Volume 167 - Number 01

### www.AmboyNews.com

## New state laws taking effect Jan. 1

BY PETER HANCOCK Capitol News Illinois

**SPRINGFIELD** – Minimum wage workers in Illinois will see a boost in their hourly pay to \$12 per hour starting Jan. 1, while tenants in affordable housing units will be allowed to keep pets.

Those are just some of the more than 300 new laws that take effect in the new year.

The minimum wage increase is actually the result of a 2019 law that phases in a state minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2025. This year, it will increase by one dollar to \$12 an hour.

The law allowing public housing tenants to keep pets is the result of Senate Bill 154, by Sen. Linda Holmes, D-Aurora, and Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego. It provides that tenants of multifamily housing units that are acquired, built or renovated with money from the Illinois Affordable Housing Trust Fund may keep up to two cats or one dog weighing less than 50 pounds.

It applies to residents of housing units that are designated as affordable housing for low- and verylow-income families. The bill passed both chambers in its final form on May 30 and Gov. JB Pritzker signed it into law Aug. 6.

Other new laws include: • Vehicle taxes: SB58 raises the private vehicle tax, which is a sales tax paid on the purchase of vehicles, by \$75 for each model year where the purchase price is less than \$15,000 and by \$100 for vehicles priced

above that amount. How-

ever, the registration fee for



trailers weighing less than 3,000 pounds will drop to \$36 instead of \$118

 College admissions: HB226, establishing the Higher Education Fair Admissions Act, prohibits public colleges and universities from requiring applicants to submit SAT, ACT or other standardized test scores as part of the admissions process, although prospective students may choose to submit them if they wish.

• Drug prices: SB1682 requires pharmacies to post a notice informing consumers that they may request current pharmacy retail prices at the point of sale.

• FOID card changes: HB562 enacts several changes to the Firearm Owner Identification card law. Among other things, it provides for a streamlined renewal process for FOID cards and Concealed Carry Licenses for people who voluntarily submit fingerprint records. It also allows the Illinois State Police to issue a combined FOID card and Concealed Carry License to qualified applicants, and it establishes a new Violent Crime Intelligence Task Force to take enforcement action against people with revoked FOID

See LAWS page A3

### Secretary of State and Driver Services Facilities to close from Jan. 3 through Jan. 17 due to increase in COVID-19

to an increase in COVID-19 retary of State Jesse White is announcing that all Secretary of State departments will not conduct in-person transactions - including Driver Services facilities – from Jan. 3, 2022, through Jan. 17, 2022. All departments and Driver Services facilities will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 18. White is encouraging the public to visit ilsos.gov for online services. Online transactions will remain open for all departments to conduct office services, including, but not limited to the following:

• Renewing a license plate • Renewing a driver's

license or ID card for those who qualify (individuals may call 217-785-1424 to confirm their eligibility or to obtain

for the 2022-23 school year.

**SPRINGFIELD** — Due driver's license or ID card.

• Filing Business Services documents, such as incorporations and annual reports.

In addition, the Drivers and Vehicles Services hotline phone number will remain open at 800-252-8980. Customers with issues involving administrative hearings may email adminhearings@ilsos. gov or call 312-793-3722 or 217-782-7065.

As a reminder, White has extended all driver's license and ID card expiration dates to March 31, 2022. This extension does not apply to commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and CDL learner's

"After careful consideration and out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to close all Driver Services facilities beginning Jan. 3, • Obtaining a duplicate 2022, through Jan. 17, 2022,

due to the spike in COVID-19 • Obtaining a driver record cases," said White. "The health and safety of employ ees and the public remains paramount, and face-to-face transactions potentially increase the further spread of the virus. Our goal is to safely reopen all offices and Driver Services facilities on January 18 for face-to-face transactions."

In addition, White greatly expanded remote renewal for driver's license and ID card holders. Since this fall, White's office mailed letters to eligible customers with expired driver's licenses and ID cards requiring them to renew online, by phone or by mail.

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

For more information, visit ilsos.gov.

IAA Foundation offers scholarships

to support agriculture

**BLOOMINGTON** — Agriculture students and Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) members, spouses and children are eligible to apply for 84 college scholarships offered by the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's

The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500, will be awarded in total of \$164,500

"We are pleased to recognize students through our growing scholarship program," said Jennifer Smith, Development Manager, IAA Foundation. "It is a privilege to support the next generation of leaders and encourage

degrees in agriculture related fields." Students may apply for a variety of scholarships, including three IAA Foundation Top Scholarships, where winners will each receive \$5,000 awards. Another \$7,500 award goes to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership scholarship winner. In addition to family scholarships often established to honor the memory of a loved one, the IAA

Foundation offers scholarships on behalf of

organizations such as Prairie Farms Dairy. For

2022, the IAA Foundation is honored to ad-

minister the newly created Alvin Eigenrauch

Memorial Scholarship, Six Generations Illinois Farming Scholarship and Steve Willits Memorial Scholarship. Additionally, three new Fellowships have been added to support students pursuing advanced degrees.

All applicants must be current high school seniors, or students already enrolled, at an accredited college or university. Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance, leadership experiences, involvement in activities and community service. Previous winners of an IAA Foundation scholarship are eligible to apply again if the scholarship allows.

A full listing of available scholarships and eligibility guidelines is available on the Foundation website, www.iaafoundation. org. The application opens Jan. 1, and must be completed online by Feb. 15.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at

309-557-2232, or e-mail Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ilfb.org

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

## **IDPH adopts CDC recommendations** for isolation and quarantine

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is adopting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation to reduce the number of days for isolation and quarantine for the general public. The CDC updated its recommendation

on December 27, 2021 to decrease isolation for people who test positive from 10 days to 5 days if they do not have symptoms (may include fever, chills, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, body aches, loss of taste and/or smell) but must continue to mask for 5 days after isolation ends. These recommendations apply to all individuals, including those who are unvaccinated or are not boosted even though they are eligible. The CDC also recommended reducing quarantine from 10 days to 5 days for those who are close contacts to a COVID-19 case and have no symptoms, but individuals should continue to mask for 5 days after quarantine ends. Individuals who have received two doses of either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech, or one dose of Johnson & Johnson, as well as their booster do not need to quarantine after close contact with a case, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. Additionally, individuals who have not yet reached the 6-month mark to receive a booster for Modern or Pfizer-BioNTech, or two months for Johnson & Johnson, do not need to quarantine after close contact with a case, but should wear a mask for 10 days

after the exposure. Schools should continue to follow the IDPH COVID-19 School Guidance for children who have received the primary vaccination series and are not eligible for booster doses after 6 months. IDPH has already adopted CDC's updated guidance for health care personnel issued last week. Health care personnel and other specific groups and setting should continue to follow their respective guidance. For people who have had close contact

to a case, public health officials recommend testing at day 5 after exposure. If a person develops symptoms, they should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not caused by COVID-19. Schools should continue to follow the IDPH COVID-19 School Guidance. Health care personnel and other specific groups and setting should continue to follow their respective guidance.

Both updates come as the Omicron variant continues to spread throughout the U.S. and reflects the current science on when and for how long a person is most infectious.

Individuals can visit www.vaccines.gov to find a nearby location to receive a vaccine or booster dose. Testing locations can be found at https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/ testing.html, including information on the days and hours for free Community-based Testing Sites.

IDPH will be updating specific guidance documents in the coming days.

## Lee County Dec. 27 COVID update

LEE COUNTY—The Lee County Health Department announces 136 new positive cases between Dec. 21-27, and the death of two Lee County residents, a male in his 70's and a male in his 40's.

Here are the ages that were reported: 18 under the age of 12, 5 in his or her teens, 22 in his or her 20s, 25 in his or her 30s, 25 in his or her 40s, 17 in his or her 50s, 14 in his or her 60s, 6 in his or her 70s, 2 on his or her 80s, and 2 in his or her 90s. A total of 14 residents are hospitalized. The county also reported that the number of cases in unvaccinated individuals is 113 of the 136 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.

As of Jan. 3, according to IDPH 46,195 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 18,974 people in Lee County are fully vaccinated, which is 55.44 percent of the population. A total of 20,710 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. A total of 8,684 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.

Guidelines

The Lee County Health Department is following the Illinois Department of Public Health's recent adoption of CDC's guidance to shorten isolation and quarantine periods for COVID-19 for the general public starting on Dec. 30, 2021.

IDPH has instructed the health department to have schools continue with the guidance they've been using until interim guidance specific to schools is provided.

Prevention continues to be the most effective tool: get vaccinated, get boosted, avoid large gatherings and wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial and

## A.C.O / A.H.S to host blood drive Jan. 25

**AMBOY** — Blood is urgently needed in our area. The Red Cross has requested that we schedule 75 donors and at this point we only have 25. So please consider giving blood. Amboy A.C.O. members, in coordination with Amboy High School, are hosting a Red Cross Blood drive on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at the Amboy Community Building from noon to 6 p.m.

Please call Judy Brinkmeier at 815-238-8927 or sign up directly at redcrossblood.org. for an appointment. Please consider giving "the gift of life."

## **Red Cross: Donate blood** now to help patients

**ILLINOIS** — Concern is rising for the nation's blood supply, which has now dipped to concerning levels and could force hospitals to hold off on essential blood transfusions

Historically low blood supply levels not seen in more than a decade persist for the American Red Cross, which supplies about 40% of the nation's blood. The ongoing decline comes at a time of year when donations typically fall. Holiday get-togethers, school breaks and winter weather often lead to lower donor turnout, potentially further compounding the situation.

Potential donors are urged to schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). If there is not an immediate opportunity available to donate, donors are asked to make an appointment in the days and weeks ahead to ensure the Red Cross can replenish and then maintain a sufficient blood supply.

Those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma in January will automatically be entered for a chance to win a getaway to Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles. As an extra thank-you from the Red Cross, those who come to donate in January will also be automatically entered to win a home theater package and a \$500 e-gift card. Terms apply; visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl for more information.

Blood drive safety Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions - including face masks for donors and staff, regardless of vaccination status - have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive. To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements

## high community transmission. **AMBOY**



#### **CLIPPER** HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features the Stenze Brothers

**PAGE A10-11** 

#### **Obituaries**

Alice Austin **Beverly Roberts** Eugene Potaczek

#### **Index**

Community Calendar	A:
Church Directory	A
Obituaries	A
Social News	A
Opinion	Að
Classifieds	A8
SportsA	
•	



## LOCAL NEWS



#### DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONA - AMBOY DEPOT MUSEUM

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$15,000 to Kevin Chandler, president of the Amboy Depot Museum committee. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

## Morgan named AHS Student of the Month for January

AMBOY — Alexis Morgan, daughter of Julie Piper Morgan and Todd Morgan, has been chosen as the January Student of the Month for Amboy High School.

GPA: 3.9/4.0

Memberships and Involvement: "I am an active member of Leo's Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society. In addition, I hold positions as treasurer for Student Council and National Honor Society and as the northwest district treasurer of Student Council. I am also a Red Cross Program Leader outside of school, which allows me to host blood drives within our community and dancer/teacher at Starlight Dance Studio.'

Awards and Honors:



"Over my three semesters taking dual enrollment at Sauk Valley Community College, I made the Dean's List once and the President's List twice. At Amboy High School, I have also made the highest honor roll, other than one semester, where I obtained high honors."

Best Memories of AHS: "My best memories at AHS would have to be anytime I was with my friends. We we are in a lot of the same classes. Being in classes with my friends made for a fun time while learning.'

Future Plans: "I plan to attend a four-year university, most likely Illinois State University, and obtain my Bachelor's in Accounting. I plan to further my education after that as well and at some point graduate with a Master's."

## Blue Christmas Mass

Saturday, January 8th at 11:00 am at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Isn't it interesting that in Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol, that when Ebenezer Scrooge wakes from a horrific night of ghostly dreams and before he heads over to the Cratchit's house with gifts—that Dickens pens the line: "He went to Church." How do we celebrate Christmas? How do we, Catholics, celebrate the death of a dear loved one? We go to Mass! Come celebrate the end of the Christmas Season and thank God (yet again) for the gift of the impact that a loved one's life had on yours!









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## LOCAL NEWS

## From The Heart Calendar winners

#### **December 2021 From The Heart Calendar Winners**

Dec. 1 - Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, \$25

Dec. 2 - Martha Landa, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 3 - Deb Julifs, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 4 - Henry Hall, Sycamore, \$25

Dec. 5 - Jodi Ziegler, Oregon, \$50

Dec. 6 - Lois Hultgren, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 7 - Matt Thimjon - Rochelle Foods, \$25

Dec. 8 - Amy Kerns, Creston, \$25 Dec. 9 - Brandy Scarbrough, Creston, \$25

Dec. 10 - Jeremy Cover, Dixon, \$25

Dec. 11 - Jackleen Potts, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 12 - Steve Berg, Orlando, Fla., \$50

Dec. 13 - Nancy Vogl, Oregon, \$25

Dec. 14 - Janet Boyle, Byron, \$25 Dec. 15 - Matt Boehle, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 16 - Mary Anne Louis, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 17 - Beth Thacker, Poplar Grove, \$25

Dec. 18 - Chrissy Smardo, Steward, \$25 Dec. 19 - Cindy Knight, Ashton, \$50

Dec. 20 - Cyndi Cunningham, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 21 - Jake Mason, Dixon, \$25

Dec. 22 - Shawn Enoch, Cedar Siding, \$25 Dec. 23 - Jessica Aldridge, Aurora, Colo., \$25

Dec. 24 - Mary M. Bernardin, Compton, \$25 Dec. 25 - Nancy Larsen, Rochelle, \$1,000

Dec. 26 - Kathleen Dippner, Davis Junction, \$50

Dec. 27 - Mitzi Adams, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 28 - Shane M. @ Clark-Dietrich, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 29 - Erin and Michael Weiss, Naperville, \$50

Dec. 30 - Nick Vilmin, Byron, \$25 Dec. 31 - Jurle Pfeiffer, Dixon, \$25

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each

**AMBOY** — On the morning of Dec.

4, 2021, Captain Garrett Ramos, 38, of

the Sterling Fire Department, died in

the line of duty. While battling a house

fire in rural Rock Falls, a floor collapsed

Immediately, Dinges Fire Company,

of Amboy, launched a memorial raffle

to raise funds for the Ramos family.

DFC partnering companies and vendors donated 46 fire service-related items to

the raffle. Items include thermal imaging

cameras, radio straps, helmets, extrica-

tion tools, and more. Currently, the total

To donate and participate in the

raised sits at more than \$13,500.

beneath him.

## Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

Raffle for Ramos Family Closes Jan. 7 raffle, visit dingesfire.com. Tickets are \$20 with 100 percent of the donations

> will close at midnight on Jan. 7. Jan. 8, DFC personnel will go live on the Dinges Fire Company's Facebook page to draw winners. Watch the page

> going directly to the family. The raffle

for more details on the drawing. Ramos started his career in the Fire Service at the North Charleston Fire Department in Charleston, S.C. He returned to his hometown, Sterling, in 2012 and served as a member of the Sterling Fire Department for nearly 10 years, most recently as lieutenant. The City of Sterling posthumously promoted

him to the rank of captain.

Ramos served as the Union President for Local 2301 and had served as Acting Captain for the past year.

He leaves behind his wife, Brittney and two young daughters, Ruthie (3) and Kepa (2).

Dinges Fire Company serves fire departments and emergency personnel in seven Midwestern states providing quality sales and service of fire and safety equipment and tools. The mission is to protect America's first responders with the best safety and protection equipment on the market and be a catalyst for positive change in those communities served.

as an official state holiday that commemorates the end of

slavery in the United States. In June, President Joe Biden

also signed a bill designating Juneteenth as a federal holiday.

than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by

the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick

(Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more

COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Senior Dining Menu

January 10-January 14

8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – Hamburger patty wgr wheat bun, mac and cheese, California blend veggies, and diced peaches

Tuesday – BBQ chicken breast, augratin potatoes, seas. green

Wednesday - Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy,

California blend veggies, wgr wheat bread - 1, and apricots. Thursday - Sweet and sour meatballs, fluffy rice, blended

Friday A) Tuna noodle casserole, broccoli/carrots, pineapple

**Amboy Community Center** 

280 W. Wasson Road • 1-815-963-1609, reservations

Reservations needed

10:00 am day before

beans, wor dinner roll, and fruit cocktail.

veggies, wgr dinner roll and diced pears.

tidbits, wgr dinner roll B). Chix sal/tomato.

Meals served

Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am

N August 20th

## 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-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 5, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

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.

AMBOY-The Amboy Fire Protection District will meet at 8 a.m. at the Fire Station, 25 N. East Ave., on Monday, Jan. 10.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 10, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St.

AMBOY-The Amboy Li-

ons Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, Jan. 10. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend. LEE CENTER TWP-

The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 10, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY-4-H Creative writing classes will help grow and strengthen writing abilities for youth ages 12-14 who are interested in writing fiction and poetry. Meetings will be twice a week 6-7:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays starting Jan 10-26 virtually via zoom. Reserve your spot today by registering online at go.illinos.edu/creativewriting4H. Cost is free for current 4-H members and \$20 membership fee for non-members.

#### EAST GROVE TWP-

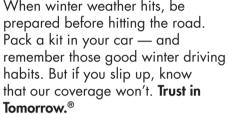
The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at the East Grove Township Hall.

MAY TWP-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the township maintenance building.

AMBOY- Join in for monthly sessions on environmental topics presented by University of Illinois Extension's Energy & Environmental Stewardship Team. 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. Everyday Environment webinar series will be held at 1 p.m., on Jan. 13. From lawn care, native plants, and managing home waste to understanding coyote behavior and atmospheric optics, there is never a shortage of new things to learn about your everyday environment. Register online for The Recent IPCC Climate Report at: go.illinois.edu/ everydayenvironmentwebinars.



#### SLOW FOR SNOW. When winter weather hits, be

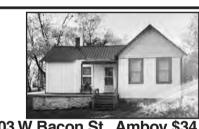




Chris Klein

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The Amboy News

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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.

## ${f LAWS}$ continued from page A1-

- Student mental health: HB576 and SB1577 allow stu
   Juneteenth: HB3922 recognizes June 19, or "Juneteenth." dents in Illinois up to five excused absences to attend to their mental or behavioral health without providing a medical note. Those students will be given an opportunity to make up any work they missed during the first absence and, after using a second mental health day, may be referred to the appropriate school support personnel.
- Official flags: HB605 requires state agencies and institutions to purchase Illinois and American flags that are made in the United States.
- Hair styles: SB817 prohibits discrimination in schools against individuals on the grounds of wearing natural or ethnic hairstyles, which include dreadlocks, braids, twists and afros.
- Lemonade stands: SB119 prohibits public health authorities from regulating or shutting down lemonade stands or similar operations that are operated by children under the age of 16. Known as "Hayli's Law," it was inspired by 12-yearold Hayli Martinez, whose lemonade stand in Kankakee was shut down by local officials.



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815-882-2111 | 815-875-2540 404 W. Main St., McNabb, IL • www.grassersplumbingheating.com effective January 1 2022 HB 2864 creates an EMS System Medical Direction exemption to the credentialing process to allow Registered Nurses,

"HB 2864" was signed into law, Physician Assistant's, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to

apply to serve as volunteers who perform the same work at EMT's. With 20 hours of pre-hospital recognition and 8 hours of observant riding time, RNs/PAs, and APN's can help volunteer with EMS agencies in Illinois with a rural population of 5,000 or less. Even if you are not already in the medical field our community still needs vou!

#### THE AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS Why join us?

BE PART OF THE TRADITION BE PART OF THE EXCITEMENT BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY ON THE JOB TRAINING | PAID-ON-CALL AND PAID-PER-CALL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Email info@amboyfire.com to inquire about joining! (Must be 18+ years old)

FLEXIBILITY | GYM ACCESS | SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

## **OBITUARIES**

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Beverly C. Roberts** Nov. 19, 1938 - Dec. 29, 2021

**SUBLETTE** - Beverly C. Roberts, 83, of Sublette, passed away Dec. 29, 2021 at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Private burial will take place at Inlet Cemetery, Lee Center at a later date.

Beverly was born Nov. 19, 1938 in Gastonia, N.C. to Wilmer and Ruth (Hasselberg) Williamson. She married Edward Erbes on June 8, 1958 then later married Donald Roberts who preceded her in death.

Survivors include her children, Doreen (Robert) Boyle and Dean (Tammie) Erbes, both of Amboy, and Douglas (Lori) Erbes, David Erbes and Donald Erbes, all of Sublette; seven grandchildren; one step grandson; eight great-grandchildren; and three step great-grandchildren. She had no siblings. She was preceded in death

by her husband, Donald; her parents; and one daughter-inlaw, Tracy Erbes.

Bev graduated from Franklin Center High School. She was a homemaker and Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant.



Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

### Alice J. Austin Feb. 20, 1948 - Dec. 28, 2021

AMBOY — Alice J. Austin, 73, of Amboy, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021 at her home. She was born on Feb. 20, 1948 in Amboy the daughter of Weldon"Dutch" and Dorothy (Stouffer) Conderman.

Alice worked at Admiral Corporation, as a Telephone Operator at Illini State Telephone Company, and as a Lunch Room Aid for the Amboy School District for 30 years prior to her retirement. She was a member of the Amboy Flamettes.

Alice married Charles Austin of July 30, 1966 at the Amboy Methodist Church in

contact tracing

the Illinois Department of Public Health

(IDPH) is working to centralize COVID-19

contact tracing efforts in order to get infor-

mation about isolation and identifying close

contacts to infected individuals as soon as

possible during times when cases are surging,

and to decrease the burden on local health

departments across the state. Beginning Dec.

28, 2021, all positive cases entered into the

State's data systems associated with a cell

phone number will receive an automated text message from IDPH. The initial outgoing

IDPH COVID: There is important info for

"Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic

you. Call 312-777-1999 or click: https://dph.

illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/

continues to evolve as does the virus," said

IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "We are

seeing a higher number of new infections

each day than we have seen at any time

throughout the entire pandemic. In an ef-

fort to reduce the burden on the local health

departments across the state, the State will notify cases via text about interviewing with

a contact tracer, as well as providing a link to guidance on quarantine, possible treatments,

and close contact notification. There have

confirmed-or-possible-covid-19.html

text will read:

**SPRINGFIELD** – As we head into 2022,

She is preceded in death by her parents, and one brother, Andy Conderman.

Alice is survived by her husband, Charles; children, Charles (Glenda) Austin II, of Amboy and Amy Austin, of Londell, Mo.; two grandchildren, Charles (Jenna) Austin III, of Franklin Grove and Brian (Kathryn) Austin, of Minnesota; one great-granddaughter, Sophia Austin; and one sister-in-law, Vicki Conderman, of Amboy.

Cremation rites have been accorded with a celebration of life to be held at a later date. Burial of cremains will also be at a later date at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy.

**IDPH centralizing COVID-19** 



Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.

been scams associated with COVID-19 and

contact tracing so I want people to know that

IDPH COVID will be issuing text messages

text will be considered as "opting in" for an

case investigations for individuals who are

65 years and older and are at higher risk of

severe illness, per Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention recommendations. This

population will receive an additional text

message if the individual does not respond

through the State Contact Tracing Surge

Center, local health departments will contin-

ue to respond to cases in high-risk settings,

including congregate facilities. Local health

departments will also be able to see details

about cases so they can identify any potential

clusters or outbreaks and can request those

cases be transferred from the Surge Center

will continue to have oversight of schools, daycares, and congregate setting, including

assistance with mitigation strategies and

Additionally, local health departments

While most confirmed cases will be traced

Individuals who call the number in the

Public health officials will prioritize

to newly identified cases.'

to the initial message.

for further contact tracing.

outbreak management.

interview.

### **Eugene J. Potaczek** Jan. 30, 1953 - Dec. 23, 2021

AMBOY - Eugene J. Potaczek, 68, of Amboy, passed away on Dec. 23, 2021, unexpectedly while tending to his land and animals that he loved and took great pride

Eugene was born Jan. 30, 1953 in Chicago.

Eugene could accomplish anything you put before him and did it with great pride. He was a talker and a storyteller "If you know what I mean" and those traits made him who he was.

Survivors include his fiance, Susan; sons, David (Carrie) Potaczek, Chris (Lori) Potaczek and Benny (Kim) Potaczek; his sister, Judy Potaczek; brother, Steve Potaczek, Jr; five granddaughters and one grandson. Also including Susan's family, her mother; four sisters; two brothers; his cherished dog, Abbey and his great neighbors that were always there to help.



A private memorial service will be held at a later

Condolences may be sent to www.schillingfuneralhome.com.



Pictured are Nick Escobar, ComEd External Affairs Manager (left), Thomas Przytulski, ComEd State and Governmental Affairs Manager (center) present Larry Hummel, Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation President (right) with the contribution.

Photo submitted

## Educational Briefs

#### AREA STUDENT(S) NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT ST. NORBERT COLLEGE

been named to the 2021 fall semester dean's list at St. Norbert College.

A minimum 3.5 grade point average is required for academic eligibility.

Founded in 1898, St. Norbert College is a

private, Catholic, liberal arts college located

**DIXON**—Natalie DeArvil, of Dixon, has in De Pere, Wis., just outside of Green Bay. Recent years have seen record enrollments and unprecedented investments in the St. Norbert College campus. The academic excellence and character-building qualities of the college are nationally recognized by U.S. News & World Report, Forbes, Princeton Review and others.

#### ComEd donates to LCFB Foundation

**AMBOY** — ComEd recently presented a \$1,000 charitable contribution to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation to use for the Ag in the Classroom program. Ag in the Classroom provides free educational ag

based resources to teachers and students in Lee County.

For more information on Lee County Ag in the Classroom, contact coordinator Katie Pratt, aitc.leecfb@comcast.net.

## JRCH DIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am

Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 8am-5 pm

> St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am

**United First Church of Amboy** Pastor Mark Glenn East Main & Jefferson 815-440-0745

Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church of **Christ of Lee Center** Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center www.LeeCenter-UCC.org Phone 815-732-7032

> **Grace Fellowship Church Amboy-Sublette** Pastor Brian McWethy

Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

**East Grove Union Church** Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321 449 Reuter Road, Amboy Phone 815-376-6661

1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd. Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult 6:00 p.m. Evening Service Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m. First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. 'Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!' Come as you are and join us on the journey!

First Baptist Church Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 www.fbcamboy.com

Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m. Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous addictions program

St. James Evangelical Congregational Church Robert Dunbar., Pastor US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon 815-288-2447

from 7-9 p.m.

Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

Rev. Randy Fronek West Brooklyn Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Church

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

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Barb Otten** 960 U.S. Route 52 Phone 857-2225

Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Rev. Randy Fronek **Locust Street, Sublette** Phone 815-849-5412 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.

Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930

Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows Harmon United Methodist Church **Pastor Leanne Keate** 202 N. Grove, Harmon

Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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## OCIAL NE



A New Year's Challenge

BY PASTOR RICK WULF

The East Grove Union Church of Rural Amboy appy New Year, Friends,

I have the privilege of writing the first Pastor's Pen article for the Amboy News for 2022. As we continue to go forward in life with so many challenges and so many uncertainties in life, I feel we need to stop and evaluate what might be before us in this New Year. I will be starting my eleventh year this year as the Pastor of East Grove Union Church. This is the longest term that I have served in a church as its Pastor. I thank the Lord for His grace and mercy and also the congregation of the East Grove Union Church for their patience with me. Each year I set a theme for the church to focus its sight on. This year's theme is: "Don't Be 'Blue' in 2022", "A Year of Spiritual Encouragement."

These past, several of years have been very challenging, needless to say, especially with the onslaught of Covid. We are reminded through this all that life is so uncertain. Benjamin Franklin said there were only two things certain in life: death and taxes. I have not studied Franklin's life and philosophy enough to know why he said that and limited those "certainties" to just those two, but as a Christian, when I read my Bible, I see so many more. Yes, it is true there so things in this present life, like, will Covid ever be eradicated like the other diseases that have plagued this world? Will the political world settle down? What will happen to us economically? Will morality be restored? How will broken relationships ever be healed? Where can we find the help that our world so desperately needs? All of these questions/problems have plagued humanity from the very beginning in one form or another. All of these issues could make us "blue" in 2022, if we allow them to do so. There are things in and around our lives that we can control. Unfortunately, there are many more that we have little or no control over.

As I substitute teach in our schools, I see and hear the important use of encouragement and positive reinforcement. We have heard so much in the world about the need for encouragement, and rightly so. A basic need that we possess as human beings is for positive reinforcement. Not that we may necessarily looking for it, but affirmation that what we are doing is important and that we have some level of application. This is only part of the need that we have as human beings.

As Christians, we know that our ultimate acceptance

comes from the Lord. As we continue to grow in our faith and learn more about His love for us and for others, then we can implement His love and thus attempt to love others as God loves us. Yes, that is a tall challenge, seeing that His love is eternal and unconditional and so much more than we could ever imagine. But that is the neat thing about it, we will have the rest of our lives on this Earth to work at it.

Let's be praying about how God may use us to be a spiritual encouragement this year to others in our family, our church, and our community. Sadly, there is so much negativism in the world around us. Let us desire to be used by God to bring not just "positivity" into the world, but as we were reminded of through this past Advent Season, Hope, Peace, Light, Joy, and Love. Our Christian faith is what gets us through this life. When it seems like the life experiences that you are going through, as tough as they maybe, don't fall into the enemy's trap and fear, trust God for His faithfulness and trust in Him to make you an overcomer. The promises of God to those who trust Him and overcome this life, are out of this world. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus promises that we will: "eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God; not be hurt by the second death; have a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it; be given power over the nations—and He will give us the morning star; be clothed in white garments, and He will not blot out our name from the Book of Life; but I will confess our name before His Father and before His angels; be made a pillar in the temple of God, and we will go out no more; have written the name of God and the name of the city of God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from God; have written on us, His new name, be granted to sit with Him on His throne, as He also overcame and sat down with His Father on His throne." (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26-28; 3:5, 12, 21).

If you don't know this very special relationship with the God of Creation, I once again challenge and encourage you to seek Him, wholeheartedly and discover for yourself this real peace of heart and mind that we all have need of! If you do have this personal relationship with Jesus, let this truth of God encourage you to look up and patiently await the Lord's return.

May God continue bless you and make you joyful for His honor and glory and for your good and the good of others.

## Asymptomatic testing paused at OSF

**MENDOTA** — With the rise of COVID-19 infections primarily among the unvaccinated, OSF HealthCare is asking members of communities it serves to refrain from coming to their facilities for asymptomatic and close contact testing.

"Right now all across the nation, we're seeing a huge surge in COVID-19 cases," said chief operating officer Michael Cruz, MD, FACEP. "We are equipped to handle COVID testing for patients who are sick, injured or who are preparing for a procedure but our patient volume is currently so great that we need the public's cooperation to ensure proper usage of our health care resources.'

Dr. Cruz noted a variety of options exist for people who seek to travel, return to work or otherwise need to be tested, including community testing sites, at-home kits and retail pharmacy locations. He stressed that emergency

departments at hospitals should be reserved for true medical emergencies and not used as a means to achieve a COVID-19 test result by asymptomatic persons.

OSF Care Station, OSF PromptCare and OSF On Call Urgent Care locations will continue to serve the needs of persons experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19.

To learn more or schedule a test online, visit osfhealthcare.org.

## The Book Nook By: Tatjana Kazan

#### **Trapped In Paradise**

uring the Second World War, the German island of Rügen in the Baltic Sea remained relatively untouched by the outside world. To be sure, Allied air raids terrorized the islanders and its men were killed or maimed on the Russian front. It was after the war that everything changed. Rügen became part of the GDR, the German Democratic Republic, that is, Communist East Germany. Like its overlord, the Soviet Union, the GDR was to become a workers' paradise. In Katrin Schumann's excellent novel "This Terrible

Beauty" (2020), Rügen's misfortune in the aftermath of the war unfolds in the life of Bettina Heilstrom. We meet her at an awards ceremony in 1965 in Chicago, utterly petrified of having to speak in public. A photographer at the Chicago Tribune, she has won the Smithsonian photography prize in the category 'The American Experience.' The prize money is a stupendous \$2,000. Bettina is a loner who seems suspended between two worlds: her self-constricted life in Chicago and her lost life in Rügen. How she became an exile ten years before is the story of "This Terrible Beauty."

At first it seems to Bettina that Socialism would usher in a new beginning, cleansed of the monstrous cancer that was Nazi Germany. But in time, a massive apparatus of surveillance by the secret police, the Stasi, infects every aspect of life. Neighbor spies on neighbor and fear is ever-present. "It seems there are eyes everywhere these days, when previously it felt as though the islanders were invisible to the larger world. For years what they did or did not do was of no consequence to anyone."

In the person of Bettina's husband Werner, Schumann skillfully creates a minor bureaucrat, a true believer in the cause, who proudly rises through the ranks of the Stasi. He is a sympathetic character who in time becomes corrupted by the growing power conferred on him. His weakness is his passion for his wife. Bettina has settled into a rather colorless life – she works at a fish factory – until she meets the poetic Peter Brenner, a teacher of literature at the high school. Their affair is as exquisite as it is dangerous. Bettina ends it when she becomes pregnant. Werner is over the moon, a proper family at last. Two years later the lovers meet again, and inevitably, Bettina is betrayed by her neighbor.

This Terrible Beauty" (the title is from a Yeats poem "Easter 1916" - 'All changed, changed utterly: A terrible beauty is born' - about the Irish Easter Rebellion) is a superb historical novel in no small part because it reads like a German novel. Schumann's skill (she was two when her parents immigrated to America) is admirable, as is the ending for not succumbing to tearful sentimentality.

## Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com



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# pinion

By Scott Reeder

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances ~ The First Amendment

## How important is it for our politicians to be educated?

Te live in a society that extols the virtues of degrees and diplomas – Guest Column but not life-long learning.

In Springfield, we honor Abraham Lincoln, our state's native son, who despite having little formal schooling was able to teach himself and become our greatest president.

But today when it comes to politicians, Americans have a different standard.

We haven't had a president without a college diploma since Harry Truman.

In 2020, the New York Times reported 95 percent of today's House members and 100 percent of the Senate's have a bachelor's degree or higher. But only about one-third of Americans are college graduates.

According to the Congressional Research Service, more than one third of the House and more than half the Senate have law degrees.

Roughly a fifth of senators and representatives have their master's. Four senators and 21 House members have medical degrees and an identical number in each body (four, 21) have some kind of doctoral degree.

Does that mean we have a really good Congress?

Well, I have seen little evidence over the past decade to support such a proposition. Whether led by Republicans or Democrats, our nation's legislative bodies have few independent thinkers. Group think and deadlock seem to prevail.

Things aren't much different in Illinois. We haven't had a governor without a bachelor's degree since 1932 when Louis Lincoln Emmerson left office.

Steve Jobs, Bill Gates and Larry Ellison rose to be titans of high tech without obtaining a college degree.

Movie director Steven Spielberg didn't receive his college degree until 35 years after he started at California State University in Long Beach. He was famous and successful by the time he was handed his sheepskin.

Unfortunately, a college diploma has become a litmus test for some voters on whether they will support a candidate. This year, two of the four Republicans seek-

ing their party's nomination haven't earned a bachelor's degree. If either state Sen. Darren Bailey, of Xenia,

or Gary Rabine, of Bull Valley, were to win the governorship, it would be the first time in 88 years that someone without at least a bachelor's degree held that office. Rabine has only a high school diploma and Bailey has an associate's degree in agriculture production from Lake Land College.

Their opponents in the primary not only have degrees, but ones dripping with prestige. Former state Sen. Paul Schimpf of Waterloo graduated from Annapolis and later snagged a law degree from Southern Illinois University. And Jesse Sullivan

of Petersburg has master's degrees from Oxford and Stanford.

There are things I like about Bailey and Rabine and plenty I don't. But one thing I wouldn't lose a moments sleep over is their lack of academic credentials.

I'm much more concerned about a person's willingness to learn and their life experiences.

Look no further than the late U.S. Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois. He never held a college degree but had a long and honorable career in politics and higher education.

Even without a college degree, Simon was able to found

the graduate program where I received my master's degree. He later went on to found what is now the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University. While Simon didn't have a diploma nailed to his wall, he

was well educated. He read Greek philosophers in his free time. As a young man, he went into business for himself and eventually owned a chain of 14 newspapers.

That's an education in its own right.

He was someone who not only read books but wrote them. Before Joe Biden, we had five consecutive presidents with degrees from Ivy League universities. And we still managed to get enmeshed in stupid wars, make staggeringly stupid economic decisions and witness personal moral lapses in the White House that had the rest of us shaking our heads.

Do I care if a politician has a college diploma? Nope. But should they be educated? You betcha.

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

The Amboy News

**Publisher/Circulation/** 

**Commercial Printing** 

Tonja Greenfield

2021:





#### 100 Years Ago Jan. 6, 1922

During the high winds of last Friday evening occurred on of the greatest fires of recent years in this section. In it a loss of \$15,000 was sustained. The fire destroyed all of the farm buildings on the W.A. Underwood farm.

Sometime during Wednesday night of last week a second burglary occurred in the Boynton-Richards store. The thieves removed a hatchway door from the roof which was screwed down and also fastened with a large bolt necessitating several hours of work in its removal and got away with \$150 worth of wearing apparel.

#### 75 Years Ago Jan. 9, 1947

Amboy's police department was increased to three officers at the regular meeting of the city council held Tuesday evening. Each of the three officers will

Amboy's firemen extinguished a basement fire in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Oester at Walton Christmas night.

Rita Brady spent New Year's in Chicago at the home of her sister, Mrs. A.J. Noonan and family.

#### 50 Years Ago Jan. 6, 1972

Amboy's "Cardiac Kids" ran their December winning streak to nine games with a convincing 73-61 win over the Sandwich Indians to claim the Hinckley-Big Rock Holiday Tournament.

The Reverend Milton T. George recently accepted a call to pastor the First Baptist Church in Amboy. His family consists of his wife, Janet, Martha, age 10, David, age 5, and Rebecca age 3. They have moved into the Baptist parsonage at 147 North Jefferson Ave., Amboy.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Fetzer and family, Zearing, were Sunday evening supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindenmeyer and family.

#### 25 Years Ago Jan. 2, 1997

Rescuers from the Amboy Fire Department worked to free an occupant of a vehicle involved in a single-car accident that occurred at 12:15 p.m. last Friday on Sterling Road, east of Corrregidor Road. Two other occupants were able to get out of the car on their own. The third person was wedged inside the car for nearly 45 minutes.

Once again Michael and Jessica top the list of the most popular boy and girl names in Illinois, followed by those perennial second place finishers, Matthew and Ashley.

The Amboy High School boys basketball team won first place in the Forreston Tournament Christmas week. The Clippers won the tournament for the third year in a row and upped their season record to 11-0.



"AND NOW WE'LL INTERVIEW THIS WEEK'S BIG WINNER IN THE NFL."

#### tgreenfield@amboynews.com **Editor Bonnie Morris** bmorris@mendotareporter.com

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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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## YEAR IN REVIEW APRIL -JUNE

#### April April 7

• The Amboy Lions hosted an Easter Bunny Drive-Thru at the Amboy City Park on Saturday, April 3. Children received a treat bag, some with special surprises, as they were driven through the park. The Easter Bunny was available for pictures, as well as a cut-out scene boards. The Lions are looking forward to having a traditional egg hunt in 2022 but wanted children to be able to have some fun

• Between March 30-April 5, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 87 new cases have been reported, with one case from the Dixon Correctional Center. This brings the total number of cases to 3,511 as of April 6. They also reported as of April 6, 12 residents have been hospitalized and 66 residents have died. The latest death is a female resident in her 70s. As of April

have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 5,782 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine. The Amboy varsity volleyball team picked up three more wins last week to im-

2, according to IDPH 15,267

does of COVID-19 vaccine

and 4-0 in the conference. Amboy traveled to Sandwich on March 29 and came away with a 22-25, 25-22, 25-22 win.

prove its record to 5-1 overall

#### April 14

 Join the Amboy Education Foundation as they set sail on the first ever Virtual Voyage. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic and the need to social distance, the Amboy Education Foundation has been forced to cancel its typical in-person fundraising events, but the Amboy students still need the community's help.

• On Saturday, April 10, at approximately 4:15 p.m., Lee County Sheriff's Office received a call of a single vehicle collision on Robbins Road, south of Amboy Road. Lee County Sheriff's Deputies, Amboy Fire/EMS, Sublette Fire/EMS and Advance Ambulance responded to the scene. Four occupants were identified in the collision. The driver, Draven Webb, 19, of Dixon, and a 14-yearold female were transported to KSB Hospital. Webb was later transferred to OSF St. Anthony in Rockford for further treatment. The other two occupants of the vehicle, a 14-year-old female and a 14-year-old male, died of their injuries at the scene.

· Public health officials on April 14 announced 3,790 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 out of 80,628 test results reported over the previous 24 hours, bringing the statewide seven-day rolling positivity rate to 4.1 percent, the highest that figure has stood since Jan. 30.

• The Amboy Lions Club continues its generous ways by donating two more AEDs to community churches. On March 31, the club donated AEDs to St Patrick Church in Maytown and United First Church in Amboy. The Lions have now placed an AED unit in seven area churches and two community centers in the Amboy/ Sublette area.

• Gabby Jones, a senior at Amboy High School, has been named the AHS Student of the Month for April. She is the daughter of Willie and Betsy Jones.

#### **Obituaries**

Sharon Kay Noles-Mezo-May 15, 1954 - April 8, 2021 Thomas R. Broderick -Sept. 1, 1935 - Feb. 24, 2021 Norma J. Bushman - June 23, 1942 - April 12, 2021

#### April 21 Brady Jones and Breanna

Blaine were named Amboy High School Homecoming King and Queen on April 9, at the football game against West Carroll.

• Following the recommendation from the Sublette Planning Commission, the Sublette Village Board denied a zoning request for a special

use permit to build a self-storage facility north of the village. Tim Hayden, a real estate broker from Rochelle, and owner of five self-storage facilities in northern Illinois, approached the board about the requesting a special use permit to rezone from AG1, for the northeast corner of Il Route 52 and Green Wing

The area of the special use permit is not in the village limits, but within the one-mile radius of the village.

• The Lee County Health Department announced the death two Lee County resident – a male in his 70s and a female in her 80s. This brings the total number of deaths to 69. Between April 13-19, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 91 new cases have been reported.

#### April 28

· Newly elected school board members were seated during the April 22 Amboy Board of Education meeting. They included incumbents, Katie Pratt, Elsa Payne and Rory White. Board officers were also chosen. Nicole Jones will continue her role as board president, Katie Pratt will serve as vice president and Elsa Payne was selected as secretary.

· First lady Jill Biden and U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona visited Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon on April 19 to discuss how the American Rescue Plan will support higher education in Illinois.

· Looking at a cost of more than \$500,000 for restoration of the Amboy Depot Museum, the Amboy Depot Commission proposed to the city council about moving its endowment funds for the museum to a non-profit

• Between April 20-26, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 70 new cases have been reported.

 Two Amboy Lady Clipper basketball players were recognized with post-season honors by being chosen to the Illinois Associated Press Class 1A All-State girls' basketball team as voted on by a statewide panel of sports writers and broadcasters and compiled by Steve Tappa, formerly of the Moline Dispaten and the Rock Island Argus. Senior Mallory Powers was one of six players to be chosen to the Class 1A First Team, while classmate Abi Payne was one of six players selected to the Second Team.

#### May May 5

· Amboy will soon have a new junior high school. Completion of the facility, as well as a new gym and offices for the high school, is expected for the start of the 2021-22 school year and Superintendent Joshua Nichols is excited to see the project finally nearing the end.

· Blackhawk Fire Fighter's Association (BFFA) presented their bi-annual training school geared towards new and old firefighters and emergency medical professionals, located in Amboy, on May 1. Classes included hands-on live fire training in several different scenarios based on the student's experience level. Rotations included basic hose handling, search and rescue, fire behavior and flashover.

• Illinois State Representative Dan Swanson presented Amboy Fire personnel with certificates honoring them for their service during the COVID-19 pandemic on Friday afternoon at the Amboy Fire Department. Each certificiate was signed by Swanson, the clerk of the House and the Speaker of the House. The certificates were presented to: Kerry Shaw, Keegan Shaw, Jason Ramos, Chris Nye, Christine Hoffman, Jeff Gerdes, Jennifer Ceretto, Chris Buitta and Ken Hartman.

• Join the Amboy Education Foundation as they set sail on the first ever Virtual Voyage. This year, a virtual silent auction will be held. Bid on the Virtual Silent Auction items from May 13 to 19. Online bidding begins 7 a.m., on Thursday, May 13 and lasts until 9 p.m., on Wednesday, May 19. The AirAuctioneer. com link will go live on May 12 on the Amboy Schools website.

• The Lee County Health Department reported the death of a Lee County resident – a male resident in his 60s. This brings the number of deaths in Lee County to 70. Between April 27-May 3, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 57 new cases have been reported, including one from the Dixon Correctional

· Amboy FFA Alumni recently awarded their post-secondary scholarship to Ashley Althaus, graduate of Amboy High School and an alumni member of the Amboy FFA Chapter.

 Sublette Village Clerk Mackenzie Belan swears in newly elected Sublette Village Clerk Katherine Leffelman in the Ellice Dinges Center. Leffelman ran unopposed in the April 6th election. Leffelman then swore in newly elected Sublette Village Trustee Larry Ellis. Ellis and former Sublette Village Clerk Mackenzie Belan were in a tie for the third village trustee position after the official results of the April 6th election. A lottery was held at the county seat and Ellis won the position. Leffelman also swore in newly elected Sublette Village President John Stenzel. Stenzel had been in the position of Acting Sublette Village President.

#### **Obituaries**

Timothy R. Ross - Nov. 7, 1956 - April 23, 2021

#### May 12

 Amboy High School held its Prom on Saturday night. Pictured center, Joe Ackert and Madelyn McLaughlin were named Prom King and

 All of Illinois is set to enter the Bridge to Phase 5 on May 14 now that 70 percent of residents 65 and older are vaccinated and hospitalizations and deaths have remained stable. The Bridge Phase is the Phase in the Restore Illinois Plan where the State begins lifting mitigations and increasing outdoor and indoor capacity limits and increased business

operations. • The Lee County Democratic Central Committee is proud to announce the launch of their new website, leecodemocrats.com. The new website will be a onestop shop for Lee County residents interested in upcoming Democratic Party events, getting to know Democratic candidates, donating to the Lee County Democratic

Party, and much more. Between May 4-7, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 31

new cases have been reported. Margaret Lowery has been named Amboy High School Student of the Month for May. She is the daughter

of Barbara and Frank Lowery. • The Amboy Clippers opened the baseball season with a 17-1 loss to Forreston on May 4 at the Amboy field. The two teams met again on May 6 at Forreston and the result was a 12-0 victory for the home team. Lena-Winslow scored early and often in taking down the Clippers, 20-8, on May 8 at the Amboy field.

#### **Obituaries**

Melvin E. Stewart - Nov. 22, 1938 - May 6, 2021

Dorothy Louise Noble -Nov. 19, 1930 - May 2, 2021

**May 19** • Two Sublette residents were named Outstanding Citizen of the Year for 2021 by the Sublette Village Board. Nick Wilson and Curtis Kessel were honored as Sublette' Outstanding Citizen of the Year for 2021 during the Monday, May 10 Village of Sublette board meeting. They were each presented with a plaque to take home, and their names were placed on the Citizen of the Year

plaque that will hang in the Ellice Dinges Center.

 The Amboy American Legion Auxiliary will be holding offering its Poppy for donations Friday, May 28 and Saturday, May 29.

 Jack Zentz, a 1967 graduate of Amboy High School, is giving back to the school he remembers with great fondness. Starting this year, his foundation will present a \$5,000 scholarship to a graduating AHS senior. More importantly, he is challenging other Amboy alumni to match that amount so more scholarships can be given each year. • The top 13 students of the Amboy High School Class

of 2021 are Brianna Blaine,

Preston Henkel, Brady Jones,

Erin Latta, Madelyn Mc-Laughlin, Brian Murphy, Abigayle Payne, Mallory Powers, Matthew Raymond, Calvin Seier, Carter Seier, Nicholas Tarr and Trevor Vaessen. · The Amboy/LaMoille track teams hosted sixth other schools in a meet on May

a successful day for A/L as both the girls' and boys' teams finished in first place. The Amboy Lady Clippers opened the softball season with a 10-0 loss to Forreston on May 4 at the

11 at the AHS track. It was

• The Amboy Clippers split a double-header with Ashton-Franklin Center on May 10 at Ashton.

AHS field.

#### **May 26**

 Amboy High School held its graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2021 on Sunday afternoon in the gymnasium. The Lee County Board

met in regular session on Thursday, May 20. The petition from the zoning board to issue a special use ordinance for a property in Sublette for the purpose of constructing a Self-Storage Facility was rejected by the county board. Several board members spoke against the ordinance. Horstman reported that allowing the variance would be at odds with the village of Sublette's comprehensive plan. Another board member noted that the county board should honor the local authority. Proper drainage in the area was one concern. It was also noted that the village of Sublette has some say in what happens within a mile and a half of the village limits. The roll call vote was 22 no and 1 yes.

 Nicholas Tarr son of Andy and Rachel Tarr was named the "2021 Student of the Year" at Amboy High School. Nicholas will be attending Illinois State University in the fall to pursue a degree in Finance. The First National Bank in Amboy is the proud sponsor of this

\$5,000.00 scholarship award. The Amboy Lady Clippers dropped a 7-5 decision to Ashton-Franklin Center in varsity softball action on May 17 at Ashton.

• Eastland posted a 14-1 victory over Amboy in a Senior Night varsity baseball game for the Clippers on May 20 at Parker Field

#### **Obituaries**

Matt Henkel - Feb. 18, 1979 - May 19, 2021

#### June June 2

· Amboy's Mike Hickey was the featured speaker during the Amboy American Legion Post #453 Memorial Day ceremony at Veterans Park. Hickey raised his right hand and recited the oath he swore to when he entered the military. According to military.com, the oath of enlistment is something that every service member must promise and adhere to for their entire military career. Entering as an officer, one would take the military oath of office. Hickey talked about the numbers of the fallen military, and especially talked about those who were not included in the official numbers. • The 2021 Lee County

4-H Fair and Junior Show will be held July 22-25 at the Lee County 4-H Center and Fairgrounds on IL Route 30 just north of Amboy.

 Ashton-Franklin Center posted a 17-3 triumph over Amboy in varsity softball action on May 24 at the AHS field.

• The Amboy Clippers dropped a 6-3 decision to Eastland on May 24 at La-**Obituaries** 

#### Randy A. Jackson - May

Mary E. Dickinson - July

21, 1955 - May 22, 2021

14, 1926 - May 27, 2021

June 9 Amboy Community Unit School District announces the retirement of three employees.

Kay Shaw - 41 Years – Bus Driver Mary Knowles, 23 Years

Mary Jo Zinke - 21 Years District Librarian

Teacher

 Amboy Lions Club President Dave Kemp presented Jim Travi with the Key Builder Award at the Lions Club meeting on May 10. Travi has been one of the greatest promoters of the Ambov Lions Club in recent years and has sponsored 10 members since joining the club.

• Largely on partisan lines, lawmakers passed an omnibus elections bill Monday that would push back the date of the 2022 primary elections amid other major changes to the state's election code. Under the legislation, in 2022, early voting for primary elections would start May 19 and Election Day would be moved to June 28. State primaries are typically held

• Two girls from the Amboy-LaMoille girls' track team will represent the Lady Clippers in the IHSA Class 1A State Track & Field meet after they participated in the Rockridge Class 1A Sectional on June 3 at Edgington. Junior Lauren Althaus will make the trip to state in two events, while freshman Elly Jones qualified for state in four events.

 The Amboy Lady Clippers saw their softball season come to a close after they were defeated by Biggsville (West Central), 15-0, in a Class 1A Regional game on June 3 at Stronghurst. The game was stopped in the fourth because of the 10-run

#### **Obituaries**

Sheila Gale Berry - Aug. 13, 1948 - June 4, 2021 Helen L. Sheridan - Aug. 14, 1932 - May 31, 2021 Josephine Lucille Morrissey - May 29, 2021 Mary G. Mead - Feb. 28, 1929 - May 31, 2021 James L. Ligtenberg - Nov. 15, 1942 - June 4, 2021

#### June 16

• The Illinois Department of Transportation announces today that weather permitting, resurfacing of US 52 in Lee County will begin on Monday, June 14. The project limits are from Water Street in Amboy to Henkle Road near the Lee/LaSalle County line · Amboy High School

varsity girls' basketball head coach Mike McCracken has been named the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year for District 11 for the 2021 season.

• The City of Amboy will once again offer free music this summer at the Amboy bandstand on Saturday nights. Bring your lawn chairs out and enjoy the sounds.

• Starting Friday, Illinois will be in Phase 5 of the COVID-19 reopening plan, meaning businesses and organizations can resume normal activity, although some limited restrictions will remain in place. • One Amboy-LaMoille

boys' track team member qualified for the state track meet after the Clippers participated in the Erie Class 1A Boys' Sectional Track Meet on June 11. Junior Brock Loftus will represent the Clippers at the state meet in the 3200-meter run. While Loftus finished in fourth place in the sectional and only the top two earn automatic bids, Loftus's time of 10:11.62 just snuck in under the state qualifying

standard of 10:12.64. Amboy-LaMoille girls' track team member Elly Jones earned three medals out of the four events she competed in at the IHSA State Track & Field meet on June 10 at Eastern Illinois University in

#### **Obituaries**

Carolyn A. "Nan" Montavon - Dec. 1, 1948 - June 9. 2021 Sheryl Lynn Scharpf Ly-

29, 2020 Thomas R. Broderick -Sept. 1, 1935 - Feb. 24, 2021

ons - Nov. 24, 1942 - Dec.

#### June 23

 Shirley Guay and Rosalie Koldan hold up a going out of business sign inside their downtown Amboy business Amboy Arts and Antiques. The business partners decided to close the doors to the store so they can focus on creating art fulltime.

 With no major obstacles over the past month, construction on the new Amboy Junior High has continued as expected. Reporting at the June 17 Amboy School Board meeting, Superintendent Joshua Nichols said he is hopeful no problems will arise but he knows how quickly that can change. The Village of Sublette board approved a donation

to two organizations during

its monthly meeting on June 14. Village President John Stenzel told the board years ago, the village would make a donation to the Amboy American Legion for the Memorial Day ceremony performed in Sublette on Memorial Day. It was also brought up about making a donation to Flags of Freedom in Princeton, which was the topic of the guest speaker at the Memorial Day ceremony.

IHSA Class 1A Boys' State Track & Field meet on June 17 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. Loftus, who just completed his junior year, competed in the 3200-meter run. He finished in the 26th position with a time of 10:46.71. Local students Ashley

Amboy-LaMoille boys?

track team member Brock

Loftus participated in the

Althaus, Marie Barnickel, and Brett Buhrow, have each been awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from America's Farmers Grow Ag Leaders, sponsored by Bayer Fund.

• The Illinois Basketball Coaches Association (IBCA) has announced that its annual All-Star games will be held on Saturday, June 26 at Pontiac Community High School. In that contest, former Amboy High School standout players Abi Payne and Mallory Powers will compete for the North squad.

#### **Obituaries**

Stephen Charles Dunphy -July 18, 1950 - April 12, 2020 Sylvan J. and Virginia A. Leffelman Services

#### June 30

• The Amboy Fire Department will be hosting its 150th Year Community Celebration on Saturday, July 3, beginning at 2 p.m., in downtown Amboy at Main St. and N. East Avenue. • There's been a revolution

going on in town for a little more than a year now, one that most people want to be a part of. No, city government isn't being taken over. Owners Allison Hicks, a lifelong Amboy resident, and her fiancé, Demetri Lahman, opened Revolution Wellness in June of 2020 and recently celebrated their one year anniversary.

 A blood drive was held on June 22 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Sublette. Donations are needed. The American Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage that is negatively affecting blood product availability across the country.

· Amboy City Clerk Melissa Eisenberg swore in the City of Amboy's newest alderman Greg Noble on Monday, June 21. Noble is filling the empty seat in Ward I. The seat was previously filled by Brett Dewey who did not seek re-election. No candidate ran for the open seat.

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January 3, 2022 Posting Date

## LOCAL NEWS

16

19

42 43

52

55

23 124

28

36

38

#### by Dave T. Phipps



OH, I'M

DONE

MAKIN'

THOSE







#### by Mike Marland





The Spats

DO YOU KNOW THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF DIVORCE

IN NORTH AMERICA?

R.F.D.

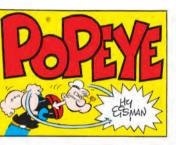
WHAT'S YOUR NEW YEAR'S

RESOLUTION,

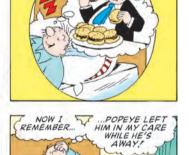
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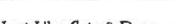


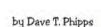


MINUTES













"Remember, if we do find a burglar, you flash the light on your face, and I'll hit him while he's in shock!"



a few things?" "May I

## **SCRAMBLERS**

	in each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag
Escort	
DAGUR	
Wander	
BLAME	
Sway	
WROPE	
Creak	
ARGON	

TODAY'S WORD

15

18

34

39 40

48

26

King Crossword

21 22

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Biting remark 5 Spheres
- 9 Victory
- 12 Skin care brand
- 13 Joel or Ethan of Hollywood
- 14 Parisian pal
- 15 Hourly pay
- 16 Batman's hood 17 Beer contain-
- 18 Rebuff 19 Acting coach
- Hagen 20 Crazy
- 21 Actor Brynner
- 23 Old Olds
- 25 Mourn 28 Hit song by
- the Oak Ridge 50 Handle Boys
- 32 Grown-up
- 34 Autobio-
- graphy
- 36 Herbal tea
- tion 38 Computer key
- 39 Lose color
- 42 TiVo precur-
- 44 Idle or Clapton
- 48 Khan title
- 49 Close

5

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4 6

6 4

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7 Caveat word

10 Apple com-

Barcelona

20 Features of

romantic

comedies

puter

11 Boy, in

22 Loosen

idol

age

24 Graceland

- 8 NBC sketch 51 Dict. info 52 Adriatic port show
- 33 Snake poison 53 Author Hunter 9 Texas city 54 Bygone jet
  - 55 Staff leader? 56 Faxed

#### 37 Geese forma-**DOWN**

Weekly **SUDOKU** 

by Linda Thistle

1

2

7

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way

that each row across, each column down and

each small 9-box square contains all of the

numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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8

5

5 1

3

9

8

4

9

- 1 Fiddle sticks 2 Arkin of
- "Argo" 3 Prego rival
- 4 1957 Everly
- Brothers song 25 Felon's flight
- 5 Supernatural 26 Citric bever-
- 6 Cheer (for)
  - © 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

7

8

3

3

7

2

27 Silent

45 46

50

53

56

17

30

- 29 Pig-poke link 30 Director Howard
- 31 Soul, to Sartre
- 35 Disclose 36 "Fab!"
- 39 Crazes
- 40 Mellows
- 41 Loony 43 Give a darn
- 45 Carry on
- 46 One-named
- supermodel
- 47 Penny
- 49 "The Voice" network

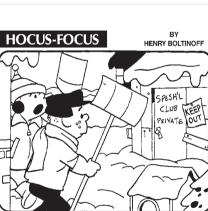
in the northern hemisphere?

4. U.S. STATES: Which state's flag is the only one currently that is two-sided?

6. FOOD & DRINK: How many herbs and spices are in the original recipe of Kentucky Fried Chicken?

Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire make together?

9. TELEVISION: How many children





#### **BORROW**

Today's Word 3. Power; 4. Groan

1. Guard 2. Amble; uoitnios SCRAMBLERS

### **CryptoQuip**

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error. Clue: U equals K

BZAPG IJHD WDDL IJLGPDG WDVVDF.

VID LMBULJSDE VIZED TAXE TJHD VIDSEDPHDE JFD ZU, WAV VIDX

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### -Rodriguez 1. GEOGRAPHY: Which Russian city used to be called Leningrad? 2. SCIENCE: What is the coldest city

3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "persona non grata" mean?

5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the first animal to appear on a U.S.

7. MOVIES: How many movies did

8. LITERARY: In the Harry Potter

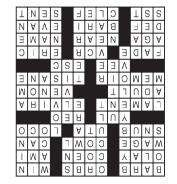
were in "The Addams Family" sitcom? 10. HISTORY: In what year was the first email sent?

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1791,01 9. Two: Wednesday and Pugsley Exhausting Wizarding Test). 8. Critical examinations (Nastily 11.8 5. An eagle figure of a beaver on the other side) 4. Oregon (state seal on one side and a 3. An unwelcome person 2. Оутуакоп, Russia

1. St. Petersburg

Answers



Solution time: 21 mins. **SY9W2RS** 

8 3 1 5 7 6 9 4 5

#### — King Crossword —

8	3	L	ŀ	ħ	9	6	5	9
2	ŀ	9	6	3	8	L	g	Þ
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	IDMCIIV							

Answer

#### Weekly SUDOKU

conid have been handled better. themselves are OK, but they The nicknames those guys gave **SUSWER** 

CryptoQuip

## **SPORTS**

## Clipper Highlights: #53 Dave Stenzel, #53 Al Stenzel and Frank Stenzel

ince we have started these highlights there are many men that have been representative of our community throughout their entire lives. This week's Clippers are in that same category. Duty, service, commitment, pride, and above all else, community is what these three Clippers are all about.

Among their role to our community or program, they are three of the most wholesome, kindest men Amboy is proud to call sons. I am deeply honored this week to announce our Clipper Highlights, #53 Dave Stenzel, #53 Al Stenzel, and former "Voice of the Clippers" Frank

We start with the youngest Stenzel brother, Dave. Dave was a 1975 graduate of Amboy High School. Dave started his Senior season at linebacker and offensive line for the first Don Wyzgowski

"We won two games that year but won our homecoming game so that was fun," Dave shared.

Dave joined his brothers the following season on the road as a scout for the Clippers. With Dave's inclusion into the scouting realm, began an era in our program where the ship was functioning on every level.

"From the top down, everyone knew their role and did their job. Don was great about making everyone feel important," Dave added.

As the years progressed so did Dave's knowledge of the game as knowing what to look for on the field became second nature. Dave shared one of the most astute and spot on statements regarding the game's emotion I have heard throughout all of these highlights.

Dave shared, "there is something lost in the films now as you don't get the sense of emotion involved and can't pick up on the emotional things the leaders do on the field that go into what they

### Clipper **Highlights**

By Spencer Morrissey



mean to their team or in game planning for them."

Absolutely one of the greatest and truest state-

As filming became the norm, Dave continued his role to our program and was on the sidelines taking stats for all of our Clipper games. His insights were still greatly valued and helpful to many Clipper teams of the mid

Dave has not only been instrumental to our program but our community also. He is a retired Assistant Chief of our Fire Department and takes great pride in his involvement in community functions. Dave's son is in seventh grade and is a future Clipper. Dave has found himself scouting the opponents during their warmups and providing his insights to his son before his Junior Tackle games. Direct proof that the game and this inherent devotion to our program never

Dave shared his meaning for Amboy Football in one word...Pride.

Dave concluded, "I'm proud of our program, I'm proud of our players, and I'm so proud of our community."

Al was a 1973 graduate of Amboy High School and member of the 1972 Varsity Clippers. Al was a backup center on offense and starting defensive guard. This



#53 Dave Stenzel, #53 Al Stenzel, and former "Voice of the Clippers" Frank Stenzel.

was a time when Amboy played a 6-3 defense vs. the traditional 4-4 that most of us are familiar with. Al took pride as a defensive lineman and would take on multiple blockers to free up linebackers to make the tackles. In the new, talented SHARK Conference, the inside trap game was popular and the interior linemen always came out bruised and battered.

See **BROTHERS** page A11

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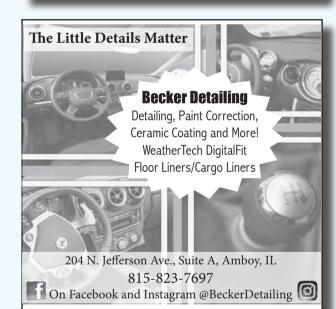
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## SPORTS

## Lady Clippers finish in third place in Amboy Holiday Tournament

**AMBOY** – The Amboy Lady Clippers won three of four games and finished in third place in the eight-team Amboy Holiday Tournament held Dec. 27-30.

The Lady Clippers started out the tournament with a hardfought 43-36 victory over Ottawa Marquette on Dec. 27.

Amboy struggled at time after having a 16-day layoff due to other schools' COVID problems. The Lady Clippers were led by senior Olivia Dinges, who netted seven of 10 free throws in the fourth quarter and ended with 17 points, seven rebounds, five assists, four steals and two blocked shots. Elly Jones made both of her free throw attempts in the fourth frame and finished with 11 points, four boards, two assists and seven steals. Lexi Ketchum made four big shots as she scored eight crucial points and had five rebounds. Courtney Ortgiesen dropped in six points and added a team-high nine rebounds. She also had five steals and three blocks. Maeve Larson rounded out the stats with one point and seven caroms.

Amboy won its second-round game over Mendota, 47-16, on Dec. 28. All 11 of Amboy's players saw court time and eight of them dented the scoring column.

The Lady Clippers were again led by Dinges with 18 points, eight rebounds, three assists and three steals. Twelve of her points came on three-pointers. Jones was next with nine points, four assists and four steals. Ortgiesen had a team-high 10 rebounds and chipped in with six points and five blocked shots. Haidyn Zimmerly added three points and two steals.

Three freshmen scored in the contest. Tyrah Vaessen had five points and collected two steals, Addison Pertell had three points, and Emily Sachs scored a basket and grabbed a pair of rebounds.

In the final game of pool play on Dec. 29, the Lady Clippers ran into a strong Serena team and dropped a 33-23 decision. Amboy lost to Serena by eight points in November (47-



Amboy's Courtney Ortgiesen (No.25) leaps for a rebound against Ottawa Marquette in the Amboy Holiday Tournament

39) and converted 45 percent of its field goal attempts and only had 10 turnovers that night. But the rematch in the tournament game was very physical and Amboy couldn't match the shooting percentage or keep the turnovers to a minimum. The Lady Clippers connected on just 21 percent of their shots and only had three players on the scoring chart.

While Amboy held Serena's second-leading scorer to one point, its all-stater, Katie Baker, pumped in 14 points

Larson paced the Lady Clippers with 12 points and she

hauled down five rebounds. Also, Jones had six points and two assists, Dinges tallied five points and led with seven boards, and Ortgiesen handled six caroms.

Amboy met up with Somonauk in the third-place game on Dec. 30 and came away with a 45-28 triumph.

Dinges poured in four three-pointers on her way to a 19-point performance. She also led with 14 rebounds. Jones scored big with 15 points while dishing out three assists, followed by Larson with seven points. Ortgiesen and Ketchum each added a basket, while Ortgiesen snared seven rebounds and Zimmerly yanked down four boards.

Serena won the tournament title. Two Amboy players Dinges and Jones – were named to the all-tournament team.



shot of Ottawa Marquette's Avery Durdan in the Amboy Holiday Tournament on Dec. 27.

### **BROTHERS** continued from page A10

After Al's time as a Clipper, he became a scout for our program in 1976 when Coach Wyzgowski was at the Cap-

"We learned the game of football from him," Al shared. Al was a scout until games were able to be filmed by a video camera. However, Al's involvement with our program was far from over.

Al continued to be on the sidelines or in the crows nest for all Varsity games until the end of the 2012 season. I can remember Al every game in his red Clipper polo shirt or Red, Mean Machine jacket always supporting and providing his vast knowledge of football every Friday night or Saturday

There is no question of what Amboy Clipper Football means to Al and on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons all one would have to do is look in his backyard, overlooking The Harbor to see the red, black, and white Clipper signs flying at full mast, letting any opponent know exactly the mistake they made by entering The Harbor.

Al concluded, "Amboy Football means pride. It means pride in every working part and especially pride in the fans and our community. ClipperBall stands for one thing...pride."

Al not only gave so many years of service to our program but also our community. Al is a retired Captain of the Amboy Fire Department where he served for many years and was the Director of Public Works as well. All has recently retired from his longtime position as Director and we wish him all the happiness, health, and fishing success that retirement can offer. We all know it's greatly deserved. It's been an absolute pleasure Boss man.

Frank Stenzel, a 1969 graduate of Amboy High School, played football as a Freshman and was a member of our very first Wrestling team as a Senior. In a time most of us couldn't imagine or persevere through, Frank made the decision to work and help his family over playing football Frank's decision to work and help his family is indicative of what Amboy represents, family, hard work, and toughness.

Frank became a scout for our program in 1976 alongside his brothers. In a time before film, Frank and his brothers became students of the game and ahead of their time. Frank and his brothers were a game plan and game film before a game plan or game film existed.

"We took a lot of pride in what we did and were always treated equally as any coach in the program. When we started

something we just kept going," Frank shared.

Frank was a scout for the Clippers until he was asked by



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Mr. Braida to move to the announcing booth to be the radio personality of the Amboy Clippers. Frank would pair up with our Week 44 Clipper, Steve Marco, and the rest is history. Frank and Steve put "ClipperBall" on a National scale as their listeners each week would span the entire country and over the road truck drivers would call into the station saying 101.7 would always be what they listened to each Friday night if they were passing through our Sauk Valley listening area. Frank became a local celebrity as he would go in public, to doctor's appointments and would be asked the question, "are you the voice of the Clippers?"

Frank, as kind and humble as they come shared, "I was just grateful to be a part of it. Amboy Football has always taken care of me too.

Frank retired from ClipperBall after more than 30 years of service as a scout and broadcaster. Frank concluded, "Amboy Football means community, brotherhood, and camaraderie. Amboy football brought a lot of great men together."

Like his brothers, Frank has given so much to Amboy Football and Amboy as a whole. As a retired Chief of the Amboy Fire Department, Frank's duty, service, and commitment to our community comes second only to his family. As all three brothers became scouts for our program in

1976, it was only the beginning of the grand era to come for our program. The Stenzel Brothers, under Coach Wyzgowski's guidance, went game to game documenting every offensive, defensive, and special teams snap.

"I never watched a game. I was always writing." Frank

Coach Wyzgowski had offensive and defensive forms premade and the Stenzel brothers would use them as a guide but as the seasons went on, their knowledge of the game grew

vast. It wasn't before long the Stenzel brothers could pick up the most minute tendencies or flaws in an opponents game plan. One of, if not the greatest points of pride for the Stenzel Brothers was that Coach Wyzgowski shared with them their scouting reports were always above 90% in regards to accuracy, giving our Clipper teams of those seasons a significant advantage. However, the Stenzels' sacrifice came from not being able to see so many great Clipper games, but they were always invited and included at Coach Wyzgowski's house every Monday to re-watch the film of the week prior.

Without the Stenzel Brothers' contributions and commitment to our program, our successes may not have been as they are written. They have ate, slept, and breathed Amboy Clipper Football since they became a part of it and our history would not be complete without the celebration of their contributions. So, to #53 Dave, #53 Al, and "Voice of the Clippers",

Frank, the Stenzel Brothers, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. Our programs' history would not be the same without your sacrifice, commitment, and hard work. However, what you all have meant to our great community of Amboy proves everything anyone needs to know of all of your characters as men. Amboy is lucky to have your kindness, your warmth, your service, and above all, your love. This has been an honor. Sail on!

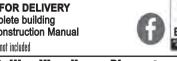
Spencer Morrissey, is a former resident of Amboy and 2009 graduate of Amboy High School. In April 2020, he created a private Facebook group specifically for Amboy Clipper Football Alumni. To have played Amboy football for any period of time, 1 year or all 4 years, is the only membership requirement.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

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Tuesday, Jan. 11

Wednesday, Jan. 12

Thursday, Jan. 13

Saturday, Jan. 15

Friday, Jan. 14

AHS Boys Basketball @ Fulton-5:30 pm

AHS Wrestling @ Winnebago-5:30 pm AHS Volleyball Banquet-Cafeteria-6:30 pm

AHS Boys Basketball @ DePue-10 am AHS JV Wrestling (H) Tournament-9 am AHS Varsity Girls Basketball @ Eastland-TBA

AHS Boys Basketball (H) AFC-6 pm AHS Girls Basketball @ Forreston-5:30 pm EARLY DISMISSAL - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT - AHS & AJHS-11:20; Central-11:25

AHS Varsity Girls Basketball (H) Milledgeville-6 pm AHS Wrestling @ West Carroll-5:30 pm AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H) Faith Christian-4 pm

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm AHS Boys Basketball @ Forreston-5:30 pm AHS Wrestling @ Rock Falls-5:30 pm

AHS Girls Basketball @ AFC-6 pm Central School Drawing Club (1st-4th)-Art Room-

AHS Boys Basketball (H) Oregon-6 pm

AHS Girls Basketball (H) Stockton-1 pm

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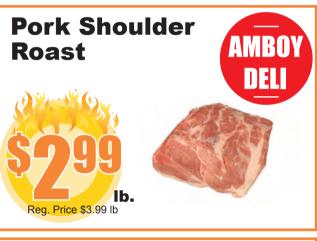






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