

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

Volume 166 - Number 52

www.AmboyNews.com

\$1.00



Increase coming for Illinois minimum wage on Jan. 1

SPRINGFIELD – The minimum wage in Illinois is set to increase another dollar on Saturday, January 1, 2022. The new wage will be \$12 an hour.

Minimum wage workers are being encouraged to keep a close eye on their paychecks in the new year. Any time worked in 2022 must reflect the new \$12 an hour minimum wage.

Governor JB Pritzker signed legislation in 2019 putting the state on the path to a \$15 an hour minimum wage by 2025. There have been three increases in the minimum wage since the governor signed the wage hike legislation.

Prior to the increases in 2020, the last time Illinois raised its minimum wage was more than a decade ago in 2010 when it increased to \$8.25. In Chicago, the minimum wage is already \$15 an hour for employers that have 21 or more employees. It's \$14 an hour for smaller businesses.

The new law maintains provisions for employers to count gratuities to offset wages

for workers, such as food servers, who regularly earn tips. Tipped employees may be paid 60 percent of the hourly minimum wage. However, these workers must still earn the minimum wage after receiving tips or the employer will make up the difference.

Workers under 18 years old and who work fewer than 650 hours in a year will earn a minimum wage of \$9.25 per hour beginning January 1.

The youth minimum wage rate will gradually rise to \$13 an hour by 2025.

All employers in Illinois are required to post the "Your Rights Under Illinois Employment Laws" where notices to employees are regularly posted. The color poster, which also covers other Illinois labor laws, can be found here in English and Spanish: Illinois Labor Laws

Employees with problems regarding the minimum wage can file a complaint with IDOL at the following link: Minimum Wage Complaints or call 312-793-2800.

Lee County Dec. 20 COVID update

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department announces 196 new positive cases between Dec. 14-20.

Here are the ages that were reported: 47 under the age of 12, 29 in his or her teens, 16 in his or her 20s, 32 in his or her 30s, 25 in his or her 40s, 16 in his or her 50s, 18 in his or her 60s, 12 in his or her 70s, and 1 on his or her 80s. A total of 24 residents are hospitalized. The county also reported that the number of cases in unvaccinated individuals is 172 of the 196 cases.

The Lee County Health Department's website has a COVID-19 section, including

information for people who have tested positive. See www.LCHD.com/Covid19 for more.

Vaccine

As of Dec. 23, according to IDPH 45,297 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 18,839 people in Lee County are fully vaccinated, which is 55.05 percent of the population. A total of 20,471 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. A total of 8,147 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.



DONATIONS FROM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
On Dec. 17, Steve Klein, Grand Knight of the Amboy Knights of Columbus presented checks totaling \$1,406 each to, pictured left, Matt Zilm, the Director of the Ogle County Special Education and, pictured right, Jeff Stauter, Director of Kredier Services and Mike Hickey, Board Chairman of Kreider Services, in Dixon. These checks were the proceeds



from the September Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive for the Intellectually Disabled. Steve Klein would offer his appreciation to everyone who donated to the Tootsie Roll Drive and the 50 Knights of Columbus members who participated in the drive.

Photos submitted

2021 Lee County tentative multiplier announced

SPRINGFIELD — Lee County has been issued a tentative property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, according to David Harris, Director of the Illinois Department of Revenue.

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier", is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g. school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there were no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

State law requires property in Illinois to be assessed at one-third (1/3)

of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland and farm buildings assessed according to standards based on productivity.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the sales price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If this three-year average level of assessment is one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be one (1). If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than one (1). And if the average level of assessment is

less than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than one (1).

Assessments in Lee County are at 33.39 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2021 taxes, payable in 2022.

Last year's equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The tentative factor is subject to change (1) if the County Board of Review takes actions which significantly affect the county assessments or (2) if local officials or others can present data showing that the Department of Revenue's estimates of the average level of assessments in the county should be adjusted. A public hearing on the tentative multiplier

will be held between 20 and 30 days after the tentative factor is published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county.

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease. Tax bills are determined by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens. If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments may have increased.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual's portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.

Give the gift of holiday safety: Drive sober, arrive alive

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police and more than 200 law enforcement agencies throughout the state are joining together to remind motorists that the most important gift they can give to friends and family is their safe arrival. During this busy travel time, law enforcement will be increasing its lifesaving efforts to keep impaired drivers off the roads and make sure that all travelers buckled up.

"The winter holidays are the

perfect time to show your friends, family members and communities how much you care," said Cynthia Watters, IDOT's bureau chief of Safety Programs and Engineering. "I can't think of a better way to do that than by giving the gift of safety. Drive sober and make sure your loved ones do the same. When it comes to seat belts, check them twice for a safer ride. Everyone around you will be merry and bright when you show how much their safety means to you."

According to preliminary data,

as of Dec. 16, there were 1,149 fatal crashes and 1,265 fatalities in Illinois in 2021. This represents an increase of 115 fatalities from the same period in 2020.

"Our troopers will remain steadfast in preventing crime and enforcing all laws to increase public safety and improve the quality of life for everyone in Illinois," said Illinois State Police Director Brendan F. Kelly. "We appreciate all of the law-abiding individuals who help us achieve our mission through safe driving and by

reporting unsafe driving and criminal activity, so together we can enjoy a safe holiday season."

Before you head over the river and through the woods to enjoy your holiday festivities, keep the following tips in mind:

If you're under the influence of alcohol or another impairing substance, don't drive.

If you think a driver is impaired, don't get in the car. Instead, take their keys and help them get home safely.

See **SOBER** page A3



Obituaries

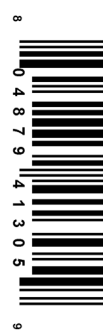
Rex Hicks, Sr.
Dana Barlow

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Inserts

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LOCAL NEWS



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - FIRST BAPTIST FOOD PANTRY

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

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - LEE COUNTY GOODFELLOWS

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, middle, presents a check for \$1,000 to Mary Kathryn Stenzel and Clara Harris of the Goodfellows of Lee County. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



As the year ends, we at Leffelman and Associates would like to reflect on 2021 and thank you for another year of support. You can see from our picture that our staff shrunk a little in 2021. It was tough, but we pulled ourselves up by the bootstraps, and found that we could handle even more business with our small (but mighty!) crew. We feel blessed to be in our little corner of the world where we all come together to support each other. Please continue to support local businesses so we can keep our little corner of the world alive and flourishing. We pray that everyone stays safe and healthy this season. If you are not able to physically be with family members, call them often, stay in touch. And have a warm and wonderful Christmas and a new year filled with health and happiness.

May the Christmas Spirit be with you & your family today & throughout the New Year!



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LOCAL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Book Nook

By:
Tatjana Kazan

Slow Burn

In a discussion of her new murder mystery, "A Slow Fire Burning" (2021), British author Paula Hawkins said, "Everything for me comes out of characters... people who are neither good nor bad, but who are essentially extremely complicated." She went on to explain that the way she creates these complex characters is by giving them a trauma or tragedy in their young past.

Thus there is Laura, a central character/murder suspect, who at age 10 was hit by a car which left her with lasting brain damage. She is in her early 20s, she drinks too much, makes bad choices, and generally can't help but get into trouble. Her illness, called disinhibition, accounts for her rudeness and tactlessness. Yet Hawkins calls her "plucky, someone who has a generosity of spirit." The trouble Laura is in this time is her limping away very early one morning from a dilapidated houseboat on Regent's Canal in London, blood splattered on her shirt and hands. In the houseboat, the body of young Daniel Sutherland lies sprawled in a pool of blood. They had a fight. Daniel called Laura a psycho-bitch. A witness watches her hurrying along the towpath.

Hawkins introduces a gallery of variously plausible suspects, each marked by tragedy, each coping with the slow burn of "guilt, shame, self-loathing, revenge." There is Daniel's Aunt Carla, cold, resentful, incapable of coming to terms with the accidental death of her toddler. For Miriam Lewis, Daniel's neighbor, it seems that the only thing that keeps her from exploding is her talent for manipulation. Irene is the only well-balanced character, a kindly old widow who is Laura's shelter from the storm. Theo Myerson is the sole male character, other than the corpse. He is Carla's ex-husband, a novelist who is not beyond stealing and publishing someone else's manuscript, but who is otherwise too good, too loyal not to be a suspect.

The best part of this murder mystery is the big reveal at the end, not so much of the perpetrator, but of who Daniel was and why he was murdered. But "A Slow Fire Burning" does have a serious problem. And that is Hawkins's equivalence of trauma with complexity of character. Human nature is far more complicated than she allows, or perhaps is capable of creating. For example, Laura is another version of Rachel, the protagonist in Hawkins's huge bestseller "The Girl on the Train." Both heroines are impetuous, unheeding, gullible. In short, Hawkins's characters are one-note actors reduced to what had happened to them rather than who they are. It makes for a monotonous landscape, which can be fatal in a murder mystery.

**Recycle! Recycle!
Recycle!**

SOBER continued from page A1

If you are going to drink alcohol, use marijuana or take another impairing substance, plan ahead for a sober ride home. Options include your community's sober ride program, a cab, public transportation or your favorite

ride-sharing app. If you see an impaired driver on the road, pull over and contact local law enforcement. The enforcement campaign runs statewide through Jan. 3, funded with federal highway safety funds administered by IDOT.

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 City of Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 3, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

ASHTON-The Lee County Health Department and Illinois Department of Public Health will hold a Walk-in Covid Vaccine Clinic at the Mills-Petrie Building, 704 N. First St., on Tuesday, Jan. 4. This clinic will have first shots, second shots and boosters available. Call 815-284-3371 for more information. Visit lchd.com

TEEN TURF

Our FREE after-school program for third -eighth grade began Tuesday, Sept. 7, from 3:30-5 p.m. Like last school year, we are only taking a set amount. You must have your child or children pre-registered prior to coming. If you are interested in having them attend, please call 815-857-4800.

Aerobics

Open to the public: Anyone is invited to gather at Teen Turf on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. for group chair exercises and walking. They have a great time together.

Thank You's

Thank you to the following people who donated to us: Brad and Pam Kessel for their monetary donation; Les and Betty Shaw for the cake

for updates on Covid Vaccine Clinics.

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

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 Lions 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.

and notebooks; DSK AG for their monetary donation and the people who donate cans.

Needs

Snack items

Final Word

"Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day. We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said 'no,' 'not yet,' or 'wait.' We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts." —Debbie McDaniel

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.illinois.edu/creative-writing4H. 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 envi-

ronmental 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.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 17, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY-The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20, at Central School Gym.

Established In 1854
The Amboy News
The Depot Museum

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854

Tonja Greenfield, Publisher

Bonnie Morris, Editor

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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

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Rex O. Hicks, Sr.

Jan. 7, 1947 - Dec. 21, 2021

AMBOY—Rex O. Hicks Sr., 74, of Amboy, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021 at CGH Medical Center.

He was born Jan. 7, 1947 in Sandwich, the son of Earl and Geneva (Moreland) Hicks.

Rex was an electrician and had worked for ComEd/Exelon at the Quad Cities Generating Station for 25 years prior to retirement. After retirement he had worked part time as a contractor at nuclear plants all over the country. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Amboy where he had served as a Deacon and taught and was superintendent of Sunday School. Rex enjoyed riding and training horses, hunting, and especially enjoyed fishing in Minnesota with his family. Rex was known best for his love for his family and his love for others.

Rex married Linda Sivitis on Dec. 23, 1967 in Dixon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Melissa Sue Hicks and one brother, Carl Hicks.

Rex is survived by his wife Linda; children, Rex (Cindy) Hicks Jr., of Amboy, Todd (Amy) Hicks, of Amboy, and Carrie (Stacey) Merriott, of South Elgin; 10 grandchildren, Cody Hicks, Connor (Joelle) Hicks, Alexander (Bethany) Hicks, Garrett (Emma) Hicks, Jacob Hicks, Elisabeth Hicks, Benjamin Hicks, Adalynn Hicks, Sharon Ballesteros, Austin (Rachel) Merriott; and 7 great-grandchildren, Jackson Hicks, Ellie Hicks, Gabriel Ballesteros, Bianca Ballesteros, Lucia Ballesteros, Adaleigh Merriott and Lemuel Merriott. He is also survived by one sister Juanita Hicks of Amboy.

Funeral services were held



at 11 a.m., on Monday, Dec. 27, 2021, at the First Baptist Church in Amboy with Pastor Rocky Fritz officiating. Burial with Military Honors followed at Woodside Cemetery in Lee Center. Visitation was held on Monday from 9 to 11 a.m., at the Church.

A memorial has been established to the First Baptist Church. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

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

Dana E. Barlow

Nov. 2, 1941 - Dec. 23, 2021

ELDENA — Dana E. Barlow, 80, of Eldena, died at his home on Thursday Dec. 23, 2021.

He was born on Nov. 2, 1941, in Amboy, the son of Franklin and Doris (Stouffer) Barlow.

Dana was a farmer, truck driver, mechanic, and worked for F.S. and CPS / Nutrient. He was a member of the Amboy Masonic Lodge 178 where he was a 32nd degree Mason and was also a Master multiple times. Dana was also the District Deputy and Grand Sword Bearer for the Illinois Central Lodge.

He married Beverly Tuel on March 4, 1960 in Oregon.

Dana is preceded in death by his parents, one son, Brett Barlow, and one brother,

Ralph Barlow.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly; children, Brad Barlow of Chili, Wis., Brian (Nichole) Barlow, of Quartz Hill, Calif., and Brooke (Cindy) Barlow, of Amboy; 14 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one brother, Dale (Shirley) Barlow, of Amboy; and one sister, Janet Barlow, of Beeville, Texas.

Visitation will be held from 9 – 11 a.m., on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Funeral service will follow starting at 11 a.m., on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. A luncheon will follow the service at St. James Church and all are



welcome of attend.

A memorial has been established in Dana's memory to Shriners Children's Hospital.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

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

On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Dec. 30, 1921

No issue of the Amboy News was published on this date. The management announced last week that "we will omit the publication of a paper on Dec. 30 in order to give our office and shop force an opportunity to do some much needed work that cannot be done when the paper is published regularly."

75 Years Ago Jan. 2, 1947

Fire early Sunday evening destroyed B.F. Hinrichs office, parts warehouse and badly damaged the repair department at the North end of the structure on East Avenue in Amboy's business section.

Voters in the Amboy Cen-

tral Grade School District No. 68 approved the remodeling and repair of the present school building, and the construction of an addition to it by a vote of 295 to 34.

50 Years Ago Dec. 30, 1971

Christmas was a lot brighter for a number of folks in this community because of the efforts of the Amboy Volunteer Firemen, Inc. Last Thursday afternoon, they delivered 39 boxes of food and 23 baskets of fruit to homes in Amboy and surrounding areas. Some went to needy families, others went to shut-ins.

Mr. and Mrs. Orie Bonnell spent Christmas Eve at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Zimmerman and family for a gift exchange.

25 Years Ago Dec. 26, 1996

The City of Amboy recently named its first two volunteers of the year. Receiving the honor were Eileen Piper and Terry Brunt.

At its regular meeting Thursday evening, the Amboy School District 272 Board of Education unanimously approved a 15 percent tax levy increase. District Superintendent Terry Salem said, "we're looking down the road when we're going to be restricted to the tax caps which could be anywhere from 2 ½ to 5 percent of the extended levy of the previous year, which means that instead of getting 15 percent, you might only get 2 ½ percent from that year on."

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Allen "Zip" Sensenig

May 23, 1971 - July 12, 2018

Thanksgiving has come and gone again. I've got so much to be "thankful" for this past year. Christmas is coming real soon. All the good food we eat, getting together with friends and family and having good times is what its all about, and again, being so thankful for all the above. You're so missed and loved - not a day goes by without mentioning your name or some funny thing that you did or said. I can still hear your laughter throughout the house. Tim and Tammy are doing great. Dad, well his dementia is working on him, but I'm trying to deal with it. I'm still having my chemo treatments.

Merry Christmas in Heaven, "Zip." We love you and miss you so much.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Tim, Tammy, Shy and Yokon

P.S. Your "Green Bay" and "Copenhagen" Christmas ornaments are again on my tree this year.

12292021



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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church
Fr. John Gow
32 N Jones, Amboy
815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am
Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm
Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday, 8am-5 pm

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

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

United First Church of Amboy
Pastor Mark Glenn
East Main & Jefferson
815-440-0745
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center
Pastor Jack M. Briggs
1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center
www.LeeCenter-UCC.org
Phone 815-732-7032
Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Church
Amboy-Sublette
Pastor Brian McWethy
500 W. Main Street, Sublette
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.graceisforyou.com

East Grove Union Church
Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321
449 Reuter Road, Amboy
Phone 815-376-6661
1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd.
Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service
Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult
6:00 p.m. Evening Service
Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study
First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m.
First Sunday Family Film Night
Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m.
"Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!"
Come as you are and join us on the journey!

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

St. James Evangelical Congregational Church
Robert Dunbar, Pastor
US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon
815-288-2447
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

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

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Barb Otten
960 U.S. Route 52
Phone 857-2225
Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Rev. Randy Fronek
Locust Street, Sublette
Phone 815-849-5412
Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church
Pastor John Kalebaugh
Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52
Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930
10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

Harmon United Methodist Church
Pastor Leanne Keate
202 N. Grove, Harmon
Phone 359-7302
Worship - 8:30 a.m.

**The Following
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Church News:**

Sensient Flavors, LLC.
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in Amboy
Member F.D.I.C.**
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815-857-2611

**Vaessen Brothers
Chevrolet**
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KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

The Amboy News
815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



Carole Benson

80th birthday card shower planned for Carole Benson

AMBOY — The family of Carole Benson of Amboy, is requesting a card shower in honor of her 80th birthday. Carole was born on Jan. 3, 1942, at Angear Hospital in Sublette.

Her family includes her children, Susan (Hugh) McCoy, of Sublette, IL, Connie (Jon) Yambert, of Compton, the late Sherry (Lane) Zerbe, of Byron, and Dr. Jonathan (Sarah) Benson, of Hometown, Ind. Carole's eight grandchildren are Ryan McCoy, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., Courtney McCoy, of Ottawa, Shannon Wegner, of Dixon, Kelly Callahan and Michelle Callahan, both of Aurora, Jennifer Hermeyer, of Amboy, Josh Christoffersen, of Chicago, and Tara (Adrian) Medina, of Naples, Fla. A granddaughter, Sarah Christoffersen, died in infancy. Carole has nine great-grandchildren, including Ren McCoy, Nolan Wegner, Sienna Morales, Caden Hermeyer, Jayce Hermeyer, Asher Eccles, Alexis Medina, Liliana Medina, and Quentin Medina.

Cards of congratulations may be sent to Carole Benson at PO Box 96, Amboy, IL 61310.

Goodfellows of Lee County to host giveaway

DIXON — The Goodfellows of Lee County is hosting its annual After the Holidays free giveaway. The event will be held from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., on Jan. 13 and 14, and from 9 a.m. – noon, on Jan. 15, at the Church of the Brethren, in Franklin Grove. For more information, please call Clara Harris at 815 973-5135.



THE PASTOR'S PEN

A "Christian" Carol

BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

(special thanks to my wife Glenda who helped me write this)

This year our church celebrated our Christmas Candlelight Service, something which is a very special and precious tradition for us. Another tradition in our family is watching, "A Christmas Carol." If you are familiar with the story, then you may recall that the main character (Ebenezer Scrooge) was a mean, miserable and miserly "old sinner" with little hope for change or "redemption." His only hope for change would come in the form of three spirits which would visit him. They were the Ghosts of Christmas "Past", "Present", and "Yet to Come".

As the story progresses, we come to understand that Scrooge's life is not lived in isolation. It also affects the lives of the people around him – especially his employee (Bob Cratchit) and his family. The one who seems most affected by Scrooge's miserly ways, however, was Bob Cratchit's sickly child known affectionately as, "Tiny Tim." Tiny Tim was a glimmer of light to his family in their otherwise dark and dismal world. At one very poignant moment in the story, Scrooge asks the Ghost of Christmas Present if Tim will live? The spirit said, "If these shadows do not change" ... he would "not see another Christmas." The beloved Tiny Tim would die! A very sad and tragic prognosis for everyone who knew him... even Scrooge. In order for Tim to even have a chance to avoid this destiny, something

incredible must happen... Scrooge must change.

The good news of the story is... Tiny Tim did not die. But it is why he recovered and lived which makes this story so heartwarming. Tiny Tim did not die... because Scrooge realized the error of his ways, repented, and became a kind and generous man who financially helped the Cratchit family. He had become a transformed man!

In some ways this story illustrates humanities' own dark, dismal, and hopeless plight. Throughout history sin has wreaked havoc upon God's beautiful creation... especially the very part of creation made in His image – mankind.

Sin ran rampant like a contagious deadly disease. And there was absolutely nothing we could do to change it or stop it. The prognosis is "Terminal" for everyone who gets it. And every human gets it. No cure. If nothing changed... we would all die a death which would ultimately and eternally separate us from the God who loves us.

There was only one hope. Creator God Himself would come to earth... in person. Born as a baby in a stable. And laid in a manger. Jesus Christ lived a perfect sinless life and then died a sacrificial death for our sins. His life, death, and resurrection changed our story forever.

The Bible is very clear that we are each faced with the fact that eternity is before us. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." And Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ

our Lord." There is only one way to receive salvation. It is through the gift of His Son that came to the world He created. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Now that we are about to close the calendar on 2021 and open a new calendar with the year 2022, we remember that with every ending there also comes a new beginning! Scrooge could not change the life he had lived previously... but he did what he could in the time that he still had left! He did not let another

moment slip away. Similarly, we can't go back and change even one thing about this past year – or any previous year we have traveled through. The difference we can make is in our "today" ... and this creates the difference in our "tomorrows."

At Christmas we are reminded of the most precious Gift that God sent. His Son who would make a way for all of us to receive His forgiveness. And be transferred from death to life – eternal life. You can't do anything about yesterday – but you can do something about eternity. Don't neglect the incredible gift that He offers you.

Email news items to
tgreenfield@amboynews.com



142 N Jones Ave., Amboy \$116,500

A Darling 3 bedroom 1 bath home on a corner lot. An attached screened in porch adds to the charm of this home! The location is close to schools, downtown and the Post Office. The garage offers additional room for storage. New roof put on approximately 2 years ago. Property being sold "as is" This little gem won't last long-call for a showing today!

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The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that New Year's Day is one of the worst days of the year for fatal crashes involving drunk drivers. Don't let the good times cloud your good judgement. As you make your New Year's Eve party plans this year, be sure to include plans for safe and sober transportation. Here are some suggestions to help you plan ahead for a responsible ride home.

- Decide in advance on a designated driver.
- Save the number for a taxi service in your phone.
- Download a ride service app to your phone.
- Attend a party at a hotel or location where you can make overnight arrangements.
- Host or attend an alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration.
- Make plans to have a friend, relative or car service pick you up from the celebration.



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2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY

Jan. 6

• Sublette Fire Protection District Captain Kim Vaessen receives her covid-19 vaccination Wednesday night at KSB Hospital in Dixon. Five department members received the vaccine.

• The Lee County Health Department is saddened to report 1 additional death in the county after confirming COVID as the cause. Age breakdown is as follows: 1 male resident in his 90s. This brings the total number of deaths in Lee County to 49.

• The Lee County Farm Bureau (LCFB) is honored to recognize David Gusse, Dixon, with the Lee County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award in recognition for his longtime service to the organization.

Obituaries

Charlotte A. Fitzpatrick - Jan. 13, 1928 - Dec. 30, 2020
Donald "Donnie" Reinhold - June 27, 1939 - Dec. 30, 2020

Eileen M. Albee - May 8, 1938 - Jan. 2, 2021

Sharon M. Drew - Dec. 20, 1944 - Jan. 3, 2021

Jan. 13

• Statewide Tier 3 COVID-19 mitigations could be lifted within 10 days. Starting Jan. 15, exactly one incubation period from New Year's Day, any region that has met requirements for a reduction of mitigations will be able to move out of the Tier 3 mitigation plan, Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced Wednesday, Jan. 6.

• The Lee County Health Department is saddened to report 4 additional deaths in the county after confirming COVID as the cause. Age breakdown is as follows: 3 male residents in their 80s and 1 female resident in her 80s. This brings the total number of deaths in Lee County to 53.

• Brooklyn Whelchel has been named the Amboy High School Student of the Month for January. She is the daughter of Chad and Laurie Whelchel.

Obituaries

Dawson C. Roland - Nov. 16, 1937 - Jan. 6, 2021

Sharon M. Harney - Sept. 27, 1958 - Jan. 7, 2021

Lynda K. Blaine - Oct. 16, 1951 - Dec. 27, 2020

Jan. 20

• Lee County Health Department now has an appointment request form for all residents who are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination under Phase 1B. As a reminder, Phase 1B is expanding to residents age 65 and older, and frontline essential workers.

• The Lee County Health Department is saddened to report 1 additional death in the county after confirming COVID as the cause. Age breakdown is as follows: 1 resident in her 50s. This brings the total number of deaths in Lee County to 54.

Obituaries

Joan C. Geiger - Jan. 28, 1947 - Jan. 7, 2021

Jan. 27

• Another winter, another round of steam leaks have been discovered at Amboy Junior High School. Reporting at the Jan. 21 board of education meeting, Superintendent Joshua Nichols said the ongoing maintenance issues at AJHS are mainly due to the age of the building. "The biggest problem is that the pipes are so old, if they twist the pipe, it breaks," he explained.

• The Lee County Health Department is saddened to report 1 additional death in the county after confirming COVID as the cause. Age breakdown is a male in his 80s. This brings the total number of deaths in Lee County to 55.

• The United Way of Lee County Board of Directors has selected Amanda Wike as Executive Director of the organization.

• United States Congressman Adam Kinzinger heard flash bang grenades exploding outside his office in Washington D.C. as large numbers of insurrectionists stormed

the U.S. Capitol building on Jan. 6. The Republican, who is in his fifth term representing Illinois' 16th District, had a feeling the events that took place that day could take an ugly turn. The day started as expected, with Kinzinger and his congressional colleagues entering the House chamber around 1 p.m. for a Joint Session to certify the results of the 2020 election, which saw Democratic President-elect Joe Biden defeat Republican President Donald Trump.

Obituaries

Thomas E. Latta - Aug. 29, 1954 - Jan. 19, 2021

FEBRUARY

Feb. 3

• The IHSA Board of Directors approved the following schedule for the remainder of the school year:

Boys' & Girls' Basketball - Practice starts ASAP. Seven dates before first game. No state series. Season ends March 13.

Football - Practice starts March 3. First game March 19. No state series. Season ends April 24.

Girls' Volleyball - Practice starts March 8. Seven dates before first match. No state series. Season ends April 24.

Baseball - Practice starts April 5. Seven dates before first game. State series TBD. Season ends June 19.

Softball - Practice starts April 5. Seven dates before first game. State series TBD. Season ends June 19.

Boys' & Girls' Track - Practice starts April 5. Seven dates before first contest. State series TBD. Season ends June 19.

Wrestling - Practice starts April 19. Seven dates before first contest. No state series. Season ends June 12.

• Alexis Morgan of Amboy, helped save lives by hosting an American Red Cross blood drive this past fall and earned a \$1,000 scholarship as a result of her lifesaving efforts. As part of the Red Cross Leaders Save Lives program, the Amboy High School student hosted a blood drive at Amboy Community Building on Sept. 2, 2020, which collected 40 units of blood. As a result, Morgan was entered into a drawing to win a scholarship and was chosen as a winner. Morgan was also awarded a gift card.

• The Lee County Health Department is saddened to report 2 additional deaths in the county after confirming COVID as the cause. Age breakdown is a male in his 90s and a male in his 100s. This brings the total number of deaths in Lee County to 57.

• Jim Bann, Director of NBE Bancshares, and Chairman and Director of Pioneer State Bank, has chosen to step down from these roles, effective in January 2021. Bann has served Pioneer State Bank, and before that, the National Bank of Earlville, since 1964 as an Officer, President and ultimately Chairman of the Board.

Obituaries

Patricia A. "Pat" Burke - July 10, 1946 - Jan. 29, 2021
Don Clark - April 28, 1935 - Jan. 19, 2021

Donald E. Hillison - Jan. 25, 1929 - Jan. 29, 2021

Norma J. Shapiro - July 5, 1929 - Jan. 29, 2021

Feb. 10

• Between Feb. 2-8, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 37 new cases have been reported. This brings the total number of cases to 2,972 as of Feb. 8. Of the 2,972 cases, 2,510 have recovered. They also reported as of Feb. 8, 5 residents have been hospitalized and 59 residents have died.

• Lee County Sheriff John Simonton would like to warn the citizens of Lee County of a phone scam that claims an individual's social security number has been used fraudulently and will be suspended. The scam is "spoofing" phone numbers to appear that it is coming from a local phone number when in fact, it is not. In some cases, the call has appeared to be coming from the courthouse.

• Erin Latta, a senior at Amboy High School, has been named the Student of the Month for February. She is the daughter of Brad and Sue Latta.

• The Amboy Lady Clippers finally got to start their basketball season and they began in impressive fashion with a 74-52 triumph over the Sterling Golden Warriors on Feb. 5 at Sterling.

Obituaries

Charles Frank Rhodenbaugh - May 30, 1947 - Feb. 2, 2021

James Blackburn - Sept. 30, 1939 - Feb. 6, 2021

Raymond Beggs - Nov. 27, 1953 - Feb. 4, 2021

Feb. 17

• Between Feb. 8-13, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 29 new cases have been reported. This brings the total number of cases to 3,001 as of Feb. 13. Of the 3,001 cases, 2,498 have recovered. They also reported as of Feb. 13, 5 residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died, including a male resident in his 70s. As of Feb. 12, according to IDPH 5,203 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 1,212 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

• Ashton-Franklin Center proved to be no match for Amboy as the Clippers cruised to a 63-36 victory over the Raiders in varsity boys' basketball action on Feb. 10 at the AHS gym.

• The Amboy Lady Clippers kept their high-powered offense going last week by sweeping three games in impressive fashion to run their record to 4-0 in the season.

Obituaries

Beverly P. Noble - Sept. 13, 1935 - Feb. 13, 2021

Terry L. Politsch - May 23, 1940 - Feb. 10, 2021

Feb. 24

• The Amboy Lions Club met Monday night for the first time since Sept. 14, 2020. Pictured left to right are Treasurer Edy Pfeiffer, Jim Travi, President Dave Kemp and Larry Eisenberg. The club meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. The club's main topic of discussion on Monday night was the Annual Rose Day Sale. Delivery this year will be on Saturday, March 27.

• Rapid tests for COVID-19 are now available in Amboy schools. Reporting at the Feb. 18 board of education meeting, Superintendent Joshua Nichols said thanks to the Lee County Health Department, the district now has 80 rapid tests. The tests can be used on students who are showing symptoms, as long as parental consent has been given, and results are ready in 15 minutes.

• Between Feb. 13-22, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 48 new cases have been reported, including two cases from the Dixon Correctional Center. This brings the total number of cases to 3,049 as of Feb. 22. Of the 3,049 cases, 2,539 have recovered. They also reported as of Feb. 22, 5 residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died. As of Feb. 19, according to IDPH 6,180 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 1,882 people in Lee County have received both doses of the vaccine.

• Lee County will not be getting a new solar project in the county after the county board voted against allowing the company a special use permit. The Lee County Board met during its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 18. On the agenda, the Lee County Zoning Board presented a resolution to the county board to approve a special use permit for a 3,800-acre South Dixon Solar project.

• Former House Speaker Michael J. Madigan, 78, announced Thursday he will step down from the state House of Representatives

after 50 years in office.

• The Amboy varsity boys' basketball team sandwiched a pair of wins around a loss to a talented Milledgeville squad. The Clippers turned back Ashton-Franklin Center for the second time this season, 48-41, on Feb. 12 at Ashton.

• The Amboy Lady Clippers remained undefeated on the season with back-to-back victories over Milledgeville to move to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in conference play. Amboy hosted the Lady Missiles on Feb. 17 and came away with a 67-24 victory.

Obituaries

Emory Richard Johnson - March 26, 1941 - Feb. 7, 2021

James Everett Dickson - June 24, 1950 - Feb. 15, 2021

Mary Louise Branigan - Feb. 18, 1926 - Dec. 25, 2020

MARCH

March 3

• Amboy High School senior Mallory Powers joined an exclusive club among girls' basketball players at AHS when she scored her 1,000th point in the second quarter of the Lady Clippers' game at Lanark Eastland on Feb. 23. Powers received a standing ovation when it was announced.

• Another new business will soon be opening in the area, Pfeiffer Farms Fresh Market will be located at the southeast corner of Brooklyn and Reynolds roads in rural Ashton. Denny and Edy Pfeiffer will be selling the beef that are raised by themselves, as well as pork raised by Denny's cousin Mike and chickens raised by Edy. Their hope is to have quality meats available to customers as well as fresh eggs and seasonal produce, raised by local farmers.

• Between Feb. 23-March 1, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 34 new cases have been reported. This brings the total number of cases to 3,083 as of March 1. Of the 3,083 cases, 2,574 have recovered. They also reported as of March 1, 5 residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died. As of Feb. 26, according to IDPH 6,910 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 2,143 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

• Amboy and Eastland battled for the first time since their sectional championship thriller last year, and the rematch did not disappoint, except for maybe the outcome if you're a Lady Clippers fan. Amboy held an early lead, but Eastland came back and ended up with a 51-49 victory over the Lady Clippers on Feb. 23 at Lanark. Two days later, Amboy hosted Eastland and the drama continued, but the outcome was much more to the Lady Clippers' liking. They continued building on a halftime lead and came away with a big 66-52 victory over Eastland.

Obituaries

Clarence Morrissey, Jr. - March 13, 1935 - Feb. 26, 2021

Corinne D. Powers - June 8, 1963 - Feb. 23, 2021

March 10

• Amboy Lions Club Past President Roger Wittenauer received the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Monday night from current President Dave Kemp. Wittenauer was President from 2017 to 2020 and was instrumental in the start of new projects, such as the placement of AEDs in local community centers and churches, and the expansion of existing events and programs. The Lions Club meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Community Center.

• Between March 2-8, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 33 new cases have been reported. This brings the total number of cases to 3,116 as of March 8. Of the 3,116 cases, 2,592 have recovered. They also reported as of March 8, there are under 5 residents that have been hospitalized and 60 resi-

dents have died. As of March 5, according to IDPH 8,253 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 2,959 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

• In honor of National Ag Day, recognized March 23, 2021, the Lee County Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee donated "The Hundred-Year Barn," by Patricia MacLachlan to the public libraries in Lee County.

• Madelyn McLaughlin, a senior at Amboy High School, has been named the Student of the Month for March. She is the daughter of Jim and Stephanie McLaughlin.

• Amboy and Forreston hooked up in what turned out to be a tight game for 32 minutes before the Cardinals prevailed, 55-52, in varsity boys' basketball action on March 2 at the AHS gym.

• The Amboy Lady Clippers added three more wins to their season total with two lopsided victories over Forreston and a come-from-behind decision over a quality Stockton team. Amboy sports an 11-1 overall record and a 7-1 conference mark.

Obituaries

Cecil C. Eisenberg - Aug. 7, 1926 - March 7, 2021

Virginia L. Listek - Feb. 26, 1936 - March 3, 2021

March 17

• This year, the Village of Sublette will be hosting a Drive-thru Tractor Show in Sublette on Sunday, March 21. Drive past all the tractors that will be lined down Main Street, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., and grab some memorabilia from past shows.

• Amboy Fire Department in cooperation with the Lee County Health Department offered COVID-19 vaccines on Friday at the fire department. Vaccine's were given out to people with appointments.

• On March 14 at 12:07 p.m., the Sublette and Amboy Fire and EMS Departments were dispatched to 704 W. Santee St. in Sublette for a house fire with a burn victim. Sublette was already enroute to a dumpster fire at Woodhaven Lakes Campground that was dispatched 12 minutes prior. Prior to arrival of the first engine company, Sublette residents and neighbors, Curtis Ryan Kessel and Nick Wilson saw a young child in a window on the second story of the house. As they approached the house, the father was exiting the residence with another child so Kessel and Wilson jumped into action. Kessel scaled the back fence and climbed to the second story window, grabbed the child by the ankle and lowered the child down to Wilson, saving the child's life before the window was enveloped in smoke and flames.

• The Lee County Health Department reported seeing an uptick in COVID-19 positive cases. Between March 9-15, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 84 new cases have been reported. This brings the total number of cases to 3,200 as of March 15. They also reported as of March 15, 5 or less residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died. As of March 12, according to IDPH 9,813 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 3,630 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

• The Long Branch Saloon held a fundraising lunch for Teen Turf on March 11. The restaurant offered Rueben sandwiches, chicken salad sandwiches and pulled pork sandwiches for \$10 with \$1 from every order going to Teen Turf.

• The Amboy Lady Clippers closed out the season with three wins to finish with a 14-1 record. Amboy had its final home game on March 9 against Polo. It was kind of Senior Night for the second time. The coaches had an earlier Senior Night because of COVID. Then, on the last

home game of the season, Amboy started five of the six seniors with all six seniors being announced for starters and the six seniors for Polo were also announced.

Obituaries

Gerald W. Leffelman - Oct. 25, 1932 - March 12, 2021

Dolores Reynolds - Oct. 23, 1928 - March 11, 2021

March 24

• An open house and recruitment event at the Sublette Fire Department honored two local heroes, and offered a glimpse into how the department handles a car accident with entrapment, ending in a surprise marriage proposal.

• A one-day tractor show was held in downtown Sublette on Sunday, March 21. This one-day show took place instead of the full farm toy and antique tractor show this year. Visitors were asked to respect social distancing and wear a mask. The tractors were displayed to make it easy just to drive through and view them.

• A new surveillance camera system was approved during the March 18 Amboy Board of Education meeting. Board members accepted a bid of \$31,890 from Jendy Solutions to replace the existing camera system at Amboy High School.

• Between March 16-22, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 101 new cases have been reported, including one from the Dixon Correctional Center and three from Avonlea Cottage. This brings the total number of cases to 3,301 as of March 22. They also reported as of March 22, 5 or less residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died. As of March 19, according to IDPH 11,607 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 4,175 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

Obituaries

Elverta M. Eller - Sept. 8, 1926 - March 17, 2021

March 31

• When the pandemic shut-down hit in March of 2020, the Amboy Lions Club was forced to cancel the Cliff Walter Memorial Easter Egg Hunt. The Lions adapted by having the Easter Bunny ride on a fire truck through Amboy and Sublette. Now that restrictions have not completely been lifted and with Covid cases in Lee County rising, the Lions are once again adapting.

• The Lee County COVID-19 new case rate has been climbing over the last several weeks; to the extent that the county will be placed on the state's warning list next week. Cases and outbreaks have been seen across the community; there isn't one segment to pinpoint. Lee County Health Department (LCHD) is currently working on cases from schools, restaurants, office worksites, an assisted living facility, etc.

• The annual Sublette Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 3 starting at 10 a.m. Children from ages 0-8 are welcome. Masks are required. The hunt is sponsored by the Sub-Let Indians 4-H Club.

• The Lee County Health Department reported that there have been 5 Lee County resident deaths throughout March. Between March 23-29, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 123 new cases have been reported, including three from the Dixon Correctional Center and one from Avonlea Cottage. This brings the total number of cases to 3,424 as of March 29. They also reported as of March 29, nine residents have been hospitalized and 65 residents have died. As of March 26, according to IDPH 13,075 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 4,492 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

Obituaries

Leota Jane Carroll - Dec. 8, 1936 - March 20, 2021

LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



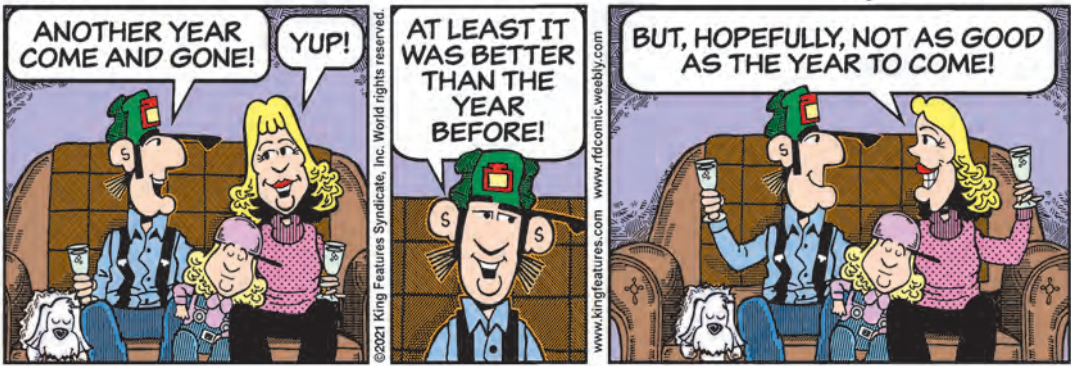
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



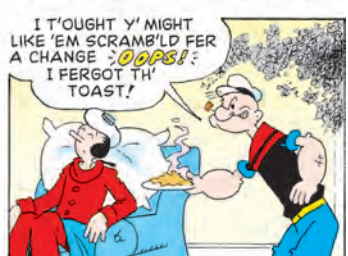
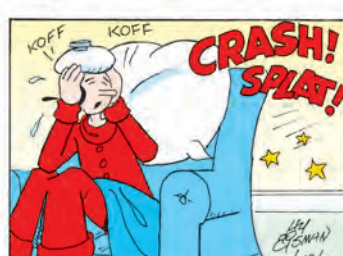
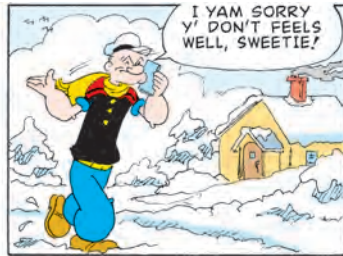
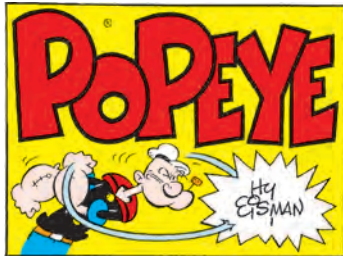
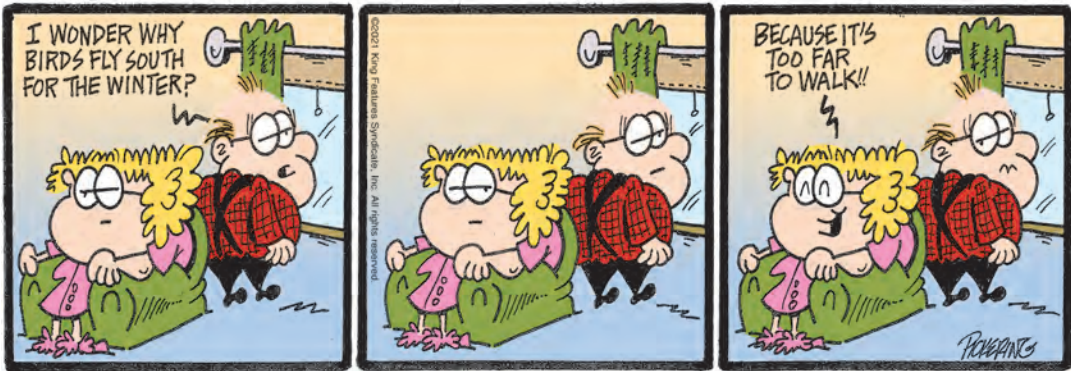
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



"Don't pet either one. They both bite!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Later
TERAF
Fervent
RANTED
Blanket
EARLY
Temple
SHINER

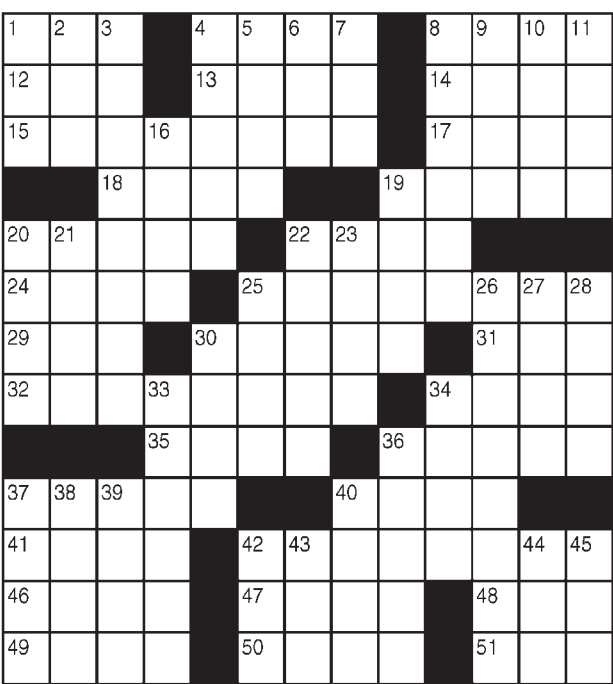
TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

December 27, 2021 Posting Date

ACROSS

- Steal from
- Highlander
- Streamlet
- Historic period
- String
- Tom Joad, for one
- Bridgetown's island
- "It's — real!"
- Intends
- Tropical fruit
- Jazz genre
- Piece of work
- Priests' garments
- "Excellent work!"
- Espionage org.
- Spectrum creator
- Ms. Thurman
- Wavering
- Twain hero
- Sharp tooth
- Clearheaded
- Cream-filled pastries
- Arrive
- Jai —
- Chocolatey frozen treat
- Give up
- Carry on
- Citrus drink
- Crystal gazer
- Eye part



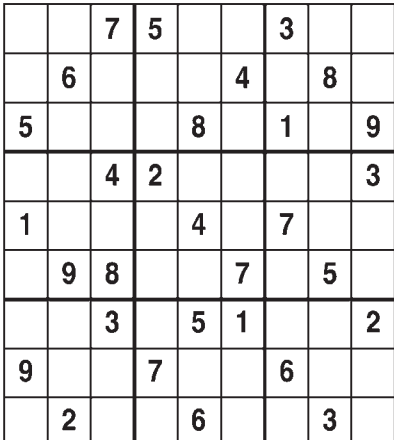
DOWN

- Civil War soldier
- Man-mouse link
- Whom Pilate pardoned
- Rascal
- Atlantic catches
- Granada gold
- QB stats
- Hearty
- Furniture brand
- Actor
- U.K. fliers
- Sultry Horne
- Life stories
- Site of Apra Harbor
- "Coffee Cantata" composer
- Writer Wiesel
- Rubber gas-ket
- Nuisance
- Mom's mom
- Place to get a fruit smoothie
- Hotel chain
- Combo
- School orgs.
- Not as certain
- Seethe
- Theater boxes
- Campaign-funding gps.
- Fonda's bee-keeper role
- Lose color
- 406, in Roman numerals
- Calendar abbr.
- Eg. and Syr., once
- Oklahoma city
- Ump

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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.

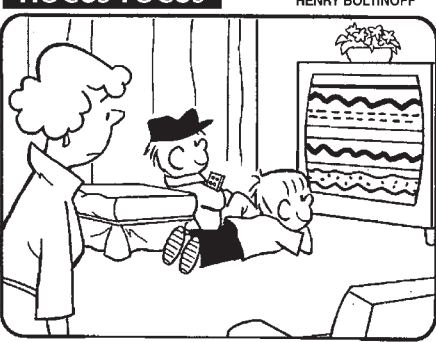
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- Moderate
- Challenging
- HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Plant is moved; 2. Ramoie is bigger; 3. Cap is reversed; 4. Belt is missing; 5. Screen is shorter; 6. Sleeve is shorter.

AFRAID

Today's Word

3. Layer; 4. Shrine

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: K equals R

QAA LFW KWQJT-LV-JKPME

XKVJYHLD PM LFPD DYXWKRQKEWL

HVRV PM NVLLAWD VMAT.

PL'D DV YM-HQMMT.

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Trivia test

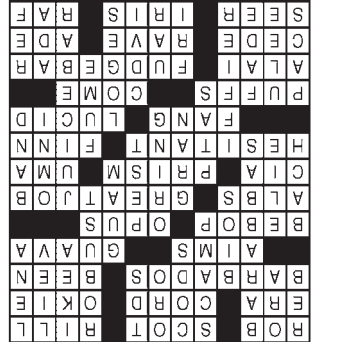
by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: What is the largest island in Africa?
- LANGUAGE: What does "Auld Lang Syne" mean?
- MOVIES: How many spirits visit Ebenezer Scrooge in "A Christmas Carol"?
- THEATER: On which opera is the rock musical "Rent" based?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is marmite?
- GAMES: How many weapons are available in the original board game "Clue"?
- TELEVISION: What is Jean-Luc Picard's catchphrase as captain in "Star Trek: The Next Generation"?
- LITERATURE: Which Victor Hugo novel was made into an animated Disney movie in the 1990s?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When was the first Times Square Ball Drop on New Year's Eve?
- SCIENCE: What is it called when a gas changes into a liquid?

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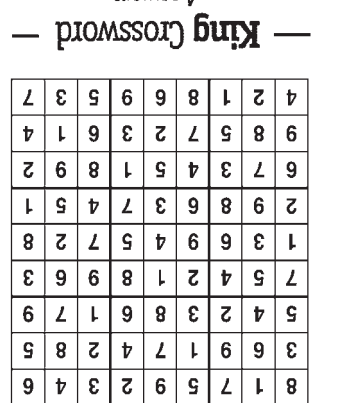
Answers

- Madagascar
- Times long past
- Four, including Jacob Marley and the spirits of past, present and future
- "La Bohème"
- A savory food spread that is the byproduct of beer brewing
- Six — revolver, wrench, knife, lead pipe, candlestick and rope
- "Make it so."
- "The Hunchback of Notre Dame"
- 1907
- Condensation

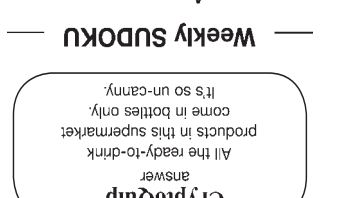


Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers



Answer



Classified Marketplace

FREE!

Sell your household items for free.
Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words
- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



AMBOY • SUBLETTE • WEST BROOKLYN • LEE CENTER • PAW PAW • LAMOILLE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF HEARING
AMBOY COMMUNITY
UNIT SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 272
COUNTY OF LEE
STATE OF ILLINOIS
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that a hearing
will be held on
Thursday, January 20,
2022, at 7:00 p.m., at
the Amboy Junior High
School, 240 N. Metcalf
Avenue, Amboy, IL
61310 to discuss the
intention of the Board
of Education of Amboy
Community Unit School
District No. 272, Lee
County, Illinois, to
transfer \$126,914 from
the Capital Projects
Fund to the Debt
Service Fund pursuant
to Section 5-1006.7 of
the School Code (55
ILCS 5/5-1006.7).
Dated this 21st day of
December, 2021.
Elsa Payne, Secretary
No. 1205 (Dec. 29,
2021)

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given
that the Amboy Fire
Protection District is
accepting sealed bids for
a Custom Fire Engine.
Beginning on December
7, 2021, bid pack-
ets and specifications
may be obtained at the
Amboy FPD Adminis-
trative Office, 25 North
East Avenue, Amboy,
Illinois 61310, either by
appointment, or on the
Amboy FPD website
amboyfd.com. For an
appointment or for fur-
ther information, con-
tact Chief Jeff Bryant at
(815) 857-2325.
Sealed Bids will be ac-
cepted at Amboy Fire
Protection District, 25
North East Avenue,
Amboy, Illinois 61310
until the deadline of

7:00 A.M. on January
13, 2022. Bids will be
publicly opened at the
Amboy Fire Protection
District, 25 North East
Avenue, Amboy, Illinois
61310 at 8:00 A.M. on
January 13, 2022. The
Contract is scheduled
to be awarded on or
after the January 13,
2022 meeting of the
Board of Trustees.
The Amboy Fire Pro-
tection District reserves
the right to reject any
or all bids received, to
waive any formalities or
technicalities of the Bid
or to reject any non-re-
sponsive bid in the in-
terest of the Amboy Fire
Protection District.
No. 1206
(Dec. 29, 2021)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does
not knowingly accept
fraudulent or deceptive
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are cautioned to
thoroughly investigate
all ads, especially
those asking for money
in advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does
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in advance."

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee
Loans or Credit Offers

Companies that do
business by phone
can't ask you to pay for
credit before you get it.
For more information,
call toll-free 1-877-FTC-
HELP. A public service
message from your
hometown newspaper
and the Federal Trade
Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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Storm Damage Clean
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and Much More. In
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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL,
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cause to be published

any advertisement
soliciting a child care
service. A childcare
facility that is licensed
or operating under a
permit issued by the
Illinois Department of
Children and Family
Services may publish
advertisements of the
services for which it is
specifically licensed or
issued a permit. Your
Hometown Newspaper
strongly urges any
parent or guardian to
verify the validity of the
license of any facility
before placing a child
in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

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antique, I'm interested
in looking! Call 815-
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dickharms@hotmail.
com

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2020 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, LTZ, 4x4, 44K miles, 1-owner, Silver...\$46,500	2019 Chevy Colorado 2WD, Ext Cab, WT, 48K miles, White.....\$24,500
2019 Chevy 1500 Crew High Country 4x4, 6.2 gas, Blue.....\$55,900	2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ 4x4, 6.2L, gas, 1-owner, 38K miles, White.....\$45,900
2019 Chevy Blazer Premier AWD, Loaded, 1-Owner, 24K Miles, GM-Certified, Maroon.....\$45,900	2018 Chevy Traverse High Country, AWD, 51K Miles, Black.....\$42,900
2019 Chevy Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4, 1-Owner, 63K miles, Gray.....\$41,900	2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT 4x4, Leather, Z71, Gas, 72K miles, New Tires, Gray.....\$46,900

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Email:
mmays@amboynews.com
Address:
245 E. Main Street, Amboy
Mail:
P.O. Box 162,
Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

Mondays at 10 a.m.
(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following
7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:
• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping
News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter •
Mendota Money Saver

**Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads
and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$7.50 for
garage sale ads.**

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately.
We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion,
and will only credit customer for one insertion.

SPORTS

Boys basketball team splits games this past week

AMBOY – A slow start proved costly to the Amboy Clippers as they suffered a 50-22 loss to Somonauk on Dec. 17 at the AHS gym.

The Clippers scored only five first-quarter points and found themselves staring up at a 17-5 deficit at the end of the session. The second quarter was even worse as Amboy managed only two free throws and fell behind 28-7 at the break. The count was 45-17 after three frames.

Tucker Lindenmeyer topped the Amboy scoring chart with six points, while Ian Eller chipped in with five markers. ***

Amboy got back on the winning track with a 74-17 rout of Leland on Dec. 21 at the AHS gym.

The Clippers scored the first 23 points of the game on their way to the easy victory.

Eller dropped in 12 points to pace the attack, followed by Connor Simpson with nine points, and Brennan Blaine and Garrett Ringenberg with eight tallies apiece. Also among the 13 players that broke into the scoring column for the Clippers were Lindenmeyer with seven points, Haden McCoy with six and Jordan Gulley with five.



Amboy's #14 Kyler McNinch makes a break for the other half of the court with #11 Wesley Wilson in the background against Somonauk on Dec. 17 at the AHS gym.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy got back on the winning track with a 74-17 rout of Leland on Dec. 21 at the AHS gym.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



A slow start proved costly to the Amboy Clippers as they suffered a 50-22 loss to Somonauk on Dec. 17 at the AHS gym.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy got back on the winning track with a 74-17 rout of Leland on Dec. 21 at the AHS gym.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy's #11 Wesley Wilson plays defense Leland on Dec. 21 at the AHS gym.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller

Lady Clippers to host Holiday Tournament Dec. 27-30

AMBOY – The Amboy Lady Clippers will host the Amboy Girls' Holiday Tournament to be held Dec. 27-30 at Amboy High School.

The tournament is divided into two pools. The Black Pool consists of Mendota, Amboy, Marquette and Serena. The Red Pool includes Hall, Roanoke-Benson, Indian Creek and Somonauk.

Amboy will begin action at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 27 when it plays Marquette in the new gym. Mendota and Amboy will battle at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28 in the new gym, and the Lady Clippers will conclude pool play against Serena at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29 in the new gym.

Team records in pool play will determine the playing schedule for the final day of the tournament on Thursday, Dec. 30.

Four of the schools will also have their freshman-sophomore teams play three games in the tournament. Amboy's freshman-sophomore girls will play at 3 p.m. each day in the new gym – Dec. 27 against Marquette, Dec. 28 versus

Serena and Dec. 29 against Hall.

Amboy Girls' Holiday Tournament Monday, Dec. 27

3:00 – (FS) Serena vs. Hall (old gym)
3:00 – (FS) Amboy vs. Marquette (new gym)
4:30 – (V) Serena vs. Mendota (old gym)
4:30 – (V) Hall vs. Roanoke-Benson (new gym)
6:00 – (V) Indian Creek vs. Somonauk (old gym)
6:00 – (V) Amboy vs. Marquette (new gym)

Tuesday, Dec. 28

3:00 – (FS) Marquette vs. Hall (old gym)
3:00 – (FS) Amboy vs. Serena (new gym)
4:30 – (V) Marquette vs. Serena (old gym)
4:30 – (V) Roanoke-Benson vs. Somonauk (new gym)

6:00 – (V) Hall vs. Indian Creek (old gym)
6:00 – (V) Amboy vs. Mendota (new gym)

Wednesday, Dec. 29

3:00 – (FS) Serena vs. Marquette (old gym)
3:00 – (FS) Hall vs. Amboy (new gym)
4:30 – (V) Mendota vs. Marquette (old gym)
4:30 – (V) Somonauk vs. Hall (new gym)
6:00 – (V) Indian Creek vs. Roanoke-Benson (old gym)
6:00 – (V) Amboy vs. Serena (new gym)

Thursday, Dec. 30

3:00 – (V) 7th place game
4:30 – (V) 5th place game
6:00 – (V) 3rd place game
7:30 – (V) Championship game
(all games in new gym)

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January 3-January 7
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal
Monday – Chicken parmesan, pasta with marinara, sicilian blend veg, wgr dinner roll, diced pears
Tuesday – Sausage gravy with wgr biscuit, hash brown potato, 2 sausage patties, orange juice
Wednesday – Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato wedges, baked beans, chilled applesauce, wgr hot dog bun
Thursday – Beefaroni, green beans, cauliflower, wgr garlic bread, apricots
Friday – A) Pepper steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, glazed carrots wgr wheat bread – 1, mandarin oranges B) Turkey/vegetable
Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am 10:00 am day before
Reservations needed 10:00 am day before
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280 W. Wasson Road • 1-815-963-1609, reservations

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Sale Prices Valid Dec. 29 – Jan. 4, 2022 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

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Mini Cucumbers 6 pack  \$2.49 /ea.	Green Peppers  99¢ /ea	Garden Cut Veggie Tray with Ranch Dip  \$9.99 /ea.	Baby Bella Mushrooms whole or sliced 8 oz. package  \$1.99 /ea.
Wholly Guacamole 7.5 oz.  2/\$5	Food Club Frozen Vegetables 10-12 oz. assorted  \$1.49 /ea. Reg. Price \$1.69 ea.	Kraft Salad Dressing Assorted 16 oz.  \$2.49 /ea. Reg. Price \$3.69 ea.	Baby Carrots 1 lb. bag  \$1.29 /ea.

HOT BUYS

AMBOY DELI U.S.D.A. Choice T-Bone Steak  \$9.99 /lb. Reg. Price \$18.99 /lb.	AMBOY DELI U.S.D.A. Choice Chuck Roast  \$4.99 lb. Reg. Price \$7.99 lb.	Jack's Pizza  \$2.99 lb. Reg. Price \$4.49 lb.
Nabisco Ritz Crackers 13.7 oz.  2/\$5 Reg. Price \$4.39	Patrick Cudahy Bacon 16 oz. assorted  \$5.99 /ea. Reg. Price \$7.99 ea.	Folger's Coffee Assorted 20-30.5 oz.  \$8.99 ea. Reg. Price \$10.99 ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

<div><div><div>Food Club Cottage Cheese</div><div>24 oz.</div><div><div>\$249</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.09 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Pearl Milling Co. Pancake Mix</div><div>32-35 oz.</div><div><div>2/\$5</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.29 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Quaker Instant Oatmeal</div><div>14.5 oz.</div><div><div>\$299</div><div>Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	
<div><div><div>Captain Crunch Cereal</div><div>Assorted</div><div><div>\$349</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.49 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Simply Done Everyday Napkins</div><div>250 count</div><div><div>\$199</div><div>Reg. Price \$2.49 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Dei Fratelli Tomatoes</div><div>14.5 oz.</div><div><div>\$149</div><div>Reg. Price \$1.89 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Van Camps Pork and Beans</div><div>15 oz.</div><div><div>99¢</div><div>Reg. Price \$1.49 ea.</div></div></div><div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Johnsonville Brats or Sausage</div><div>16-19 oz. Assorted</div><div><div>\$449</div><div>Reg. Price \$5.69 /ea</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Heinz Gravy</div><div>12 oz. Assorted</div><div><div>\$169</div><div>Reg. Price \$2.39 /ea</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Kraft Deluxe or Velveeta Dinner</div><div>9-14 oz. Assorted</div><div><div>\$299</div><div>Reg. Price \$4.29 /ea</div></div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Food Club Pickles</div><div>32 oz. Assorted</div><div><div>\$199</div><div>Reg. Price \$2.89 /ea</div></div></div><div></div></div>

Sale goes through Jan. 4, 2022