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The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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IHSA adopts 1-32 seeding in football playoffs; discusses future direction of 8-man football

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Board of Directors met for its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 7.

The Board approved 1-32 playoff seeding in the Class 1A through Class 6A football playoffs. Class 7A and Class 8A were previously seeded 1-32.

At each meeting of the Board of Directors, there are certain items the Board discusses, but upon which no action is taken, or that action may not be required.

The Board also discussed the future of

8-man football and an IHSA playoff for the sport. The IHSA Football Advisory Committee recommended that the IHSA begin an 8-man football playoff and state championship in 2023. The Board is generally supportive of that idea, but did not officially act on it. The Board has requested more details from the advisory committee and IHSA staff on an IHSA 8-man football state series prior to any action, including playoff qualifier numbers, a playoff schedule, number of classes, and school enrollment limitations for participating in 8-man.



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - LEE COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$1,500 to Riley Klein of the Lee County Fair Association. 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 - ST PATRICK FOOD PANTRY

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$1,000 to Barb Harrison of the St. Patrick Church Food Pantry. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

Illinois Department of Revenue highlights senior citizens tax deferral program ahead of tax deadline

CHICAGO—The Illinois Department of Revenue today highlighted the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Program which allows qualified seniors to defer all or part of their property taxes and special assessment payments on their principal residences. Seniors needing assistance paying their property taxes have until March 1st to apply for the program.

The program, which works like a loan, allows qualified seniors to defer a maximum of \$5,000 per tax year (including both first and second installment payments). Deferred amounts are borrowed from the State of Illinois, who pays the tax bill to the

County Collector's Office.

Interest on the amount paid by the State accumulates and a lien is placed on the property for all deferred tax payments and interest, payable upon death of the homeowner, at the time the home is transferred to a new owner, or sooner, if the program participant chooses to pay off the deferred tax payments and interest.

"I encourage all eligible seniors who need help in paying their property taxes to look into this program as the March 1 deadline is quickly approaching," Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) Director David Harris said.

To qualify for the Senior Citizens

Real Estate Tax Deferral Program, a property owner must:

- be 65 years of age or older prior to June 1 of the year that the application is being filed with the County Collector's Office,
- have a total annual household income of no more than \$55,000,
- have owned and occupied the property or other qualifying residence for at least the last three years,
- own the property, or share joint ownership with a spouse, or be the sole beneficiary, or the property owner and spouse be the sole beneficiaries of an Illinois land trust,
- have no unpaid property taxes

and special assessments on the property, and

- have adequate insurance against fire or casualty loss.

To apply for the program, seniors need to contact their local County Collector's Office to receive an application. Once completed, the application must be filed with the Collector's Office on or before March 1 of each year they wish to defer their property taxes or special assessments.

For general questions concerning the program, taxpayers may visit IDOR's website at tax.illinois.gov or contact their local County Collector's Office.

'Coexist with COVID:' Pritzker, Ezike address plan to lift mask mandate by Feb. 28

By JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois

jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – If hospitalizations for COVID-19 continue to decline for the rest of the month, Gov. JB Pritzker plans to lift his executive order that mandates face coverings indoors by Feb. 28. The plan does not apply to schools.

It's unclear what level of rise in hospitalizations could lead the state to change its course, but Pritzker and health officials said at an afternoon news conference Wednesday that such a scenario was not out of the question.

"It's the end of the statewide mask mandate," Pritzker said of the planned Feb. 28 lifting of the order. "But as we've all said, if things get very bad, I think we've seen this before with the onslaught of delta and then omicron (variants of the coronavirus), boy, masks really helped us to keep infection rates, transmission rates down. So, there may come a time in the future when that happens."

Regardless of what happens with hospitalizations, masks will continue to be mandated at schools, on school busses and other public transportation, at nursing homes and congregate living facilities, and at day cares beyond March 1.

"The equation for schools just looks different right now than it does for the general population," Pritzker said at the news conference in Chicago. "Schools need a little

more time for community infection rates to drop, for our youngest learners to become vaccine eligible and for more parents to get their kids vaccinated."

Masks, testing and vaccines have worked to keep schools open, Pritzker said, and that was the primary goal of the administration.

But whether he has the authority to issue such mandates in schools will be a question decided by state courts. The 4th District Court of Appeals is currently considering whether a lower court's temporary restraining order on the governor's school mandates pertaining to about 170 school districts will remain in effect.

Pritzker called Judge Raylene Grischow's opinion an "extremely bad decision," as well as "poorly written" and "poorly decided."

Without giving a timeline, Pritzker said "in the coming weeks" school mask mandates could be lifted if the state continues to see progress in terms of hospitalization and disease spread.

The reason the state was able to get to a place where Pritzker could consider lifting the mandate, he said, is because hospitalizations for COVID-19, which pushed heights of 7,400 cases in mid-January, have fallen by nearly two-thirds, to 2,496 cases as of Tuesday night. That marked a decrease of more than 140 from the day prior.

See **HEALTH** page A2

Lee County Feb. 7 COVID update

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department announces 209 new positive cases between Feb. 1-7, 2022 and is saddened to report the deaths of a female resident in her 70's.

Here are the ages that were reported: 22 12 and under, 22 in his or her teens, 29 in his or her 20s, 36 in his or her 30s, 40 in his or her 40s, 36 in his or her 50s, 18 in his or her 60s, 5 in his or her 70s, and 1 on his or her 80s. A total of 11 residents are hospitalized. The county also reported that the number of cases in unvaccinated individuals is 152 of the 209 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 Feb. 11, according to IDPH 48,562 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 19,465 people in Lee County are fully vaccinated, which is 56.88 percent of the population. A total of 20,951 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. A total of 10,332 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.



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #63 Jordan Willstead

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Obituaries

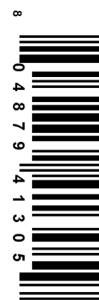
Vera Mason

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Snyders



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HEALTH continued from page A1

Twenty percent of state-wide intensive care unit beds were available as of Tuesday night, up from a low of about 8 percent four weeks ago, Pritzker said.

It's a faster decline in hospitalizations than at any point in the pandemic, Pritzker said.

Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said 89 percent of those hospitalizations are in unvaccinated individuals. Approximately 75 percent of the state's population has received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, putting Illinois at the top of Midwestern states.

Ezike said lifting the mandate does not signify an end to COVID-19, but the latest in the state's effort to "coexist with COVID."

"Your actions that you've already taken have helped to reduce the amount of virus circulating and it absolutely has saved lives," she said. "But be clear that COVID is not gone and it won't be gone on Feb. 28. So, we are going to continue to find ways to live with the virus."

The path forward likely includes masks, vaccines, testing and creating safer settings through better ventilation, she said.

Local jurisdictions and businesses may continue to enforce stricter masking guidelines than outlined by the state.

Pritzker did not state specific metric thresholds would need to be met before school mask mandates could be lifted, but noted he hoped it would be "weeks rather than months" when a decision could be made. He deferred to Dr. Emily Landon, an infectious disease specialist at the University of Chicago, when asked about specific metrics.

Landon said "metrics are really tough" when it comes to COVID-19 tracking. The CDC recommends an analysis of COVID-19 cases and positivity rates, but new at-home tests could change that calculus. For schools, which can serve as a breeding ground for the virus as community hubs, case rates, hospitalizations and other metrics should be watched, she said.

Flexibility is needed, she said earlier in the news

conference.

"Many have asked for a metric or a number that will guide the rules and regulations," she said. "But each wave of this pandemic has had different characteristics, different behavior, and no single metric has been able to reliably predict the outcomes and the trajectory of each of the variants."

Ultimately, Pritzker said, his decisions will come down to the advice of doctors, epidemiologists and the CDC.

"People really do feel that the trajectory here is one that we're going to be able to hold onto," he said.

The announcement didn't sit well with Republicans in the General Assembly who have criticized Pritzker's "top-down" approach to the pandemic. House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs, criticized the governor in a statement.

"Gov. Pritzker's failure to have a clear plan in place for schools to give parents and children hope of returning to a normal life is astounding," Durkin said in the statement. "It is year three of this pandemic, and continuing to leave these families in the dark, with no data or metrics presented, is unconscionable and a clear sign the governor should not be trusted to get us out of this pandemic."

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Homemade Pie auction Thank you's

Katie Dickinson graciously donated her time and talent in making pies for our auction in our certified kitchen. We are grateful to her and her generosity and to those who purchased pies and donated money: Angela O'Callaghan; Christine Chesier; Justine Jones; Mark and Kim Becker; Katie Draper; Matt and Annie Albee; Fran Kessel; Brook and Denny Weidman and Teresa Machen.

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: Those that donate cans and Larry Piper for taking them to recycle; Mark and Veronica Grossman for items; Don and Pam Moreno for supplies; Jimmy and Moreen Ackert for the puzzles; Amy and George Schwamberger for Christmas items; Amboy Food and Liquor for the bread; Becky and Eddie Lopez for the food and monetary donation; Sandy Schamberger for the grapes; Diamond Merboth for items; Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the bologna, cheese, bread, yummy cupcakes, and Valentines; Mr. and Mrs. Tim Burkardt for the monetary donation; Janet and Craig Setchell for the cookies; Sandy Draper for the cookies; Deb and Art Albee for the items and Mary for the items.

Many folks have donated in memory of Jack O'Callaghan and we would like to thank them: Martin and Sarah McEvoy; Deborah Cheshier; Joy Tsujimoto; Steve and Ann Gronlund and Mark Skorczewski/DBA S&K Construction Enterprises, LLC.

Needs

Snacks and fruit

Final Word

Almighty and Eternal God,
You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You.
Hear us for your sick servants
for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy,
that being restored to bodily health,
that they may give thanks to You in Your Church.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen

Amboy Police

Disorderly conduct

On Feb. 10, at 12:45 p.m., a 14-year-old male juvenile, was issued a citation for disorderly conduct. He was released to his parents.

Disorderly conduct

On Feb. 13, at 2:15 a.m., Miranda E. Wright, 30, of Amboy, was issued a citation for disorderly conduct, fighting/fighting words, and trespassing. She was issued a city ordinance citation.

Polo to host 37th annual Farm Toy Show

POLO – The 37th annual Polo Farm Toy Show will be on Saturday, March 5 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Polo High School. The event, sponsored by the Polo Lions Club, will feature about 100 dealer tables and a 50/50 drawing. The cafeteria will be open.

Admission is \$3 for adults and children 12 and under are free.

For dealer information please call Irene Short at 815-946-3730.

Polo High School is located at 100 Union Ave. in Polo.

CGH Auxiliary to host annual Quilt Raffle

STERLING — In honor of the CGH Auxiliary's 75th anniversary, the Auxiliary is selling raffle tickets for a quilt made by member Pat Specht and machine quilted by Jan Davis. The pattern is Lincoln Logs and measures 76" by 66". Tickets are \$5 each or a book of 5 tickets for \$20. You may call 815-625-0400 x5727 to purchase tickets (cash or check) and arrange for curbside pick-up at the hospital front entrance. The drawing will be on Friday, March 4.

For more information, please contact the CGH Auxiliary, 815-625-0400, ext. 5727.

Email news items to
tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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.

To donate, contact the Amboy Fire Department at 815-857-2325.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

AMBOY—Ready to start your gardening adventure? Hybrid Master Gardener Training with live sessions starts Feb. 15. Participants will study online each week and then attend a weekly live webinar session on zoom or at their local Extension office Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. – noon for 12 weeks. After completing your training, you can volunteer as a Master Gardener at Illinois Extension to serve Carroll, Lee and Whiteside counties. For more information or registration contact 815-632-3611 or online at go.illinois.edu/clwmgtraining.

AMBOY—The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17, at Central School Gym.

LEE COUNTY—Lessons for Living are monthly workshops which provide easy-to-understand tips for living full, rich lives. The free online webinars, taught by University of Illinois Extension educators, are extended at no cost to the public in collaboration with the Illinois Home and Community Education units throughout the state. On Thursday, Feb. 17, at 10 a.m. is the next workshop. One may register online at go.illinois.edu/2022HCElessons for webinar on Cultivating Your Own Blue Zone.

LEE COUNTY—The University of Illinois Extension presents a weekly educational series for the small farm community. 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. To register online

for Paw Paws Our Native Tropical Fruit on Thursday, Feb. 17, go.illinois.edu/Sm-FarmsWebinarSeries

AMBOY—The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 21, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

LEE COUNTY—4-H Virtual Leaders Training, will be held online from 9 a.m. – noon, on Feb. 26. This Zoom-based training is open to 4-H volunteers and youth leaders from Boone, DeKalb, Ogle, Lake, McHenry, Carroll, Lee, Whiteside, DuPage, Kane, and Kendall Counties. Build your knowledge and skills with other adult and youth volunteers from around the region at this free training. Select from a variety of workshop sessions to customize your experience to fit your needs and interests. Sessions will be taught by State 4-H Specialists and other Extension Professionals. Register online at go.illinois.edu/4H-VirtualLeaderTraining by Feb. 20.

AMBOY—The Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #8277 will host a Euchre Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 27, at St. Joseph's Hall, 32 N. Jones St., Amboy. Doors open at noon, tournament starts at 1 p.m. The entry fee is \$10 per person. Cash prizes will be awarded. Ten games will be played using the "round robin" or progressive tournament rules. No partner needed. At the end of each round everyone changes partners. Chili and snacks will be provided. BYOB. Proceeds to benefit Teen Turf. Contact Will at 815-849-5112 for questions.

LEE COUNTY—Wits Fitness will be held online from 10 – 11 a.m., on Monday, Feb. 28. Keep your brain fit and healthy from the comfort of 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. Challenging activities is one way to train your brain and keep your wits fit. Each virtual class is free and open to the public!. Registration is required to receive log on instructions. Participants may also join by phone as well and are welcome to join

the class at any time. Register online at: go.illinois.edu/witsfitnessonline

LEE COUNTY—Lee County Project Pool will be held on March 5. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the event will last until noon, at the Lee County 4-H Center, Amboy. This morning work-

shop is designed to showcase some of the unique project options available in the 4-H program. Open to all 4-H members ages five to 18 and their friends; need not be a 4-H member to participate. Pre-registration is required by Feb 23. Register online at: go.illinois.edu/projectpool.

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Thursday – A). Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes with gravy, winter blend vegetables, wgr wheat bread – 1, cherry crisp. B). Ham/chicken noodle.
Friday – Cheesy beef taco, wgr flour tortilla, lettuce/tomato, Spanish rice and beans, fresh fruit, taco sauce.

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

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Vera A. Mason

Dec. 17, 1936 - Feb. 11, 2022

AMBOY — Vera A. Mason, 85, of Amboy, died Thursday, Feb. 11, 2022 at Prairie Crossing in Shabbona.

She was born Dec. 17, 1936 in Aurora, the daughter of Charles and Agnes (Wagner) Bastian. Vera had worked at Fantasy Flavors in Amboy for 10 years. She was a founding member of the Amboy Depot Commission, volunteered at the Depot Museum and served on the Board of Directors.

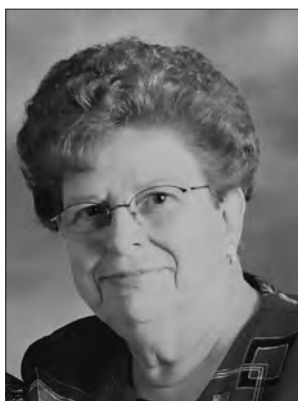
Vera married John E. Mason on Nov. 24, 1955 in Batavia.

He preceded her in death

July 25, 1997. She was also preceded in death by her parents, two sisters Louise Hargitt and Grace Vargo and one brother Elden Bastian.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services will be held at noon, on Tuesday Feb. 15, 2022, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Burial will follow at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. – noon, on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers a donations can be made to the Angel Fund at the Amboy



Veterinary Clinic.

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

Standardized tests no longer required for Illinois public college admissions

By ZETA CROSS

Center Square contributor
SPRINGFIELD — Illinois public colleges and universities have dropped the requirements for SAT and ACT college board tests.

The Higher Education Fair Admissions Act passed the Illinois Legislature last year and took effect Jan. 1. The law makes it easier and cheaper for Illinois students to apply to college. State Sen. Christopher Belt, D-Swansea, sponsored the bill, saying that a high school record is a better predictor of success in college than a one-time test.

Bob Schaeffer, executive director of FairTest.org, says the change in policy by Illinois public colleges levels the playing field for students who can't afford the testing fees and who can't spend the money to take pricey test prep classes.

"Everyone knew that well-to-do kids had a leg up in the college admissions process," Schaeffer told The Center Square. The Varsity Blues college admissions scandal demonstrated how the testing process could be exploited, Schaeffer said.

In 2019, more than 30 wealthy parents and celebrities were caught bribing test monitors to change test

scores. Some even hired imposters to take the tests for their children.

Schaeffer said the SAT and ACT testing fees are a barrier for low-income families when it comes time to submit applications.

"It's a very expensive proposition for low-income families," Schaeffer said. "It adds up to hundreds of dollars for most students."

The COVID-19 pandemic caused the University of Illinois and most U.S. colleges to suspend the requirement for testing in 2020 and 2021.

"The University of Illinois found that they were getting as good or better applicants in a test optional environment. And they were getting more diverse applicants," Schaeffer said.

Lake Forest College and the University of Chicago have both been test optional for a number of years now, Schaeffer said. Those schools are among the 1,816 colleges and universities in the United States (out of a total of 2,330) that no longer require the tests, he said. Eighty percent of U.S. colleges and univer-

sities are now test optional.

Northern Illinois University has gone even farther than its counterparts, moving from "test optional" to "test blind," Schaeffer said.

"That means that even if students submit scores, they will not be considered in the admissions or the financial aid process," he said.

State Rep. LaToya Greenwood, D-East St. Louis, who led the Illinois House effort to make Illinois public colleges and universities test optional, has said that she believes the move will encourage more underrepresented minority students to apply to college.

On average, Schaeffer said, that has been the case. However, the University of Chicago has found that lifting the test requirement alone is not a 100% guarantee that a school will attract more minority applicants.

"The University of Chicago has demonstrated that it is far better to go test-optional and also increase recruitment efforts and increase financial aid for historically underrepresented groups," Schaeffer said.

OSF Saint Paul Medical Center honored for excellence in quality care

MENDOTA — The Illinois Critical Care Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) recently recognized OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota, for its ongoing commitment to exceptional quality of care, during a ceremony as part of ICAHN's annual conference.

As part of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program (MBQIP), OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center and other critical access hospitals were asked to voluntarily participate in four defined domains of quality outcomes. These four domains include: Patient Safety/Inpatient; Patient Engagement; Care Transitions; and Outpatient Measures.

"Often, in rural hospitals, having a devoted staff member to abstract and submit this data can be both time-consuming and burdensome," said Laura Fischer, ICAHN Flex Grant Project Manager. "This hospital realizes how important quality of care and an engaged staff is for its patients... From its top leadership on throughout the facility, each strives for continued quality on a daily basis, and that is what we are celebrating today."

OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center was recognized for being in the top 10% of all critical access hospitals in the country for exceptional care transitions for all emergency department transfer patients.

"We are very proud of our team for achieving this level of excellence in health quality," said Dawn Trompeter, President, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. "This is truly a team effort that recognizes our dedication to delivering a healthcare experience of which our patients and staff can be proud."

The Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program began in 2011 as a way for critical access hospitals to demonstrate the quality of care that they provide. This program has continued to evolve, adding new measures and removing outdated ones. In 2016, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy deemed it necessary for CAHs to participate in at least one measure of one domain to receive Flex funding opportunities. Each year, FORHP has increased the level at which the hospital must participate to remain Flex fund eligible.

ICAHN, located in Princeton, is a network of 57 small, rural Illinois hospitals dedicated to strengthening the operations of its member hospitals through collaboration.

The organization is composed of Illinois hospitals who have earned critical access hospital designation by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. ICAHN is recognized nationally for its work with rural healthcare and administers several state, federal, and private healthcare programs.

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Clippers to compete in Shabbona Regional

SHABBONA — The Amboy Clippers have been assigned to the Shabbona (Indian Creek) Class 1A Boys' Regional Basketball Tournament to be played Feb. 19, 23, 25.

The tournament will open on Saturday, Feb. 19 with four games played at the site of the higher seed. The Clippers will travel to Shabbona to take on Indian Creek for a 3 p.m. tip. The other Feb. 19 games have LaMoille at Somonauk, Leland at Pecatonica and Ashton-Franklin Center at Earlville.

If Amboy wins its first-round game, it will advance to the semifinals to play either LaMoille or Somonauk at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23 at Shabbona. The regional championship is set for Friday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

The winner of the Indian Creek Regional moves on to the Pecatonica Sectional to battle the survivor of the Scales Mound Regional at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1. The other sectional teams will come from the Alden-Hebron and Lanark Eastland regionals.

**Shabbona (Indian Creek) Class 1A Regional
Saturday, Feb. 19**

1 – (16) LaMoille at (2) Somonauk – 1 p.m.
2 – **(10) Amboy [Coop]** at (8) Shabbona (Indian Creek) – 3 p.m.

3 – (15) Leland at (3) Pecatonica – TBA
4 – (14) Ashton (A.-Franklin Center) at (7) Earlville – 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

5 – Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2 – 6 p.m.
6 – Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4 – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 25

7 – Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6 – 7 p.m.

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 Fronek Locust Street, Sublette Phone 815-849-5412 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. Thursday - 8:30 a.m.</p>
<p>St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am</p>	<p>East Grove Union Church Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321 449 Reuter Road, Amboy Phone 815-376-6661 1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd. Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult 6:00 p.m. Evening Service Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m. First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. "Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!" Come as you are and join us on the journey!</p>	<p>St. Mary's Church Rev. Randy Fronek West Brooklyn 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 Fronek - 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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SOCIAL NEWS

Educational Briefs

UW-PLATTEVILLE ANNOUNCES
DEAN'S LIST FOR FALL 2021

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. - The University of Wisconsin-Platteville announces its Dean's List, honoring those full-time students who earned high honors in the fall 2021 semester. College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Education require grade-point averages of 3.75 and above for Dean's List honors, while the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.50.

Students from this area on the Dean's List include:

Amboy

Mitchell McLaughlin, Agricultural Business, UW-Platteville

Kathryn Noble, Elementary Education, UW-Platteville

Compton

Marie Barnickel, Agricultural Business, UW-Platteville

Dixon

Nolan Halla, Broad Field Science, UW-Platteville

Riley Kavanaugh, Elementary Education, UW-Platteville

Eric Rasmussen, Biology, UW-Platteville

Eric Rasmussen, Broad Field Science, UW-Platteville

Haley Verdick, Elementary Education, UW-Platteville

Madelyn Verdick, Elementary Education, UW-Platteville

Founded in 1866, UW-Platteville is located in Southwest Wisconsin and has branch campuses in Richland Center and Baraboo. In 2021, UW-Platteville was named the best public institution in Wisconsin for value by Payscale. For more information on the university, visit www.uwplatt.edu.

For more information on the university, visit www.uwplatt.edu.

many service-learning endeavors, which channel the talent and energy of the Drake students toward meeting the needs of the community.

UWPLATTEVILLE ANNOUNCES
CHANCELLOR'S LIST FOR FALL
2021

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Platteville announced its Chancellor's List, honoring those with perfect 4.0 grade-point averages for the fall 2021 semester.

Students from this area who earned the 4.0 grade-point average include:

Compton

Marie Barnickel, Agricultural Business, UW-Platteville

Dixon

Riley Kavanaugh, Elementary Education, UW-Platteville

Founded in 1866, UW-Platteville is located in Southwest Wisconsin and has branch campuses in Richland Center and Baraboo. In 2021, UW-Platteville was named the best public institution in Wisconsin for value by Payscale. For more information on the university, visit www.uwplatt.edu.

UW-PLATTEVILLE ANNOUNCES
FALL 2021 GRADUATES

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Platteville awarded diplomas to more than 600 students from its three campuses for the fall of 2021. The ceremonies were held inside Williams Fieldhouse on the UW-Platteville campus.

Compton

Marie Barnickel, Agricultural Business, UW-Platteville

Founded in 1866, UW-Platteville is located in Southwest Wisconsin and has branch campuses in Richland Center and Baraboo. In 2021, UW-Platteville was named the best public institution in Wisconsin for value by Payscale. For more information on the university, visit www.uwplatt.edu.

LOCAL STUDENTS AMONG
GRADUATES AT UW-EAU
CLAIRE

EAU CLAIRE, Wis — The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire awarded 678 degrees in December. Of the degrees awarded, 676 were received by students attending the Eau Claire campus and 2 were received by students attending UW-Eau Claire - Barron County.

Local students who received degrees and their fields of study are:

Dixon

Brooke Woodinmiller, Business, Master of Business Administration, business administration, Eau Claire
Congratulations, class of 2021.

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

An Antidote for Winter Blues

By now, most of us are pretty much fed up with winter. Snow is beautiful, but it doesn't age well. Basketball is worthwhile, both the Illini and the Bulls are riding high, but watching too much sports can get to you, as the Olympics have proved. A wonderful antidote is Marta McDowell's "Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The Plants and Places that Inspired the Classic Children's Tales."

McDowell's book abounds with Potter's marvelous color drawings and photographs. It begins with Potter's biography. She was born on July 28, 1866 in London into a newly rich family. Educated by governesses, Beatrix grew up isolated from other children, though she did have many pets. The family spent holidays in the Lake District in western England and in Scotland, where she learned her love of nature. "Botanizing was part of her wider interest in natural history that gathered speed in her twenties. She bagged insects, dug for fossils, and drew Roman archaeological findings." She became a skilled and well-regarded botanical illustrator. In 1901, after many rejections, she self-published her first, highly successful children's book, "The Tale of Peter Rabbit."

In 1905 Beatrix became engaged to Frederick Warne, but he subsequently died of leukemia. Grieving and needing her independence at 40, she bought Hill Top Farm in the village of Sawrey in the Lake District. "She chose a working farm with a modest cottage and garden, employing the new vernacular gardening style combining traditional materials, informal dense plantings, and a mixture of ornamental and edible plants." Neighbors started arriving unbidden with contributions: "I am being inundated with offers of plants! It is very kind of people; and as it really is the right time to thin & replant, I don't feel such a robber of the village gardens."

At 47 Beatrix married William Heelis, a local attorney. She kept buying and developing more property; she spent the final 25 years of her life as a farmer and conservation activist. "With Willie, she arranged that all of their real estate would go to the National Trust after they both died."

There follows a year in Potter's garden, from dark winter to the harvest season. Spring: "On the roadsides and in the open woodlands around Sawrey, the English primroses push up in the grass with their pale yellow petals and bright yellow centers. This is the first wildflower in abundance, and must have been for the Romans as well, the word 'primrose' coming from the Latin for first, prima, and rose, rosa." Followed by McDowell's extensive visit to Hill Top farm, a close-up walking tour of Potter's domain, faithfully maintained by the National Trust.

There is a weekly blog I love and you may like. It's called Tuesdays in the Tallgrass about our tallgrass prairie. <https://tuesdaysinthetallgrass.wordpress.com/>

LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO
PRESIDENT'S AND DEANS'
LISTS AT DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, Iowa — The following local students have been named to the Deans' and President's Lists at Drake University.

To be eligible for the Deans' List, students must have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher during the Fall 2021 semester at Drake.

To be eligible for the President's List, students must have earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2021 semester at Drake.

Amboy

Matthew Dinwiddie, President's List

Drake University is a midsize, private university in Des Moines, Iowa, enrolling nearly 3,000 undergraduate and more than 1,800 graduate students. Students choose from over 70 majors, minors, and concentrations and 20 graduate degrees offered through six colleges and schools. Drake students, faculty, and staff take advantage of the wealth of cultural, recreational, and business opportunities found in Iowa's capital city. In return, Drake enriches the city through its own cultural offerings, considerable economic impact, and

The Next Picture Show opens Shades of Grey exhibit through March 26

DIXON — The Next Picture Show (TNPS) is pleased to open the Shades of Grey Exhibit, featuring over 50 works of art by over 25 artists.

On display from Feb. 19 - March 26,

the exhibit will include works from various mediums including painting, drawing, photography, mixed media, and etchings. Each piece will be completed using only black, white, or gray.

Jessica Modica, Executive Director of The Freeport Art Museum, will serve as judge and present awards at the opening reception, Friday, Feb. 25, 6 - 8 p.m., featured music by jazz duo Al and Jeannie Brown.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Hicks Insurance and is available for viewing at 113 West First Street, Dixon. Hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment.

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

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Opinion

Giving a voice to the voiceless

Phil Luciano, perhaps Illinois' best newspaper columnist, hung up his fedora at the Peoria Journal-Star and left the newspaper business.

I've known Phil for 35 years and have long admired his writing. We were once classmates in a graduate program at Sangamon State University back when "Big Jim" Thompson was in the Governor's Mansion and Ronald Reagan in the White House.

He's spent the last 34 years writing for the Peoria Journal-Star and now is working for the local public television affiliate. I'm happy for my friend but sad to see another columnist's byline disappear.

Phil left the paper about three weeks ago. Unfortunately, departures like his are all too common in the newspaper business. In the last year alone, the faces of Mary Schmich, Dahleen Glanton, Steve Chapman, Heidi Stevens, Eric Zorn and John Kass have disappeared from the Chicago Tribune.

In 2020, Bernie Schoenburg and Doug Finke retired from the State Journal-Register and Chuck Sweeney at the Rockford Register-Star died. In 2018, Bill Wundram ended his tenure at the Quad-City Times.

The financial troubles of daily newspapers are not a secret. Papers have had to cut back to stay afloat. Staff cuts are never pretty whether done with buyouts, layoffs or natural attrition.

"Newspaper editors, publishers -- whoever makes those decisions -- see columnists or columns as a luxury that they can't afford anymore. I think that that's unfortunate," Luciano said.

Local columnists are sinews that bind a community together and build loyalty with a newspaper's readers. But they are disappearing.

"We were the gravy on the mashed potatoes, and they don't need the gravy anymore. They're happy to just give the mashed potatoes," said Wundram, who wrote for the Quad-City Times and its predecessor newspapers for 74 years.

He was a master of his craft. He wrote seven columns a week for almost four decades. His name and face became synonymous with the newspaper. When I was a young reporter

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



working with him, folks across the community would ask me if I knew Wundram.

Back in the day, his advice to young reporters like me was straight forward: "There is no news in the newsroom."

In an interview Feb. 13, Wundram added, "It's very difficult to get anything, just sitting at a desk. You have to work and talk to people: little people and big people. Funny people. All shapes and sizes. And I deal greatly with people."

And I should add a good columnist should occasionally make readers uncomfortable.

Wundram said he remembers standing by the graveside of a local soldier being buried during World War II. (He started at the newspaper in 1944.) No one else from the community showed up for the burial.

He wrote a piece shaming the community for failing to honor a local son who had made the ultimate sacrifice for his nation.

Peoria's Luciano said a columnist is in a position to make change.

"If you are going to bat for someone the goal shouldn't always be to raise a ruckus -- or blow things up. It should be about finding a way to help people. ... A columnist, if he is doing his job, should be out talking to ordinary Joes and Janes and be their advocate."

When I talked to my friends Phil and Bill, it was clear that column writing was their calling. It was what they were meant to do with their lives.

I've been writing a weekly newspaper column for about 20 years. At first, it wasn't something I really wanted to do. But Jerry Taylor the former publisher of The Daily Dispatch and Rock Island Argus was persistent. At first, he suggested I write a weekly column. I told him I wasn't interested. I liked writing straight news pieces and had no desire to write opinion. He kept needling me and I kept demurring. Finally, he ordered me to write a weekly column.

I didn't like writing it at first. But he was a good teacher and slowly what I once viewed as a chore became a favorite part of the job.

As a teenager, I loved reading Chicago newspaper col-

umnist Mike Royko.

His newspaper columns dripped with sarcasm and wit. He was always fighting for the underdog and sticking it to those in power. His columns brought to light corruption in Chicago City Hall, the Illinois Capitol and various places across the map.

But the most important thing he did was give voice to the voiceless.

When I was in college, I remarked on how much I loved the Des Moines Register's opinion page and my father, who was a bit of a curmudgeon, huffed, "What's the point of an opinion page?"

I replied that it was to expose people to various points of view. To this day, I love reading columns from across the political spectrum. Why? Well, it's important to understand differing opinions and every once in a while I'll read something so well-reasoned that I decide to change my viewpoint.

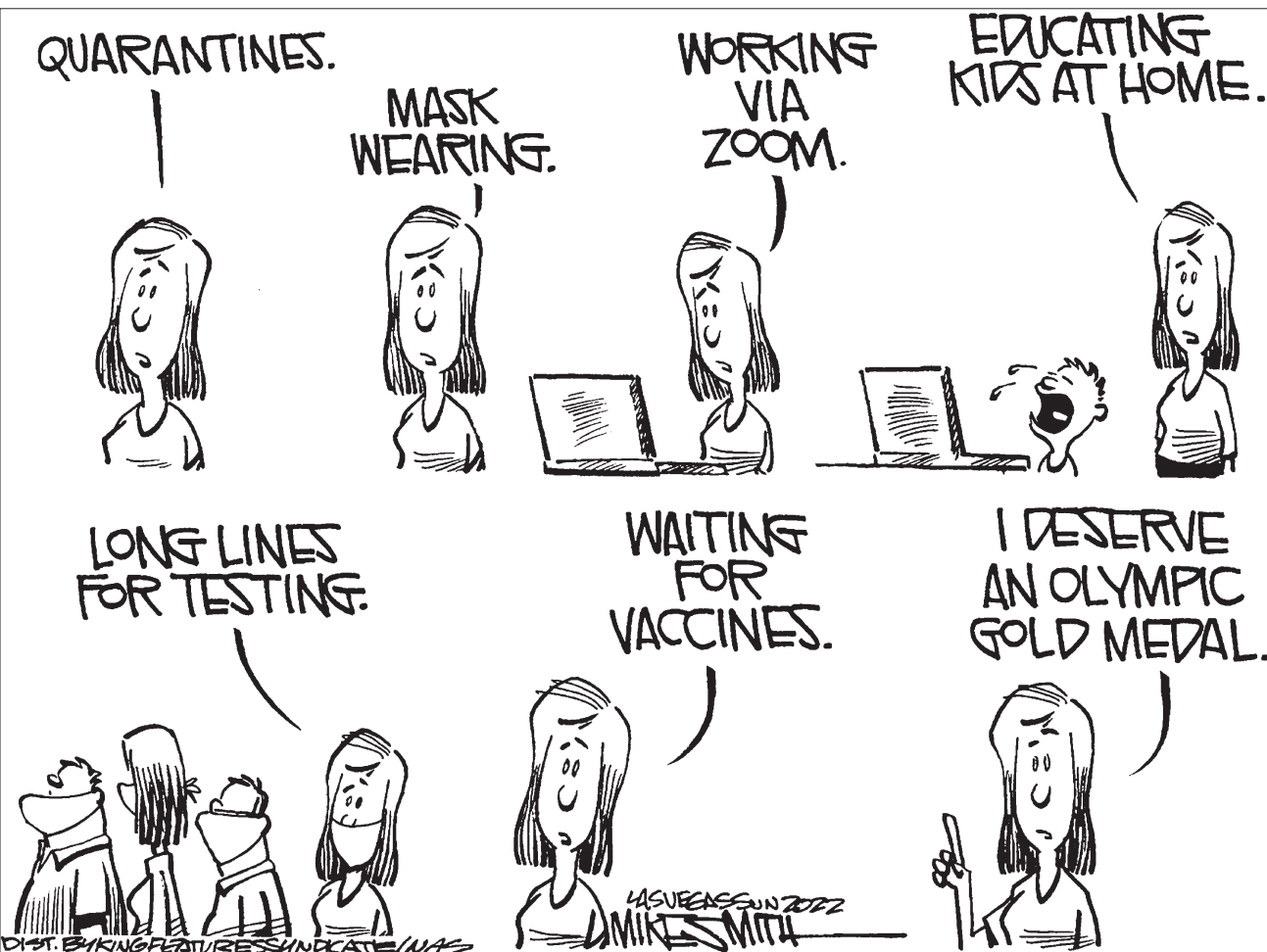
We now live in a Fox News/MSNBC society where increasingly people are choosing to only pay attention to commentary they agree with.

What's the point of that?

I for one, love to read a newspaper opinion page with a variety of views. Good columnists may not get you to change your mind, but they can get you to think.

And in an increasingly thoughtless society, can we ask for anything more?

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



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Feb. 17, 1922

Ladies' high kid boots, French, Cuban, or low heels, black or brown, \$12, now \$6.

John Minnick, formerly of Maytown, struck a vein of gas on his farm two miles southwest of Van Orin last Thursday while boring for water. The pressure on the George Minnick well in Maytown was tested a few days ago and it registered about 28 pounds.

It was only 25 years ago that there were only four automobiles in this country. One of them was in a circus, another was used for a trick exhibition and the two others were regarded as mechanical freaks. Ten million are now registered.

75 Years Ago Feb. 20, 1947

Amboy friends have received announcements from I. Erlin Bartlett, M.D. stating that he has opened an office in Wheaton. Dr. Bartlett was formerly associated with Dr. W.T. Holladay in Amboy.

Delmar Cleaners Amboy's new, modern dry cleaning establishment owned and operated by James McKeown will open for business Friday.

Misses Marjorie Westcott and Lucy Goy were among a class of nine students in St. Charles Hospital, Aurora, who received their caps at exercises held Wednesday night of last week.

50 Years Ago Feb. 17, 1972

Wm (Bill) Kant, Amboy Township farmer-feeder, has announced he is running as a Republican candidate for a member of the Lee County Board from the First District.

Twenty-four Lee County 4-Hers and several adults toured the International Harvester plants in East Moline

and Rock Island Monday. The tour was part of the 4-H power program for members enrolled in automotive, small engine and tractor projects.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Panhollow returned Monday from a plane trip to Louisiana. They left Amboy on Thursday in their private plane, with Mr. and Mrs. Ted Lilja accompanying them.

25 Years Ago Feb. 13, 1997

Brett Heckman, Logan Bute, Travis Full and Andy Rex try out the "Doctor's Office" at Central School. The office is a center in Nan-

cy Anderson's Kindergarten classroom. During the month of February, the students were learning about the heart.

Amboy Postmaster Dan Kelly participated recently in the Amboy-area bone marrow drive. Kelly's participation ties in with U.S. Postal Service's alliance with The Morrow Foundation.

Ken "Skeet" Hackbarth presents a check for \$200 from the Knights of Columbus to Diane Eisenberg, President of the Amboy Civic Organization. The money will be used to help support the Bone Marrow Program in which the ACO is involved.



Established In 1854

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 245 E. Main Street, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

The Amboy News reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, its management and or ownership.

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Fax **815-857-2517**
Website **www.amboynews.com**

SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #63 Jordan Willstead

This is week three of a three week series where 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.

#63 Jordan Willstead

Jordan started at Center and saw time at Outside Linebacker as a Junior. Jordan could have easily been a fullback at any other school in the conference, each of his two Varsity seasons. However, with a strategy that Amboy had since the early 80's, putting hard-nosed, quick, and naturally strong young men on the Offensive Line gave us an advantage. While other teams were wearing down in the 4th quarters, we were still going strong. Jordan was the perfect size and frame to be at the center of it all. For

as lean and mean as Jordan was, his strength was superior to most opponents. Jordan gained valuable experience his Junior season but treasured getting to play right next to longtime friend, and role model, Danny Schrock. Jordan added, "I always looked up to Dan. He was like a brother". As hard of a day as it was following the loss to Plano, Jordan looked at all of his teammates said, "that will not happen next year". Jordan finished his Junior season earning 2nd Team All Conference honors at Center/OL.

As most of our Senior seasons have felt, Jordan shared, "The whole season felt like a blur. It went so fast." Even with the weapons we had offensively and two other two-year Varsity starters on the line, take Jordan away and we are a 5-4 football team. In a class full of leaders, Jordan would speak when he needed to but commanded so much

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



respect that a look could tell you all you needed to know. However, when it came time to celebrate a good play or a scoring drive, there is no one I enjoyed celebrating with than Jordan. All that mattered was our success and his face was all the validation anyone would need when we would execute. Jordan summarized his Senior season with the

following: "It was the most fun I have ever had playing football. There is nothing better in my mind than being an Offensive Lineman except maybe getting to play with all of my best friends. I was so blessed to have such great teammates". Jordan finished his Senior season earning 1st Team All Conference honors at Center/OL and 2nd Team All Conference honors at Outside Linebacker.

Jordan continued his football career at the University of Dubuque where he became a Spartan for four years.

Jordan concluded with, "Amboy Football back then was life. It was the great sense of pride and all of the tradition that came with it. Since the early 2000's I remember 'The Bore's Nest' and I wanted to be one of those guys. I wanted to be one of the guys my team and town was proud of."

See CLIPPER page A10



#63 Jordan Willstead

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT LEE
COUNTY, ILLINOIS**
CITY OF AMBOY, an
Illinois municipal corpora-
tion, Plaintiff,
(2022 CH 3)

vs.
UNKNOWN RECORD
OWNERS and NON-
RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

**PUBLICATION
NOTICE**
To: Unknown Owners
and Nonrecord Claim-
ants:

The above titled Cause
of Action seeks judicial
declaration of title and
ownership, and an Or-
der declaring the same
is now pending in the
Circuit Court of Lee
County.

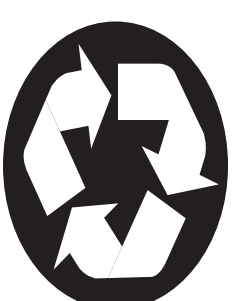
If you fail to answer the
petition filed in said ac-
tion by March 13, 2022,
an order quieting title
may be entered on or
after that date to the
City of Amboy, in ac-
cordance with the prayer
for relief in the under-
lying complaint. The
property which is the
subject of this action is
described as follows:
Legal Description:
Lots One (1) and Two

(2) of Block Twenty-nine
(29) in the original town
of Amboy, according to
the Plat thereof record-
ed in 1854.

Common Addresses:
450 S. Mason Avenue,
Amboy, IL and 305 Wa-
ter Street, Amboy, IL
PIN 02-15-22-276-005
and PIN 02-15-22-279-
001

Witness: Amy John-
son, Clerk of the Circuit
Court
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
zollinger@wmpj.com
No. 0201
(Feb. 2, 9, 16, 2022)



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This publication does
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asking for money in
advance.

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113 FINANCIAL

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For more information,
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advertisements of the
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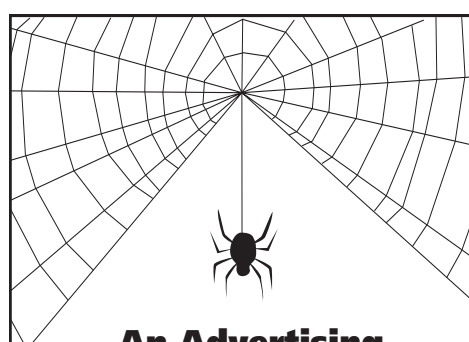
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REPRESENTING ATTORNEY: JOHN BALESTRI
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AUCTION MANAGER: KEVIN HAAS (309) 264-7767
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LAND AUCTION**
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FARMERS AND INVESTORS, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THIS INVESTMENT QUALITY, NEARLY 100% TILLABLE, CLASS A SOILS FARM.

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MICHAEL C. BLUM, TRUSTEE**
REPRESENTING ATTORNEY: M. THOMAS SUITS
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AUCTION MANAGER: KEVIN HAAS (309) 264-7767
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An Advertising Proverb

When Mark Twain was
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Missouri, one of his
subscribers wrote in, saying
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whether it was a sign of good
or bad luck. Twain's
response: "Finding a spider
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The spider was merely
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FIND NEW ROADS



SPORTS

Clipper wrestlers close out season at Sectionals

PRINCETON – The Amboy Clippers closed out the wrestling season at the Princeton Class 1A Sectional on Feb. 11-12.

Levi Near and Dylan Daniels made it to the sectional round for the Clippers, and both were beaten in their two matches.

Near opened the action with a 10-2 loss to Jackson Norris of Byron in the 120-pound class. The AHS grappler was eliminated from the tournament after dropping an 11-2 decision to Henry Hildreth of Stillman Valley.

Daniels competed in the 145-pound division and opened with a pin loss to Sterling Newman's Brendan Tunink at the 36-second mark. Nolan Bobee of Sandwich pinned Daniels at 2:30 to end the Clipper wrestler's season.

Scanland competed in Girls tournament

NAPERVILLE – Amboy's Kaylee Scanland competed in the Naperville Central Class 1A Girls' Wrestling Tournament on Feb. 11-12 at Naperville Central.

Scanland won one of three matches in the 130-pound class and did not earn a bid to the state tournament.

She opened the tournament with a pin loss to Erie's Jayda Rosenow at the 3:19 mark.

Scanland picked up a victory when she pinned Alyssa Robinson of Joliet Central at 1:47, but the Lady Clipper wrestler was eliminated from the competition when she was pinned by Khatija Ahmed of Glenbard West in 19 seconds.

Lady Clippers close out regular season

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers closed out the regular season with two wins in three games on the hardwood.

Amboy hosted Milledgeville on Feb. 7 and cruised to a 55-23 victory.

Olivia Dinges dropped in 15 points and added four assists, four blocked shots and three steals to lead the attack. Courtney Orgtiesen got her first varsity double-double when she fired in 12 points and hauled down 10 rebounds. She also provided four blocks. Elly Jones was the third AHS player in double figures with 11 points, while she dished out five assists and swiped three steals. Also, Haidyn Zimmerly collected eight points and four caroms, Maeve Larson chipped in with five points, Olivia Miller had two points and four rebounds, and Lexi Ketchum tallied two points.

Amboy hosted Ashton-Franklin Center for Senior Night and Pink Night, and came away with a 57-28 win on Feb. 8. AHS's three seniors – Dinges, Zimmerly and Miller – were honored before the game.

Miller had a season-high eight points to highlight the night. Zimmerly handled three rebounds, while Dinges posted her 13th double-double of the season with 16 points and 14 rebounds. She also led with eight assists. Orgtiesen made six of 10 shots and finished with 14 points and she collected six rebounds. Also contributing to the victory were Larson (11 points, eight rebounds), Jones (four points, seven steals, three assists), Tyrah Vaassen (two points) and Emily Sachs (two points).

The Lady Clippers concluded the regular season with Eastland and the conference title on the line, and the Cougars came away with a 49-27 victory on Feb. 10. Eastland played its usual physical man-to-man defense and Amboy could not run its offense effectively in absorbing its worst loss of the season.

Amboy tried to mount a comeback, but injuries to Dinges and Jones early in the fourth quarter ended their dream of a conference championship.

Jones led with nine points and she added three steals, while Dinges had seven points and five rebounds. Also, Larson and Orgtiesen had four points apiece and snared four and five rebounds, respectively. Orgtiesen provided five steals, Miller added two points and Addison Pertell dropped in a free throw.

CLIPPER

continued from page A7

To this day it still remains. It doesn't matter if we are winning or losing, we are still Clippers, still a family."

So, to #63, Jordan "Willly" Willstead, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. I share in your joy of those memories we all created so many years ago but am looking even more forward to the memories we will continue to make as our families grow a mere five miles apart. Sail on!

Spencer Morrissey, is a former resident of Amboy



1960 - 2022
Northern Illinois
Antiques Dealers Association

Presents Its
62nd Annual Antiques Show
Forest Hills Lodge ■ Loves Park, IL
Saturday, February 26, 2022
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday, February 27, 2022
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Located 1/2 mile East of Route 251 on Route 173
1601 West Lane Road ■ Loves Park, Illinois
From I-90, exit Route 172, head West to Forest Hills Lodge
Donation \$6:00
Free Parking - E-mail: NIADA@AOL.com
www.NIADAAntiques.com

Clippers compete on the court

AMBOY — Fulton rolled up a 67-24 win over the Amboy Clippers in varsity boys' basketball action on Feb. 7 at Fulton.

The Steamers took control from the opening tip, racing out to a 21-3 lead after the first quarter. The count was 38-10 at the half and 63-18 with one quarter to play.

Caden Wittenauer had seven points to lead the Clippers, while Ian Eller added five markers.

Amboy and Ashton-Franklin Center played a tight game throughout that eventually went to the Clippers, 55-50, on Feb. 9 at Ashton.

After playing to a 16-16 tie at the end of one, the Clippers held leads of three and four points at the end of the next two quarters, and managed to hold on in the fourth.

Amboy had a balanced scoring attack, led by Brennan Blaine with 16 points. Ian Eller was next with 11 markers, followed by Kyler McNinch with 10, and Haden McCoy and Tucker Lindenmeyer with eight apiece.

Amboy lost a tough battle at Milledgeville, 69-67, on Feb. 11.

The Clippers zoomed out to 15-4 lead after the opening stanza and took a commanding 37-16 advantage to the locker room. But the Missiles heated up in a big way in the second half, scoring 28 points in the third quarter and 25 in the fourth to pull out the improbably win.

Blaine had the hot hand for the Clippers with 23 points, while Lindenmeyer fired in four three-pointers on his way to a 19-point output. Connor Simpson chipped in with 15 tallies.

Right, Brennan Blaine does the tip-off against Fulton.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy's Wesley Wilson plays defense against Ashton-Franklin Center on Feb. 9. The Clippers defeated the Raiders 55-50.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Lady Clippers start Regional action

AMBOY – It was a successful start to the post season for the Amboy Lady Clippers as they coasted to a 44-16 win over Rockford Christian Life on Feb. 12 at the AHS gym. It was the first round of the Durand Class 1A Girls' Regional Basketball Tournament.

The Lady Clippers played Dakota in the semifinals on Tuesday at Durand. An AHS win would mean a date in the regional championship at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 against either Durand or Freeport Aquin at Durand.

Elly Jones scored all 10 first-quarter points as Amboy jumped ahead 10-4. She finished with 16 points, six rebounds and four steals. Olivia Dinges had her usual solid stat line with 12 points, eight rebounds, five assists, two steals and two blocked shots. Courtney Orgtiesen was next with eight points and four caroms, Haidyn Zimmerly contributed five points and three rebounds, and Maeve Larson hit a three-pointer and grabbed four boards.

The Lady Clippers improved their record to 22-8.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, Feb. 21

AHS Boys Basketball Regionals
AHS Scholastic Bowl (H) Polo
No School

Tuesday, Feb. 22

AHS Boys Basketball Regionals

Wednesday, Feb. 23

AHS Boys Basketball Regionals
AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Polo-4 pm
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball @ Polo-5:00 pm

Thursday, Feb. 24

AHS Boys Basketball Regionals
AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Polo-4 pm
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball @ Polo-5:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 25

AHS Boys Basketball Regionals

ERBES Realty LLC

126 W Division St., Amboy
\$157,500



This beautiful ranch style home is all ready for you to move into! Located on a large corner lot. You will be amazed how much bigger it is once inside. Features include: 3 bedrooms, possible one in basement, 2 baths, dining room, kitchen with breakfast bar, stools and all appliances stay, oak hardwood floors, sunken great room with wood burner stove, office area, concrete drive, 2 car detached drive, shed, back fenced in yard for privacy, covered porch and a patio area for entertaining. Call today for a showing!



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lorierbes@gmail.com

815-535-6295

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02022022

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Girls Basketball

Olivia Dinges, Olivia Miller,
Haidyn Zimmerly

Boys Basketball

Connor Simpson

Wrestling

Kaylee Scanland



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NATIONAL FFA WEEK

FEBRUARY 19-26

Designated as a national week in 1947, the week of George Washington's birthday, National FFA Week runs from Saturday to Saturday. The week of George Washington's birthday was selected to celebrate the impact he had on agriculture. FFA Week gives FFA members an opportunity to educate the public about agriculture and show their local impact and story. During the week, chapters conduct a variety of activities to help others in their school and community learn about FFA and agricultural education.

Each year, FFA chapters around the country celebrate National FFA Week. It's a time to share the story of what FFA is and how FFA is preparing future leaders through agricultural education. Currently, FFA has more than 735,000 student members as part of 8,600 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Additionally, the organization is supported by 8 million+ alumni members. What better way to show your support of FFA than to get involved in FFA Week? Whether it's in person, on the phone or via social media, be sure to share your FFA stories. #FFAWeek

Johnson Tractor

340 N Metcalf Ave., Amboy
800-957-2513

Sensient Flavors LLC

Amboy
815-857-4354

KSB

305 E Joe Dr., Amboy
815-857-3044

Carriage House Electric

105 12th St., Mendota
815-538-5598

Amboy News

219 E. Main St., Amboy
815-857-2311

Amboy Dental Group

305 Joe Dr. E #120, Amboy
815-857-2015

Sublette Mechanical

2025 Sublette Rd., Sublette
815-849-5223

Pioneer State Bank

Member FDIC
303 S. Pennsylvania, Sublette
815-849-5242

Amboy CUSD

11 E Hawley St., Amboy
815-857-2164

Sublette Farmers Elevator

100 W Main St., Sublette
815-849-5222

Woodhaven Lakes Realty

509 LaMoille Rd., Sublette
815-849-5476

City of Amboy

227 E Main St., Amboy
815-857-3814

Erbes Realty LLC

1922 Tower Rd., Sublette
815-535-6295

Green River Oaks Resort

1442 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Amboy
815-857-2815

Art Espe State Farm

221 N Mason Ave., Amboy
815-857-2624

Vaessen Bros Chevrolet

US Hwy. 52, Sublette
815-849-5232

Vaessen Implement Repair

542 U.S. Highway 52, Sublette
815-849-9010

Maze Lumber

1100 Water St., Peru
815-223-1742

Amboy Veterinary and Trego Vet Services

315 S Mason Ave., Amboy
815-857-2215

The Last Alarm

43 S East Ave., Amboy
815-857-3483

Sublette Collision Center

344 US Highway 52, Sublette
815-849-9090



AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

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

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

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Now Accepting EBT
Link Cards and WIC

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

Sale Prices Valid Feb. 16 – Feb. 22, 2022 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Tomatoes  \$1.29 /lb.	Beefsteak Tomatoes  \$1.99 /lb.	Broccoli Crowns  \$1.79 /lb.	Cauliflower  \$1.79 /lb.
Wisconsin Russet Potatoes 5 lb. bag  2/\$4	Cucumbers  89¢ /ea.	Grape Tomatoes 1 pint  2/\$3	Mann's Broccoli 6 oz. package  \$3.99 /ea.

HOT BUYS

AMBOY DELI U.S.D.A. Choice Angus T-Bone Steak  \$9.99 /lb. Reg. Price \$19.99 /lb.	Any Party Size Chips  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.79 - \$5.09 ea.	AMBOY DELI U.S.D.A. Choice Beef Boneless Ribeyes  \$11.99 lb. Reg. Price \$17.99 lb.
AMBOY DELI Corn Dogs  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.	AMBOY DELI New York Strip Steaks  \$9.99 lb. Reg. Price \$15.99 lb.	Kraft Salad Dressing 16 oz. Assorted  \$2.99 ea. Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

<div><div>Green Onions</div><div><div>79¢</div><div>/ea.</div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Land-O-Lakes Butter</div><div>16 oz. Assorted</div><div><div>\$4.49</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$5.79 ea.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Daisy Sour Cream</div><div>14 oz.</div><div><div>\$2.49</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.</div><div></div></div>	
<div><div>Bagel Bites</div><div>9 ct.</div><div><div>2/\$4</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>International Delight Liquid Coffee Creamer</div><div>Assorted 32 oz</div><div><div>\$3.99</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$4.59 ea.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Oscar Mayer Bacon Bits or Pieces</div><div>Assorted</div><div><div>2/\$4</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.69 ea.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Classico Pasta Sauce</div><div>24 oz.</div><div><div>\$2.89</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.39 ea.</div><div></div></div>
<div><div>Flav-R-Pac Frozen Vegetables</div><div><div>\$1.99</div><div>/ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.59/ea</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Kellogg's Funables Fruity Snacks</div><div>4.8-8 oz</div><div><div>\$2.29</div><div>/ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.79 /ea</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Red Gold Tomatoes</div><div>14.5 - 15 oz.</div><div><div>\$1.29</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$1.99 /ea</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Post Cereal</div><div>Cocoa Pebbles, Fruity Pebbles, Honey Bunches of Oats</div><div><div>\$2.50</div><div>/ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.99 /ea</div><div></div></div>

Sale goes through Feb. 22, 2022