "pop" - and it is from this familiar sound that the "soda pop" of years ago took its name. From the Colony Cooks' Creations, Volume II

If your teenager mows the lawn without being told, don't plan on using the car that night.

Debbie Adams

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Hampton Village Board Notes: 3/15 & 4/5/2004

APRIL 19, 6:00 PM AN OPEN, PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD TO DISCUSS THE VILLAGE OF HAMPTON BUDGET. Committee and regular Board Meeting follow.

Bi-State continues to develop a web site for the Village of Hampton and suggestions of what information to include is still being discussed.

Contracts for the Hampton Police Department to cover Rapids City have been accepted for the next three years.

CORRECTION: In the last issue "Village Notes", it was reported that Mark Larson would be paid \$5,000 annually as Fire Department Chief. The correct amount is \$3,000.

A 24' Trailer will be rented at \$280 per month for approximately 2 month. The trailer will be at the police station and used as an office and records storage while the cracks in the floor of the station are repaired.

A motion passed for \$6,300 to be paid Amet for engineering fees, blue prints and work relating to the bid process for repairs to the police station.

All possible contacts are being made to have the pile of old railroad ties removed from along Rt. 84. The Village tries to keep the area looking nice by mowing, etc. but the old ties prevent mowing and look bad.

[All present, even those in the gallery agree that it's time to start cleaning up Hampton yards and property. Every resident is responsible for making sure that rubbish is removed and yard waste either burned or hauled away.]

The Village dump truck and back hoe have been repaired.

Mid-West Exhibits and Barjam have yet to submit materials relating to Heritage Center Displays. Bids for plants had just arrived and were under review. (Trustee Carmack had a death in her family and was not present at the 4/5 meeting to update us).

Volunteers are needed at the Heritage Center year round. Anyone that can volunteer several hours a week should call Village Hall or Sandy Carmack. Volunteers especially needed for June 20th as this is the Father's Day Ride the River Event and many visitors are expected.

Bollards (posts) in the Bike Path that prevent cars and motorcycles from driving on the path have reportedly been causing some accidents. Quinn Hardware has donated a gallon of bright green paint to make bollars more visible to cyclists.

The Fire Department was given permission to use the Heritage Center for their Pancake Breakfast on April 24th.

Officer Terry Bumann will be leaving to work with another law enforcement agency and Officer Longlet (formerly of Carbon Cliff) will be hired to replace him on a full time basis.

There are only 4 memorial benches left to sell for the Heritage Center, however, larger trees, memorial garden beds and memorial bricks are still available.

Grave Phrases

Embalming (outside of Egypt) is a relatively new procedure and it wasn't until recently that stories of mistakenly burying live people (in a coma) stopped. In England, it was standard practice to exhume old coffins, move the bones, re-use the coffin and burial spot for a different person. At times, scratch marks were found on the inside of the coffin lid so extra measures were used that lead to some very familiar cliques.

A string was tied around the wrist of the "deceased", run through the lid and when the grave was filled in, the end of the string would be attached to a small bell. If the "deceased" came out of a coma, they would pull on the string and at the sound of the bell, the grave would hastily be opened again.

The person stationed all night long in the graveyard to listen for the bell was said to be working "the graveyard shift". Those exhumed due to this precaution were "saved by the bell" and those that were truly dead and buried were referred to as "dead ringers".

A mechanic who worked out of his home had a dog named Mace. Mace had a bad habit of eating all the grass in the mechanic's lawn, so the mechanic had to keep Mace inside. The grass eventually became overgrown.

One day the mechanic was working on a car in his backyard and dropped his wrench, losing it in the tall grass. He couldn't find it for the life of him, so he decided to call it a day. That night, Mace escaped from the house, and ate all the grass in the backyard. The next morning, the mechanic went outside and saw his wrench glinting in the sunlight. Realizing what had happened he looked up to the heavens and proclaimed, "A grazing Mace, how sweet the hound, that saved a wrench for me!"

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Bethel Christian Woman Present ... "Angel Awareness" Banquet

April 23, 2004 at 6:30 p.m., the Bethel Baptist Church located at 27308 - 108th Avenue N. in Port Byron will be holding a ladies and girls banquet followed by two speakers. Sue Tunberg will be speaking on biblical era angels and angels of today. Following Sue's Christian message, Kelly Wassell will present her thoughts on how to "Honor Thy Mother". All are welcome to contact Marje Tyner at 309-496-9329 or Linda Little at 309-523-3602 for further information or call Shirley Allison at 309-523-3344 for tickets. Tickets are \$5.00 and on sale from now through April 11th. A nursery will be provided.



Bethel Members pictured left to right: Shirley Allison, Linda Little and Marje Tyner.

Answer to Mystery Item of the Month. The all metal item is a coal miner's lamp. The small round container below the funnel shaped reflector was filled with carbide as fuel. Inside the funnel, an open flame burned and the light reflected into a work area. The entire metal lamp was affixed to the bill and front of a miners cap. What a safety hazard! This genuine miner's hat with lamp may be seen at W-V Antiques at 94 - 10th Street in Carbon Cliff. If you'd like to know more about coal mining in this area, come to the Bretton & Black Store Museum on Saturdays or Sundays 2:30-4:30 p.m. after Memorial Day.

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Blood Matters

During the 2004 National Medical Laboratory Week (April 18-24), the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center wishes to acknowledge the vital role these dedicated laboratory professionals play in every aspect of healthcare as they expertly perform medical tests to prevent, detect and treat disease and ensure the safety of lifesaving blood products.

They wish to acknowledge the interdependence of the essential elements that make delivery of quality healthcare possible - the generous donors who provide their blood to restore the health of others, the lab professionals who perform critical testing to ensure the viability of blood products and the medical teams who transfuse those products.

The MVR Blood Center wishes to offer their sincere thanks to all those in the medical laboratory community for their ongoing dedication to high standards of professionalism and their quality work behind the scenes.

When it comes to your health, I recommend frequent doses of that rare commodity among Americans - common sense. We are rapidly becoming a land of hypochondriacs, from the ulcer-and-martini executives in the big city to the patent medicine patrons in the sulphur-and-molasses belt. Dr. Vincent Askey, Pres. AMA

Jammin' With Jane

By Jane Nelson

I am sure that everyone in Hampton knows I am a Republican. I volunteered to get the Republican judges in the Hampton Township Precincts. There are 17 precincts. All have three Democrat judges and two Republicans, but Hampton Township 2 which has the reverse three Republicans and two Democrats. Harold Newberg worked as a judge in that precinct many years. This year the day before election I was short, 4 judges. If any of your would like to be a judge please let me know. The precinct committee person is supposed to get the judges. I think we did pick up a couple this primary. My father George McNeal was the Republican precinct committeeman in Hampton 2 for years. When we got more voters with the additions Hampton 2 was changed to Hampton 17. I am a judge in that precinct. My Mother doesn't understand why I want to do that job. I do it because it is my civic duty, the same reason my Dad was a precinct committeeman all those years. Many years he got up very early to start the fire in the Town Hall that, used to be the polling place. He was always there after work when the polls closed to get the final vote count. Now they are counted at the County Building. This is probably more than you wanted to know and what does it have to do with this column.

Well I am also Secretary of Rock Island County Women and this Year I was awarded the Mildred Frisk Award which is a brass elephant with her name on a plaque on the elephant. I was very honored. As you know I have been cleaning out things I have accumulated over the years. In doing this I found an article from the Daily Dispatch from Nov. 18, 1969. The title was "Mildred's Fudge: Oh, So -o-o Good!" Miss Frisk was also my Uncle Dan McNeal's secretary for many years. Here are some of her personal recipes in honor of my award.

CREAMY CHIP FUDGE

½ c butter (1 stick)	4 c sugar
1 large can evaporated milk	1 pint jar marshmallow cream
2 sm. or 1 lg. pkg. chocolate chips	1 ½ t vanilla
1 c walnuts or pecans	few grains of salt

Mix butter, sugar and evaporated milk in heavy pan and place over moderate heat, stirring until sugar dissolves and butter melts. Then cook to 236°, stirring often to prevent scorching (it won't get sugary) Remove from heat and add chocolate chips, Marshmallow cream, vanilla, and nuts. Stir until it loses its gloss. Pour into buttered 9x13 inch pan and when set cut into squares.

SUGARED PECAN OR WALNUTS

¾ c sugar	3 T water
½ t vanilla	Nuts

Stir and melt in heavy skillet (low flame). Stir in one lb walnuts or pecans. Keep turning nuts until all liquid is used. Separate and place on waxed paper to dry.

FROSTED FINGER COOKIES

½ c shortening	½ t salt
1 t baking powder	1 c sugar
1 ½ c flour	1 t vanilla

Mix all the above and spread onto baking sheet as thin as possible.

Fold 1 cup brown sugar into 1 beaten egg white and spread over cookie batter. Sprinkle 1 cup nuts over top and bake 15-20 minutes in a moderate oven 350°. Cut in strips 1x5 inches.

MERINGUE PIE

Beat very stiff: 3 large egg whites
1 c sugar

Beat together and fold into the egg whites:

1 t vanilla
16 salted wafers (crackers) broken into small pieces.
1 round teaspoon baking powder
1 c English walnuts, black walnuts, or pecans (broken)

Bake 40 minutes at 350° in slightly greased pie pan.

Fill with peppermint ice cream, vanilla ice cream, whipped cream, whipped topping mix or fresh fruit.

We are going on a trip to visit Martha in New York City. Hopefully I will find something new on the way or there. Next month all our exciting adventures. Marc and Granddaughter Tori are going along. We should have lots of new experiences.

Hampton School and Consolidation

By Tom Berg, Hampton School

Superintendent

Much is being made about a study to determine the feasibility of forming one large unit school district out of the elementary feeder districts and United Township High School. The Hampton School District has chosen not to participate in the \$12,000 study.



A daily newspaper has stated that some less than desirable test results of 2 subgroups at UTHS are the result of UTHS not being able to "control" the curriculum of the feeder schools. The paper continues to print this even though UTHS officials have not made the statement. The newspaper also fails to mention the outstanding performance of many students at UTHS.

High schools do not control the curriculum of elementary and junior high schools in unit districts, or any kind of district. The testing performance of juniors in high school is impacted by many factors beyond the control of elementary schools such as motivation, course selection, mobility, sleep habits and even nutrition. Whether or not a high school is part of a unit district or a high school district does not appear to be of important significance. For example, the results of UTHS, Rock Island High School and Moline High School are quite similar. Rock Island and Moline are 2 of the largest school districts in the state. The performance of any school in the state can be checked with this link <http://iirc.niu.edu/iirc/>. Some of the worst performing high schools in the state are in unit school districts, and some of the best performing high schools in the state are in high school districts. All schools in the state should teach to state standards. The above mentioned link, or more precisely http://iirc.niu.edu/iirc/scripts/students_know.asp will take you to the state standards that all schools are required to follow.

Why has the Hampton School Board decided against participating in the study? We asked the following questions about consolidation which we were able to answer logically; Would a large school district improve student achievement? We know that test scores vary from year to year. The scores of Hampton students have shown 70%-80% of our students meeting or exceeding state expectations. We do not see the formation of a large unit school district increasing those scores. Most large unit school districts do not fare as well as smaller districts, except at certain schools within those districts. Increasing the size of the bureaucracy does not automatically increase performance or efficiency.

Would a large school district save the taxpayers money? Currently the Hampton School District tax rate is the lowest of all the feeder districts except Colona. We do not see how combining with higher tax rate districts will lower the Hampton tax rate. Most districts consolidate not to save money, but because their enrollment has become too small to offer a viable program.

Would a large school district keep Hampton School open? Nobody would guarantee Hampton school would not close. Most likely the school would be shuttered and the students would spend considerably more time on buses. None of our students could walk to their neighborhood school.

What about extra-curricular activities? Hampton School has a sports program for boys and girls in grades 5-8 with a very high percentage of participation. We are in a conference with schools similar to ours in size. We have dedicated volunteer coaches. The large school districts in the area do not have such a program. The 5th and 6th grade students would probably lose their sports, and the 7th and 8th grade students would likely be part of a very large middle school that must cut students who wish to participate.

As previously stated, most consolidation efforts are the result of dwindling enrollment. Our enrollment is large enough that a viable, efficient program can still be provided for our students. If the situation changes and that is not possible, many options will be explored.

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Hampton Musicians in Regional Music Festival



Several Hampton students participated in the Regional Music Festival held at Glenview Middle School on March 13, 2004. Thirty-one schools participated in the annual event. The following are our local musicians, grade, type of instruments played and how they were rated: (I is the highest).

Kendra Newlon (8th Grade), Trumpet Solo (Rating II)
Donald Crabtree (8th Grade) Clarinet Solo (Rating I)
Brian Newlon (6th Grade), Trombone Solo (Rating I)
Kasie Pederson (6th Grade), Flute Duet (Rating I)
Catlin Lattner (6th Grade), Flute Duet (Rating I)
Elise Beck (7th Grade), Alto Saxophone Solo (Rating I)
Sydney Jordan (7th) Vocal Solo (Rating I) and Oboe Solo (Rating II); Woodwind Duet (Rating II)
Charlie Jordan (6th Grade), Violin Solo, (Rating I)
Jessica Marberry (7th Grade), Woodwind Duet (Rating II)

Hampton Heritage Center Briefs:

Commemorative benches, flower beds and trees are selling well with only about 4 benches remaining. If your family or business would like to have a lasting memorial in the Heritage Park, please contact Village Hall at 755-7165. Memorial, laser-inscribed bricks are also available for a tax deductible \$50 donation. When visiting the center, you may see the memorial brick walk just left of the main parking lot entrance.

Volunteers are needed to "man the Center" on weekends and especially during the Father's Day River the River event. Many cyclists will want to see the Center and the Ginkgo tree so guides are especially needed on June 20. Call 755-7165

Yard Sale at the Church of the Cross

April 23 and 24, the Church of the Cross at 22621 on Rt. 2 & 92 will be holding a yard sale. You'll be able to browse then buy your lunch or bakery goods along with your yard sale bargains. Mark your calendars and bring a friend with you. All proceeds go to the building fund.

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K&D Woodworking & Gift Shop

625 1st Avenue in Hampton

755-6644

How you can reach us

Towne Crier, P. O. Box 224, Hampton, IL 61256-0224

You may write to us or drop off items at 327-2nd Ave. Hampton.

For Jane Cady, Editor call 10AM to 6PM Only, Mon.-Fri.:
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ADVERTISING: Advertising is limited to businesses who may contact us for details on volume discounts and yearly rates. By-issue rates are: Small \$25.00, Medium \$35.00. ¼ Page \$45 and ½ Page \$65 are limited and issued on a first-come, first served basis. Non-Profit organizations are offered free space to announce their events. Circulation is approximately 3,500 mainly distributed in Port Byron, Rapids City, Hampton, Hampton Township, Silvis and East Moline.

When Marge O'Harra visited Hawaii's historic whaling town of Lahaina, they noticed the leisurely pace of living. Dropping their post cards for home into a mailbox, they saw that another postal patron had changed the collection hours posted on the box to "WHENEVER".



PIZZA THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

COUPON

Large Traditional Pizza - \$1.00 Off
Small Traditional Pizza - .50 Off

Does not apply to weekly Cook's Choice



We are having a Spring Sale on DVD and VHS
Tapes Drop in early for best selection

REMEMBER Mom on May 9th!

We have Mother's Day cards and gift wraps
and
Come to us for Boxed Chocolates

COUPON

Large Dessert Pizza - \$1.00 Off
Small Dessert Pizza - .50 Off

Applies to Cherry OR Apple Dessert Pizzas



COUPON

Save 30¢ Any Day of the Week

On
SOFT GARLIC BREAD STICKS
WITH DIPPING SAUCE

Monday only Breakfast Special:

Buy 2 pastries and
receive a small
regular coffee
FREE!



Try our cholesterol-free peach muffin

COUPON

\$1.00 OFF A Dozen or 50¢ OFF 6
Turnovers, Large Cinnamon Rolls or Muffins

Orders must be called in a day ahead to insure
fresh baked quantities are available for pick-up.
Order mixed items or all of one kind

Spring is Here! Can't get to Village Hall when
they're open? Come to Porter's for Yard Waste
Stickers and excess garbage.

Porter's Hours:

5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. 7 Days a Week

PORTER'S *Village Rx*

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