

# **Amboy Education Foundation to set sail on** Virtual Voyage fundraiser, auction items wanted

AMBOY — 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. The foundation's goal is \$10,000 to ensure continued support for Amboy kids. Though the fundraising looks a little different, the mission remains the same: to enrich educational opportunities through District 272.

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. Sign in and get ready to bid to your heart's content at www.amboy.net/virtualvoyage.

Items are still needed for the virtual auction. They are looking for donations of baskets, gift cards, etc. Contact Kirsten Donna at dink111@hotmail. com or 815-994-6323 or Amanda Blaine at abblaine@gmail.com or 815-671-1864 by Friday, April 16 if you are interested in contributing an item or basket.

Another way to help the Amboy students is to sponsor a wish list item to help ensure students receive educational opportunities that may not be available without AEF funding. Funds can be directed to the school or activity of your choice. Sponsorship opportunities include Brain Pop, Central School Library, Technology: Hardware and Online Systems, Scholastic News and Science Spin Magazine, Fine Arts Department, Junior High Library, Physical Education, High School Librarv. Science and STEM Supplies, Ag Department, ChromeBook Lease and a General Donation.

Send your donation to school with your student or mail it to Amboy Education Foundation, PO Box 46, Amboy, IL 61310.

In the past AEF, has provided \$30,000 per year in educational equipment to the students of District 272. This includes new books and digital resources for the libraries and classrooms, digital learning aids for many classrooms, scientific models, landscaping projects for all the schools plus so much more.

Follow the AEF Facebook page and look for more information in The Amboy News and on ParentSquare.

# Sheriff's department investigates fatal car accident near Amboy

LEE COUNTY — 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 scene. Four occupants were identified in the collision. The driver, Draven Webb, 19, of Dixon, and a 14-year-old female were transported to KSB Hospital. Webb was later transferred to OSF St. Anthony in Rockford for further treatment.

The other two occupants Ambulance responded to the of the vehicle, a 14-year-old the investigation.

female and a 14-year-old male, died of their injuries at the scene.

The cause of the collision is under investigation.

The Dixon Police Department, Illinois State Police and the Lee County Coroner's office are assisting Lee County Sheriff's Deputies in



### Lee County voters decide local races

LEE COUNTY — The unofficial results from the April 6th consolidated election are in for Lee County.

Village of Sublette

In one of the contested races of the election, the Village of Sublette may have new village trustees after the election. Three trustee seats were up for election. Current village trustees Julie Kessel and Robert Bulfer finished in the top two with 46 and 44 votes respectively. Tying in third place with 37 votes were newcomer Larry Ellis and current Sublette Village Clerk Mackenzie Belan. Newcomer Doug Worrell finished just slightly behind with 35 votes.

Mail-in, absentee ballots must be postmarked by election day, April 6, and must arrive at the courthouse by April 20 to be counted. If there is still a tie after all of boy Township Supervisor the votes are counted, then a Dennis McCoy and Amboy

lottery is held at the county. John Stenzel was re-elected to Sublette Village President. He had been serving the remaining term of Michael Vaessen who resigned from the position.

Katherine Leffelman was elected to Sublette Village Clerk. She will be replacing Belan who was appointed to fill the remainder of the term of Brenda Vaessen who resigned from the position.

#### **City of Amboy**

Running unopposed, Amboy City Mayor John Schamberger, Amboy City Clerk Melissa Eisenberg and Amboy City Treasurer Nancy Neal were re-elected. For Alderman, in Ward 2 incumbent William Bontz was re-elected and in Ward 3 David Shaw was re-elected.

**Amboy Township** 

Running unopposed, Am-

Township Highway Commissioner Thomas Bulfer were re-elected. Amy Scudder was elected to Amboy Township Clerk.

Donald Bonnell, David Nauman, Carl Grossman, and William Metzen were elected to Amboy Township Trustees.

#### Sublette Township

Running unopposed Sublette Township Supervisor Daniel Stephenitch, Sublette Township Clerk Deborah Schultz were re-elected. Sublette Township Highway Commissioner Denis Erbes was re-elected with 78 votes. He faced a write-in candidate who received 44 votes.

Annette Bonnell, Thomas Lauer, Delbert Stenzel and Douglas McLaughlin were elected as Sublette Township Trustees.

# Lee County COVID-19 **Update: April 14, 2021** LEE COUNTY—The Lee County Health

Department announced the death of another Lee County resident – a male in his 70s. This brings the total number of deaths to 67.

Between April 6-12, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 114 new cases have been reported, including four from the Dixon Correctional Center. Here are the ages that were reported: 8 under the age of 12, 10 in his or her teens, 16 in his or her 20s, 18 in his or her 30s, 24 in his or her 40s, 17 in his or her 50s, 10 in his or her 60s, 4 in his or her 70s, and 3 in his or her 80s.

This brings the total number of cases to 3,625 as of April 12. They also reported as of April 12, 11 residents have been hospitalized and 67 residents have died. The Lee County Health Department's website has a COVID-19 section, including infor-

mation for people who have tested positive. This provides guidance as you wait to hear from one of the health department's contact tracers. There is sometimes a delay between residents receiving their positive results and the report getting to the health department; additionally, they are experiencing a surge in cases and likely have a good number of people already on their list to be contacted in the order received. See www.LCHD.com/ Covid19 for more.

#### Vaccine

As of April 9, according to IDPH 16,519 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 6,604 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

See HEALTH page A3



#### LIONS CONTINUE TO DONATE AEDs

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.

Photo submitted

**COVID-19** positivity rate reaches highest level since late January

**BY TIM KIRSININKAS** 

Capitol News Illinois

tkirsininkas@capitolnewsillinois.com SPRINGFIELD – 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

Statewide, COVID-19 hospitalizations also increased Wednesday, as the Illinois Department of Public Health reported a total of 1,710 individuals were hospitalized with COVID-19 as of Tuesday night. Of those, 353 patients were in the intensive care unit and 142 were on ventilators.

Wednesday's hospitalization statistics were at their highest levels since mid-February.

The increased case positivity numbers and hospitalizations have caused state officials to place a hold on the next steps for reopening that were announced late last month.

See COVID page A3

#### Welcome to Amboy

**Amboy** Lions brightened the south end of town welcome sign by weeding and putting new mulch down. Photo submitted





HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #14 Dan Etheridge PAGE A9

#### **Obituaries**

**Thomas Broderick** Sharon Noles-Mezo Norma Bushman

#### **Index**

Community Calendar,	A
Church Directory	A2
Obituaries	
Social News	Aŗ
Opinion	À
Classifieds	A8
Sports	
Spring Home	

#### **Inserts**

Snyders



Nicor Gas reminds communities to dig safely as outdoor projects increase

NAPERVILLE — To help keep springtime outdoor projects running smoothly and safely, Nicor Gas is reminding the community during April, Safe Digging Month, that do-ityourself homeowners and professional excavators alike are required by law to call 811 before digging on any property.

"We put safety first as we provide our customers with the comforts of natural gas, but we can't do it alone," said Emeka Igwilo, chief data officer and vice president of Operations Support at Nicor Gas. "By identifying the location of the underground infrastructure in your area before starting a new project, you can do your part to stay safe and protect our state."

Even simple projects such as gardening and landscaping can be dangerous and disruptive when digging with utility cables and pipes underground. Nicor Gas emphasizes the importance of contacting 811 to have underground infrastructure located before the start of any digging project.

See NICOR page A2



# LOCAL NEWS



**Gabby Jones** 

# Jones named AHS **Student of the Month**

AMBOY — 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.

GPA-3.6/4.0

es and avoid fraud.

Membership/Involvement: "In My four years of high school I have played Volleyball, Basketball, and Softball. I am also involved in the Spanish Honor Society and Leos Club."

Awards/Honors: "Throughout my high school career I have received these awards, IBCA All-State Special Mentions, Second Team All-Area, First Team All-Conference for basketball, Second Team All-Conference for Volleyball."

Best Memories: "My best memory of high school is being a part of the basketball team and all the success we have achieved."

Future Plans: "I plan on attending Sauk Valley Community College and studying Accounting. I also am going to be a part of Sauk's Volleyball team.'

# **April is Youth Preparedness Month**

escape plan twice a year. Every home

needs working smoke alarms and a well-

thought-out fire escape plan. Make sure

all members of your family can identify

two ways out of each room and a family

Tips for incorporating children into

Sparky the Fire Dog is mascot of The

National Fire Protection Association

(NFPA). Sparky is used to help educate

kids and parents on fire prevention and

safety. The NFPA has established a

Sparky website and Facebook page

that offers a wealth of age-appropriate

games, videos, apps and other activities

that make learning about fire safety easy

the Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA). FEMA and the

American Red Cross offer a disaster

preparedness activity book, Prepare

with Pedro. This booklet is designed to

encourage youth and their families to be

better prepared for disasters by offering

safety advice alongside crosswords, col-

oring pages, matching games and more.

Another great resource comes from

meeting spot outside the home."

disaster preparedness:

**SPRINGFIELD** — Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time and anywhere. Disaster planning, response and recovery efforts should always take into account the unique needs of children, who make up roughly a quarter of the United States population. That is why this month, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Office of the State Fire Marshal Office (OSFM) are taking steps to promote youth preparedness.

"Each year, millions of children are impacted by disasters," said IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "Studies have shown, children are positive influencers in their households. Children can effectively bring the message of preparedness home to their families. Participating in youth preparedness programs empowers children to become leaders at home and in their schools and communities."

"Kids practice fire drills each year at school, and families should practice these drills at home too," said Matt Perez, Illinois State Fire Marshal. "The Office of the State Fire Marshall encourages families to practice their home fire

### **NICOR** continued from page A1

This includes fence installation, driveway or sidewalk paving, building a home addition or installing a pool. The requirement to call 811 also applies before clearing a sewer line, tunneling, grading, boring, blasting or similar work.

Nicor Gas owns, operates, designs and maintains more than 34,000 miles of natural gas infrastructure throughout northern Illinois.

Jesse White encourages consumers to participate

In addition to those lines, there are underground communications cables, electric, water and sewer lines and other utility lines on every property. Knowing where underground infrastructure is before putting a shovel in the dirt helps prevent injuries, property damage and inconvenient service outages.

and fun.

To help ensure communities stay safe and connected, Nicor Gas offers the following safe digging guidelines:

Contact or Click 811 Before You Dig: When starting an outdoor digging project, contact 811 or visit JULIE, Illinois' one-call center at illinois1call.com at least three business days in advance to request that locating experts mark underground utility lines. Requests are free and can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Allow the Required Time

of the Illinois Secretary of

State's Office, investigates

investment fraud and works

with other government agen-

cies to promote financial lit-

eracy and fraud awareness.

and a calendar of the online

events for this year's Money

Additional information

FEMA also offers a Youth Preparedness Council as an opportunity for teenagers and young adults to serve on a national council. During their twoyear term, the youth leaders complete both a local and national-level project to share ideas regarding youth disaster preparedness.

Children who are prepared experience less anxiety and feel more confident during actual emergencies and disasters. Use Youth Preparedness Month as an opportunity to promote interactive activities within your family. One way to do this is by involving children in the development of a family emergency plan.

Use real world events to teach about emergency situations and disasters. Using media coverage of current disasters (Floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, power outages), talk to children about how your family would respond if this happened to you. Utilizing your family emergency plan, discuss where would you go, what would you do and how you will ensure their safety during an emergency.

For more information about disaster preparedness, visit Ready.Illinois.gov.

> for Marking: After contacting 811, wait to have underground utility lines marked before starting to dig. The approximate location of underground utility lines will be marked with color-coded spray paint, flags or stakes that correspond to the utility. The color used for natural gas is yellow. Respect the Marks: Only

> use handheld digging tools to uncover the area carefully around a utility line when you need to dig close by.

> Excavate Carefully: Make sure the marks remain visible during the project. If they are damaged or removed, customers are encouraged to contact 811 to have lines remarked. If a natural gas line is damaged accidentally or the distinctive rotten-egg odor associated with natural gas is present, call 911 or the Nicor Gas 24-hour emergencyphone line at 888.Nicor4U (888.642.6748) from a safe location. Do not operate any machinery or equipment that might cause a spark or create an open flame.

SPRINGFIELD — Illi-"For many years, Money nois Secretary of State Jesse Smart Week has brought White encourages consumers financial literacy and has offered valuable informato participate in Money Smart tion to children and adults Week, a weeklong free virtual during this event," White event designed to help people said. "I urge Illinoisans to manage their personal financtake advantage of these in-

in Money Smart Week April 10-17

formative virtual events and get 'money smart."

Money Smart Week, held from April 10 to April 17, will feature one daily live events and select resources that cover topics such as budgeting, saving, student

loans, personal finance and smart banking.

Consumers will also learn how to manage their finances and avoid fraud schemes. The week is coordinated by the Federal Reserve Bank and its Money Smart partners.

The Illinois Securities Smart Week are available at Department, a department www.avoidthescam.net.

**Recycle!** Recycle!



The City Of Amboy Water Dept. Will Be



# 815-673-7555 **CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE!**

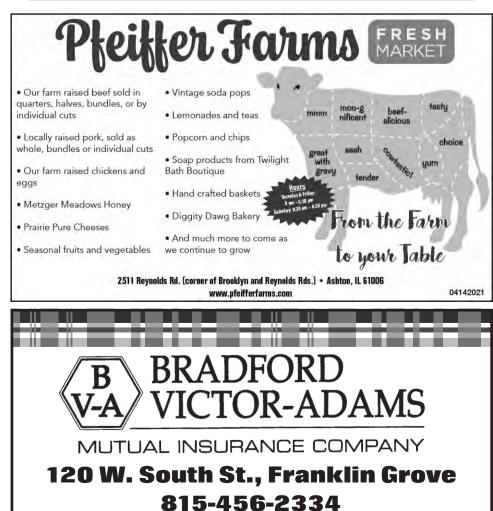
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH
- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY

<sup>+</sup>All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50 Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and forme Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greate value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored by Visa and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 04/30/2021. \*\*New orders only. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Discount may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute an item of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Discount will be received after completion of the installation and payment in full. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 04/30/2021.



# FIRE HYDRANTS

The City of Amboy will be flushing hydrants during the week of April 19-23. Residents may experience their water being rusty during this flushing. This will clear up a few minutes after flushing. If you have questions, call the Amboy Water Dept. 815-857-3811 0414202



Leffelman & Associates: LaMoille Amboy Sublette 815-857-2125 815-638-2171 815-849-5219

# AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 3 LOCAL NEWS



#### Summer Program

We are currently working on a program that is within Illinois safety guidance and Covid procedures. Details and times are T.B.A.

#### **Thank You's**

We are always blessed to receive the following: We want to give a huge shoutout to Sullivan's Foods of Mendota for giving us a great price on our Fish for the Fish Fry; Tom Norman for grading our driveway; Anonymous donors who provided drinks, clothes, food, and other items; those that donate cans; Frank and Karen Stenzel for granola bars; Doris and Wendell Miller for their monetary donation; Nancy Hochstatter for the clothes; our afterschool volunteers, Donna for her amazing treats, Fran, and Shannon.

#### Needs Juice Boxes or Bottled Juice Drinks **Final Word**

Lord, teach us how to pray with understanding. Teach us to pray, how to pray into Your will, to pray in spirit and truth, to pray as You would have us pray.

Lord, we ask that as we come across various difficulties that people are facing that we hear with Your ears, see with Your eyes and understand with Your heart so that we may speak and pray into the situation as You would have we pray. In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

# **SVCC and Dixon Public** Schools partnership

DIXON - Sauk Valley Community College Ag department has entered the fourth year of their partnership with Dixon Public Schools. The partnership entails SVCC's Ag department to farm over 50 acres of land at DPS's Brinton Avenue property.

Profits from corn and soybean farming are divided between the school district and SVCC's Ag department. On March 30, SVCC presented DPS with their portion of the farming profit, totalling \$11,620.96.

"We are very excited to continue our partnership with Dixon Public Schools to give our local students great access to education and resources as they prepare for exciting careers in Agriculture. We are thankful for Dixon Public Schools and their team in making this opportunity available with SVCC," said Dr. Jon Mandrell, Vice President of Academics and Student Services at SVCC.

Not only does this field provide financial assistance to the ever-growing and evolving Ag program (helping to provide technology and equipment), but this field provides academic opportunities as well. SVCC's Plant Science classes and the Soil Science classes visit the Brinton Avenue field to take soil samples, evaluate crop health, conduct yield estimates, and analyze the challenges that field has and how to address those challenges.

The partnership revolving around the Brinton Avenue property has been a beneficial teaching tool offering a large range in characteristics such as varying soil types, nutrient management challenges, topography changes, and environmental stewardship considerations.

# **COVID** continued from page A1

In order to move to the "bridge phase" of reopening with higher capacities at events, businesses, and venues, the state must vaccinate at least 70 percent of the population aged 65 and older, while hospital ICU bed availability needs to be higher than 20 percent and COVID-19 hospitalization and death rates stable or flat for 28 days. The state will then be able to move to phase 5 when half of Illinoisans aged 16 and older have received at least one dose of the vaccine. While Illinois has reached its first vaccination goal with just over 72 percent of its 65-and-older population having received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, trends of increasing case positivity and hospitalizations have prevented the state from moving forward to the bridge phase.

Speaking at a news conference in Rockford Wednesday, Gov. JB Pritzker said the increasing COVID metrics were "of great concern.' "The number of hospitalizations is increasing, the number of cases of people going into ICU beds is increasing," Pritzker said. "We want to make sure that before we reopen any further in the state, that we get that under control."

# **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

**DIXON-The American** Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 2 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, at Dixon Liberty Court, Friendship Lodge 7, 1409 N. Galena Ave. Call Kelly Shroyer at 815-677-8126 or the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

STERLING-The U of I **Extension Master Gardeners** will host "Mums the Word" from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, April 17, at the Whiteside Extension Office, . Discover how to grow and care for these colorful

Center

Centers

members of the daisy family Register at: go.illinois.edu/ WhitesideMums . Call Mary Nelson at 815-632-3611 for more information.

AMBOY-The Amboy American Legion will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 19, at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N. Metcalf Ave.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 19, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**DIXON**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, at the Elk's Lodge, 1279 Franklin Grove Rd. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 26, at the Community Center.

# **IDOC** resumes in-person visitation for incarcerated people and their loved ones

April 12: East Moline Correctional

April 19: Graham, Taylorville, Jack-

sonville, Dixon, Centralia, and State-

ville Correctional Centers; Stateville

Northern Reception Center: Fox Valley,

Crossroads and North Lawndale ATCs;

Big Muddy River, Pontiac, Shawnee,

Vienna, Hill, Lawrence, Illinois River,

Robinson, and Vandalia Correctional

Centers; Joliet Treatment Center; Peoria

ATC; Kewanee and Murphysboro Life

catur, Logan, Lincoln, Western Illinois,

Danville, and Menard Correctional

vital component of an incarcerated per-

May 3: Southwestern Illinois, De-

"Maintaining family connection is a

April 26: Pinckneyville, Sheridan,

Visitation Start Dates

Elgin Treatment Center

Skills Re-Entry Centers

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) is resuming in-person visitation at its correctional facilities, affording incarcerated people the opportunity to see their loved ones for the first time in more than a year. With most people in IDOC custody now vaccinated, the Department's Office of Health Services and Operations Unit worked closely with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to develop a multi-phase plan for resuming in-person visits in the safest manner possible. To prevent the potential for COVID-19 infection spread, IDOC, after consultation with IDPH, suspended visitation on March 14, 2020. East Moline Correctional Center is now accepting visitors and the Department's remaining correctional facilities are preparing to reopen their visiting rooms over the next few weeks.

# **HEALTH** continued from page A1

As for the LCHD regular, ongoing clinics, they will be opening up to all Lee County residents or employees over the age of 18, but will first serve those already on the health department's list from earlier phases.

The health department reports they have made great progress on this list, and will be transitioning to a self-sign

#### Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com

to curbing increasing trends. "We want to make sure that everybody gets vaccinated and as we get more people vaccinated, I think those case numbers, those nospitalization numbers. those ICU bed numbers will come down," Pritzker said. As of Wednesday afternoon, over 2.5 million, or 19.6 percent, of the state's 12.7 million residents have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19. A total of 139,724 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered across the state Tuesday. The state has administered over 6.5 million vaccine doses to date. The state remains in Phase 1B-Plus of its vaccination rollout plan, although

several counties had already opened up their vaccine supply to all adults as of Tuesday. The state plans to open eligibility to all Illinois residents age 16 and older beginning Monday, April 12. More information about the COVID-19 vaccine and appointment availability can be found at coronavirus. illinois.gov or by calling the state's COVID-19 vaccine hotline at 833-621-1284. Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Grow

MOREL MUSHROOMS CREATE A MOREL GARDEN IN YOUR BACK YARD

We provide the seed and easy to use instructions for preparing an outdoor Morel Habitat.

You just sow the seed, maintain the Morel Habitat,

and pick and enjoy pounds of fresh Morels \$33.95 + \$8.65 S/H -- ORDER 707-829-7301

**GOURMET MUSHROOMS** 

P.O. BOX 515 CN21 \* GRATON, CA 95444

www.gmushrooms.org

Spawn Guaranteed to Produ

MONTH

son's mental and emotional well-being, said IDOC Acting Director Rob Jeffreys "Because of the aggressive measures the Department has taken to mitigate COVID-19 within our facilities, IDOC is one of the few correctional systems in the nation now reopening to visitors.'

Everyone who enters an IDOC correctional facility is symptom screened, temperature checked, and provided a surgical mask. Plexi-glass barriers have been installed on visiting tables, which are spaced apart to allow for proper social distancing. Visiting rooms and restrooms are deep cleaned between visits

IDOC is utilizing an online system to schedule visits and limit the number of visitors permitted at one time. More information on the resumption of in-person visitation is available on the Department's website.

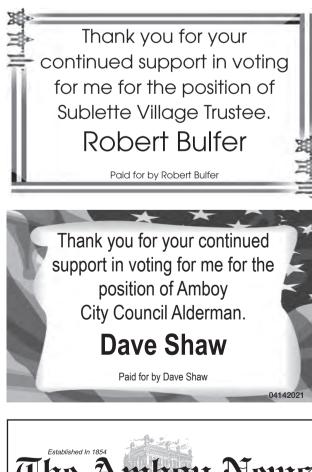
up format for appointment times.

The LCHD is looking for volunteers to help with the COVID clinics. If you are interested and able to help, please email jkolb@lchd.com or call 815-284-3371, ext. 2118.

The LCHD is hosting an upcoming vaccine clinic on April 17 and all spots are currently booked for the event.

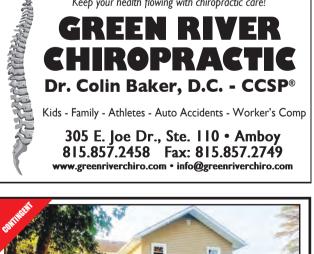


The governor also said he remained "optimistic," saying increasing vaccination numbers would be key



The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854 Kip Cheek, Publisher Tonja Greenfield, General Manager Bonnie Morris, Editor Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News 245 E. Main St., Amboy, IL 61310 Fax: 815-857-2517 Phone: 815-857-2311 Periodicals postage paid at Amboy, IL Publication Number USPS 016820 POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Amboy News, PO Box 162, Amboy IL 61310 Subscriptions: \$39.50 yearly in Lee, LaSalle and Bureau counties. \$45.00 yearly elsewhere in the United States. Display Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday Classified Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday All Editorial Deadline: 4 p.m. Friday Letters Policy: The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.



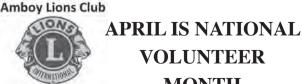
Keep your health flowing with chiropractic care!

GREEN RIVER



412 E Main St., Amboy \$134,900 Stud to Stud this home is brand new! Beginning with new flooring, light fixtures electric, plumbing, HVAC, hot water heater and the list goes on! The first story offers an open floor plan accentuated with hardwood flooring. Newly carpeted bedrooms both up and down





#### WE SERVE

If you're looking for opportunities to serve your community, please come join us at a meeting at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., at 6 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays during April and May.

### There is no better time to join the Amboy Lions Club!

For more information, call President Dave Kemp at 815-973-2961. 0407202

# **OBITUARIES**

# **OBITUARIES**

# **Sharon Kay Noles-Mezo** May 15, 1954 - April 8, 2021

MACEDONIA — Sharon Kay Noles-Mezo, 66, of Macedonia, previously of West Brooklyn, passed away suddenly, Thursday, April 8, 2021, at KSB Hospital.

Sharon was born May 15, 1954, in Amboy, the daughter of Bill and Lois (Fisher) Mezo.

She married Harold Noles on April 6, 1973, at the Shaw Station Church.

Survivors include her husband, Harold Noles, one daughter, Lisa Foerster, two grandsons, Blake Foerster and Gavin Duffell, and one great-granddaughter, Ella Mae Foerster all of Macedonia. She is also survived by her mother, Lois Mezo, of Lee Center, brother, Jim (Tammy) Mezo, of Lee Center, and sister, Terri (Chris) Dean, of Macedonia.

She was preceded in death by her father, Bill Mezo. No funeral will be held at

this time.

Condolences may be sent to: 226 County Rd 750 N.,



Macedonia, IL 62860.



#### Every week gather to celebrate the Resurrection

#### BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

aster is my favorite holiday. It is the oldest of Christian holidays ✓ first celebrated by the early church fathers. I even like it more than Christmas (though I thoroughly enjoy that one too). If you attend regular church services, you will also notice that many people who do not go to church any other time of the year will often attend these services.

Though Christmas is joyful because it is a celebration of Christ's birth – that He was born in a stable, laid in a manger. His birth was accompanied by Mary and Joseph, announced by Angels, and welcomed by shepherds etc... A truly beautiful scenario which we celebrate every year in various ways. But Easter is the day that brings us the significance for His birth. If He had not been resurrected... there would be no joyful celebration at Christmas... or any other time of the year – ever.

In fact, the joy of Christ's resurrection affected His Jewish followers so much that they changed their regular day of worship from the last day of the week to the first day of the week – The Lord's Day. Can you imagine that? Every week they would gather together to again celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ... Not just once a vear.

I wonder how our Sunday services would change if we viewed every week as a re-celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead? This thought is not out of line. The very first Christians did this. Why shouldn't we? After all, Jesus said, "Because I live, you shall live

also." (John 14:19) And the Apostle Paul confirmed this numerous times in his writings including his Epistle to the Romans where he wrote, "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you. He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you." (8:11). This thought is so mind boggling that our brains can hardly comprehend it. That I, a 'sinner saved by grace'... will have eternal life with Christ. It changes everything... Including our outlook on the life we currently live.

One of the favorite songs which we sing this time of the year is, "Because He Lives," written by Bill and Gloria Gaither. A line from this song says, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, because He lives, all fear is gone..."What a precious promise this is. That no matter what our "tomorrow" (or today) holds for us... we can face it – without fear. Hopefully, this serves as a reminder to all of us of "like faith" in Christ that He truly does hold our tomorrows and our "todays" in His hands we have no need to fear... because we can trust Him. Praise the Lord.

If you have not yet come to know this "BlessedAssurance" you still can! One of our faithful parishioners recently informed us that it was at an Easter service many years ago when she came to faith in Christ Jesus. And though the Easter "holiday" is now past - the celebration does not need to end. I hope and pray... that His story becomes more alive in your heart than ever before.

May God bless you, Pastor John.

#### Ambov News Obituary Policy

The Amboy News will print DEATH NOTICES (approximately 50 words including name, age, date of death, time/date of services) free of charge. OBITUARIES will be printed at a cost of \$25 to be billed to the arranging funeral home or prepaid with cash, check or credit card. Please submit obituaries or death notices to tgreenfield@amboynews.com.

# **Thomas R. Broderick** Sept. 1, 1935 - Feb. 24, 2021

BONNERS FERRY, Idaho — Thomas R. Broderick, of Bonners Ferry, Idaho, passed away peacefully at his home with his wife, Connie, the love of his life at his bedside on Feb. 24, 2021 at the age of 85.

He was born Sept. 1, 1935 in Chicago, to Mary Ellen Schmidt and Thomas H. Broderick. Tom was married to Connie A. (Melendrez) Broderick for 58 wonderful years.

He attended High school in Vancouver, Wash. After High school he enlisted in the Washington National Guard. His father wanted Tom to be part of the family business, so he rode his motorcycle across the country and continued in the Illinois National Guard and eventually Tom purchased the family business of Tom Broderick Truck Sales. He was very successful at motorcycle and off-road racing. He won the 1976 Mint 400 World's Greatest Off-Road Race as Best Appearing Vehicle and ninth overall in Reno, Nevada.

He was a member Tebala Shriners of Dixon and Rockford, Dixon Elks Club, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Lee County Pheasants Forever.

Tom loved the outdoors and he spent countless hours in the wilderness enjoying hunting, fishing and snowmobiling.

After his retirement Tom and Connie moved to Bonners Ferry, Idaho in 2000. He enjoyed hobbies of showing his cars and he was especially fond of his Lincoln Continentals. One of Tom's greatest car show memories was in 2014, when he was a Three -Time winner at the Silverwood Car show in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho winning Best of Show, First Place-Street Rods post 1936 and Best Interior. Connie and Tom enjoyed participating in many Car Shows over the years in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Montana and even returned to the Amboy Depot Days Car Show.

Tom is survived by his wife, Connie, of Bonners Ferry, Idaho; a sister, Elsa Dietz, of Princeton; and very special friends, David and Jenny Erickson, of Bonners

Norma J. Bushman

June 23, 1942 - April 12, 2021



Ferry, Idaho and Brad and Ann Apple, of Dixon.

Tom was proceeded in death by his mother, Mary Ellen Schmidt; his father, Thomas H. Broderick; stepmother, Irene S. Broderick; and sister, Margery Broderick.

Rest in peace Tom, you will be missed.

A celebration of Tom's life is planned for 11 a.m., on Saturday, June 19, 2021, at Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Auburn Crest Hospice, 6541 Main Street, Suite 2, Bonners Ferry, ID 83805.

Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.

MAYTOWN — Norma J. Bushman, 78, of Maytown died on Monday, April 12, 2021 at OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center in Rockford.

She was born on June 23, 1942 in Amboy, the daughter of Arthur and Clara (Sibigtroth) Leffelman. Norma farmed with her husband in Maytown for many years, worked at Josten's in Princeton, and was a floral designer, earning a certificate in Floral Design from SVCC, working for Floral Crest in Mendota and Valley Flowers in Spring Valley. She was a member of the St. Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown where she was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society.

Norma married Leo Bushman on Sept. 8, 1962, at St. Patrick Church in Maytown. She was preceded in death

felman; and sisters, Ruby McLaughlin, and Vivian Goy Burke.

Norma is survived by her husband, Leo; daughter, Lori (Bruce) Setchell, of Amboy; son, Patrick (Elizabeth) Bushman, of Dixon; five granddaughters, Katherine (Andrew) Bulfer, Emily (Thomas) Swenson, Julia Setchell, Maggie Bushman, Gretchen Bushman; and three great-grandchildren, Lee, Delaney, Clara. She is also survived by one brother, Gilbert (Linda) Leffelman, of Amboy; one sister, Carol (Charles) Koch, of Fond du Lac Wis.; one brother in law, Lawrence (Gloria) Bushman, of Franklin Grove; one sister in law, Mary (Roger) Kuffel, of Kewanee; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held



in Maytown. There will be a private family mass after the visitation and burial will follow at St. Patrick Cemetery in Maytown. Face coverings required for services.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Online condolences can

by her parents; brothers, from 9 - 10:45 a.m., on Hubert Leffelman, Delbert Leffelman, Norbert Lef-

Thursday April 15, 2021, at St. Patrick Catholic Church

be left at www.thejonesth com.

# HURCH DIRECTOR Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Following Community Businesses Sponsor Area Church News:

Sensient Flavors, LLC. 815-857-3691

**First National Bank** in Amboy Member F.D.I.C. 815-857-3625

**Mihm-Jones Funeral** Home 815-857-2611

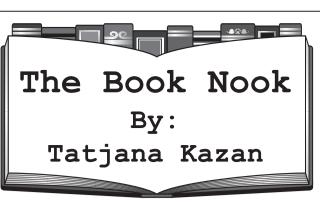
Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet 815-849-5232

**KSB Medical Center** 815-857-3044

The Amboy News 815-857-2311



# SOCIAL NEWS



#### A Month In The Country

In J. L. Carr's classic novel, "A Month in the Country," Tom Birkin, a penniless veteran of the Great War, arrives in a pouring rain in Oxgodby, a sleepy village in Yorkshire. It is the summer of 1920 and Birkin has been hired to uncover a mural hidden beneath whitewash in a fourteenth-century village church. Drenched, he nevertheless stops to admire the ancient church's masonry which is "beautifully cut with only a hint of mortar."

Birkin, who has a stammer and facial twitch, compliments of the trenches, meets the vicar that evening. Disapproving of the entire enterprise, the vicar, who has "a cold, coopedup look about him," does allow Birkin to live in the bell tower. In the morning, Birkin is presented with a glorious landscape: 'Day after day, mist rose from the meadow as the sky lightened and hedges, barns and woods took shape until, at last, the long curving back of the hills lifted away from the Plain." In the meadow beyond the church graveyard, archaeologist James Moon emerges from a bell tent. Like Birkin, he is a veteran fighting his own demons, and the two men soon become fast friends. Moon was hired to find a lost fourteenth-century grave. In the tent, Moon has dug a hole to live in, whereas Birkin lives high up atop the scaffolding. Birkin thinks the mural is from the mid-1340's, the height of the Black Death when survivors donated wall paintings to churches.

As he begins to uncover a magnificent mural, Birkin is fascinated by the unknown artist, "a nameless painter reaching from the dark to show me what he could do, saying to me as clear as any words, 'If any part of me survives from time's corruption, let it be this. For this was the sort of man I was.'" The mural is a masterwork of the Last Judgment, with a stern, unyielding Christ sitting in judgment of sinners to his left and the saved to his right.

For Birkin, the peace of the countryside, the unchanging flow of village life, and especially the welcoming villagers with their thick accents who draw him into their lives, restore in him a sense of optimism. His stammer has nearly disappeared. Moreover, he has the good fortune to secretly fall in love with the vicar's extraordinarily beautiful wife.

Birkin tells his story from the vantage point of 1979, when Carr was writing the novel. Now an old man, he looks back upon that idyllic English summer: "The front gardens of cottages were crammed with marjoram and roses, marguerites, sweet William, at night heavy with the scent of stocks. The Vale was heavy with leaves, motionless in the early morning, black caves of shadow in the midday heat, blurring the sound of trains hammering north and south."

# **SVCC Student Art Exhibition and Fine Art performance hour April 29**

**DIXON**—Sauk Valley Community College Art & Humanities Department invites the public to the virtual 2020-2021 Student Art Exhibition on Thursday, April 29.

The Student Art Exhibition and Fine Art Performances are from 7 to 9 p.m., and can be viewed at this link: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/85683097184.

All accepted works will be published online through the SVCC website, the SVCC Art Gallery Facebook page and will be considered for three annual President's Art Awards as well as Best of Show, first through third place awards and four Honorable Mentions. Awards will be presented at the end of the broadcast on April 29. Guests are also invited to enjoy music, performance art, original

readings, written work, and more by SVCC's Fine Art students during this live broadcast.

For more information, please contact glenn.s.bodish@svcc.edu.



# Colleen Robison Robison to celebrate 90th birthday

**AMBOY** - Colleen Robison celebrated her 90th birthday on April 9, 2021.

She is the mother of Taylor (Nancy) Robison and Glen (Carol) Robison. She is the grandmother of Tim (Holly) Robison, Kari (Ross) Harrison, Ashley (Chad) Noble, and Michelle (Mark) Eisenberg and has many great-grandchildren.

Cards may be sent to 225 N Davis Ave. Amboy, IL 61310.

### Singer, songwriter Abigail Stauffer returns to Kish for virtual performance

**MALTA** — Michigan-based singer/ songwriter Abigail Stauffer will return to Kishwaukee College for a virtual performance on Thursday, April 15. Her performance will begin at 6 pm via Zoom. The event is free and open to the public. This will be Stauffer's fifth appearance at Kish. She defines her music as a blend of "the language of acoustic, pop and neo-soul music into an irresistible invitation to heal and be healed. Every song is a captivating showcase of confidence and vulnerability, crafting a balance of pain, hope and joy." She is described as a gifted lyricist offering emotional live performances that will "warm your heart and serenade your soul."

Stauffer has released three albums: "Alone To Dream," "No Contradictions" and "Where I'm Going."

The performance is sponsored by Kish's Committee on Gender and Sexuality as part of LGBT Awareness Month. To attend, please RSVP to Ami Irmen at airmen@kish.edu for the Zoom ID and passcode.



SPHALT

FAT FOTATE

ELECTRI

AVO





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

# Politics has dominated its way into sports at different levels

started flying.

Kneeling during the national anthem before game is like raising a middle finger to the U.S. flag, Tennessee state Sen. Jon Lundberg told the president of East Tennessee State last month during a budget hearing.

Shortly thereafter, the coach, Jason Shay, was out of a job.

Shay quit as ETSU's head coach last week after one season and a 13-12 record.

As part of his separation agreement he will receive \$450,000 not to coach.

When you pay someone not to work it's pretty good sign you don't want them around anymore.

Shay did not respond when I reached out to him. And he hasn't spoken to any other reporters either. These type of separation agreements often

have gag clauses attached. The university athletic director Scott Carter denies that

Shay was fired or forced to quit. But Shay's players are convinced he would still be head

coach if he hadn't supported them. "I personally feel like him resigning is crazy," Truth Harris,

a freshman point guard, told ESPN. "It shows a lot of what is going on in this town, and in this country right now.'

"All this about us kneeling, and then Coach Shay supporting us through all of that. People should want a coach that stands behind the players through anything," ETSU senior guard Jordan Coffin said in a video retweeted by Shay's college-age daughter, Peija Shay. "For that to be a part in why he has to resign, then I don't want no part of that."

Coach Shay grew up in my hometown of Galesburg and was a hero on the court. At the time of his graduation, he was the No. 4 all-time scorer for the Silver Streaks and the top 3-point shooter in Galesburg High School's history.



o sooner did the knees touch the **Guest Column** While Coach Shay hasn't spoken with report-floor than the politicians' complaints **Guest Column** ers since his departure, he has communicated with his high school basketball coach Barry Swanson.

"I texted back and forth with Jason since this happened and he says he was just trying to be supportive of his players," Swanson said.

In February Shay said during a news conference: "It was a call to action our team decided to make before the season against racial inequalities and injustices. ... Our intentions in no way involve disrespecting our country's flag.'

Dr. Tom Davis coached Shay at the University of Iowa. Davis, who has also coached at Stanford, Drake and Boston universities said he admires Shay but is not surprised but by what has transpired.

"Well, you know nothing surprises me when you watch what is going on in coaching," he said.

"It's politics, politics, politics. It's such a dominant topic in our society today. And the fact that it would go into sports at different levels: professional, college, and even probably lower than that, isn't surprising.

Moline native Acie Earl was a teammate of Shay's at Iowa and later played for the Boston Celtics. He isn't surprised that Shay would put his job on the line to support African Americans.

'He grew up in Galesburg - a diverse railroad community," Earl said. "He was a really cool guy. He was a walk-on to the team, but a very positive player. Tennessee is a very red state and there are a lot of racist people. I can see this happening in 2021. '

Not only did 27 GOP Tennessee state senators send a letter to all of the state university presidents that such protests come to an end, but wealthy donors threatened to withhold funds.

"(Donors) were taking funds if Coach Shay was the head coach next year," Sadaidriene Hall, a freshman forward, told the Tennessean. "Everybody was pulling back on their funds if he was still there. ... It might have been more (to it), but I really think they are mad because Coach Shay is a white man standing up for the Black community."

Joe Trujillo, owner of Johnson City Honda, reclaimed the cars he provided the basketball coaching staff as part of a loaner program.

"My dad served 30 years in the United States Army," Trujillo told a local TV station. "We're a military family. The flag... means a lot to me."

It's interesting that a Honda dealer would question the patriotism of Shay and his players, I'm old enough to remember when people questioned the patriotism of those who bought Japanese cars.

Perhaps introspection isn't Trujillo's strong suit.

Racial sensitivity is something Shay apparently learned at an early age.

Elmer Dickerson, who is athletic director for Quest Charter Academy in Peoria, remembers meeting Shay for the first time at Gale Middle School.

"My family had just moved to the north side of Galesburg and I was one of only four Black students at Gale. The first person I met was Jason and he took me around and introduced me to all of his friends and really made me feel comfortable. He's a wonderful person."

During his February news conference, Shay explained why he was putting his job on the line:

'Many of us don't understand the sacrifice, fear, loss, people of color have had to endure over 400 years. My team is a daily reminder that some things are just bigger than basketball.

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist. He works as a freelance reporter in the Springfield area. He can be reached by email at Scottreeder1965@gmail.com.



Kip Cheek kcheek@mendotareporter.com

**General Manager/Advertising** Tonja Greenfield tgreenfield@amboynews.com

#### Editor **Bonnie Morris**

bmorris@mendotareporter.com

#### **Office Manager/Circulation/ Commercial Printing**

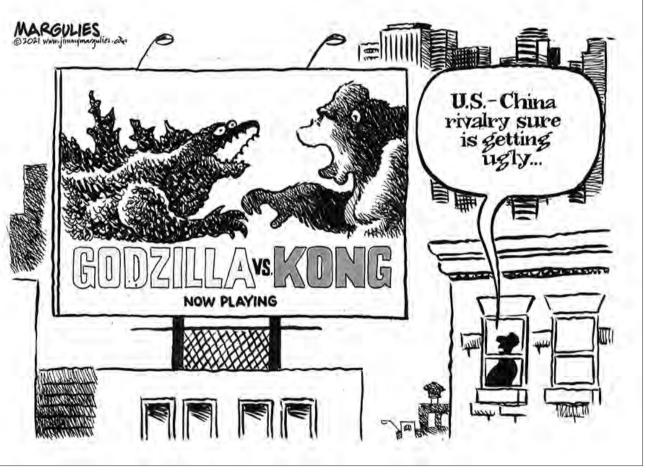
Mary Mays mmays@amboynews.com

# 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



By Scott Reeder

# On This Day in History

#### 100 Years Ago April 15, 1921

Miss Vella Dishong is now employed in the Amboy Flower Shop.

Mrs. Walter Burns was hostess to the Jolly-O-Club at her home on Mason Street Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. James Thompson entertained the Rockford crochet club at her home west of town Thursday afternoon.

Missess Gertrude Leake and Louise Doty left Wednesday morning for Chicago where they have accepted positions as stenographers.

#### 75 Years Ago April 18, 1946

May Township voters, casting special ballots at the April 9 election, passed a road tax by a 56-16 count and elected Miss Agnes Mc-Fadden Town Clerk to fill the vacancy created when Anton Becker resigned and moved to Amboy.

Joyce Wagner entertained a group of school friends Saturday evening in observance of her birthday. Guests were Ann Mihm, Kathleen Schwamberger, Donna Long, Joan Hecker, Darlene Grennan, Sarah Frances Hall, Marge Lauer, Betty Michel, Gerry Becker and Margie Langley.

Miss Mary Keho and her niece Ann Keho spent the weekend in Chicago.

Missess Delores and Le-

ota Halsey of Amboy each sang two song selections at the March P.T. A. meeting at Shaws School, which were much enjoyed by all.

#### 50 Years Ago April 15, 1971

Nearly 50 attended the first 1971 quarterly dinner of the Amboy Chamber of Commerce held Tuesday evening in Klara's Kitchen. It was announced that Mrs. Carl Shearer will complete the term of Joe Murphy on the Chamber's board of directors.

Winners have been announced for the annual Easter Egg Hunt which was held here Sunday afternoon at Green River City Park. Winners were as follows, listed in order of first, second and third prizes: three to four year olds, Brock Richards, Doug Organ, and Amy Kessel; five to six year olds, Todd Ikens, David McLindsay and Bernadine Lauts; seven to eight year olds, Janice Mc-Lindsay, Howard Harris, and Steven Gascoigne; and in the nine and 10 year old group, Barbara McGuire, Carolyn Gabioud and Cheryl Harris.

#### **25 Years Ago** April 11, 1996

Winners of the Lions Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday were:

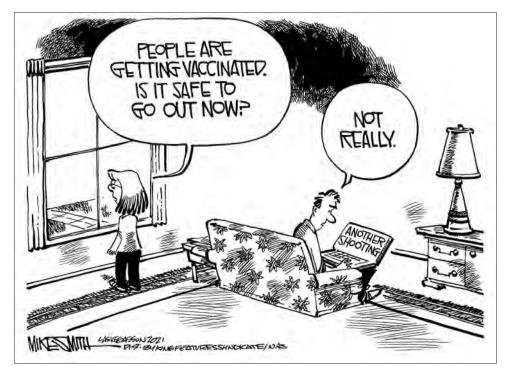
2 and 3 year olds: Terry Spinelli and Brooke Crosiar

4 and 5 year olds: Ashley Ross, David Tippey and Eric Farringer

6 and 7 year olds: Josh Phelps, Joe Dickinson and Amanda Ross

8, 9, and 10 year olds: Danielle Oester, Matt Albee and Daniel Rocks.

Nick Luccas of Amboy took home the first place trophy in the 7-8 year old division in the Stockton Wrestling Tournament on April 6. Nick won his first match 10-0. He won his second match with a pin while leading 12-2. He finished the day with a 4-0 win in this third match.



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.

# Advertising Policy

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

The Amboy News shall not be liable to the Customer for any loss that results from the incorrect publication of its advertising. The Customer agrees to assume responsibility for all errors in copy proofread by Customer when the advertisement printed corresponds to the returned proof.

#### **SUBSCRIPTIONS** Lee, Bureau and LaSalle Counties

1 yea	r manual pay	\$39.50	
	auto pay	\$37.50	
10 weeks	manual pay	\$10.50	
	auto pay	\$9.50	
Non-local			
1 year	manual pay	\$45.00	
	auto pay	\$32.00	
10 weeks	manual pay	\$11.75	
	auto pay	\$11.00	

**OFFICE HOURS** 8 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday 9 a.m. - noon on Friday

.Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

Phone 815-857-2311 Fax 815-857-2517 Website www.amboynews.com

# LOCAL NEWS



CryptoQuip answer Because the mattress on her guest bed is so firm, it creates lots of hard feelings.

 0
 2
 3
 5
 9
 1
 8
 1

Answer

**Weekly SUDOKU** 

7

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: E equals R

PISHKAI MQI DHMMEIAA YZ QIE

RKIAM PIU JA AY NJED, JM

SEIHMIA CYMA YN QHEU NIICJZRA.

©2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Shiny

SAINT

Edge

FINGER

**TODAY'S WORD** 

time?

"When's

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021



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

#### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY. ILLINOIS ESTATE OF )Case Terry L. )No. Politsch, )2021 deceased. )p-41

CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given the death of Terry L. Politsch of Sublette, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 5. 2021 to Mary Politsch of 367 Center Road, P. O. Box 81, Sublette, IL 61367 as Independent Administrator whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP. 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342 Claims against the estate may be filed in the

Office of the Lee County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before October 31. 2021 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed. April 14, 21, 28, 2021 No. 0407

**PUBLIC NOTICE** LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of Amboy Community Unit School District No. 272, in the

**601** AUTOS FOR SALE

County of Lee, State of Illinois, that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Amboy Central Elementary School to request a Modification of School Code ILCS 5/10-20.12(a) as it relates to charging less than 110% (or zero) for pupils of full-time employees of who live outside District boundaries. All those persons desiring to appear and be heard concerning this issue should attend. April 14, 2021 No. 0406

#### PUBLIC NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of Amboy Community Unit School District No. 272, in the County of Lee, State of Illinois, that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Amboy Central Elementary School to request renewal of the Modification of School Code ILCS 5/27-24.2, 24.3 as it relates to Driver's Education for the years 2021-2026.

All those persons desiring to appear and be heard concerning this issue should attend. We are seeking to keep the Driver's Education Fee at \$250.00. April 14, 2021

No. 0405 PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Public Hearing Township and Road Budgets

that Tentative Budgets Appropriation and Ordinances for the East Grove Township, Lee County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1st 2021 and ending March 31st 2022 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at East Grove Twp Bldg from and after 8 a.m. on April 14th, 2021. Notice is further given that a public hearing Budgets on said and Appropriation Ordinances will be at 7:30 p.m. May 11th, 2021 at the East Grove Twp Bldg and that

> final action on these ordinances will be taken at the public hearing. Dated on this 10th day of March 2021. Brian Blaine Supervisor Charles Gonigam Clerk No. 0404 April 14, 2021

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY. ILLIONOIS ESTATE OF )Case Eugene )No.

)2021 Α. Leffelman, )P 37 deceased CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Eugene A. Leffelman of Sublette, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 24, 2021 to Scott A. Leffelman of 1939 Ole

Notice is hereby given Hickory Rd., Amboy, IL 61310 as Independent Executor whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342.

> Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Lee County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before October 15, 2021 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed April 7, 14, 21, 2021 No. 0403

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF **FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL** CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF Donna J. Gilmore, deceased Case No. 2021-P-38 **CLAIM NOTICE** Notice is given of the death of Donna J. Gilmore of Compton, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 25, 2021 to

Scott E. Gilmore of 2853 Chicago Road, Compton, IL 61318 and Steven F. Gilmore of 221 West Chestnut Street, Compton, IL 61318 as Independent Co-Executors whose attorney is Guilfoyle Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342. against the Claims estate may be filed in the Office of the Lee County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue,

#### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

#### 105 BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITIES**

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

#### 113 FINANCIAL

credit before you get it. and the Federal Trade Commission.

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

#### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

JNJ JUMPERS Indoor/ Outdoor Bounce House **Rentals Available Year** Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

YARD LAWN & CARETAKER WANTED. Flexible Hours. Located Between Steward & Rochelle. 815-751-8150. (04-14-21)

NEWSPAPER CARRIERS Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

ASHTON - Bartenders Waitresses and Needed, Apply in Person at Ralphie and Lulu's. 812 Main Street in Ashton or call 815-453-2103. (TFN)

### ANTIQUES

301

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decovs. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@ hotmail.com

1104

Friday

2-Family

Clothes,

#### 307 **MISCELLANEOUS** FOR SALE

405

Fair

to

**BUNDLED** Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY. SEE RECEPTIONIST AT FRONT COUNTER Rochelle News-Leader.

HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE

advertised herein is

subject to the Federal

Housing

which makes it illegal

preference, limitation

or discrimination based

on race, color, religion,

sex, handicap, familial

or

to make any such

preferences, limitation

or discrimination. We

accept any advertising

for real estate which

is in violation of the

law. All persons are

hereby informed that

all dwellings advertised

are available on an

equal opportunity basis.

**STORAGE UNITS** 

Amboy & Sublette

10 x 20 inside

storage & outside

storage for

semi-trucks/trailers,

boats, campers, etc **)** 

Call

815-857-2252

not knowinalv

status, or

origin,

will

511

advertise

Act.

any

national

intention

Fax: 815-857-2517 Email:

815-857-2311

**Office Hours:** 

mmays@amboynews.com Address: 245 E. Main Street, Amboy

INFORMATION

Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.

Thursday, Saturday and

Wednesday,

- noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - noon

Closed

Sunday

Phone:

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 following 7 print the publications and on 5 hightraffic 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.



**2019 Chevy Crew Cab** 

#### NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper

### 119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

com

#### Hign Country 4x4 Brown



local trade, leather interior, heated/cooled seats, bed line GM Certified, One-owner, navigation and much more!

### \$49,900

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED  2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan  12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-	<ul> <li>6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty</li> <li>24/7 Roadside Assistance</li> <li>172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process</li> <li>3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee</li> </ul>
Bumper Warranty	
2020 Charry Tabaa IT 444 Nicoly	2019 Duiel Fraisian ASK Frances
2020 Chevy Tahoe LT, 4x4, Nicely	2018 Buick Envision, 48K, Essence,
Equipped, 24K miles,Silver\$49,900	AWD, Maroon\$21,500
2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 4x4,	2017 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew 4x4 LT,
Sunroof, Z71, Gray \$44,900	Leather, Pepperdust, 63K miles\$32,900
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD,	2016 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT, 4x4,
10k mi, White\$17,500	Leather, 68K miles, Maroon\$28,900
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4	2016 Chevy Equinox AWD, LTZ, 4
Z71, Silver\$35,900	Cyl., Tungsten, 54K miles \$17,500

#### QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4, Silver\$33,900	2016 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4 Z71, Brown\$29,500	
2018 Chevy K-1500 LT Crew 4x4 Z71, Black\$33,500	2016 Chevy Equinox LT AWD, Blue\$13,900	
2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LT, Maroon\$30,900	2016 Chevy Equinox FWD LTZ, White\$13,500	
VAESSEN	HIGHWAY 52 SUBLETTE, IL	
BROTHERS	www.vaessenbrothers.com	
	(815) 849-5232 1-800-227-5203	
"Great Deals - Great Service Since 1926"		
Ally Financing and GMF Financing or Leasing	* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied. Subject to credit approval.	
	J-F-1	
<b>FIND NEW ROAL</b>	DS 1	

CHEVROLET

IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before October 15, 2021 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed. March 31, April 7, 14, 2021 No. 0317

Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

201

CARE

NO

any

#### 305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

DOMESTIC/CHILD ROCHELLE: Gehant Ct. April 16th 9am-5pm INDIVIDUAL.

& Saturday April 17th unless licensed or 9am-Noon. holding a permit as a Sale. Kitchen Items, childcare facility, may Shoes, cause to be published Power Washer and advertisement Miscellaneous. (04-14soliciting a child care 21) service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the

Illinois Department of



Spring is a GREAT TIME to clean

SAVE MONEY!

your closets, basements, garages, and sheds. Eliminate all those old tools, lawn chairs, flower pots, clothes, and grandma's doilies stored in the attic.

# Have a GARAGE CLEARANCE SALE!

Advertise your garage sale listings in the Amboy News! We highlight your sale listing in a special GARAGE SALES BOX - easy for your garage sale customers to clip-out and go on the hunt.

In addition, we can place your listing in other area newspapers reaching over 31,000 homes for one price.





### SAVE TIME!

#### AMBOY NEWS • SEC A • PAGE 9

# SPORTS **Clipper Highlights: #14 Gordy Koch**

feel extra proud and honored this week as we not only highlight another great Clipper, but another Clipper Quarterback. This week's Clipper is #14, State Champion, Dan Etheridge.

Dan was a 1985 graduate of Amboy High School and Quarterback of the 1984 State Championship team. Dan not only excelled on the football field but on the hardwood as well.

Before we get into the game details it's deserving of everyone on this page to be taken back to 1980. It's Monday after the 1980 Clippers lost in the State Championship. At a lunch table at the Junior High School young men sat in sadness for their Clipper brothers before them. They talked, they planned, and four years later they would, most importantly, act. Dan, among many other Clipper greats was at the helm of that conversation. Dan shared, "we sat at the table and all said we never wanted to feel that kind of sadness and bring a State Football Championship to Amboy."

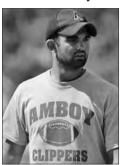
Fast forward to Sophomore year. Dan was called up to play Quarterback at the Varsity level as starting Quarterback, Kurt Akerman, was sidelined with an injury. Dan started a majority of the season and gained vital experience as the Clipper signal caller.

Dan's Junior season he split time at Quarterback with Akerman and started at safety. "We were so talented that '83 season. We all got along so well and it hurt us Juniors to see it end that way for those Seniors ahead of us. We told them the next season would be for them", Dan shared. Dan spoke of the first round playoff game against Ottawa Marquette as being the hardest hitting game he's been a part of. Dan ended his Junior season earning 1st TeamAll-Conference honors at Safety.

Former teammate and predecessor, Kurt Akerman, shared the following, "Danny was a year behind me in school. We never really got to play side by side. We were usually competing for the on the ground. Dan was the same job. I remember him as a quiet leader. He had to be

### Clipper **Highlights**

By Spencer Morrissey



as a qb who called his own plays. My junior year we were not good. I broke my arm Week 1 and Danny was moved up as a sophomore and became a starter within the next couple weeks. He took a beating. I never heard him complain. We spent a lot of time throwing and practicing our option pitches during practice. He pushed me to be better. My senior year I was hurt again (ACL) and played sparingly. Danny stepped up, worked his tail off. He played very well and quietly led our offense. We never hung out much but we were in the same (qb) fraternity so we had that in common. He worked hard, was a good teammate and was fun to be around. I do miss those summer and fall days."

Highly motivated, highly experienced, and fueled every day by that conversation at the Junior High lunch table, Dan and the '84 Clippers were ready for what was to come. Workouts started in July and after a long days work, mandatory workouts, and conditionings Dan and several other skill position players would stay after practice for 30-45 minutes running offensive plays. That extra work was imperative to the perfect timing the '84 Clippers would display in making our offense look effortless over the course of the season.

Dan started the first four games of the season posting a 4-0 record. Through those for games Dan passed for nearly 600 yards and several scores through the air and prototypical pocket passer and could have flourished in any drop back or shotgun offense. Dan's athleticism shined in our option, play action passing offense. Week 5 against Fulton, Dan rolled to his right, released the ball, fell to the ground, and as he braced himself, broke his left forearm. The injury would sideline Dan for the remainder of the season. To be sidelined with injury at any point in your Senior season is something I wouldn't wish on my worst of enemies or opponents. Dan did not let his season ending injury change his vital role to his team and their goal. Dan was there on the sidelines and in practice sharing his knowledge of the game and adding to the strategics of the highly potent Clipper Offense.

"Ben came in and did such a great job. He was a better runner than I was. I would offer my insight or interject when I needed to but my main role at that point was to support," Dan shared.

Dan remained a Co-Captain throughout the season and shared the same emotion as the 43 other Clippers that season as the State Championship trophy was brought home.

Co-Captain, former teammate, and friend, Brad Goy shared, "Dan was so intelligent. He knew what to call and worked so hard at it. It sucked to see him go down that way and end his season. He is such a great guy and always a great teammate."

Former teammate and friend, Dennis Ely, shared, "Dan was the brains of the operation. Even when he got hurt, he was always sharing his knowledge of the offense in any way he could to help us win. He knew how to set things up and when to call that big play that would catch teams off guard."

Dan continued his football career at Augustana College. Dan was a member of both National Championship teams alongside lifelong teammate John Bothe.

Although his days as a Clipper are now great memories, Dan shared the meaning of Amboy Clipper Football in one word: Brotherhood. Dan wasn't talking about the bond that links him and his teammates but the bond that links us all.



"We are all a part of the history of Amboy Clipper Football. We love talking to guys in front of us that we watched growing up as kids and we liked to see the success that came after us," Dan concluded.

Dan also shared his high regard and honor to be in our Clipper Quarterback fraternity. Dan verbalized that Ricky and Brad Considine were role models in the position that he would eventually take over.

My first experience with Dan came, ironically, during my eighth grade season. Coach Hobbs came over one night after Junior Tackle practice with the 1984 State Highlight film. He wanted to show me how the triple option was supposed to be operated. My dad, Coach Hobbs, and I watched as Dan and Ben operated the Clipper offense throughout that season. I'll absolutely say, I wanted to model my game after what I saw Dan do on that film.

So, to #14, State Champion, a fellow Clipper Field General, Dan Etheridge, thank you for your contributions to Clipper football. Thank you for your activity on our alumni page and being a great Clipper to this day. To persevere through the adversity, you faced your Senior season and continue to lead, support, and help your team speaks directly to the character you have. 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.

#14 Dan Etheridge



# Lady Clippers lose three matches against tough opponents

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers lost three matches against two tough opponents in varsity volleyball action last week.

Amboy hosted Sterling Newman on April 5 and the Lady Comets came away with a hard-fought 20-25, 26-24, 25-16 win.

Leaders in kills for AHS were Mallory Powers with six and Madelyn McLaughlin with three. Gabby Jones topped the team with nine assists and McLaughlin added six, while Powers had six digs, Brianna Blaine had five ace serves, and Blaine and Gabby Jones collected three blocks apiece. Eden Lindenmeyer helped out with four digs.

Amboy traveled to Eastland on April 6 and the home team prevailed 25-13, 25-16.

Powers (5) and McLaughlin (4) again led the team in kills, as did Gabby Jones (6) and McLaughlin (4) in assists. Lindenmeyer came away with seven digs followed by Powers and Gabby Jones with five apiece, while Olivia Dinges posted three blocks.

Eastland visited the AHS gym on April 8 and the result was the same -a 25-17, 25-12 Cougar victory.

Powers and Blaine recorded five and three kills, respectively, for the Lady Clippers. Gabby Jones (7) and McLaughlin (4) led in assists, Lindenmeyer (9) and Powers (5) led in digs and Dinges came up with three blocks.

Amboy has a 5-4 overall record and a 4-2 conference mark.

# **U. OF I. EXTENSION** NEWS

University of Illinois Extension is pleased to announce a free webinar series, Growing Horticulture in Northwest Illinois on Wednesdays starting April 28, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. delivered using Zoom. Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator Bruce J. Black will teach these webinars. Growing Horticulture in Northwest Illinois is for anyone interested in learning more about gardening, growing food in a home or community garden or looking for ideas for the upcoming growing season.

"Horticulture is a great way to get fresh air, daily exercise and fun hobby for families," states Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator, Bruce J. Black. "Participating in these webinars can help improve your horticulture knowledge and growing season whether you are growing food for your family, growing flowers or even just tending your landscape.'

The program topics will include: Kitchen Propagation - April 28 Growing and Preserving Herbs - May 5 Strawberries - May 12

Creating a Bottle Terrarium - May 19

The Growing Horticulture in Northwest Illinois Series will be held on Wednesdays, starting April 28, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., through Zoom. Pre-registration is required two days prior to each website and can be completed at go.illinois.edu/growinghortwebinar. These webinars are offered free but preregistration is required.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Bruce Black via email at brucejb@illinois. edu. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

### Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com

# Clipper Fans . . . The Game's on us!

Follow the entire SPRING Season of Amboy Football on WRCV FM 101.7



Join us every week for **Amboy Clipper Football!** Friday, April 16 at Milledgeville at 7 p.m.

#### -Sponsored By-

- Amboy Sporting Goods
- The Amboy News
- First National Bank
   Farley's Appliance in Amboy
- Becker Auto Body
- CGH Medical Center
- Compeer Financial
- Amboy Subway • Wes Morrissey -**Edward Jones**
- Jones Funeral
- Homes
- Ken Nelson Auto Group
  - The Long Branch
- Meusel's Dairy
- Papa Murphys
- Sauk Valley Motors
- Sublette Farmers Elevator
- Top Notch Builders
- Vaessen Bros. Chevrolet
- Kunes Auto Group

# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT How to show your appliances some extra love this spring

(BPT) - This past year we've all made a few changes to our daily lives, but one thing has remained constant - your appliances. It's easy to forget these machines are working hard in the background, but they're always helping to keep your household running smoothly. In the spirit of spring cleaning, let's give some extra love to our dedicated appliances, so they can keep performing at their best. Here are spring cleaning must-dos from a leading appliance expert.

#### Deep cleaning for a fresh start

Deep cleaning your appliances may not be top of mind, but it's important for them to have a good, thorough cleaning to keep everything looking like new.

\* Refrigerators will benefit from regular cleaning every three months, inside and out. This helps maximize storage while maintaining a fresh environment for your groceries. Make sure to wipe down all surfaces and skip the harsh chemicals. Try white vinegar and baking soda to keep out unwanted chemical smells. Finish off by wiping the outside with soap and water or with a special cleaner.

\* A dirty oven not only looks bad but can cause unpleasant smells in the kitchen. Clean every part of your oven by removing all racks and soaking in hot, soapy water to remove any leftover food and grease. Next create a spreadable paste of baking soda and water and cover the entire inside cavity. After 20 minutes, spray with lemon juice or vinegar and wipe with a damp cloth until clean. Cleaning experts actually advise against chemical oven cleaners, as these products contain harsh chemicals and release fumes that can linger in your oven long after cleaning is done.

\* Clean clothes require having a clean washer. Follow these four easy steps every 30 washes to help keep your washing machine clean. Clean the tub, clean the dispensers, clean in and around the door and lastly clean the outside.

\* Dryers produce a lot of lint, and without proper cleaning can become a fire hazard due to reduced airflow and overheating. Clean the lint screen after every use and the vent screen at least every two years.

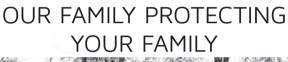
#### Organizing for a less stressful tomorrow

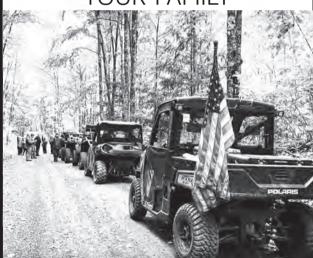
Did you know there's a science to storing food in your fridge? Not only will your food stay fresh, but you will stay more organized and could even save some money. Here are the basics:

\* Door storage should be reserved for less perishable items such as condiments and soda.

\* Shelves are great for every day, non-produce items. Group similar foods together to eliminate the need for searching

\* Deli drawers have slightly colder temperatures than the rest of the fridge making it ideal for meats and cheeses. \* High humidity crisper drawers help thin skin produce







like spinach and citrus fruits stay fresh, while low humidity crisper drawers are great for thick skin produce such as peppers and avocados.

#### **Replacing parts for optimal performance**

\* Many refrigerators have water filling stations, and the filter should be changed every six months. There is a quick way to replace your water filter in under five minutes. Once replaced, you can enjoy clean, fresh-tasting water.

\* If dishes begin to have grit and grime after they're cleaned, this can indicate that your dishwasher filter needs a

cleaning. On select dishwashers, locate the filter at the bottom of the dishwasher. Remove it by turning it counterclockwise and pulling up. Rinse out the filter under the faucet to remove most soils and debris, and once clean, reinstall.

\* A well-lit oven is essential for efficiently tracking the progress of dishes. You can change your oven light in five easy steps.

Whether you're a seasoned homeowner or still figuring out how to adult, spring cleaning is a great time to give back to your home and appliances.



# YOUR SAFE RIDE OUR SAFETY RESOURCES



facebook

Trusted

**Choice**<sup>®</sup>

Drive responsibly so your future doesn't take a turn for the worse. ATV safety rules save lives — maybe even yours. Find ATV safety information at grinnellmutual.com. Trust in Tomorrow.® G GRINNELL 19N & ASSOCIATES INC. Our Family Protecting Your Family P.O. BOX 349, Sublette, IL 61367 Sublette 849-5219 LaMoille 638-2171 • Amboy 857-2125

"Trust in Tomorrow." and "Grinnell Mutual" are registered trademarks of Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. © Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, 2021.

# **Renovation trends that figure to be** popular in the year ahead

Home renovation trends are ever-changing. Renovations that might have been de rigueur 20 years ago may seem dated now. Recognizing the potentially popular trends of tomorrow is a great way for homeowners to give their homes a fresh new look and put themselves in position to capitalize on popular trends when they put their homes on the market. That's especially so after 2020, a year when millions of people spent more time at home than ever before. All that time working from home and relaxing at home gave millions of homeowners ideas about what they like about their homes and what they hope to change. The following are some renovation trends that various experts suspect could emerge in 2021.

· Eco-friendly living: Climate change, and how to combat it, was a hot button issue during the 2020 presidential election in the United States. So, it should come as no surprise that urdesignmag. com, a web magazine that showcases creative trends in design, architecture, art, technology, and fashion, predicts that eco-friendly

living solutions figure to be hot commodities in 2021. Eco-friendly appliances, furniture and designs can help to conserve energy and reduce waste, which environmentalists and government agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency note are two critical components in the fight against climate change.

Large windows: Large windows can provide stunning views of the outdoors and allow ample natural light into a home. It may not be a coincidence if large windows prove to be a hot trend in 2021. The COVID-19 pan-



2514 Johnson St. West Brooklyn, IL 61378



firststatebank.biz | 815.628.3121



Member FDIC

of 2020 forced many people to spend considerably more time at home. Darker homes without much natural light can adversely affect mood, especially when people are spending more time at home. HGTV predicts that homeowners will seek ways to bring more natural light into their homes in 2021, and large windows naturally brighten homes while making rooms appear bigger, helping people feel less cramped. That's an especially beneficial characteristic when spending more time indoors at home.

demic that dominated much

Minimalism: The anticipated popularity of minimalism in 2021 may also be connected to the pandemic. As professionals were forced to work from home and many families spent more time together inside their homes then ever before, they may have recognized a need to cut back on clutter, including extra furniture. A minimalist approach is both simple and clean, which can make homes feel less claustrophobic.

Multi-functional spaces: Homeowners asked a lot of their homes in 2020, as rooms were transformed into multi-functional spaces seemingly overnight. HGTV notes that spending more time at home showed homeowners that it may not make sense to dedicate entire rooms of a home to a single purpose. Renovations that can help homeowners transform rooms into multi-functional spaces figure to be hot commodities in the years ahead

### **Buy your windows at Jones-Berry Hardware** ALL STYLES. ALL SIZES.

**Beautiful Windows & Doors of all** 

Shapes & Sizes to fit your home for

replacement or new construction.

**Double Hungs** 

Single Hungs

Casements

Awnings

**Basement Hoppers** 

**Picture Windows** 

04052021

**Horizontal Sliders** 

**Bay Windows** 

**Bow Windows** 

Special Shapes

Storm Doors

**Patio Doors** 









And, in nearly any combination.

Call us today to place your order!

Double Hung • Bay/Bow • Slider Casement • Great Trim Custom SIze Vinyl Windows Replacement and New Construction

Aluminum Storm Windows and Doors









Serving The Amboy HARDWARE Area For Over & BUILDING 100 Years MATERIAL Save Time, Save money ...

# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT Touching up landscaping around pool can add to backyard retreat

Backyard pools provide a way to cool off and enjoy a taste of luxury without having to travel. Backyard pools provided even more convenience and a welcome respite in 2020, as many public pools were closed in response to social distancing restrictions put in place during the pandemic.

After installing pools, many homeowners realize that touching up the landscaping around the pool can provide the finishing touch to their backyard retreats. Not all landscaping is the same, and homeowners should choose plants that look beautiful, are tolerant to pool splash-out and won't outgrow the area. The home and garden resource The Spruce notes that a plant that is attractive at two feet tall can grow rapidly and drop leaves or other debris into the pool.

When selecting options for pool landscaping, there are some considerations to keep in mind:

· Choose plants that will provide privacy.

• Know which kind of climate a plant needs prior to purchasing it. Tropical plants may be fitting poolside, but will they endure when the season is over?

• Design according to the theme of the home, as plants should complement the existing style. Modern foliage may not blend well with a home styled after a traditional English cottage.

• Decide whether you can accept spreading or trailing plants that can cascade over retaining walls and other infrastructure.

• Look at trees that won't drop too many leaves, flowers or fruit into the water.

• Think about having layers of plants to soften the landscape, which can make a small pool seem bigger and more luxurious, indicates the landscaping company Earth Development, Inc.

• Don't overlook the possibility of a lawn abutting pavers or concrete surrounding a pool, as it can soften the edges and keep spaces open and inviting.

· Incorporate herbs or fragrant plants, which can transform



a pool day into a spa experience. Consider low-maintenance lavender as an option.

Pool landscaping must marry a variety of different features and plant requirements. As a result, a professional consultation may be the route to take. Landscape architects will have the know-how to select plant varieties that will be tolerant, beautiful and fulfill homeowners' wishes.

Backyard pools can make a backyard retreat that much more enjoyable. Landscaping offers the softness and beauty that adds a finishing touch to poolside retreats.

# Consider variables when planning where to the media room

The term "home theater" once made homeowners who love movies and sports dream of the day when they could dedicate a large area in their home to watching the big game or their favorite films. Such rooms are now widely referred to as "media rooms." Though the terminology may have changed, media rooms are not all that different from home theaters.

Before choosing an area of their home as their designated media room, homeowners must consider a host of variables to ensure they get as much out of the room as possible.

• Location and shape: Of course the location of the room is of the utmost importance. Media rooms tend to

Exterior lighting can add ambiance to a property

The value of the right lighting in a home is undeniable. Lighting can instantly transform a room and create the ambiance homeowners are looking to establish. Though it might be mostly seen as a way to create mood inside a home, lighting also can do much for lawns and gardens.

Backyards have come a long way over the last several decades. Once reserved as play areas for children and stomping grounds for the family dog, backyards have become oases for homeowners and their families. Outdoor living areas are wildly popular, and no such area is complete without exterior lighting. In fact, a recent report from the National Association of Home Builders found that 85 percent of home buyers want exterior lighting, making it the second most desired outdoor feature (patios topped that list).

Exterior lighting can have a dramatic effect on landscaping,

be more social settings than traditional home theaters, which were often designed to be isolated from the rest of the home so noise and natural light did not adversely affect the film-watching experience. Homeowners may not want their media rooms to be in high traffic areas of their homes, but they needn't be completely secluded, either. The renovation experts at the DIY Network note that the shape of a room should be considered before designating it as the media room. In general, square rooms are not ideal, as such rooms can produce harmonic distortions. A rectangular room likely won't produce such distortions, especially when homeowners place their screens and primary speakers on short walls. It's important that homeowners do not downplay the importance of sound, as media rooms, unlike traditional home theaters, may be used for listening to music just as much as they are for watching films or sports. Viewers may not recognize distortions when watching something, but homeowners may notice these abnormalities when listening to music. • Windows: Media rooms are multi-purpose rooms, so homeowners don't need to



remove rooms with windows from consideration. But the experts at the DIY Network note that windows are hard surfaces that can reflect sound and distort audio, and the light that gets in through windows can produce reflections on the viewing surface. Each of those factors can adversely affect your listening and viewing experience. A room with windows can still make for a good media room, but you may want

to invest in some blackout curtains to mitigate some of the disadvantages of having windows in the room.

• Wall colors: The colors of the walls in the room is another variable homeowners will have to consider. Homeowners won't want to host guests for the big game in rooms with darkened walls, as that can create a dreary atmosphere and potentially make people tired. But especially bright

colors will reflect light and adversely affect the viewing experience. Neutral colors should not affect the colors on the screen, making them the ideal color choice for media room walls. Media rooms are high on many homeowners' renovation lists. Considering a host of variables prior to designating an area for a media room can ensure the finished product is as enjoyable as possible.

and estimates from the online financial resource Kiplinger. com suggest such lighting is inexpensive, with installation averaging roughly \$67 per fixture.

When installing exterior lighting around their landscapes, homeowners can keep various tips in mind to create a relaxing, awe-inspiring mood on their properties at night.

 Consider uplights. Uplights are installed in the ground and direct light up at a tree, focusing on its trunk or canopy. This creates a dramatic effect that makes it possible to enjoy majestic trees at night just like you might when spending time in the yard during the day.

· Focus on trees. Many homeowners already have exterior lighting lining their walkways and patios, but focusing on trees can create an entirely different look. Though it's possible to install exterior tree lighting on your own, landscaping professionals with lighting experience know which fixtures will pair most effectively with the trees around your property and how to arrange them for maximum effect.

· Opt for warm light. Warm white light creates an inviting feel around the property. The exterior lighting experts at Utah Lights acknowledge that choice of lighting is up to homeowners but also note that, in situations with lower levels of ambient light, such as in exterior lights around a property, people typically prefer warmer light.









Bonita Willis, **Designated Managing** Broker

Any type of

time of year (815)849-5476





Justin Wiley, Realtor/Broker 815-849-5476, ext 165

Marcia Kosowski, Realtor/Broker

815-582-2381



Serving Amboy, Rock Falls, Sterling, Dixon, Walnut, Oregon, Sublette, Ashton, Rochelle, Paw Paw and ALL surrounding areas.

#### **Residential/Commercial** Land/Farm/Industrial



www.rivercountryproperties.net Fax:815-857-7073 jori@rivercountryproperties.net





Jori McRae Managing Broker



#### www.Erbes-Realty.com











Sale goes through April 20, 2021