

Amboy citizens voice concerns over lack of police presence

BY GEORGE HOWE
Amboy News Reporter
AMBOY — Amboy Mayor John Schamberger tapped his gavel and called the city council meeting to order on Jan. 16. Under Committee Reports, Second Ward Alderman Brandon Klein who heads up the Community Building Commission, said that a new toilet was put in the woman’s bathroom. Dave Shaw, Third Ward Alderman and part of the Depot Commission stated that the next meeting will take place on March 28. The mayor encouraged everyone present to get on the Depot newsletter mailing list that provides a lot of news and



The Amboy City Council heard concerns from the audience about the lack of police presence in the city.

interesting history. First Ward Alderman Jake Leffelman shared that the library has begun their Lego Club, and Junior Crafts Club, and has given the website an update and refresh. Public Works Director Jeramey Wittenauer

informed the council that two new mowers for use in the parks have been delivered. As the meeting moved to the “Concerns from the Audience” portion, Amboy resident Karen Bodmer got up and voiced her concerns

about the lack of police coverage as a result of the resignation of Sergeant Terry Lester, who is now on the Oregon Police Department. As a result, there are currently approximately four part-time officers in the department,

including Tom Lahman who was welcomed back on a part-time basis. Bodmer asked the Mayor “where are we at and where are we going as a city.” “There has been scufflebutt on the street that we might lose our police force

to the county which none of us wants to see happen,” she said. Schamberger very emphatically stated there has never been any discussion of turning over the department.

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School board meets for first time in 2023

BY GEORGE HOWE
Amboy News Reporter
AMBOY — The Amboy School Board met in regular session for the first time in the new year on Jan. 19 and proceeded to approve the consent agenda items, the minutes from the last meeting, and current payroll and expenditures. Joyce Schamberger was the first to give the Principal’s Report for Central Elementary School. Schamberger shared some school improvements which included the grade level teams’ re-trained students of the expectations for the (PBIS) Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports of our school by watching a video presentation made by former fourth grade students. Students of the month awards were handed out on Jan. 5. Students will complete winter benchmarking with LRIA and Star reading and math. Under activities; Central will host a Winter Wonderland Story Book on Jan. 30 in the gym from 6 - 7:30 p.m. This event is free to everyone and is sponsored by the preschool staff. Plans are underway for the annual Pancake Breakfast. This will be done as a carryout meal on March 5. Junior High Principal Andrew Full was next and said that

there was a Teacher’s Institute held on Jan. 4 where teachers were able to work on and finalize grades for the second quarter. There was also a presentation given about Social Emotional Learning. Activities included girl’s basketball is underway, along with the Scholastic Bowl and the Dungeons and Dragons Club. High School Principal Janet Crownhart reported that on Jan. 10, teacher Mrs. Sachs attended a presentation titled “Developing Leadership in Special Education” which was held at Sauk Valley Community College. Crownhart met with freshman, sophomores, and juniors along with their parents on Jan. 13, 17, and 18, to go over course options for next year. Eighth grade students heard from Crownhart on Jan. 20 and along with their parents were invited into the building to learn about future course options. Final exams were held Dec. 19, 20, and 21. The Army paid a visit during lunch on Jan. 11. Students recently completed a survey about the topics they would like to attend on the February School Improvement Plan.

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2023 Illinois tax filing season began Jan. 23

CHICAGO - The Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) will begin accepting 2022 state individual income tax returns on Monday, January 23, the same date that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) begins accepting federal individual income tax returns. “Taxpayers are encouraged to file electronically as early as possible in the tax season and choose direct deposit in order to ensure the fastest processing and issuance of any refunds,” IDOR Director David Harris said. “I encourage taxpayers to try My Tax Illinois, our free online account management program that has been recently updated and allows taxpayers to file their individual income taxes electronically. Electronic filing is also available through third party software or with most tax preparers.” MyTax Illinois has been improved this year to make filing a 2022 IL-1040 easier than ever. The electronic management system enables taxpayers to report income and claim credits and payments, pay taxes electronically or receive refunds quickly with direct deposit, and receive immediate confirmation after returns are submitted. “Our enhanced MyTax Illinois system also allows taxpayers to file returns with or without an account, operates with a simple question and answer format, and works to reduce errors by using automated calculations and prepopulated information from previous returns,” Harris explained. If a taxpayer electronically files an error-free return, they should receive a direct deposit refund in approximately four weeks. The 2023 tax filing deadline is Tuesday, April 18. Taxpayers are encouraged to also do their part by protecting their personal information and staying alert to phone scams or phishing emails. In addition to being able to file Form IL-1040 for free through MyTax Illinois, individuals may also utilize the site to make payments, respond to department inquiries, and check the status of their refunds using the Where’s My Refund? link. MyTax Illinois also allows taxpayers to look up Illinois Personal Identification Numbers (IL-PINs), which are eight-digit numbers assigned by the department and used as signatures when e-filing returns. Amounts of any estimated tax payments can also be viewed and (when necessary), amounts reported on Forms 1099-G and 1098-F can also be found on the site. For the most up-to-date information, forms, schedules, and instructions for the 2023 tax season, please visit IDOR’s website at: tax.illinois.gov.

Lee County Sheriff’s office announces arrests

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Sheriff’s office announces arrests that have taken place around the county. On Jan. 14, Lee County Sheriff’s Deputies arrested 29-year-old Landyn Montross of Dixon. Montross was traveling east on Illinois Route 2 near Sink Hollow Road at 95 mph in a posted 55 mph zone. After further investigation, deputies suspected impairment. Following field sobriety testing, Montross was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Montross is charged with DUI (a Class A Misdemeanor) and Speeding - 35 mph or more above the posted speed limit (a Class A Misdemeanor). He was taken to the Lee County Jail, processed and released with a court date. **Possession of meth** On Jan. 19, Lee County Sheriff’s Deputies arrested 41-year-old Jason J. Witmer of Dixon after conducting a traffic stop for a moving violation at the intersection of Pump Factory Road and Bloody Gulch Road. Witmer has been issued traffic citations for: Disregarding a Stop Sign, No Proof of Insurance, and Driving While License is Suspended. Witmer is also charged with Possession of Methamphetamine (less than five grams), which is a Class 3 Felony. Witmer was taken to the Lee County Jail and processed on the charges. He is being held pending a bond hearing. **Franklin Grove** On Jan. 14, Lee County Sheriff’s Deputies received a report of a reckless driver, who drove through a yard in the Village of Franklin Grove. The vehicle was last seen westbound on Old Mill Road. Approximately 20 minutes later, the vehicle was once again seen in the Village of Franklin Grove. This time the vehicle struck a stop sign and fire hydrant at the intersection of Lincoln Highway and Spring Street. After further investigation, Lee County Deputies arrested 28-year-old Benjamin Y. Breneman, of Franklin Grove. Breneman was transported to KSB Hospital where he was released and taken to the Lee County Jail. Breneman is charged with Aggravated DUI (a Class 4 Felony), DUI (a Class A Misdemeanor), Driving While Li-



cense Revoked (a Class A Misdemeanor), Improper Traffic Lane Usage (a Petty Offense), and Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle (a Petty Offense). Breneman remained in the custody of the Lee County Sheriff Correction Deputies pending a bond hearing. Citizens are reminded to call the Lee County Sheriff’s Office at 815-284-6631 or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-Caught-U. Callers can remain anonymous and receive rewards of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest. The Sheriff’s Office encourages anyone with information regarding the sale or use of drugs to contact the Lee County Sheriff’s Office at 815-284-6631 or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-Caught-U. Callers can remain anonymous and receive rewards of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest. All charges are merely an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

A Look Back At Amboy Area Heroes Who Served During World War II

Editor’s note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on veterans who served during World War II. 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.

Cpl. Wilbert Clement Forster
Wilbert Forster, born June 30, 1920 in Genoa, spent his early years on a farm near Marengo in McHenry County. During the late 1930’s, his family moved to Reynolds Township in Lee

County, where they took up farming about six miles south of Rochelle. His parents, Benjamin and Anna Forster, raised four sons in all. At age 21, Wilbert registered for the selective service after moving to Rochelle, where he was employed as a laborer at the canning factory there. Following America’s entry into World War II, he was called to duty and enlisted in the U.S. Army at Camp Grant in Rockford on Jan. 29, 1942. After completing his training, he achieved the rank of Corporal assigned to the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Armored Division, nicknamed “Spearhead.” During combat, reconnaissance units advanced to a forward position to reconnoiter enemy strength and location,

map the terrain, set up observation posts, and report back to company commanders. Following the D-Day invasion in early June, Cpl. Forster and his division were sent from England across the English Channel to those same beaches in France. By the time the 3rd Armored Division arrived on June 29, more than half the American soldiers who are buried today in Normandy Cemeteries had already been killed in action. After moving inland from the beaches, Cpl. Forster’s division immediately engaged in hedgerow fighting encountering stiff resistance and a high casualty rate, eventually moving just east of Carentan. Aerial photos of an eight square mile section of Normandy revealed



some four thousand hedged enclosures. These hedges, dating back to medieval times, were made of eight foot high bushes and dense thickets planted on raised embankments surrounded by sunken lanes no wider than ten feet. Nested with enemy machine gun emplacements, these fortifications presented major battle obstacles highly resistive to penetration by tanks or other armored

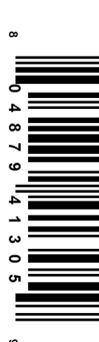
vehicles. On the morning of July 8, two tank companies from the 3rd Armored moved out to perform reconnaissance to the west and into the enemy zone, encountering resistance that took the life of the platoon leader, causing the companies to pull back.

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Snyders
2023 Business Card
Directory



LOCAL NEWS

SCHOOL

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Superintendent Joshua Nichols discussed two resolutions under the public hearing portion of his report. The first, transfers the sales tax revenue funds of \$124,400 from Capital Projects to Debt Service to cover the abated taxes for the sales tax bonds. The second transfer of \$500,000 from Transportation reserves to O&M to help cover the cost for demolition of the old junior high. Building projects include; General Mechanical has been at the high school working on the boiler project, and Fox Valley Fire has been working on the fire alarm system.

An Intergovernmental Cooperating Agreement combines the Amboy and Ohio junior high track teams. This is an IESA sport so it couldn't be combined in the previous coop agreement between the two districts. The high school track is over 20 years old and is in need of repairs and possibly replaced. Midwest Track Builders came in with the lowest base bid of \$150,157 to repair and resurface the track. The alternate bid of \$178,750 would be in addition to the base bid to replace the track.

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DEPOT DAYS DONATION - AHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$3,000 to the Amboy High School Music Department. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$40,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

DEPOT DAYS DONATION - LEE COUNTY HONOR FLIGHT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, left, presents a check for \$1,100 to Jim Travi of the Lee County Honor Flight. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$40,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



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"Karen, let me make it clear that that's never going to happen," Schamberger said.

Jared Grossman expressed similar concerns and wondered what is currently being done. Again, Schamberger explained that advertising for a full-time Police Officer is underway. He went on to say

that it has been difficult the last two to three years trying to get the positions filled. A Police Commission has been created to further look into ways to persuade officers to work in Amboy. Some suggestions were a signing bonus and benefits package. Under New Business,

Darin Stykel, a Projects Manager with the Engineering and Environmental firm Fehr Graham, gave a presentation on the Illinois state mandate that eventually all residential lead water service lines be converted to plastic. The city hired Fehr Graham to perform the project plan at a cost of \$75,000. Stykel talked about a low interest loan with the potential of 100 percent forgiveness including the \$75,000 fee, if Amboy can qualify. He noted that time is of the essence and encouraged the city to allow the firm to proceed with the loan application before funding starts to dwindle. Currently, cities and towns can qualify for up to \$4 million in funds. Under advisement from City Attorney Matt Keegan who was present, he suggested that the council should hold a special meeting to discuss strategy and costs moving forward. Keegan stated that as a result of the new law, the state has towns and cities 'over a barrel' with no choice but to comply.

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, Jan. 30

Winter Wonderland Story Book Walk-Central School Gym-6:00-7:30 pm

Tuesday, Jan. 31

AHS Boys Basketball @ Fulton-5:30 pm
AHS Girls Basketball @ Newark-5:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Morrison-6th-5/5th-6

Wednesday, Feb. 1

AHS Girls Varsity Basketball (H) Earlville-6 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball @ Montmorency-6th-5/5th-6
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H) Montmorency-8th-5/7th-6

Thursday, Feb. 2

AHS Boys Basketball @ Forreton-5:30 pm
Central School Drawing Club-Art Room-3:20-4 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball @ East Coloma-6th-5/5th-6
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H) East Coloma-8th-5/7th-6

Friday, Feb. 3

AHS Girls Varsity Basketball (H) Milledgeville-6 pm

Saturday, Feb. 4

AHS Boys Basketball (H) Rockford Christian Life-2 pm

The Time Is Here...

Start 2023 Off with a BANG!

As we enter 2023, we'd like to share our thanks and best wishes to all of our current and new subscribers. We've really enjoyed being your trusted source for local community news, and look forward to the next 12 months and bringing you countless reasons to celebrate!



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TEEN TURF



The First National Bank in Amboy presents a check to Teen Turf from the bank's Friday dress down days. Pictured is Franny Lilja, from the First National Bank in Amboy (left) and from Teen Turf Pam Thomas (right).
Photo submitted

Aerobics

We will be having Aerobics on Tuesday and Thursday. Everyone is invited to gather at Teen Turf on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. for group chair exercises and walking. They have a great time together.

Afterschool program

You must call 815-857-4800 to be put on. If you are not registered, please do not send your child without speaking with us.

United Way Dance Thank You

We will provide a full thank you in next week's article.

Thank You's

We are always grateful for those that assist Teen Turf in its endeavor of helping people:

Laura Miller Hudson for the Christmas items; Jerry and Margaret Shaw for the monetary donation for the shelves; Martha Henley for the cookies; Donna Wellman for the cookies; O'Connells RV Campground and Monty Deary for delivering the frisbees; Colleen and Glen Robison for snacks and stickers; David and Danette Trupp for the monetary donation in memory of Fran Kessel; Rick and Gigi Collingbourne for the monetary donation in memory of Fran Kessel; Judy Carlson for the candy; First National Bank of Amboy for

the monetary donation from their dress down days; Mark and Veronica Grossman and Karen and Frank Stenzel for cake.

Needs

Looking for Pokemon, Minecraft, Fortnite, Retro video games like Pac Man, Sonic, and Mario items for our summer program.

Final Word

We come before You to thank You for the gift of family. As our Father, You have brought forward family in every form of the word. For those who follow God, we know that family is not limited to those solely related by blood, but there is the gift of family in the way of those who call You Abba, Father, and those who we are related to by DNA. Lord, we are so thankful for what family means and how in so many circumstances, a friend can often stick closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24). Lord, thank You for Your heart for Your children and for those You have brought around us. We also pray for those who are craving family and for those who long to have trusted loved ones around them.

We pray by Your Spirit that You would bring people who love You to each other to do life together in love.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Tri County Financial Group named to 2023 OTCQX Best 50

MENDOTA – Tri County Financial Group (OTCQX: TYFG) is pleased to announce it has been named to the 2023 OTCQX® Best 50, a ranking of top performing companies traded on the OTCQX Best Market last year.

The OTCQX Best 50 is an annual ranking of the top 50 U.S. and international companies traded on the OTCQX market. The ranking is calculated based on an equal weighting of one-year total return and average daily dollar volume growth in the previous calendar year. Companies in the 2023 OTCQX Best 50 were ranked based on their performance in 2022.

"Tri-County Financial Group is proud and honored to receive this recognition in a very challenging year," said Tim McConville, President/CEO of First State Bank. "It is a tribute to the amazing staff we have who are always putting the customer first."

For the complete 2023 OTCQX Best 50 ranking, visit https://www.otcmkts.com/files/2023_OTCQX_Best_50.pdf.

The OTCQX Best Market offers transparent and efficient trading of established, investor-focused U.S. and global companies. To qualify for the OTCQX market, companies must meet high financial standards, follow best practice corporate governance, and demonstrate compliance with applicable securities laws.

About Tri County Financial Group

Tri County Financial Group is the holding company for First State Bank, a \$1.5 billion community bank headquartered in Mendota, Illinois. First State bank is spread throughout north central Illinois in 19 locations. Established in 1940, First State Bank has experienced excellent growth, both organically and through acquisition, particularly over the last 25 years. This has been obtained by providing cutting edge banking products along with excellent customer service. More information regarding First State Bank can be found at firststatebank.biz.

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Later that morning, another tank company combined with a calvary unit for an attack south near St. Jean-de-Daye where they were engaged in combat for six hours. It was near this location that Cpl. Forster was reported missing in action during combat.

The 3rd Armored Division would move on without Cpl. Forster engaging next in "Operation COBRA" in which allied forces broke through German lines out of Normandy and on toward Paris, and eventually into Germany itself. By the time the war ended in Europe, the 3rd Armored Division had suffered more casualties than any other armored division in the U.S. Army.

The body of Cpl. Wilbert Clement Forster was lost in France during the opening of the Western Front against Nazi forces. He is memorialized for eternity on the Tablets of the Missing in the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, France. On the day of his death, July 8, 1944, one million allied soldiers had come ashore at Normandy and would be there to finish Cpl. Forster's work, many of them never to return home. Let their selfless actions be forever cherished by those who today live in freedom.

Citations:

Purple Heart
World War II Victory Medal
American Campaign Medal
Army Presidential Unit Citation

Army Good Conduct Medal
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign

Senior Dining Menu
January 30 - February 3
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – Chicken parmesan, pasta w/marinara, sicilian blend veg, wgr dinner roll, diced pears
Tuesday – Sausage gravy w/wgr biscuit, hash brown potato, 2 sausage patties, orange juice
Wednesday – Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato wedges, baked beans, chilled applesauce and wgr hot dog bun
Thursday – Beefaroni, green beans, corn muffin, apricots
Friday – A) Pepper steak, mashed potato with gravy, glazed carrots, wgr wheat bread-1, mandarin oranges B) Turkey/vegetable

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am
Reservations needed 10:00 am day before

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United Way A United Way Agency

St. Paddy's Party with Johnny Jameson & The Empty Pints

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Sublette Community Building Saturday, Feb. 25 at 6 PM

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LOCAL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.

LEE COUNTY-Memes and Money - Get Savvy Monthly Webinar Series will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 25, beginning at noon, online. Money management education through University of Illinois Extension's free Get Savvy webinar series empowers students, young adults, and anyone seeking financial fitness skills with the confidence to make smart decisions about money to build a stronger financial foundation. Register at go.illinois.edu/GetSavvyWebinars for any or all one-hour sessions in the noon series.

AMBOY-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from noon - 6 p.m., on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the Amboy Community Building, 280 W. Wasson Rd., Amboy. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate.

LEE COUNTY-Pruning Shade Trees, Four Seasons Gardening, will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 31, beginning at 1:30 p.m., online. Seasons come and go, but home gardening never stops. Pick up the knowledge you need to maintain a safe and healthy home landscape, create friendly spaces for indoor plants, and support a resilient environment by joining Illinois Extension Four Seasons Gardening's horticulture experts. Sessions are free to attend, and registration is required at go.illinois.edu/FourSeasons.

HARMON-The First United Methodist Church of Harmon will hold a spaghetti supper on Thursday, Feb. 2, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. They will serve spaghetti, salad, dessert and drinks.

A free will offering will be accepted. All donations will go to our chair lift fund. The church is handicapped accessible. Carry outs are available. Everyone is welcome.

STERLING-The CGH Auxiliary is hosting a one-day shoe sale on Monday, Feb. 6 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Shoe Roads Productions sale will be located in the CGH Ryberg Auditorium, 100 E. LeFevre Road, Sterling. Shoes featured in the sale are Brooks, Birkenstock, Hoka and many more brand names. For more information on shoe sale, please contact Deb Keaschall, 815-625-0400, ext. 5727.

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All Editorial Deadline: noon Friday

Letters Policy: The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.

LOCAL NEWS

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Heidelberg University announces fall semester Dean's List

TIFFIN, Ohio — Heidelberg University has announced the names of 387 students who have earned academic recognition on the fall semester dean's list. Included on the list is Avery Shaw, a junior from Amboy.

According to Provost Dr. Bryan D. Smith, students must be enrolled full time and meet academic criteria set forth by the university to be named to the dean's list.

For more information visit the website at www.heidelberg.edu.

Iowa State University announces fall 2022 Dean's List

AMES, Iowa — More than 10,200 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the fall semester 2022 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work. Students listed below are from your area.

Dixon

Nicholas Dean Engle, 4, Accounting

Madaline Jacobs, 4, Elementary Education
Noah Robert Johnson, 4, Dietetics (H SCI)
Marcus E. Williams, 1, Open Option (LAS)
Steward

Kayla Renee McCormick, 4, Accounting
Austin Suddeth, 4, Agricultural Business
Sublette

Ashley Renee Althaus, 4, Agricultural Systems Technology

Clark University announces Dean's List

DUBUQUE, Iowa — Clarke University is proud to announce that 191 students earned a spot on the Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester. The list recognizes full-time Clarke students who have earned a 3.65 grade-point average or above, on a 4.0 scale, with a minimum of 12 graded hours. Please join us in congratulating these students on their hard work!

Ashton

Brittney H. Mundell

Dixon

Marlie R. Beauchem
Madelyn Melvin

Franklin Grove

Camdyn L. Penick

Anderson named to University of Iowa dean's list for 2022 fall

IOWACITY, Iowa — Katherine Anderson, of La Moille, was among the more than 7,500 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named to the dean's list for the 2022 fall semester.

Anderson is a fourth year student in Iowa's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and is majoring in English and Creative Writing.

WIU Dean's List Fall 2022

MACOMB/MOLINE — A total of 1,103 undergraduate students enrolled at Western Illinois University were named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List. The total includes 98 students at the WIU-Quad Cities Campus.

Locally named to the Dean's List include:

Dixon

Charlotte L McCoy (Junior)
Juliana M Rotella (Senior)
Alexis L Sneek (Junior)

Franklin Grove

Tyler D Reyes (Junior)

TAX PREP GUIDE

Steps to simplify tax prep so you can file on time

Spring is noted for the sense of rejuvenation it inspires when temperatures warm up and flowers begin to bloom. But in the United States, the onset of spring is followed shortly thereafter by tax season, which typically generates entirely different feelings than the first sight of spring blooms.

The deadline to file tax returns in the U.S. in 2023 is Tuesday, April 18. With that deadline looming, now is a good time to consider these three basic tax preparation tips, courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service.

1. Organize your tax records. The IRS urges taxpayers to wait to file their returns until they have all of their records,

including:

- Forms W-2 from employer(s)
- Forms 1099 from banks, issuing agencies and others payers, including unemployment compensation, dividends, pension, annuity or retirement plan distributions
- Form 1099-K, 1099-MISC, W-2, or other income statement if you worked in the gig economy
- For 1099-INT if you were paid interest
- Other income documents and records of digital asset transactions, including convertible virtual currency and cryptocurrency, stablecoins and non-fungible tokens (NFTs)
- Form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement,

to reconcile advance payments or claim Premium Tax Credits for 2022 Marketplace coverage

- IRS or other agency letters
- CP01A Notice with your new Identity Protection PIN

2. Check your Individual Tax Identification Number. The IRS notes that an ITIN only requires renewal if it has expired and is needed on a federal tax return. An expired ITIN can delay the processing of a return, which in turn can delay tax credits and refunds.

Taxpayers filing with the help of a licensed tax professional are urged to contact that individual to inquire about any additional information they may need to file a return on time. Make such an inquiry well in advance of the deadline to file so you have sufficient time to gather all of the necessary documentation.

More information about filing taxes is available at irs.gov.

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Fr. John Gow
32 N Jones, Amboy
815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am
Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm
Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday, 8am-5 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, 9 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
Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321
449 Reuter Road, Amboy
Phone 815-376-6661
1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd.
Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service
Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult
6:00 p.m. Evening Service
Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study
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First Sunday Family Film Night
Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m.
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Pastor Rocky Fritz
24 N. Mason Avenue
Church Phone 857-2682
www.fbcamboy.com
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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.
Sunday – 8:45 a.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass – Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 7 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Barb Otten
960 U.S. Route 52
Phone 857-2225
Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 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
Pastor Leanne Keate
202 N. Grove, Harmon
Phone 359-7302
Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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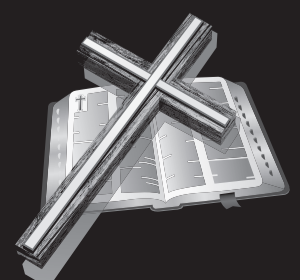
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815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center
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815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



Local nature and history

By Jim “Mazie” Long

Punxsutawney Phil may be a poor weather forecaster, but he does know one thing. While many other animals undertake complex winter survival strategies, he simply goes into a near-death sleep. Groundhog Day is celebrated on February 2.



He’s Hogging The Spotlight Again

Yet this prognosticator is right only 39% of the time.

In the fall it can be so fat that it looks as big as a young bear. The groundhog (woodchuck) is a vegetarian and will eat almost any vegetable matter and in large amounts. After spending several months getting fat, the groundhog goes into its den and falls asleep.



Jim “Mazie” Long

six minutes; and their hearts beat only four times a minute. As for being an accurate prognosticator of continued winters, they seem less impressive. Since the 1880’s, their spokes-celebrity Punxsutawney Phil has made correct predictions 39% of the time according to the Stormfax Almanac.

Editor’s Note: James Brady Long was born in Amboy on June 12, 1926. Known by many as “Mazie”, he grew up in Amboy, served in the army during World War II, then studied forestry at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. His studies in botany and forest protection continued as he ventured into farming here. A beloved story-teller, his farm became a place of learning and adventure for relatives and friends. In his later years, he contributed a series of local nature articles to The Amboy News. Upon his death in 2000, his many hand-written drafts were gathered and initially curated by Brenda Boyle. The present, renewed series draws from those drafts, both unpublished and previously published.

Resources:

Forecaster Phil
bit.ly/3iaO40D
Illinois Groundhogs
bit.ly/3ikqu1g

Church to host spaghetti supper

HARMON — The First United Methodist Church of Harmon will hold a spaghetti supper on Thursday, Feb. 2, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. They will serve spaghetti, salad, dessert and drinks.

A free will offering will be accepted. All donations will go to our chair lift fund. The church is handicapped accessible. Carry outs are available. Everyone is welcome.

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THE PASTOR’S PEN

Experiencing God on a personal level

BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

I recently conducted a funeral service for a woman who had lived to be 100 years old. It was truly a privilege to do this for someone who had lived so long. During her eulogy I said, “Imagine all the things that her eyes saw during the course of her lifetime.” Then I preceded to mention some of the historical events in the last 100 years. Things like The Great Depression, the attack on Pearl Harbor, World War II, the invention of computers, men landing on the moon, Elvis, the Beatles, and so on... There were actually veterans of the Civil War still living when she was born. Amazing, isn’t it.

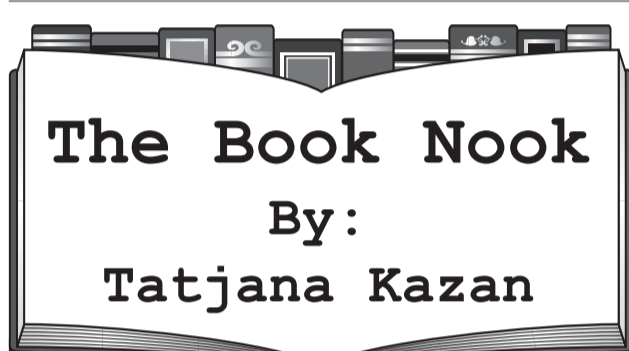
Now to my knowledge she had no personal experience with any of these... but she did live during their time. And I find that fascinating. But the Scripture I shared at the beginning tells us that God in His magnificent love has wonderful things in store for each and every person who loves Him. Things which had previously never been seen, heard, or even imagined! Of course, our minds may immediately go to the things waiting for us in the future when we finally get to Heaven. And I certainly believe this is true. The entire experience of Heaven will be beyond our human imagination. I believe this with all of my heart.

But this particular Scripture is indicating that there are incredible things in store for us in this life also. A vast array of spiritual blessings from God. Things like forgiveness and salvation provided for us in a way that people in the Old Testament could probably not even comprehend. Or the fact of the Holy Spirit indwelling every true believer. (John 14:15-18). And correspondingly giving us such things as His love, joy, and peace.

Not to mention godly fellowship with our brothers and sisters of the faith. These are all things we probably often hear or think about in our church services... but perhaps take for granted because we have heard about them for so long that we lose the sense of wonder and amazement we experienced when we heard about them for the first time. The beauty of this is that God wants each of us to actually experience these things firsthand and on a personal level. Not just know about them through someone else’s experience.

“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.” 1 Corinthians 2:10. I believe He will reveal these things to each of us as we seek Him. My prayer for all of us is that we will again open our hearts and that God will again give us all “eyes to see” and “ears to hear” and “hearts that are open” to receive the spiritual blessings which He desires to give each one who loves Him.

May God truly do this for each and every one of us.



BEYOND EVIL

From 1933 to 1945, 14 million human beings were murdered by Stalin and Hitler. They were not soldiers on active duty, but rather people who fell victim to ideas, one Communist, the other Fascist. More than half of them perished because they were denied food as a matter of official Soviet policy. In Ukraine 3.3 million people starved to death in 1932-33. They died for Stalin’s idea that collectivizing farms would drag the Soviet Union into the modern age. To force the farmers into giving up their farms, he ordered

seed grain to be confiscated. As starvation mounted, he doubled-down and decreed that all property henceforth belonged to the state, so that a stolen potato peel could mean prison or even death.

Erin Litteken’s “The Memory Keeper of Kyiv” (2022) is the story of a family in the small Ukrainian village of Sonyashnyky. The novel alternates between two protagonists. The first is Cassie, a distraught young widow whose husband died in a car accident. Her daughter Birdy hasn’t spoken since the accident. At her mother’s urging, Cassie and Birdy

move to Illinois in 2004 to live with her grandmother Bobbie. The second protagonist is Bobbie, called Katya when she lived through the Great Famine (called the Holodomor) seventy-four years earlier. When Cassie comes upon Bobbie’s journal, a handsome neighbor offers to translate it for her.

However, we do not get a look at the journal. Reading a first-hand account would surely have been more compelling than the conventional and rather tame narration Litteken opts for. There is not much difference between a description of Katya’s love affair with Pavlo and Cassie’s awakening love for her neighbor. Both women swoon at the appropriate moments.

To be sure, Litteken includes shocking scenes, such as when Katya and Kolya walk to town and come upon the “bulky mounds of frozen bodies littering the path to town. Apparently, many people had tried to make this trip, but their bodies didn’t

have the strength to succeed. So, they sat down where they were and never got back up.” Curiously Litteken mentions cannibalism, which was widespread, only once in passing. Still, “The Memory Keeper of Kyiv” is certainly worth reading for its intimate portrayal of people trapped in a massive starvation zone.

Two sources – a superb history of the events and a movie – are worth mentioning. The first is Timothy Snyder’s “Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin” (2010). The second is a very fine movie called “Mr. Jones” (2020). Directed by Polish director Agnieszka Holland, it is the story of Welsh journalist Gareth Jones who risked his life to report the terror-famine in Ukraine. It is available on amazon prime.

Holodomor Remembrance Day is observed in Ukraine on the fourth Saturday of November to commemorate the millions of Ukrainians who were starved to death in 1932-1933.

Executive director to step down at TNPS

DIXON—Philip Atilano will be stepping down as the Executive Director at The Next Picture Show in mid-February of 2023.

Born and raised in Dixon and now a resident of Sterling, Philip Atilano took over the Executive Director Position just one year ago in January of 2022. During that time, Atilano has helped shed new light on the Arts in Dixon and has brought new energy to TNPS. Some of his accomplishments during the past year include new partnerships, sponsorships, new exhibits, creating an artist in residence program as well as

including all of the arts, not just visual. Currently, TNPS displays artwork in more than a dozen locations regionally.

Philip says, “It was a difficult decision, but I have decided to step down as the Executive Director of The Next Picture Show. I will be returning to work with Conrad Schmitt Studios (New Berlin, Wisconsin) as a Lead Artist and continue working to restore and conserve some of America’s most cherished architectural gems including historic theatres, State Capitols, basilicas and cathedrals.”

Conrad Schmitt, was

founded in 1889 and specializes in stained glass, ornamental plaster, murals, frescos, gold leaf, scagliola, historic stenciling, as well as creating new and original artwork.

TNPS is currently interviewing candidates to determine who will take Atilano’s place. In addition to being the Executive Director at TNPS, Atilano has been active with The Dixon Theatre Board, The City Arts Coalition, The Sauk Foundation, Main Street, and has participated with the Beautification and Preservation Committee.

“It is bittersweet. I have

met so many amazing artists and people. I have made many new friendships and have rekindled old ones along the way. TNPS truly is a gem to have in Dixon,” says Atilano.

Atilano says he will remain living in Sterling along with his wife Julia, and their two sons and intends to remain involved with TNPS as he can while travelling. If interested in becoming the next Executive Director, please email a cover letter and resume to director@next-pictureshow.org. A minimum bachelor’s degree is required and art and design experience preferred.

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tgreenfield@amboynews.com

Opinion

Both parties can reach across the aisle and work in a bipartisan manner

Instead of a coronation we ended up with an election.
How is that a bad thing in a democracy?

It took 15 rollcall votes to elect Kevin McCarthy speaker of the House. The political chattering class is calling it a national “embarrassment” and labeled each prolonged vote a “humiliation” for McCarthy.

Well, maybe.
By its nature, democracy is supposed to be messy. It’s often about building coalitions and holding them.

In democracies such as France, Italy, Germany and Israel, multiple rollcalls and succession fights are routine. The U.S. is really the outlier in that regard.

Do I identify with that small group of Republicans who held out? Nope. But they effectively used what votes they had to maximize their power. That’s how politics works.

When I covered the Illinois General Assembly, I saw this strategy time and time again. Then-House Speaker Mike Madigan would negotiate a budget with the governor and the other legislative leaders and a faction of his caucus would threaten to withhold their coalition’s votes – unless they received funding for a particular program or support on a desired initiative.

Other lawmakers would complain about the entire legislature being “held hostage” but inevitably compromise was reached and lawmakers would head home happy. They were engaging in smart politics – using their solidarity to magnify their power.

The same thing was happening with the Freedom Caucus in Washington. With Republicans holding a razor thin majority, they were able to gain an out-sized voice in policymaking.

Here is what U.S. Rep. Mary Miller, R-Oakland, said the Freedom Caucus gained:

- The power to block an omnibus spending bill from the Senate.

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



- The power to eliminate waste by making direct budget cuts to the federal bureaucracy and spending caps to cut spending.
- A balanced federal budget over the next 10 years.
- A committee to investigate the “weaponization of the federal government,” including the Department of Justice.
- A Southern border security plan.
- The end of COVID mandates and funding for them.
- Requiring 72 hours to read a bill before the vote.
- The power for one member to call a vote for a new speaker.

Some of the concessions made to the caucus may prove to be positive such as a 72-hour waiting period before bills can be voted on within the House. Such a measure may improve transparency and debate.

Other concessions will likely prove problematic. For example, allowing just one disgruntled member of Congress to call for a new vote for speaker has the potential to throw the entire chamber into a state of perpetual chaos.

Then again, such disruptive efforts could easily be thwarted if Republicans and Democrats join to knock them down. That’s a big “if,” but the Freedom Caucus’ gains have the potential to cause more mainstream Republicans and Democrats to work together.

One need only look back in Illinois history to see how that could work. In 1975, state Rep. Bill Redmond was elected speaker of the Illinois House – after 93 rollcalls.

Democrats held the majority but were divided. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Gov. Dan Walker were at loggerheads over who to support.

Much as the Republicans in Congress fought it out this month, Democrats in that era of bell-bottom jeans and disco music were unable to reach consensus.

My friend Mike Lawrence, a statehouse reporter at the time, said it came down to a contest between Democrats

Clyde Choate, from Anna, and Redmond, from Bensonville. Republicans viewed the matter as a Democratic squabble and steered clear.

But after 93 votes and no winner, a freshman Republican named Lee Daniels stepped forward and voted for Redmond.

“When Daniels said, ‘I vote Redmond,’ the place went up for grabs and my recollection is that the rollcall stopped. I believe the House recessed. ... I ran out on the floor right for Daniel’s desk and there were Republicans all around Daniel’s, just giving him the devil and telling him he was all through in the Republican Party.”

Daniels, of course, eventually became leader of the GOP caucus and later served a term as speaker of the House in the 1990s.

As I watched Republicans in Washington this month struggle within a divided caucus to elect a speaker, I kept waiting for a similar act from one of the 212 Democrats. It would have just taken one to step forward and vote to break the impasse.

It would have been an act of bipartisan statesmanship. But it didn’t happen. But it is not too late. The far-right Freedom Caucus will try to bring McCarthy and the chamber to their knees.

Either members of both parties will reach across the aisle and work in a bipartisan manner or we inherit chaos.

The question for members of Congress is: “Do you love your party more than your nation?”

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at: sreeder@illinoistimes.com.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago Jan. 26, 1923

Mrs. Eva O’Brien was appointed postmaster, succeeding J.P. Harvey, who had held that post for more than eight years. Mrs. O’Brien had been employed as a teacher in the Amboy schools.

Twenty-four purebred broos sows belonging to Charles Hatch Jr. were stolen from his farm near Sublette. Mr. Hatch estimated the value of the hogs at about \$1,000.

75 Years Ago Jan. 22, 1948

The Amboy Sportsman’s Club appointed the following board of directors: Earl Antoine, Henry Hillison, Earl Meuer, Henry Kelly, Frank Gehant, E.F. Barnes, and Roy Powers. Bert Hinrichs is president, George Carr, vice president, J.P. O’Bourke secretary/treasurer.

Coming to the Amboy Theater – Gary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple in “The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer.”

50 Years Ago Jan. 25, 1973

Thomas Mead, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mead of rural Amboy, was named assistant cashier of the Community Bank of Utica. Mead, who is a graduate of Amboy High School, Sauk Valley Community College and Southern Illinois University, has been employed at Community Bank for about a year. Larry Hawes of Amboy was re-elected executive vice president and cashier.

25 Years Ago Jan. 22, 1999

After 36 years in education, including six-years’ service to District 272, Terry Salem has announced plans of

his June 30 retirement. Salem and his wife, Marge, will be moving to Mattoon, Illinois where his two children and Mrs. Salem’s father reside. Mr. Salem is exploring job opportunities outside the education field.

Amboy’s Boy Scout Troop 336 braved the cold January temperatures during a three-day camping trip to Gablemann Pond southeast of Amboy. On the morning of Jan. 18, the mercury dipped to a chilly two degrees below zero. Senior patrol leader Josh Shaw saved his troop from further discomfort at sunrise by boldly venturing into the arctic air and restarting the woodburning stove that was neglected the night before.

The city of Amboy issued 51 citations for violations of its nuisance ordinance within the last two weeks, it was announced at Monday night’s city council meeting. All of the citations were issued for abandoned cars and junk in yards.

IFB president: Bipartisanship, environmental efforts among top priorities heading into new year

BY RICHARD GUEBERT JR.

Illinois Farm Bureau President

As we head into the new year, I am excited for efforts to make 2023 the “Year of the Farmer.”

Illinois Farm Families, a coalition comprised of the Illinois Farm Bureau and Illinois Beef, Corn, Pork, Soybean and Midwest Dairy Associations, is also launching a major campaign to build trust in family farmers. One major message we want to amplify is that 96% of Illinois farms are family-owned. In the coming months, our members will start to see such messages shared with a broader audience, including Super Bowl commercials and other activities throughout the year.

I recognize that there is much work to be done. Our farmers and leaders are building support from both sides of the political aisle amid a tumultuous political landscape. Farmers are working tirelessly to assure American families that agriculture is stronger than ever.

Being bipartisan has served Farm Bureau well. ACTIVATOR, IFB’s political action committee, helps us elect candidates who work for our best interests in Washington and Springfield. It also helps us build strong relationships with legislators, who in turn help us achieve our legislative priorities. We endorse

local candidates regardless of political party, and 93% of ACTIVATOR-endorsed candidates have been elected over the past four-year election cycle.

In the coming months, Congress will begin drafting the 2023 Farm Bill, which will guide U.S. agriculture and food policy over the next five years. For decades, agriculture policy has remained one of the few areas of true bipartisanship in Springfield and Washington, D.C. It is critical that we as farmers continue to develop strong relationships with our state and federal elected officials as they lay the groundwork for the next farm bill, advocate for international trade agreements and promote biofuels in our energy policy.

In December, IFB launched its first documen-

tary, “Sustaining Our Future: A Farm Family Story.” The documentary utilizes an empathetic and creative storytelling approach to share the story of a multi-generational farming family at the forefront of Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction efforts. It also includes the IFB environmental team and agriculture researchers from the University of Illinois. The documentary can be viewed on the Illinois Farm Bureau YouTube page.

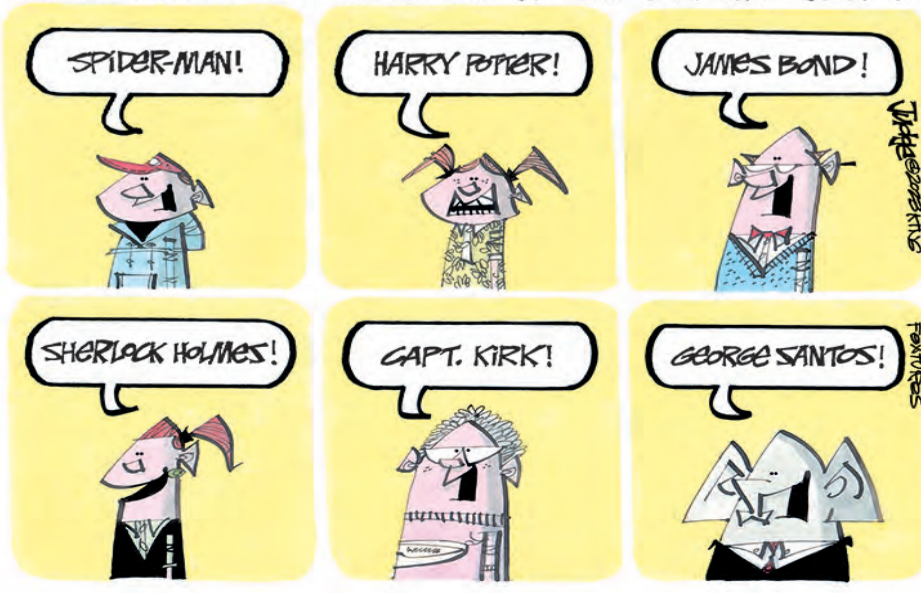
As we look ahead in the new year to continue sharing our messages, whether it be farm bill priorities, bipartisanship or environmental efforts, we cannot ignore the changing demographics among our members. There are more IFB members who are older than 90 years old than younger than 35.

Additionally, the number of American farms is expected to decline by 42% by 2040.

It is hard to believe that it has been nine years since I was first elected as IFB president. It has been an incredible honor to serve Illinois farmers and our members. I am proud of our work this past year, but our job is not done yet. We have a lot more to accomplish in the coming months. With these educational efforts, new membership programming and bipartisan acts, I know we can make 2023 a great year for farmers and agriculture.

This op-ed was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE FICTIONAL CHARACTER?



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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, 245 E. Main Street, 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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Lee, Bureau and LaSalle Counties

1 year	manual pay	\$46.00
	auto pay	\$43.00
10 weeks	manual pay	\$10.50
	auto pay	\$9.50

Non-local

1 year	manual pay	\$50.00
	auto pay	\$47.00
10 weeks	manual pay	\$11.75
	auto pay	\$11.00

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.,

Monday, Tuesday

8 a.m. - noon on Friday

.Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

Phone **815-857-2311**

Fax **815-857-2517**

Website **www.amboynews.com**

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

Sell your household items for free.
Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words
- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



AMBOY • SUBLETTE • WEST BROOKLYN • LEE CENTER • PAW PAW • LAMOILLE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS CIRCUIT COURT LEE COUNTY PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

Request of: Landon Michael Koppien

Case Number: 2022MR41

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from: Landon Michael Koppien

to the new name of: Sabie Michael Koppien
The court date will be held:

On March 7, 2023 at 2:00 pm, at 309 S. Galena Avenue Dixon IL, Lee County, Illinois in courtroom #410.

Dated: December 29, 2022.

Landon M. Koppien No. 0102

(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF Justin B. Corcoran, Deceased
Case No. 2023-PR-1

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Justin B. Corcoran of West Brooklyn, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 13, 2023 to John J. Corcoran of 436 LaMoille Road, Sublette, IL 61367 as Independent

Executor whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Lee County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before July 31, 2023 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed

with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
No. 0103
(Jan. 25, Feb. 1 and Feb. 8, 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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.

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."

BE YOUR OWN BOSS! Health & Wellness Industry. No experience necessary. Flexible Hours. Start Your Future Today! Call Now! Rick 630-965-1470. (01-25-23)

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. Fall clean up, gutters and more. Fully insured. In business since 1999. Rochelle and surrounding areas. Call Jeremy Furman at 815-761-9619. Please leave a message, will return call ASAP.

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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys,

sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

SPLIT firewood for sale. Contact 779-251-0254. (02-13-23)

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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 all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

505 BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

Office Spaces for Rent. 1054 Lincoln Hwy., Rochelle. Call 630-544-9673

511 STORAGE UNITS

Amboy & Sublette
10x20 Inside Storage,
Outside and Inside Storage for semi-trucks/trailers, boats, campers, etc.
Call 815-857-2252
02092022

INFORMATION

Office Hours:

Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. - noon
Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Phone:

815-857-2311

Fax:

815-857-2517

Email:

tgreenfield@amboynews.com

Address:

245 E. Main Street, Amboy
Mail:
P.O. Box 162,
Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

Mondays at 10 a.m.
(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:

• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter • Mendota Money Saver

Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$7.50 for garage sale ads.

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.

203 HELP WANTED

AMBOY C.U.S.D. #272 IS SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION:

BUS AIDES

To apply go to www.amboy.net,
Employment, Transportation
& Start An Application.

01232023

Great Opportunities at Community Newspapers



Full Time Inside and Outside Account Manager

The Mendota Reporter and Amboy News newspaper, both weekly publications serving friendly and close-knit communities in northern Illinois, has an immediate opening:

• **Full-time Inside and Outside Account Manager**
Are you a dynamic sales rep interested in helping local businesses? If so, we'd love to have you join our sales team!

We need someone who truly appreciates the connection between marketing and sales, someone who genuinely gets excited with each and every sale - big or small. This person also must be comfortable calling on outside markets. We do not cap commissions, so earning potential is unlimited as you grow your client base! We also provide monthly auto allowances for work-related expenses.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in an advertising or marketing role
- Basic understanding of digital advertising, media and social channels
- Detail oriented, with an eye for design and copy writing
- Adaptable and self-motivated in learning new software and processes
- Expertise in Microsoft Office Suite with emphasis on Excel

To be successful in this role, the ideal candidate will be detail-oriented, deadline-driven, and demonstrate accurate information management.

We offer a competitive salary commensurate with experience, a pleasant working environment, paid vacation, paid sick time, excellent medical benefits and a 401K investment plan.

Qualified applicants willing to become immersed in both the Amboy and Mendota community, should email their resumes and any clips to Tonja Greenfield, Publisher, at tgreenfield@mendotareporter.com or mail them to P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342.

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab 4x4



2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab 4x4, GM Certified, 1-Owner Local Trade, Leather Interior, Heated/Cooled Seats, Sunroof, 24K Miles, More!

Was \$52,900

\$48,900

2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab, 24k Miles, Black

2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, 6.0L Gas, 55K Miles, Red.....

2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew, 4x4 High Country, Loaded, 67K Miles, Black.....

2018 Chevy Equinox AWD Premier, 74K miles, 1-owner, Loaded, Black ..

2018 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, 47K Miles, Tan

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab, LTZ, Duramax Diesel, Z71, 4x4, 81K Miles, Black.....

2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, Long Box, LT, 4x4, 96K Miles, Red.....

2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....

2019 Cadillac XT4 FWD, 60k Miles, Red

2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT, Z71, 4X4, 120k Miles, Red.....

2017 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, 98K Miles, Gray.....

2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71, 128K Miles, Red.....

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BROTHERS
CHEVROLET, INC.**

"Great Deals - Great Service Since 1926"

Ally Financing and
GMF Financing or Leasing

* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied.
Subject to credit approval.

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KEEP AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL

LOCAL NEWS

Lady Clippers see streak end against Eastland

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers saw their winning 17-game winning streak come to an end after a 45-24 loss the Eastland on Jan. 18 at the AHS gym.

Amboy jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead, but then got outscored 13-2 the rest of the first quarter. Amboy's shooting woes continued throughout the game as it hit on only 17 percent of its field goal attempts. The Lady Clippers missed 45 shots from the floor and seven from the free throw line.

Elly Jones was high scorer for Amboy with 15 points. The other four starters could only manage nine points combined. Jones added six rebounds and four steals. Courtney Ortgiesen led the squad with seven rebounds, followed by Maeve Larson with six caroms and three steals. Tyrah Vaessen and Addison Pertell each pulled down four boards and Vaessen collected three steals.

Amboy played hard, but could not overcome its cold shooting.

The Lady Clippers traveled to Forreston on Jan. 20 and came away with a 31-27 victory.

Amboy fell behind 9-2 after the opening stanza, but reversed things in the second period with an 8-2 count to trail by just one at the half. The Lady Clippers pulled away with a 14-4 third quarter before Forreston mounted a fourth-quarter comeback that came up short.

Jones and Pertell were each two of two from the charity stripe in the fourth frame and Ortgiesen was one of two from the line to help preserve the win.

Larson paced the victory with nine points, while she also provided four rebounds and three steals. Pertell and Ortgiesen both tallied eight points and Ortgiesen led with 11 rebounds. Pertell added five boards, three assists and two steals, while Vaessen (seven rebounds, four assists, two steals) and Jones (four points, four steals, two assists) aided the cause.

The Lady Clippers are 19-2 overall and 5-1 in the NUIC South Division standings.



Clipper Chase Montavon, a 120 pound freshman competing at the Bob Mitton Wrestling tournament, pins his opponent after being down 14-0. Montavon earned a sixth place medal for his efforts. Many of the Clippers faced top-ranked wrestlers in state at this tournament. Coach Montavon is proud of their efforts.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

Clipper wrestlers compete at Bob Mitton Invite

ORION — The Amboy Clippers' wrestling team competed in the Bob Mitton Wrestling Invite held at Orion High School on Jan. 20-21.

The two-day meet had 21 teams competing. Amboy had seven wrestlers competing and finished in 16th place with 60.5 points. Riverdale won the tournament with 255 points.

Earning the highest place for Amboy was 113-pound freshman Landon Blanton, receiving a third-place medal.

Other medalists for the Clippers were Josh Mckendry (fifth place at 138 pounds), Levi Near (sixth place at 132 pounds) and

Chase Montavon (sixth place at 120 pounds).

Competing but not placing for the Clippers were Austin Heath, Kole Beckham and Lucas Blanton.

Levi Near recognized

On Thursday, Jan. 19 Amboy High School wrestling recognized their lone senior. Levi Near, son of Tabitha and Kyle Near, wrestles in the 132 pound weight class. He is a four year member of the

Amboy/AFC Wrestling team.

The Clippers wish him the best of luck during the remaining of the wrestling season.



The Amboy Clippers wrestling team competed in the Bob Mitton Wrestling Invite held in Orion High School in Orion, on Friday and Saturday. Sophomore Josh Mckendry placed fifth at 138 pounds.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

Clippers lose two on the road

AMBOY — Milledgeville took off after the first quarter and cruised past Amboy, 65-25, in varsity boys' basketball action on Jan. 17 at Milledgeville.

The Clippers hung tough through the first eight minutes, trailing by just a 20-15 count with one quarter in the books. But the Missiles pulled away in the second period, outscoring Amboy

17-4 to take a 37-19 halftime lead. The Clippers managed just six points in the second half, including being blanked in the fourth frame.

Troy Anderson led Amboy with 11 points, while Eddie Jones and Wes Wilson supplied six points apiece.

Warren topped the Clippers, 62-33, in the Manny's Shootout on Jan. 21 at West

Carroll in Savanna.

A slow start plagued Amboy as it scored only three first-quarter points compared to 13 for Warren. The Clippers were down 26-11 at the break and 47-23 after three.

Jones knocked down three shots from three-point land on his way to a 15-point output for the Clippers. Wilson was next with five points.



The Amboy Clippers wrestling team competed in the Bob Mitton Wrestling Invite held in Orion High School in Orion, on Friday and Saturday. Placing for Amboy was 113 pound freshman Landon Blanton receiving a third place medal.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

BUSINESSES & SERVICES



PRINTING SERVICES Call The Amboy News for your printing needs! (815) 857-2311	REAL ESTATE Woodhaven Lakes Realty, Inc. PO Box 110 Sublette, IL 61367 815-849-5476 www.woodhavenlakes.com	AVON Avon Independent Sales Representative Betty Meznarich 576 N. 3859th Rd. Rt. 2 Mendota, IL 61342 815.343.4750 mezandmezzie@gmail.com To Buy or Sell. 41 Years as an Avon Lady.	COMMUNITY CENTER AMBOY COMMUNITY CENTER Available For Receptions, Meetings, Fund-Raisers 280 W. Wasson Rd. • Amboy, IL 61310 (815) 440-5784 • (815) 857-2324 Julie DeArmitt - Manager
FINANCIAL Sublette Woodhaven 815.849.5242 815.849.5918 PIONEER STATE BANK www.pioneerstatebank.com <i>Building the Path to Your Success</i>	FUNERAL HOME Mihm-Jones Funeral Home Patrick Jones 303 E. Main Street • Amboy 815-857-2611 www.thejonesfh.com	ELECTRICAL Carriage House Electric For All Your Electrical Needs Call 815-538-5598	SMALL ENGINE REPAIR SALES & SERVICE SNOWBLOWER REPAIR 205 W. Main St. Sublette, IL 815-849-5225 mainstreetrepair16@yahoo.com
INSURANCE Baylor Insurance Agency Insurance Service for the Home, Farm & Business Phone: 857-2716 or 453-7468 Jack S. Baylor, Agent Ashton, IL 61006 • P.O. Box 3 Lee Center, IL 61331	REAL ESTATE ERBES Realty 1922 Tower Rd, Sublette, IL 815-535-6295 Lori Erbes, GRI Designated Managing Broker	INSURANCE Heiting Insurance Agency Serving the Mendota & surrounding area for 25+ years! Dick Heiting • Suzanne Heiting Auto/Home/Business/Farm (815)539-9265 1409 E. Main Mendota	LAWN CARE Big K Lawn Care 815-582-2781 Larry Kosowski PO Box 296 Sublette, IL 61367
PRINTING SERVICES Call The Amboy News for your printing needs! (815) 857-2311	HOME REMODELING RNB Home Repair & Remodeling 17 years doing business in Amboy Over 25 Years in Service! Robert Moore Owner 815-857-3246		ADVERTISING Your Business in this space for only \$30.00 per month. CALL The Amboy News at 815-857-2311.

AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

Grocery delivery for disabled & senior citizens - in town only.

242 E. Main Street, Amboy IL. 61310

815-857-7020

Winter Hours
Monday-Saturday, 7am-9pm
Sunday, 8am-8pm

Now Accepting EBT Link
Cards and WIC

Amboy Deli Hours
Mon-Sat 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sun 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sale Prices Valid Jan. 25 - 31 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

California Navel Oranges

4 lb. bag



\$4.99/ea.

Jumbo Lemons



\$0.89/ea.

Cucumbers



\$0.99/ea.

Steakcut Mushrooms

8 oz package



\$2.99/ea.

Jumbo White Onions



\$1.39/ea.

Strawberries

1 lb. package



\$2.99/ea.

Dole Coleslaw

14 oz bag



\$1.49/ea.

Grape Tomatoes



\$1.69/pint

HOT BUYS

Beef Rump Roast



\$5.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$7.99/lb.

U.S.D.A. New York Strip Steaks



\$9.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$15.99/lb.

Butterfly Pork Chops - Plain



\$2.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$3.99/lb.

OR

\$3.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$4.99/lb.

BBQ Pork Chops

Jumbo Chicken Wings - plain



\$2.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$3.99/lb.

OR

\$3.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$4.99/lb.

Jumbo Chicken Wings - Flavored

Boneless Skinless Chicken Breasts - Plain



\$2.49/lb.

Reg. Price \$4.99/lb.

Ruffles or Tostitos

Assorted - Excludes Party Size



\$4.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$5.59/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Kemp's Ice Cream

48 oz Assorted



\$4.59 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.59 ea.

Ham, Turkey, Bacon and Cheese Wrap

NEW!



\$7.99 ea.

Kraft Salad Dressing

16 oz assorted



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.59 ea.

Minute Maid Orange Juice

59 oz



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.

Kraft Mayo

30 oz



\$5.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$6.99 ea.

Food Club Ricotta Cheese

32 oz



\$5.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$6.79 ea.

Banquet Pot Pies

7 oz Assorted



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.69 ea.

TJ Farm Fries

5 lb Assorted



\$4.69 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.39 ea.

Quaker Instant Oatmeal

8-14 oz Assorted



\$4.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.29 ea.

Chef Boyardee Pasta

14-15 oz



\$1.69 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.29 ea.

Kraft Mac & Cheese

5-7.3 oz



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.09 ea.