

# Halloween Parade spooks Amboy



Characters from all genres and eras hit the streets of Amboy during the Amboy Halloween Parade on Sunday, Oct. 29. The Parade was led by the Amboy High School Flag Team and the AHS Band, and followed by many trick or treaters. BrandonLaChance/AmboyNews



# Harvest, wheat planting running ahead of average pace

#### **By DANIEL GRANT** FarmWeek

Illinois farmers continue to cut soybeans at a furious pace between rain showers.

Soybean harvest was 61% complete statewide as of Oct. 15, which was 8 percentage points ahead of the average pace, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service Illinois field office.

"We completed beans before the rain (the first half of the month)," said Megan Dwyer, a fourth-generation farmer from Henry County and director of conservation and nutrient stewardship for the Illinois Corn Growers Association. "Corn has been



Marvin Johnson unloads corn from his combine into a grain cart while harvesting a field near Grand Ridge in LaSalle County. Photo by Catrina Rawson

off to a slow start, but a lot of farmers got in the field (Oct. 16). I think there will be a strong push."

Corn harvest was 52%

complete as of Oct. 15 statewide, which is spot on with the average pace. Meanwhile, farmers the average

Meanwhile, farmers planted nearly half of the

winter wheat crop (47%) in the state as of the same date, which was 2 points ahead of the average pace and 11 points ahead of last year's pace.

CONNECT + CREATE THE FUTURE OF HEALTH "I finished wheat planting and fertilizing and am looking forward to the green-up in those fields as the season comes to a close," said Marshall Newhouse, FarmWeek CropWatcher from Boone County.

The weather pattern for remaining fieldwork could shift for the week ahead with a possibility of warmer and wetter conditions.

"We've had some cooler conditions and even some frost across the state," John Baranick, DTN ag meteorologist, told the RFD Radio Network. "But (this) week we're going to pump up the

See Harvest page A3

#### Dinges sits on entrepreneurship panel in Chicago

**CHICAGO** – Dinges Fire Company CEO Nick Dinges recently sat on a panel to discuss health in entrepreneurship hosted by Northern Illinois University, NC State Poole College of Management and DePaul University.

# LaChance becomes AmboyNews Editor

**AMBOY** — The Amboy News is pleased to announce that Brandon LaChance has been named Editor of The Amboy News.

LaChance started with the paper as a reporter in the spring of 2022.

"We are very pleased to have Brandon on board leading our editorial department," Publisher Tonja Greenfield said. "He has a passion for covering community news and I know he will continue to produce stories that will keep readers informed of what is happening in Amboy."

LaChance graduated from Mendota High School in 2004 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in journalism from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

While a freshman at SIU, he began his professional career with three newspapers at the same time, Carterville Courier, Herrin Independent, and the Johnson City Herald.

After college graduation and work with other newspapers, he sent applications to publications and media outlets all over the country. He received three interviews in Cincinnati, Syracuse, and La Salle.

Because of his background, he was hired at the NewsTribune in La Salle where he spent eight years as a sports writer.

LaChance stays involved with many endeavors as he currently writes for the Mendota Reporter, is the host of Edge of Your Seat Podcast, is a radio voice for Starved Rock Media, and referees basketball and volleyball games at both the IESA and IHSA levels. "I've enjoyed covering a vast variety of stories in Amboy and am ecstatic to be entrenched further within the Amboy community and the Amboy news," LaChance said. "With over 18 years of newspaper experience at 10 different publications and a knowledge and a passion for the area, I'm beyond excited to lead the Amboy News moving forward." LaChance began his new role on Nov. 1.

it had been stolen earlier in the night from an address in Franklin Grove.

ATM damaged in Ashton

bank alarm at the Central Bank in Ashton, around 2:09

a.m. on Oct. 29, 2023. When deputies arrived on scene,

they found the ATM machine on the property had been

damaged. During the course of the investigation, a ve-

hicle was located at the scene, and it was determined

ASHTON — Lee County Deputies responded to a

This is still an ongoing investigation, and anyone will information is asked to call the Lee County Sheriff's Office at 815-284-6631 or Lee-Ogle Crime Stoppers at 1-888-Caught-U to report criminal activity. Callers can remain anonymous and receive rewards of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest. Please reference case #7997 if you call in with any information.



Dinges Fire Company CEO Nick Dinges sits on Health in Entrepreneurship Research Forum Panel hosted by Northern Illinois University, NC State Poole College of Management and DePaul University.

See Dinges page A2

# 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.

#### P.F.C. George C. Grohens

Co. G, 47th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division



George Charles Grohens was born to Joseph andAdele Grohens in Marion Township on Oct. 26, 1895. He spent his youth there as the family made a living by farming. By the time he registered for the selective service on June 5, 1917, he was farming land for himself in the same location. In 1918, as America geared up for war in Eu-



rope, George was inducted into the army, eventually joining the 47th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Division, comprised of soldiers from Camp Grant and four other camps around the country. On May 10 of that year, Private Grohens left Hoboken, New Jersey on an army transport ship arriving in Brest, France on the 23rd of that month. George, along with hundreds of thousands of newly arriving American doughboys would provide the reinforcements needed to turn the tide of the war for French and British troops.

Within a month, General Erich Ludendorff of the German Army believed that a major offensive could be launched to defeat British troops and bring victory to Germany. In a series of bloody battles in what became known as the Aisne-Marne Offensive, the German army attacked allied lines but were eventually driven back to their starting point by allied forces, including Private Grohen's 4th Division.

See Grohens page A2



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<u>Inserts</u>

Snyders





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# LOCAL NEWS

# State Senator Stoller seeks help honoring veterans for memorial display

**SPRINGFIELD** – With Veterans Day approaching on Nov. 11, State Senator Win Stoller (R-Germantown Hills) is asking local residents to help honor family members or friends who are veterans at part of a memorial display in the Illinois State

continued from page A1

Capitol.

The Illinois Senate Republican Caucus is once again hosting their annual Veterans Day Wall of Honor display at the Statehouse, from Nov. 7 to Nov. 20. The memorial will feature a large electronic display of veterans and their stories, along with a wall where visitors can write notes of thanks to those who served.

"It is truly important that we ensure that the brave men and women who chose to serve and protect our nation receives the rightful recognition they deserve," said Stoller. "We live in the greatest nation on earth thanks to their sacrifices and honoring them with this display is the least that we can do."

Stoller is encouraging friends and families to submit a photo and short story (fewer than 250 words) about their veterans by Nov. 6, so the information can be a part of the Veterans Day Wall of Honor display. Entries can be submitted to VeteransDay@ sgop.ilga.gov or mailed to Veterans Day Wall, 110D State House, Springfield, IL 62706.

# Grohens

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According to research, issues surrounding health and entrepreneurship impact over 44 million employed adults in the United States. The forum aimed to bring together fresh ideas and diverse perspectives on health and new venture creation to help students develop their own research and projects.

Dinges

Dinges sat on a panel and shared his mental and physical health journey. Additionally, he shared how his own health has influenced his business and has changed over time. Additional topics covered at the forum included Unpacking Entrepreneurial Loneliness, How Subjective Social Status Shapes Entrepreneurial Cognition and Well-Being, Entrepreneurship Addiction, Trauma and Entrepreneurship, among other topics.

"I was honored to have been asked to sit on a panel and share my entrepreneurial health story with several college-aged students," said Dinges Fire Company CEO Nick Dinges. "Starting a business is exhausting. It consumes you and overwhelms you but is equally fulfilling and rewarding. By presenting on this panel, I truly hope I educated and, most importantly, inspired the students."

For more information on the Dinges Fire Company and its growth, visit www.DingesFire.com or follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook or Instagram.

ABOUT DINGES FIRE COMPANY The Dinges Fire

Company is the leading distributor of Fire, Res-

cue and EMS Equipment in the Midwest with over 110+ Team Members operating in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Our mission is to protect our Nation's First Responders with high-quality products while providing unmatched customer service after the sale through a staff of highly educated team members supported by great technology.





By the end of July, German soldiers had withdrawn to form their front along the Vesle River.

On Aug. 7, the 47th Infantry crossed the river and took a position along a railroad line. German troops countered with continuous heavy artillery fire, aerial bombardment, and machine gun fire, causing American soldiers to fall back. An after-battle report described the fighting:

"On August 9th the 47th infantry made an attempt to take the town of Bazoches. Strong opposition was encountered, but throughout the afternoon machine gun nests and snipers were carefully sought out and eliminated. On the left, the French had failed to advance; only one platoon began the attack and it withdrew upon encountering heavy fire. The 47th ... moved forward, however, and was almost exterminated by machine gun fire. At this juncture, five German aeroplanes came over, and flying within 100 yards of the ground, dropped bomb after bomb on Americans and Germans indiscriminately. Flesh and blood could stand no more. Over a hundred dead bodies were left on the open ground south of Bazoches. These dead men could not

be recovered without sacrificing live men to do it."

On Aug. 10, 1918, just three months before the war was halted, Private First Class George Grohens was listed among those missing in action. His remains were never recovered. Listed among 241 American soldiers on the Tablets of the Missing at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France, P.F.C. Grohens is forever honored and remembered for his gallantry. A cenotaph monument stands at the Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon.

"Time will not dim the glory of their deeds".

General John J. Pershing,

Commander, American Expeditionary Forces

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

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

National Archives American Battle Monuments Commission Center of Military History, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C. Find a Grave Memorial



# AMERICAN HERO?

The Amboy News is once again doing a section featuring Veterans and military personnel and would like you to send or bring us a military picture of yourself or favorite military hero along with a short biography of their service history, present or past.

Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves or Merchant Marines.

Our special section featuring your own local heroes will be published on

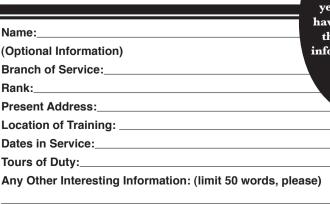
**November 8th.** Deadline for submitting Photos/ Information is Fri., Nov. 3, 9 a.m.



Donald H. Schamberger, Amboy Army Signal Corps-Corporal Trained: Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. May 27, 1953 to May 27, 1955 St. teside duty with the fixed Control of the Army Signal School as a ballistic meteorologist and air traffic controller. He received Good Conduct

Medal and National Defens Service Medal.

Donald C. Wittenauer



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### AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 3

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 24/7days 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.

#### Halloween Dance/ Hayride & Costume Contest

A full Thank you will be in next week's paper. Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Save the date-Nov. 18. More Info to follow.

**Thank You's** 

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Shirley and Rosie for the Halloween Candy; Donna Wellman for the cookies; Susan and Sandy Hobbs for the school supplies; Country Kids in Peru for pumpkins and Jim Travi for delivering them; Tim and Lynn O'Laughlin for the Pop Tarts; Martha Henley for the cookies; Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the bologna, cheese,

# Harvest

#### continued from page A1\_

heat."

An active storm track could also set up over the central U.S. and delay fieldwork in some areas.

makes it into Illinois much is still to be determined, Baranick said. As farmers continue to harvest corn, stalk quality remains a key consideration. They should plan to harvest fields with any potential issues as soon as possible to avoid potential lodging problems. Overall, late-season plant health is critical to a smooth harvest and maximizing yield potential, according to Jeff Morey, AgriGold agronomist. It's not something that just "happens." Keeping your corn crop healthy all the way to harvest takes planning, hybrid selection, fertility management and fungicide.

bread, and Halloween cupcakes; Mary Jane and Keith Shaw for the freeze dried treats for Halloween; Margaret and Jerry Shaw for the cookies and cake; Bugs Bunny for the hot chocolate; Tammy and Scott Strub for the various items and item for Halloween Dance; Barb and George Spataro for the various items; Donna Wellman and John Wagner for the monetary donation in memory of Dennis McCoy; Mechelle and Israel McKenna for the clothes; Knights of Columbus 4th degree for the food and Jim Travi for delivering it and Clint Conway for the monetary

#### donation. **Donation Drop off**

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

#### Needs Halloween Candy **Final Note**

Father God, we know it is normal for us to sometimes find ourselves in a pit of fear and discouragement. But we don't have to stay there. Today, we're choosing to fix our eyes on You. And we're remembering that each thing we verbalize our thankfulness for is like a stepping stone out of the pit we've been in. Thank You for providing Your timeless truths that prove to us over and over again how powerfully capable You always are. With You by our side, we have no need to fear. In Jesus<sup>3</sup> Name, Amen

el-an-acre advantage.

Plant health should influence farmers' corn hybrid decisions for next season.

"Farmers with a lot of "Whether or not that acres to combine need that corn plant standing well into October. They should look for genetics with good late-season plant health, stalk quality and standability," Morey advises.

# **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

800-733-2767 or visit

RedCrossBlood.org to

donate. Download the

Blood Donor App.

make an appointment to

HARMON- The Har-

mon United Methodist

Church will hold a soup

supper on Thursday, Nov.

9, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Bring your family to enjoy

homemade soups - vege-

table, ham and bean – and

sandwiches, desserts and

drinks. Free will offering.

This is a fundraiser for the

siding for the church.

LEE CENTER

**TWP-**The Lee Center

Township meeting will

Thursday, Nov. 9, at the

**SUBLETTE-**The

Sublette Village Board

will meet at 7 p.m. on

Ellice Dinges Center,

Monday, Nov. 13, at the

202 S. West St., Sublette.

6 p.m. at the Community

Center, 280 W. Wasson

Rd., on Monday, Nov. 13. Anyone interested in

joining or wants more

information on the Lions

Club is invited to attend.

AMBOY- The Amboy

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at

Township Building, 2202

be held at 7 p.m. on

Shaw Rd., Amboy.

**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.

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

PAW PAW- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 - 6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9, at Paw Paw Elementary School, 511 Chapman, Paw Paw. Call the Red Cross at

### 2023 Farm Bill: A look at extension versus expiration By TIMOTHY EGGERT FarmWeek

Certain USDA programs will begin to go dark unless Congress authorizes a new farm bill that covers the next five years or passes a short-term extension of the existing legislation.

That's already been the case for some programs with funding tied to the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, such as organic farmer support programs like the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is also being impacted by the lapsed farm bill because the Farm Service Agency's authority to authorize new CRP contracts expired when the bill expired.

Although payments on existing CRP contracts will continue, farmers will not be able to enroll new land in the program or re-enroll land if a contract expired until there's an extension or a new farm bill. A \$450,000-per-farmer annual payment limit for projects under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) expired on Sept. 30, too. And enrollment into the Price Loss Coverage and Agricultural Risk Coverage programs for the 2024 crop year is also on hold under a lapsed farm bill. Payments for the 2022 crop year, however, will continue because the money was authorized before the 2018 bill expired. In total, about 19 separate farm bill initiatives with mandatory funding that don't have a baseline will temporarily cease if the pot of money they were given in 2018 runs out.

CUSD School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Amboy Junior High School.

AMBOY-The Amboy American Legion will meet on Monday, Nov. 20, at 6 p.m., at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N Metcalf, Amboy.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 20, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, Nov. 27. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.





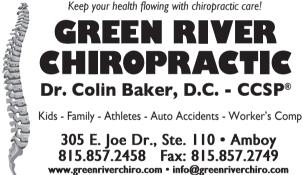
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"It's an investment that pays off, especially in challenging years," Morey said. In years when drought and heat stress the crop, he has witnessed a 10- to 20-bush-

"A fungicide application is a must for hybrids with lower plant health ratings and on disease-prone acres," he said.

"You'll also want to make sure you have good fertility, including getting nitrogen into those plants when they need it."

Morey encourages farmers to keep a notepad handy throughout harvest.

"Keep a record of how products fared in terms of plant health," he said. "When harvest wraps up, talk with your agronomist and see if your experience matched what they heard from other farmers. Then use that to make decisions that work well for your farm next season."

See Farm Bill page A4





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Amboy Fire Department will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner November 11th from 5 pm – 7 pm at the fire station 25 NE Avenue, Amboy Good will donation - Open to the public

Honoring our Veterans, Veterans eat for free

66 W. Wasson Rd. Unit 265, Amboy \$65,000 \$65,000 Don't miss this wonderfully unique opportunity to own a huge manufactured home in a newly managed park, that is making continual improvements for it's members. The 2200 sq. ft., 1998 Four Seasons home has 3 very large bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, many updates and comes FULLY FURNISHED. You will have 3 areat bedroom sets. including king sized beds



comes FULLY FURNISHED. You will have 3 great bedroom sets, including king sized beds, a dinette, couch, loveseat, recliners, over \$3, 000 worth of thermal draperies & more. The appliances stay of course too. The washer & dryer are both Whirlpool Cabrios and are only 5 yrs. old. There is also an upright freezer & brand new Blackstone grill & 2 patio sets included. The furnace and AC were newly installed in '21 & both are Carrier units. All of this sits on an oversized(double) lot with open farm field to the rear - for a single lot rent. This could be the perfect option for somany different scenarios. "If is thome starting over downzing form a lo 2 story home option for so many different scenarios - first home, starting over, downsizing from a lg. 2 story home Be sure to schedule a showing to see how perfectly this property will fit into your lifestyle.





Tonja Greenfield, Publisher Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342

#### Phone: 815-857-2311

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# LOCAL NEWS Kish College to host 2023 Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 9

MALTA — Kishwaukee College will host a Veterans Day Ceremony at 11 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 9, in the Student Center. The ceremony is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided for all guests during and after the ceremony.

Delaney Hood, Accommodations Specialist, will serve as the Master of Ceremonies, and John Gruben, Commander of the Rochelle American Legion Post 403 and Kish Manufacturing Technology Adjunct Instructor, will head the MIA/POW table. Highlights

of the event include a welcome by Dr. Laurie Borowicz, President of Kishwaukee College; the national anthem, performed by Rochelle High School junior Luke Smarto; the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kim Ahlert, Marine veteran and Kish Assistant Professor of Physics; rec-

ognition of military members and a momentofsilence; amusical performance by the DeKalb High School Chamber Orchestra; guest speaker SteveKorth, Armyveteran and Kish alumnus; and guest speaker Cohen Barnes, Army veteran, Mayor of DeKalb and Kish alumnus.

Guests should enter through Door6, the Student Center entrance. The event will be recorded and livestreamed on Kish's social media platforms.

For more information on the ceremony or veteran resources at Kish, visit kish.edu/veterans.

# Farm Bill

continued from page A3

Other program funding is linked to the crop year or marketing year, and most of USDA's farm programs, including those covered under the Commodity Title and dairy support measures, officially expire Dec. 31.

Title II conservation programs were extended through fiscal year 2031 under the Inflation Reduction Act and will continue to receive funding until then. The Federal Crop Insurance Act is authorized with permanent funding, meaning it never expires and funding will keep flowing.

And although the farm bill crafts regulations around the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, funding for the food aid measure is tied to annual appropriations.

Were Jan. 1, 2024, to come without an extension or a new farm bill passed, then the U.S. farm economy

## FEEL THE HOMETOWN LOVE

On Oct. 15, 2023 as I was getting ready to leave my parents' home and return to Chicago. As I was packing up my car, my little Vera, decided to run between my legs and out the door for the journey of her life! Vera is the newest member of our family as of four months ago being a recuse dog. For her to be missing for a full 7 days then entering her 8th night of being in extremely chilly weather/ raining days, broke our hearts completely.

The town immediately rallied together and started looking for her. Lori Hanson, Kristi and Kaylee Althaus were immediately on it with riding around tirelessly that night, as well as many more.

Don and Donald Dinges also had kept watch through out the night and the days to come

Carol and Dennis Klein along with Floyd and Theresa Wilson walked and drove through the streets to the tune of many miles. My brothers and sisters also were on the lookout for her

This is just a small portion of all the people that were on alert and looking for her.

As the days passed, hope was fading, but on the Sunday of the 22nd my phone rang, the door bell was ringing and she had been sited by Randy and Kathy Faber near their home Stacey (Nick) Dinges was ringing the doorbell and was right on it with

us to finally bring her home! After a wild chase she finally was captured and brought home! She

was stinky, filthy, and thin, but most importantly, she was not hurt

I cannot thank you everyone enough for their efforts and support during this hard time. I am forever in debt to the people of Sublette. This vo is why I love my hometown and plan on moving back to someday!

This town is full of love and kindness and I am so grateful for this npowering community

Mardy Dinges

Steve Schmitt

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could turn "chaotic," according to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack.

Specifically, farm programs would automatically revert to "permanent law" status, meaning existing programs would be replaced with a set of permanent provisions tied to the Agricultural Acts of 1938 and 1949.

"It would give me, secretary of agriculture, incredible discretion to discern the level of parity for most of the basic commodities and which farmers would benefit and which farmers would not," Vilsack said Oct. 16 during a farm visit in rural Kankakee County.

A"very unusual circumstance" would follow, wherein if a farmer had acres allotted for wheat production in the 1940s, for instance, then that farmer would continue to receive support while a recent wheat producer would not get support, Vilsack said.

#### Roberts Armory WWII Museum

Open for Veterans' Day, November 5, 2023 from 1-4 pm



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While a full farm bill expiration hasn't happened before, Congress has experienced lapses in the legislation.

The "current record holder for the longest stretch" is held by the 2014 farm bill, which was supposed to have been reauthorized in 2012 after the 2011 legislation expired, according to Jonathan Coppess, University of Illinois associate professor and director of the Gardner Agriculture Policy Program.

And the 2018 farm bill, conversely, is the only farm bill in recent history that was reauthorized within the year of the previous bill's expiration, Coppess said during a recent webinar.

"It typically does take more than one Congress in one year to get a farm bill done," Coppess said. "So, if in fact we get into extension territory, or this drags out past 2023, we are not in an anomalous situation."

> **Roberts Armory World** War II museum will be open to the public in honor of Veterans' Day on Sunday, Nov. 5, from 1-4 p.m. The Higgins Boat will be open for viewing, weather permitting. The next opening will be Memorial Day 2024. To get to the museum, follow the signs on the Army truck at Rt. 251 and Intermodal Drive (Approximately three miles). Many World War II artifacts are on display including tanks, trucks, cannons and Rochelle News-Leader newspapers from 1945 presenting photographs of Rochelle residents who served during World War II. Moreinformation is available on the Rochelle website at: http:// www.enjoyrochelle.com/ online-directory/whatto-do/history-attractions/ robert-s-armory.html.



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# JRCH DIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 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 1/2 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 - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

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

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

## The Following Community **Businesses** Sponsor Area Church News:

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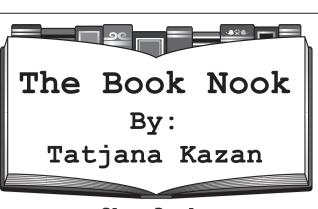
**Vaessen Brothers** Chevrolet 815-849-5232

**KSB Medical Center** 815-857-3044

The Amboy News 815-857-2311



#### AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 5



#### **Ghost Stories**

In her splendid collection of short stories, "Night Side of the River: Ghost Stories," (October 2023), British author Jeanette Winterson points out that despite modern science and any credible proof of their existence, "ghosts have not been evicted from their permanent ancestral home: our imagination." She mentions Japan and China's festivals to honor the dead, and most especially Mexico, where the Day of the Dead is a festival "combining the ritual of the funeral procession with the fiesta of Carnival."

Winterson organizes her stories into four categories: Devices, Places, People, and Visitations, each containing three stories as well as a description of her personal experiences of the supernatural. The pleasure of these ghost stories is Winterson's inimitable style. She relishes all the cliches of the ghost story, which are often hilarious, without falling back on them. Under Devices, "App-arition" is the story of a woman whose sister gives her an app of her recently deceased husband. Problem is that he was an abusive lout who mercilessly tormented her. In "The Ghost in the Machine," a recent widow loves the metaverse where a bad past can be easily wiped away. Nevertheless, she decides to keep her husband Frank to mold him into a better version. Even though he is a mere program, Frank comes to life, and she quickly devises a plan to eliminate him.

Places contains a wonderful Gothic tale. It is the story of a young couple, Max and Johnny, who stay at a remote manor house for the summer. The story is told from both their points of view. "A Fur Coat" is Max's story in which she finds an ancient fur coat which is possessed by a monster who nearly destroys her. Johnny, egged on by the misogynist caretaker, becomes jealous. But in "Boots" we meet a much more likeable character until the caretaker provides him with a pair of hobnail boots. He advises Johnny with three words: Trust, temptation, treachery.

OCIAL NEV

People has a deeply emotional love story of bereavement and of consolation. On the lighter side, we meet Canterville, an illusionist who knows the value of a well-designed séance. He constructs his illusions around the long-ago tragic death of beautiful Pamela. Inevitably Pamela makes an appearance that both undermines and enhances the master illusionist's show. In Visitations, in a story called "Fountain of Lions," a city is shrouded in dense fog, "a vast white sea." A young woman, Judith, is crossing a park, and as she passes the Fountain of Lions, she sees her dead mother, who does not acknowledge her. Judith inexplicably wakes up in a hospital, her mother at her side. She explains that Judith has died, and gently takes her by the hand. Judith looks back, "Death was smaller than she has thought, or was it life?"

# **The Northern Illinois Raptor Rehab & Education Center** presents a program to answer any questions about birds of prey

**OREGON** — Who hasn't felt a sense of amazement at the sight of a hawk or eagle soaring overhead or of wonder at the sound of an owl hooting in the darkness? Autumn is a good time to start watching for them and listening in the night. Who has not wished to have them living near their home?

What should we do if we find

one that has been injured? Most people are not able to care for such a large, awe-inspiring bird.

Fortunately, there are people who do know how to take care of them and who are legally allowed to handle them: The Northern Illinois Raptor Rehab & Education Center. A professional from the center will present a program for the public sponsored by the Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County.

Candy Ridlbauer, Executive Director of the Raptor Center, will bring seven live birds of prey, including a hawk, owl and falcons to illustrate their habits and rehabilitating them. There will also be displays for the audience to examine.

Join Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County for a close-up look at these exciting birds and learn how they are helped to return to their natural lives in the wild at this delightful program. Displays will enrich the experience.

If you want to learn more about these amazing birds, attend the Prairie Preservation

Society's Free Fall Program on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 2 pm. at the Kickapoo Center, 1919 N. Limekiln Rd., Oregon (just north of Hwy. 64 and the Fairgrounds between Oregon and Mt. Morris).

Light refreshments will be served after the program. Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult.

# From The Heart Calendar winners

#### **October 2023 From The Heart Calendar Winners**

- Oct. 1 Caring Friends, Dixon, \$50
- Oct. 2 Shawn Meyers, Keokuk, Iowa, \$25
- Oct. 3 The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 4 Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
- Oct. 5 Rochelle Police Dog, \$25
- Oct. 6 Linda Alderks, Chana, \$25
- Oct. 7 Rochelle Fire Fighter Social, \$25
- Oct. 8 Calvin M. Jacobs, Rochelle, \$50
- Oct. 9 Mic Brooks, Rochelle, \$250
- Oct. 10 Jessica Mueller, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 11 Jason Burdin, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 12 MeLisa Young, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 13 Jasmine Sarabia, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 14 From the Heart, \$25
- Oct. 15 Michele Perez, Rochelle, \$50
- Oct. 18 Erica Walton, Moline, \$25 Oct. 19 - Merry Mathis, Rochelle, \$25 Oct. 20 - Emily Dysart, Rochelle, \$25 Oct. 21 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25 Oct. 22 - Diane Cecil, Rochelle, \$50 Oct. 23 - Bob Hammon, Sycamore, \$25 Oct. 24 - From the Heart, \$25

Oct. 16 - From the Heart, \$25

Oct. 17 - City of Rochelle, \$25

- Oct. 25 Jacob and Taylor Bigelow, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 26 Debra Bonacquisti, Ashton, \$25
- Oct. 27 David F Beguin, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 28 HOPE of Ogle County, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 29 Doria Hardy, Rochelle, \$50
- Oct. 30 Hub City Senior Center, Rochelle, \$50 Oct. 31 – Ashton Schuster, Ortonville, Mich., \$250

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

### MANIA celebrates 50th anniversary of hit single "Waterloo" at Coronado Performing Arts Center in Rockford

ROCKFORD - Take over 3,000 live concerts delivers an authentic and

A Chance On MANIA... in over 35 countries. Re- unforgettable tribute to promises to be an unand you won't be dis- cent highlights included the legendary Swedish forgettable experience

The upcoming tour

COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. **Senior Dining Menu** Nov. 6 - 10 8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal Monday - Chicken parmesan, pasta w/marinara, Sicilian blend veggie, wgr dinner roll, diced pears Tuesday - Sausage gravy, w/wgr biscuit, hash brown potatoes, two sausage patties, orange juice Wednesday - Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato wedges, baked beans chilled applesauce, wgr hot dog bun

Morning of Kuchen & Coffee ASHTON - The Ashton United Methodist Church will host a morning of Kuchen and coffee

on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 8:30 - 11 a.m. Come and

enjoy some great food and fellowship.

Thursday - Beefaroni, California blend veggies, corn muffin, apricots Friday - A). Pepper steak, mashed potato/gravy, glazed carrots, wgr wheat bread-1, mandarin oranges B). Turkey/vegetable



appointed. This year the iconic Swedish pop group, is celebrating the 50th anniversary of their breakthrough hit single "Waterloo" and MANIA can't wait to share the joy of this huge milestone. Mania: The ABBA Tribute is coming to the Coronado Performing Arts Center in Rockford, Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Mania the ABBA Tribute has successfully toured every continent in the world and has played a second run in London's West End where the show performed for a month in the iconic Shaftesbury Theatre, London in May 2021. The show also enjoyed an 80 date sell-out USA National tour in 2022/2023, Mania continues in its quest to bring the music of the Swedish 'Supergroup' to millions of fans, old and new.

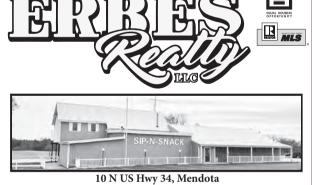
Featuring an extraordinary cast of talented musicians and performers, Mania: The ABBA Tribute

band that has captured the hearts of fans for generations. With stunning costumes, energetic choreography, and impeccable musicianship, Mania: The ABBA Tribute recreates the magic of ABBA's music in all its glory. From "Dancing Queen" to "Waterloo," "Mamma Mia" to "Take a Chance on Me," the band performs all of ABBA's greatest hits with passion and precision, transporting audiences back to the disco era of the 1970s.

for fans of ABBA and lovers of great music. With stunning visuals, electrifying performances, and all of ABBA's greatest hits, Mania: The ABBA Tribute is a hit with audiences worldwide and Maniacs who return every year!

Tickets went on sale on Friday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m. Purchase tickets at Ticketmaster.com, by phone at 815-968-5222, or in-person at the Coronado Performing Arts Center box office.

> It feels like fall is OVER!!!



Great Business Opportunity! Sip n Snack has been in Business for 50 years! Awesome location with lots of raffic and close to Mendota golf course. So many opportunities with this restaurant/bar. Features include large parking area, 70 KW generator, over \$100,000 in inventory and equipment, pop machine, freezer, fryers, refrigerator, some toy machines, tables, chairs, bar stools, everything you need to start today and so much nore. Downstairs seats around 230 and upstairs seats around 70 people. Bar upstairs and down! Private back room for entertaining, 2 updated bathrooms. This business had a lot of take out business as well. Plenty f storage throughout. Add catering, deliveries and gaming machines to make more income! Beers signs



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809 Washington Street, Mendota - LIKE AND FOLLOW US ON

#### Soup supper at **Harmon United Methodist Church**

**HARMON** — The Harmon United Methodist Church will hold a soup supper on Thursday, Nov. 9, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Bring your family to enjoy homemade soups – vegetable, ham and bean – and sandwiches, desserts and drinks. Free will offering. This is a fundraiser for the siding for the church.

Email news items to blachance (a)mendota reporter .com

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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

# The Aging of Halloween

BY BRANDON LACHANCE The aging of Halloween If fall isn't your favorite season, you're not from northern Illinois or your just weird.

Weird in the most positive way possible, but weird.

Ever since I was kid running the streets of Janesville, Wis., South Beloit, Rockton, Rockford, DeKalb, Sycamore, Malta, Rochelle, Compton, Mendota and anywhere else I either lived or spent a large chunk of time, fall was my favorite.

It wasn't hot anymore and you didn't need to carry a stick of deodorant with you just to walk down the street like you did for the previous three months.

Football season started.

Carving and painting pumpkins.

School began where close friends and cute girls were visible every day.

Every street in every town was beautiful because of the leaves changing colors.

Bonfires and smores were a norm.

And Halloween.

Man, what a wonderful holiday.

The costumes of every mythical, cartoon, athletic, monstrous, dazzling, and royal creature, role model, superhero, or average Joe known to man were awesome every year.

I'd like to say I was all of my favorite characters, but I had a four- or five-year run as Donatello (the best member of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, not favorite, but the absolute best) and a three- or four-year run as a hobo (cost efficient because jean jackets were everywhere in the 80s and 90s).

All of the candy was fantastic.

I remember one year where I gathered three giant bags of candy. I then separated them into different groups: chocolate, Skittles and everything else similar to my favorite candy, suckers/lollipops, and the yucks

### **Column** (

By Brandon

LaChance



(better known as the candy I didn't like).

I would then take the different groups to school in different bags or containers as I traded, sold, bartered with friends and classmates. I made out like a bandit.

Although not candy, if you ever Trick or Treated in Compton, you know all about the lady with the popcorn balls. She was extremely nice and made the best popcorn balls ever created.

Halloween surpassed Christmas, Easter, St. Patrick's Day, Casimir Pulaski Day, and even my own birthday.

Then as you age, your costume because a little more professional in junior high and even more executive in high school. Some are cops, firefighters, UFC fighters,

boxers, or UPS workers.

In college, costumes either ran out of fabric or alterations were made.

After college, I've reran the stages of Halloween nonaward-winning costumes as I've been Woody from Toy Story, a Pizza Hut delivery man (which I really was), a journalist (yup), the Man in the Yellow Hat from Curious George, and a white version of George Jefferson, which may be my most favorite and creative costume of all time.

I never think it's bad to be bald, but it was extra awesome when I was George.

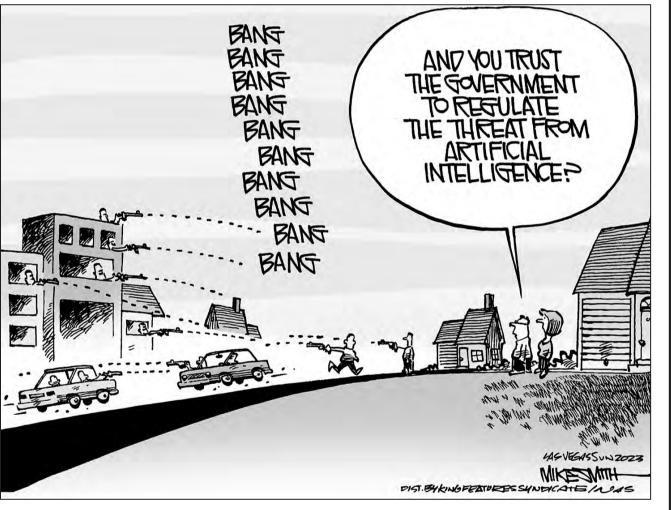
This year, I'm back to a profession, one I'm currently associated, a referee.

There are a lot of things, events, circumstances that make us age or help remind us we are getting older, but is there a better holiday to do so than Halloween?

Hopefully, you don't take the concept negative because we are blessed to live another day and add on to our lifespan.

But realistically, I think all of us can track our age, maturity level, location in life to what we were wearing, eating, and doing on Halloween.

As a child, we're eating all the candy and put on face paint or/and a leotard to be a fairy princess or Robin Hood.



As a teenager, we're being selective with our candy and trading in superheroes for truer to life uniforms such as professionals and roles we see in real life.

As an adult, well, that can be on a case-to-case basis. Some may still do what I've listed for a child or a teenager, but for some there is a true timeline.

Candy isn't eaten because of the dentist bills that will follow or the two extra hours in the gym to work off the Halloween haul.

If you're dressing up in your 30s and older, hopefully you're dressing up for parties and family/friend events and you're not knocking on the neighbor's door in a costume for a treat, but either way, you're probably in conventional, easy to put on, easy to take off, cost efficient, and unusual-for-you attire.

It's just the way maturity and Halloween seem to work. The awesome part is, it's still fun.

You get to see your children or your sibling's children dress up and enjoy the holiday.

You're still able to steal their candy.

Even though we're older, we're still able to go back in time and remember the fun we had during past Halloweens and enjoy the excitement as an adult now.

Just a little different.

Hope you had a fantastic Halloween!



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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,

# **ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY**

#### 100 Years Ago Nov. 2, 1923

The State Bank in Ohio, IL was robbed by two holdup men who marched into the bank, drew their guns and made everyone throw up their hands and then lie face down while they rifled the cash drawers and vault. They got away with \$1,400.

Many people in Amboy and vicinity will be pleased to learn W.J. Edwards and sons have taken the agency for the Buick automobile and, besides handling this well-known and popular car, will establish a Buick service station here and carry a full line of parts.

#### 75 Years Ago Nov. 4, 1948

Donald Emery, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Emery of this city, was elected State President of the Pilgrim Fellowship, youth organization of the Congregational – Christian Churches, at the Fall Planning Council held at Peru recently.

Leo D. Miller, Conservation Aid for the U.S. Soil Conservation was transferred from Lawrenceville, IL to Amboy to assist Ray Lane with soil conservation work in Lee County.

Amboy was well represented in the crowd of 600 who heard Louis Bromfield, noted author, farmer and soldier, declare that the future of the world depends on agriculture, when he delivered an address in the dining room at the Masonic Temple in Dixon.

#### 50 Years Ago Nov. 1, 1973

Sheldon B. Bross, Superintendent of an Educational Service Region, Lee County, announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election in the 1974 primary.

Tom Welty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Welty, is the first individual from Amboy to advance to the sectional in cross country. He earned this honor with seventh place at the Sterling District. He ran in the sectional at Dixon but did not qualify for advancement to the state meet at Peoria.

Monday, about 10 a.m., the firemen answered a call when a semi jackknifed and tipped over on Rt. 52 between Sublette and Amboy. The semi was loaded with rolls of steel. No one was injured.

### 25 Years Ago Oct. 29, 1998

On October 18, an Amboy Jr. Tackle team won first place in the Amboy/Dixon 5th-6th grade tournament for the second year in a row. The Amboy Red Team, coached by Tim Christoffersen, Adam Lusz and Fred Peterson, defeated the Amboy Whit Team by a score of 14-8.

The Illinois Chapter of American Association of Mental Retardation presented 20 awards to Direct Service Professionals at the AAMR Annual Conference in downstate, Collinsville. Kreider Services of Dixon was represented by two award winners: Carolyn Johnson and Marcia Weidman.

A total of six students from this area are among the over 120,000 students included in the 21st Annual Edition of "The National Dean's List, 1997-98." The list published by Educational Communications, Inc., is the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high achieving college students. Local students selected include: Bridget Ehlert of Eastern NM University at Portales, Audra Lifka of Western Illinois University, Cinda Morris of Sauk Valley Community College, Dana Nauman of Western Illinois University, Tanya Nauman of Rockford College, all from Amboy; and Anne Dickison of Bradley University, from Sublette.

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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Closed Saturday, Sunday and major holidays. 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342

> Phone **815-857-2311** Website **www.amboynews.com**

# LOCAL NEWS

# Dinges Fire expands footprint, now services 10 states in the Midwest

### Expansion makes Dinges Fire Company one of the largest fire equipment and apparatus distributors in the Midwest

**AMBOY** – Dinges Fire Company is thrilled to announce it has expanded its footprint and now services three more states - North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. The expansion expands the teams footprint to ten states in the Midwest. Those states include Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. Dinges Fire Company represents LION Protective Clothing and Training Products along with more than 200+ manufacturers in the 10 states.

Dinges Fire Company, based in Amboy, was founded in 2001 and had a goal of servicing the state of Illinois. Fast forward 22 years later, Dinges Fire Company is now one of the largest fire equipment and apparatus distributors in the Midwest. Out of the ten states, Dinges Fire Comges The company one of the fair gest the equipment

pany services more than 1,000 customers with a team of 120 people.

"In 2016 we had a goal to move into 11 states and we can proudly say we almost accomplished that goal," said Dinges Fire Company Founder + CEO Nick Dinges.

"Sky is the limit, and we continue to evaluate opportunities as they arise as long as we can continue to perform exemplary customer service and attentiveness to our customers' needs."

For more information on the Dinges Fire Company and its growth, visit www.DingesFire.com or follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook or Instagram. ABOUT DINGES FIRE COMPANY

The Dinges Fire Company is the leading distributor of Fire, Rescue and EMS Equipment in the Midwest with over 110+ Team Members operating in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Our mission is to protect our Nation's First Responders with high-quality products while providing unmatched customer service after the sale through a staff of highly educated team members supported by great technology.



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## The 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

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





For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of 365 DAILY WINNERS TOTAL CASH PRIZES \$18,250 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





Lighted Parade kicks off at 6 pm



Sale goes through Nov. 7, 2023

# SPORTS

# Advance past first round checked off the goal list

Clippers dominate Hiawatha 54-6 to move on to the second round of the Illinois 8-Man Football Playoffs

By Brandon LaChance Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – To say everything was a "Go" for the Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team in its 8-Man Football Playoffs first round matchup against Hiawatha would be an understatement.

Entering as the No. 2 seed against the No. 15 seed on Saturday, Oct. 28 in Amboy, the Clippers started with their feet on the pedal and never let off.

Defensively, seniors Landon Montavon and Austin Heath had their names all over the stat books and through the public announcer's microphone.

"We all fly to the ball really well. I think that's our top strength as a defense. We like to lay the boom," Montavon said. "By the time the second quarter comes around, we're hoping that other teams are out of energy. We're very well-conditioned. But flying to the ball as fast as we do, I think that's the key to our success.

"Our coaches preach to us to not look past anyone because anything can happen on the football field. Any team can lose. They told us not to look over Hiawatha. We discussed it and we think this was our best start to a game this season. We're in our best form right now and it's looking good."

Montavon recorded a tackle for a one-yard loss on the first Hiawatha play of the game and followed with a fumble recovery on the next play.

The defense finished the game with four sacks, three fumbles with two recoveries, and senior Iroy Anderson picked off a Hawks' pass for an interception. "Our defensive line controlled the line of scrimmage. The first two series, Austin Heath was in the backfield making tackles for loss, four times," said Clippers' coach Scott Payne. "He also had a quarterback sack. Montavon also did a great job. "When our line can control the line like that, a lot of good things are going to happen. It's going to make it tough for teams to run the ball on us."

ness, so was the offense. A m b o y - L a M o i lle-Ohio received the opening kickoff and changed the zero on the scoreboard first as junior quarterback Eddie Jones found Anderson for a 15-yard touchdown. Jones ran in the two-point conversion to take an 8-0 lead with 9:36 still on

the first-quarter clock. "This win feels really good. Our offense was really rolling today. No one could stop us once we got started," said Jones, who completed 4-of-5 passes for 64 yards and two touchdowns against the Hawks. "It's good for my confidence to win my first playoff game as the starting quarterback. We want to keep going and keep rolling through the playoffs. We're senior heavy and everyone on the team is ready to play in big playoff games.'

After Montavon's fumble recovery, Jones threw his second touchdown pass of the contest as he found senior Brennan Blaine for 16 yards.

The touchdowns came in a fury as the Clippers lead 32-0 after the first quarter, 54-0 at haltime, no points were scored in the third quarter with an imposed running clock, and Hiawatha scored with 6:43 left in the fourth to finalize the game at 54-6.

Senior running back Landon Whelchel had three touchdowns (three, 51, and 14 yards) and 128 yards on 10 carries, while junior Quinn Leffelman took 11 handoffs for 101 yards and two scores (16 and 20 yards).

"Eddie is good at exploiting the defense after



Above, Amboy senior Vincent Zembrzuski chases Hiawatha quarterback Blake Wiegartz during a Illinois 8-Man Football first round playoff game on Saturday, Oct. 28 in Amboy. The Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team put pressure on Wiegartz for the entirity of the contest recording four sacks and an interception. The defense was also accredited for two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries in the 54-6 Clipper victory. Below, senior Troy Anderson scores a touchdown on a 16-yard pass from junior quarterback Eddie Jones in the first quarter. Anderson was also the defensive back to snag the interception.

"This is a great group of kids. They take one game, one week at a time and you couldn't ask for anything more

Photos courtesy of Brenda Merriman

While the defense was handling its busi-

they're accustomed or set up to stop our run game," said Payne. "They were coming hard on the run, so we said, 'Let's throw it,' and Eddie did a great job of finding the open receiver. Eddie is really good at the play-action pass and it worked well for us.

"I told them Thursday, 'Our record is 0-0 right now.' The only thing that matters is this part of the season, the playoffs, and these kids understand all that. They accept everything we tell them, and they do a great job of everything we're telling them to do.

out of them."

The Clippers will face No. 7 Flanagan-Cornell-Woodland at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 in the second round of the 8-Man Football Playoff bracket.

The Falcons, who were 2-7 last year, have an 8-2 record in 2023 including a 52-0 victory over South Beloit in the first round of the playoffs.

F-C-W has scored 421 points (42.1 per game) and allowed 158 (15.8) during the season, while A-L-O has scored 491 (49.1) and allowed 102 (10.2).





# **SPORTS**

# Lady Clippers cross country season ends at sectional

**OREGON** – The Amboy Lady Clippers had their cross country season come to a close at the Oregon Class 1A Sectional on Oct. 28.

Four AHS runners competed in the sectional. Aubrey Wells turned in a time of 24:30.71 for 97<sup>th</sup> place, while Samantha Nauman was clocked in 25:18.31 and placed 110<sup>th</sup>. Also racing for the Lady Clippers were Anna Carlson (125<sup>th</sup>, 27:00.49) and Addison Pertell (126<sup>th</sup>, 27:07.83).

The overall individual champion was Evelyn O'Connor of Seneca in a time of 19:07.43.

The top six finishing teams that

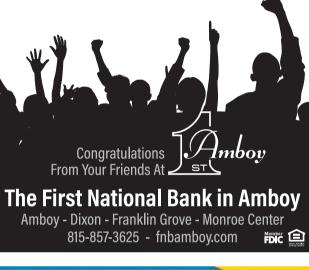
# The First National Bank in Amboy ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

# **Cross Country**

Samantha Nauman

Football

Eddie Jones



will compete at state are Winnebago, Seneca, Aurora Central Catholic, Stark County, Richmond-Burton and Prophetstown.

In the Class 1A boys' race, Nicolai Martino of Winnebago broke the tape with a time of 16:04.14.

Advancing teams included Rockford Christian, Aurora Central Catholic, Winnebago, Port Byron Riverdale, Prophetstown and Sterling Newman.

The state cross country meet will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Detweiller Park in Peoria. The Class 1A girls will race at 9 a.m. and the boys will take the course at 10 a.m.

#### Scammers target returning college students

ROCKFORD-When college students return to campus, fighting fraud may not be at the top of their list of priorities. Yet, these students will be spending money during the school year for tuition, school supplies, and other necessities. That's where fraudsters step in. The Better Business Bureau is warning students and parents about this serious and potentially very costly problem.

"Scammers are taking this opportunity to try to steal some of that money through various schemes and scams," says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau. "One tactic is a fake credit card offer, which is especially tempting for students' first credit card. Some deals could be phony offers designed to access personal information."

### Helping Hands Daycare receives ExceleRate Illinois Silver Circle of Quality Designation

**STERLING -** CGH Helping Hands Daycare received the Silver Circle of Quality designation from ExceleRate Illinois, the State's Quality Recognition and Improvement system for early childhood education and care programs.

"ExceleRate Illinois helps families make more informed choices about their children's early learning," said Jamilah R. Jor'dan, Ph.D., Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development. "It establishes standards to help infants, toddlers and preschoolers develop intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally. Additionally, it provides a framework for early learning and development professionals to identify opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills."

"We are proud to receive the Silver Circle of Quality," said Mimi Hicks, CGH Helping Hands Daycare director. "Providing quality in early learning and development will help our children be better prepared for success in school and in life." velopment shows that children who are more meaningfully engaged in early learning experiences from infancy through the first five years of life are more likely to be successful in school and in life. With the right engagement, children can form a healthy foundation of neural pathways in the brain, which impact their ability to think, react, process and grow.

ExceleRate Illinois is a comprehensive system that includes Licensed Child Care Centers, Licensed Family Child Care, Preschool for All, Center-Based Prevention Initiative Programs, Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. The program is administered through INCCRRA under the joint direction of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and the Illinois State Board of Education.

For more information on the CGH Helping Hands Daycare, visit www. cghmc.com/daycare. For more information or to find a Child Care Resource & Referral Agency in your area, visit www.ExceleRateIllinois.com.

Research in science and brain de-

# **Cooking safety starts with you!**

**SPRINGFIELD** — Governor JB Pritzker has proclaimed October 8-14 as Fire Prevention Week in Illinois to educate residents about reducing the risk of a cooking fire.

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is joining organizations and fire departments across the state and nation to celebrate the 101st anniversary of Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention," focuses on cooking safety to help educate the public about simple but important steps they can take to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home, keeping themselves and those around them safe.

"In Illinois alone, fire departments responded to over400 incidents related to cooking or kitchens during 2022. It's important that people never leave food cooking unattended and are following all the proper safety steps to decrease their risks of fires or injuries," said Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera. "Fire Prevention Week is a great time for families to sit down and review their fire escape plans, go over where their meeting spot is located, and hold a fire escape drill. By reviewing and practicing

these plans, families will be better prepared in the event of a fire."

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), cooking is the leading cause of home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; cooking is also the leading cause of home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires and related deaths. In addition, NFPA data shows that cooking is the only major cause of fire that resulted in more fires and fire deaths in 2014-2018 than in 1980-1984.









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# Saturday, November 4 vs. Flanagan-Cornell

**1pm start with Josh Dillon and Brian Weidman** LIVE online at nrgmediadixon.com/wixn-home

2 online at frgmediadixon.com/wixn-nc

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# Amboy Community Unit School District #272

#### Monday, Nov. 6

AHS Fall Play Tech Practice-6-9 pm AJHS 8th Boys Basketball @ AFC-5 pm EARLY DISMISSAL-SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY-AHS/ AJHS-11:20/Central-11:25

### Tuesday, Nov. 7

AHS Fall Play Tech Practice-6-9 pm

#### Wednesday, Nov. 8

AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm AHS Fall Play Tech Practice-6-9 pm AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ St. Andrews, Rock Falls-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm AJHS 7th/8th Boys Basketball (H) Sauk Valley Catholic-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

#### Thursday, Nov. 9

AHS Fall Play Tech Practice-6-9 pm AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball (H) Montmorency-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm AJHS 7th/8th Boys Basketball @ Montmorency-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

#### Friday, Nov. 10

AJHS 7th Boys Basketball @ Ladd Tournament-TBA AHS Fall Play-Auditorium-7 pm Veteran's Day Community Presentation-AHS Gym-10 am

Saturday, Nov. 11 AJHS 7th Boys Basketball @ Ladd Tournament-TBA AHS Fall Play-Auditorium-7 pm

CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13VH11096000

# **LOCAL NEWS**

## 'Thunderdomes of controversy and strife:'Giannoulias testifies before U.S. Senate Committee Secretary of state testifies on Illinois' recent effort to prohibit book bans; "freedom to think for ourselves"

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**BUREAU COUNTY, ILLINOIS** 

LAND AUCTION

#### **By JENNIFER FULLER** Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias was in Washington, D.C. to testify before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee regarding a new state law aimed at deterring book bans.

Giannoulias, whose position also includes the title of "state librarian," this spring championed legislation allowing his office to withhold state money from public libraries if they ban books. On Tuesday, he told the Senate panel that public libraries have become "thunderdomes of controversy and strife" across the country.

"We want our schools and libraries to be open and welcoming settings for education, not cultural battlefields," he said during his testimony. "This legislation aims to unify our communities and seeks to restore a right that some of us may have grown to take for granted the freedom to think for ourselves."

Giannoulias said he hoped other states would "look toward Illinois" to adopt similar legislation to "protect the right to read freely and without fear of retribution."

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-IL, convened the hearing dubbed "Book Bans: How Censorship Limits Liberty and Literature." It was in reference to a report from the American Library Association which calculated there were more than 1,200 demands to censor books and other library materials last year -nearly double the number of similar requests in 2021.

While no specific legislation was considered in the hearing, much of the discussion centered around who should decide the content that is available in public libraries-including school libraries-across the country.

The current wave of agitating for book bans has grown with the socalled "parents' rights movement" in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Anger about school shutdowns in the early months of COVID, which evolved into anger about mandatory masking and optional virtual learning when schools reopened, coalesced with discomfort around the growing popularity of curriculums that emphasized diversity, equity and inclusion.

School board meetings and libraries have become the targets of parents' rights activists. Groups have demanded books be removed from classrooms and library shelves based on content discussing race, history, gender identity and sexuality. Several public libraries in the Chicago suburbs have also received bomb threats in recent weeks, according to reporting by the Chicago Sun-Times.

Emily Knox, a professor who researches intellectual freedom and censorship at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, also testified before the Senate committee. She said her focus on book bans began as the child of a librarian in Maryland, where she remembered being confused

Bureau County, Illinois.

when her favorite author -Judy Blume-showed up on a list during "Banned Books Week" each year.

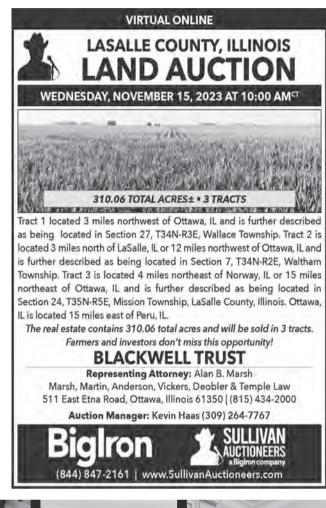
Knox told the panel that as a young person, reading about people who were like her helped her navigate her world. She pointed to an analogy from Rudine Sims Bishop, a retired Ohio State University professor known as the mother of multicultural children's literature, likening books to windows, mirrors, or sliding glass doors.

"Abook can help us un-

derstand each other better by helping to change our attitude towards difference," Knox said. "What we see right now is that people are fixated on the idea that books are only mirrors and sliding glass doors. They only reflect something true about the reader themselves, or the reader's world or they invite the reader to mimic an identity or action they read about a book. It's important to remember that books are also windows: They give us access to other people's

lives."

Though movements to ban certain books are nothing new, the last few years have seen the rise of sophisticated organizing and even professional non-profits that target public schools and libraries for their curriculums and materials available to children. In early 2021, U of I alum Nicole Neilly founded one such organization, Parents Defending Education, which has grown to 13 staff members in less than three years.



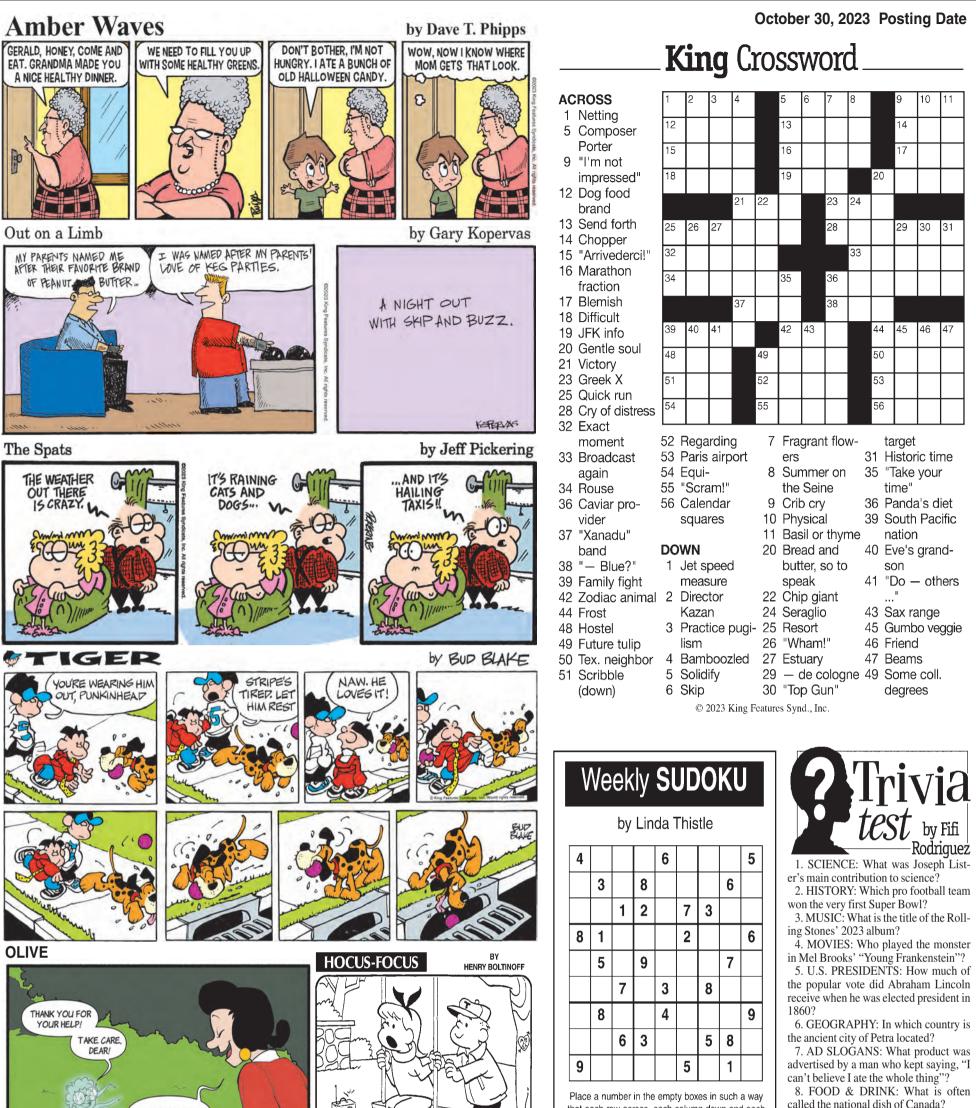






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# LOCAL NEWS



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	© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc. WORD LADDERS Can you go from SKATE to PEACH in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder. SKATE	Answers I. Antiseptic surgery. 2. Green Bay Packers. 3. "Hackney Diamonds." 4. Peter Boyle. 5. Less than 40%. 6. Jordan. 8. Poutine: potato fries, cheese curds and gravy. 9. Eggs. 9. Eggs.
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps		SPOKEN
FORGET PHEASANT UNDER GLASS OR PAN-SEARED SALMON. THE BEST MEAL COMES IN A CARDBOARD BOX.		SCRAMBLERS solution 1. Gripe 2. Maker; 3. Glean; 4. Course Joday's Word
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PXWNGZ RQZCNXZTE. ©2023 King Features Synd., Inc.	A       O       H       M       A       A       C       U       B       A         A       J       O       H       M       A       A       C       U       B       V         A       J       O       B       J       U       B       V       V       I         V       J       F       O       T       S       A       T       O       L         S       Y       A       C       O       H       S       O       S       I	0       1       5       6       8       2       4       1       3         1       4       6       3       5       6       2       8       2         3       8       2       4       1       6       5       6       8       2       6         3       8       2       4       1       9       8       2       6       1       1       3         5       8       2       4       3       9       8       2       1
SCRAMBLERS Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag! Fuss REPIG	3       M       3       V       A       C       T       N       1       A       A       C       T       N       1       A       A       C       T       N       1       A       A       C       T       N       1       O       A         A       D       U       I       B       I       I       B       I       N       I       O       A         A       D       U       I       B       I       I       B       I       N       I       O       A         A       D       U       I       B       I       I       I       A       M       A         A       D       U       I       B       I       I       I       A       M       A         A       D       I       M       A       O       I       I       I       A       I <td< th=""><th>9       2       3       6       1       8       5       2       4         8       1       4       2       2       5       6       3       9         9       9       1       5       3       4       8       3       4       8         1       4       2       5       3       1       8       3       4       8         1       3       6       1       5       3       4       8       3       4       8         1       3       3       4       1       8       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       <td< th=""></td<></th></td<>	9       2       3       6       1       8       5       2       4         8       1       4       2       2       5       6       3       9         9       9       1       5       3       4       8       3       4       8         1       4       2       5       3       1       8       3       4       8         1       3       6       1       5       3       4       8       3       4       8         1       3       3       4       1       8       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4       5       3       4 <td< th=""></td<>
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#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING The Commissioners of

the Maple Grove Drainage District will hold their annual meeting at 4:00 o'clock on November 8, 2023, at the office of Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC. The Office of Ehrmann

Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC is located at 114 E. Everett St., Suite 300, Dixon, Dixon Township, Lee County, IL. The meeting is open to the public. Tom Draper, Chairman

No. 1101 (November 1, 2023)

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