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\$1.00



2022 AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL PROM COURT

The 2022 Amboy High School Prom Court was announced on Monday morning. Named to the court are Alexis Morgan, Abigail Christoffersen, Lauren Richardson, Baylie Nickel, Haidyn Zimmerly, Jordan Gulley, Andruw Jones, Ian Eller, Caden Wittenauer, and Jairon Hochstatter. Amboy High School will hold its Prom on Saturday, May 14. Courtesv photo

BBB Alert: Don't place that bid yet.

ROCKFORD — Auctions can be a great way to buy an expensive item at a significant discount. However, the Better Business Bureau cautions consumers that scammers know the promise of a "good deal" is an excellent way to lure unsuspecting victims out of their money.

"Even if an auction appears legitimate, potential bidders should be wary," says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau. "Scammers may try to hustle you with "entry fees" or "pre-bid deposits" without even having any actual items in their auction. It is essential to research businesses in advance by checking BBB.org" Horton notes, "BBB Scam Tracker has received several reports of fake auctions phishing for consumers' personal information and money."

government. You register to bid, which may include sending the auctioneer a copy of your driver's license and other sensitive personal information.

After you register, you place a bid on an item. You win the item for a price that seems almost too good to be true. The auctioneer gives you instructions on how to transfer the money.

Once you've paid, the auctioneer will likely disappear and become impossible to contact. The item you won is never delivered. Unfortunately, you just gave money and personal information to a scammer.

BBB tips to avoid

Lee County Sheriff's Office announces distracted driving enforcement results

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Sheriff's Office announced it issued 16 handsfree law violations and 11 other citations consisting of Speeding, Failure to Stop, No Insurance, Registration and Suspended Driver's License offenses during the April distracted driving enforcement period. There was also one warrant arrest and eight traffic warnings for various offenses. "Distracted Driving Awareness Month allowed Lee County Sheriff's deputies to bring a heightened awareness to stop motorists from engaging in this deadly behavior," said Sgt. Derek Ranken.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office joined forces with state and local law enforcement and highway safety partners for this enforcement effort. Using your phone in anything other than handsfree mode in Illinois is not only dangerous, but also illegal. Break the cycle. Drop it and drive.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. How the scam works:

You see an ad for a website auctioning cars, motorhomes, boats, and other big-ticket items. You visit the website, and everything seems legitimate. The site might even claim to be affiliated with the auction scams See SCAM page A2





CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features the Lovgren family **PAGE A10**

<u>Obituaries</u>

Randall J. Bartelt

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Inserts

Snyders Woody's True Value



Historic photos from Illinois State Archives now accessible online

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced that the Illinois State Archives has placed more than 21,000 historic photographs from the Eddie Winfred "Doc" Helm Photo Collection online. The photos are from the 1940s to the 1980s.

"Doc Helm served as the state photographer from 1941 to 1992 and he took photos of historic and dayto-day events at the state Capitol in Springfield and throughout the state," said White. "However, because the Archives only had the negatives of these photos, the collection has rarely been seen. This new online collection will change that."

White, who serves as the State Archivist and the State Librarian, said the Illinois State Archives received a \$60,000 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) in 2020 to scan the photographs, create a finding aid for them and place them online for public use. The photos are now on the Illinois Digital Archives website that is operated by the State Library.

The grant funded the purchase of a scanner and the salaries of contractual workers, most of whom were masters-level students from the University of Illinois-Springfield History Department.

Included in the photographs are pictures of at least six U.S. presidents on visits to Springfield (Presidents Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and Joe Biden, who at the time was a U.S. Senator), as well as Illinois politicians and government officials. There are also photographs of the state fair, local parades, state institutions and visitors to the state Capitol, including school groups, fraternal organizations and celebrities.

White noted that one benefit of the grant was the Archives' staff learning all that the collection contained. For example, when the grant began, Archives' staff estimated that there were 21,000 negatives in the collection;



however, the collection contains more than 40,000 negatives, almost twice the size of the original estimate.

The funding for the project came from the NHPRC's Access to Historical Records Grant, which promotes access to records that highlight a better understanding of our state's or country's democracy, history and culture.

The collection is available on the Illinois Digital Archives website athttp://www. idaillinois.org/digital/collection/DocHelm/search/. The photos are searchable in several ways and are available for download free of charge. If there is a need for better quality scans for a publication, please call (217) 782-4866.

LOCAL NEWS

SCAM continued from page A1–

• Research auctions and auctioneers before participating. If an auction claims to be a "government" auction, reach out to the branch of government hosting the event to make sure it's legitimate. If you're looking at a private auction or an auction run by a private company, look into the auctioneer ahead of time. Look carefully at reviews from previous buyers.

• Get to know the terms and conditions of the auction. Find out whether there are entry fees, winning bidder fees, taxes, or shipping costs you'll be responsible for paying.

• Don't give in to bidder's excitement. Don't make impulse buys when participating in auctions. Scammers will be counting on you to get wrapped up in the excitement and could even prod you into a fake bidding war to get more money out of you.

• Understand how auction sites work. Check each auction website's rules and policies carefully. Pay special attention to what buyer protections the auctioneer has in place. Find out what policies apply if an item is not delivered or is significantly different from its description. If a website offers no buyer protection at all, that is a red flag.

• Find out how payments are made. Know how and who you will pay before you place a bid. If the seller insists on using a payment method you are unfamiliar with, do some research. If the payment service doesn't have a customer service line you can contact to find out details about how the service works, don't use it to make a payment.



National Hospital Week May 8-14



Lauren Althaus



Kirch Property Management and Sales currently has 1, 2, 3 BEDROOM and studio units available for rent in MENDOTA. Units also available in SHABBONA, PLANO, SANDWICH and OTTAWA. Please check out our available rentals and applications online at kirchpropertymanagement.com or call our office at 630-897-5800.

You can win if you want...

Althaus named AHS Student of the Month for May

AMBOY — Lauren Althaus, daughter of Steve and Deborah Althaus, has been named the Amboy High School Student of the Month for May.

GPA- 4.0/4.0

Memberships and involvement- "I am a member of the Amboy High School National Honor Society, Student Council, Leo's Club, the National FFA, the OLPH Catholic Church, and the Sub-Let Indians 4-H Club.

Awards and Honors: "I have received the NorthWest Upstate Illini Conference Award, Sauk Valley Community College Deans List, State FFA Degree, Section Proficiency Award winner, State Parliamentary Procedure, and Lee County 4-H State Fair Delegate. For my athletics, I was named into the John Blackburn Hall of Fame State Qualifier, the Sauk Valley All-Area Team, Most Valuable Female Athlete, Most Valuable Female Sprinter, and have the 400m school record. I am currently at the top of my senior class and have been on the Highest Honor Roll all four years."

Best Memories of AHS: "Cheering on our AHS football team in our huge student section this year, or doing yoga and making fun memories with the track team over the past four years."

Future Plans: "I'm going to be attending St. Ambrose University in the College of Health and Human Services in the Fall of 2022 studying either nursing or pre-occupational therapy."

Art group offers art glass



E-cigarettes contain nicotine and other harmful substances. Don't let the tempting flavors of vaping "win" you over.

> My Life, My Quit[™] is the free and confidential way to quit smoking or vaping. Text "Start My Quit" to 36072 to chat with a Coach.

This message was funded by the Illinois Department of Public Health through funds received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).







Prevent • Promote • Protect

workshop

OREGON — Eagle's Nest Art Group is offering a workshop for beginners in the art of glass work on Saturday, May 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at its Conover Square Mall second-floor studio in Oregon at 201 N. 3rd Street.

This workshop is open to the public; membership in ENAG is not required. Participants will be guided by glass artist Valerie Butcher who will explain the tools and glass types needed to create a four-by-four-inch trinket tray.

The cost is \$30 which includes all materials, tools, and the double "firing" of each tray. Workshop size is limited so that participants can receive individual attention

Participants must wear closed-toed shoes since they will be nipping, grinding and handling small pieces of glass.

Deadline to register is Monday, May 23. Register for the workshop by contacting Valerie at (815) 626-1423 or vabutcher@comcast.net Please sign up soon since space is limited.

Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboy news. com

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Draw Down

We will provide a list of Thank You's next week. We appreciate everyone that bought a ticket, donated, bought auction items, or just prayed for us.

Summer Splash Program

Let's all go to the movies will be our theme for six weeks. It will begin June 13 and end July 20. Information packets for pre-k to fourth grade will be sent to Amboy Central School. In addition for those kids going into fifth grade, sixth, seventh, eighth, and high school, we are accepting applications for the all day community program. Those will be located at the Junior High and more information on Parentsquare. If you have any questions, please call Teen Turf building at 815-857-4800

Aerobics

Open to the public: Anyone 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.

Thank You's

We are always blessed to have the following folks help us: Laura Miller Hudson and family for the items; Sheila and GG Garcia for the monetary donation and the items; Fran Khawaja for the toys and Tammy Strub for delivering them; Larry for doing cans and those that donated them; and our volunteers: Kathy, Donna, Candy, Chris, Mary, and Megan, and Sandy. Needs

If anyone has an open garage or an empty storage unit, we are looking for one to store furniture for those in need. Please contact Eileen Piper at 815-857-4800. We are also in need of Fresh Fruit and Snacks.

Final Word

Dear heavenly Father, Give us clarity, Of mind, heart, and spirit.

Let us see things for how they are, As you see them. Let us see our situations with,

Your eyes, With the eyes of Christ. Take away our fears and emotions,

And may your spirit shine through. In your clarity, we find peace, Strength and direction. When our eyes are clear, We see where there is hurt, So we can show compassion. We see where there is sin, So we can give mercy. We know how to protect our hearts, From those that may harm us. When our eyes are clear. We see the great work, Christ did for us all.

By taking all sin upon Him, Then rising up victoriously. This is our clarity. This is our home. In his Holy name,

One solution to food price spikes - reduce waste

BY DANIEL GRANT FarmWeek

onsumers should think twice before throwing out those last few pieces of bread, lightly bruised fruit or milk barely beyond its sell-by date.

Food waste and loss is a key contributor to sub-optimal diets, environmental issues and inflationary pressure currently gripping most countries in the world - some more severe than others

USDA recently forecast grocery store prices could increase another 3% to 4% this year while eating out at restaurants could take another 5.5% to 6.5% bite out of Americans' food budgets. This after the consumer price index (CPI) jumped 8.5% from March 2021 to 2022.

"Food prices are going up around the world," said Rob Vos, director of markets, trade and institutions division for the International Food Policy Research Institute. "It could cause millions of poor people to fall into hunger or food shortages."

Vos and other food industry experts discussed the growing concern of food price inflation, malnutrition and widespread food waste and loss during an online panel discussion hosted by the Farm Journal Foundation.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AMBOY-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood

Drive from 1 until 6 p.m. on

Monday, May 16, at the Am-

boy Community Building,

280 W. Wasson Road. Call the

Red Cross at 800-733-2767

or visit RedCrossBlood.org

to make an appointment to

donate. Download the Blood

AMBOY-The City of

Amboy Council will meet at

6 p.m. on Monday, May 16, at

the Community Center, 280

AMBOY-The Amboy

American Legion will meet

Monday, May 16, at 6 p.m.,

at the Old NAPA Building,

Donor App.

W. Wasson Rd.

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

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

MAY TWP-The May Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, at the township maintenance building.

OSF HealthCare welcomes new primary care provider

MENDOTA – OSF HealthCare is pleased to add a new primary care provider to its staff to better serve the community of Mendota and surrounding areas.

The addition of Veronica Spangler, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), on May 9 will ensure increased access for patients in need of a primary care provider at the OSF Medical Group - Family Medicine office at 1404 Washington Street and at 1405 Ste. 600, office in Mendota.

Spangler joins the care team of Mary Chinn, MD, and offers a number of primary care services. She especially loves helping patients meet their health goals. As a primary care provider, she enjoys getting to know her patients and working with

Pitts honored as Sunshine Award recipient

STERLING — Nicole Pitts, a Health Unit Coordinator (HUC) and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in the CGH Surgical Unit, was recently recognized as a recipient of the Sunshine Award for extraordinary service. The Sunshine Award was created to honor and recognize outstanding service and compassionate care by those in non-nursing roles, such as CNAs, CMTs or MAs.

"Nicole took time with a patient who was unable to express many of her needs clearly," said Stephanie Waller, RN, Digestive Health Center, and Sunshine Award Coordinator. "She was very patient throughout the weekend, and not only took time to talk with the patient, but also listened closely to what the patient was trying to say and did everything in her power to tend to her needs. She cared for this patient as she cares for ALL her patients - the way we would want our loved ones treated if they were in the hospital. She held the patient's hand when they were fearful or crying, and she helped her stay calm and relaxed. Nicole is a valued member of the Surgical Floor staff who always goes above and beyond the call of duty when caring for patients." Other CGH nurses nominated by our patients this quarter for the Sunshine award included: Shandi Armstrong, CNA, and Tammy Vinson, CMT. If you would like to submit a nomination for extraordinary service that you or a family member have received at CGH Medical Center by a staff member in a non-nursing role, please visit www.cghmc.com/sunshine

399 N Metcalf, Amboy.

AMBOY-The Lee County Master Gardeners will host its annual Plant Sale from 8 - 11 a.m., on Saturday, May 21, at the Lee County 4-H Center, 1996 Franklin Road, Amboy. The event will be held rain or shine. Doors open at 8 a.m. No pre-sales before 8 a.m. Featuring a variety of annuals, perennials, vegetables and flowers.

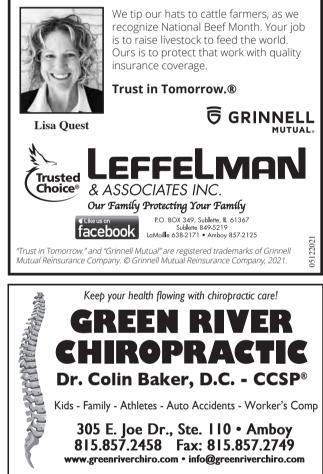
AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, May 23. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

AMBOY- The Amboy CUSD School Board will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 24, in the Junior High School cafeteria.

OUR FAMILY PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY



YOUR LONG HOURS OUR PROTECTION





Spangler

them throughout their lives. She received a Bachelor of Science from Aurora University and a medical degree from Frontier University in Hyden, Kentucky.

New or existing patient appointments with Spangler or a member of her care team can be made by calling 815-538-1825.

LOCAL NEWS

Recent issues accelerating food price inflation include the war in Ukraine, which could reduce global supplies of some commodities, and the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the U.S. Wholesale wheat prices are projected to rise 12% to 15% while USDA predicts poultry prices could climb 6% to 7% this year.

But, a long-term issue contributing to food shortages in some areas remains waste. Patrick Webb, professor of food policy at Tufts University, reported about 14% of all food is lost and another 6% is wasted globally each year. Other estimates suggest up to a third of all food is lost and wasted annually.

"Food waste and loss represents a significant contributor to planetary challenges of nutrition (and environmental concerns)," Webb said.

"It's really, really important to focus on this low-hanging fruit. It (the issue of food waste) still isn't receiving the traction it deserves," he noted. "The goal is a food system that nourishes people and the planet."

Some of the reasons for food waste differ depending on the country. More food losses generally occur due to inadequate storage and transportation issues in developing countries while some waste in high-income countries occurs due to discarding beyond sell-by dates and excess purchases. But, regardless of the cause, the rate of overall food waste is eerily similar in all countries across the world.

"I was surrounded by hunger (growing up in Alabama). It's always so shocking for people to hear in America," said Olivia Fuller, Alabama Cooperative Extension agent. "It's important we realize this is a domestic situation. It's not just something happening in developing countries."

On the bright side, there's many steps people can take to reduce food waste, even if it doesn't diminish food price inflation in the near-term.

Webb suggested improving access to infrastructure and markets, upgrading storage technologies and handling to reduce food damage and spoilage, improve packaging to keep food fresher, make cosmetic standards more amenable to selling "imperfect" food with irregular shape or blemishes and improve access to storage facilities.

Tim Fox, fellow and chair of The Climate Change Adaptation Working Group, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, reported about 70% of food in U.S. supermarkets was transported there via a climate-controlled cold chain process.

There are opportunities to improve refrigeration efficiencies in the U.S. and add those opportunities elsewhere. He noted up to 40% of fruits and vegetables are lost due to spoilage in India, where there's a deficit of about 53,000 refrigerated trucks to move products.

"We need a better, integrated food supply chain," Fox said.

Webb agreed as he noted, "the quality of food matters as much as the quantity. If it's not good, it's not contributing to good nutrition."

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.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FLEXIBILITY | GYM ACCESS | SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY Email info@amboyfire.com to inquire about joining! (Must be 18+ years old)



148 N. East Ave. Amboy \$89,900

me offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a 3 car garage, on a large corn elling has been started in multiple rooms; updated vanity, ceiling far in place too. Oversized garage is heated and has a bathroom plur ve or gathering spot. Super convenient location to schools. Some s re updates and this house could be your home sweet home for year an appointment to check this one out before it is spoken f





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condense, revise or reject any submissions.

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES Randall Jon Bartelt Sept. 1, 1953 - May 6, 2022

AMBOY — Randall Jon Bartelt, 68, of Amboy, died Friday, May 6, 2022 at Mercy Health Jevan Bea Hospital in Rockford.

He was born Sept. 1, 1953 in Aurora, the son of Richard and Dorothy (Brown) Bartelt. He married Marty Kant on Nov. 4, 1979 in Dixon.

Randall was employed by the Lee County Highway Department. He was a member of Bethel EC Church in Dixon and had volunteered at the Leydig Center.

Randall enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, traveling with his wife, serving others in need and had a

strong faith in the Lord. He is survived by his wife Marty; children, Phil (Lisa) of Lancaster, Penn., Cassie (Jon) Barnett, of Omro, Wis., Zach (Charlotte) of Clinton, Wis.; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death

by his parents and sister, Jodi Runowski.

Memorial service will be held on Thursday May 12, 2022 at 6 p.m., at the Bethel EC Church in Dixon. Visitation will be Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m., at the church. A time of fellowship with refreshments will follow the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers memo-



rials have been established to the Granny Rose Animal Shelter and Rock River Bible Camp.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Led Zeppelin cover band takes the stage at Coronado Performing Arts

ROCKFORD – The Led Zeppelin cover band Get The Led Out brings "A Celebration of the Mighty Zep" back to the Coronado Performing Arts Center stage on Saturday, Oct. 15, at 8p.m. Long a local audience favorite, tickets for GTLO's return to Rockford go on sale on this Friday, May 13 at 10 a.m. on Ticketmaster.com, in-person at the Coronado Performing Arts Center box office and by phone at 815-968-5222.

From the bombastic and epic, to the folky and mystical, Get The Led Out (GTLO) have captured the essence of the recorded music of Led Zeppelin and brought it to the concert stage. The Philadelphia-based group consists of six veteran musicians intent on delivering Led Zeppelin live, like you've never heard before. Utilizing the multi-instrumentalists at their disposal, GTLO re-create the songs in all their depth and glory with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed. When you hear three guitars on the album, GTLO delivers three guitarists on stage. No wigs or fake English accents, GTLO brings what

the audience wants – a high energy Zeppelin concert with an honest, heart-thumping intensity.

Dubbed by the media as "The American Led Zeppelin," Get The Led Out offers a strong focus on the early years. They also touch on the deeper cuts that were seldom, if ever heard in concert. GTLO also include a special "acoustic set" with Zep favorites such as "Tangerine" and "Hey Hey What Can I Do."

GTLO has amassed a strong national touring history, having performed at major club and PAC venues across the country. GTLO's approach to their performance of this hallowed catalog is not unlike a classical performance. "Led Zeppelin are sort of the classical composers of the rock era," says lead vocalist Paul Sinclair. "I believe 100 years from now they will be looked at as the Bach or Beethoven of our time. As cliché as it sounds,



Fitch Ratings raises Illinois credit rating two notches

BY PETER HANCOCK Capitol News Illinois phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – Fitch Ratings on Thursday raised the state of Illinois' rating for general obligation bonds two notches, to BBB+, making it the second rating agency to do so in recent weeks and marking the fourth time the state has received a credit upgrade in the last year.

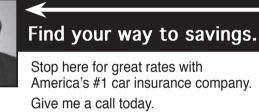
The upgrade to 'BBB+' reflects fundamental improvements in Illinois' fiscal resilience including full unwinding of pandemic-era and certain pre-pandemic non-recurring fiscal measures, meaningful contributions to reserves and sustained evidence of more normal fiscal decision-making," the agency said in its announcement.

Fitch is one of three major credit rating agencies that grade government-issued debt. Moody's Investors Service raised Illinois' rating on April 21. The third rating agency, S&PGlobal Ratings, last raised Illinois' rating in July 2021, one week after Moody's gave the state its first upgrade in more than 20 years.

Before those changes, Illinois had suffered multiple credit downgrades, many of which were driven by the two-year budget impasse from July 2015 to August 2017, leading the state to the lowest investment-grade rating available.

The move by Fitch puts Illinois' bond rating three notches above "speculative grade," or what is commonly known as "junk" status. Bonds in that category generally cannot be held by institutional investors such as mutual funds or pension systems and, therefore, are subject to higher interest rates

At the same time, Fitch upgraded the state's general obligation bond rating, it also



upgraded the state's Build Illinois sales tax revenue bonds to A, from 'BBB+

In its analysis, Fitch noted that Illinois' financial performance has improved recently but remains weaker than other U.S. states. It gave the state credit for shoring up its cash reserves, reducing its backlog of past-due bills, retiring some outstanding debt and "smoother fiscal decision-making."

But it also noted that the state continues to face large unfunded pension liabilities, currently estimated at more than \$130 billion.

Fitch made its announcement just moments before Gov. JB Pritzker held a news conference to announce the signing of a bill aimed at reducing those pension liabilities. House Bill 4292 authorizes \$1 billion in borrowing to extend a program that allows workers in the state's five pension systems to take early buyouts of their benefits.

That program, first launched under former Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner, was set to expire in 2024. The new legislation extends that to 2026.

"Today, I'm very proud to sign yet another bill to round out Illinois' significant fiscal progress," Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony at the Statehouse. "Yet again, we are saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars."

Pritzker said the recent rating upgrades were the result of passing four consecutive balanced budgets, including the one just passed for the upcoming fiscal year that dedicates \$1 billion to the state's so-called "rainy day fund" and another \$500 million above what's required by law to reduce the state's pension liability.

He said the buyout program so far has reduced that liability by more than \$1.4 billion, and extending the program for an additional

two years will reduce it even further.

"I believe in fiscal responsibility and in responsible fiscal management," he said. "That means taking every action possible to address our pension obligations while

honoring promises made to current and retired workers, promises made by governors and legislators on both sides of the aisle."

The bill passed with bipartisan support, 108-2 in the House and 52-1 in the Senate.

Rep. Mark Batinick, R-Plainfield, who is stepping down from the General Assembly this year, was a cosponsor of the bill and one of the chief sponsors of the original legislation.

"I said back in 2018 when the 'Batinick Buyout' first passed through the General Assembly that we had to make changes to our pension system if we were going to solve our long-term fiscal problems in Illinois," he said in a statement. "I am delighted to see this program extended after successful implementation that has saved the state over \$1 billion on our unfunded pension liability. I look forward to seeing how much more we can save to finally overcome and move past our state's longtime pension crisis."

Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza also praised the legislation as another move to stabilize the state's fiscal situation.

"The state is making monumental progress toward getting our fiscal house in order. And this is just one more step, but it's a huge step, in that direction," she said during the news conference.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Email news items to

Illinois Extension LEE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS **PLANT SALE**

> Saturday | May 21, 2022 8-11:00 AM Lee County 4-H Center 1196 Franklin Rd. Amboy

> > Rain or Shine Doors open at 8 am No pre-sales before 8 Sale runs until 11 AM



their music is timeless."

221 N. Mason Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.® Amboy, IL 61310 (815) 857-2624 State Farm[®] art@artespe.com 1005000.1

tgreenfield@ amboynews.com

RCH DIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org Masses: 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 Brian McWethy** 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 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!

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

St. 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.

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

St. Patrick Church **Rev. Randy Fronek - Maytown** Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 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.

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

Sensient Flavors, LLC. 815-857-3691

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The Amboy News 815-857-2311





Wild about wildflowers?

Every year, the first full week in May honors our many wildflowers. But what is a wildflower? Whether growing wild or planted in the backyard, they bring color and mystery to our

world.

ne of our outstanding wildflowers is the Blue Lupine. I know of three roadsides where they grow almost two feet tall, the upper half entirely filled with well-spaced blue flowers. They are similar to a plant in

Texas called the Texas Bluebonnet; a very good name because Lupine flowers are shaped like an old-fashioned fancy bonnet.

Lee County is also home to 21 kinds of Asters, many of which are popular wildflowers. The Asters have many flowers arranged in a compact head that appears to be a single flower, the same structure as the garden sunflower. The Heart-leaved Aster has almost perfectly heart-shaped leaves with coarsely toothed edges. They can be seen in the Franklin Creek area. The Short's Aster and the Sky-blue Aster have leaves with no teeth on their edges. The Short's Aster is common in Bartlett's wood and Melugin Grove. The Sky-blue Aster grows on the border of sandy woods south of Rockyford.

We have several species of cone-flowers in this area. The Black-eyed Susan is probably the best known. The Pale Purple Coneflower is also a distinct coneflower, because of its purple rays. It can be found on almost all sandy prairies. The Tall Coneflower, called Goldenglow by cultivators, can grow as tall as our tallest Sunflowers. It is commonly found along streams or on wet prairie. The Prairie Coneflower has a bulbous, gray disk in the center of the flower head, and long, drooping yellow

rays around the border. It is strictly a prairie plant. From rare to

not so much Among the rarest of our wildflowers is the Starflower. The flower is normally only six to eight inches high. Several long,

slender stalks have white flowers at their tips. Starflowers have the strange practice of extending their underground stems several feet away from where they used to grow. I keep wondering where they are going. Maybe they are like some pioneers who were always looking for a better place to live.

Many of our wildflowers produce both pollen and seeds in the same flower. They are pollinated by flying insects that visit each flower to collect pollen or nectar. We have one wildflower that is not wind pollinated and is seldom visited by insects. No bee or butterfly is going to visit a flower that produces no pollen or nectar. They produce seeds without any need for pollen. This modern development can be seen everywhere. They just love a garden or a mowed lawn. This modern wildflower is called a Dandelion.

Editor's Note: James Brady Long was born in

CGH Health Foundation to host June 12 Memories Matter Walk

STERLING - The lives of those impacted by dementia will be celebrated Sunday, June 12 at the Memories Matter Walk at Westwood Fitness & Sports Center outdoor trail.

This first-time event is hosted by the CGH Health Foundation. Registration begins at 12:30 pm in Building #3 at Westwood, and the Sendoff Ceremony is at 1 pm.

Participants can choose between a ¹/₂-mile trail, 1-mile trail or do both. Entry fee is \$20 before June 1 and \$25 after June 1. Register and pay at www.cghmc.com/memories-matterwalk. Walkers will receive a t-shirt, butterfly garden stake and swag bag.

The new Dementia Project is the focus of the 2022 Foundation Annual Appeal campaign. Funds will support efforts to raise awareness of the disease and to offer resources and assistance to those impacted in the Sauk Valley area.

The initiative was inspired by a bequest from the late Hugh and Betty Miller, Rock Falls. Mrs. Miller battled dementia for 11 years before her passing in August 2020. The walk, in memory of the Millers, will be held rain or shine.

The Foundation and CGH Medical Center will be partnering with the Alzheimer's Association to offer a variety of resources to individuals living with the disease and their caregivers. Plans include: (1) create support groups in the area (2) host a community forum to learn from those impacted by dementia on what resources are lacking in the area(3) provide professional staff education on diagnosis/treatment of the disease (4) provide educational programs for the community (5) and promote community awareness of the disease.

A special assistance fund will be created to help families with expenses related to caring for a loved one with dementia. Area memory care facilities will be provided musical instruments to aid in their therapy programs. The public is asked to share other suggestions for improving dementia resources in the area.

More than 6.5 million Americans are living with dementia and the number is projected to reach nearly 13 million by 2050. Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia, accounting for 60 to 80 percent of all dementia cases.

SVCF releases scholarship application for fall 2022 students

DIXON—The Sauk Valley College Foundation announces the Fall Scholarship Kick-Off. Scholarship awards will be applied toward the Fall semester. Applications opened on May 1, and must be fully completed and submitted by June 30.

The Sauk Foundation has merit and need-based scholarship awards usually range from \$200 to \$4,000. Interested applicants should visit svcc.edu/scholarships for award criteria and application requirements. It only takes minutes to apply for money that can help you pursue your academic goals.

Please contact the SVC Foundation for more information at foundation@svcc.edu or questions should be directed to Angie Delhotal at 815-835-6329.



The Fifth Woman

Henning Mankell's crime novel "The Fifth Woman" begins in 1993 with a woman opening a letter she thinks is from her mother traveling in North Africa. Instead it is from a policewoman from an unnamed African country. (The country is most likely Algeria where a vicious civil war had broken out in 1992.) In a remote village, four French nuns were slaughtered by unknown assailants, their throats cut. There was a fifth woman, a Swedish tourist visiting the nuns. The police decided not to mention her. She was buried in an unmarked grave. After crying all night, the woman decides to embark upon a mission she will plan down to the last detail. It will take her a year.

Mankell then introduces the first victim. His name is Holger Erikson, a wealthy old man who lives in a remote refurbished farmhouse. His life revolves around birds. Birds are the subject of all his poems. One night as he is composing yet another bird poem, he hears a noise. He walks out to a tower he had built to be closer to the birds. He thinks someone is in the tower, but at that instant he falls into a ditch and is impaled in a trap of sharpened bamboo poles. The woman makes her way down from the tower, shines her flashlight into the ditch, and walks away.

Police Inspector Kurt Wallander is in a rare happy mood. He is back from a Rome vacation with his father. Everything had gone smoothly. After years of animosity, they reconciled. Holger Erikson has been reported missing, but Wallander lightly dismisses it. Soon another man, Gosta Runfeldt, goes missing. He is a florist, an orchid expert on an orchid safari to Africa. He never got on the plane. Wallander is deeply shocked when he finds Erikson in the ditch. He and his team go into action. They soon discover an emaciated Runfeldt tied to a tree in the forest, strangled. He had been tied up in an oven for two weeks. The horror keeps mounting when a third man is found drowned in a horribly slow, painful way.

Following the progress of the investigation is of course the best part of a Wallander crime novel. Wallander's disgust escalates after he and his team establish the connection between the three men – all of them were vicious abusers of women, especially the bird poet who brutally murdered a woman and buried her on his farm. They were as evil as they come. As the hunt intensifies, our sympathy for the perpetrator becomes inevitable. The team, more so than Wallander, has trouble accepting that a woman is the serial killer whose vengeance is beyond anything they had ever seen. In war, justice is never blind.

> Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

With Fondest Memories





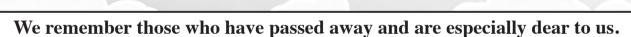
Wildflowers grow naturally, not intentionally seeded or planted. But that doesn't mean you can't plant them. Including the popular milkweed, indigo, violet, or a coneflower, shown here.

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.

Related Resources: Illinois Wildflowers bit.ly/39ul4MD Best Wildflower Trails in Illinois bit.ly/3s3IKh4 Wildflower Identification Website bit.ly/3F1a593

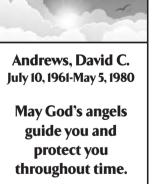
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	Dining Mer	
	y 16 - May 20	
	t milk served with each	meal
<u>Monday</u> – Jumbo hot dog baked beans, hot cinnamo <u>Tuesday</u> – Sweet/Sour Chi dinner roll, papaya and m Wednesday – Salisbury st	on apples, ketchup/musta icken, fluffy rice, stir fry v ango fruit cup.	rd. reggies, wgr
wgr dinner roll, sliced pea <u>Thursday</u> – A). Southwest chicken, tomato, onion, w salad/chicken rice.	ches. salad, black beans, corn,	, cheese,
<u>Friday</u> – Crispy fish sand pancakes, broccoli, mixed		ar, potato 22021150
Meals served MonFri. at 11:00 am	10:00 am day before	United Way
	munity Center	

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On Wednesday, May 25 The Amboy News will publish a special Memorial Day page devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten.

The memorials will be similar to the sample below:



Always in our hearts, John and Mona Andrews and Family (SAMPLE)

(actual size)

Г

If you wish, select one of the following FREE verses below to accompany your tribute.

- 1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
- 2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.
- 3 Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
- 4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
- 5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God's heavenly glory.
- 6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
- 7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
- 8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.
- 9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
- 10. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
- 11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
- 12. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
- 13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
- 14. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
- 15. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.

To remember your loved one in this special way, send \$10.00 per listing. Your special tribute will become a permanent memorial record in our paper. Deadline - Friday, May 20, at 10 a.m.

Fill out the form below and mail or drop off in our dropbox outside of our office

The Amboy News (With Fondest Memories) 245 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 162 Amboy, IL 61310

Please publis	sh my tribute in the special Me	morial Day Page on May 25.	_
lame of deceased			
		er of selected verse	
Date of birth	Date o	f passing	
Additional information			
rint your name here			
Address	Phone n ^a	umber	
City	State	Zip	
	Deadline is Friday, May 20), at 10 am.	

LOCAL NEWS Willie Nelson and family to headline the grandstand on Aug. 16, Agriculture Day at the Illinois State Fair

SPRINGFIELD – There are less than 100 days from the start of the Illinois State Fair and to celebrate, the Illinois State Fair announced that Willie Nelson & Family will headline the Illinois Lottery Grandstand on Tuesday, Aug. 16. Tickets for the show went on sale May 7. Willie Nelson has earned every possible award as a musician over a career that has spanned seven decades. The ten-time Grammy Award winner has also garnered reputable credentials as an actor, author, and activist. In 1985, Nelson co-founded Farm Aid to raise awareness about the

Willie Nelson has earned ery possible award as a usician over a career that loss of family farms and help raise money to keep family farms on the land.

"Willie Nelson is a true champion for farmers," said Illinois State Fair Manager Rebecca Clark. "I can think of no one better to help us celebrate our state's number one industry during the fair. On top of his love for agriculture, he will be performing hits that fairgoers from every generation can sing along to."

Opening for Nelson will be four-time Grammy nominee Elle King. King is hailed as a rising star across multiple genres, collecting hits on both the country and rock

On This Day in History

100 years ago May 12, 1922

A good deal is said of reckless drivers but there is also a great deal that should be said about reckless walking that is seen everyday. At almost every street crossing, you see persons crossing who seem to have no regard for the danger that is present from the automobiles that are coming and going. They are putting themselves in a position in which accidents occur despite the utmost caution of careful drivers.

75 years ago May 8, 1947

Rev. Anthony J. Becker will be ordained June 1 at the Pontificial College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Becker of Amboy.

Lee County Selective Service Board will close its Amboy office on May 29,

Amboy

815-857-2125

according to Mrs. Frances Glaser, chief clerk. She has been notified by the State headquarters that liquidation of the office will be completed by that date.

Fanelli's offered a good assortment of boxed chocolates for Mother's Day, starting at \$1.10 per pound. Bridge Mix and Chocolate Covered Peanuts were 60 cents per pound.

50 years ago May 11, 1972

Donald Skidmore of Barrington assumes the duties of superintendent of Amboy school district. He is the guest speaker at the National Honor Society Banquet.

Janece Ross and Kim Kromm were crowned Queen and King of the Amboy High School Prom.

The Amboy High School Chess Team played in the state championship tournament in Evergreen Park and finished with a 2-3 record against much larger

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schools. The varsity was led by Art Snow with a perfect 5-0 record, followed by Roger McLaughlin at 4-1.

25 years ago May 8, 1997

World War II veterans Otto Gehant of Amboy and John Bagge of Oneida, New Jersey reconnected for the first time since the war ended 52 years ago. Bagge was headed to a family reunion in Big Rock and decided to leave a day early so he could stop in Amboy to say hello to Gehant. The veterans met in 1943 when they served together in the Pacific as members of the 99th Field Artillery. They had last saw each other in Japan in 1945.

Seniors Callie Fleming and Nick Dinges were crowned Queen and King of the Amboy High School Junior-Senior Prom. charts. King is best known for her smash hits, "Ex's & Oh's", "Different for Girls" with Dierks Bentley, and most recently, "Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)" with Miranda Lambert.

Four other supporting acts have been added to the 2022 Illinois Lottery Grandstand lineup:

• Sean Stemaly and Shelby Darrall will open for Sam Hunt Friday on Aug. 12.

• Southern Illinois native and singer songwriter Kendell Marvel will open for Brooks & Dunn on Sunday, Aug. 14.

• Hard rock vocalist Ann Wilson of Heart will open for Sammy Hagar & The Circle on Sunday, Aug. 21.

The Illinois State Fair will kick off in 100 days with the theme, "Grow with Us." The theme celebrates the tradition of the Illinois State Fair, while embracing the growth that is occurring around the fairgrounds, in our communities, and in our state.

Ticket sales for Willie Nelson & Family will be available on ticketmaster. com starting at 10am Saturday, May 7. Fairgoers are reminded that Ticketmaster is the only authorized ticket broker for the Illinois State Fair. All other websites and

EVH BO A BOW BOEYAGO AGT

This Week's Student of the Week is:

Bryson Zellhofer

REVIE DO ADECESSION ACTOR

ipper kiddiez

Favorite Color - Yellow

Favorite Animal – Hippo

Favorite Food – Mac and Cheese

Favorite Game – Picture Charades

Favorite Song - Eye of the Tiger

Favorite Book – Little Critter

Student's Favorites

offers may be fraudulent and buyers should beware.

Friday, Aug. 12: Sam Hunt with Sean Stemaly and Shelby Darrall

Tier 3 - \$53 / Tier 2 - \$58 / Tier 1 - \$65 / SRO Track - \$65 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$120

Saturday, Aug. 13: Demi Lovato with TBD Tier 3 - \$45 / Tier 2 - \$50 /

Tier 1 - \$57/SROTrack - \$57 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$112

Sunday, Aug. 14: Brooks & Dunn with Kendell Marvel

Tier 3 - \$53 / Tier 2 - \$58 / Tier 1 - \$65 / SRO Track - \$65 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$120

Tuesday, Aug. 16: Willie Nelson & Family with Elle King

Tier 3- \$38/ Tier 2- \$43/ Tier 1-\$50/SROTrack-\$50 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$105 Wednesday, Aug. 17:

Shaggy & TLC Tier 3- \$24/ Tier 2- \$29/

Tier 1 - \$36/SRO Track - \$36 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$91

Thursday, Aug. 18: Jon Pardi with Lainey Wilson and Chapel Hart

Tier 3 - \$33 / Tier 2 - \$38 / Tier 1 - \$45 / SRO Track - \$45 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$100

Saturday, Aug. 20: Disturbed with Nita Strauss Tier 3 - \$44 / Tier 2 - \$49 /

Tier 1 - \$56/SRO Track - \$56 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$111

Sunday, Aug. 21: Sammy Hagar & The Circle with Ann Wilson of Heart

Tier 3 - \$43 / Tier 2 - \$48 / Tier 1 - \$55 / SRO Track - \$55 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$110

*A \$30 Stage Side Party ticket is offered as an additional upgrade for all paid concerts. All Stage Side Party tickets purchased before July 15 will include a free state fair parking pass for the day of the concert.

Stay up to date with all the latest news and announcements from the Illinois State Fair by connecting with us via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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is grateful to have a wonderfully focused, determined, knowledgeable, honest, and loyal staff. We would like to take the opportunity to highlight for you some of those spectacular folks to be sure you know who to call when you're in need of a fully qualified real estate Broker that puts you - the client - first.

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Mary Lovgren is a local gal who was born, raised, married, and additionally raised her beautiful family in Amboy. For 35 year she has been wife to Jeff, then mother to Derek, Paige (Travis) and Brooke (Hunter), and now proudly adds the title of Mimi to Parker and her baby brother Graham. She has been a devoted spouse, homemaker, mother, sports mom, counselor, coach, cheerleader, and confidant to them all. These proud characteristics have only added to Mary's value at **Woodhaven Lakes Realty**. She came to **Woodhaven Lakes Realty** in 2010 and brought with her a very diverse employment background and the drive

to be a great success in real estate. Having always lived in this area she has great understanding of Amboy, Woodhaven, and the surrounding communities. Although real estate was new to her resume, she gave no hesitation, but rather jumped right in (heels and all) and never stopped asking questions or learning and sharing her vast knowledge of real estate. She continues to learn and grow in all aspects that help her best serve the needs of her clients. To say that Mary works for her clients is an understatement. Her commitment goes from listing, through the sale process, closing, and beyond. She has both loyalty and compassion for all her clients. The customer service she provides is unparalleled and when you work with Mary, you know you have someone in your corner.

Lisa Maher has been with our office for just over three years, and she has made a dynamic impact on our office from the start, without a doubt. She is one of our Realtors that is also a proud Woodhaven property owner. Lisa has owned her Woodhaven property for 20 years and has enjoyed every minute of it. That love and appreciation for all that Woodhaven offers progressed into her coming to **Woodhaven Lakes Realty** and professionally assisting others in their search for the perfect getaway spot. She has a special perspective to our process and her passion shines through. If you were to speak to any of Lisa's



clients, buyers, or sellers, you will get rave reviews as she works diligently from start to finish to ensure her clients have all the answers, resources, and information necessary. Her attention to the details and the exemplary customer service she provides epitomizes all we strive for at **Woodhaven Lakes Realty**. If you aren't familiar with Lisa yet she isn't hard to spot, you can see her buzzing around in the cute orange VW Bug almost any day of the week. Lisa has grown to know and love the surrounding communities as well and would love to assist clients with both their recreational and residential real estate needs. Her clients always speak highly of the commitment they receive when

working with her, and you'll be sure to get that same great service.



Nicci Leffelman is another of **Woodhaven** Lakes Realty's local gals who was fortunate to have been born and raised in our small-town area. She was a very active and successful student at AHS and was able to continue from high school to NIU where she obtained her marketing degree in 2011. Nicci has been the full-time Marketing/Communications Manager of Woodhaven Association since 2016, and as of 2018 **Woodhaven Lakes** Realty was fortunate to count her among our spectacular licensed Brokers as well. Nicci has focused her real estate expertise on residential sales/listings, as both of her roles

can be quite demanding and time consuming. Her knowledge of the business and markets is a huge asset in her Managerial position also, and only adds to how valued she is in her positions. Outside of **Woodhaven Lakes Realty** Nicci is the proud mother of two amazing boys, Oliver and Otto. She has a wonderful local family and group of friends she has shared years of cherished memories with; and takes pride in their continued close bond and being able to watch them all grow and prosper in the same great community they met and grew up in together. If you are looking for a property in Nicci's beloved "hometown" area, give her a call, she'd be happy to help you find the perfect home. Justin Wiley is our newest **Woodhaven** Lakes Realty Broker, but he doesn't show it. His drive and ambition have been prevalent for years. Justin is from Paw Paw, and while in high school there he was a standout athlete on the basketball court. Those skills then led to a scholarship and a spot on the Grand View College team in Des Moines. There he played for four years while earning his Sports Management degree. From Des Moines, Justin ventured to California and began working in sales for the Sacramento River Cats baseball team. He worked for the River Cats for three



years, honing his sales and customer service skills, all attributes in which **Woodhaven Lakes Realty** and Justin's clients have benefited from. He began his licensing process remotely and reached out to our office while working through it which afforded us the opportunity to work with him from the start of his real estate career. Justin is a softspoken gentleman, but his Real Estate knowledge has been prevalent from day one. He took to his new career like Michael Jordan to a three-point shot. He found the opportunity, focuses on his goals of providing top of the line service to his clients and scores weekly by closing over 70 transactions in a year. That's nothing but net! **Woodhaven Lakes Realty** has a dream team and Justin is an integral part of that.

Educational

LOCAL NEWS



FOR THOU ART WITH ME

BY PASTOR JACK M. BRIGGS

ight along with John 3:16, the 23rd Psalm is probably one of the best known, most loved, most quoted passages of Scripture. It is so familiar that people who rarely if ever read a Bible or at-tend worship can still quote at least part of this Psalm---a beloved source of comfort, strength, and assurance.

I confess I know little about modern sheep-herding, so I'll leave that to the ex-perts. But what is clear to see is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one based that is based on trust. But more of that in a moment.

Consider verse 4: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." (KJV)

Just what is the "valley of the shadow of death," anyway? Geologically speaking, it is a valley, or a mountain pass, with steep sides and sheer rock walls---like a box canyon--through which the shepherds could lead their sheep from one mountain pasture to another. It could be a scary place; up in the steep cliffs on both sides of the valley there were caves and nooks and crannies where predators and bandits could lay in wait. Sounds would echo and amplify in the valley, making it even more frightening.

Some translations refer to "deepest darkness" or "darkest valley"-- those terrifying, dark, lonely, and frightening times in life. And yes, there will be those times when we experience the valley of the shadow of death, when we might feel forsaken, abandoned, alone, and rejected but by faith we know that we are not, because we have both God's promise and God's proven track record of grace and love for us.

Although we may not understand the "why and wherefore" of our immediate circumstances, like the sheep, we have grown to trust the shepherd, Jesus the Christ, who leads us through troubled and difficult times of life. He calls us to trust in him, to put our faith in him, even when we cannot always see his plan or purpose.

A famous actor was once the guest of honor at a banquet where he received many requests to recite favorite passages from various literary works. An old preacher who happened

Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com

to be there asked the actor to recite the 23rd Psalm. The actor agreed, but only if the preacher would also recite it. The actor's presentation was beautifully done, with great dramatic emphasis for which he received lengthy applause. The preacher's voice, on the other hand, was rough and broken from many years of preaching, and his speech was anything but polished. But when he finished there was not a dry eye in the room. When the actor was asked what made the difference, he replied, "I know the psalm, but he knows the shepherd.'

Know the shepherd. Know that he is nearby, that he loves you, that he will come when you call to him in prayer, when you are frightened, or anxious, or in pain. Then you will be able to affirm with confidence, "The Lord is MY shepherd ... though I walk through the darkest shadows, I fear no evil, for thou art with me.'

Thanks be to God.

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WALTER GRADUATES FROM **EUREKA COLLEGE**

Briefs

EUREKA — Zachary Walter, son of Kyle and Barb Walter, of Sherman, IL., graduated Magna Cum Laude from Eureka College on Saturday, May 7, 2022. Zachary's grandmother is Marilyn Walter, of Amboy. He is the nephew of Krik Walter, of Amboy, and Kent Walter, of Scotland.

Local student named to dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Mo. - Jared Harrison of Dixon, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2021 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Harrison is currently enrolled in the university's McKelvey School of Engineering.

To qualify for the Dean's List in the McKelvey School of Engineering, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 12 graded units.





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301

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307 **MISCELLANEOUS** FOR SALE

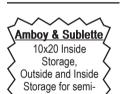
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AMBOY GARAGE SALES



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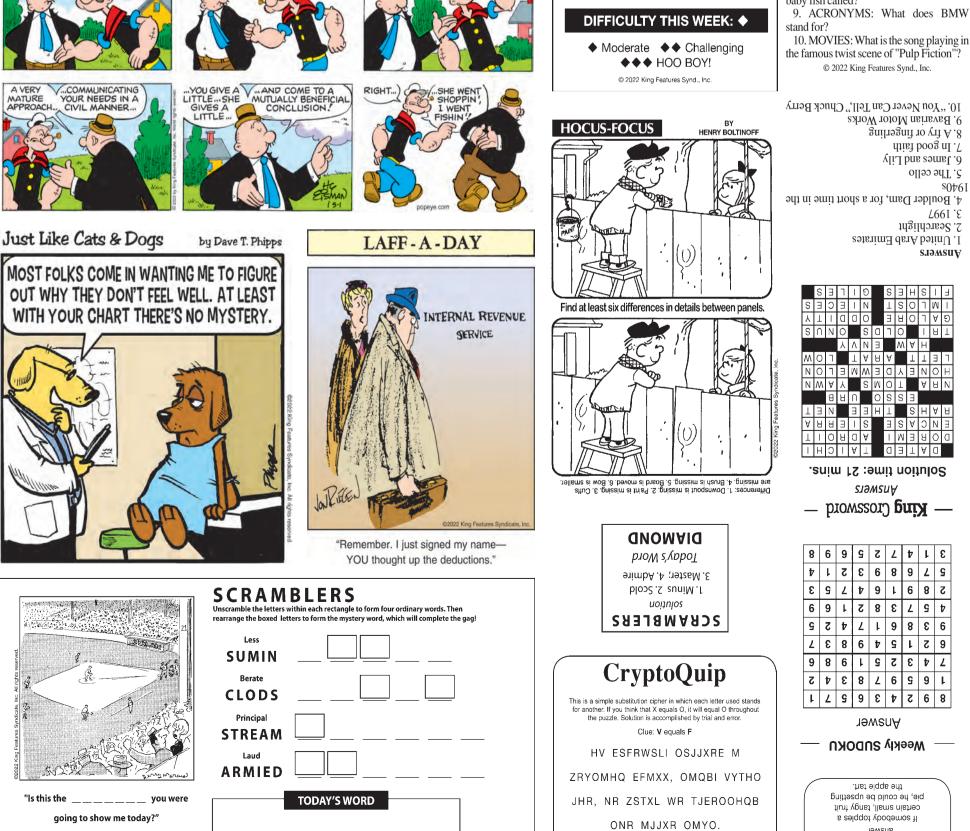
is not just a saying in business.

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AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 9

LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves	by Dave T. Phipps	May 9, 2022 Posting Date
MOM SENT ME OUT HERE TO SEE IF YOU NEEDED HELP. DAD SAID I SHOULD CO IN HERE AND HELP YOU	DU. AND THAT SHE IS CERTAIN YOU APPRECIATE THE	King Crossword
	YOU NEED MY ASSISTANCE.	ACROSS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 1 Went out with 6 Chinese mar- tial art 12 1 1 13 13 1 1 11 12 12 12 1 13 13 1 1 11 12 14 12 1 15 1 1 1 12 Moolah 14 16 17 18 19 1 13 Skillful 16 20 21 22 23 19 1 14 Sheathe 20 21 28 29 30 31 15 Mountain 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
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	INDY HERE, SO	37Despondent 38DOWN18Hit one out of the park42Pre-weekend cry38Hem's partner1Lady of Spainthe parkcry40Jealousy2Eyebrow21Farm pen43Malek of42Prefix with athlete3Rib24Stanley CupRhapsody"44Early auto- maker4German river org.org.45Reply to46Burden6Hit with a stun gun26Mounds built by insects47Pleasing50Aplenty7Farewell 828Final perfor-
The Spats	by Jeff Pickering	tions?"Acres" humor 31SSE's oppo-fireworks55Family girls10Employsite53Cato's 502
YOU SHOULD KNOCK ON THE REFRIGERATOR DOOR BEFORE YOU OPEN IT.	WHY? 4 WHY? 4 WHY? 4 N CASE THERE'S A SALAD DRESSING IN THERE.	© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc. Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 9 4 5 1 7 3 1 8 6
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WHAT TRIGGERED OLIVE WANTED US THAT'S THE QUARREL? TA GO SHOPPIN QUITE AN	YEAH! BUT WHEN TWO IN OTHER WORDS, EZACKLY!	1 2 9 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way of Harry Potter's deceased parents in the book series? 7. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin
AN'I WANTED US TA GO FISHIN'	PEOPLE IS IN LOVE, EVERYTHIN' YOU COMPROMISED	 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby fish called? ACRONYMS: What does BMW



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022

SPORTS Clipper Highlights: Lovgren Family

hen I think of Clipper royalty, I not only think of the great Powers family but also the Lovgren family. They are as Amboy sports as it gets and it doesn't matter the sport. Football, basketball, track, girls basketball, and girls softball you name it and they have succeeded at it.

The legacy began in the late 1970's as Jeff was a standout Clipper basketball player and started each of his two Varsity seasons on the hardwood. Jeff wasn't able to play football due to a knee injury he sustained. However, his contributions to our athletic programs and community are second to none. Jeff and I spoke of the great times in the 1980's and how similar they were in the middle 2000's.

Jeff shared, "It was very similar to the atmosphere in the 80's. It truly was an event each Friday night, an un-missable event. The playoffs were total pandemonium and took over the entire town every Saturday."

Jeff remembers so much from our history and could probably share a highlight or specific game from each Clipper team of the past 20+ seasons, not only in football but basketball also.

Jeff spoke of a fantastic point that makes our Amboy Community standout even further. All of our families that made up each Clipper Football team, all got along and did whatever was needed for the greater good of the team and the Clipper program. One of the coolest things was seeing your mom, dad, aunts, uncles, siblings, cousins, close family friends, and people you knew from the time you could walk, start walking over from Hardy's on East Ave. or Robinson's on Hawley St. just before game time. The closeness didn't just start and stop with us on the field, we grew up with it.

Jeff concluded, "When I think of the teams I watched in high school and then to Derek's teams, the friendships that were formed standout. No matter how much time passes, how far away someone is, or how busy each one is, they are all still great friends and when they get together can be brought right back to those great memories. They'll always be one in those moments and that makes me proud to be an Amboy Clipper.' Derek began his Clipper career as a manager, passing



out water and carrying the kicking tee on Friday nights for the great Clipper teams of the early 2000's. An athlete then as he continues to be to this day, Derek's time for Clipper glory and victory was destined.

Hitting a massive growth spurt in high school, Derek would enter his Junior season at 6'3, close to 200 pounds, and naturally gifted on the football field and basketball court. Derek would play Safety and backup Quarterback as a Junior. During the first week against, Bureau Valley, Derek intercepted a Garrett Barnas pass and

returned it for a touchdown furthering our late game lead. Derek continued his Junior season by intercepting several more opposing passes and adding numerous tackles on a very talented Clipper defense. Derek ended his Junior season earning 1st team All Conference honors at Safety.

Derek would lead the way at Quarterback for the 2006 Clippers and continue what he started his Junior season at Safety. Providing the 2006 team with a versatile, athletic, powerful, dual threat offensive weapon and an experienced, ball hawking asset defensively.



Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



Derek shared his most fond memories of his Senior season, "Definitely beating Newman on Homecoming was special even though I was still nursing an ankle injury. I'm not sure if anything beats Saturday playoff football at The Harbor and then the following week dominating Hampshire the way we did, it sure was a high."

A neat fact regarding Derek and the Lovgren family, Derek's Senior season was the first year for the red, black, and white flags around the entire field and Derek's Grandpa, Bob Lovgren was the one who purchased those flags for our program.

Derek shared his feelings regarding their Quarterfinal loss, "It was easier to sleep knowing they won the State Championship and one of the best 2A/3A high school teams of all time."

Derek ended his Clipper football career earning 1st team All Conference honors for the second year in a row at Safety.

Derek was also a three year Varsity starter on the hardwood and was one of the superstars on the 2007 Regional Championship team. Derek continued his basketball career collegiately at Beliot College.

Derek concluded with

what Amboy Clipper Football means to him. "We were bred into it al-

most. It wasn't what college team or pro team we wanted to play for, it was we couldn't wait to become an Amboy Clipper," Derek said. "It was a big family. From the dad's or uncles that built the program to what we got to experience for ourselves. There is definitely something special about a Friday night in Amboy, under those lights, the whole town watching, and you making your community, family, and the guy next to you proud."

So, to Jeff "Butter" Lovgren and two-time All Conference Safety, #3, Derek "Dickie" Lovgren, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. Being a fellow Clipper pails to my pride of being a lifelong family friend. Sail on!

Spencer Morrissey, is a former resident of Amboy and 2009 graduate of Amboy High School. In April 2020, he created a private Facebook group specifically for Amboy Clipper Football Alumni. To have played Amboy football for any period of time, 1 year or all 4 years, is the only membership requirement. The group features photos, stories, and memories of past Clippers and Clipper teams. The best feature of the group is every Friday, he highlights a former player.



Amboy News Spring Subscription

Derek Lovgren

Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Sunday, May 15 AHS Spring Concert-Auditorium-6 pm

Monday, May 16 AHS Fresh/Soph Track @ Milledgeville-TBA Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AHS- 6:45-7:15 am

Tuesday, May 17 Central School Spring Concert-AHS Gym-6:30 pm

Wednesday, May 18 Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AHS- 6:45-7:15 am

Thursday, May 19 Preschool Graduation-Central School Gym-10:00 am

Friday, May 20 Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AJHS- 6:45-7:15 am

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AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 11

SPORTS

Lady Clippers finish in the middle of the NUIC Girls' Conference meet

PECATONICA - The Amboy-LaMoille girls' track team finished in the middle of the pack in the NUIC Girls' Conference Meet on May 5 at Pecatonica.

The Lady Clippers scored 62 points to finish in fourth place. Galena won the event with 146.33 points, followed by Fulton with 84 and Dakota with 72.33.

Elly Jones led the way for the Lady Clippers with a pair of first-place finishes. She broke the tape in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 16.89 and claimed the top spot in the triple jump with a measurement of 34-7.

Jones also took second place in the long jump (15-4), while Lauren Althaus placed second in the 400-meter dash (1:03.95).

Clippers to host Regional action

AMBOY – The Amboy Clippers will host the Amboy Class 1A Regional Baseball Tournament to be played May 16, 18 and 21.

There will be one game on Monday, May 16, with Polo playing at Ashton Franklin. Action will be at Amboy for the rest of the tournament.

The Polo-AFC winner will take on Fulton at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 18 and Eastland will battle Amboy

Lady Clippers compete in Regional

PERU – The Amboy Lady Clippers have been assigned to the Peru St. Bede Class 1A Regional Softball Tournament.

Action will begin on Monday, May 16 with two play-in games at the site of the higher seed. Amboy will travel to Henry-Senachwine for a 4:30 p.m. contest and Midland will play at Putnam County.

The Amboy-Henry winner will move on to the semifinals to face off against St. Bede at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17 in Peru. Peoria Christian will battle the winner of the other first-round contest on Wednesday, May 18.

The semifinal-round winners will square off for the regional title at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 21.

The St. Bede Regional champion will advance to the Williamsfield Sectional to play the Woodhull (AlWood) Regional winner.

at 6:30 p.m. Both games are at Amboy City Park.

The two semifinal winners will play for the regional title at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 21.

The Amboy champion will advance to the Lena-Winslow Sectional to play the winner of the East Dubuque Regional. The other two sectional teams will come from the Freeport Aquin and Sterling Newman 3 - 1 p.m. regionals.

Amboy Class 1A Baseball Regional Monday, May 16

1-Polo at Ashton-Franklin Center – 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 18

2 – Winner 1 vs. Fulton – 4:30 p.m.

– 6:30 p.m.

Clippers lose to Eastland

AMBOY – The Amboy varsity baseball team dropped a 5-1 decision to Eastland on May 5 at Parker Field.

Jairon Hochstatter doubled to open the fifth inning and came around to score Amboy's only run.

Tucker Lindenmeyer and Brody Christoffersen picked up singles for the Clippers.

Christoffersen pitched all seven innings and took the loss for Amboy. He permitted six hits and struck out five.



May 5

NUIC Conference Meet Galena 146.33, Fulton 84, Dakota 72.33, Amboy-LaMoille 62, Forreston 59, Lena-Winslow 49, Pecatonica 23.33, Milledgeville 18, West Carroll 17, Stockton 14

A-L 1st place: Elly Jones, 100m hurdles, 16.89; Jones, triple jump, 34-7

A-L2nd place: Lauren Althaus, 400m dash, 1:03.95; Jones, long jump, 15-4

A-L 3rd place: Althaus, 200m dash, 27.83;

Jones, 300m hurdles, 50.54; Lexi Ketchum, high jump, 4-8

A-L 4th place: Ketchum, 800m run, 2:46.93; Laela Shevokas, shot put, 29-0

A-L 5th place: 4x400m relay (Althaus, Ketchum, Taylor Jahn, Lily Searing), 4:43.10 A-L 7th place: Jahn, 800m run, 2:51.97

A-L 9th place: 4x200m relay (Dezi Cater, Skyler Ware, Mallory Henert, Reilly Schafer), 2:10.95; Kimber Zitelman, discus, 68-1

Boys track to compete at Erie

ERIE – The Amboy-LaMoille boys' track team will compete in the Erie Class 1A Sectional on Thursday, May 19. Field events will start at 4 p.m. and running events will kick off at 5:30 p.m.

Other schools in the sectional are Earlville, Erie, Fulton, Hinckley-Big Rock, Bureau Valley, Milledgeville, Morrison, Orion, Riverdale, Rock Island Alleman, West Carroll, Indian Creek, Sherrard, Somonauk, Sterling Newman, Stockton and Rockridge.

The IHSA State Track Meet is scheduled for May 26-28 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

Lady Clippers roll over Eastland

AMBOY – Amboy's varsity softball team had its bats booming as it rolled over Eastland, 9-1, on May 5 at the AHS field.

Hannah Blanton (home run, single), Tyrah Vaessen (triple, double) and Maeve Larson (two singles) each had two hits for the Lady Clippers. Baylie Nickel also ripped a triple

for Amboy.

Blanton was the winning pitcher. She allowed five hits, walked three and struck out 10.

Amboy jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning and put the game away with a four-run sixth.

Eastland's only tally came in the sixth.

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3 – Eastland vs. Amboy Saturday, May 21 4 – Winner 2 vs. Winner





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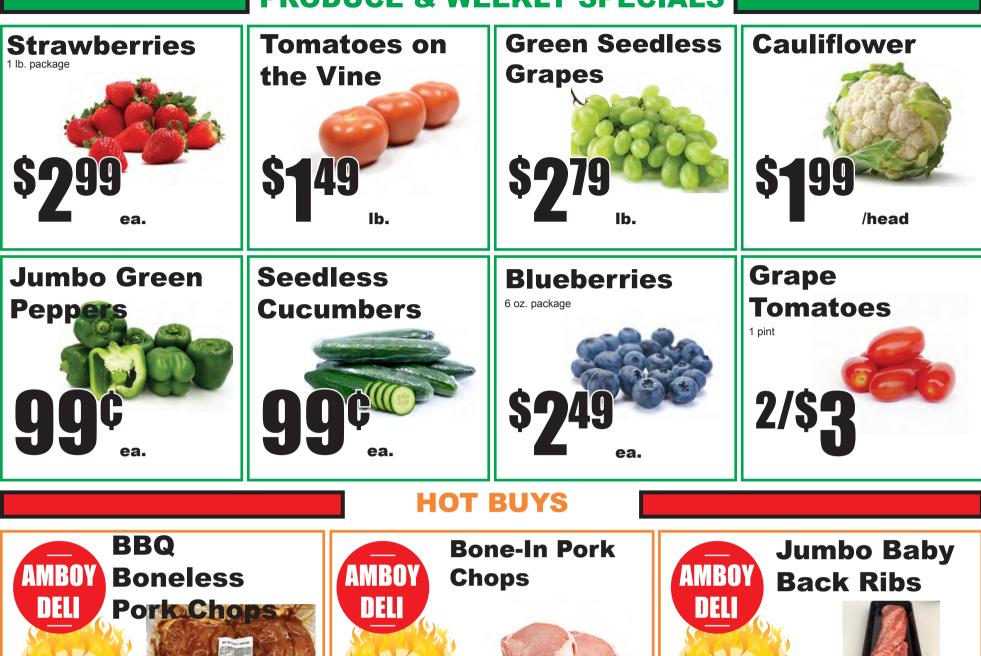


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