

Established In 1854

# The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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## Cliff Walter Memorial Easter Egg Hunt adapts

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

The Lions will host an Easter Bunny Drive-Thru at the Amboy City Park on Saturday, April 3, from 1 to 2 p.m. Children will receive a treat bag, some with special surprises, as they drive through the park. The Easter Bunny will and cut-out scene boards will be available for picture opportunities. The boards will be properly sanitized between uses.

The Lions are looking forward to having a traditional egg hunt in 2022 but want children to be able to have some fun in 2021.

Everyone is asked to enter the east park entrance and follow the signs to avoid back-ups into Main Street.



## Lee County officials concerned about increased number of COVID-19 cases

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

The Lee County Unified Executive Leadership Team (LCHD, Lee County Emergency Management, Lee County Sheriff's Office, Lee County State's Attorney's Office, KSB Hospital, and City of Dixon) wants residents to know it is too early to forgo mitigation measures. The team speculates that hearing the hopefulness at the state and national level of opening up even further in the near future, coupled with the fact that vaccination is ongoing, has led people to feel safer resuming normal activities. The fact is, that due to limited vaccine supply to date, only a small percentage of most county's populations are fully vaccinated. Supply is expected to pick up soon, but in the meantime, they ask residents to be mindful that COVID-19 is still very much present in our area and we need to continue with masking, distancing, avoiding large gatherings, etc.

According to Cathy Ferguson-Allen, LCHD Administrator, "We've recently had some quite ill individuals that have had to be hospitalized. We're seeing increased case severity, even in younger age groups. We will likely soon be announcing a few additional resident deaths once confirmed with IDPH. These trends are troubling."

See CASES page A2



## Easter Egg Hunt planned in Sublette

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

## Name the Street Sign fundraiser seeking bids until April 16

AMBOY — A tradition started in 1997 to honor a loved ones memory by naming a street for one year after that person is being done again this year.

The A.C.O. is taking sealed bids to name the street north of the business district until Friday, April 16, 2021.

The sign will be hung on May 1 and remain there for one year. The sign will then be given to the successful bidder. Currently the street is named after Pat Weller.

Previous honorees were Allen Zip

Sensenig, Avery Lovgren Jake Metzen, Gary Hart, Howard & Ruth Shaw, Douglas Blaine, Louis Grasser, Doug Antoine, Dave Yentzer, James "Mort" Hinkle, James Mead, Bob Smith, Lisa Nauman, Dave Payne, Dale Etheridge, Elmer "Rocky" Sensenig, Arnie Stahr, Bob Machen and Jeff "Bodine" Bonnell.

The money raised will be given to the Pankhurst Memorial Library. The minimum bid is \$200 and will be accepted at the Amboy City Hall.

## 2020 Lee County final multiplier announced

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

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier", is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly

important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g. school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there were no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

See COUNTY page A3

## Lee County COVID-19 Update: March 29, 2021

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department reported that there have been 5 Lee County resident deaths throughout March. These are not facility-related; they are community members living at home and unrelated. The ages are 3 in his or her 80s, 1 in his or her 60s and 1 in her or her 50s.

Between March 23-29, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 123 new cases have been reported, including three from the Dixon Correctional Center and one from Avonlea Cottage. Here are the ages that were reported: 17 under the age of 12, 12 in his or her teens, 18 in his or her 20s, 16 in his or her 30s, 17 in his or

her 40s, 16 in his or her 50s, 13 in his or her 60s, 6 in his or her 70s, 3 in his or her 80s, and 1 on his or her 90s.

This brings the total number of cases to 3,424 as of March 29. They also reported as of March 29, nine residents have been hospitalized and 65 residents have died.

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

ment; 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 March 26, according to IDPH 13,075 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 4,492 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine.

See HEALTH page A3



### CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #44 Tim Oester PAGE A10

### Obituaries

Leota Carroll

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### Inserts

Snyders



## CLASSES ON BODY AND MIND

On Friday March 19, the Third grade classes at Central School took part in Sauk Valley Community College's child fair. Nursing students came to present to the Third grade classes about body and mind. Students learned about Yoga and healthy eating. They learned about how Yoga helps their mind and body. Students were shown various yoga moves and then they played a yoga game that included a healthy snack and a water as a prize. Students were also shown a healthy eating presentation. They were shown the effects of what poor eating can have on their bodies. The nursing students played a nutrition bingo with the students after the demonstration.

Photos submitted



## Health care, pretrial interest, elections bills pass both houses

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD — A bill to expand the use of vote-by-mail and curbside voting in future elections passed the Illinois Senate Thursday, March 25, meaning it needs only a signature from the governor to become law.

House Bill 1871, which was approved by the House last week, would revise the state election code to make permanent some of the changes that were widely adopted across Illinois

for the 2020 general election in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the bill is sent to the governor and signed quickly enough, it would take effect immediately, possibly in time for the April 6 elections.

The changes include allowing election authorities to install drop box sites where voters can submit mail-in ballots without postage during and on Election Day. The bill also permits curbside voting where people can fill out ballots outside the polling

place during early voting and on Election Day.

The bill, sponsored by Democratic Sen. Julie Morrison of Lake Forest, would also require election authorities to accept mail-in ballots with insufficient or no postage.

The bill states that ballots turned in after the close of business "shall be dated as delivered the next day, with the exception of ballots delivered on election day, which shall be dated as received on election day."

Thomas Bride, executive director at Peoria County Election Commission, said this provision was carried out in his county by installing a locked cover on the drop box by 7 p.m. on election night.

The bill passed out of that committee on partisan lines Wednesday and advanced to the Senate floor for a vote, where it was approved on a bipartisan roll call with 48 votes in favor and seven against.

See RECAP page A8



# LOCAL NEWS

## CASES continued from page A1

“Over the past year, LCHD has seen just how contagious this virus is. Some individuals have been infected more than once; some are dealing with long-term effects,” Ferguson-Allen said.

“In addition to ongoing mitigation measures, please answer the call if a contact tracer reaches out to you. Contact tracing is of utmost importance right now as we try to contain the current spread. If you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms or have been a close contact of someone who has tested positive, get tested and stay home until results are received. If you receive positive results,

continue to stay home and give LCHD at least 48 hours to contact you before calling to inquire. Case volume is currently high, and it can also take some time for labs to report positive cases to us.”

With spring break and Easter approaching, the team cautions residents that travel is still considered risky. If you do travel, please mask, distance and avoid large groups.

“We completely understand how anxious people are to get on with life; we are too,” Ferguson-Allen said. “But if we continue regressing, we will only extend the length of time until we can do that.”

### Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

## Tri-County Opportunities Council to award 12 2021 scholarships

**ROCK FALLS**—At least 12 scholarships will be awarded by Tri-County Opportunities Council to income eligible students residing in the agency’s service area. The scholarships are worth up to \$1,250 and have been made available by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCEO) through its Community Services Block Grant funds. All low-income students, racial or ethnic minorities and previous scholarship winners are encouraged to apply. To be eligible for the scholarship competition:

- The applicant must be a member of an income-eligible household.
- The applicants must be attending an Illinois

accredited post-secondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2021.

• Applicants must be a resident of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark or Whiteside County.

• Students must be considered full-time (minimum of 12 semester hours) to qualify for the full \$1,250 scholarship. Part-time students will be considered in the competition, however, scholarship awards will be pro-rated if they are selected as a winner.

The application deadline has been extended to April 23. Further information and application forms may be obtained by contacting the office at 800/323-5434 ext. 15 or at [www.tcochelps.org](http://www.tcochelps.org).



**Easter Sunday Service**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center**  
Pastor Jack M. Briggs  
1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center  
[www.LeeCenter-UCC.org](http://www.LeeCenter-UCC.org)  
Recorded Services will be available on our website to view.  
**Phone 815-732-7032**

Like us on Facebook: Friends & Members of Lee Center First Congregational UCC Church 3/24/21

**REJOICE**  
IN THE MIRACLE OF EASTER

**Sunday, April 4**  
Easter Worship 10 a.m. at the Church and on Facebook Live.

*Allowance for COVID-19 restrictions with masks and social distancing are set up in the sanctuary and families of the same household may sit together, but there will be no childcare for the service even though changing tables and nursery facilities are available for single use using CDC protocols.*

**UNITED FIRST CHURCH**  
East Main and Jefferson Streets, Amboy, IL 61310  
Find us on Facebook at [unitedfirstchurchofamboy](https://www.facebook.com/unitedfirstchurchofamboy)  
Pastor Mark Glenn 815-440-0745

03312021

**EAST GROVE UNION CHURCH**

449 Reuter Road, Amboy • 1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Road  
Phone 815-376-6661 • Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321

**Holy Week 2021 Observance**

**Thursday, April 1, 6:00 pm**  
Maundy Thursday Service

**Sunday, April 4**  
7:00 am Resurrection Sunday Early Service followed by Breakfast,  
9:00 am, Regular Morning Worship  
“Come as You Are and Join Us on the Journey!”

03242021

# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord’s Supper**  
7:00 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette

**Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Good Friday, Veneration of the Cross**  
1:00 pm at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, West Brooklyn

**Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass**  
7:30 pm at St. Patrick Church, Maytown

**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord**  
8:00 am Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, West Brooklyn  
10:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette

Because of the Pandemic, please use the **SignUpGenius** on our **Website** to register for these **Masses** and **Liturgies**. Masks must be worn, and social distancing will be practiced.  
[www.olphmarystpatrick.com](http://www.olphmarystpatrick.com)

**Our Lady Most Admirable...Pray for us!**  
**St. Mother Teresa...Pray for us!**

*“I do not know whose thirst is greater, His for me or mine for Him.” St. Mother Teresa*



# LOCAL NEWS

## 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](http://www.lchd.com) for a list of services available.

**DIXON**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31, at Sauk Valley Community College, 173 IL Route 2. Call Ana Salgado at 815-288-5511 or the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**AMBOY**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31, at Amboy Community Center,

280 W. Wasson Rd. Call Eddie Escatel at 815-857-3632 or the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**AMBOY**-The Lee County 4-H Cloverbud Project Pool will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 3, at the 4-H Center, Route 30, for youth ages 5-7. Register by April 1. There is a fee and registration is required: [go.il-linois.edu/CloverbudProject-Pool](http://go.il-linois.edu/CloverbudProject-Pool) or call 815-632-3611.

**AMBOY**-The Amboy Lions Club Easter Bunny Drive-Thru will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 3, at Amboy City Park. Enter at the east entrance and follow signs for pictures with the Easter Bunny and treat bags for children.

**AMBOY**-The City of

Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 5, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**DIXON**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6, at Ken Nelson Auto Group, 1100 N. Galena Ave. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**SUBLETTE**-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 12, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St.

**AMBOY**-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 12, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**SUBLETTE**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Parish Hall, 202 S. Locust. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**MAY TWP**-The May Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, at the township maintenance building.

**AMBOY**-The U of I Extension Webinar Series, Get Savvy-Grow Your Green Stuff, will be available from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14. This free series topic is Student Loan Repayment. Register <https://forms.uofi-illinois.edu/sec/1279302>.

**WHEN DISASTER STRIKES - BE READY, WITH LEFFELMAN & ASSOCIATES**



Tess Fleming



Julie Burkardt



Lisa Quest

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## TEEN TURF

### Fish Fry Thank You

We will have a more detailed Thank You next week. However, we want to send out a general thank all those that bought tickets, made cookies, and helped in any shape or form.

A special thanks to our kids and their families and our board members for pre-selling. All proceeds benefit our afterschool and summer programs. We receive no government funding.

### Thank You's

We are blessed to have the following folks assist us: Woodhaven Recreation Team for donating the basketball machines. A special thanks to Chad Zimmerman, Tim O'Laughlin, Larry Piper, and Justin Rodriguez for helping

us move it; you to those that donated Food and Kitchen items; Albee family for all the craft items; Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the meat, cheese, and beautiful Easter cupcakes; Sam Russel and Connor Hummel for choosing us to do their honor society volunteering; Shannon and Josh Nichols for the Easter prizes for our Easter Egg Hunt; Leon Poliquin and Pat Yoo for the granola bars; Mark and Tammy Henkel; Mary and Dick Payne for the sports equipment; Tammy, Scott, and Brooklyn Strub for errand running and donation of granola bars; and our faithful volunteers-Donna, Fran, Shannon, Maddy, Will, and Brooklyn.

### Needs

Juice Boxes or Bottled Juice Drinks  
**Teen Turf**

We are now open; however it is not like any year before. Students had to pre-register before coming and we are limited on space due to Illinois State guidelines. Please do not send a child without speaking to Eileen Piper at 815-440-8195

### Final Word

Easter Prayer of Gratitude. Lord Jesus Christ, we rejoice and rejoice continually in Your glorious and triumphant victory over death. For Your victory is our victory. Help us to live by it, in it, and for it. Amen!

## COUNTY continued from page A1

Under a law passed in 1975, property in Illinois should be assessed at one-third (1/3) of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland assessed at one-third of its agriculture

economic value. Farmland is not subject to the state equalization factor.

Assessments in Lee County are at 33.51 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2020 taxes, payable in

2021. Last year's equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The final assessment equalization factor was issued after a public hearing on the tentative factor. The tentative factor issued in December 2020 was 1.0000.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value

placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

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

## HEALTH

continued from page A1

LCHD is working with the Illinois National Guard to offer a Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccine clinic on Saturday, April 3 in Dixon. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only 1 dose. The link for appointments was posted on Sunday, March 28, and as of Monday, March 29, the event was fully booked. The health department said they may be holding another event like this in the future.

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 up format for appointment times. More information will be made available at a later date.

**I would appreciate your vote for Village Trustee of Sublette**  
**Robert Bulfer**  
Vote Tuesday, April 6, 2021  
Paid for by Robert Bulfer

**RE-ELECT**  
**Denis Erbes**  
for Road Commission of Sublette Township  
Vote Tuesday, April 6, 2021  
Paid for by Friends of Denis Erbes 03312021

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

**210 S Mason Ave., Amboy**  
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**NOTICE OF VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING For April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election**  
Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that  
**VOTE BY MAIL** and **EARLY VOTING** is being conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse.  
**VOTE BY MAIL** ~ will take place from Thursday, February 25th through Thursday, April 1st and is available for properly registered Lee County voters. Applications are available on the website or by contacting the Election Department of her office.  
**EARLY VOTING** ~ will take place from Thursday, February 25th through Monday, April 5th and must be conducted in person. Early voting is available Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, April 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the Election Department of her office.  
PLEASE NOTE: LEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021.  
The votes cast during this time will not be counted until Election Day. Once a ballot has been cast it cannot be rescinded.  
**Website:** [www.leecountyil.com](http://www.leecountyil.com)  
**Email:** [election@countyoflee.org](mailto:election@countyoflee.org)  
**Phone:** 815-288-3309  
Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder



# SOCIAL NEWS

## The Book Nook

By:  
Tatjana Kazan

### A Burning

In Kolkata, India a waiting train, its doors locked from the outside, is firebombed, killing over a hundred people. Facebook is ablaze with the terror attack. Jivan, a young Muslim woman from a Kolkata slum less than fifteen minutes from the train station, is mostly interested in the “likes” she will garner when she recklessly writes, “If the police didn’t help ordinary people like you and me, if the police watched them die, doesn’t that mean that the government is also a terrorist?” Her question sweeps across social media like a tidal wave. The police come for her in the middle of the night. She will be their scapegoat.

So begins Megha Majumdar’s superb, bestselling debut novel “A Burning” (2020). It is the story of three people – the accused and the two people who can save her. Much of the novel hinges on their willingness to do so. Lovely, an aspiring actress, is taking English lessons from Jivan. She is a hijra, a designation that confers a recognized status on transgender people. Assumed to have a connection to the divine, hijras are sought after to bless births and weddings. Reviled as much as she is revered, the indomitable Lovely survives mostly by begging.

The third character, PT Sir, is an upright PE teacher in Jivan’s former girls’ high school. When he falls in with a far right nationalist party, it is his former connection to his pupil that makes him attractive to the Party. Looking the part of the incorruptible public servant, PT Sir’s first task is falsely testifying in criminal cases against the Party’s political enemies to supplement his teacher’s salary. It is noteworthy that Jivan and Lovely tell their stories in first person monologues, whereas PT Sir’s story is narrated in the third person.

The State’s case rests primarily on Jivan carrying a package to the train station the day of the terror attack. The package contained books Jivan was taking to Lovely. Could Lovely, the brash hijra would-be movie star, convince the court of Jivan’s innocence? Would PT Sir, who has sold his soul to the anti-Muslim Party and swiftly risen in its ranks, testify against his Party’s law and order platform, especially when it is on the verge of winning the election? What of the rabid media which twist the sad details of Jivan’s impoverished life into a terror plot?

“A Burning” is not just about a terrorist attack, it’s also about the violence of entrenched injustice, of police brutality and crooked judges. Not just the raw stories of these three characters, but also of the guava sellers, women prisoners, theatrical agents, students who chant “Justice for Jivan,” criminals, teachers, protesters, and criminal politicians. Through them Majumdar exposes the ills that beset Indian society in all its small and large corruptions, its lethal racism, its inequality, political unscrupulousness, and horrific poverty.

### SVCC to offer each student \$500 per Summer and Fall semesters

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College will provide at least \$500 to every student who enrolls in the 2021 summer and fall semesters. As students continue to be impacted by the effects of the pandemic, SVCC strives to provide funds to enable students to continue their pursuit of higher education.

These funds can be up to \$1,000 based on the student’s need which will be determined after completing the FAFSA application. Students must register for at least three credit hours to qualify and will have an additional form to fill out during the registration process. Each student who follows these steps will be eligible to receive funds once per semester for both summer and fall semesters.

Students currently enrolled in the spring semester are also eligible for these funds.

SVCC is pleased to directly distribute these funds to our students, as they are our first priority. This funding

will not count against a student’s current financial aid, is not required to be paid back, and will not impact their future educational funding.

## Amboy Lions Club Easter Bunny Drive-Thru Take pictures with the Easter Bunny!

Treat bags for all  
children • Rain or shine!

Amboy City Park  
Saturday, April 3  
from 1 to 2 pm



Enter at the east park  
entrance and follow the  
signs!

03242021



## THE PASTOR’S PEN

### Why Is Holy Week So Important?

thread that runs through the Scriptures—from Genesis to Revelation. One sees this mention of blood because the Lord says in Leviticus: “blood is for atonement. The life is in the blood, don’t drink the blood, don’t eat the blood, it is for atonement”.

Why is the blood for atonement? Because God is holy and we fall short, we fail, we become defiled. Isaiah says our sins (our defilement) separates us from God, so we must find some way of reconciling, coming once again into relationship, into council with God, that is, being restored into a relationship with God. That is what atonement is all about. Atonement—even in the English language reveals the essential meaning—means at-one-ment with, it means to be brought back into a relationship with, to be at one-with. The blood provides the means for atonement. The classical illustration of that is the Passover in Egypt. The blood of the lamb was spread upon the doorposts; the Death Angel would pass over, and accompanying that was the redemption of the children of Israel.

When we recount these events, we recount them as if we were brought out of Egypt; that is, as if we were there, we were brought out and redeemed—it is not merely a historical event, it is something we actively participate in when we take the Passover meal. God said: “this is a memorial, this is a feast in perpetuity, from now on, I want you to celebrate this and remember my re-

demption.” So Jesus did, and in the process of doing that, he instituted what we come to know as the Lord’s Supper. When you partake of communion, you are continuing God’s commandment to celebrate Passover. However, like in so many other things, Jesus took the principles, the types, the patterns from the Hebrew Scriptures and filled them with additional meaning – and so he does with the Lord’s Supper.

What I want us to understand is that every one of the elements of Passover deliverance (and more) is part of the jewel of atonement—and by the blood of Jesus, we can share in every one of these: you have victory; he suffered on your account; he became your example, he is the pioneer, the perfecter of your faith; he became the faithful witness that you are to emulate; his sacrificial death cleanses you from sins; he redeems you from

slavery to Satan and to sin; he reconciles you with the heavenly Father, that you weren’t connected to when you were pagans out in the world; you are justified, you are made righteous in his eyes by the blood of Jesus, so much so that you are adopted as an intimate daughter or son.

Glory hallelujah! All of this is yours in the atonement—and more. If we understand that, we begin to understand the provisions of the Lord’s Supper. All these things (and more) are provided in the salvation that is given by the blood of Jesus.

Then, and only then, can the darkness of what we call Good Friday turn to the joy and exaltation of Easter Sunday, Resurrection Sunday morning and we can say that Jesus has risen!

He has risen indeed! Because he has risen in our lives in a personal way, leading us out of the darkness and into his glorious light.

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# Opinion

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

## Our nation has long discriminated against Asians

I was chatting with a friend the other day and I mentioned that Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell was married to someone of a different race. His response: "She's Asian American, that doesn't count."

It was a strange thing for an educated man, a retired lawyer to say. Stranger still it was uttered just a few days before six Asian Americans were murdered in Atlanta.

Too often we view race relations in monochrome.

But it's not just black and white. It's a complex interaction of various ethnicities, nationalities and races.

Asians are labeled as the "model minority." Assertions of discrimination are dismissed by this false narrative.

Two Asian-Americans have married into my extended family and been welcomed with love and acceptance. And that's a story told by many families across this country.

In fact, a 2015 Pew Foundation study found that half (46%) of U.S.-born Asian newlyweds have a spouse of a different race or ethnicity. At first blush, this would seem to be a story of assimilation and acceptance.

But that doesn't tell the whole story.

Our nation has long discriminated against Asians. Former president Donald Trump exploited this heritage of hate a year ago, by labeling COVID-19 the "Chinese Virus." In the wake of such remarks Asian Americans have been the victims of violence.

**Guest Column**  
By Scott Reeder



For me, it's not a new story. When I was a reporter in Galveston, Texas, it was native-born shrimpers angry with having to compete with Vietnamese immigrants.

In the Quad-Cities, it was hostility toward Southeast Asians working in the area's meat-packing plants.

Later, while working as a journalist in Las Vegas, acquaintances would presume Asians living there were "sex workers" and dismiss them with a wave of a hand.

"The Asian-American community is shaped like a barbell. There is large upper middle class and large portion who are working-class or poor. But not many are in between," said Ji-Yeon Yuh, an associate professor of Asian American studies and history at Northwestern University.

She wrote "Beyond the Shadow of Camp-town: Korean Military Brides in America." It's a superb tome, which I read several years ago. Yuh is also an expert on migration of Asians to the U.S.

Since I've known Yuh for a while, I asked her a tough question, "Why does it seem so many Asian American women end up working in massage parlors, spas and other sex-oriented businesses?"

Her response surprised me. The U.S. military has fostered a culture accepting of prostitution particularly near its major bases in Korea and other nations of the Far East. She noted this is not the case at U.S. installations in the Middle East or Europe.

Young women and girls are trapped into prostitution near

these bases. Often, they are trafficked to the U.S. through "paper marriages," she said.

"A soldier may be paid \$10,000 to 'marry' someone and bring them here. The bride then ends up in the sex trade," she said.

Yuh noted that four of the six Asian American women killed in Atlanta were of Korean heritage. She added other immigrants end up in the trade because they lack language fluency, education or the job skills necessary to otherwise support themselves.

No one aspires to be a prostitute. So, it's wise to examine why individuals become trapped in such a demeaning, dangerous trade.

And this is where the issue of race comes in.

Police say the alleged shooter, 21-year-old Robert Aaron Long, said he was motivated by a sexual addiction that was at odds with his religious beliefs.

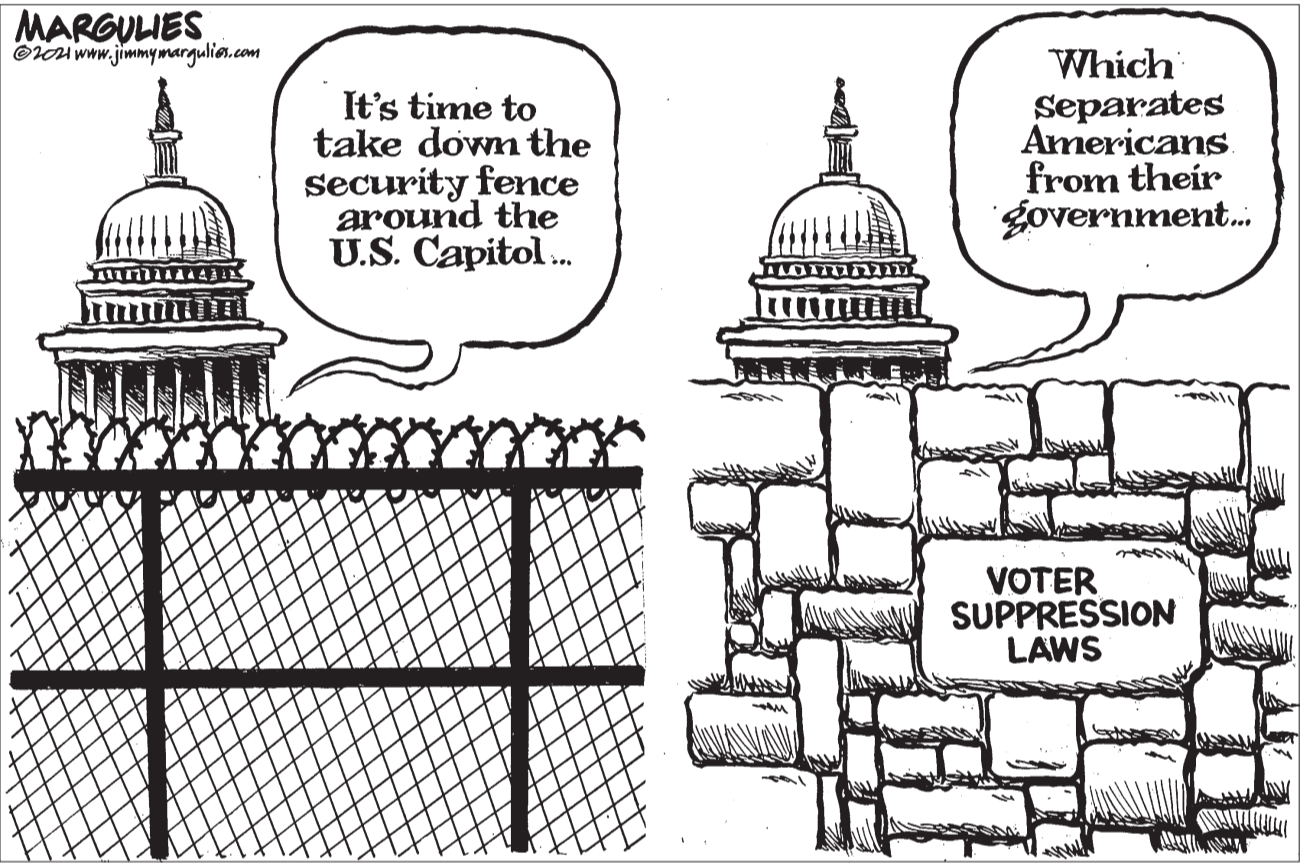
Fox News provocateur Sean Hannity pointed to this statement by Long as evidence that this was not a racially motivated crime.

I don't know what thoughts were swimming around in the killer's head and don't much care.

The racial issue is: What put these women of color in a place where they were so vulnerable to violence?

And the answer to that is that it is not just bad men who traffic people across borders, but those who support their exploitation here.

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](mailto:Scottreeder1965@gmail.com).



## On This Day in History

### 100 Years Ago April 1, 1921

Rev. A.C. Petrie of Clintonville, Wis., has accepted a call from the Amboy Congregational Church to become its pastor. His work here will begin the first Sunday in May.

Harry Doty and Charles Brady who are attending the Dental School of the University of Illinois located at Chicago, spent Easter at their respective homes here.

Mrs. Sadie Biggart and Misses Sue Hanson and Helen Waters motored to Dixon Wednesday afternoon.

### 75 Years Ago April 4, 1946

Announcement is made this week of the sale of the Matie L. Hammond ladies' ready to wear shop to Mr. and Mrs. John C. Elliott. The new owners will operate their business under the name "Rose Mary Shop."

play will be presented by the senior class of Amboy Township High School Friday evening. Members of the cast are: Lois Ann Long, Helen Kirk, Jane Tomlinson, Ken Critser, Sylvan Leffelman, Maxine Eckburg, Pat Antoine, Dick Dominetta, Shirley Pfingsten, Donna Shaw and Don Emery.

### 50 Years Ago April 1, 1971

About 100 attended the "Meet The Amboy Township Candidates Night" Saturday evening in the auditorium of Amboy High School. Wm. Kant opened the meeting and introduced Seth Foster of Lost Nation who served as moderator.

Amboy Junior High School sent 117 contestants to the State Fine Arts Contest of the Illinois Elementary School Association held in Ashton Saturday, March 27. All IESA member schools in northern Illinois competed.

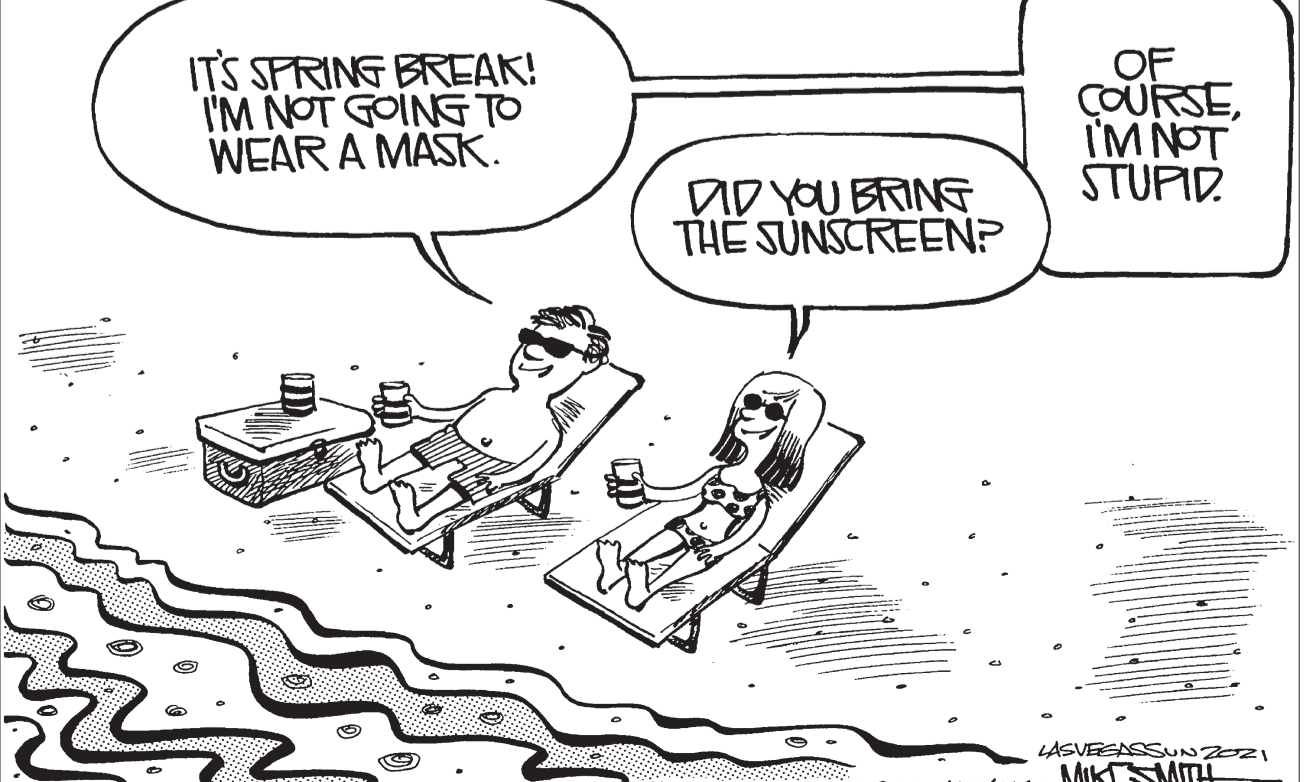
The appointment of Donald J. Keho to be postmaster at Amboy was announced March 26 by K. O. William Sandberg,

director of the Chicago Postal Service Region. Prior to his appointment, Keho had served as Acting Postmaster at that office. He has three years of postal service.

### 25 Years Ago March 28, 1996

More than 250 community residents were present throughout a lengthy 4 1/2 hour school board meeting Monday night. The majority of that time was consumed by a 3 1/2 hour closed Executive session. The meeting was scheduled to reconvene Wednesday, March 27, at 7 p.m., past the Amboy News publication deadline. Many of those attending Monday's meeting were there because of deep concerns they have regarding the present administration at Amboy High School. At the meeting, nearly a dozen audience members spoke out.

The Goy Deli is opening its first day on Tuesday, April 16, 1996. We are located at 4 West Division St., directly north of Jones Berry Lumber.



Established In 1854

## The Amboy News

**Publisher**  
Kip Cheek  
[kcheek@mendotareporter.com](mailto:kcheek@mendotareporter.com)

**General Manager/Advertising**  
Tonja Greenfield  
[tgreenfield@amboynews.com](mailto:tgreenfield@amboynews.com)

**Editor**  
Bonnie Morris  
[bmorris@mendotareporter.com](mailto:bmorris@mendotareporter.com)

**Office Manager/Circulation/Commercial Printing**  
Mary Mays  
[mmays@amboynews.com](mailto: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 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](mailto:tgreenfield@amboynews.com)

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

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



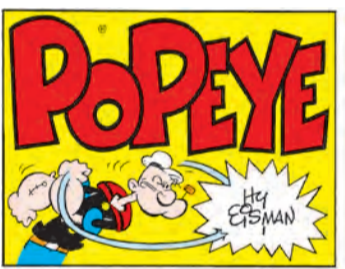
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



### SCRAMBLERS

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

Sudden  
PUBRAT

Light  
LINKED

Alone  
GLEINS

Wide  
RABOD

TODAY'S WORD

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 \$ dispenser  
4 "— Miserables"  
7 Trounce  
12 Commonest English word  
13 Matterhorn  
14 Worn unevenly  
15 2012 movie bear  
16 Savage  
18 Mid-afternoon, in a way  
19 Long-legged shorebird  
20 Pull an all-nighter  
22 Freudian concept  
23 Use a keyboard  
27 Moreover  
29 Rodeo outcries  
31 Strong adhesive  
34 Meal for Oliver Twist  
35 Moral principles  
37 Larry's pal  
38 Runs from the fuzz  
39 Shooter ammo  
41 Sharpen  
45 Tureen accessory  
47 Inseparable  
48 Marian, in "The Music Man"

**DOWN**

1 Storage story  
2 "— Finest Hour"  
3 TV, radio, etc. classrooms  
4 Chemistry  
5 On cloud nine  
6 Parsley serving

7 Vegan's no-no  
8 Bobby of hockey  
9 Luau side dish  
10 "Born in the —"  
11 Corral  
17 Huff and puff  
21 Long skirts  
23 Pitched  
24 Second person  
25 "Ualume" writer  
26 Immigrant's study (Abbr.)  
28 Big Apple letters  
30 Past  
31 Moray or conger

32 Sch. org.  
33 Resistance measure  
36 Practice pugilism  
37 Sweet Spanish wine  
40 Proclamation  
42 Jack  
43 Go in  
44 Irritable  
45 Glaswegian girl  
46 Novelist  
48 Varnish ingredient  
49 Under the weather  
50 Life story, for short  
51 Tatter

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1			9				5	
		6	5			7			
4				2				3	
		1	6					9	
2	7			8			1		
8				2				7	
		3	5					6	
	4			1	8				
7		4							2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆  
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## Trivia test

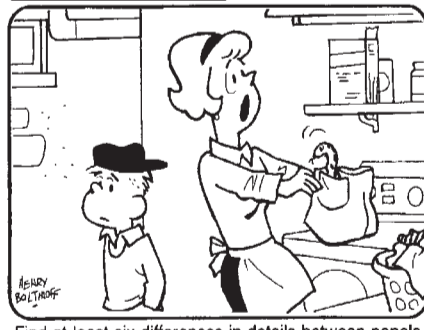
by Fifi Rodriguez

- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to be born a U.S. citizen?
- GEOGRAPHY: Where is the elite shopping district called Rodeo Drive located?
- MOVIES: Which 1990s movie featured the line, "Keep the change, ya filthy animal!"?
- HISTORY: In which country did the Mau Mau Uprising take place?
- TELEVISION: What kind of creature was the animated character Foghorn Leghorn?
- SCIENCE: What is a tornado at sea called?
- LITERATURE: Which poet wrote, "April is the cruelest month"?
- ARCHITECTURE: Who designed Central Park in New York City?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the traditional birthstone for April?
- U.S. STATES: In which U.S. state was the first atomic bomb tested?

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Apron is missing 2. Boy's cap is turned for-ward 3. Shorts are longer 4. Items are missing from shelf 5. There are more wall bricks 6. Pipe is lower on wall.

- Trivia Test Answers
1. Martin Van Buren
  2. Beverly Hills, California
  3. "Home Alone"
  4. Kenya
  5. A rooster
  6. A waterspout
  7. T.S. Eliot
  8. Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux
  9. Diamond
  10. New Mexico

Solution time: 27 mins.

Answers

A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	
A	T	M	L	E	S	M	O	P	

## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: J equals R

UYGS EJPFRQCRSD URKY T  
UGFF-EGH UGI-EPPKGH IRJH,  
R BVNPNBG MPV'JG NFTMRSD  
URKY T EVFF HVQC.

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## BROKEN

Today's Word

3. Single; 4. Broad;  
1. Abrupt; 2. Kindly;  
solution

## CryptoQuip

When frolicking with a well-fed web-footed bird, I suppose you're playing with a full duck.

3	1	2	7	6	9	4	8	5
6	8	6	5	4	3	7	2	1
4	5	7	1	2	8	6	3	9
5	3	1	6	7	4	2	9	8
2	7	9	3	8	5	1	4	6
8	6	4	9	1	2	3	5	7
1	2	3	8	5	7	9	6	4
6	4	5	2	9	1	8	7	3
7	9	4	3	6	9	5	1	2

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

# LOCAL NEWS

## RECAP continued from page A1

\*\*\*

**HEALTH CARE REFORM:** A massive health care reform bill, the fourth and final pillar of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus agenda, passed the state Senate Thursday, March 25, the final step before heading to Gov. JB Pritzker for a signature.

House Bill 158 aims to address access to health care, hospital closures, managed care organization reform, community health worker certification and reimbursement, maternal and infant mortality, mental and substance abuse treatment, and medical implicit bias.

HB 158 passed with a 41-16 vote after revisions to the original version, which failed to pass in January's lame duck session.

The new version of HB 158 eliminated provisions that would have replaced the state's Medicaid managed care program with a standard fee-for-service payment system.

A last-minute amendment, which enhanced dementia training requirements for the Illinois Department on Aging, was also added before HB 158 went for a full vote in the House last week. It passed the House with a 72-41 vote.

Most of the items included in the bill are subject to state appropriation, meaning future General Assemblies will have to decide whether to allocate the money to fund them.

House and Senate Republicans shared concerns about the total cost of implementing this legislation. In the Senate floor debate, Republican Sen. Steve McClure of Springfield said he doesn't believe the state can afford to implement all the provisions in the bill.

Another significant provision in HB 158 would put a halt on hospital closures for up to 60 days after the effective date of the act, which is an effort to prevent hospital closures in the immediate aftermath of the pandemic. Closures are also deferred until either the state or U.S. are no longer under disaster declaration or

public health emergency.

**VETERANS HOMES REPORT:** A joint report from two state agencies and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found Illinois' four state-run veterans homes lack standardized infection prevention policies despite previous audits suggesting they be implemented.

The report from the Interagency Infection Prevention Project, or IIPP, calls for the facilities to create a new infection control position and increase staffing and training.

The goal of the IIPP is to "support an integrated and comprehensive response to COVID-19" at the state's veterans homes, according to the joint report of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and USDVA.

The report references the May 2019 audit issued after the outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at the Quincy Veterans Home that made similar findings about the lack of uniform policies across facilities and the need to create them.

But, when the pandemic hit Illinois in March 2020, those policies had not been enacted.

"Following the audit in 2019, the Senior Home Administrator retired. The task of creating an integrated Infection Control Program was deferred while that position remained open. Some of the Veterans' Homes have updated their infection prevention policies, independently of one another, since then," according to the joint report.

"Standardized policies and procedures, as recommended in the 2019 audit, are needed as one part of an infection prevention program," the report continued.

The IIPP report makes six broad recommendations for improving the response to COVID-19 and other potential viral outbreaks at the four veterans' homes.

First, the report recommends the facilities "develop and implement system-wide policies, procedures,

and practices for infection prevention," and "create a position for a Senior Infection Preventionist and establish a new, system-wide Infection Prevention Committee."

The second recommendation is for facilities to "expand system capacity for infection prevention."

**UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE:** First-time unemployment claims fell sharply last week as both the state and national economies have begun gradually reopening from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security said Thursday that 15,595 Illinois workers filed initial claims for regular unemployment benefits during the week that ended March 20. And while that number would normally be considered high, it was down 78 percent from the week before. It was down 88 percent from the same week a year ago, at the start of the pandemic, when more than 126,000 people filed first-time claims.

That decline was in line with a national trend. The U.S. Department of Labor reported that the total number of initial claims nationally fell by more than 42,000, to 241,745.

IDES also announced Thursday that the state's preliminary unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a point in February to a seasonally adjusted 7.4 percent as the economy added 21,100 nonfarm jobs. Those numbers reflect activity for the week of Feb. 12.

That rate was 1.2 percentage points higher than the national rate and it was 3.8 percentage points higher than February 2020, just before the pandemic forced a shutdown of major parts of the economy.

The biggest job gains in February were in the leisure and hospitality industry, which added 32,300 jobs. That sector was among the hardest hit during the pandemic because of restrictions placed on bars and restaurants, hotels, airlines and the cancellation of many conventions.

Compared to a year earlier, the sector was still down by more than 185,000 jobs.

\*\*\*

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Gov. JB Pritzker received a COVID-19 vaccine and briefly took questions from reporters at the Illinois State Fairgrounds on Wednesday as the state's seven-day rolling average COVID-19 positivity rate ticked up to its highest point since Feb. 11.

The 2.8 percent case positivity rate represented an increase of 0.3 percent from the day prior and 0.7 percent from its low of 11 days earlier — a 25 percent increase in that span. There were 1,261 hospital beds in use for COVID-19 as of Tuesday night, roughly level from the day prior but a 14 percent increase since March 12. There were 269 intensive care unit beds in use by COVID-19 patients and 130 ventilators, both near their highs of the month.

The 2,793 new confirmed or probable cases of COVID-19 diagnosed over the previous 24 hours marked the highest one-day total since Feb. 11. That made for a 3.5 percent one-day positivity rate as 79,381 test results were reported.

Pritzker received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, a one-dose shot that is being more widely distributed across the state, he said.

As of Wednesday, March 24, more than 5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine had been administered in Illinois, while 66 percent of seniors and 32 percent of Illinoisans 16 years of age and older had received at least one dose. The seven-day rolling average for vaccine doses administered was 97,680 as of Wednesday.

The state is scheduled to expand vaccine eligibility to all residents age 16 and over on April 12. Appointment information can be found at [coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov) or by calling 833-621-1284.

\*\*\*  
**BRIDGE PHASE:** Last week,

Gov. JB Pritzker announced a "bridge" phase between the current COVID-19 capacity limits and Phase 5, in which all capacity limits are lifted. The bridge phase can begin when 70 percent of seniors are vaccinated, provided COVID-19 transmission and death trends do not reverse.

Per the bridge phase, the largest capacity increase is to social events, which can allow 250 people indoors and 500 outdoors. Previously, those were capped at 50 people. Ticketed recreation events are allowed to hold 60 percent of the facility's capacity.

Restaurants and bars can increase capacity from 25 percent to 30 percent, and outdoor capacity is allowed up to 50 percent for standing areas. In seating areas, parties of up to 10 are allowed and different parties must be seated six feet apart.

Most other capacities at businesses would increase to 60 percent.

Per a news release from the governor's office, to advance into the bridge phase, the entire state must maintain a 20 percent ICU bed availability rate and "hold steady on COVID-19 and COVID-like illness hospital admissions, mortality rate, and case rate over a 28-day monitoring period."

On Wednesday morning the website showed hospitalizations were trending upward, but it did not appear that the state was meeting the 150 new daily admissions threshold that would warrant a reversal of entering the bridge phase. A spokesperson for the Illinois Department of Public Health told Capitol News Illinois they were checking on the public reporting of new hospital admissions as of Wednesday afternoon.

While the governor's office said in a news release that announced the bridge phase that "all regions of the state will move through the bridge phase and ultimately to Phase 5, together," the governor said Wednesday regions may revert back to previous phases individually if they see a surge.

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# MARCH IS SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

## THE SEASON IS HERE. BE PREPARED.

As a record number of tornado outbreaks in December clearly demonstrated, severe weather can happen at any time of the year. To help people better prepare for weather emergencies, IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting Severe Weather Preparedness Month throughout the month of March.

The National Weather Service and state and local emergency management officials strongly encourage people to have a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) All Hazards Weather Radio with battery backup. These radios can be programmed to receive alerts for specified counties to keep you and your family apprised of impending weather and post-event information for all types of hazards including natural (earthquakes), environmental (chemical spills) and public safety hazards (AMBER alerts). When an alert is issued for the programmed area, the device will sound a warning alarm tone followed by the essential information.

In this day and age of families constantly on the go, it is also critical for people to have multiple ways to receive notifications and updated information about severe weather warnings. FEMA offers a FREE mobile app that provides fast and reliable weather alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS). The app can be tailored to offer alerts for up to five different locations nationwide. The mobile app can also help you locate open shelters and disaster resource centers near you in the event of an emergency.

For more information about what to do before, during and after a storm, please visit [www.Ready.Illinois.gov](http://www.Ready.Illinois.gov). There you will find a Severe Weather Preparedness Guide, developed by IEMA and NWS, which provides tips on how to prepare for all weather emergencies. Additional tips and information are available on the Ready Illinois Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois](https://www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois)) and Twitter page ([www.twitter.com/ReadyIllinois](https://www.twitter.com/ReadyIllinois)).

### Tornado Watches and Warnings

Two key alerts relate specifically to tornado conditions.

**Tornado Watch** - Conditions are conducive to the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area.

**Tornado Warning** - A tornado has actually been sighted by spotters or indicated on radar and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

In addition, severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes, or cause damage of their own from wind gusts of 58 mph or greater and/or hail 3/4-inch in diameter or larger.

**Severe Thunderstorm Watch** - Conditions are conducive to the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area.

**Severe Thunderstorm Warning** - A severe thunderstorm has actually been observed by spotters or indicated on radar, and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

While tornadoes can still occur without a watch or warning being in effect, advances in the science and technology have greatly increased the ability of meteorologists to provide advance notice of them.

It is difficult to generalize the clues that portend tornadoes, and even potentially dangerous, because people looking for given conditions may be led to a false sense of security when these conditions are not present.

### When a Tornado Threatens

You can improve the odds of your home surviving high winds by taking these precautions, but you won't make it tornado-proof. Nor do these measures guarantee your safety. Take these additional steps to protect yourself and your family as fully as possible:

- Decide in advance where you will take shelter (a local community shelter, perhaps, or your own underground storm cellar or in-residence "safe" room). When a tornado approaches, go there immediately. If your home has no storm cellar or in-residence "safe" room and you have no time to get to a community shelter, head to the centermost part of your basement or home —away from windows and preferably under something sturdy like a workbench or staircase. The more walls between you and the outside, the better.
- Become familiar with your community's severe weather warning system and make certain every adult and teenager in your family knows what to do when a tornado "watch" or "warning" sounds. Learn about your workplace's disaster safety plans and similar measures at your children's schools or day care centers.
- Study your community's disaster preparedness plans and create a family plan in case you are able to move to a community shelter. Identify escape routes from your home and neighborhood and designate an emergency meeting place for your family to reunite if you become separated. Also establish a contact point to communicate with concerned relatives.
- Put together an emergency kit that includes a three-day supply of drinking water and food you don't have to refrigerate or cook; first aid supplies; a portable NOAA weather radio; a wrench and other basic tools; a flashlight; work gloves; emergency cooking equipment; portable lanterns; fresh batteries for each piece of equipment; clothing; blankets; baby items; prescription medications; extra car and house keys; extra eyeglasses; credit cards and cash; important documents, including insurance policies.
- Move anything in your yard that can become flying debris inside your house or garage before a storm strikes. Do this only if authorities have announced a tornado "watch," however. If authorities have announced a tornado "warning," leave it all alone.
- Don't open your windows. You won't save the house, as once thought, and you may actually make things worse by giving wind and rain a chance to get inside.
- Don't try to ride out a tornado in a manufactured home. Even manufactured homes with tie-downs overturn in these storms because they have light frames and offer winds a large surface area to push against. In addition, their exteriors are vulnerable to high winds and wind-borne debris.

Finally, review your homeowner's insurance policy periodically with your insurance agent or company representative to make sure you have sufficient coverage to rebuild your life and home after a tornado. Report any property damage to your insurance agent or company representative immediately after a natural disaster & make temporary repairs to prevent further damage.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Clipper Highlights: #44 Tim Oester

It's been such a privilege to highlight all of these former Clippers and this week's Highlight is no exception. One of the fastest, most athletic, toughest, and hardest working to go through our program. This week's Clipper also is our first from any 1970's team (prior to '79). I am honored to announce this week's Clipper, #44, Tim Oester.

Tim was a 1973 graduate of Amboy High School, two year Varsity starter at Running Back and Defensive Back, and one of the best Track and Field athletes to go through Amboy.

Tim's Junior season, was a successful Clipper campaign that resulted just short of a conference championship. Most of us have heard the infamous story of the Amboy-Oregon brawl that occurred at the conclusion of the contest. That game was during Tim's Junior season.

Tim shared his account of that game and the week following, "It was a hell of a game, probably the best game we all played that year. We lost by one point. I've never seen a crowd that big and they both cleared the stands and were on the field fighting. The following week we played at Mt. Morris and we were escorted onto the field by Ogle County deputies."

Tim and the Clippers went 8-1 that season. However, no playoff system existed at the time. A non-existent playoff system didn't stop the Clippers from possessing a championship drive as Tim shared, "We didn't have playoffs so our goal going into every season was to win the conference and go undefeated."

Tim's Senior season the Clippers would enter the SHARK conference facing much bigger opponents such as Hononegah, North Boone, Marengo, South Beloit, and several others. The long distance made for tiresome bus rides but also more challenging competition. Amboy was among the smallest schools within the SHARK conference with many other, similar sized, schools being Catholic or parochial schools which had the benefit of recruiting players. Tim's Senior season the Clippers posted a 4-3-1 record and every contest was close.

Outsized, outnumbered, and fatigued, didn't matter as Tim emphasized, "It was simply about pride. We definitely showed that in the hard defense we played."

The Clipper attitude of size, speed, and strength being non-factors in the outcome of a football game

### Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



was shown in each game that season. Especially against conference foe Marengo as they had two Running Backs at 225 pounds. Putting things into perspective, that would be similar to two Zeke Elliotts running at you all game long. At 5'9" and 140 pounds, with full pads on, Tim looked adversity in the face, smiled, delivered a hard pop, and got up to do it all over again. As those two Marengo Running Backs or any star player from each opponent went to the sideline to relieve one another or catch a break, Tim never saw the pine of the bench for 48 whole minutes. Offensively requiring several opponents to bring him down, defensively being double teamed, and special teams returning kicks or being the first to hit the returner was what Tim endured every game that season. Tim earned All Conference honors his Senior season at Running Back which speaks volumes, not only for Tim's speed, athleticism, the size of our school, and great talent within the conference, but for Tim's huge heart and pride for his team and community.

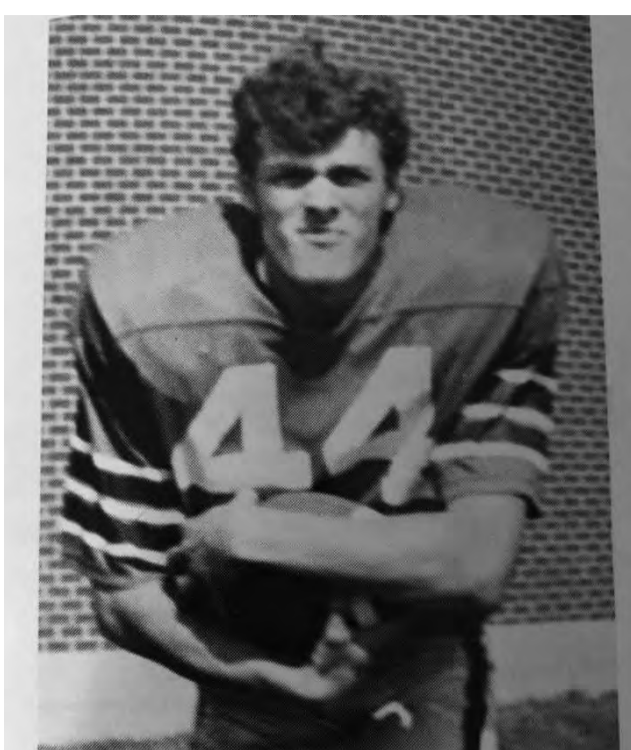
Tim shared, "We were a team full of farmers. Getting to play football was a break for all of us. We loved it."

Tim's former teammate, Tom Nauman shared, "I was called up that season as a Sophomore Offensive Lineman and Linebacker and Tim was all athlete. He wasn't the biggest guy but he never gave up no matter what. He would hit hard and was quick as lightning. Tim was a great teammate, always pumped us up, and was all about the game and the team."

Amboy's Head Football Coach at the time of Tim's two Varsity seasons was Don Fritz. Tim shared many stories and kind words for Coach Fritz.

"I'll always call him Mr. Fritz. I have the utmost respect for him," Tim shared.

I had the privilege of speaking with Coach Fritz prior to writing this article and he shared the following



#44 Tim Oester

of Tim, "A hell of a player. Tim was a great Running Back. He was only around 140 pounds but he could run up the middle or to the outside and had to be keyed on by each opponent all game long. He would be battered and bruised after each game so I would try to give him some time off to rest and he never took it. Tim never balked from competition. His Junior season it was him and Louie Bontz in the backfield and they were two of the best up to that time. Tim was always someone who was a pleasure to be around and know."

Tim ended his Senior year setting an Amboy High School record of 14.7 seconds in the high hurdles. A record that I believe still stands to this day. Tim earned a trip to the State finals and placed 12th. However, before the separation of classes, this competition was with all of the State's athletes, most from much bigger schools.

Former Clipper great Rick Considine shared, "I never got to see Tim play but I know he was a hell of an athlete. I've always heard he was, pound for pound, one of the toughest of our program. Tim's work ethic is unmatched and I've never once heard him complain. He is family and to this day one of my best friends."

Friend and former Clipper Kelly Considine shared, "I just remember being at the Depot Tap one night talking to Coach Don Fritz and I said, 'Don you coached a lot of good football players, who was the best you ever coached?' He thought for a minute and said, 'that's a tough one as there were so many good players, but I will tell you the toughest pound for pound was Tim

Oester. He was not very big but he was one tough SOB and would run through a wall for you. Tough as nails. There were so many tough, hard nose players back then. Farm boys who were working the fields, doing their chores, and playing football. The Oester Boys, Bontz's, Nauman's, and McCoy's to name a few. I believe those guys laid the foundation for Clipper Football and passed it along."

For Tim, the meaning of Amboy Football is simple: Pride. Not just pride in his team or community, but pride in hard work, pride in self-sacrifice for team success, and pride in knowing he gave it all he had every snap, because one play off was just not in his character. Tim closed by saying, "I had a big family of 12. So you meet a lot of guys in the team who are the same as you, who have to miss practice at times to bail hay or work on the farm. I always respected my parents and learned from my

Dad that I could be successful on the farm and in sports. We learned to appreciate it all and one another. Today I still seldom miss games. It's something where you always go because it's the Amboy Clippers."

in your Clipper career and life you lead today. 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.

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

### Football

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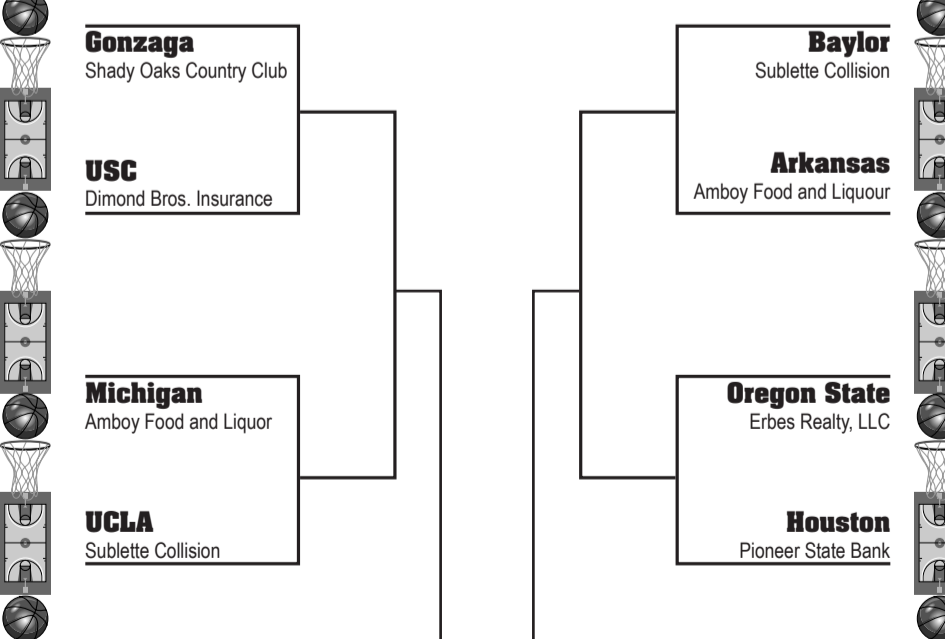


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## Who's Left in the Amboy New's NCAA Contest?



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### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE

The Lee County Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 7:00PM at the Old Lee County Courthouse has been cancelled.

Agenda items for the April 1, 2021 meeting will be moved to the agenda for the May 6, 2021 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Bruce Forster Chairman, Lee County Zoning Board of Appeals

No. 0316 (Mar. 31)

#### 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.

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.

March 31, April 7, 14, 2021

No. 0317

#### PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

Amboy Community Unit School District #272 will accept sealed bids, in envelopes marked "Mowing Bid", by mail

or in person, for a one-year bid to begin in April 2021 and end November 2021.

Bid documents may be obtained from Joshua Nichols, Superintendent, at the District Office, 11 E. Hawley Street, Amboy, IL 61310, telephone (815) 857-2164 or online at Amboy.net. Due to COVID-19 restrictions please call the district office and set up an appointment prior to coming into the building to pick up the bid documents.

Bids will be received at the District Office until 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

Bidders must be in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Fair Employment Practices Commission. Amboy Community Unit Schools #272 reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the facility.

Katie Pratt, Board Secretary Joshua Nichols, Superintendent March 31, 2021 No. 0315

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

9619. Please leave a message - will return call ASAP. (TFN)

### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

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<p><b>Simply Smoothie</b></p> <p>32 oz.</p>  <p><b>\$2.99</b> /ea.          Reg. Price \$3.79 ea.</p>	<p><b>Extra Large Green Peppers</b></p>  <p><b>\$1.29</b> /ea.</p>	<p><b>Bartlett Pears</b></p>  <p><b>\$1.49</b> lb.</p>	<p><b>Red Grapefruit</b></p>  <p><b>2/\$3</b></p>

## HOT BUYS

<p><b>AMBOY DELI</b></p> <p><b>Steak N Bacon Melt Sub</b></p>  <p><b>\$5.99</b> Reg.  <b>\$9.99</b> Lrg.</p> <p><b>NEW!</b></p>	<p><b>Lays Party Size Chips Assorted</b></p>  <p><b>\$3.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$4.79-\$5.29 ea.</p>	<p><b>Pepsi Products</b></p> <p>12 Pack Cans Assorted</p>  <p><b>\$3.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.</p>
<p><b>AMBOY DELI</b></p> <p><b>Fresh Ground Beef</b></p>  <p><b>\$3.99</b> lb.          Reg. Price \$4.39 lb.</p>	<p><b>AMBOY DELI</b></p> <p><b>Bone-In Ham</b></p>  <p><b>\$2.99</b> lb.          Reg. Price \$3.99 lb.</p>	<p><b>AMBOY DELI</b></p> <p><b>Bone-In Split Chicken Breast</b></p>  <p><b>\$1.49</b> lb.          Reg. Price \$2.99 lb.</p>

## WEEKLY SPECIALS

<p><b>Land O'Lakes Butter</b></p> <p>16 oz Assorted</p>  <p><b>\$3.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$4.89 ea.</p>	<p><b>Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Shaved Lunch Meat</b></p> <p>Assorted 7-9 oz</p>  <p><b>\$3.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$5.19 ea.</p>	<p><b>Rossina Meatballs</b></p> <p>Assorted 20-26 oz</p>  <p><b>\$4.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$6.99 ea.</p>	
<p><b>Food Club Granulated Sugar</b></p> <p>4 lb bag</p>  <p><b>\$2.49</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$2.99 ea.</p>	<p><b>Food Club Potato Chips</b></p> <p>Assorted 8 oz</p>  <p><b>\$1.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$2.29 ea.</p>	<p><b>Nestle Coffeemate Coffee Creamer Liquid</b></p> <p>32 oz</p>  <p><b>\$3.79</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$4.29 ea.</p>	<p><b>Dean's Dip</b></p> <p>Assorted 16 oz.</p>  <p><b>\$1.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$2.39 ea.</p>
<p><b>Ore-Ida Potatoes</b></p> <p>Assorted 16-32 oz</p>  <p><b>\$2.99</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$3.39 ea.</p>	<p><b>Cool Whip</b></p> <p>8 oz</p>  <p><b>\$1.49</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$2.19 ea.</p>	<p><b>Gatorade</b></p> <p>32 oz Assorted</p>  <p><b>2/\$2</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$1.69 ea.</p>	<p><b>That's Smart Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b></p> <p>Original 6.25 oz.</p>  <p><b>2/\$1</b> ea.          Reg. Price \$.79 ea.</p>

Sale goes through April 6, 2021