

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

Volume 167 - Number 48

www.AmboyNews.com

\$1.00

Walking through the snow...or Amboy

Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk is Dec. 10

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – The weather forecasters don’t know yet if you’ll be walking through snow on Dec. 10.

But if you want to walk through Christmas cheer while snacking, drinking, shopping, and enjoying yourself, the Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk at 4-7 p.m., Dec. 10 is where your shoes should be.

“The whole point of the Christmas Walk, years ago, was for people to do their Christmas shopping in town,” said Meghan Schamberger, a Christmas Walk organizer. “A lot of the businesses put on specials and they’ll sell gift cards. Usually some of our businesses are closed at 4-5 p.m., but they’ll have extended hours during the Christmas Walk so you can go in and purchase things off of Christmas lists.

“In addition to that, they’re also offering cookies, cider, hot chocolate for the kids.

Amboy Central School is having a craft and vendor show, Amanda Hintz Photography will be there, and they’ll have face painting. “It’s a nice mix where adults can get their Christmas shopping done and there are a lot of kid friendly activities and events.”

Businesses, organizations, and groups involved in the walk are Amboy Central School, Amboy Depot Museum, Amboy Family Restaurant, Amboy Fire Department, Amboy Food and Liquor, Amboy Hometown Pharmacy, Becker Detailing, Depot Tap, Express Lane Shell, Inspired Home Décor & Gifts, Johnson Tractor, Kaleels, Long Branch, Main Flower Shop, Maria’s Pizza, On 3 Photography, Revolution Wellness, Sensient Flavors, St. Patrick Church, Starlight Dance Studio, Teen Turf, The First National Bank of Amboy, The Last Alarm, Thrifty On Main, Two Sisters, and Uncommon Reign.

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

See **AMBOY** page A3



The Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk is upon us at 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Amboy Central School, Amboy Depot Museum, Amboy Family Restaurant, Amboy Fire Department, Amboy Food and Liquor, Amboy Hometown Pharmacy, Becker Detailing, Depot Tap, Express Lane Shell, Inspired Home Decor & Gifts, Johnson Tractor, Kaleels, Long Branch, Main Flower Shop, Maria's Pizza, On 3 Photography, Revolution Wellness, Sensient Flavors, St. Patrick Church, Starlight Dance Studio, Teen Turf, The First National Bank of Amboy, The Last Alarm, Thrifty on Main, Two Sisters, and Uncommon Reign will all have something special for children and adult customers for the event. Courtesy photo

Fun run added to Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – Amboy residents and visitors have been walking for Christmas in downtown Amboy for decades.

This year, for the first time, you can run for fun as well, as part of the Amboy Christmas Walk Fun Run.

“This is our first Christmas Walk Fun Run. We’ve had a lot of people asking to bring new

events to the Christmas Walk,” said Christmas Walk organizer Meghan Schamberger. “We had a few people suggest a fun run. This year, we’re really trying hard to make this a success.

“It’s a fun little run. We’re hoping everyone dresses up as far as a Christmas character, in a favorite ugly sweater, or in festive colors. It’s just another way to bring people downtown to kick off the Christmas Walk.”

Registration is \$10 per person and \$25 per family.

The fun run was originally planned to be a 5K, but it was decided 1.5 miles would be more fun and easier to keep the Christmas

cheer in chilly, blistery December climates.

Instead of prizes for finishing first, second, or third, participants will receive different prizes.

Every runner will receive a bid number, which will also be put in a hat and 10 numbers will be drawn for a prize. There will also be prizes for the best dressed family or group and three prizes for the best dressed individuals.

The prizes could be anything from a local business gift basket, a cookie tray, a gift certificate for a local photographer or bar, and more.

“We are doing this in conjunction with

the Amboy cross country team. All of the proceeds are going to go to the cross country team,” Schamberger said. “They are going to help us run the fun run and man the tables. They mapped the course out for us and it’s a mile and a half.

“We have the Depot Days Dash which is a huge event in town during Depot Days. We have been to a couple other communities to run in a hot cocoa run or a Santa run. We thought it would be a fun way to bring a race into town that is not a long race, but a fun, little run that would bring people to our community.”

District receives grant for new boiler

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — At the recent monthly Amboy School Board meeting, Superintendent Joshua Nichols announced that the district has received a \$50,000 Illinois State Board of Education Maintenance Grant that will be used toward the boiler project. Loescher Heating and Air Conditioning Company installed the second circulating pump at the high school, and General Mechanical has started prepping to replace the boilers.

“We have heard that the boilers have ‘shipped’ which is exciting news,” said Nichols.

Another highlight of the meeting was the board approval for the electric buses contract with Lion, a Canadian-based manufacturer that primarily produces yellow school buses. Back in October of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency bestowed a \$790,000 grant to the district. The bulk of



the money will be used to purchase two electric buses, while \$40,000 was set aside for the purchase and installation of two charging units.

In other business, for the junior high demolition, a prebid meeting was held and 25 contractors showed up and toured the building and grounds. Nichols is confident that this will lead to competitive bidding which opens this week. A tentative tax levy

was ratified. A new junior high basketball and sports co-op with LaMoille-Ohio was approved.

City Council

The Amboy City Council met in regular session on Nov. 21. Mayor Pro-Tem Frank Stenzel presided over the proceedings with the absence of Mayor John Schamberger.

See **COUNCIL** page A3

Baskets of Christmas spirit

Amboy Fire Department, Amboy schools partner for a cause

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – Christmas is a time for many things.

Snow, presents, family, cookies, and school vacation may be a few.

But so are kindness, love, sharing, and community.

The Amboy Volunteer Firemen’s Association and the Amboy school district have formed a partnership to unionize community and the act of giving with a food drive and Christmas baskets.

“We’ve been partnering with the schools for over 20 years. We’ve been putting together Christmas baskets for the community of Amboy for over 70 years,” said Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. “As long as the Amboy Volunteer Firemen’s Association has been in existence, we’ve been doing food baskets for the needy.

“I think it’s very important for us to give back and try to help the people that need it. In the 1980s we were doing 30-40 of these baskets. The original intent was regardless of social or economic, it was a shot in the arm for people who had a tragic event prior to the

holidays such as loss of a loved one because of medical conditions or an incident, a fire, or a loss of employment.”

The number of baskets created by Bryant Sr. and company reached 80 last year and the number of families on the list for 2022 has already reached 90.

The Christmas baskets include a ham, food for the holiday meal and kitchen staples such as bread, milk, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, and canned goods such as soup and vegetables.

Amboy students at Amboy Central Elementary, Amboy Junior High, and Amboy High School have already started a canned food and non-perishable food drive, which all items are taken to the fire station and divvied into the baskets.

Canned food and non-perishable food items can also be dropped off at the Amboy fire station 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To receive a basket, an application is not needed.

A family can be added by word of mouth whether the fire station is called (815-857-2325) by the needy family or by a third party who knows a family is in need. The family’s information such as name, number of residents at the home, and the address can be sent to Amboy Fire at P.O. Box 165, Amboy, IL, 61310.

See **BASKET** page A3

A Look Back At Amboy’s 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.

Private Lester L. McNinch



distant foreign wars need not involve our people. How quickly the winds of history shift, for in less than two years American troops would ship off to that Great War in Europe — the one meant to “end all wars”.

On Sept. 19 of that



same year, Lester Lovering McNinch became one of eleven children born to Edward and Elsie Lovering McNinch of Sublette. His father earned his living as a drayman at a time when families were larger, incomes were smaller, and sacrifice for the greater good more common. As Lester grew, he attended grade school in Sublette, graduated from Amboy High School, and attended the Union Church in his home town.

In 1940, as the clouds of

war again descended over Europe, Lester registered for the military draft, just months before America entered World War II. In 1943, he entered the U.S. Army and began his infantry training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, later moving on to Fort Meade, Maryland assigned to the 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division.

After some initial training in England, Pvt. McNinch and the 28th Division landed on the Normandy Beaches in France on July 22, 1944 in the

weeks following the D-Day Invasion. They immediately engaged in fierce hedgerow fighting near St. Lo, then moved south toward Paris, fighting town by town against desperate Nazi opposition.

After liberating Paris in August, the 28th continued its sustained drive through France and Luxembourg to the German border by Sept. 11.

See **MCNINCH** page A3

Obituaries

Walter Fredenhagen, Jr.

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Inserts

Snyders



LOCAL NEWS

NEW OWNERS, NEW NAME

The Village of Sublette welcomes its newest owners of the Sublette General Store. Sharifa Patel purchased the former Bonnell's General Store, located at 200 Reeve St., in Sublette, with an opening day of Nov. 4. Presenting an American flag is Sublette Village President John Stenzel, right, pictured with Musayeb L., Sharifa Patel, and Hanif Patel. The business offers grocery items, frozen food, liquor and beer, cold drinks, ice cream, ice, cold cut sandwiches, deli meat, candy, hardware and lottery. The store is open seven days a week. In winter, the hours are 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. and in springtime, the hours are 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. For more information, call 815-849-5522.

Courtesy photo



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Seeking summer internship applications

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Farm Bureau® Foundation is hiring for a paid internship for the summer of 2023. The internship is open to college students studying agriculture, business, communications or a related field. A background in agriculture as well as public relations, communications and social media skills is encouraged, but not required. A complete job description and application is available online, www.lcfbfoundation.org. For more information, contact 815-857-3531 or leecfb@comcast.net. Deadline is Feb. 1, 2023.

Sublette Christmas in the Village Sunday, Dec. 4

The Village of Sublette will ring in the holidays during its annual Christ-

mas Walk, "Christmas in the Village," from 3 - 6 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 4. This year's event will be

held on Sunday afternoon. A craft and vendor show will be held at 6 p.m. at the Ellice Dinges

Center. There will be a large variety of vendors that can fulfill your holiday shopping needs.

New this year will be the Lighted Christmas Parade at 5:30 p.m. Cars, Trucks, ATVs, Tractors are welcome. Line up is at Centennial Park.

Following the lighted parade will be the official lighting of the village Christmas tree at 6 p.m., by Santa Claus. Line up will be at Centennial Park.

Downtown Sublette businesses will be open for all your shopping and refreshment needs.

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

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST IN SUBLETTE

Area residents are invited to deck your home with the most TREEmendous decorations for the Sublette Christmas Decorating Contest. Sign up by Dec. 10 for a chance to win a prize. Judging will be Dec. 17. Sign-up sheets are available at Sublette General Store, Pioneer State Bank and the Post Office. Everyone is urged to light up the town for the Christmas season.

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Wishing You Happy Holidays and a Joyful New Year

11232022

Sublette's Christmas in the Village
Sunday, December 4th
3-6pm

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Vendors at Ellice Dinges Center | Cookies |
| Santa | Kids' Crafts |
| Tree Lighting | Dancers |
| Hot Chocolate | Carriage Rides |

NEW THIS YEAR:
Lighted Parade kicks off at 5:30 pm

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- Gary • Dan
- Kourtney • Brian
- Cody • Buddy
- Scott • Kyle
- Reece • Luke

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

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.

Free Thanksgiving Community Event Thank you's

Special thanks to: We had great entertainment from New Vocal Blend, good eats, wonderful giveaways, and great conversation. Thank you to those that dropped money in the basket for New Vocal Blend.

To those that helped: The following people helped tremendously with serving or helping in some sort of way: Brooklyn Strub; Katey Dickinson; Gary and Lisa Mason; Les and Betty Shaw; Shelli Bump; Chris Noble; Margaret Shaw; Candy Robinson; Sandy Draper; Deb and Joe Kelly; Mark Grossman; Mike Scully; Samantha Groth; Karen Stenzel; Larry Piper; Shannon Nichols and Gabby and Daniel Dowd. Special shout out to our kids who helped: Amelia Nichols; Kylee Grotzinger; Matthew Farrar; Hayden Thomas; Alexz Dowd; Patrick Jones and Elijah Zimmerly.

To those that provided food (Hopefully didn't miss anyone): Rosie Kalden; Margaret Shaw; Pam Thomas; Katey Dickinson; Judy Marcelli; Connie Kemp; Leroy and Alice Dukes; Shelli and Joe Bump; Coleen Robison; Chris and Ron Noble; Les and Betty Shaw; Candy Robinson; Shirley Willis; Roberta Glenn; Karen Stenzel; Deb and Joe Kelly; Kathy Kessel; Lisa Mason, Eileen and Larry Piper and Irene and Eileen Ramsdell.

Christmas Walk

Come see us Saturday, Dec 10, from 4-7 p.m. where you can make a wreath and do some economical shopping. Hope to see you there.

Thank You's

We are always grateful for those that assist Teen Turf in it's endeavor of helping people: Sandy Schamberger for the monetary donation; Walton Fest for the monetary donation and the Thanksgiving meals for families; those that donate cans and Larry Piper and Pete Rood for doing them and we are entirely grateful for our afterschool volunteers-Donna Wellman; Kathy Gardner; Kathy Kessel; Shannon Nichols; Randy Singleton for lemonade packets; Megan Cheatham; Candy Robinson; Christine Noble; Karen Stenzel and Joelle and Connor.

Thank you to our Impact Students as well.

Needs

Paper plates and Kleenex

Final Word

Merciful God,

We ask that you give our leaders the wisdom to guide our nation and the world out of the current economic crisis. Help us to protect the poor and all those who are struggling during this difficult time. Provide for their needs and give them hope. Open new opportunities for them and furnish the resources they need to live with dignity. Encourage those who have enough to share essential resources with those who lack the necessities of life, and to do so with humble, grateful and loving hearts.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

MCMINCH

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During this same time, Hitler had taken full control of the Nazi war machine to begin making plans to defend Germany from the advancing Allied troops. Distrusting his own generals, Hitler gave orders to fortify the Siegfried Line, known as the German west wall. The Siegfried Line featured over 18,000 bunkers, tunnels, pill boxes, land mines and tank traps running some 390 miles from Kleve on the border with Netherlands, along the western boundary of Germany, and down to the border with Switzerland. Named "dragon's teeth" by the allies, these tank traps were cement structures that were designed to force tanks and other mechanized military vehicles into "killing zones" that would annihilate American and British troops and prevent or slow their entry into German territory.

On Sept. 12, the 28th Division began hammering the Siegfried Line along with other infantry and artillery units. In the weeks to follow, they attacked and destroyed pill boxes and other fortifications, taking heavy casualties while advancing north to Elsenborn, Germany in the

early days of October.

In the weeks that followed, Mrs. Elsie McNinch, Lester's only surviving parent, would have received word from the War Department that her son was killed in action Oct. 3 as his Division bravely attacked and penetrated the dreaded Siegfried Line. In November 1944, a memorial service for Private McNinch was held at the Union Church in Sublette, with military honors led by the American Legion. Although a gravestone at the Evergreen Cemetery near Sublette honors his memory, he is buried at the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Belgium along with a number of other young soldiers from Lee County, Illinois. Lester L. McNinch is forever remembered for his selfless duty and valor in defense of freedom and human dignity.

Citations:

Purple Heart

World War II Victory Medal

Marksmanship Badge

American Campaign Medal

Army Presidential Unit Citation

Army Good Conduct Medal

BASKET

continued from page A1

"The struggle for the last two years has been the supply chain. We can't go to a grocery store and order 80 of this or 80 of that because they can't guarantee they're going to have it," said Bryant Sr. "We have to go to different stores or the same store on multiple different days to purchase the supplies that we need.

"That is the difficult part. The stuff that we're buying isn't easy to buy in bulk anymore. Before Covid-19, we could call any grocery store and order 80 of an item and they'd have it. Now, they don't know if it'll have it and they tell us just to take what's on the shelves and they'll restock the item when they can.

"Although it's a little more difficult than the past, we're still going to get the baskets made and give back to the community."

The baskets range in different sizes as they can be tailored to a single adult, a family of three, four, five, six, and so on.

Once a family is on the list, a card will be sent to their home. They bring the card to the station and they can pick up their Christmas basket.

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.

REMINDER: No grave blankets allowed in St. Patrick's cemetery in Amboy. They will be removed, if necessary.

SUBLETTE-The Village of Sublette will ring in the holidays during its annual Christmas Walk, "Christmas

in the Village," from 3 - 6 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 4. This year's event will be held on Sunday afternoon. The Christmas Walk committee promises something for the whole family.

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY-The 2022 Amboy Christmas Walk will be bringing back the Holiday Trolley, Santa's Village, horse and wagon rides, musical entertainment and much more. This year's event will

be held from 4-7 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 10, throughout Amboy.

DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 - 6 p.m., on Monday, Dec. 12, at American Legion, 1120 W. First St., Dixon. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, Dec. 12. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 12, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St., Sublette.

AMBOY

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"From where we started to where we are now, just watching the community come together, especially during the holidays, it is huge for our community," said Schamberger. "The Christmas Walk has grown so much. It is so much fun to see all the people out in town and to see all of the businesses with some hustle and bustle.

"In a small town, during the holidays, business slows down. This kind of brings people out and rejuvenates the town. It brings a sense of community back to town during a busy time of year."

The walk is designed to bring everyone out to the town's streets. Not only are there children activities, but there is an attraction for all.

"Our bars have activities as well. The kids can't go in, but there is something for every age group during the Christmas Walk," Schamberger said. "There are craft and vending shows for the older residents, activities for kids, for teenagers, and for middle aged parents. There is something for everyone, you don't just have to have a child to come to the walk."

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

What the Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk is now began six years ago, but people have made the Christmas trek for decades. And just like before, the magical day during the most magical time of the year, can't happen without the entire community.

"Without the businesses and everything that they bring, in terms of putting on the little extra events, we wouldn't have a Christmas Walk," Schamberger said. "They're a huge supporter of the walk and go above and beyond to always have little things for kids and extra events for all participants.

"We want to thank all of the participants. We have a lot of volunteers behind the scenes that help put on the Christmas Walk. The City of Amboy is a huge component. I thank all of the people that come together to make this a success every year."

COUNCIL

continued from page A1

Committeeman Dave Shaw who is on the Depot Commission, stated that the Depot is gearing up for the Christmas Walk, and would appreciate any volunteers to help with decorating the Depot. He thanked the city for bringing over the decorations.

Under unfinished business, the board approved an ordinance authorizing a change of zoning and special use pursuant to the petition of the Meade Family Farm Trust, and Nexamp Solar LLC. At a Plan Commission meeting held back in October, a representative from Nexamp gave an overview of the company, and locations in Chicago and Boston. Com Ed works with the vertically integrated solar programs. The benefits explained are customers can sign up to be subscribers and get a discount on their electric bills. The city will see increased tax revenue, and solar preserves farmland from other development. Most contracts are for 40 years with a decommission agreement.

The council approved an ordinance authorizing a change of zoning for Z Best Enterprises. Owner Jared Zelhoff requested zoning for light-industry for both properties at 405 Mason, and 305 Water Street. He'd like to build a new office facility on the Mason site, and is in the process of rehabbing the old milk plant factory for storage.

Under "New Business", the company, George Roach and Associates were granted the contract for the city audit services. Helm Civil will be paid the remaining balance of \$95,750 for the MFT streets project. Steve Hall, a senior project manager and engineer with Ameresco, gave a presentation about a Biogas project at the Lee County landfill. The 20 year long term project would involve removing the methane gas from the landfill, filter it, and pump it out for reuse. This would be a new business venture for the city and zoning and pipeline ordinances will need to be written and approved. Hall plans on coming back to a future meeting with a slide presentation and more detailed information about the project and possible land purchase near the landfill.

Amboy Firemen Christmas Basket


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The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854
Tonja Greenfield, Publisher
Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News
245 E. Main St., Amboy, IL 61310

Phone: 815-857-2311 Fax: 815-857-2517
Periodicals postage paid at Amboy, IL
Publication Number USPS 016820

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Amboy News, PO Box 162, Amboy IL 61310

Subscriptions: \$46.00 yearly in Lee, LaSalle and Bureau counties.
\$50.00 yearly elsewhere in the United States.

Display Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday
Classified Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday
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.

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Walter "Ted" Fredenhagen, Jr.

Feb. 28, 1925 - Nov. 16, 2022

AMBOY — Walter Fredenhagen, Jr., better known to friends as "Ted," passed away in peace on Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022, at his home in Amboy, at the age of 97 after battling COPD and Covid.

Ted was born Feb. 28, 1925, in Naperville, son of Walter and Grace Fredenhagen. He grew up in Naperville, and attended North Central College after serving in the Marine Corp for 3 years during World War II.

Ted was preceded in death by his parents, an infant brother, James Dean Fredenhagen; his sister Jeanne Moen; and sister, Rita Harvard.

He is survived by son James Scott Fredenhagen of Anchorage, Alaska; daughter, Laura Jean Schaefer, of Amboy; son, Gary Robert Fredenhagen of Boulder Junction, Wis.; daughter, Jane Ann Herron of Newburg, Mo.; daughter, Debra Sue Zellhofer, of Amboy; 10 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren.

From the time he was a youngster, Ted loved music. His mother, Grace, was an outstanding musician, serving as accompanist for the Marshall Field Choir in Chicago, and Grace United Methodist Church in Naperville. At his mother's request, young Ted would sing in her church choir to offset the older, out-of-tune gentlemen. When he was in junior high, Ted took up trumpet playing and never stopped. With two friends he formed "The Men of Swing," a trio that played once a week on the radio in

Aurora and wherever they could find a gig.

After high school, Ted joined the Marine Corp. In 1944, in California, he served as a drill instructor, sighted aircraft armament, and played in the Marine Band. As his unit was preparing to ship abroad, Ted was "pulled out" in order to continue playing in the Marine Band. Later in life, Ted was honored to serve as bugler with the Amboy Honor Guard at funerals for many local veterans.

After his Military Service, Ted married Mary Alice Godshalk and together they raised five children: Jim, Lonnie, Gary, Jane, and Debbie. Ted attended North Central College for two years, majoring in Business. He was an outstanding athlete, competing in football and track.

Ted worked with his father, Walter, in the family business, Prince Castle Ice Cream Corporation. The business was started in 1931 and was the "first" in what later became known as the Fast Food Industry. In 1955 Walter and Ted expanded and renamed the business "Cock Robin." There were 25 stores in the suburban Chicago area. The stores were sold in 1991. Ted and Walter reorganized over time and relocated to Amboy.

His career and family kept him busy, but Ted would occasionally hold jam sessions in his home. During the 90's, his Naperville High School Class Reunion committee asked him to have his high



school band trio come together to play. Ted named them "Class Act." They began to meet regularly and grew in number. Ted eventually reformed the Band to operate out of Amboy, using musicians primarily from the local region. Class Act expanded to include nineteen members and was a true Big Band. Each year Ted would host a "Barn Bash" at his farm for Class Act and friends. For over 30 years, Class Act Big Band has performed throughout northern Illinois for those who love to listen and dance to the classic music of the Swing Era.

Ted Fredenhagen has held many friends and family members close over the years. His spirit of love and generosity is his legacy, and he will never be forgotten.

A Visitation will be held from 1 - 3 p.m. followed by the Funeral service at Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy, on Dec. 10, 2022. A Celebration of Life will follow at a later date.

Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

White issues reminder that the Driver's License and ID Card expiration extension ends Dec. 1

ILLINOIS — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding the public that the extension of expiration dates for driver's licenses, ID cards and learner's permits is set to end Dec. 1, 2022. White initially initiated the extension in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To address the high customer volume caused by the pandemic, White's office also expanded online renewals for expired driver's licenses and ID cards and continues to mail letters to eligible customers. The letter provides driver's license and ID card holders with a unique PIN to renew online instead of visiting a facility. Customers may call 217-785-1424 to confirm their eligibility for online renewal or to obtain their PIN. They may also visit ilsos.gov/renewaldlid/eligible.jsp to look up their eligibility status.

White continues to encourage people to conduct other business online at ilsos.gov. In addition to driver's license and ID card renewals for those who qualify, online ser-

vices include obtaining a duplicate driver's license or ID card, ordering a driver record and purchasing license plate stickers.

Customers visiting a Driver Services facility to renew their driver's license or ID card have the option to make an appointment at one of the 30 appointment facilities, or they can visit a walk-in facility. To determine what facilities require an appointment or make an appointment, customers should visit ilsos.gov. Individuals without internet access may call 844-817-4649 to schedule an appointment. Only larger facilities require appointments. Many small, rural facilities do not use the appointment system because they do not experience the heavy customer volume that large facilities encounter. These facilities remain accessible to walk-in customers. Some facilities in the Chicago area also continue to serve walk-ins.

As a reminder, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the federal REAL ID deadline to May 3, 2023.

Harlem Globetrotters head to Rockford in January

ROCKFORD — The Harlem Globetrotters 2023 World Tour presented by Jersey Mike's Subs is coming with game like never before. They will be bringing the action to the BMO Center in Rockford on Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023, at 7 p.m.

Your favorite Globetrotter stars are bringing out their amazing basketball skill, outrageous athleticism, and a non-stop LOL good time. Join the Globetrotters as they go head-to-head against the

Washington Generals who will stop at nothing to try and defeat the world's winningest team.

As the Harlem Globetrotters near their 100th anniversary, they have contributed to the growth of basketball at an immeasurable magnitude across the world. Through their artful athleticism and unparalleled moves, this team shares the game through an inclusive gameday experience that can't be beat. The Globetrotters welcome

fans in the Rockford area to join them for an interactive gameday packed with one-of-a-kind premium offerings.

Order tickets online at www.harlemglobetrotters.com or Ticketmaster.com, by calling 815-968-5222, or in-person at the BMO Center Box Office.

The World-Famous Harlem Globetrotters — THE originators of basketball style, captured by dynamic athletes with unmatched skills and influencers of today's game. The team has showcased their iconic brand of basketball in over 124 countries and territories across six continents since 1926. Proud inductees into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, their mission continues to advance the game of basketball and deliver exciting and interactive entertainment to the world.

RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

10th anniversary for Benjamin & Emily Leffelman

Benjamin and Emily Leffelman of Amboy are celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary on December 1, 2022. They were married on December 1, 2012 at First Christian Church in Rock Falls, Illinois.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>St. Patrick Church 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</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm</p> | <p>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</p> | <p>St. James Evangelical Congregational Church Robert Dunbar, Pastor US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon 815-288-2447 Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am</p> | <p>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 First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m. First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. "Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!" Come as you are and join us on the journey!</p> | <p>St. Mary's Church Rev. Randy Fronek West Brooklyn Sunday - 8:45 a.m.</p> | <p>Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | | <p>St. Patrick Church Rev. Randy Fronek - Maytown Sun, 7 a.m.</p> | <p>Harmon United Methodist Church Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.</p> |

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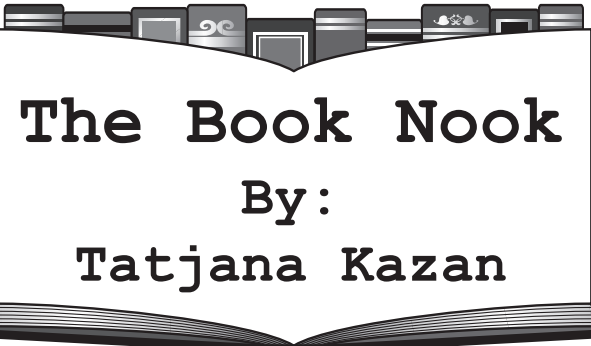
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SOCIAL NEWS



The Book Nook

By:
Tatjana Kazan

GHOSTS ON THE TITANIC

Alma Katsu's 2018 historical horror novel, "The Hunger," about the ill-fated Donner Party is a terrific, highly imaginative exploration of human beings facing the enormity of certain extinction. "The Deep" (2020) seems a companion historical horror story, this time set on the Titanic. Alas, it lacks most of the elements that made "The Hunger" such a great novel. All but a handful of chapters are taken up with highly uninteresting passengers like John Jacob Astor, the richest man in the world, whose singular attribute is that at 45 he married a 17-year-old girl. Rich Americans consuming magnificent meals, playing cards, being pampered by an army of servants does not make for a riveting thriller.

Katsu's story opens in 1916 at an asylum where Annie Hebley, a young Irishwoman who survived the sinking of the Titanic, is being discharged after a four-year confinement. She is urged by her fellow survivor Violet to apply as a nurse on the Britannic, sister ship to the Titanic, refitted to transport injured and dead soldiers from World War One fronts. (Violet is real-life Violet Jessop who survived not only the Titanic disaster but also the sinking of the Britannic.) The story then moves back to April 1912, when Annie is hired on the Titanic as a stewardess, specifically for Mark and Caroline Fletcher. She promptly falls for Mark Fletcher, a guilt-ridden gambler, and believes Caroline Fletcher is slowly killing the Fletcher baby. Spiritualism is all the rage, and upper-class ladies attending seances become convinced ghosts are stalking the great ship.

Believing Annie is possessed by a spirit, pregnant Madeleine Astor has Annie accompany her on a midnight walk. On the way to the pool, she quotes "O, full of scorpions is my mind" from "Macbeth," then tries to drown Annie. Annie, being a strong swimmer, survives, but falls under suspicion and is locked up the very night the Titanic meets its end. Katsu's description of the fatal night is disappointingly bland even when she has Annie save the Fletcher baby after it falls into the water. The night is also occasion for the novel's revelations about ghosts and their motivations. But even malevolent ghosts can lose their fascination after some 150 chapters aboard the Titanic and Britannic.

SVCC greenhouse groundbreaking

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College recently broke ground for a greenhouse for the SVCC Ag program. The implementation of a greenhouse was made possible through community partnerships including the Lee County Board, the Sterling Park District, and various Dixon organizations.

The SVCC Agriculture program will utilize the greenhouse to expand its curricula. This past year the Ag

program successfully implemented multiple learning opportunities for students including hands-on experiences with specialty crops such as pumpkins and sunflowers.

The addition of a greenhouse to campus will allow students unique opportunities to explore various forms of agriculture.

SVCC's President Dr. David Hellmich proudly points to the "greenhouse

as just another example of the college and our communities working together to make the Sauk Valley a great place for students and employers."

SVCC is proud to be able to respond to community needs such as educating area students on the specific needs of our local agriculture sector.

Feedback and additional community support for this project is welcomed and appreciated.

BBB study: Reported online retail fraud losses approach \$380 million in 2022

ROCKFORD — It's holiday shopping season and many consumers will be searching online and social media for the perfect gifts. While shopping online is easy and convenient, Better Business Bureau® (BBB®) warns online shoppers searching for gifts and other merchandise to do their research, be mindful of social media scrolling, and use credit cards to avoid scammers.

Online shopping scam reports to BBB Scam Tracker remain just under all-time highs reached in 2021 with losses approaching \$380 million. According to an October 2022 BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust report, scams being perpetrated online have risen 87% since BBB Scam Tracker launched in 2015.

The warning is an update to BBB's in-depth study, Theft on a Massive Scale: Online Shopping Fraud and the Role of Social Media, issued last December. Of those reports, a vast majority of consumers lost money, making online shopping fraud one of the most dangerous and successful, according to the BBB Institute's research.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the BBB says, "In many cases reported to our Scam Tracker, the scammers entice shoppers with hard-to-find items, low prices, and fast delivery."

Nearly 36% of all online retail fraud reports to BBB Scam Tracker originated through a fake website. Scammers used social media and email to initiate about 40% of reported scams. Horton adds, "Fraudsters found the shift to online shopping to be lucrative and convenient, molding their efforts into various forms meant to trick shoppers. Items consumers receive may be completely different or worthless when compared to those advertised. In many cases, fake pop-up websites just collect money from victims and never deliver anything."

In 2022, online retail scams remain one of the most reported frauds to these the BBB as well as the Federal Trade Commission and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC). Complaints filed with BBB on the types of businesses that comprise online shopping were 16% lower in 2021, with the peak of 115,159 in 2020, and appear on pace this year to equal or exceed 2021 complaints. Scammers target three key moments in the shopping process, according to BBB Scam Tracker:

- Before the purchase, consumers may encounter advertisements for scams on social media.
- While shopping, shoppers may be enticed by artificially low prices or fake websites.
- After the purchase, fraudsters send fake tracking information and request more money for safe delivery.

These scams have three top warning signs in common:

- Prices that are too good to be true
- Websites that look legitimate, but credibility falls apart after a closer look

- Credit card payment "failures" lead the seller (scammer) to ask for payment over peer-to-peer payment apps or with gift cards.

Fraudsters use a variety of methods to collect money, including credit cards, money transfer services (Venmo, Zelle, PayPal) and gift cards. PayPal is the only cash-sharing app that offers some protections for consumers, though reports to BBB show mixed success in obtaining refunds.



THE PASTOR'S PEN

THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

The Holiday Season is now upon us and in many churches (ours included) Advent candles are lit each week leading up to Christmas. Each of the Advent candles, readings, songs etc... focus on a different theme which helps us prepare our hearts in anticipation of the celebration of Christ's birth. The first candle we light at The Refuge represents "Hope."

The week after Jesus was born Mary and Joseph took Him to the temple to be dedicated to God in accordance with the Jewish custom. While they were there, they were met by a man named Simeon whom God had given a promise to. The promise was that he would not die until he had seen the "Lord's Christ." When he saw baby Jesus in the temple, the Bible says, "He took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: 'Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; For my

eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel" Luke 2:28-32.

Imagine the joy and the sense of fulfillment Simeon felt. I picture him as a very old man who had been waiting a long time when all these events unfolded. Yet he knew that this baby boy was somehow the fulfillment of what he, and Israel, had been waiting for. Until that very moment he did not know it was Jesus in whom the hope of Israel (and the world) was resting upon.

And the message is still as true today as it was then. Though we know now what Simeon probably never got to see - the events of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. These events were the fulfillment of God's promise to him many years earlier... along with numerous Bible prophecies. During Advent, we find ourselves also going back and waiting in anticipation... and

Hope. Looking forward to remembering the arrival of God's Son - our Lord Jesus Christ. And this same hope gives us peace for today for the world we live in. We have peace in our lives, and with God, because of Christ. And we find ourselves (hopefully) with a sense of wellbeing knowing that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves. And that we are in good hands. And yet, we also somehow find ourselves still waiting - as Simeon did, for something wonderful that is yet to come - the return of Jesus as He, and multiple Scriptures, also promised.

During this Advent season while we find ourselves looking back in remembrance, and looking forward in anticipation, may you be freshly inspired to again Hope in a God who still loves you and has good plans for this world and for your life.

God Bless you,
Pastor John.

Illinois State Fair mega and jumbo pass holiday sale begins

SPRINGFIELD - The Illinois State Fair is kicking off the holiday season with the annual Mega and Jumbo Pass holiday sale. For a limited time, you can save \$30 off the purchase price.

The Illinois State Fair will be offering a Holiday Special on both passes through Dec. 31, 2022. During this time the 2023 Mega Pass is just \$60, while the Jumbo Pass will be offered at \$70. The Mega Pass gives you unlimited rides in the Midway and Adventure Village, while the Jumbo Pass has the bonus of unlimited trips down the Giant Slide.

"Our priority is to make the Illinois State Fair affordable for families and there's no better bang for your buck than our holiday sale on the famous Mega and Jumbo Passes," said Illinois State Fair Manager, Rebecca Clark. "Other than the discounted price, the best part of wrapping up a Mega or Jumbo Pass is that it won't take up space in your house and be forgotten about a few weeks later."

Mega and Jumbo Passes will be available for purchase throughout the Fair. However, the price will increase to \$70 for the Mega Pass and \$80 for the Jumbo Pass on Jan. 1, 2023 and increase to \$90 and \$100 beginning Aug. 1, 2023.

Admission Bargain Books and Seasonal Infield Parking Passes are also available and make great stocking stuffers. For just \$45, the Admission Bargain Book provides eleven any-day admissions to the 2023 Illinois State Fair. The Seasonal Infield Parking Pass is only \$40. This allows you to park on the infield all eleven days of the fair.

Take advantage of these limited time deals in any of the following ways:

24/7 (including holidays and weekends) Online: www.illinoisstatefair.info

In-Person: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Emmerson Building (excluding state holidays)

By Mail: Download the application at www.illinoisstatefair.info and mail to the address on the order form.

To Order By Phone or if you have questions: Call 217-782-0775 and leave a message. We will get back to you directly to take your order. The 2023 Illinois State Fair will take place Aug. 10-20.



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Opinion

IFB President: Holiday food prices remain high, but supplies remain strong

Americans look forward to celebrating the simplest of gifts and gathering with family and friends around the table during the holiday season. It is also often a time of giving thanks as Illinois farmers mark the end of another growing season.

The past few years have confronted all Americans to pivot, adapt, and learn as we navigate uncharted waters. In March 2018, American farmers were dealing with market destruction because of China's trade wars. The May 2019 spring planting season reminded Midwest farmers that Mother Nature was in charge when many acres went unplanted. The pandemic that began in March 2020 forced all of us to pivot. Farmers continued to grow food to feed our neighbors in rural, urban, and global communities.

The curveballs continued in 2022 with high inflation, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and uncertainty for an already fragile economy. Farmers vividly remember the role inflation played in the '80s farm crisis. That

Guest Column

By Richard Guebert, Jr.



crisis is forever etched in farmers' memories as historically high-interest rates reached 19%. Many farmers didn't survive the crisis. Those who did spent many years paying off the debt created by the high-interest rates.

Despite the adversity many family farms have faced over the years, 96% of Illinois farms are still family-owned.

I understand firsthand the role inflation has had inside our home and farming operation. Inflation running at 7% to 9% in recent months is robbing consumers (and farmers) of their buying power. Food price inflation is even higher. Other factors include supply chain disruptions and the war in Ukraine, with other countries pulling back on exports to protect domestic food supplies.

When I've been interviewed by news media over the past four years, the standard question is, "How will this impact consumers?" The

truth is a farmer's share of the food dollar is only 7.4 cents. Illinois shoppers participating in the 37th annual American

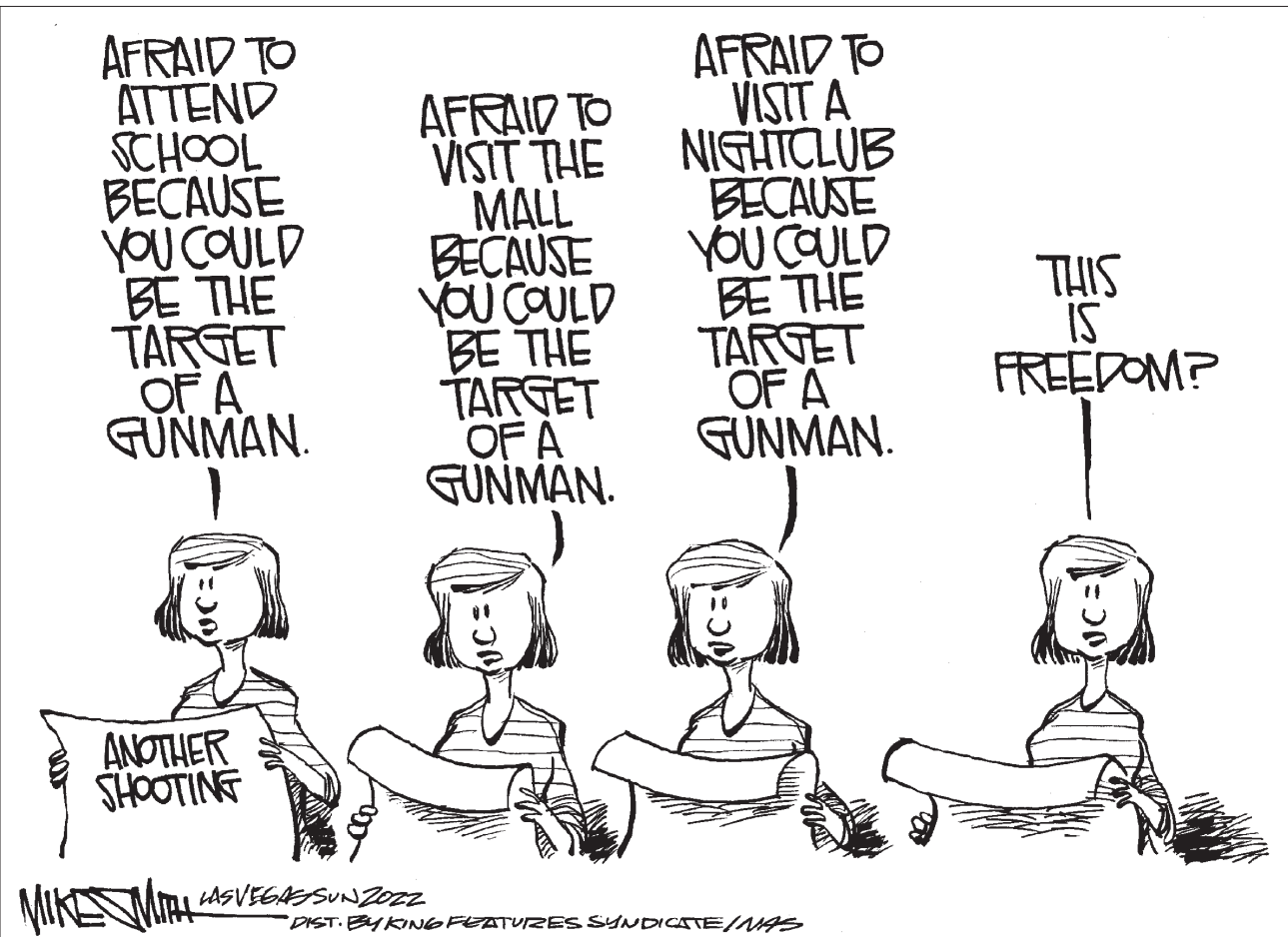
Farm Bureau Federation's Thanksgiving Cost survey captured a statewide average price of \$65.53 for a classic Thanksgiving meal for 10 people, a 13% increase over the previous year's state average of \$58.15. General price inflation is a big part of the increase in cost for the meal.

It is likely those high prices will continue through the remaining holidays and into the new year.

Food prices reflect many factors including transportation, distribution, and food company marketing costs. Rising costs for fuel, which have more than doubled, and fertilizer, which have tripled, are driving food prices up. As President Kennedy said many years ago, "Farmers are price takers and not price makers."

The food we grow is shared with our family, friends and neighbors. Farmers understand the pain consumers are feeling at the checkout counter this holiday season. As we give thanks again this year for our many blessings, please know farmers will strive to provide affordable food sustainably to make sure our traditions continue.

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



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago Dec. 1, 1922

The roof of the S.D. Thompson home on North Mason Street caught fire on Friday forenoon from sparks from the chimney, and in a strong wind soon developed into an alarming blaze. The fire department made a rush to the scene and by quick action with the chemical saved the house.

Statistics issued by the Department of Agriculture show that the consumption of ice cream in the United States has greatly increased since the introduction of prohibition.

The Illinois-Chicago football game of Nov. 18 was broadcasted play-by-play from Stagg Field by the Westinghouse Station K.Y.W. The sounds of the rooters, the band music, and the cheering thousands, came through very clearly.

75 Years Ago Dec. 4, 1947

Louis J. Machen arrived in Camp

Killmer, N.J. last Wednesday from Nurnberg, Germany and expects to be home on Furlough today.

A pretty wedding of the late fall season which united the lives of Miss Frances Becker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton F. Becker of Amboy, and William Fitzpatrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Fitzpatrick of Walton was solemnized in St. Patrick's Church, Amboy, Saturday morning.

50 Years Ago Nov. 30, 1972

Amboy's Clippers are the new champions of the Sandwich Indian Invitational Basketball Tournament. They dethroned the defending champion, the Aurora Central Chargers, 62-56, on Saturday.

More than 30 performers, many national recording artists, will appear on the giant country music benefit show to be presented Sunday Afternoon, Dec. 3 at the Amboy Junior High School. Performers include Jerry Moore & The

Drifters, Gene Smith & the Country Squires (Nashville recording artist from Mendota), the Combination, Tiny Gardener (326 lbs. of fun), Tim Deem, Ted Sandford, Jim Adams, Ron Bosely, and more.

25 Years Ago Nov. 27, 1997

Respondents to a survey of 15,000 resident Illinois deer hunters are generally satisfied with their hunting opportunity, the size of the deer herd and the state's deer management program, according to Department of Natural Resources Director Brent Manning.

"Help Us Help The Hungry" is a food drive campaign that Dr. Laurie Pitzer-Hanson and staff held last Friday, November 21 at Hanson Chiropractic Clinic. Dr. Hanson asked for help from her patients as well as the community. In exchange for a donation of non-perishable food items, Dr. Hanson donated her services free of charge.



Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 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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LOCAL NEWS/SPORTS

SVCC hosts Section 2 FFA LTS

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College hosted Leadership Training School (LTS) for Section 2 FFA Chapters on Nov. 16, 2022.

FFA students from across the Sauk Valley gathered to hone their leadership skills through LTS. FFA Section 2 schools include the following: Oregon, Byron, Morrison, Amboy, Rochelle, La Moille, Challand Middle School, Oregon, Prophetstown, Rochelle, Chadwick-Milledgeville, Prophetstown, Stillman Valley, Polo, Sterling, Byron, Ashton-Franklin Center, Sterling, Polo, Stillman Valley.

"We are honored to be the host site for this outstanding training and educational opportunity for the Section 2 FFA Chapters. The local leadership has been great to work with and we hope this is the beginning of many more partnerships," said Dr. Jon Mandrell, Vice President of Academics and Student Services at SVCC.



OSF HealthCare community gardens produce bountiful year

MENDOTA — The OSF HealthCare Mission to provide the greatest care and love extends beyond when people are sick or hurt. It means working with communities to keep residents healthy.

That's why OSF HealthCare offers community gardens in Ottawa, Streator and Mendota. Community gardens are an opportunity to address food insecurity in communities, and provide healthy foods to local pantries to reach those who are in need.

Recently, OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center (Ottawa) harvested 640 pounds of produce, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center (Mendota) produced 1,175 pounds and OSF Center for Health - Streator yielded 713 pounds. The produce is donated to local food pantries, and may be offered in OSF cafeterias to use as a healthy eating and wellness initiative.

The produce is planted every spring and organized by Mission Partners (OSF employees) and volunteer community members who donate their time and talent to help plant, water, weed, harvest, and build. In the past, volunteers have planted tomatoes, peppers, green beans, potatoes, cucumbers, watermelons, squash, melons, onions and more.

"I am so proud of the love and care our Mission Partners and volunteers give our community gardens," said Dawn Trompeter, president, OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF Saint Paul Medical Center. "The gardens provide people an opportunity to gain gardening knowledge, empowering them to do it on their own. They also educate people about nutrition, food preparation and making healthier dietary decisions."

This was the fourth year for the garden at OSF Saint Paul, which produced the largest return in produce yet. The produce is offered to Mission Partners and for patient meals and donated to the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry. "This year, OSF Saint Paul received a \$7,500 grant from the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network and added four more raised beds and five fruit trees to expand our variety and help the community even more," said Marisa Kibble, senior financial analyst and community gardens volunteer for OSF Saint Paul.

The gardens are funded by donations made to the OSF HealthCare Foundation at each location. For more information on donating, contact Cherie Reynolds, director of development, at 815-431-5538.

Clippers open season at Ashton Franklin Center Tournament

ASHTON — The Amboy Clippers began the new basketball season by competing in the Ashton-Franklin Center Tournament.

Amboy's lid-lifter was against Polo and the Clippers dropped a 50-28 decision on Nov. 21. Amboy played with a limited number of players due to the lateness of the football season.

The Clippers were only down 20-15 at the half, but Polo pulled away in the second half, including outscoring Amboy, 16-5, in the final frame.

Troy Anderson paced the Clippers with 11 points.

Amboy broke into the win column with a 47-33 verdict over Kirkland Hiawatha in the second round of the tournament on Nov. 22.

The Clippers zoomed out to a 12-2 lead after the opening stanza. Hiawatha trimmed the Amboy lead down to six (20-14) at intermission, but the Clippers pulled away with a 14-point third quarter while holding Hiawatha to six points.

Anderson had a huge offensive game for

Amboy, pumping in 24 points. Ten of those came in the third period when the team opened the gap. Eddie Jones was next with 12 tallies, while Kyler McNinch chipped in with seven markers.

The Clippers fell to Durand, 50-42, in the third game of the tournament on Nov. 25.

The two teams played to a 10-10 tie after one period, but then Durand put 20 points on the board in the second quarter compared to seven for Amboy.

Anderson and Jones netted 18 and 15 points, respectively, while McNinch added eight markers.

Amboy wrapped up tournament play with a 53-34 triumph over West Carroll on Nov. 27.

The Clippers led 17-11 after the opening session and 28-20 at the break. Amboy owned a double-digit lead (34-24) heading to the fourth frame, where it pulled away for the win.

Anderson led the attack with 20 points. McNinch (16) and Jones (11) also hit double figures.

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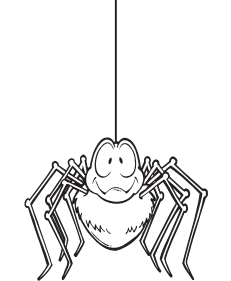
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Correction to the Lee Co. November 9th Assessment Listing

For the following townships, the last line in the Preamble to the assessment listings should have read "A complete list of assessments for these townships for the current assessment year is as follows:"

Amboy - Lee Center, Ashton - Bradford, Franklin Grove - Nachusa, May - Sublette

NOTICE

A 159-foot overall height guyed-type telecommunications structure, under ownership of Phoenix Towers International, is located at 1460 South College Avenue, Dixon, Lee County, Illinois(N41° 49' 37.9" W89° 29' 12.9"). The tower is not lighted.

Any interested party may request further environmental review of the proposed action by notifying the

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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.

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SPORTS

Lady Clippers take fifth place at Oregon Tip-off Tournament

OREGON – The Amboy Lady Clippers captured three wins out of four games to take fifth place in the Oregon Tip-off Tournament. Amboy opened the season with a 49-35 verdict over Genoa-Kingston on Nov. 16.

Amboy trailed early in the first quarter, but fought back to an 11-10 lead after one. From there, the Lady Clippers slightly increased their lead to post the double-digit win.

Elly Jones led the attack with 13 points with a perfect 10 of 10 at the free throw line. Courtney Ortgiesen netted 10 points, while both players dished out four assists. Ortgiesen also had nine rebounds, four steals and four blocks, and Jones collected five steals. Emily Sachs chipped in with nine points and six boards, Maeve Larson pumped in eight points, Tyrah Vaessen dropped in six markers and Addison Pertell scored three points. Vaessen snared a team-high 10 rebounds and led with seven steals, while Pertell also had five pilfers.

Game two of the tournament was against a big Lena-Winslow team and Amboy could not stop its inside game and fell by a 44-36 count on Nov. 17.

Saddled with major foul trouble, the Lady Clippers fought back to a one-point deficit several times. They outscored L-W from the field, 35-34, but Amboy shot just two free throws compared to 17 for the Panthers.

Jones pumped in four three-pointers and had 12 points for Amboy, while she had six caroms and four assists. Pertell tallied seven points, followed by Sachs with five points and four rebounds. Vaessen, Larson and Ortgiesen each scored four points, while Vaessen grabbed eight rebounds and Ortgiesen added six boards.

After going to Monmouth to cheer on the football team, the Lady Clippers returned to action with two games on Nov. 20. The first contest was against Ashton-Franklin Center. After a rough first half, Amboy mounted a

furious second-half comeback to post a 39-34 victory over the Lady Raiders.

The Lady Clippers struggled in the first half without Ortgiesen, who was out with an illness. Amboy made only three of 27 shots in the first 16 minutes. But Amboy came back to life in the third quarter and outscored AFC, 12-5, to trail 32-22 heading to the fourth. In the final frame, the Lady Clippers exploded for 17 points and held AFC to just two to pull off the amazing comeback.

The offensive output was led by Pertell, who finished with 19 points, 17 of them coming in the second half. Also contributing to the big win were Vaessen (eight points, nine rebounds), Jones (six points, five rebounds, two assists, two steals), Larson (three points, eight rebounds), Sachs (four rebounds, two points) and Kiara Karlson (one point, two rebounds, good defense).

In the final game of the tournament, Amboy met the host Oregon Lady Hawks in the fifth-place game and the Lady Clippers came out a winner, 39-23.

After leading 12-8 at the end of one, Amboy went to the locker room trailing 15-14. Amboy's defense stiffened in the second half and held Oregon to eight points while scoring 25 of its own.

Pertell again topped the scoring chart with 12 points, followed by Jones with seven. Larson yanked down 12 rebounds and chipped in with six markers and three steals. Vaessen contributed six points, seven boards and four assists, while Karlson (six points, three steals, three rebounds) and Sachs (two points, two rebounds) aided the victory.

All-Tournament Team

Elly Jones, Amboy; Kaitlin Park, Rockford Christian; Courtney Park, Rockford Christian; Hadley Lutz, Oregon; Ally Poe-gel, Genoa-Kingston; Grace Groezinger, Lena-Winslow; Harvest Day, Dixon; Taylor Jahn, AFC; Elaina Rager, Pecatonica; Lauren Mellentine, Pecatonica.

Lady Clippers win at Serena

SERENA – Amboy traveled to Serena on Nov. 21 and came away with a 37-27 win.

Both teams were slow out of the gate, with Serena owning a 6-5 lead after the first eight minutes. Amboy heated up in the second period and led 15-10 at intermission, and then slowly pulled away in the fourth frame.

Maeve Larson led the way with 15 points, five rebounds and three steals, while Elly Jones dropped in nine points and was four

of four from the free throw line in the final quarter. Jones also had three assists and three steals. Also contributing to the win were Emily Sachs (six points, five rebounds), Kiera Karlson (four points, six rebounds), Tyrah Vaessen (two points, four assists, five steals) and Addison Pertell (one point, three steals).

Serena finished fourth in the state tournament last year, so the win was big for Amboy, which improved to 4-1 on the season.

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SPORTS



Levi Near, a senior at 132 pounds from Ashton Franklin Center, defeats his opponent from Mendota. AFC coops with Amboy for wrestling.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



AHS freshman Landon Blanton, at 120 pounds, defeats his opponent from St. Bede.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



Amboy's Josh McKendry, a sophomore at 138 pounds, goes against Mendota wrestler. McKendry pinned his opponent in the second period.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

RECYCLE!
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RECYCLE!

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Girls Basketball

Maeve Larson

Boys Basketball

Troy Anderson

Wrestling

Kole Beckham & Josh McKendry



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Where you come first



Amboy wrestlers dropped both ends of triangular meet against Mendota and St. Bede

AMBOY – Amboy dropped both ends of a triangular meet with Mendota and St. Bede to open the wrestling season on Nov. 22 at the AHS gym.

The Clippers fell to St. Bede, 48-24. Josh McKendry (138) and Lucas Blanton (170) won their matches by pin, while Landon Blanton (120) and Levi Near (132) were forfeit winners.

Mendota edged the Clippers, 42-35. McKendry gained another pin win and Near pinned his opponent. Picking up forfeit victories were Landon Blanton, Chase Montavon (126), Lucas Blanton and Kole Beckham (220).

Nov. 22 @ Amboy
Mendota 42, Amboy 35
106 – double forfeit; 113 – Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – Landon Blanton (A) won forfeit; 126 – Chase Montavon (A) won forfeit; 132 – Levin Near (A) pinned Evans (M); 138 – Josh McKendry (A) pinned Furar (M); 145 – Hermosillo (M) pinned Jacob Doege (A); 152 – Turner (M) won forfeit; 160 – Jordan (M) won forfeit; 170 – Lucan Blanton (A) won forfeit; 182 – Gagliardo (M) won forfeit; 195 – Lane (M) won forfeit; 220 – Kole Beckham (A) won forfeit; 285 – Harris (M) won forfeit

St. Bede 48, Amboy 24
106 – double forfeit; 113 – double forfeit; 120 – La. Blanton (A) won forfeit; 126 – Savage (SB) pinned Montavon (A); 132 – Near (A) won forfeit; 138 – McKendry (A) pinned Boggio (SB); 145 – Englehaupt (SB) pinned Doege (A); 152 – Pinada (SB) won forfeit; 160 – Maschman (SB) won forfeit; 170 – Lu. Blanton (A) pinned Connelly (SB); 182 – Gillan (SB) won forfeit; 195 – J. Migliorini (SB) won forfeit; 220 – R. Migliorini (SB) pinned Beckham (A); 285 – Shaw (SB) won forfeit

Amboy Girls' Shootout planned for Saturday

AMBOY – The Amboy Girls' Shootout will be held Saturday, Dec. 3 at the AHS gym.

There will be five games in the event, starting at 11 a.m. The final game will be at 5 p.m. when the Lady Clippers take

on Sterling Newman.
11 a.m. – AFC vs. Somonauk
12:30 p.m. – West Carroll vs. Orion
2 p.m. – Freeport Aquin vs. Bureau Valley
3:30 p.m. – Hall vs. Kewanee

Wethersfield
5 p.m. – Amboy vs. Sterling Newman

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Tuesday, Dec. 6

AHS Girls Basketball (H) Forreton-6 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ Rock Falls-6th-4 pm/5th-5 pm
AJHS Art Club-Art Room-3:15-4 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 7

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday, Dec. 8

AHS Girls Basketball (H) Fulton-6 pm
AHS Wrestling (H-AJHS Gym) Morrison w/Le-Win-5:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ Morrison-6th-4 pm/5th-5 pm
Central School Drawing Club-Art Room-3:20-4 pm

Friday, Dec. 9

AHS Boys Basketball (H) Hinckley Big Rock-5:30 pm
AHS Wrestling @ Plano Tournament-5:30 pm
JHS Winter Concert-AHS Auditorium-7:30 pm

Saturday, Dec. 10

AHS Wrestling @ Plano Tournament-9 am
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball (H) RRVC Tournament-TBA
Amboy Christmas Walk Vendor Show-Central School-4 -7 pm

Sunday, Dec. 11

AHS Band/Choir Winter Concert-Auditorium-7 pm

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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 Nov. 30-Dec. 6 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mangoes  \$129/ea. | Steakcut Mushrooms 8 oz. package  \$299/ea. | Idaho Potatoes 3 lb. bag  \$1.99/ea. | Jumbo Yellow Onions  \$0.89/ea. |
| Red Radishes 16 oz. package  \$169/ea. | Green Limes  \$0.69/ea. | Bolthouse Baby Carrots Supreme 12 oz.  \$0.99/ea. | Tomatoes on the Vine  \$1.69/lb. |

HOT BUYS

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AMBOY DELI Boneless Pork Chops - Plain  \$299/lb. Reg. Price \$3.99/lb. OR \$399/lb. Reg. Price \$4.99/lb. BBQ Butterfly | AMBOY DELI U.S.D.A. New York Strip Steaks  \$999/lb. Reg. Price \$15.99/lb. | AMBOY DELI Boneless Chicken Breasts  \$249/lb. Reg. Price \$4.99/lb. |
| AMBOY DELI Try Tommy's Assorted Beef Sticks Freshly Smoked NEW!  \$1099/lb. | AMBOY DELI Pork Tenderloin  \$299/lb. Reg. Price \$4.69/lb. | Jack's Pizza Assorted  \$399/ea. Reg. Price \$4.79/ea. |

WEEKLY SPECIALS

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div><div>Land-O-Lakes Butter</div><div>16 oz. Assorted</div><div></div><div><div>\$399 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$6.39 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Pillsbury Cookies</div><div>Assorted</div><div></div><div><div>\$349 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Reddi Whip</div><div>6.5 oz cans assorted</div><div></div><div><div>\$299 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.</div></div></div> | |
| <div><div>Florida Natural Orange Juice</div><div>52 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$299 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>El Monterey Burrito or Chimichangas</div><div>30-32 oz.</div><div></div><div><div>\$499 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Prego Pasta Sauce</div><div>Assorted 23-24 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$299 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.49 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Food Club Salad Dressing</div><div>Assorted 16 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$199 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$2.69 ea.</div></div></div> |
| <div><div>On-Cor Entrees</div><div>Assorted 24-28 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$399 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Coffeemate Coffee Creamer Liquid</div><div>32 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$399 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Captain Crunch Cereal</div><div>Assorted 13-18 oz</div><div></div><div><div>\$429 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.</div></div></div> | <div><div>Hidden Valley Dressing</div><div>24 oz. Assorted</div><div></div><div><div>\$449 ea.</div><div>Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.</div></div></div> |

HOLIDAY NEWS

When did Christmas lights become so popular?

Holiday lights are now everywhere come the holiday season.

Private homeowners tend to hang the holiday lights outside their homes around Thanksgiving weekend and keep them up through New Year's Day.

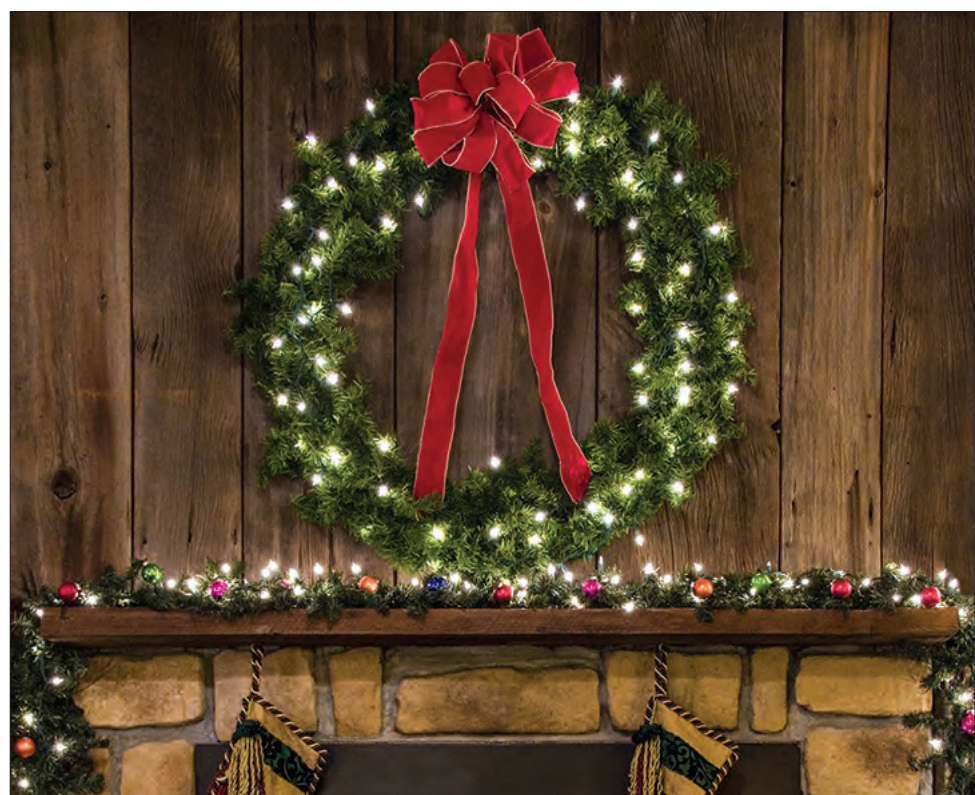
Though it might seem like a tradition without a deep history, decorating a Christmas tree with electric lights can be traced all the way back to the nineteenth century.

In 1882, Edward Johnson, who was a friend and colleague of the man who invented light bulbs, Thomas Edison, replaced candles, which had traditionally been used to briefly light Christmas trees, with light bulbs. But at the time of Johnson's innovation, the high cost and relative infancy of light bulbs ensured the idea did not catch on. And though United States President Grover Cleveland

used electric lights to illuminate a Christmas tree in the White House in 1895, it would be another eight years before General Electric would begin selling Christmas light kits. Those kits cost \$12 in 1903, which equates to several hundred dollars today.

The first outdoor Christmas light shows started to become popular in the 1920s, and this is the same time when commercial sales of Christmas lights picked up.

In the 1960s, GE's decision to begin manufacturing Christmas lights overseas helped reduce the price of outdoor lights even further, thus paving the way for the tradition of decorating home exteriors with string lights during the holiday season to take a firm hold. And that tradition remains wildly popular today.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 10 - 4-7 P.M.

Stop By During Our Christmas Walk



**Sign up to win a \$40
gift certificate with
any purchase!**

Check out our fresh
arrangements, center pieces,
roping, wreaths and candles

Main Flower Shop • 232 E Main St. • 815-857-3545

Amboy Volunteer Firemen **OPEN HOUSE**

**4 - 7 PM at the Fire Station
25 N. East Avenue**
Visit with Minnie & Mickey!

**We will also have a balloon
artist, face painting, fire
prevention materials and
treats!**



11302022

*Warmest wishes to
you & your family!*

SENSIENT

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

Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk



AMBOY CENTRAL SCHOOL

- * Crafts and Vendor Show
- * Gingerbread House Contest
- * Various Photos Op's
- * Amanda Hintz Photography Themed Photo Shoot

AMBOY DEPOT MUSEUM

- * Make your own Locomotive Ornament
- * Candy Canes
- * Hot Spiced Cider for Adults
- * Drawing for Christmas Wreath

AMBOY FAMILY RESTAURANT

- * Pizza Square Sample
- * Hot Chocolate
- * In-House Drawing for Gift Basket

AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

- * Balloon Artist
- * Face Painting
- * Mickey & Minnie
- * Fire Prevention
- * Snacks

AMBOY FOOD AND LIQUOR

- * Food & Drinks
- * Liquor & Beer Tasting
- * Letters to Santa (Amboy News)

AMBOY HOMETOWN PHARMACY

- * Donuts
- * In-house Gift Basket Drawing

BECKER DETAILING

- * Open House
- * Hot Chocolate & Cookies
- * Papa Murphys
- * In-house Giveaways

DEPOT TAP

- * Hot Chocolate & Cookies

INSPIRED HOME DECOR & GIFTS

- * Open House

JOHNSON TRACTOR

- * Craft & Vendors
- * Grinch Photos
- * Folsom's Cookie Decorating Station
- * Coloring Station
- * Case-IH Equipment on display

KALEELS

LONG BRANCH

- * Outside viewing of Polar Express
- * Adult Hot Chocolate Bar
- * Outside Bar

MAIN FLOWER SHOP

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

MARIAS PIZZA

ON 3 PHOTOGRAPHY

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

DECEMBER 10, 2022 * 4-7PM

REVOLUTION WELLNESS

- * Healthy Hot Chocolate
- * NEW Christmas Menu

SENSIENT FLAVORS

- * Serving Eggnog Samples

ST. PATRICK CHURCH

- * Cookie Walk

STARLIGHT DANCE STUDIO

- * Back Alley BBQ
- * Performance at Santas Village

TEEN TURF

- * Free Christmas Wreath Decorating to take home to your families
- * Christmas Shop - Economical Gifts for Everyone

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AMBOY

- * Hot Chocolate Bar
- * Take and Make Ornaments

THE LAST ALARM

- * Bows by Barb
- * Drink Specials
- * Door Prize Drawings
- * Games for Prizes

THRIFTY ON MAIN

- * Punch & Cookies

TWO SISTERS

- * Drink Specials

UNCOMMON REIGN

- * Fun Specials

SANTA'S VILLAGE

**AT THE DEPOT MUSEUM
PARKING LOT**

PHOTOS WITH SANTA & MRS.
CLAUS FROM 4-6PM

- * \$1 Donation or Canned Goods for the Food Pantry

CHRISTMAS FUN RUN AT 3:00PM

ENTERTAINMENT

- * Starlight Dance Studio Performance
- * Eileen Quest

FOOD

- * Benchmark Food Truck
- * Tacos Guzman Food Truck



**TROLLEY
STOPS**

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



**WAGON
STOPS**

MENDOTA HILLS FESTIVE WAGON RIDES
Santa's Village
Amboy Fire Department
Starlight Dance Studio

HOLIDAY NEWS

How to make Christmas Eve special for kids

Christmas Eve is viewed differently by different people, even those who live under the same Santa-ready roof. Adults may see Christmas Eve as crunch time when they must prepare food for the next day or set up presents for their children to open in the morning.

Children, on the other hand, are focused on Santa's visit and little else.

Parents naturally want to make Christmas-time as special as possible for their children, and that may involve ensuring that Christmas Eve is just as memorable as Christmas Day. The following are some ways to impart more magic into Christmas Eve celebrations.

Attend Mass at midnight

Practicing Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas. On Christmas Eve, churches often hold celebrations that may include late-evening or midnight masses that celebrate the birth of Christ when the calendar switches over to Dec. 25. While it does make for a late night, it can be thought-provoking for kids and a unique experience unlike any other.

Bake fresh cookies

Children like to leave out a plate of cookies and a glass of milk for Santa. That makes

Christmas Eve a perfect time to whip up a fresh batch of cookies. Explore different recipes to come up with a unique offering each year.

Read a Christmas story

Watching television or looking at a tablet or mobile phone before bed can be too stimulating when it's time for children to wind down for bed. Choose a holiday tale or tales that can be read as a Christmas Eve bedtime story. Reciting the poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas" ("Twas the Night Before Christmas)" is a great way to set the Christmas Eve mood.

Make a batch of 'reindeer dust'

Why should Santa's reindeer be left out when it comes to receiving treats? Reindeer dust, made from a combination of oatmeal, rice cereal, dried fruits, and glitter (if desired), is purported to attract Santa's reindeer and provide them a nibble at the same time. Plus, it's generally safe for other animals in the yard to eat.

Go caroling

Caroling may not be the norm, but some families may want to revive it. Close-knit communities can organize family-centric caroling opportunities and roam the cul-de-sacs and other pedestrian-friendly areas



singing popular songs.

Christmas Eve is a great time to embrace

various traditions that help to make the season even more special.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 10 - 4-7 P.M.



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

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

Let Us Help You Lower the Cost of Everyday Life.

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

Amboy Shell Express Lane
342 N Mason Ave., Amboy



12042019

Visit The First National Bank in Amboy during the Franklin Grove's Christmas In The Grove on Friday, Dec. 9, and during Amboy's Hometown Christmas Walk on Saturday, Dec. 10.

In Franklin Grove, the lobby will be open starting at 5 p.m., at 108 N. Elm St., Franklin Grove. Join us for Cream Puffs and register for raffle drawings.

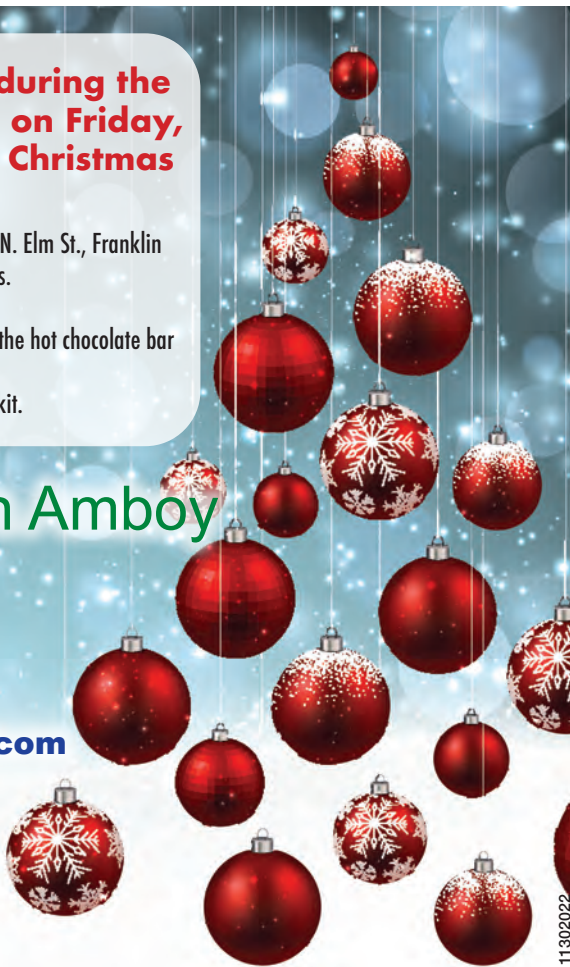
In Amboy, the lobby of the Main Branch will be open from 4-7 p.m. Enjoy the hot chocolate bar and fill up your cup with all the goodies. There will also be a craft area for kids to pick up an ornament kit.

The First National Bank in Amboy



Where you come first

**Amboy • Dixon
Franklin Grove
Monroe Center**
815-857-3625
www.fnbamboy.com



11302022

HOLIDAY NEWS

Jingle Bells

The instantly recognizable “Jingle Bells” has become a wildly popular Christmas carol despite not mentioning Christmas or any other holiday.

Written by New England native James Lord Pierpont, “Jingle Bells” is commemorated with plaques in two different cities, each of which claims to be the place where Pierpont wrote the song in the 1850s. One plaque is in Medford, Massachusetts, where Pierpont is said to have written the song from a tavern while watching sleigh races taking place outside. The other plaque is in Savannah, Georgia, where locals believe Pierpont wrote the lyrics prior to leading a sing-along of the song at a local church in 1857. “Jingle Bells” (Extended version)

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtail ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and

sing
A sleighing song tonight!
Oh,
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago
I thought I'd take a ride
And soon, Miss Fanny
Bright
Was seated by my side,
The horse was lean and lank

Misfortune seemed his lot
He got into a drifted bank
And then we got upst.
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago,
The story I must tell
I went out on the snow,
And on my back I fell;
A gent was riding by
In a one-horse open sleigh,
He laughed as there I
sprawling lie,
But quickly drove away.
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.
Jingle bells, jingle bells



Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Now the ground is white
Go it while you're young,
Take the girls tonight
and sing this sleighing
song;

Just get a bobtailed
Two forty as his speed
Hitch him to an open
sleigh

And crack! you'll take
the lead.
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride

In a one-horse open sleigh.
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.
Lord Pierpont
Lyrics courtesy of Digital
Music News

The origins of “The 12 Days of Christmas”

Christmas carols can be heard far and wide from Thanksgiving weekend through Christmas Day. “The 12 Days of Christmas” is one of the most recognizable carols, and for good reason, as the popular song can trace its history back several centuries.

Researchers have traced the earliest printed

version of the poem on which the song is based all the way back to 1780. That's three years before the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which officially ended the American Revolutionary War.

The song has long been suspected to have been a way for Catholics in Britain to teach their children the catechism, as the 1700s was

a controversial period for Catholicism in the country. However, no documentary evidence exists in support of that theory, and many historians feel it is inaccurate.

Others indicate that, while 1780 is likely the first time the poem was printed, the poem is likely much older than that, with origins potentially in France or Scotland. What is

known is that the version many people recognize today, namely in song form, can be traced to the early twentieth century, when English singer and composer Frederic Austin first popularized the melody for the song. Austin performed that version of the song beginning in 1905, and it was first published in 1909.



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 10 - 4-7 P.M.



Revolution Wellness
205 E MAIN ST AMBOY
MONDAY - FRIDAY 6AM - 10PM
SATURDAY 7AM - 12PM

REV ON 38
225 E LINCOLN HIGHWAY
FRANKLIN GROVE
MONDAY - FRIDAY 6AM - 10PM
SATURDAY 7AM - 12PM

*now serving you
at two locations*

Meal Replacement Shakes
Protein Coffee
Clean Energy Drinks
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

JOHNSON TRACTOR 2022 Holiday Guide



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



Shop Apparel for the Whole Family!

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Barb's Last Alarm
FIRE HOUSE PUB
43 S. East Ave.
Amboy
Barb Harrison - owner

CHRISTMAS WALK
SATURDAY SIP AND SHOP
Saturday, Dec. 10th, 4-7pm
Drink Specials and
Barb's bows available!

HOLIDAY NEWS



AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK SATURDAY, DEC. 10 - 4-7 P.M.



NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR!

The Amboy News will be collecting Letters To Santa at Amboy Food and Liquor during the Amboy Christmas walk from 4 -7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10.

Be sure to stop by and write Santa a Letter and drop it off in our Santa Mailbox!

All letters written during the Christmas walk will appear in our special section on Dec. 21, 2022.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

Be sure to stop in during the
2022 Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk
Saturday, Dec. 10 from 4-7 p.m.

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

Happy Holidays from...

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

