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Mayor Schamberger submits resignation letter

BRANDON LaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – There has been a letter floating around social media sites and in the mail.

The City of Amboy stamp at the top of the letter solidified John Schamberger will officially resign a year early in his second term as mayor on Monday, Dec. 18.

“It was not an easy decision. I’ve been an alderman and the mayor for 11 years,” Mayor Schamberger said. “I grew up in the country and my wife (Meghan Schamberger) and I had a goal in mind to raise our kids in the country. An opportunity presented itself and we

decided to do it. I feel like it was time. I had a good run and did a lot of good things, but maybe it’s time to let someone else come in.

“We have purchased a farmette in Marion Township and a farm in East Grove Township. Our kids will still be going to Amboy schools, and we’ll still be in the area. We are looking to get into the cattle business and want to live a farm lifestyle.”

As stated in his letter, the Amboy city ordinance requires the acting mayor to live within Amboy city limits. Since him and his family (wife Meghan and children Preston (5) and Lennon (2)) will not be in the city limits, Schamberger



John Schamberger (right) submitted his resignation letter as mayor of Amboy. Schamberger is retiring from politics to begin a farm lifestyle with his family, left to right, son Preston (5), wife Meghan, and daughter Lennon (2). Photo contributed

is resigning.

The Amboy native and 2004 Amboy High School graduate, who spent 14 years in the National Guard, became an alder-

man in 2013 and represented Ward 2 for four years.

Through his time as alderman, an interest in becoming mayor arose.

Schamberger ran in

2017 in which he received 422 votes to beat the incumbent Tom Nauman’s 219 votes.

“I’ll never forget my time as mayor. I had the chance to work with people while being faced with issues,” Schamberger said. “You rely on your team, your aldermen, and trusting them to come up with solutions. Sometimes you have to put your personal beliefs or opinions aside and do what’s best for the city.

“I was fortunate enough to serve as an alderman with great people like Dennis Weidman. They were pillars of the community. I learned a lot from them, and you could lean on them as far as questions or

just reaching out to them to discuss something we were debating. Those are the people that mentored me along the way.

“Looking back during my time as mayor, I always tried to treat people with respect, hear them out on their issues, and try to work with them and resolve it. I was very approachable. I just wanted to help people, work with them, and make Amboy a tight-knit community with the small-town feel where everyone knows everyone, and everyone helps one another.”

Schamberger has been an ambassador of staying local as much as possible.

See **Schamberger** page A3

Nathan Shaw promoted from Amboy Fire Department Lieutenant to Captain

Editor’s note: On November 8 it was announced five members of the Amboy Fire Department received promotions. Over the next five weeks, we will get to know each of the promoted individuals a little better as we thank them and all members of the AFD for their service and show gratitude of what they do for Amboy.

BRANDON LaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Nathan Shaw is a Shaw.

There may be many attributes to being a Shaw but one of them is giving back, service.

After he graduated from Amboy High School in 1997, he enlisted in the Army where he was deployed twice to Iraq, served a tour in Afghanistan, and had a 12-month rotation in Korea before retiring on March 1, 2019.

Shaw and his wife Rachel, married in January 1998, decided it was time to come back home.

They returned to Am-

boy in 2000 and Nathan Shaw joined the Amboy Fire Department during Depot Days in 2020.

“It means a lot to me to be part of the department. I view it as I’m continuing my service to my community,” Shaw said. “I served my country for 20-plus years, so I figured I’d come back home and fill my time by serving my community. I’ve always kind of wanted to be a fireman. My father (Bill Shaw) did it for 30-plus years and he’s still on the

Amboy Fire Department Board.

“I figured all the Shaws need to serve, so I came down to see what it was all about. Fire service has the same mindset, mentality as the Army. It’s the comradery. You’re serving the community, but you’re also forming a family. You always want to make sure the people in the truck when you roll out are in the truck when you roll in.”

See **Shaw** page A4



AFD Christmas baskets are upon us

BRANDON LaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Santa Claus is checking his list.

And so is the Amboy Fire Department.

The time of year when the AFD accepts donations, food and monetary, creates Christmas Baskets containing many and different food items, and distributes to those in need, is here.

Donations are currently being accepted, food will be sorted and packed on Friday, Dec. 15, and the drive thru at the fire station will be open for Christmas Basket pickup from 9-11



Betty and Les Shaw have helped with Amboy Fire Department Christmas Baskets for 24 years. Amboy News photo

a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

If someone cannot make it to the department, delivery is available.

“We do it for the elderly and needy, but it really started out for the kids to give them a good Christmas meal,” said Les Shaw, who is on the AFD Board. “The food

is an assortment. There will be vegetables, Ramen noodles, fruit, and other donated items. From the donated money, we will purchase peanut butter, jelly, hot dogs, cheese, milk, cookies, cereal, and sometimes chips.

See **Baskets** page A2

Siren being used by Amboy fire department as public notification

AMBOY – Have you heard the siren coming from the Amboy Fire Department?

As of Wednesday, Nov. 15, the AFD began sounding the station’s siren between the hours of 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. if they’re called into action.

The purpose of using the siren is to bring awareness to the community whenever the department has a call in its protection district when pedestrians are active in the area.

The awareness is for interest of public safety to make pedestrians aware of emergency vehicles impeding traffic.

“The purpose of the siren when it was initially installed was to activate firefighters to come to the station,” said Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. “Over time, it’s

become a notification to the public when there is emergency traffic inbound and outbound from the station.

“The Number 1 goal is pedestrian safety. We want to make sure our citizens and guests are safe. If they’re around the area, we want them to be aware of the traffic. We will not sound the alarm during bad weather months or situations. If it looks like there is going to be a storm outside, we’re not going to use the alarm just like we wouldn’t test tornado sirens during that time.”

Bryant Sr. added, the siren is not a wather siren and is not part of the weather siren system. Weather sirens are cycled differently and are not identical.

A Tribute to the fallen of World War I

Editor’s note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on Lee County veterans who served during World War I. These heroes are part of Amboy’s history and it is our honor to publish these articles so you can learn about their service to our country. This article was researched by Jack Mead and Tom Dempsey, and written by Dempsey.

Fulton Reynolds



NOTE: A special thanks to Debra Bronson, great niece of Fulton Reynolds, for providing this article from “Memories of Paw Paw, IL



Centennial 1882-1982”, in memory of this Lee County hero.

“Fulton Reynolds heard the call of his country and enlisted June 3, 1918, asking admission

into the Marine Corps at Chicago, Ill. He passed all examinations and was called June 8. He was sent back until further notice, which for some unknown reason, he

never received. He registered at Charles City, Ia., June 5, 1917, and was called by the draft July 26, 1918, leaving Charles City on that date.

See **Reynolds** page A2

**RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!**



Obituaries

Daniel Long
Carole Ackerson

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Fall into Savings

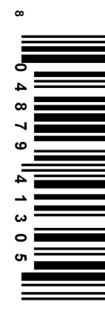
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LOCAL NEWS

Reynolds continued from page A1

He arrived at Camp Gordon, Ga., July 28, 1918, being placed in Co. B Fifth Replacement regiment. On September 2, he received his overseas equipment, but on being recommended to attend non-com school was taken off the overseas list.

He attended the non-com school and was making good when he was taken ill and on Sept. 25, 1918 was taken to the base hospital. On October 18 he answered the final reveille. His death came as the result of pleural pneumonia. He served his country only a short time, but when he an-

swered the final call, it was just as glorious as though he had been on the battlefield. He made the supreme sacrifice. No man could do more. The lieutenant of his company describes his life in camp as being that of a model soldier.

The body was returned from Atlanta to Paw Paw, Ill., with military honors, was laid to rest in Wyoming cemetery."

In the years following the Great War, the Smith Reynolds American Legion Post 511 was named to honor the patriotism and sacrifice of Pvt. Fulton Reynolds and Lt. William W.

Smith, also of Paw Paw.

NOTE: If you know of other Lee County Soldiers who died in service during World War I, we urge you to share that information to demps60@gmail.com so that those soldiers may be honored and remembered.

Sources

"Two Gold Stars". Memories Paw Paw, IL Centennial 1882-1982, pp.104-105.

"War History of Lee County Illinois 1917-1919". Dixon American Legion Post 12, 1919.

Find A Grave Memorial

Baskets continued from page A1

"This is part of a good Christian life. We just want to give back and help our community. The entire Amboy Fire Department is behind the Christmas baskets. They show up when there is work to be done. The help sort the food and help box it. They help do a lot of the heavy lifting. It's a full department effort."

Les and Betty Shaw have headed the Christmas Basket Program for the last 24 years, but the program began in the 1950s.

The holiday giving got its name because the food used to be given to individuals and families in wood-shaven baskets.

Although the offerings are now given in boxes, the name was too precious and solidified to change.

"We have food donated to us and that's what we put in the baskets. We try to supplement other things that will help out the families," Betty Shaw said. "The donations come from organizations and businesses in town. The community provides us with the means to make the baskets."

Amboy High School and Amboy Junior High Student Council help sort and box the goods, while donations come from multiple sources including organizations, businesses, individuals, and families.

"We rely on the community to be able to offer the Christmas Baskets," said Betty Shaw. "Without all of the gracious donations, we couldn't do this."

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Brandon LaChance
at
blachance@mendotareporter.com

Sublette Christmas in the Village Sunday, Dec. 3

The Sublette Christmas Walk committee is inviting vendors to be part of "Christmas in the Village" to be held Sunday, Dec. 3 in Sublette.

Vendors will be set up at the Ellice Dinges Center from 3-6 p.m. Anyone wishing vendor space can call Julie Kessel at 815-440-4689.

There is no charge for vendor space, but

vendors are asked to donate a gift for a drawing to be held.

Lighted Parade

Sublette's Christmas Walk committee is urging everyone to light up a vehicle for the Christmas Parade to be held Sunday, Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Light up a four-wheeler, car, truck or even a tractor and join the parade. Pre-registration is not required.

The "Christmas in the Village" begins at 3 p.m. at the Ellice Dinges Center. Downtown stores will also be open.

Featured events include the Christmas tree lighting ceremony and a visit from Santa Claus.

"Christmas in the Village" is always the highlight of the Christmas season in Sublette. Families are invited to come and enjoy a festive day.

Sublette's Christmas in the Village
Sunday, December 3rd
3-6pm

Vendors at Ellice Dinges Center	Cookies
Santa	Kids' Crafts
Tree Lighting	Dancers
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Lighted Parade kicks off at 6 pm

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

After school program

If you have a third grader or above, they may be able to attend. They will ride the bus, have a meal, a fun place to play, and of course complete homework. Applications are in our hallway, which is open 24/7 days a week.

Volunteers

We welcome all volunteers for our afterschool program, which runs normally Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 5 p.m. Volunteers help serve lunch, supervise kids, and help with various homework tasks. If interested, please call us at 815-857-4800. You can volunteer whatever time you have. We even have volunteers come in the morning to help with other prep tasks.

Free Thanksgiving Community Event

We can't thank the community enough. Our amazing crew served over 125 people. There was amazing music from New Vocal Blend Gospel Group. They thank you for the free will donation. We have many to thank so please forgive us if we forget anyone: Walton Fest, Anna, Doreen, Alice, Amber, Brian, Katie D, Martha, Donna, Marty, Kathy K., Maureen, Nana's Kitchen Amboy, Margaret, Kelli, Pam, Irene and Eileen, Les and Betty, Gabby and Daniel, Candy, Sandy D, Bonny and Bob, Shelli, Kevin, and Mark. Special thanks to our kids who served: Alexz, Hayden, Maddy, Kylee, Kylie, Sid, Kai, Madison D., Aliyah, Emily and Brooklyn. Also thank you to our SVCC Impact Program student, Matthew. Special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Piper for making things go right and having this vision.

Christmas Walk

Please come visit us during the Christmas walk Dec. 9 for one of the trolly stops. We will have wreath making and Santa's gift shop in back (inexpensive gifts for family members).

The Christmas Dance

We will be having a dance on Friday, Dec. 22 from 7-9 p.m. We will be having an ugly sweater contest and other games. Please come and join in on the fun before winter break. Chaperones always welcomed.

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Dennis Antonio for the T.V.; Christine Pitzer for the pinecones; Linda Lou Wedekind for the tablecloths; Lee County Honor Flight for the potatoes and Jim Travi for delivering them; Linda and Dean Chandler for the monetary donation; AJ and Nicole Fisher for the various items; First National Bank of Amboy and Stephanie, Tina, Angie, Colleen for running the Identity Theft Seminar at Teen Turf; First Presbyterian Church for the monetary donation and Carolyn Leake for the monetary donation.

We are extremely grateful for those that donate cans.

Donation Drop off

We kindly ask not to drop items outside, please bring them in our 24/7 hallway.

Needs

For Afterschool program-Chocolate Chip Granola bars or Fruit Granola bars.

Final Note

You love us with an eternal love and we give you our offerings as an expression of our love for you. We pray our gifts would be used to extend your kingdom in our land. May you, the God of all grace, who has called us into eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make us holy, strong and filled with peace. To you be glory and honor for ever and ever. Amen

Schamberger continued from page A1

He said the city employees receive their city uniforms and clothing from Kaleel's Clothing. Christmas hams were purchased for city employees at Amboy Food & Liquor.

"I was here when we didn't have a grocery store. When we didn't have a grocery store, our downtown was dead," Chamberger said. "On any given day, there wouldn't be any cars downtown. Now, you can't find a parking spot because people are downtown."

Schamberger is accredited with these efforts over the last seven years as mayor:

Beautifying downtown—new lights, new garbage cans, flower planter boxes, new roads, new sidewalks, supporting new businesses to keep downtown full.

Meghan Chamberger spearheaded Christmas Walk with City Clerk Melissa Eisenberg and Deputy Clerk

Shelley Behrends.

Updating community building—refinished floor, new lights, bought smart TV, new LED lighting outside, looking to update kitchen area.

Sewer lining—lining storm drains where water can get carried away instead of storing on top of sewer.

Grant to replace all of lead water lines in town. Pursued grant before they were ordered to replace water lines on the city's expense, tax payers, by the EPA. The grant is for more than \$1 million.

Water facility updates - computers to have more reliable water system.

Replacing valves so water mains don't break like they did at Depot Days two years ago. New water mains will shut down water where it's needed instead of all water in the city.

Built a new shop on edge of town by old junior high, maintenance facility, for all of the equipment to go inside. Also

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department will have Immunization Clinics for Children and Adults by appointment only. Call 815-284-3371 to make an appointment or for information on other services available. You may also visit the website at www.lchd.com for a list of services available.

AMBOY- You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program. The program has moved from The Amboy Sports Park to indoors at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 960 US Highway 52, Amboy. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Chairs are provided for an approximate 30-minute workout. For more information, call Chris at 815-857-3963.

DIXON- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 12:30 – 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Knights of Columbus Hall, 506 West Third, Dixon. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold its Crochet Club on Wednesday, Nov. 29, from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m.

FRANKLIN GROVE- Wouldn't it be terrific for all ages to learn more about gardening? The Lee County Master Gardeners have started their gardening series again, "Big and Small Gardening." This series

will be held at the Winfred Knox Library in Franklin Grove the first Tuesday of each month, with alternating months offering a youth program at 4 p.m. or an adult program at 6 p.m.. Join the Master Gardeners for an adult lesson on Dec. 5 to learn all about homemade ice cream. One may register for these programs by calling the library at 815-456-2823.


STERLING- Whiteside County Master Gardeners are offering a meet and greet at the Sterling Public Library; join us for refreshments and a fireside chat with a Master Gardener on Dec. 9, at 9 a.m. in the upstairs conference room and on Dec. 16, at 10 a.m. in the Genealogy area. Registration is encouraged. Register by calling the library at 815-625-1370.

DIXON- Join University of Illinois Extension Educator Kara Schweitzer each month as she leads participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory. We will be offering this program at the Edward Murphy Room at KSB Town Square, 101 W Second St., Dixon, on Dec. 11, from 1-2:30 p.m. New participants are welcome to join at any time.

AMBOY- The Amboy Civic Organization will not hold its usual monthly meeting the first Tuesday of December. Instead, they will share a hol-

idays season celebration on Dec. 19. ACO members and their guests will gather at the Long Branch Saloon at 5:30 p.m. to share conversation, dinner and musical entertainment. Les Wilson, local singer and guitarist, will perform from 6 – 7 p.m. Attendees will be

able to order dinner from the Long Branch "Party Menu" and will be responsible for their own bills. Please RSVP by calling Christine Noble at 815-857-3963. We hope to have a head count by Dec. 12, if not sooner.



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Brandon LaChance, Editor
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OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Daniel Long

Dec. 13, 1937 - Nov. 23, 2023

AMBOY — Daniel Long, 85, of Amboy, passed away Nov. 23, 2023, at his home early Thanksgiving morning.

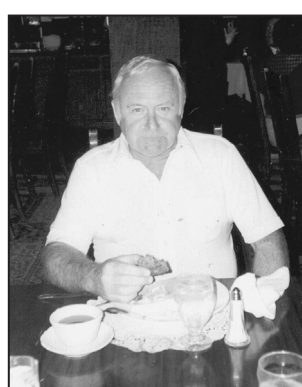
He was born Dec. 13, 1937, in Dixon the son of Stephen and Mary Gladys (Swartz) Long.

He was the second of six commonly refereed to as the "Tag-a-Longs." Danny grew up in Dixon attending St. Patrick Catholic Church, St. Mary Grade School, and Community Catholic High School now Newman Central Catholic. Later he completed studies at Coppins Business College, Davenport Barbers College, Auctioneers School, and became a licensed electrician. As a teenager he entered the job market as a uniformed usher at the Dixon/Lee Theater. Later he would find employment with the

Burlington Northern Railroad, as an instructor at the Davenport Barber School, he was an executive barber at the John Deere offices in Moline. He also operated his own barber shop for a time. Dan had been a licensed electrician in the Rockford area for over 30 years prior to retirement. He also served in the U.S. Army and National Guard.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Edward Stephen Long; aunts, uncles; and one niece, Renee.

Dan is survived by one son, Shannon; three sisters, Nancy Morrissey, of Dixon, Mary Diane (Edmund) Archuleta, of Los Cruces, N.M., Maria Michele (Tom) Johnson, of Fair Oaks, Calif.; one brother, David (Cheryl) Long, of Dixon; 11 nieces and nephews; and 22 great



nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Amboy. Burial will follow at St. Patrick Cemetery in Amboy. Visitation will be from 9 – 10:45 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Amboy.

A memorial has been established.

Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Carole L. Ackerson

Sept. 2, 1946 - Nov. 22, 2023

DIXON — Carole L. Ackerson, 77, of Dixon, passed away at her home on Nov. 22, 2023 after a valiant battle with Huntington's Disease.

Carole was born on Sept. 2, 1946, in Aurora, to Charles and Elizabeth Schick. She was a loving and caring individual, always putting others before herself. Carole had a strong-willed personality and was known for her kindness, generosity, and compassion. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, and her family meant the world to her.

Carole is survived by her beloved husband, Carl Ackerson; and her children, Ronette (Roy) McKnight, Britt (Isabel) Hillison, Michael (Shelley) Hillison, and Toni (Jason) Barnett. She is also survived by her stepson, Larry Ackerson; and her sisters, Betty (John) Tautz, Joanne "Jo" Wicks, and Virginia "Ginny" Herbon as well as her brother, Douglas (Louise) Schick. Carole cherished her grandchildren, Christopher (Alyssa) McKnight, Devon (Joe Lillyman) McKnight, Breanna (Krystal Martinez) Hillison, Zachary (Whitney Whited) Hillison, Christian (Kimberly) Hillison, Emilia and Maggie Barnett, Rylee and Alex Hillison, Don (Amanda) Schofield, Erica and Jason

Bennett; and her bonus granddaughter, Alysha (Tyler Full) Boettger. She was also a loving great-grandmother to Ayden and Madigan Rowley, Arthur, Teddi, and Murphy McKnight, Ellie and Carter Hillison, Violet Hillison, and Brody and Myah Bennett.

Carole was preceded in death by her mother, Elizabeth Schick; her father, Charles Schick; her brothers, Theodore, John "Jack," William "Mike," and Charles "Butch" Schick; her brother-in-law's, Charles "Chuck" Herbon, Paul, and Charles Ackerson; and her step-daughter, Nancy Schofield.

Carole dedicated much of her life to being a devoted stay-at-home mom to her four loving children, she had also worked at Fisher Price in Murray, Ky., for a short time and later joined Walmart when she moved back to Dixon. In her free time, Carole enjoyed Harley rides with her husband Carl as well as boating and spending quality time together by the lake at their home on the Lake of the Ozarks. No state was too far when it came to traveling to see her children and grandchildren in Illinois, Kentucky and Texas, visiting as often as time would allow. She took great pleasure in attending her grand-



children's special events and always made sure to take care of her family and anyone around her. Carole had a very special bond with her dog, Molly, who loved her dearly and tirelessly stayed by her until the very end.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m., on Dec. 1, 2023, at Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Prior to the funeral, the family will be present at 1 p.m. for a short visitation for those wishing to return the love Carole had given to them. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Unity Hospice in memory of Carole.

Carole L. Ackerson will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who knew her. Her kind and selfless nature will forever be remembered, and her legacy of love and compassion will continue to inspire those whose lives she touched.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Shaw continued from page A1

The promotion Shaw received on Nov. 8 propelled him from lieutenant to captain.

He understands he will have more duties, but accepting and fulfilling duties has been his main objective for quite some time.

"I'm at the station helping out as much as I can and to be recognized with a promotion is great," Shaw said. "It's more responsibility, but it's something I'm not comfortable with. It's something I can handle, and I'll do it to the best of my ability. It's cool but I'm kind of scared to see what Chief (Jeff Bryant Sr.) has in store for me.

"With my military background, I

hope he'd have the confidence in me to be a captain with the fire department and accomplish the tasks that come with being an officer with the Amboy Fire Department."

When Shaw isn't at the station, he's spending time with Rachel and their two dogs, Penelope and Cooper.

After their sons Nick (25, member of the Marine Corp.) and Robert (23, member of the Air Force) graduated high school and enlisted, they decided to get a dog since they had an empty nest.

Then it seemed only right to have two.

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Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

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815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Monday - Thursday Daily Mass 8 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and
Mass at 6 pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

First Baptist Church
Pastor Rocky Fritz
24 N. Mason Avenue
Church Phone 857-2682
www.fbcamboy.com
Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday
Reformers Unanimous addictions program
from 7-9 p.m.

St. Mary's Church – West Brooklyn
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass – Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 8 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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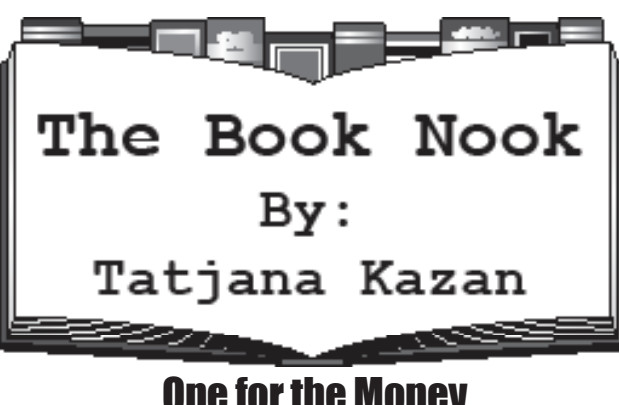
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SOCIAL NEWS



When Janet Evanovich switched from romance novels to mysteries, she decided to use the TV sitcom as her model. "There were a lot of women in mystery then but they were hard-boiled. They were men in skirts," Evanovich recalls. "I needed to create a Jersey girl, a heroine that was real to me and still could function in crime fiction." She created Stephanie Plum, a wisecracking recovery agent, i.e., bounty hunter, who bluffs her way into outlandish adventures or rather misadventures. The Stephanie Plum series has had a long run, beginning with "One for the Money" in 1994 to "Dirty Thirty" in 2023. Evanovich has much in common with her heroine. Both are from New Jersey, both devour Cheetos, both have owned a hamster, and both have shared "similar embarrassing experiences."

A recently laid-off lingerie buyer, Stephanie Plum is in dire straits: She has no car, no food, and no prospects. She comes from the "Burg," a blue-collar, Italian neighborhood of Trenton, New Jersey, where houses are attached, cars are American, and pictures of the pope share pride of place with pictures of hometown boxing champ Benito Ramirez, who happens to be a homicidal rapist who brutalizes and sometimes kills women. In Stephanie's opinion, toxic waste, August heat, humidity, and hydrocarbons are all part of the great adventure of living in New Jersey. In her desperation, Stephanie talks her cousin Vinnie, a bail bondsman, into giving her a job. He gives her a week to nail Joe Morelli, a former vice cop on the run from a charge of murder one. Her cut would be \$10,000.

Highly motivated and wholly ignorant of the job of bounty hunter, Stephanie scrapes together enough money for a gun and a Chevy Nova. Joe Morelli, who grew up in the Burg, charmed Stephanie out of her virginity at age sixteen. Three years later, she jumped a sidewalk to run him over. Though she keeps finding Joe, she doesn't know how to nab him. During her search for Joe, Stephanie runs into sexual predator Benito Ramirez. She fearlessly stands up to him, and he retaliates by hanging on her fire escape the mauled body of a prostitute friend of Stephanie's. There is still potent chemistry between Stephanie and Joe, and eventually they strike a bargain. He will give himself up after she helps him prove his innocence.

Evanovich's debut novel was a huge success. In the course of her writing career, Evanovich produced many novels besides the Stephanie Plum series. The number of books she has sold has amounted to well over 200 million.

CGH recognizes Sunshine Award winner Candance Bousum, CNA

STERLING – Candance Bousum, a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) on 3rd Floor Medical Unit, was recently recognized as a recipient of the Sunshine Award for extraordinary service. The Sunshine Award was created to honor and recognize outstanding service and compassionate care by those in non-nursing roles, such as CNAs, CMTs or MAs.

"Candi went above and beyond for our patient," said Stephanie Waller, CGH Sunshine Coordinator as she read the nomination. "She not only brought in clothing, food, electronics, and personal hygiene products for the patient, but she also made sure the patient was comfortable during her entire stay at CGH. On her day off, she took the patient on an outing, including numerous walks outside of the building. You could just see the patient's smile and how genuinely happy she was when Candi was taking care of her."

"Candance exemplifies endless caring and compassion for our CGH patients every day," added Waller. "We're so glad that she is part of our CGH team!"

Other CGH staff members nominated for the 3rd quarter Sunshine Award included: Stormi Andrew, Alaina Burtlow, Amber Guinn, Codi Hartman, Ashley Kubatzke, Rebecca Mayberry, Leslie Pettorini, Daniel Rabe, and Olivia-Hope Toppert.

If you would like to submit a nomination for extraordinary service that you or a family member have received at CGH Medical Center by a staff member in a non-nursing role, please visit www.cghmc.com/sunshine.

Amboy Civic Org. to share holiday celebration Dec. 19

AMBOY — The Amboy Civic Organization will not hold its usual monthly meeting the first Tuesday of December. Instead, they will share a holiday season celebration on Dec. 19. ACO members and their guests will gather at the Long Branch Saloon at 5:30 p.m. to share conversation, dinner and musical entertainment. Les Wilson, local singer and guitarist, will perform from 6 – 7 p.m.

Attendees will be able to order dinner from the Long Branch "Party Menu" and will be responsible for their own bills. Please RSVP by calling Christine Noble at 815-857-3963. We hope to have a head count by Dec. 12, if not sooner.

Current ACO membership for 2023-24 business year: Kathleen Adams, Carole Bensen, Judy and Neil

Brinkmeier, Judy Carlson, Georgianna Grossman, Marge Guenzler, Patricia Hauenstein, Darlene Hinkle, Nancy Hochstatter, Ramona Kessel, Jane Lovgren, LaVina Marschang, Kathy McLaughlin, Christine Noble, Cindy Phillips, Colleen and Glen Robison, Peggy Scudder, and Donna Wellman.

Annual dues of \$10 per person or \$15 per couple, cover membership September through August. If you want to join or re-join ACO at our holiday get-together, you can mail dues to Carole Benson, PO Box 96, Amboy, IL 61310, or bring dues Dec. 19. Attending monthly meetings is not mandatory for membership.

We hope to see you Dec. 19 at 5:30 p.m., as we break bread together and celebrate the season with friends and family.

CGH recognizes DAISU Award winner Karen Hosler, RN

STERLING – Karen Hosler, a registered nurse in the CGH Emergency Department, was recently recognized as a recipient of the prestigious DAISY Award for extraordinary nurses. An international program, the award is presented to nurses around the world who go above and beyond for their patients and demonstrate extraordinary compassionate care.

"We recently brought our 8-year-old daughter to the CGH Emergency Department for symptoms of a concussion that were growing increasingly worse," said Stephanie Waller, RN, DAISY Award Coordinator, as she read the award nomination. "Upon triage, Karen quickly recognized that our daughter was terrified to be there, and even more scared that she was going to have to go into the ER by herself, without her dad and me. Karen immediately tried to alleviate her anxiety the best she could. Throughout the visit, Karen kept coming back to check on us (always with a smile and soothing words), and she and other nurses explained how things worked to make the visit less intimidating. By the end, our daughter had taken medicine and

had a CT without hesitation or being nervous. This was due to how great the nurses had been with her and how they went out of their way to make sure she was at ease."

"I cannot say thank you enough to Karen for turning what was scary for our daughter into something that she now regards an interesting and overall pleasant experience," continued the nominator. "I know that nurses are so often undervalued by a lot of patients, but that never stops them from caring for those same people. Though Karen spent the most time with us, I do want to express my appreciation and gratitude for the hard work of all three nurses that interacted with us that night. Their professionalism, friendly faces, compassion, and hard work meant everything to me, my husband, and especially my daughter."

The DAISY Award - an acronym for "Diseases Attacking the Immune System" - was established by the DAISY Foundation in California in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at age 33 of an autoimmune disease. During his hospitalization, they deeply appreciated the care and compassion shown to Patrick and his

entire family. When he died, they felt compelled to say "thank you" to nurses in a very public way. The DAISY Award continues to recognize and celebrate the outstanding professionalism and compassion that nurses bring to patients and their families every day.

Other CGH nurses nominated for the DAISY award during the 3rd quarter included: Sherri Bellini, Brooke Carroll, Jordan Clark, Sheryllyn Corwell, Michaela Delgado, Candace Denning, Carly Ebersole, Alex Escalante, Cindy Fargher, Elizabeth Forster, Andrea Fry, Corrine Gibson, Lisa Gordon, Laura Hawk, Julie Huennekens, Shelly Lewis, Raquel Lilly, Tara Long, Tiffany Markel, Rebecca Mays, Michele Nelsen, Adrienne Obryant, Sara Ramage, Canaan Ross, Whitney Smith, Traci Snodgrass, Renee Stach, Julie Steffes, Angie Sullivan, Heather Trotter, Jan Valdez, Stephanie Waller and Siera Wetzel.

If you would like to submit a nomination for extraordinary nursing care that you, a family member, or a patient have received at CGH Medical Center, please visit www.cghmc.com/daisy.

Operation Rising Spirit encourages letters of support to Illinois veterans during the holiday season

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) today launched the 2023 "Operation Rising Spirit," campaign encouraging service organizations, schools, communities, and individuals to write letters of appreciation and support to veterans residing at the state veterans' homes in Anna, Chicago, LaSalle, Manteno, and Quincy.

"Last year, over 5,000 letters were distributed to veterans in our care which provided an abundance of holiday cheer into the homes," said Director Terry

Prince. "We encourage volunteer groups, families, and schools to participate in this kind gesture of gratitude to Illinois veterans."

To participate, notes may be sent directly to the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. Letters will be disseminated equally to the five homes:

Crystal Womack
The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs
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Publisher
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Off ce: 815-857-2311

Opinion

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances ~ The First Amendment

Giving LaMoille and Ohio credit

Amboy deserves credit. The Clipper football team won a state championship for only the second time in school history.

What a huge statement. A prideful claim. A truth to never be erased from the record books.

However, Amboy isn't the only town or school deserving credit for the Illinois 8-Man Football Association State Championship the Clippers won on Nov. 17 against Ridgewood, 74-22.

Yes, I wrote the score there because, 74-22, WOW.

Back to the intended task, the Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team also includes LaMoille and Ohio.

This is not saying the Amboy faithful don't appreciate or thank the LaMoille and Ohio kids for being a part of the team and helping win the state title, but throughout the world

wide web and through many cooler conversations, the other towns are kind of forgotten or at least not mentioned.

It's always Amboy this and Amboy that. Except for ihsafootball.com, which lists the team as LaMoille. It should be Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio, the team name.

Again, Amboy deserves all the credit it has coming its way. But just like they share the football field, the credit needs to be shared as well.

LaMoille and Ohio both won the first state titles the schools have ever been a part of.

Another huge statement. "It's awesome. I still can't believe it has only been two weeks since it's been over. It's been amazing," said Kenny Shrimplin, LaMoille High School Athletic Director and a Clippers assistant football coach. "The atmosphere LaMoille had was

Column

By Brandon LaChance



so much fun. Winning the first state title for LaMoille and being a part of that is huge for me.

"This is the 20th year of the co-op contract between Amboy and LaMoille. It's funny because my senior year at LaMoille High School was the first year with Amboy and now we win a state championship 20 years later. It's been a long time coming."

Shrimplin didn't under-

stand football or know all the ins and outs until his time with Amboy.

He played his first snaps with Amboy and has coached with Amboy for the last 12 years.

The smiles of pride and happiness at Monmouth College when the state title was official came from representing both, Amboy and LaMoille.

"The kids celebrated on the field. They celebrated all week long. All year long, the kids have been awesome," Shrimplin said. "Almost all of the LaMoille students have been to multiple football games to cheer the team on. Meeting the administration and the teachers on the field right after we won the state title and seeing how happy they were was awesome."

"The excitement it has brought to the entire town has been huge. We had so much backing. LaMoille is a small town, but I don't

know everyone. I had some people I didn't know come up to me and say, 'Go get that state championship.' It's spreading and it's awesome to bring awareness to it. It has been a lot of fun.

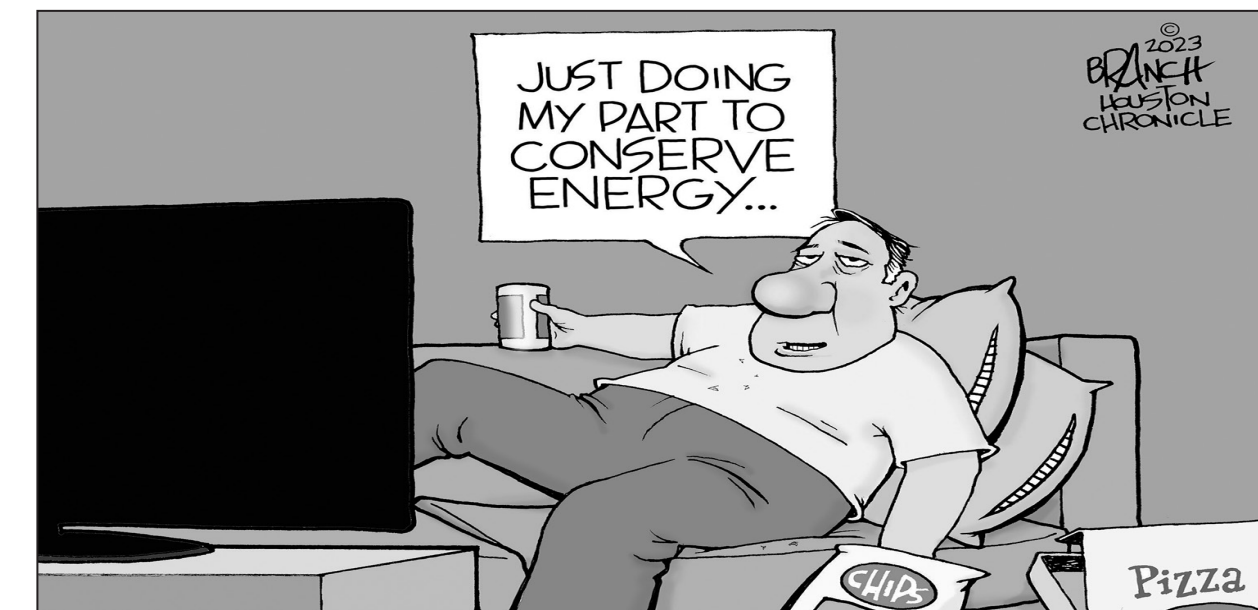
"Being involved with Amboy is great. The community cares. They always have our boys' backs and support the program in any way they can."

This season, the championship season, nine kids from LaMoille were on the team including two seniors in lineman Ian Sundberg and runningback/defensive tackle Gio Gatza, while Ohio was represented by senior defensive back Troy Anderson and senior defensive end Vincent Zembrzusi.

All four of those names were routinely called by game announcers throughout the season.

LaMoille has been averaging 8-10 kids on the team since before and after COVID-19, but there might be an uptick as the fun and the success is spreading from the football field to the high school hallways and classrooms.

"They see the fun the kids on the football team are having. They also see the success they're having," Shrimplin said. "I've had a bunch of kids come up to me and say, 'I want to play football for Amboy' or 'I want to be part of that.' It's kind of nice. I think our numbers are about to grow in LaMoille."



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago
Nov. 23, 1923

H.H. Badger has bought the Long business block in which the Jenkins' Jewelry Store is located. He has rented it to the Eichler Brothers of Dixon, who will open a first class dry goods store.

75 Years Ago
Nov. 25, 1948

A twister ripped from a machine shed on the Leslie Spencer farm southwest of Amboy. Several trees were also uprooted by the wind.

At the Amboy Theatre – "Drums Along The Mohawk," starring Claudette Colbert and Henry Fonda.

50 Years Ago
Nov. 29, 1973

Amboy High School Clippers basketball team won the Sandwich Indian tournament for the second year in a row.

Gary Politsch was hired to teach third grade at Central School, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Linda Pierce, who moved to Canada.

25 Years Ago
Nov. 26, 1998

A line of tractors stretched for more than half-a-mile in front of Billy Althaus' farm in Maytown. The tractors helped farm Althaus' land as he can't drive a tractor because he

was broad sided in a car accident on October 17 which caused serious internal injuries including a ruptured diaphragm and broken ribs.

Steven Brownlee, rural Amboy, has been notified that he is one of the 20 finalists in the 1998-99 Farm Bureau Farmer Idea Exchange sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation. Steve's entry, "Light Kits for Break-A-Way Tractor Mirrors" in the Safety & Handicap Helpers Category, is to be on display at the January 1999 AFBF Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

Darlene Hinkle, CMC/AAE, City Clerk/Collector of the City of Amboy, has been accepted into the First Sustaining Membership of the HMC Academy for advanced Education.

Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

The Amboy News reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, its management and or ownership.

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LOCAL NEWS

\$7.2 million in funding released by Pritzker administration for new emergency vehicles in Illinois

Springfield – Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera and Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) Executive Director Chris Meister issued nearly \$7.2 million in no interest or low interest loans to emergency responders across the state. The loans are made available through the Fire Truck Revolving Loan Program and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program.

“Our emergency responders put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities safe, and they need safe and reliable vehicles to get the job done,” said **Governor JB Pritzker**. “That’s why I’m proud that my administration is ensuring that fire departments across the state can purchase the fire trucks and ambulance they need to save lives.”

“Without programs such as our Fire Truck and Ambulance Revolving Loan, many departments would have to continue to repair vehicles that are not reliable anymore and never be able to afford a new fire truck or ambulance,” said **Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera**. “The OSFM thanks Governor Pritzker for his commitment to our first responders and safety of our state’s residents.”

“A staffed fire truck or ambulance must be available to service time-sensitive emergencies in every community in

Illinois,” said **Illinois Finance Authority Executive Director Chris Meister**. “Economically beneficial loans are one path to help meet this essential need. We thank Governor Pritzker and Fire Marshal Rivera for the opportunity to help finance the vehicles needed by first responders across Illinois.”

The Fire Truck Revolving Loan Program (FTRL) and Ambulance Revolving Loan Program (ARLP) are designed to assist departments or cities in purchasing emergency vehicles that they may not otherwise be able to afford. Under the FTRL program, fire departments, fire protection districts and township fire departments may apply for up to \$350,000 in low interest or no interest loans for purchase of a fire truck or brush trucks. The loans must be repaid within 20 years.

Under the ARLP program, units of local government (city, town, village, township, fire department, fire protection district) and not-for-profit ambulance service providers can apply for no interest or low interest loans of up to \$200,000. These loans must be paid back in 10 years.

Recipients of the Fire Truck Revolving Loan:

Clinton: Hoffman Fire Protection District: \$120,000

Cook: Pleasantview Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Village of Berkeley: \$350,000

DuPage: Bensenville Fire Protection District #2: \$350,000

Edgar: Kansas Fire Protection District: \$150,000

Jo Daviess: City of East Dubuque: \$350,000

Johnson/Union/Williamson: Village of Goreville: \$350,000

Kankakee: City of Kankakee: \$350,000

LaSalle: Sheridan Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Lee: Amboy Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Madison: City of Wood River: \$350,000

McHenry: Marengo Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Montgomery: City of Witt: \$163,397.47

Moultrie: Sullivan Fire Protection

District: \$350,000

Rock Island: Cordova Fire Protection District: \$350,000

St. Clair: Saint Libory Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Saline: Village of Carrier Mills: \$350,000

Sangamon: Divernon Fire Protection District: \$350,000

Will: Village of Crete: \$300,000

Recipients of the Ambulance Revolving Loan:

Grundy: Gardner Fire Protection District: \$200,000

Hancock: Nauvoo Fire Protection District: \$200,000

Kankakee: Manteno Community Fire Protection District: \$200,000

McHenry: Harvard Fire Protection District: \$200,000

Peoria: B.Y.E Ambulance Service, Inc.: \$200,000

Winnebago: Win-Bur-Sew Fire Protection District: \$200,000

Email news items to
Amboy News Editor
Brandon LaChance

at

blachance@mendotareporter.com



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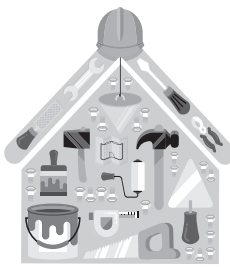
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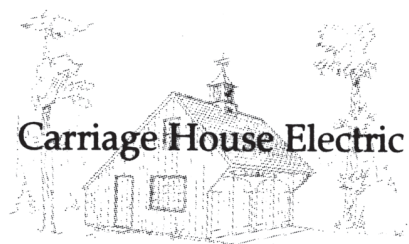
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX34
FILED: 11/16/2023
County of Lee
Date Premises Sold October 27, 2021
Certificate No. 2021-00017
Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2020
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality)

and special assessment number N/A
Warrant No. NA Inst. No NA
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property located at 526 E MAIN ST, Amboy, IL 61310
Legal Description or Property Index No. 02-15-15-481-012

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 01, 2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6-month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 01, 2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Dixon, Illinois, on May 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. **YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY.** Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 01, 2024 by applying to the County Clerk, Lee County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Dixon, Illinois, 61021. For further information contact the Lee County Clerk at 112 E Second Street, Dixon, IL 61021. Ph:815-288-3309.

Petitioner, INTEGRITY INVESTMENT FUND, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee
No. 1105
(Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and 13, 2023)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com
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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End

all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

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

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2021 Chevy K-3500 LTZ Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4 Z71, 6.6 Gas, 5K Miles.....\$59,900	2020 Chevy K-3500 Crew, LTZ 4x4 Z71, Diesel, 79K Miles, Maroon.....\$56,900
2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4, Diesel, Z71, 74K Miles, Black.....\$59,900	2020 GMC Canyon SLT, 4x4 Crew Cab, Long Box, 60K Miles, Silver.....\$32,900
2021 Chevy K-1500 Trail Boss 4x4 Z71, Loaded, Sunroof, Leather, 45K Miles, White, Crew Cab.....\$47,900	2019 Chevy Trax, LT AWD, 55K Miles, Black.....\$19,500

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2021 Chevy K-1500 Custom 4x4 4cyl Turbo, 90K Miles\$29,500	2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT, 4x4, 98K Miles, Maroon.....\$27,900
2020 Chevy Equinox AWD LT, Leather, 103K Miles, Black.....\$19,900	2017 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, Custom, 4x4, 97K Miles, White\$24,900
2019 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab, LTZ Diesel, 4x4 Z71, 97K Miles, Red.....\$50,900	2017 Chev Equinox, AWD LT, 76K Miles, White.....\$15,900
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 99K Miles, Silver.....\$28,900	2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT Z71, 4x4, 110K Miles, Maroon.....\$22,900
2018 Chevy Equinox, AWD, Premier White, 110K Miles.....\$17,900	

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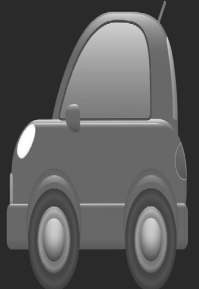
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LOCAL NEWS

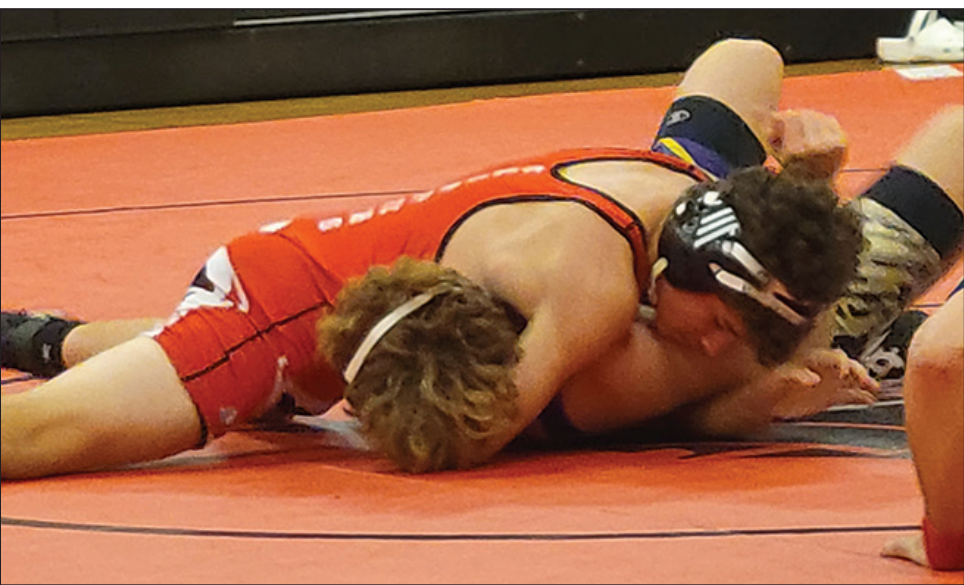
Lady Clippers fall to Serena

AMBOY – Senior forward Maeve Larson scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds, but it wasn't enough for the Amboy girls basketball team in a 46-40 loss to Serena on Tuesday, Nov. 21 in Amboy.

The Lady Clippers (3-2) led 9-0 after the first quarter, 20-16 at halftime and 28-24 after three frames.

However, Serena outscored Amboy 22-12 in the fourth to sneak past the Lady Clippers.

Elly Jones recorded eight points and six rebounds, Addison Pertell had eight points and eight rebounds, and Emily Sachs tallied eight points and eight rebounds.



Above photo, Amboy 138-pound freshman Caiden Heath (on top) covers a Putnam County wrestler during a quadrangular against PC, St. Bede, and Mendota on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at Amboy. Below photo, Landon Blanton locks in a submission pin against a Panther at 126 pounds on Nov. 21. (Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz)

Grapplers start the season 2-1 at home quad

AMBOY – The Amboy wrestling team began the season Tuesday, Nov. 21 with a quadrangular on their home mats.

The Clippers defeated St. Bede 45-25 and Putnam County 42-36, while falling to Mendota 42-36.

Against the Bruins, Amboy sophomore Landon Blanton pinned Casey Shearer (1:50), freshman Caiden Heath recorded a fall (3:50) over Marco Rizzi, 144-pound-er Jose Lopez won by an 8-7 decision against Jordan Coventry, and senior Lucas Blanton recorded a fall (4:52) at 175 pounds over Garrett Connelly.

Against Putnam County, Landon Blanton pinned Logan Ziel in 1:00 at 126 pounds, Tyler Huggins had a 132-pound pinfall victory (1:30) over Dylan Conlin, Heath pinned Shane Scribner at 138 pounds in 1:00, and Lucas Blanton recorded a fall in 10 seconds against 175-pound Joseph Garcia.

In the loss to Mendota, 113-pound Ty Florschuetz scored a pinfall victory over Adrian Arteaga (45 seconds), Heath pinned Cole Kleckner (1:07) at 138 pounds, Lucas Blanton pinned (2:25) Reyli Sandoval at 175 pounds, and Evan Flanagan won via pinfall against 215-pound Michael Thornhill in 36 seconds.



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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, Dec. 4
AJHS 7th/8th Boys Basketball @ Mt. Carroll-7th-5 pm/8th-6 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 5
AHS Girls Basketball @ Eastland-5:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball (H) Rock Falls-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 6
AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm
AHS Boys Basketball (H) Earlville-5:30 pm

Thursday, Dec. 7
AHS Girls Basketball @ AFC-6 pm
AHS Wrestling @ Lena Winslow w/Morrison-5:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ Morrison-6th-4 pm/5th-5 pm
AJHS 7th/8th Boys Basketball (H) Montmorency-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

Friday, Dec. 8
AHS Wrestling @ Plano Tournament-TBA
AJHS Winter Concert-Auditorium-7:30 pm

Saturday, Dec. 9
AHS Wrestling @ Plano Tournament-TBA
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ RRVC Tournament, East Coloma-TBA

Sunday, Dec. 10
AHS Winter Concert-Auditorium-7 pm

Amboy boys hoopers start season 1-2 at Ashton-Franklin Center Thanksgiving Tournament

ASHTON-FRANKLIN CENTER – The Amboy boys basketball team went 1-2 at the Ashton-Franklin Center Thanksgiving Tournament, which ran Monday, Nov. 20 to Friday, Nov. 25.

The Clippers defeated West Carrol 52-40 but fell to Hiawatha 49-45 and Durand 71-37.

Against West Carrol, junior Eddie Jones scored 21 points, junior Quinn Leffelman added 11, while senior Troy Anderson and junior Joel Billhorn added eight points apiece.

In the heartbreaking four-point loss to Hiawatha, Casen Tailor tallied 21 points, while Jones and Anderson added eight points each.

Tailor recorded 15 points and Jones had 11 against Durand.

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Boys Hoops

Girls Hoops

Wrestling

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Long!!

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Boy's Basketball Troy Anderson	Girl's Basketball Emily Sachs
--	---

Wrestlers
Ty Florschuetz & Tyler Huggins

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The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

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PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

• **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **CASH CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.

• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Colonial Flower Shoppe and Hub City Senior Center
In Oregon at: Merlin's
In Dixon at: Shining Star
In Mendota at: The Mendota Reporter/Amboy News office

• **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

YES! Send me my 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
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ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

Clip and mail this form along with \$23
(\$20 per calendar plus \$3 per calendar postage) to:
Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

LOCAL NEWS

OSF HealthCare recognized for performance leadership

OTTAWA – As part of National Rural Health Day, OSF HealthCare is proud to share that two of our local hospitals have been recognized with a 2023 Performance Leadership Award for excellence. OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center has received a Performance Leadership Award for excellence in Outcomes and OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center was recognized for Patient Perspective. Compiled by the Chartis Center for Rural Health, the Performance

Leadership Awards honor top quartile performance (i.e., 75th percentile or above) among rural hospitals in Quality, Outcomes and/or Patient Perspective.

“This recognition is made possible by the compassionate and dedicated Mission Partners who serve our hospitals in the I-80 market,” says Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF Saint Paul Medical Center. “We know the responsibility we have in serving our rural areas, and it’s one that we don’t take

lightly. We are proud of this honor and we continuously look for ways to keep improving.”

The Performance Leadership Awards are based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®, the industry’s most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance. INDEX data is relied upon by rural hospitals, health systems with rural footprints, hospital associations and state offices of rural health around the country to measure and monitor performance across

several areas impacting hospital operations and finance.

“Wherever we go in rural America, we witness first-hand the commitment, determination, and compassion with which rural hospitals serve their communities. Rural healthcare truly is mission-driven,” said Michael Topchik, National Leader, The Chartis Center for Rural Health. “This National Rural Health Day, let us recognize the efforts of this year’s Performance Leadership Award winners and all those driven to deliver

high-quality care throughout rural communities.”

About OSF HealthCare

OSF HealthCare is an integrated health system owned and operated by The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, headquartered in Peoria, Illinois. OSF HealthCare has 16 hospitals—10 acute care, five critical access, one transitional care—with 2,131 licensed beds throughout Illinois and Michigan. OSF employs nearly 24,000 Mission Partners across 150+ locations; has two colleges of nursing.

Kishwaukee College to offer seven short-term training programs in Spring 2024

MALTA—The Kishwaukee College Continuing Education department will offer seven short-term training programs during the Spring 2024 semester. Kish short-term programs provide students with the skills and training needed to meet local workforce demands. The programs range from 11-20 weeks, allowing students to immediately start a career or build upon their skills with additional training.

Spring 2024 classes are available in online, in-person and hybrid formats. Participants will need access to a computer and the internet to participate in programs with an online component. Some programs include an externship/clinical. The short-term training programs

offered in Spring 2024 are:

Appliance Repair Technician: Jan. 22-April 24 (In-Person)

Appliance repair technicians are skilled professionals trained to assist clients with household appliance installation, troubleshooting and repairs. In-person instruction is from 5:30-9 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at Kishwaukee College.

Dental Assistant: Jan. 22-April 19 (Online Lecture/In-Person Practice)

Dental assistants are health care professionals who work closely with dentists and dental hygienists to provide quality preventive and corrective dental care and administrative support in dental offices. In-person practice will be conducted

from 6-9 pm on three Tuesdays in a local dental office.

Pharmacy Technician: Jan. 22-May 3 (Online)

Pharmacy technicians assist pharmacists with dispensing prescription medication while performing various other duties in a pharmacy setting. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding is available to those who qualify.

Phlebotomy Technician: Jan. 22-April 5 (In-Person)

Phlebotomists are health care professionals trained to collect, transport, handle, and process blood and other specimens for laboratory analysis using venipuncture and micro-collection tech-

niques. Instruction and in-person practice is from 10 am-12 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Kishwaukee College. A clinical experience will be offered in a local hospital from March 18-April 5.

Real Estate Broker Pre-License: Jan. 23-April 4 (Online)

Real estate brokers perform many duties in real estate transactions, including marketing homes, establishing escrow accounts, and working to ensure transactions are fair and legal. Online instruction takes place from 6-9 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sterile Processing Technician: Jan. 22-April 26 (Online)

Rep. Fritts honors Midwestern Clothing Company for November local business highlight

DIXON – For his November 2023 local business highlight, State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) chose to highlight Midwestern Clothing Company in Rochelle.

Rep. Fritts spent time touring the business and presented the owners with a certificate of appreciation for their contributions to the community.

“This month, I chose to honor Midwestern Clothing Company because of their appreciation and love of the Rochelle community,” said Rep. Fritts. “This family and friend owned business is involved with the Rochelle Chamber of Com-

merce and frequently donates their time and merchandise to local fundraisers and events.”

Midwestern Clothing Company was founded online in 2020 by sisters Haley and Kelsey, and childhood friend Alyssa. Since then, they were able to move into a permanent brick and mortar storefront in Rochelle.

“When speaking with the girls, they told me how honored and grateful they are for the opportunity to work and be involved in the community they grew up in,” continued Rep. Fritts. “As someone who is passionate about keeping people and families in rural Illinois, I

truly appreciate their dedication to the Rochelle community.”

Midwestern Clothing Company is located at 519 4th Avenue in Rochelle. They are open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

To learn more about the business or to shop their online store, visit their website at MidwesternClothingCompany.com.

To nominate a local business in District 74 for a future highlight, visit RepFritts.com and select Local Business Highlight Submission Form under resources.

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Sunday, 8am-8pm

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Sale Prices Valid Nov. 29 - Dec. 5 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

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\$1.99/lb.

Halos Clementines

3 lb bag



\$4.99/ea.

Taylor Farms Chopped Salad Kit

9.25 to 15.18 oz



\$3.49/ea.

Cucumbers



\$0.89/ea.

Green Bell Peppers



\$0.79/ea.

Avocados



\$0.89/ea.

Lemons



\$0.89/ea.

Bolthouse Matchstix Carrots

12 oz bag



\$1.79/ea.

Whole or Sliced White Mushrooms

8 oz



\$1.99/ea.

Idaho Potatoes

3 lb bag



\$2.49/ea.

HOT BUYS

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\$5.99/ea.

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WEEKLY SPECIALS

Lean Cuisine Meal Kits

7.5 to 12.8 oz

Selected Varieties



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Edy's Ice Cream

48 oz



\$4.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$7.69/ea.

Bagels Forever Cream Cheese

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\$1.99 ea.

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Yoplait Yogurt

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\$0.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$0.99/ea.

Sunny D

128 oz



\$2.99 ea.

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Bays English Muffins

6 ct



\$2.99 ea.

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8.5 to 12.5 oz



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Reg. Price \$2.89 ea.

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Reg. Price \$3.59 ea.

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\$7.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$10.29 ea

Heinz Ketchup

38 oz



\$4.99 ea.

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Fiora Paper Towels

6 rolls



\$5.99 ea.

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Hostess Donettes Hot Cocoa or Powdered

10.5 oz



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.59/ea.

Quaker Rice Cakes

6.53 oz Assorted



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.79 ea.

Sale goes through Dec. 5, 2023

HOLIDAY NEWS



Walking through Christmas cheer in downtown Amboy

AMBOY — The weather forecasters don't know yet if you'll be walking through snow on Dec. 9.

But if you want to walk through Christmas cheer while snacking, drinking, shopping, and enjoying yourself, the Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk at 4-7 p.m., Dec. 9 is where your shoes should be.

Santa Claus will make an appearance downtown and trolleys will take visitors from downtown businesses to the outskirts of town.

A Craft and Vendor

Fair will be held inside the Amboy Central School gymnasium during the Amboy Christmas Walk from 12-6 p.m.

The annual Fun Run will be held at 3 p.m. before the Christmas Walk kicks off. Registration fee is \$10 per person or \$25 per family.

In a small town, during the holidays, business slows down. This kind of event brings people out and rejuvenates the town. It brings a sense of community back to town during a busy time of year. The walk is designed to bring everyone out to

the town's streets. Not only are there children's activities, but there is an attraction for all.

There are craft and vending shows for the older residents, activities for kids, for teenagers, and for middle aged parents. There is something for everyone, you don't just have to have a child to come to the walk.

The town will be decorated and lit up bright just like it has before for the holiday event.

For more information about the walk, visit Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk page on Facebook.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 9 - 4-7 P.M.



*Warmest wishes to
you & your family!*

SENSIENT

25 EAST MAIN • AMBOY, IL • 815-857-3691

Happy Holidays

from your friends at

KSB
KATHERINE SHAW BETHEA HOSPITAL

Kurt Crowe, MD
Emilee Bocker, MD
Lee Murrin, FNP



DECEMBER 9, 2023 * 4-7PM

REVOLUTION WELLNESS

SENSIENT FLAVORS

- * Eggnog & Snacks

ST. PATRICK CHURCH

- * Cookie Walk 3pm - 7pm

STARLIGHT DANCE STUDIO

- * Performance at Santas Village

TEEN TURF

- * Repurposing & Decorating Christmas Wreaths
- * Santa's Workshop - Economical Gifts for Everyone

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AMBOY

FROM 4PM - 6PM

- * Hot Chocolate Bar
- * Take and Make Ornaments

THE LAST ALARM

- * Bows by Barb
- * Drink Specials

THRIFTY ON MAIN

- * Punch & Cookies
- * In-House drawing for gift basket

TWO SISTERS

- * Drink Specials
- * In-House drawing for gift basket

UNCOMMON REIGN

AMANDA HINTZ PHOTOGRAPHY

- * Photos with Santa @ Santas Village in the Depot Museum Parking lot

AMBOY CENTRAL SCHOOL

- * Crafts and Vendor Show
- * Gingerbread House Contest

AMBOY DEPOT MUSEUM

- * Make your own Locomotive Ornament
- * Candy Canes
- * Hot Spiced Cider

AMBOY FAMILY RESTAURANT

- * Pizza Square Sample
- * Hot Chocolate
- * Markee Creations Fresh Popcorn for sale

AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

- * Balloon Artist
- * Face Painting
- * Mickey & Minnie
- * Bounce House
- * Sweet Butts Cotton Candy

AMBOY FOOD AND LIQUOR

- * Food
- * Liquor Tasting
- * Face Painting 4-7pm

BECKER DETAILING

- * Open House
- * In-house Giveaways

DEPOT TAP

EXPRESS LANE SHELL

- * Hot Chocolate & Cookies

INSPIRED HOME DECOR & GIFTS

- * Open House
- * Emerald Beauty Bar

JOHNSON TRACTOR

- * Craft & Vendors
- * Photos with the Grinch by Enchanted Memory Photography
- * Folsom's Cookie Decorating Kit

KALEELS

LONG BRANCH

- * Drink Specials

MAIN FLOWER SHOP

- * Make an Ornament for the Wishing Tree
- * Christmas Gift Shopping

MARIAS PIZZA

- * Hot Chocolate and Cookies
- * In-House Giveaway for Christmas Dinner

PANKHURST MEMORIAL LIBRARY

- * Hot Chocolate Bar
- * Christmas Cookies
- * Grinch Craft

SANTA'S VILLAGE

AT THE DEPOT MUSEUM PARKING LOT

CHRISTMAS FUN RUN AT 3:00PM

PHOTOS WITH SANTA & MRS. CLAUDIA BY AMANDA HINTZ PHOTOGRAPHY FROM 4-6PM

ENTERTAINMENT

- * Starlight Dance Studio Performance
- * Eileen Quest

FOOD TRUCKS



TROLLEY STOPS

Amboy Central School
Amboy Fire Department
Express Lane Shell
Inspired Home Decor & Gifts
Johnson Tractor
Pankhurst Memorial Library
Santa's Village
St. Patrick Church
Teen Turf



WAGON STOPS

MENDOTA HILLS FESTIVE WAGON RIDES
Santa's Village
Amboy Fire Department
Amboy Central School

HOLIDAY NEWS

Festive facts about often-misunderstood fruitcake

Certain sights and sounds are ingrained in the holiday season, from twinkling lights to carols piping over retailers' sound systems. Amid the shelves of holiday wares and delicacies, fruitcake makes its annual appearance.

Fruitcake, sometimes referred to as plum cake or Christmas cake, can be prepared in various ways. However, a dense bundt-type cake dotted with dried, candied fruit and often soaked in rum or brandy has become the standard. Loathed or loved, seldom anything in between, fruitcake is typically mocked as the ultimate regift. But just like Charlie Brown's scant Christmas tree, which was initially mocked, it's time to see fruitcake in a new light. Consider these fruitcake fun facts.

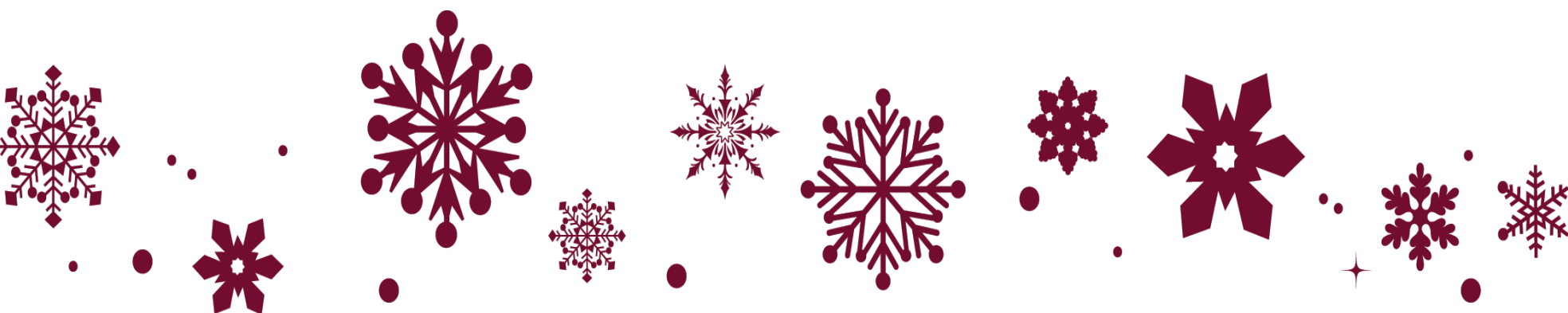
- The texture of fruitcake can vary from cake-like to more of a sweet bread like brioche. Italians dig into panettone, Germans delight with stollen and Jamaicans serve black cake.
- The first fruitcakes weren't eaten. According to historians, fruitcakes were initially made by ancient Egyptians, who tucked the desserts into the tombs with their dead so a sweet treat could be enjoyed in the afterlife.
- Fruitcake gained popularity as military rations, as everyone from Roman soldiers to Crusaders found fruitcake provided a diverse array of nutrients and an energy boost in battle. Fruitcake also stores well, which can be beneficial for military personnel in battle.
- Fruitcake seemingly is indestructible. While it likely cannot last forever, Taste-made says if a fruitcake is kept in an airtight

- container and stored in a dark, cool place, it could be reheated years after being baked. Starch crystals and dried fruit in the cake will release stored water when warmed, rehydrating the cake.
- Historical accounts indicate Romans were among the first people to eat fruitcake, which they might have enjoyed as early as 100 A.D. A version called "satura" was made by mixing stale bread with pine nuts, pomegranate seeds, raisins, and then soaking it in a barley mash and an alcoholic beverage brewed from honey.
- Fruitcake became a popular dish to serve at British royals' weddings. Queen Victoria, Princess Diana and Prince William served fruitcake at their receptions.
- The Smithsonian Air and Space Museum

- in Washington, D.C. has a fruitcake on display. It traveled into space on Apollo 11 in 1969, but was never eaten.
- Seth Greenberg, who worked in his family's New York City bakery, attests that fruitcake is delicious when made with the right ingredients. The neon-colored, dry and overly sweet fruit that many bakers use is the problem with poor cakes. But proper ingredients like brandy, glace cherries, apricots, figs, and dates can make for a delicious fruitcake.
- The average fruitcake weighs between two and three pounds. However, the heaviest fruitcake on record, according to "The Guinness Book of World Records," came in at 9,596 pounds. Despite the hefty weight of this cake, it's only around 92 to 160 calories per serving.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 9 - 4-7 P.M.



Rev up your Holidays

WITH JOHNSON TRACTOR

\$20 OFF OF \$100 SPENT ON CASE IH TOYS!

NOW THROUGH DEC 31ST

TRACTOR TRACKS TO SANTA'S REINDEER RANCH

AT JOHNSON TRACTOR - ROCHELLE!

JOIN US ON DEC 20TH FROM 3-5PM

REINDEER - HOT COCOA - SANTA & MORE!



GENUINE PARTS



FROM LAND TO LAWN



AGRICULTURE

Friday, Dec. 8

Christmas in the Grove

Stop by The First National Bank in Amboy at our Franklin Grove lobby, 108 N Elm St. 5-7 PM. We'll be serving up cream puffs, hot chocolate, raffle prizes and good cheer.

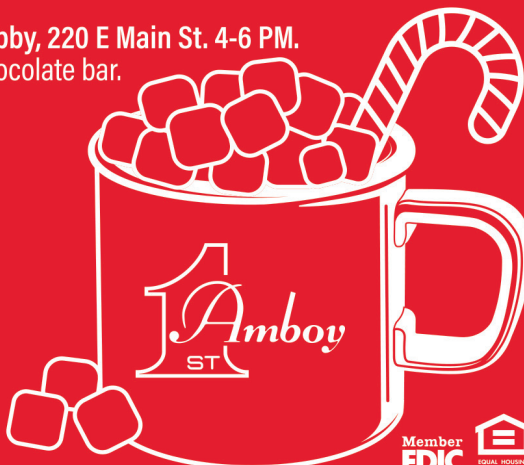
Saturday, Dec. 9

Amboy's Hometown Christmas

Visit The First National Bank in Amboy at our Amboy lobby, 220 E Main St. 4-6 PM. Grab a hot chocolate with all the goodies from our hot chocolate bar. Kids enjoy a craft ornament kit in our craft area.

Serving Up Cheer

The First National Bank in Amboy
Amboy - Dixon - Franklin Grove - Monroe Center
815-857-3625 - fnbamboy.com



HOLIDAY NEWS

Festive films that make for a perfect family movie night this season

A family movie night makes for a great way for families to bond and enjoy some relaxing time together. Such nights are a tradition in households across the globe, and they can even become a fun way for extended families to celebrate the holiday days together. When hosting overnight guests this holiday season, hosts can plan a family movie night and line up any of these family-friendly holiday movies.

• **“A Christmas Story” (1983):** This beloved classic based on the writings of author Jean Shepherd focuses on young Ralphie Parker and his humorous family. That family includes his father, played to much laughs by legendary actor Darren McGavin. All Ralphie wants for Christmas is a coveted Red Ryder air rifle, and generations of



fans have enjoyed watching this film to see if Ralphie’s dream comes true.

• **“Home Alone” (1990):** Not unlike “A Christmas Story,” this instant classic devotes much of its story to

a young boy. Eight-year-old Kevin McAllister (Macaulay Culkin) awakens to an empty house after his parents forgetfully leave him behind as they depart on a holiday trip to Paris

with their extended family. That proves to be bad news for bungling burglars Harry (Joe Pesci) and Marv (Daniel Stern), who are outwitted by Kevin at every turn.

• **Elf (2003):** Mid-

dle-aged Buddy (Will Ferrell) grew up in the North Pole believing he is an elf, despite being significantly larger than the kind-hearted elves who raised him. Upon learning he is not an actual elf, Buddy is determined to reunite with the father (James Caan) he’s never known. Hilarity ensues as the innocent Buddy ends up in the big city in search of his father.

• **“It’s a Wonderful Life” (1946):** Among the most beloved holiday movies ever made, this classic stars Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey, a devoted family man who set aside his own big-city dreams to save the family business and, ultimately, his small hometown of Bedford Falls. Lamenting some bad luck that leaves him on the cusp of financial ruin, George wishes he’d never been born, only to be

shown by an especially kind and patient angel-in-training (Henry Travers) how much worse off Bedford Falls and its residents might have been had George Bailey never existed.

• **“Jingle All the Way” (1996):** Featuring a future Governor of California in the lead role, this hijinks-filled holiday classic follows the efforts of Howard Langston (Arnold Schwarzenegger) as he tries to secure the must-have gift of the season for his son, Jamie (Jake Lloyd). Howard soon finds himself competing against a father (Sinbad) who’s equally devoted to find the coveted Turbo-Man action figure.

A holiday movie night makes for a fun, family-friendly evening when hosting overnight guests during this special time of year.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 9 - 4-7 P.M.

Barb's
Last Alarm
FIRE HOUSE PUB

43 S. East Ave.
Amboy
Barb Harrison - owner

**CHRISTMAS WALK
SATURDAY SIP AND SHOP**

Saturday, Dec. 9th, 4-7pm

**Drink Specials and
Barb's bows available!**

11302022



Stop in and see us during the Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk or anytime!

This Holiday season, Get Back the Savings at the Pump by joining our **Fuel Rewards®** Program. Get rewarded for everyday activities like shopping, dining and traveling.

Let Us Help You Lower the Cost of Everyday Life.

Fuel Rewards® members with Gold Status save 5¢ a gallon on every fill-up at Shell.

Amboy Shell Express Lane
342 N Mason Ave., Amboy

HOLIDAY NEWS

Fun books to read to children this holiday season

The holiday season is a special time of year for people of all ages, but children might be the most enthusiastic celebrants come December. Children spend much of the holiday season anticipating the arrival of the man in the red suit, and that enthusiasm can be contagious.

Families have their own unique traditions during the holiday season, but one popular way to harness kids' enthusiasm between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day is to read them holiday stories. There's no shortage of great holiday books for kids, but here are a handful that kids may remember well into adulthood.

• **"The Polar Express,"** by Chris Van Allsburg: The beloved tale is the story of a young boy who boards a mysterious train bound for the North Pole.

• **"The Littlest Elf,"** by Brandi Dougherty: Part of a series, this story focuses on a tiny elf named Oliver and a series of misadventures as he navigates his way through Santa's workshop.

• **"Olive, the Other Reindeer,"** by Vivian Walsh: Olive is no ordinary reindeer. In fact, Olive is a dog who heads to the North Pole believing she is a reindeer. Her decision to join Santa's team ultimately benefits the big man and his trusty reindeer.

• **"The Miracle of the First Poinsettia: A Mexican Christmas Story,"** by Joanne Oppenheim: A little girl named Juanita is the



star of this retelling of a traditional Mexican tale with a valuable lesson.

• **"Gingerbread Mouse: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids,"** by Katy Bratun: A fallen tree branch almost ruins Christmas for Mouse, whose determination and resource-

fulness mixed in with a little Christmas magic ensures she finds a place to call home in time for the holidays.

• **"A Night in Santa's Great Big Bag,"** by Kristin Kladstrup: Santa saves the day in this tale starring a young boy's favorite

stuffed animal, whose excitement for Christmas compels him to climb into Santa's big bag of presents on Christmas Eve.

• **"Santa Claus and the Three Bears,"**

by Maria Modugno: This twist on the popular tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" finds three unsuspecting bears encountering a familiar fellow in a red suit upon returning home after a nighttime walk.

• **"Twas the Night Before Christmas:**

Edited by Santa Claus for the Benefit of Children of the 21st Century," by Clement C. Moore: Parents will appreciate this updated version of the popular tale that, among other things, has removed the reference to Santa smoking.

• **"How the Grinch Stole Christmas!"**

by Dr. Seuss: Children can join generations of fans that came before them as they hear the redemption story of the Grinch who was once determined to ruin Christmas for the happy people of Who-ville.

• **"The Nutcracker,"** by the New York City Ballet: The classic story is retold based on famed choreographer George Balanchine's production.

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. Reading new and classic holiday stories to children is one tradition any family can embrace.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 9 - 4-7 P.M.



AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

Be sure to stop in during the
2023 Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk
Saturday, Dec. 9 from 4-7 p.m.

- Wine and Liquor Tasting
- Indian Cultural Food
- And Many More Events Planned!

Happy Holidays

242 E. Main St., Amboy IL
815-857-7020



From Our Family To Yours