

Demmer files legislation to combine offices of State Comptroller, Treasurer

SPRINGFIELD – Deputy House Minority Leader Rep. Tom Demmer (R-Dixon) filed HJRCA 36 today to make state government more efficient and cost effective by eliminating the office of the Comptroller and moving the responsibilities to the office of the Treasurer.

Under Demmer’s proposal, the Treasurer would maintain the State’s central fiscal accounts and order payments into and out of state funds. The Treasurer would also be responsible for the safekeeping and investment of monies and securities as well as their disbursement. These functions are presently performed by two separate offices, the State Comptroller and the State Treasurer.

“Illinois taxpayers would be better served by having one office perform the duties of Comptroller and Treasurer,” Demmer said. “Reducing state government’s footprint and consolidating functions would achieve savings for taxpayers and streamline the fiscal operations of Illinois in a meaningful way. The late Judy Baar Topinka, who served separate terms in both offices, advocated for combining Comptroller and Treasurer into one position. We can honor her memory and reform an inefficient Madigan-era relic by acting now to let the people of Illinois have the final say on approving this reform later this year.”

See **OFFICES** page A4

National Court Reporting and Captioning Week celebrated in 15th Judicial Circuit Courts

LEE COUNTY — The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Courts celebrate the best-kept secret when it comes to a lucrative career choice during 2022 National Court Reporting & Captioning Week.

The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, has designated Feb. 5-12 as 2022 National Court Reporting and Captioning Week, and the Courts of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit are joining in the celebration.

The weeklong event themed, “Spread love and steno everywhere you go,” brings court reporters, captioners, court reporting firms, schools, and others in the legal industry together to help showcase what makes court reporting and captioning a viable career choice. Those reasons include a quicker entrance into the workforce since no four-year degree is required, good salaries, flexibility, interesting venues, and the increasing demand for more reporters and captioners to meet the growing number of employment opportunities available in the field.

Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest technology to use stenographic machines to capture the spoken word and

translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom recording legal cases and depositions, providing live captioning of events, and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment, educational opportunities, and more.

If you’re looking for a career that is on the cutting edge of technology, offers the opportunity to work at home or abroad, like to write, enjoy helping others, and are fast with your fingers, then the fields of court reporting and captioning are careers you should explore.

The NCRA A to Z Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program (www.ncra.org/discoversteno) is a free online six-to-eight week introductory course that lets participants see if a career in court reporting or captioning would be a good choice for them.

The program is an introductory course in stenographic theory and provides participants with the opportunity to learn the basics of writing on a steno machine. There is no charge to take the course, but participants are required to have access to a steno machine or an iPad they can use to download an iStenoPad app.

BBB Alert: Avoid an APP Attack

ROCKFORD — APP scams are becoming more common as reports come into the BBB Scamtracker. From passwords to banking details, you store important personal information on your mobile devices. Unfortunately, scammers are lurking on the app stores of Apple and Google and using various techniques like pop-up ads and emails on the hunt for victims.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau, says, “Trusted app stores don’t eliminate the threat of app scams, but they do offer a higher level of protection. You are much more likely to download an app that will send spam messages or expose your phone number if you download it from an unofficial or little-known app store.”

To avoid getting scammed, BBB recommends the following tips when downloading an APP. Only download apps from official app stores.

See **APP** page A4



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - AMBOY LIONS CLUB

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$4,000 to Jim Travi of the Amboy Lions Club. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - LEE COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$1,000 to Kyle Kellen of the Lee County Sheriff’s Department. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

Air quality specialist: It’s important to understand livestock’s role in climate

BY DANIEL GRANT
FarmWeek

Farm animals don’t play near the role in emitting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as some suggest.

In fact, the livestock industry has become much more efficient and looks to be part of future climate solutions, according to Frank Mitloehner, professor of animal science and air quality Extension specialist at the University of California-Davis.

He discussed the livestock industry’s role in the climate this month during Purdue University’s annual Top Farmer Conference.

“The animals are receiving a lot of criticism these days. But, the public is really confused about livestock’s impact on the climate,” Mitloehner said. “It’s not to say livestock doesn’t have any impact. It does. It’s important to understand it.”

Globally, the majority of GHG emissions are driven by the energy and transportation sectors. Livestock contribute about 5.8% of emissions worldwide.

But, in the U.S., efficiencies in livestock production help farmers reduce GHG to just 4% of all emissions nationwide.

“About 80% of all livestock-related GHG stems from developing countries, with about 20% from developed countries,” Mitloehner said. “This is not finger-pointing. It’s just important to understand where there’s room to grow and improve.”

In the U.S., efficiencies and developments in genetics help farmers produce more beef with about 90 million cattle today than was produced with a peak of nearly 140 million cattle in 1970.

The dairy herd has also shrunk, from 25 million to 9 million head, yet milk production is up 60% nationwide compared to 1950. In fact, there are actually more horses in the U.S. (9.5 million head) than dairy cows. Pork production has tripled during the same time with fewer animals.

“This is exactly what sustainability is all about, doing more with less,” Mitloehner said.

And the efforts toward reducing climate impacts continue



Photo courtesy of the Illinois Farm Bureau

to make great strides in the livestock sector.

The use of anaerobic digesters to convert methane to biogas has already led to a 25% reduction in California dairy emissions, Mitloehner reported. Feed additives could also help reduce methane emissions, all helping the dairy industry to potentially become climate neutral within a decade or so, the air quality specialist said.

Mitloehner believes reducing food waste would have a much bigger impact on reducing GHG emissions long term. About 40% of all food is wasted in the U.S.

He notes methane gas released from animals has a half-life of about 12 years, compared to 1,000 years for carbon dioxide and 110 years for nitrous oxide.

“Methane is a flow gas. It’s destroyed at the same rate as emissions (by natural processes),” Mitloehner said. “Carbon dioxide is a stock gas. It accumulates over time. It’s important to understand this (as climate solutions are considered).”

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.

AMBOY MINUTE



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

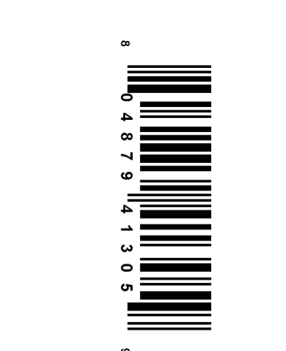
This week’s column features #64 Jacob Stewart

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Inserts



LOCAL NEWS

Amboy High School announces its first semester honor roll

AMBOY—Amboy High School announces its first semester honor roll.

HIGHEST HONORS Seniors

Ian Eller, Andruw Jones, Dana Merriman, Olivia Miller, Alexis Morgan, Chanlor Pohl, Lauren Richardson, Samuel Russell, and Lauren Tarr

Juniors

Olivia Costner, James Curl, Courtney Ortgiesen, Kelton Schwamberger, Marie Shaw, and Wesley Wilson

Sophomores

Brennan Blaine, Alexis Ketchum, Austin Shugars, and Kimber Zitelman

Freshmen

Brysen Full, Jaden Haley, Addison Pertell, Grace Royer, Kenley Wilson, and Alainie Wittenauer

HIGH HONORS Seniors

Lauren Althaus, Jacob Bickett, Nicholas Corcoran, Angela Daszkiewicz, Olivia Dinges, Mason Ely, Sabdy Herrera, Jairon Hochstatter, Connor Hummel, Haden McCoy, Riley McNair, Amelia Mondro, Baylie Nickel, Kenzie Nickel, Madalyn Shuck, Connor Simpson, Caden Wittenauer, and Hidyn Zimmerly

Juniors

Olivia Cordero, Charlie Dickinson, Ryan Dickinson, Bradley Dinwiddie, Kora Garren, Madison Huggins, Sabie Koppien, Ana Lopez-Belmontes, Garrett Pertell, Tatum Romero, Phillip Stewart, Alexandra Vaessen, and Aislinn Zitelman

Sophomores

Lucas Blanton, Elizabeth Clarida, Emma Dinges, Zachary Dunne, Elly Jones, Gabriel Jones, Rilyn Kar-

row, Maeve Larson, Landon Montavon, Alexa Morris, Madison O'Malley, Angeles Salgado, Kaylee Scanland, Addison Shaw, Skyler Ware, and Landon Whelchel

Freshmen

Jarrett Althaus, Cordia Asencio, Ava Cline, Dillon Merriman, Adrian Mimini, Emersyn Noble, Natalie Pratt, Hunter Rasmussen, Alena Shaw, Caleb Shugars, Brooklyn Strub, Tyrah Vaessen, and Karagen Welch

HONORS Seniors

Abigail Christoffersen, Jordan Gulley, Nicole Latta, Elizabeth Malach, Alyzea McKendry, Autumn Norman, and Haley Sus

Juniors

Reed Barnes, Kaden Kelly, Courtney Lachat, Kyler McNinch, Ethan Pratt, and Aiden Smith

Sophomores

Keaten Altizer, Luke Corcoran, Blerta Fekolli, Teagan Jergens, Hanna Jones, Kain Ketchum, Aaliyah Pointer, and Zyler Smith

Freshmen

Carson Barlow, Saydee Benavidez, Alexis Cheever, Atticus Goff, Caden Hummel, Quinton Leffelman, Madison Nunn, Gloria Parker, Devyn Pasley, and Andrew Scott

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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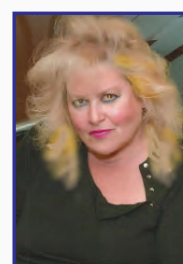


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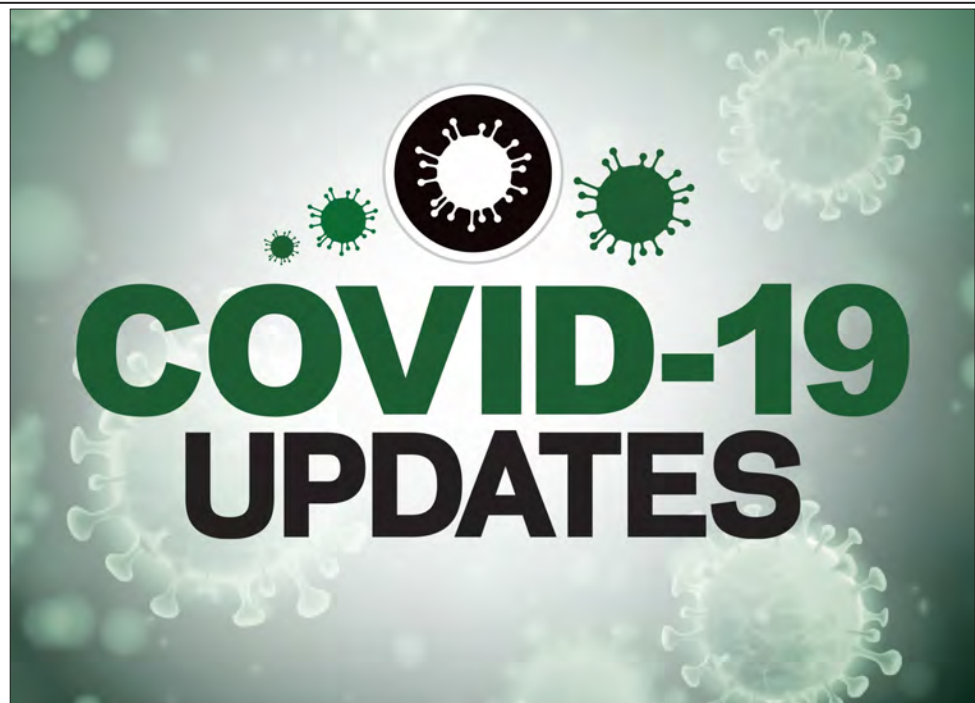
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Lee County Jan. 24 COVID update

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department announces 476 new positive cases between Jan 18-24, 2022.

Here are the ages that were reported: 71 12 and under, 75 in his or her teens, 85 in his or her 20s, 73 in his or her 30s, 60 in his or her 40s, 52 in his or her 50s, 30 in his or her 60s, 20 in his or her 70s, 9 on his or her 80s, and 1 in his or her 90s. A total of 21 residents are hospitalized.

The county also reported that the number of cases in unvaccinated individuals is 393 of the 476 cases.

The Lee County Health Department's website has a COVID-19 section, including information for people who have tested positive. See www.LCHD.com/Covid19 for more.

Vaccine

As of Jan. 31, according to IDPH 48,162 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have

been administered in Lee County, and a total of 19,348 people in Lee County are fully vaccinated, which is 56.54 percent of the population. A total of 20,976 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. A total of 10,026 people have received the vaccine booster shot.

To get scheduled for the vaccine, go to www.LCHD.com and click on the COVID-19 vaccination to self-schedule.

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Homemade Pie auction

Katie Dickinson has graciously donated her time and talent in making pies for our auction in our certified kitchen. There will be Ten 10" pies with homemade crust available: Dutch apple; Peach; Strawberry Rhubarb; Pecan; Lemon Meringue; Pumpkin; Banana Cream; Double Crusted Apple; Cherry; and Chocolate. The auction will be on Facebook and will begin this Friday, Feb. 4, at 10 a.m. and end this Saturday, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. Increments will be \$1 only and each pie will begin at \$10. Pie Pick up is Friday and Saturday, Feb. 11 and 12 at Teen Turf 235 West Main, just in time for Valentine's Day.

Our free after-school program for third - eighth grade began Tuesday, Sept. 7 from 3:30-5 p.m. Like last school year, we are only taking a set amount. You must have your child or children pre-registered prior to coming. If you are interested in having them attend, please call 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 grateful to the following people help us: Walt and Sue Kant for the food; Anonymous for the bag of food and spoons; Mary and Dick Payne for the T.V.; and Barb Harrison and Jack Leffleman for the lamps. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers: Sandy, Chris, Molly, Candy, Donna, Caden, Caylee, Maddy, and Trevyn.

Needs

Snack Bars

Final Word

"We come before you, O Lord. As the sun rises, may your hope rise up in us. As the birds sing, let your love flow out of us. As the light floods into this new day, may your joy shine through us. We come before you, O Lord And drink in this moment of peace, That We may carry something of your hope, love, and joy today in our hearts. Amen."

ACO, AHS blood drive a success

AMBOY — When a plea goes out from the Red Cross, Amboy and Sublette area people respond. The Red Cross issued its first ever blood disaster and on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022 the ACO and the Amboy High School sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive had 67 participants and 71 units of blood collected which will save 213 lives. We had seven first time donors this year.

Several donors reached milestones ranging from one to nine gallons of blood donated and were presented with certificates in appreciation.

There are so many people to acknowledge for making this happen.

- Jessica Arellano and the Amboy High School student council, especially Lauren Tarr and Mason Ely for helping with registration and the students for making reminder phone calls and posting on Facebook.
- ACO members Eileen Piper, Carol Ely, Judy Brinkmeier, Maureen Oester and Christine Noble for the hospitality they showed at the Canteen
- The First National Bank in Amboy, the Amboy Community Building and the Shell Gas Station for advertising on their marquees
- The Amboy News for publishing articles advertising the blood drive
- The City of Amboy and the Amboy Community Building staff, Julia DeArmitt, for the use of their beautiful building
- Jeremy Wittenauer and the maintenance department for setting up and taking down chairs and tables and for shoveling the snow.
- The churches of Amboy for putting a plea out to their congregations
- The Red Cross for all their help
- But most of all the very generous blood donors of our community who braved the weather to come out to donate blood.

From The Heart Calendar winners

January 2022 From The Heart Calendar Winners

Jan. 1 – From The Heart, \$1,000
 Jan. 2 – Michele Norkus, Sunsit Hills, Mo., \$50
 Jan. 3 – Evi O'Rorke, Steward, \$25
 Jan. 4 – From the Heart, \$25
 Jan. 5 – Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, \$25
 Jan. 6 – Dwayne Rangel, Rochelle, \$25
 Jan. 7 – Paul J. O'Rorke Jr., Steward, \$25
 Jan. 8 – Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
 Jan. 9 – Rochelle Rotary

Club, \$50

Jan. 10 – Martha A. Reed, Steward, \$25
 Jan. 11 – Foundation for Focus House, \$25
 Jan. 12 – Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
 Jan. 13 – Diane Wegener, Rochelle, \$25
 Jan. 14 – Foundation for Focus House, \$25
 Jan. 15 – From the Heart, \$25
 Jan. 16 – Kathy Windland, Rochelle, \$50
 Jan. 17 – Karen Cech, Rochelle, \$25
 Jan. 18 – Foundation for Focus House, \$25
 Jan. 19 – Kim Dewey,

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.

MENDOTA— OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center has announced a time change for the Grief Support Group offered at the hospital. The group will meet on the first and third Thursday of the month in conference room C, from 3 to 4 p.m. The Grief Support Group is an informal gathering to provide a forum to share feelings, experiences with others who have recently experienced the loss of a loved one.

LEECOUNTY—The University of Illinois Extension presents a weekly educational series for the small farm community. Small Farm Winter Webinar Series will be presented on Thursday, Feb. 3, from noon to 1 p.m. These online presentations will give small farm producers a look at how leading practices in production, management, and marketing enable operations to improve profitability and sustainability. The complete list of topics and speakers is included on registration site. Webinars will be held from noon - 1 pm on Thursdays and are free. Register online for Vining Through Pumpkin Production: go.illinois.edu/SmFarmsWebinarSeries

DIXON— Kids & K-9's is a survey class that will introduce you to all facets of training including obedience, rally, agility, and showmanship. It is also designed to help your dog become a more integral part of your family. Open to youth ages 8-18 beginning Saturday, Feb. 5 and running select Saturdays through June. Beginners will take place at 11 a.m. with advanced classes following at 1 p.m. The fee will be free for 4-H members and \$20 for non-4-H members. Register online at go.illinois.edu/kidsk9

DIXON—The KSB Hospital, in partnership with the Lee County Health Department is offering a Babysitting Academy for youth ages 12-18, on

Saturday, Feb. 5, in the third floor atrium of Town Square Center, 101 W. Second St. Dixon. Check in is at 8:45 a.m., with classes from 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. This class is designed to prepare youths who are planning to babysit with the important skills and knowledge necessary to responsibly and safely care for infants and children. The cost is \$20. To sign-up visit www.ksbhospital.eventbrite.com or call KSB Community Wellness at 815-285-5836. Class size is limited to 12 and masks will be required.

AMBOY—The City of Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 7, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

EAST GROVE TWP—The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, at the East Grove Township Hall.

LEE COUNTY—"Get Savvy - Grow Your Green Stuff" is an annual webinar series coordinated by University of Illinois System Student Money Management Center and University of Illinois Extension with partners across the state, including Illinois Division of Financial & Professional Regulation, Loyola University Chicago and DePaul University. This webinar series will be held from noon – 1 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 9, and is aimed to inform, educate, and empower its viewers about important financial topics. All webinars are free and open to the public. Register online to attend Money in Relationships at: <https://forms.uofi.illinois.edu/sec/1279302>

AMBOY—The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 9, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

MAY TWP—The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 9, at the township maintenance building.

DIXON—The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive from 1 – 5:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 9, at the Dixon Home of Hope, 1637 Plock Road, Dixon. Appointments are preferred; walk-ins welcome upon availability.

For appointments, please call 815-288-9622 or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

LEECOUNTY—The University of Illinois Extension will host a monthly sessions on environmental topics presented by University of Illinois Extension's Energy & Environmental Stewardship Team, on Thursday, Feb. 10

at 1 p.m. These webinars will both provide new information on natural resources and help you learn how to make small changes in your lifestyle to have a positive impact on the environment. Register online for Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy at: go.illinois.edu/everyday-environmentwebinars

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Old Car Donations Needed

The Amboy Fire Department is looking for donations of old cars to be used in training at the Amboy Fire & Extrication School 2022 on April 9.

Cars need to be donated by **April 1** and the fire department will come and pick them up.

This Bi-Annual Fire & Extrication School in Amboy, offers classes designed for students using local, regional, and national fire department instructors.

To donate, contact the Amboy Fire Department at **815-857-2325** or info@amboyfire.com



LOCAL NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION NEWS

Saturdays With A Master Gardener Kicks Off

Beat the winter blahs, start thinking spring. What better way to look forward to spring than to start planning your garden. Gardeners have taken their cue for planting times from nature—join Whiteside County Master Gardeners as they navigate common garden folklore. Learn how seasonal signs can tell you which chores to do in the garden.

“Grab your Websters’! It’s time for Pant Phenology” will take place on Saturday, Feb. 12, from 10 a.m. – noon at the Whiteside County Extension Office, 12923 Lawrence Rd., Sterling. You must be registered to attend, to register online at: go.illinois.edu/whitesidesaturdays or by calling Mary Nelson at 815-632-3611. Registration will be limited to 25 participants, social distancing and masks will be required.

“Grab your Websters’! Its time for Plant

Phenology” is the first in the Saturdays with a Master Gardener series.

Put Ready...Set...Grow...Back on Your March Calendars for 2022

On Saturday, March 19, the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners of Carroll, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties will be hosting the 2022 Ready...Set...Grow...gardening workshop from 9 a.m. to noon at the Loveland Community Building, 513 W 2nd St., Dixon.

This year’s keynote address: The Lore and Lure of Spring Wildflowers, will focus on spring wildflowers and how they produce a dramatic show from late March through late May.

Our keynote speaker is Nancy Gmitro, a Carroll County Master Gardener and Master Naturalist. She will take you on a tour of her favorite spring wildflowers during the presentation.

Ready...Set...Grow... will also offer two breakout sessions, swag bag, book nook, door prizes, and a Master Gardener Help Desk. Breakout sessions include: Don’t Kill Your Tomatoes, Success with Succulents, Eastern Bluebirds, Hands-on Contained Compositions, Hardy Perennial Vegetable Crops for the Midwest, and “Are My Trees and Plants in Trouble?”. The fee for this program is \$25, and registrations will be accepted until March 9.

Register online or download the registration form at go.illinois.edu/ReadySetGrow

If you are interested in more information about Ready...Set...Grow... or becoming a Master Gardener, please contact your local Extension office. Lee County: (815) 857-3525

Keep Your Brain Healthy with Monthly Brain Health Exercise Class

Keep your brain fit and healthy from the comfort of your own home! Current research indicates that challenging the brain is one of

several things you can do to contribute to your own brain health as you age.

The University of Illinois Extension offers a monthly online Wits Fitness Brain Exercises Classes. Join Extension Educator Karla Belzer as she virtually leads participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory. The monthly classes are held on the fourth Monday each month on Zoom from 10 to 11 a.m. Class dates for 2022 are: Feb. 28, March 21, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 23, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, and Dec. 19.

Each monthly class is free and open to the public and participants are welcome to join the class at any time. Registration is required to join as log on information will be emailed to each participant. For more information or to register, visit go.illinois.edu/witsfitnessonline or call 815-632-3611.

APP continued from page A1

- Don’t rely solely on a high star rating when deciding to download. Keep in mind that shady app developers can generate or purchase fake reviews. One tell-tale sign of a scam is when an app has thousands of five-star reviews with no written comments and hundreds of one-star reviews with negative comments. App developers may have purchased the good reviews to cover up the bad reviews that expose the app as a fraud. Even written reviews can be purchased, though, which leads us to the next tip.

- Read good and bad reviews. Scammers can artificially push good reviews to the top of the list by getting fake users to mark them as “helpful.” They can also pay people to create written reviews claiming the app is great. Take a closer look at the positive reviewers’ accounts, and ask yourself if they look like they are coming from a real person who actually used the app. And don’t stop after reading a few good reviews. Take the time to check out poor reviews to find out what people

didn’t like about the app. All apps will generate a few bad reviews, but if you notice an app has several reviews where users mention they were “scammed” or the app didn’t deliver what it promised to, steer clear.

- Read the app’s privacy policy before you download. Take a few minutes to read the app’s terms of service and privacy policy and take note of what personal information the app will access and how it will use that information. It could be a red flag if the permissions don’t make sense (for example, if a weather radar app says it needs access to your contacts to work). In addition, any app that doesn’t have a privacy policy is probably not safe to use.

- Make sure you download the real version of any app you look for specifically. One popular tactic scammers use is to create copycat apps to trick people into downloading. If you are looking for a popular app, keep in mind it may not be the first to appear on the list after you search for it. Look out for similar but not-quite-right logos and app developer names that don’t look legitimate. Read the app’s description text carefully, too. Impostor apps often contain descriptions that don’t make sense or spelling and grammatical errors.

- Keep an eye on free trials. Many app store scams start by offering you a free trial. Scammers hope you’ll sign up for a free trial and then forget to cancel. Many scam apps charge for weekly instead of monthly subscriptions, which can add up quickly, even if you are only charged a few dollars at a time. Whenever you sign up for a free trial, test it out right away and unsubscribe before you get charged if you don’t plan on using the service. Both Google and Apple allow you to access all of your subscriptions in a single place, so you don’t have to do any digging to find an “unsubscribe” button that an app developer may have hidden.

- Do regular app housekeeping. Out-of-date apps are particularly vulnerable to hackers. This is because they may have security issues that haven’t been addressed through updates. If you haven’t used an app in a few months, or you notice an app hasn’t been updated by the developer recently,

it’s probably best to delete it.

- Watch out for shady app behavior after you download. If you decide to download an app after reading reviews and the privacy policy, you’ll still want to keep a critical eye on how it works. Asking for unnecessary permissions, disappearing from your home screen, draining your battery or data even when not in use, and not doing what it promised to do are all signs of a scam.

- Report fraudulent apps. If you spot an app scam, report it. In the Google Play store, you can flag an app as inappropriate and then explain the reason. In a recent update to Apple’s iOS, you can now “report a problem” on any app’s description page and then select “report a scam or fraud.” You can also report app scams to BBB.org/ScamTracker. For more information

Check out BBB.org or follow us @ChicagoBBB on social media.

BBB of Chicago and Northern Illinois is a nonprofit organization that has served both consumers and trustworthy businesses for over 95 years and is a part of the IABBB. We help protect consumers from scams and provide a free database for consumers to see business ratings and reviews to find businesses they can trust. We connect consumers with businesses they can trust.

OFFICES

continued from page A1

The Illinois State Constitution adopted in 1970 created separate offices of Comptroller and Treasurer. Combining them requires passage of a constitutional amendment, which needs a three-fifths majority vote of the General Assembly to place the question on the next General Election ballot for Illinois voters to approve.


Representative Demmer has consistently filed legislation to combine the two offices, but has been blocked by Democrats unwillingness to advance common sense reform proposals. In the 101st General Assembly Demmer filed HJRCa 22; in the 100th General Assembly he filed HJRCa 25; and in the 99th General Assembly he was sponsor of Leader Durkin’s effort to combine the offices in HJRCa 3.

Several neighboring states have already successfully combined the operations of separate fiscal offices for efficiency and savings including Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. In Illinois the merger has been estimated to save taxpayers up to \$12 million annually and is supported by government efficiency advocates like The Civic Federation.

Representative Demmer serves Illinois’ 90th District which includes portions of Lee, Ogle, DeKalb and LaSalle Counties.

The family of Robin Meyer Hochgrebe would like to thank everyone for your expressions of sympathy, cards, memorial donations and attendance at her memorial service. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Blessings,
Gordon and Joy Meyer and family





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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 Brian McWethy 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 Fronck 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 Fronck West Brooklyn Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.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 Fronck - Maytown Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 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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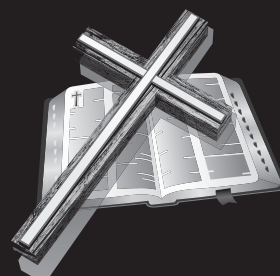
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Opinion

IFB President: 2022 priorities indicate changes ahead for agriculture

The icy winter temps in the Midwest mean a slow season for many. But for Illinois farmers like me, it's the time of year to plan ahead for the spring planting season.

Many in agriculture are already feeling the strain of rising input costs and fractured supply chains due to the ongoing pandemic. Farmers are worried these issues could be compounded by additional water regulations and unreliable fuel standards, which will drastically impact many family farms.

The Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors, which represents the largest group of farmers in the state, set new priorities for the organization in January. They'll focus on supporting members as the ag industry faces the challenges ahead.

Rising input costs

Since the spring of 2020, nearly every person has experienced price fluctuations and supply limitations on products they need. For farmers, fertilizer shortages have made a large dent in business profitability.

Growers are reporting price hikes of more than 300% on fertilizer purchases this year. That's especially significant because fertilizer costs account for approximately 15% of the total cash costs for crops.

And the lack of truck drivers and congestion at American ports mean delivery times are anyone's best guess.

If these trends continue, consumers might also see rising prices at the grocery. To curb this issue, we're looking to Congress to help us find solutions.

Changing water regulations

Last November, the Biden administration announced a plan to return to a previous definition of "waters of the United States." The proposed regulation would repeal the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule and broaden the federal

Guest Column

By Richard Guebert, Jr.



parts of their land, it's a big concern.

As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers considers a final rule, the agriculture community would like to see clear terms that are easy to interpret and apply, with flexibilities for landowners to conduct innovative and environmentally beneficial projects.

Expanding infrastructure, broadband

As one of the largest producers and exporters of soybeans and corn in the country, Illinois ag has played a critical role in ag trade for decades. Over time, the transportation of commodities has left roads, bridges and waterways in our state in desperate need of repair.

The \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill signed into law by President Biden last fall works to address the wear and tear

government's authority under the Clean Waters Act.

Farmers are frustrated with the federal government's decision to expand federal jurisdiction onto waterways on private lands.

The revised rule would make it difficult for farmers and property owners to decipher where their property will be impacted and create challenges when implementing conservation practices in those areas.

For people whose properties won't be affected by the ruling, this issue might seem trivial. But for family farmers who would lose the right to manage

on transportation systems across the nation.

As funds make their way to our state, it's important that they're used to rebuild transportation routes that get supplies to farms and, in turn, help farmers get their products to consumers.

Dollars should also be disbursed fairly to rural areas, especially the funds marked for expanding rural broadband.

The need for additional education and telehealth resources has become increasingly important while dealing with fluctuating COVID cases over the past couple of years.

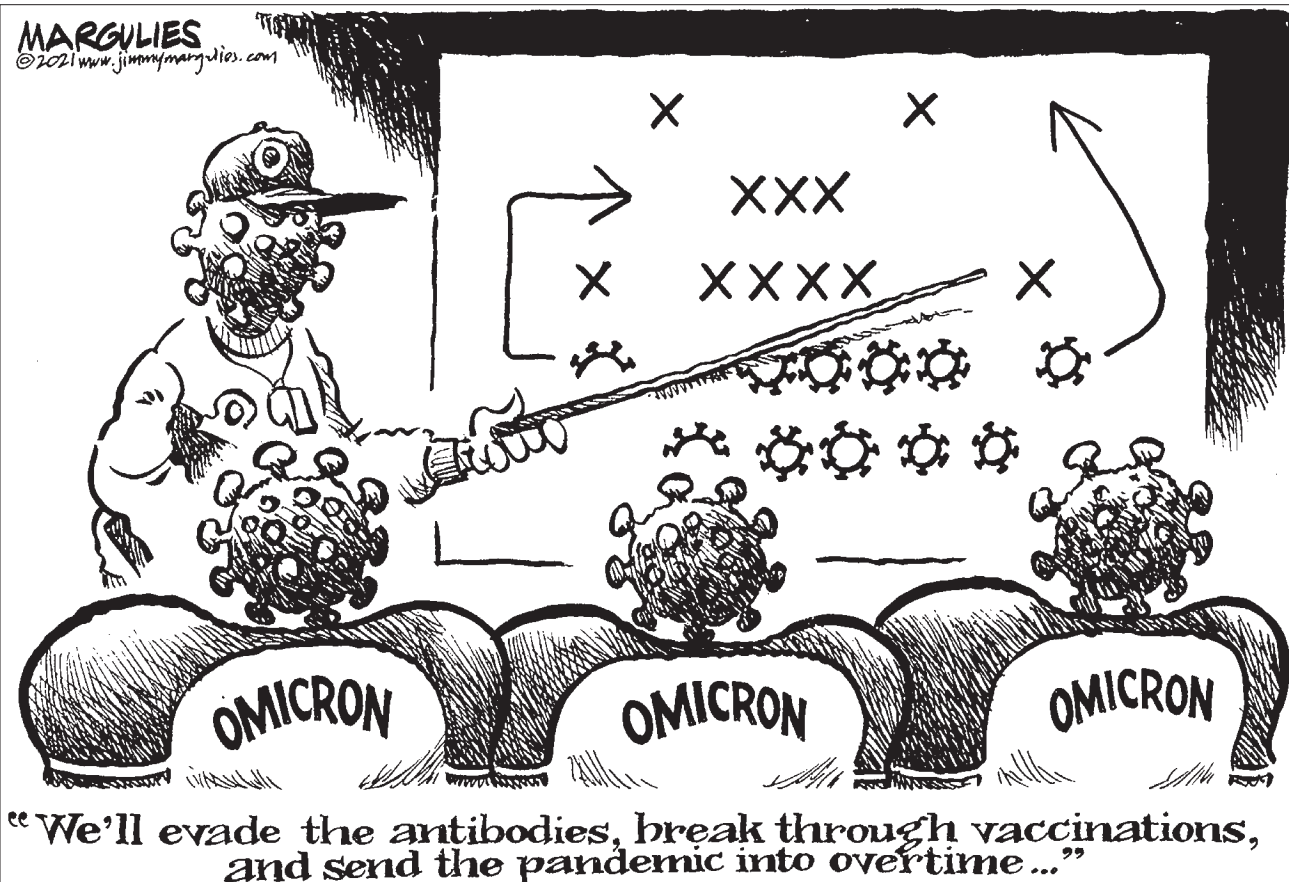
As it stands, many farmers and entrepreneurs in small towns lack the technology they need to improve their businesses.

When large meat packing plants closed their doors early on in the pandemic, small companies stepped up to the plate to fill the need. The situation demonstrated why businesses of all sizes are needed to keep our domestic food supply strong.

Just imagine the innovation and economic gains that would come with access to reliable, affordable and fast internet in all parts of the state, not just the highly populated areas.

With so much on the table for farm families in 2022, it's critical that they get the tools they need to succeed. The supply of food, fuel and fiber people depend on relies on the strength of agriculture in our state.

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



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Feb. 3, 1922

H.F. Epperson, our Amboy Home Furnisher, advertises a big price reduction sale to begin Saturday, Feb. 4, and end the 18th.

The barbers of Amboy are posting a new price list to go into effect next Monday, Feb. 6. This is in line with the tendency in every other business. Barbers in many other places are doing the same thing and this should have the effect of making home barbering less popular than it has been for a long time.

75 Years Ago Feb. 6, 1947

Captain Francis I. Jacobs, son of Mrs. C.C. Jacobs of this city, flew the

London-Ankara, Turkey non-stop portion of Pan American World Airway's New York to Ankara trip last last week.

Mrs. Louis Sahnnon and daughter, Catherine Anne of Amboy, Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Donnell and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dieter and daughter of DeKalb, spent Sunday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Lena Morrissey and daughter Catherine.

50 Years Ago Feb 3, 1972

Sharon U. Thompson, 30, has announced that she will be an independent candidate for the Lee County Board from District 3, which serves all of Dixon Township, south of the Rock River except for Precinct 18 on the extreme southwest side.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Gehant, West

Brooklyn, and Ray Jeanguenat, Dixon, were dinner guests Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Agnes Lovering.

25 Years Ago Jan. 30, 1997

Amboy High School's FFA Parliamentary Procedures team won First Place last weekend in District competition. The seven member team outscored 50 other teams to win the honor. Members of the team include Dana Nauman, Chris Streit, Katie Myers, Brian Shippert, Tina McCoy, James Mead and Nick Dinges.

John Eustace, Music Director at Amboy High School, has announced that Annah Marshall and Betsy Reck have been named to the Illinois Music Education Association All-State Chorus.



Established In 1854

The Amboy News

**Publisher/Circulation/
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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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The Amboy News is in no way responsible for errors in copy furnished by the Customer. Adjustment or republication in the next available issue will be made for that amount of space involved in errors resulting from failure of the Amboy News to correct errors plainly noted on proof. Customers shall notify the Amboy News of errors in time for correction before the second insertion.

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LOCAL NEWS

Educational Briefs

LOCAL STUDENTS MAKE BRADLEY UNIVERSITY'S 2021 FALL DEAN'S LIST

PEORIA — More than 1900 students were named to Bradley's Fall 2021 Dean's List. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

Your local students include:

Pamela Taylor, of West Brooklyn, majoring in Environmental Science Biology

Hannah Grady, of Amboy, majoring in Electrical Engineering

Bradley University is a top-ranked, private university in Peoria, offering nearly 6,000 undergraduate and graduate students opportunities, choices, and resources to build their futures.

KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE ANNOUNCES FALL 2021 DEAN'S LIST

MALTA — The Office of Student Services at Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Fall 2021 Dean's List. To be eligible for Dean's List honors, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (at

the 100/200 level) during an academic term at Kishwaukee College with a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale. The following Kishwaukee College students have been named to the official Fall 2021 Dean's List:

Calvin Seier, Carter Seier	Amboy
Ireland Bradfield	Ashton
William Miller	Dixon
Joanna Farnsworth	Lee
Joel Bertram	Paw Paw
Benjamin Vaessen	Sublette

KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE ANNOUNCES FALL 2021 PART-TIME STUDENT HONORS LIST

MALTA — Kishwaukee College is pleased to announce its Part-Time Student Honors List for Fall 2021. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have completed a minimum of 6 (but less than 12) semester hours of college-level courses at Kish with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. The following students have been named to the Kishwaukee

College Fall 2021 Part-Time Student Honors List:

Jade Brown	Ashton
Ethan Rutten	Compton
Derek Wildman	Dixon
Kaitlyn Frazier, Clara Hulthen, Lauren Jordal, Audrey Witte, Lucas Woodbury	Lee
Samantha Katschke, Ashlyn McLaughlin, Grant Schlorff, Justin Williams	Paw Paw
Makenna Ferrari	Steward

UW-MADISON ANNOUNCES FALL DEAN'S LIST

MADISON, Wis — The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester.

Dixon
Gretchen Bushman, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List

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Illinois municipal corpo-
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(2022 CH 3)
vs.
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RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

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after that date to the
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for relief in the under-
lying complaint. The
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(29) in the original town
of Amboy, according to
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and PIN 02-15-22-279-
001
Witness: Amy John-
son, Clerk of the Circuit
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1/27/2022
Timothy B. Zollinger –
ARDC 6210502 Ward,
Murray, Pace & John-
son, P.C. Attorney for
City of Sterling
202 E. 5th Street I P.O.
Box 400 Sterling, IL
61081
P: 815.625.8200
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SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #64 Jacob Stewart

Over the next three weeks we will highlight three Clippers from the class of 2008. I have expressed my bias and admiration for all in the class of 2008 in this segment several times, therefore, it is no surprise we would feature three of the very best of the class of 2008.

#64 Jacob Stewart

Jacob began his Junior season starting at Offensive Guard and Defensive Tackle. Thrust into the faster Varsity game, Jacob quickly fit in with his size and physical style of play. There was no one that could line up across from Jacob, on either side of the ball, that he would back down from. Jacob vividly remembers his Junior season and went on to boast about how easy it was to block for RB Daniel Saunders. Jacob also recalled a hit on Hampshire's FB that shared with Mac Kruse. "I was first to hit him and threw him

over my head and Mac was right there to finish the hit", Jacob shared. Needless to say, Hampshire's FB never returned to the contest after that hit. Jacob did not earn any All Conference honors his Junior season, but the wealth in the experience he gained would be invaluable to our team as a Senior.

Joining teammates, Drew Goy and Jordan Willstead in being two-year Varsity starters on the Offensive and Defensive lines, Jacob was ready for another great Clipper season. "This is what we had been working for since Junior Tackle. We knew our capabilities and the whole town was talking about it. Plus, the way we had been coached was to care for one another." Jacob added. Jacob remembers his Senior season well but recalled the great victory at PORTA and how our, vastly undersized, Offensive and Defensive lines wore down the 280lb

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



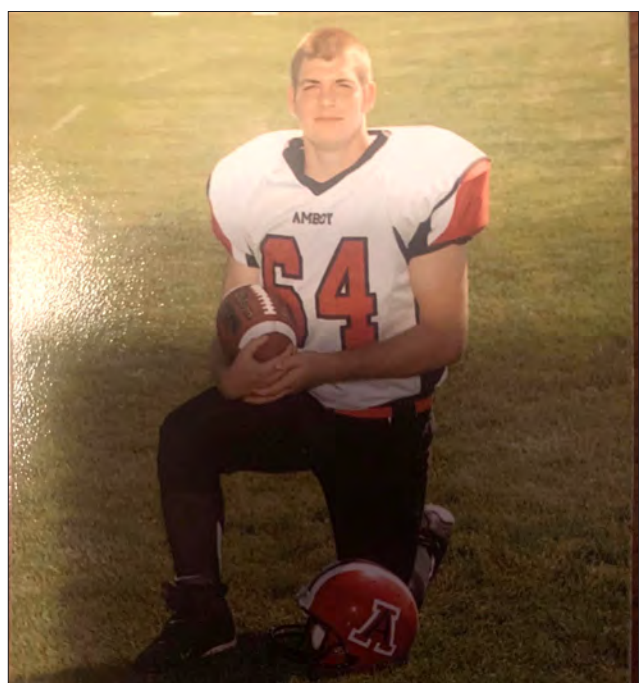
average PORTA lines in the first quarter. "They weren't used to playing Big Rivers, physical football.", Jacob shared. Jacob finished the season earning 2nd Team All Conference honors at Offensive and Defensive Lineman.

Jacob concluded with his meaning of Amboy Football, "We all just wanted to

win for each other. We all had a job to do. It was all about just winning football games. It meant everything to get to play with and share those moments with my best friends. Playing with them was everything."

So, to #64, Jacob "Big Stew" Stewart, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. You are everything an aspiring Clipper Lineman should emulate both on and off the field. No matter anything you achieved on the football field, it is your friendships that speak directly to the great man you are. 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



#64 Jacob Stewart

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.

Lady Clippers improve record to 16-7 overall

AMBOY — It was a good week on the hardwood for the Amboy Lady Clippers as they won both of their games to improve their record to 16-7 overall and 7-1 in the Northwest Upstate Illini Conference. They are tied for first in league play.

Amboy cruised to a 62-19 victory at Fulton on Jan. 25. After an 18-4 first-quarter lead, the Lady Clippers exploded to a 38-11 halftime margin.

Olivia Dinges had a super night for the winners with 21 points, 16 rebounds and four assists. Maeve Larson scored in all four quarters, but she did most of her damage in the first frame. She made three long-range shots for eight points and finished the contest with 16 points and four assists.

Elly Jones added 11 points and led with five steals, while Courtney Ortigiesen and Haidyn Zimmerly finished off the scoring with six points apiece. Guards Olivia Miller and Lexi Ketchum

had a great night of rebounding with six and five caroms, respectively.

Amboy was looking for revenge against Polo and the Lady Clippers got it with a 43-38 verdict over the Lady Marcos on Jan. 27 at Polo. AHS lost to a hot-shooting Polo squad by five points on Jan. 22.

Again, the Lady Clippers had three players in double figure scoring. Dinges had her second double-double of the week with 13 points and 15 rebounds, while she added four assists and three steals. It was her 10th double-double of the season. Jones pumped in 12 points, had four assists and two steals, and Larson provided 10 points, six rebounds and three steals.

Also, Ortigiesen came away with four points and four caroms, Miller scored a big basket early for her two points and Ketchum made probably the most important basket of the game for her

two tallies.

Remainder of schedule

Feb. 2 – at Earlville, 5:30 (var only)
Feb. 4 – at Milledgeville, 6:00 (var only)

Feb. 5 – Newark, 2:00 (JV), 3:30 (var)
Feb. 7 – Milledgeville, 6:00 (var only)
Feb. 8 – AFC, 6:00 (JV), 7:30 (var)
Feb. 10 – Eastland, 6:00 (JV), 7:30 (var)

Pink Night

AHS will host Ashton-Franklin Center on Senior Night and Pink Night on Tuesday, Feb. 8. It's going to be a special night for the three seniors and the rest of the Lady Clippers.

Come early and help girls' basketball raise money for the fight against cancer. You can pre-order a shirt by contacting a player or coach.

If you would like to donate to Pink Night, make checks payable to Amboy Girls' Basketball Cancer Night.

Amboy Police

Driving too fast for conditions

On Jan 23, at 1:05 a.m., Thomas J. Vanloo, 25, of Amboy, was issued a citation for driving too fast for conditions and leaving the scene of property

damage accident. He was given notice to appear in court.

Threatening a Public Official

On Jan. 30, at 4:48 p.m., Jedidiah N.

Spencer, 22, of Amboy, was arrested for threatening a public official, resisting/obstructing a peace officer, and aggravated battery to a peace officer. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.



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SPORTS



Kaylee Scanland of Amboy wrestles against a Durand opponent on Jan. 27 during Amboy's senior night. Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



Dylan Daniels was honored Jan. 27 on senior night for four years of commitment to the Amboy Clippers. Daniels is shown here from a match earlier this season. Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



WRESTLERS HEAD TO REGIONALS

The Amboy Clipper Wrestling will be competing in the 10 team IHSA Individual Regional in Sandwich, on Saturday Feb. 5 at 9 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to come and support the Clipper wrestlers.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

Clippers basketball team loses to three local teams

AMBOY — Earlville pulled away in the second half to post a 49-39 triumph over the Amboy varsity boys' basketball team on Jan. 25 at

the AHS gym.

After trailing by just a bucket at halftime (22-20), Amboy was outscored 10-6 in the third period to fall behind

by six points heading to the fourth. In the final frame, Earlville's Ryan Browder exploded for 13 points to seal the win for the Red Raiders.

Browder finished with 21 points and teammate Griffin Cook added 20. Brennan Blaine led the Clippers with 16 points and Kyler McNinch provided six markers.

The Polo Marcos defeated the Amboy Clippers on Jan. 26 in Polo, 36-18.

Eastland rolled up a 46-16 victory over the Clippers on Jan. 28 at Lanark.

Amboy was down by only three points (13-10) at intermission, but Eastland came out and scored 20 points in the third period and the Clippers only managed three to make the count 33-13 heading to the fourth. Amboy had another three-point output in the fourth quarter.

McNinch had seven points to top AHS scorers.



The Clippers put up defense against the Polo Marcos on Jan. 26 at Polo. Photos courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, Feb. 7

AHS Boys Basketball @ Fulton-5:30 pm
AHS Scholastic Bowl (H) Fulton Unity
AHS Varsity Girls Basketball (H) Milledgeville-6 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 8

AHS Girls Basketball (H) AFC-6 pm
AJHS Girls Basketball @ Dixon Catholic-8th-5/7th-6

Wednesday, Feb. 9

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm
AHS Boys Basketball @ AFC-6 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Dixon Catholic-4 pm

Thursday, Feb. 10

AHS Girls Basketball (H) Eastland-6 pm
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball @ Chadwick-4 pm

Friday, Feb. 11

AHS Boys Basketball @ Milledgeville-6 pm

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Girls Basketball

Elly Jones & Maeve Larson

Boys Basketball

Haden McCoy

Wrestling

Kaylee Scanland, Lucas Blanton & Josh McKendry



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