

# The Amboy News

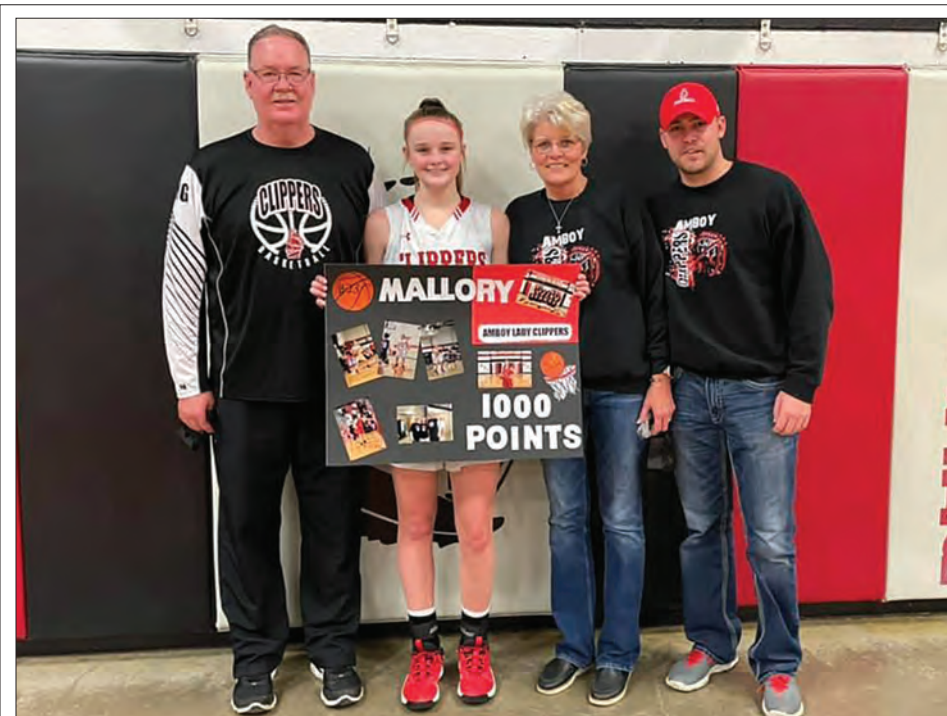
The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

Volume 166 - Number 09

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\$1.00



Amboy High School senior Mallory Powers scored her 1,000th point while playing against Eastland on Feb. 23. She is picture with her family.

Photo courtesy of Kirsten Donna

## AHS Senior Powers scores 1,000th point on Feb. 23

**AMBOY** — Amboy High School senior Mallory Powers joined an exclusive club among girls' basketball players at AHS when she scored her 1,000<sup>th</sup> point in the second quarter of the Lady Clippers' game at L-nark Eastland on Feb. 23. Powers received a standing ovation when it was announced.

After the game, the Amboy coaches presented her with a basketball marked

"Mallory Powers—1000+." Then on Feb. 27, Powers' teammates presented her a poster in honor of her 1,000-point accomplishment.

Powers is the fourth player in Lady Clipper history to eclipse the 1,000-point milestone. The others are Delaney Wilhelm (1,376), Abi Payne (1,214) and Paige Lovgren Nauman (1,039). After Saturday's game, Powers is at 1,031 points.

## Lee County COVID-19 Update: March 1, 2021

**LEE COUNTY** — Between Feb. 23-March 1, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 34 new cases have been reported. Here are the ages that were announced: 3 under the age of 12, 4 in his or her teens, 2 in his or her 20s, 6 in his or her 30s, 3 in his or her 40s, 7 in his or her 50s, 6 in his or her 60s, 2 in his or her 70s, and 1 in his or her 80s.

This brings the total number of cases to 3,083 as of March 1. Of the 3,083 cases, 2,574 have recovered. They also reported as

of March 1, 5 residents have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died.

### Vaccine

As of Feb. 26, according to IDPH 6,910 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 2,143 people in Lee County have received both doses of the vaccine.

See **HEALTH** page A2

## HUD awards \$134 million to improve, preserve public housing in Illinois; Lee County receives \$457,168

**LEE COUNTY** - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today awarded more than \$2.7 billion in funding to nearly 2,900 public housing authorities (PHAs) in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to

make capital investments in their public housing units. This includes \$134 million to 93 PHAs throughout the state of Illinois.

Lee County received \$457,168.

The grants announced today are provided through HUD's Capital Fund Program, which offers an-

nual funding to all public housing authorities to build, renovate, and/or modernize the public housing in their communities. Housing authorities can use the funding to complete large-scale improvements such as replacing roofs or making energy-efficient upgrades to heating system

and installing water conservation measures.

For more than 80 years, the federal government has been investing billions of dollars in developing and maintaining public housing, including providing critical support through the Capital Fund grants.

## Vaccine doses administered top 2 million amid pandemic progress

BY JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois  
jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com

**SPRINGFIELD** — The number of COVID-19 vaccines administered in Illinois topped 2 million on Feb. 19 as the state's case positivity rate continues to hover near pandemic lows and hospitalizations decline. The rolling seven-day average case positivity rate was 2.8 percent Friday as the state reported 2,219 new confirmed or probable cases of the disease among 85,963 test results reported over the previous 24 hours.

The 83,673 vaccine doses administered over the previous 24 hours, a one-day record, propelled the state past 2 million vaccinations since the effort began. More than 78 percent of the 2.6 million doses delivered to the state have been issued. That brought the rolling seven-day average of doses administered to 59,460.

More than 500,000 Illinoisans, or 4 percent of the population, are now fully vaccinated, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health. Approximately 12 percent of the state's population has received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to a database compiled by the New York Times. Illinois was in 22nd of all states for percentage of population having received one vaccine dose as of Friday, per that database.

Of the vaccine doses administered, nearly 67 percent have been to white people, according to demographic data released by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Approximately 7.72 percent of doses have gone to Hispanic and Latino Illinoisans, 7.55 percent to Black Illinoisans, 5 percent to people of Asian descent, 2.59 percent "other," 9.8 percent unknown, and less than 0.5 percent American Indian or Alaska native and native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

As well, 40.3 percent of recipients are 65 years of age or older, and nearly 60 percent are between 16 and 64 years old.

Females have received 62 percent of the doses administered with males at about 37 percent and less than 1 percent unknown or other.

Meanwhile, the number of people hospitalized for COVID-19 fell below 1,600 as of Thursday night for the first time since October. That number has decreased nearly every day this month. That also marks a full 50 percent decrease in one month's time and a near-75 percent decrease from the second-wave peak of Nov. 22.

COVID-19 patients occupied 366 intensive care unit beds at the end of Thursday, also a low since early October. There were 190 ventilators in use by COVID-19 patients at the end of Thursday, a number that has also steadily declined from second-wave highs.

## Governor signs criminal justice overhaul backed by Black Caucus

BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

**SPRINGFIELD** — Gov. JB Pritzker signed a criminal justice omnibus bill backed by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus Monday, Feb. 22, abolishing cash bail, overhauling police certification and reforming use-of-force standards among numerous other provisions.

Pritzker signed the legislation, House Bill 3653, during an event at Chicago State University alongside members of his administration and lawmakers from the Black Caucus.

"This legislation marks a substantial step toward dismantling the systemic racism that plagues our communities, our state and our nation, and brings us closer to true safety, true fairness and true justice," Pritzker said.

While the legislation received

grassroots support from activists, buoyed by the growing national concern over policing following the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor last year, the bill faced strong opposition from Republican lawmakers and law enforcement groups.

House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, called the signing "an insult to our first responders."

"We live in a civilized state where our elected officials' greatest responsibility is the health and safety of Illinois citizens... At a crucial time when we should coalesce around the good men and women of law enforcement, Gov. Pritzker has turned his back on them with his signature on House Bill 3653," Durkin said in a statement released Monday.

Opponents of the legislation have

said it will result in a less safe Illinois and have criticized the process behind its development as lacking in transparency without proper input from Republican lawmakers and the public at large.

Proponents say HB 3653 will make Illinois safer by making the justice system more equitable for Black, Latino, low-income and minority communities that have been disproportionately harmed by disparate policies in sentencing, incarceration and policing.

Members of the Black Caucus have countered claims against the bill's transparency by pointing to nine subject matter hearings held by the caucus in state Senate committees between September and November. For nearly 30 hours, lawmakers from both parties, law enforcement, judges,

state's attorneys, legal experts, representatives of the court, the governor's office and the attorney general's office hashed out many of the issues that became provisions in the bill.

The office of the governor and Attorney General Kwame Raoul held working meetings over several months starting in July with many of the same groups.

The bill was introduced early in a five-day lame duck session last month, and the final version of the bill was introduced after midnight on the final day of the lame-duck session, when it received just enough votes to pass both chambers with less-than-an-hour of floor-debate.

See **RECAP** page A2

Edy and Denny Pfeiffer, pictured above, will be selling the beef that are raised by themselves, as well as pork raised by Denny's cousin Mike and chickens raised by Edy, at their new business Pfeiffer Farms Fresh Market.

Photo courtesy of the Ashton Gazette

## Pfeiffer Farms Fresh Market to open

**LEE COUNTY** — Another new business will soon be opening in the area, Pfeiffer Farms Fresh Market will be located at the southeast corner of Brooklyn and Reynolds roads in rural Ashton.

Denny and Edy Pfeiffer will be selling the beef that are raised by themselves, as well as pork raised by Denny's cousin Mike and chickens raised by Edy. Their hope is to have quality meats available to customers as well as fresh eggs and seasonal produce, raised by local farmers. When customers pick up their orders, they will have the opportunity to drive into the locker area, out of the elements to load their purchase.

In the front of the building, there will be coolers filled with ready to go choices, fresh produce and more. Plus the chance to sit down and visit, have a cup of coffee and visit with your neighbor.

They will be taking orders

for quarter, half or whole beef and similar orders for pork. The turn around time will be approximately one month. When customers come to pick up their order, chances are they will see the next cattle to go to market in a pen just outside the market door.

The market will be open year round and will feature beef bundles, ready to go when you are ready for a great meal. A local cheese producer will also have products available.

The goal of the Pfeiffers is to build the local economy and provide quality products at a great price.

In building the market, the Pfeiffers have used the services of many local businesses, Ross Construction, Richter Plumbing and AIP painters, just to name a few.

The market, while still a work in progress, hopes to be open sometime in March. By purchasing meat directly from the farmer, you elim-

inate the middleman and the costs incurred by them. You also know what you are getting. The cattle are raised on grass, corn silage and hay, just like they should be with no growth hormones.

The Pfeiffers admit they can't do it alone. They have two good hired men and some grandchildren who will be helping. They plan to be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Follow them on Facebook and watch for more information to come.



### SPLIT WITH EASTLAND

The Lady Clippers split their games with Eastland

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### CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features

#35 Dan Morrissey

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### Obituaries

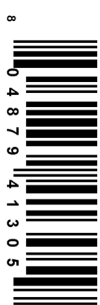
Corinne Powers  
Clarence Morrissey, Jr.

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### Inserts

Snyders





# LOCAL NEWS

## RECAP continued from page A1

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HEMP PRODUCTION: Industrial hemp production declined slightly in 2020, the second year of legalized production in Illinois.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture said Wednesday, Feb. 24, that 2,392 acres of industrial hemp, or 87 percent of the acres planted, were harvested during the year. That was down from just over 2,800 acres in 2019.

That translated into just under 1.3 million pounds of hemp flower, 48,000 pounds of hemp fiber, 39,000 pounds of seed and 8,500 pounds of hemp grain.

"The hemp industry, just like many others was hit by the pandemic," David Lakeman, manager of IDOA's Division of Cannabis, said in a statement.

Hemp is a variety of cannabis that contains only a small fraction of the psychoactive substance THC found in marijuana. It was a major crop in the U.S. until 1937 when Congress passed the Marijuana Tax Act, which imposed a heavy tax on anyone who dealt commercially in hemp or marijuana.

The fiber can be used in textiles, food and a wide range of other industrial purposes. But in recent years it has become more popular as a source of cannabidiol oil, or CBD, which can be used to treat a variety of medical conditions.

Although it is now legal, production of the crop is still highly regulated. Growers and processors must be licensed by IDOA. The agency also inspects crops to make sure they do not exceed the 0.3 percent THC limit. Hemp testing above that amount is eligible for a retest, but hemp that tests above 0.7 percent THC must be destroyed.

\*\*\*  
BAILEY TO RUN FOR GOVERNOR: Illinois Sen. Darren Bailey, who gained notoriety for challenging Gov. JB Pritzker's COVID-19 executive orders last year, an-

nounced Monday, Feb. 22, that he will seek the Republican nomination for governor in 2022.

Speaking before a crowd of supporters at the Thelma Keller Convention Center in Effingham Monday night, Bailey cast himself as an outsider candidate who would stand up to who he referred to as "political elites".

Bailey, a downstate Republican from Xenia, filed a lawsuit against the Pritzker administration in May challenging the governor's executive orders issued amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Pritzker referred to the suit as "a cheap political stunt" at the time. Bailey received a favorable ruling in that case from a judge in Clay County that was later thrown out by a Sangamon County judge.

Bailey was elected as a state representative in 2018 before winning election as state senator for the 55th District in November. During the General Assembly's abbreviated session last spring, Bailey was removed from the house floor at the Bank of Springfield Center for refusing to wear a mask. In subsequent session days he obeyed the mask mandates and was not removed.

Since then, Bailey has toured the state and held rallies calling on Pritzker to lift restrictions on businesses and raising other issues.

According to his campaign website, Bailey is a third-generation farmer and a graduate of Lake Land College. Bailey and his family co-founded Full Armor Christian Academy, and Bailey served for 17 years on the North Clay Unit 25 Board of Education in Louisville before his election to the General Assembly in 2018.

Bailey also offered criticisms for the Republican Party, saying, "Republicans and Democrats have worried more about the donor class than they've worried about the working class, and friends, that ends now."

Bailey touted a campaign platform based on strict fiscal conservatism, calling for "a budget that freezes spending with no tax increases."

\*\*\*  
NEW UTILITY LOANS: Gov. JB Pritzker announced a low-interest loan program Tuesday, Feb. 23, to help alleviate the unprecedented financial burden from soaring utility costs for certain Illinois municipalities and their residents.

The extreme weather that devastated Texas' electrical grid last week has resulted in skyrocketing natural gas prices in Illinois directly linked to frozen natural gas wells in Texas and Oklahoma.

The energy pricing surges have specifically impacted central and southern Illinois communities, including Pawnee and Roodhouse, which rely on the Panhandle Pipeline for

natural gas for everyday energy use.

This particular pipeline, which originates in Texas and Oklahoma, runs through Kansas and Missouri across central Illinois to parts of Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

The average cost of natural gas in the winter months is between \$2-\$3 per dekatherm, but impacted municipalities saw utility bills up to \$225 per dekatherm from Feb. 13 to Feb. 16 when Texas was facing extreme weather conditions, according to the governor's office.

At Pritzker's request, the Illinois Finance Authority has developed a low-interest \$15 million loan program for communities impacted by record-high utility costs. The money would go directly to the municipalities, but the specifics of interest rates and terms are set to be discussed Thursday at a special meeting with the IFA board. Viele said she expects the interest rate to be low with a timeframe of a couple years for repayment.

Pritzker's Deputy Press Secretary Jose Sanchez Molina said an estimated 40 to 50 municipalities who have been affected by the pipeline will be included in the loan program.

Pritzker said that's the purpose of the loan program - to avoid an overwhelming financial burden in the hopes that further federal assistance for the communities will be on the way.

\*\*\*  
FOOD FOR CHILDREN: Gov. JB Pritzker on Tuesday, Feb. 23, announced new federal funding to expand the state's food assistance program for school-age children who would normally receive free or reduced-price meals.

Pritzker said the additional funds to the existing Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program will help feed 200,000 more children, for a total of about one million children who will receive assistance this school year compared to about 764,000 children who received P-EBT benefits the previous school year.

Unlike last school year, families will not need to apply to receive P-EBT but will automatically be enrolled if their child or children already qualify for free or reduced lunch, Pritzker said.

P-EBT benefits will be mailed out to families in a debit card starting next month, and families will receive one card per eligible child. According to the governor's office, families will receive \$6.82 for each day the child did not have access to school meals, an increase from \$5.70 for the previous school year.

Illinois Department of Human Services Secretary Grace Hou said the debit cards can be used at grocery stores that indicate they accept state and federal welfare benefits. But they cannot be used at restaurants, including fast food places.

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## HEALTH continued from page A1

Illinois is currently in Phase 1b for COVID-19 vaccine receipt. Persons qualifying to receive vaccine in this phase include:

- residents 65 years and older, as well as specific groups of workers including:
- Education Sector-Congregate Child Care, pre-K

through 12th grade school staff

- Food and Agriculture-Processing, plants, veterinary health, livestock services
- Manufacturing-Industrial production of goods for distribution to retail, wholesale or other manufacturers
- Corrections Workers & inmates
- United States Postal Workers
- Public Transit Workers-Flight crews, bus drivers, train conductors, taxi drivers, para-transit drivers, in-person support, ride sharing services
- Grocery Store Workers-Baggers, cashiers, stockers, pick-up, customer service
- Shelters/Adult Day Care-Homeless shelter, women's shelter, adult day/drop-in programs, sheltered

workshop, psycho-social rehab

If you qualify for 1b based on the above criteria, you can use this link: <http://bit.ly/39GTrMS>. Once you've signed up at this link, you are placed on our call list. You will be contacted when we have an available appointment for you. The Lee County Health Department understand that many residents are very anxious to receive their vaccine, but asks for your patience.

This will be a lengthy process as long as counties continue to receive limited allocations of vaccine each week. Good news: there will likely be additional vaccine providers in our community in the near future.

The Lee County Health

Department asks that residents refrain from calling or messaging us to see if you are on the list. If you complete the form on the link, you are. They are inundated with calls and messages, and when people double check, it slows us down even more. There will be vaccine available for anyone who wants it eventually.

The Lee County Health Department also asks if you qualify based on your profession, please check with your employer before registering, because we are currently coordinating with many employers for all their staff who want the vaccine.

The Lee County Health Department thanks the community for its continued support.

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## LOCAL NEWS

## TEEN TURF

## Upcoming Events

We are having a Drive-Thru Fish from 4 – 7 p.m., on Friday, March 26. It will be a pick up only at the Boehle Youth Center (Teen Turf building) 235 W. Main in Amboy. Dinner includes Fish, Coleslaw Bread, Potato Salad, and a cookie. Cost of dinner is \$9 in advance. Please see Eileen Piper 815-440-8195 and Board members for tickets: Deb Albee, Barb Harrison, Pam Thomas, Mark Grossman, Trese McNinch, Cindy Phillips, Shelli Bump, Janine & Scott Huffman, Kaylee Jones, and Kimberly Watley. The cost of the dinner will be \$10 on the day of event. Our students will have tickets to sell as well.

## Thank You's

We are blessed to have the following folks assist us: Janette and Lucas Welch for the pencils; Larry and Marsha Coan for the boots and monetary donation; Ken Burkardt for the snack bags; Debbie Clark for the monetary donation; Donna Wellman for the yummy treats and various treats; Steve and Carrie Doege for the cookies and chips; Anonymous donation of fruit, veggies, and , monetary donation; Donny Pollard for the clothes; Connie and Bill Bontz for the furniture for a family in need; Mark and Tammy Henkel for the snacks and wipes. As always we are grateful for all our volunteers: Shannon, Donna, Brooklyn, Maddy, Maggie, Brooke, Sydney, Robert, Val, and Jake.

## 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

Dear God, We come before you. We are laying our fear and anxiety at your feet. We ask that you help us get through all of the doubts and fears when we feel as if we are being crushed. Remind us that you are a powerful God. We need to take comfort in your encompassing hug of calmness and caring. We need to find the balance and simplicity in your Word, Amen.

## OSF Saint Paul to host blood, plasma drive

**MENDOTA** — Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center (MVRBC) will hold a blood drive from noon until 5 p.m., Friday, March 12, in Conference Room C at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota. Volunteer blood donors are invited to support the local blood supply by scheduling an appointment to give blood by calling the Community Health Services Department at 815-539-1411 (appointments required). Please bring a photo ID for use in donor registration.

Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is also accepting referrals from individuals who have recovered from a COVID-19 infection and would now like to be scheduled for plasma donation to help newly diagnosed patients fight the disease. Potential donors who can provide documentation of a laboratory-confirmed positive test for COVID-19 and meet other health and safety criteria will be scheduled for a COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma (CCP) donation. Individual donors and care providers may refer themselves or their patients via the referral form available at [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org) or by calling (833) 610-1025. For additional information, potential donors or physicians may send inquiries to [patientservices@mvrbc.org](mailto:patientservices@mvrbc.org).

CCP donors must be fully recovered from their COVID-19 infection and must meet all standard eligibility criteria for blood donation. Plasma will only be collected from donors with laboratory-confirmed tests showing they had a COVID-19 infection and must be at least 28 days from the last date they experienced symptoms. These donors will have antibodies to help fight COVID-19 and will be scheduled for a plasma donation at a nearby Donor Center or mobile blood drive.

MVRBC is based in Davenport, Iowa, with regional operations in Urbana (Community Blood Services of Illinois) and Springfield (Central Illinois Community Blood Center). The Blood Center is the exclusive provider of blood and blood components to 95 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin, including 11 of 13 OSF HealthCare facilities.

## SVCC earns Military Friendly School designation

**DIXON** — Sauk Valley Community College announced today that it has earned the 2021-2022 Military Friendly® School designation. Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. Over 1,200 schools participated in the 2021-2022 survey with 747 earning the designation.

Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by Vqictory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey response set and government/agency public data sources, within a logic based scoring assessment. We measure the institution's ability to meet thresholds for Student Retention, Graduation, Job Placement, Loan Repayment, Persistence (Degree Advancement or Transfer) and Loan Default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

"Sauk Valley Community College is grateful for the sacri-

**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.

**PAW PAW**—The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, at Paw Paw Elementary School, 511 Chapman. 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.

**POLO**—The 36th Annual Polo Farm Toy Show will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 6, at Centennial Grade School, 308

S. Pleasant Ave. Sponsored by the Polo Lions Club. For dealer table info, call Irene at 815-946-3730 and for 50/50 tickets, call Ryan Shetler at 815-499-0176.

**ROCK FALLS**—The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 2 to 6 p.m. on Monday, March 8, at the East Coloma Elementary School, 1602 Dixon Rd. 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.

**AMBOY**—The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 8, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**SUBLETTE**—The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 8, at the Ellice Dinges Center,

Email calendar items to [mmays@amboynews.com](mailto:mmays@amboynews.com)

## SVCC awards monetary credit to pathway endorsed students

**DIXON** — Sauk Valley Community College announces each student that graduates high school with a Pathway Endorsement on their transcript, and continues their education at SVCC, will receive a \$100 credit toward their education. Through this unique opportunity, SVCC aims to enable students to continue and complete their educational pathway and help expand the qualified workforce for the Sauk Valley area.

Pathway endorsements are awarded to high school students who are following a specified career path and complete the requirements as established by the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act. Components of the endorsement require students to: complete an individualized learning plan with two years of career content instruction, prove college ready in math and English, complete a minimum of two career exploration activities, complete two team-based challenges, create a resume, complete a financial literacy component, submit a reflective statement, complete six hours of postsecondary credit, complete a 60-hour work-based learning experience.

The state of Illinois currently has seven pathways for students to earn endorsements for, including: Manufacturing, Engineering, Technology, & Trades, Information Technology, Human and Public Services, Health Sciences & Technology, Finance & Business Services, Arts & Communication, Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources.

Additional scholarships are available through the Sauk Valley College Foundation. New merit and need-based scholarships open the first of each month ranging from \$150 to \$1000. Interested applicants should visit [svcc.edu](http://svcc.edu)/scholarships for award criteria and application requirements. It only takes minutes to apply for the money that can help you pursue your academic goals.

Pathway work provides students with experiences that will prepare them to enter the workforce or postsecondary with the skills and knowledge necessary for success. Pathways in Education, Manufacturing, and Agriculture are being developed in local districts through a partnership with SVCC, ROE47, Sauk Valley Chamber of Commerce, and industry. For more information, for more information, please email [janis.a.jones@svcc.edu](mailto:janis.a.jones@svcc.edu).

fices that service members and their families make to defend our country and community. SVCC is committed to ensuring our veterans and military personnel have the specialized support services to help them reach their academic and career goals," said Jenn Schultz, Financial Assistance Director.

"Military Friendly® is committed to transparency and providing consistent data driven standards in our designation process. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages colleges to consistently evolve and invest in their programs. Schools who achieve designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts. Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources, and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the Military Community." - Kayla Lopez, National Director of Military Partnerships, Military Friendly®

202 S. West St.

**MAY TWP**—The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, at the township maintenance building.

**AMBOY**—The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 15, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.



Tess Fleming

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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

## The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854

Kip Cheek, Publisher

Tonja Greenfield, General Manager

Bonnie Morris, Editor

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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.

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# OBITUARIES

## OBITUARIES

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

**AMBOY** — Clarence "Bud" Morrissey Jr., of Amboy, died on Friday, Feb. 26, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born on March 13, 1935 in Dixon, the son of Clarence and Margaret (Friel) Morrissey. Clarence was a farmer in the Walton area and was also a Journeyman Machinist at the Henry Pratt Company in Dixon for over 34 years. He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Walton, the Amboy Lions Club, AA for 34 years, Shady Oaks Country Club, and the class of 1952 from Community High School / Newman Central Catholic High School.

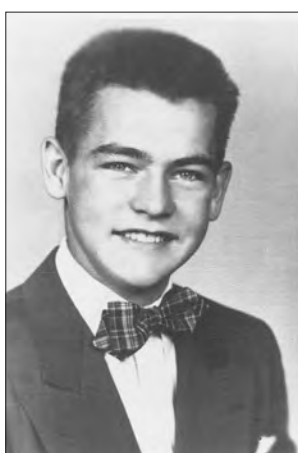
On April 30, 1955 Clarence married Joyce Gorzney in Morrison.

He is preceded in death

by his parents, brother, Tom Morrissey, and sister, Regina Morrissey.

Clarence is survived by his wife, Joyce, children; Edward Morrissey, of Amboy, Robert Joseph Morrissey, of Amboy, Clarence Edward (Keri) Morrissey, of Warrensburg, Mo., John (Jan) Morrissey, of Dixon, Ann (Richard) Rutherford, of Harmon, Elizabeth Bontz, of Amboy, Patricia (Gary) Coppotelli, of Ashland, Mo, Margaret (Sharon) DeBerry, of Rockford, and Catherine (Jim) Decker, of Amboy. He is also survived by 16 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

There will be a private family graveside service on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at St. Patrick Cemetery in Amboy. In lieu of flowers a memorial



has been established and donations can be made to the St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Amboy.

Arrangements by Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be sent at [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com).

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

**DIXON** — Corinne D. Powers, 57, of Dixon, died on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at her home surrounded by her family.

She was born on June 8, 1963 in Dixon, the daughter of Thomas and Sue Ann (Blake) McCormick. Corinne worked as an EMT with the Amboy Fire Department for 10 years, Woodhaven Lakes, and the Lee County States Attorney's Office. She volunteered her time for the Amboy ESDA and was also the Co-Director of the Miss Amboy Pageant for many years.

On March 25, 1995, Corinne married Steven Powers in Ashton.

She is preceded in death by her parents, brother,

Casey McCormick, and one great-granddaughter.

Corinne is survived by her husband, Steve; children, Christopher (Monica) Carter, of Sterling, Felicia Carter, of Dixon, Aaron (Mellisa) Powers, of North Liberty Iowa, and Carrie Powers, of Ashton; 12 grandchildren, and 1 great-granddaughter. She is also survived by two brothers, Thomas "Shawn" (Gayla) McCormick, of Rock Falls, and Kelly McCormick, of Woodstock.

Visitation was held from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Funeral services followed at 1 p.m. at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home



with burial at St Patrick Cemetery in Amboy.

A memorial has been established in Corinne's memory.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be sent at [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com).

## IDoA seeks nominations for 2021 Senior Hall of Fame awards

**SPRINGFIELD** — The Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) is accepting nominations for the 2021 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame Awards. These awards recognize adults, 65 years of age and older, and highlight the meaningful contributions they have made in Illinois.

"It's been tough this past year. We all know an older family member, friend or neighbor who has made a significant impact in their community or has gone the extra mile during these challenging times," said Paula Basta, Director of IDoA. "Now, more than ever, I encourage everyone to take some time to nominate those special individuals who should be recognized for their dedication and notable service. Please help us honor those who embody the spirit of respecting yesterday, supporting today, and planning for tomorrow."

Award nominations are being accepted for the following categories:

- Community Service: awarded to Illinois senior citizens that have shown support for the general public and community-based programs in their area or at large.
- Education: awarded to Illinois senior

citizens that have shown a dedication to instruction and the world of academia.

- Labor Force: awarded to Illinois senior citizens that have a record of accomplishment in their employment or professional career.

- Performance / Graphic Arts: awarded to Illinois senior citizens that have a commitment to health and the promotion of well-being or a record of accomplishment in artistic expression.

The Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame was created by the Illinois General Assembly in 1994 to honor Illinois residents ages 65 and older for their personal achievements in four separate categories. Since then, 125 people have been inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, June 1, 2021. Eligibility is based on the nominee's past and present accomplishments. The candidate must be a current Illinois resident, or a former Illinois resident for most of their life. Posthumous nominees will also be considered. Nomination forms can be filled out online, calling the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (hearing impaired call 888-206-1327) or emailing [aging.ilsenior@illinois.gov](mailto:aging.ilsenior@illinois.gov).

## Former state senator, Republican AG candidate Schimpf to run for governor

**BY JERRY NOWICKI**  
Capitol News Illinois  
[jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com](mailto:jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com)

**SPRINGFIELD** — Former state Sen. Paul Schimpf, who spent four years representing the 58th District and was the Republican Party's candidate for attorney general in 2014, announced Monday he will run for governor in 2022.

Schimpf made the announcement via videoconference at 10 a.m., beginning a day of traveling the state with planned stops in Algonquin, Rock Island and Morris Monday and Decatur, Morris and his hometown of Waterloo Tuesday.

In his announcement, Schimpf sought to distance himself from Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker on both issues of policy and life experience.

"My vision for Illinois involves a return to re-

sponsible government, safe communities and economic growth in a free market," he said. "We need a governor who welcomes and insists upon legislative oversight of his administration."

A U.S. Naval Academy graduate and Marine Corps veteran, Schimpf was an outspoken advocate for veterans in the Senate, serving as minority party spokesperson on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. In 2005, Schimpf served as the chief American advisor in the trial of Saddam Hussein in Iraq. He rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps.

A biography distributed by Schimpf's campaign emphasized that he wrote an article in 2004 for the Military Law Review on "the need to establish a victim-victim advocate evidentiary privilege within the Department of Defense" in an effort to improve treatment of sexual assault victims. Those practices were adopted in 2012. Beginning in 2004, Schimpf was a judge advocate, or military attorney, at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif. There, he served as the head prosecutor, supervising other attorneys and litigating drug, sexual assault and attempted murder cases, according to his campaign.

He was elected to the state

Senate in 2017, retiring in January ahead of his run for governor. He said his proudest accomplishment as state senator was his work with a higher education working group that produced legislative changes such as AIM High grants, which aim to provide Illinois' highest performing students with the means to remain in Illinois for college.

He is an of counsel attorney with the law firm of Stumpf & Gutknecht P.C. in Columbia, meaning he is not an equity partner in the firm.

He touched on a number of issues that have been lynchpins of Republican legislative dissent in recent years and weeks, noting a governor should "give clear unambiguous support to the law enforcement community."

He also addressed Illinois' tax burden, quoting Ronald Reagan and stating Illinois needs a governor who "understands those day-to-day challenges that we all face" and who will "stand up to the entrenched special interest groups that have done so much damage to our state."

"I know what it feels like to wake up in the middle of the night wondering how my wife and I are going to pay for our kids' education, or what the next property tax increase is going to do to our family budget," he said.



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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

<p><b>St. Patrick Church</b> Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • <a href="http://www.stpatrickamboy.org">www.stpatrickamboy.org</a> New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am &amp; 10 am Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 8am-5 pm</p>	<p><b>First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center</b> Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center <a href="http://www.LeeCenter-UCC.org">www.LeeCenter-UCC.org</a> Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 <a href="http://www.fbcamboy.com">www.fbcamboy.com</a> Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m. Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting &amp; Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous addictions program from 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> Pastor Barb Otten 960 U.S. Route 52 Phone 857-2225 Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.</p>
<p><b>St. Mary Church</b> Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>Grace Fellowship Church</b> Amboy-Sublette Pastor Brian McWethy 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://www.graceisforyou.com">www.graceisforyou.com</a></p>	<p><b>St. James Evangelical Congregational Church</b> Robert Dunbar, Pastor US Route 52 &amp; Red Brick Rd., Dixon 815-288-2447 Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronek Locust Street, Sublette Phone 815-849-5412 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. Thursday - 8:30 a.m.</p>
<p><b>St. Flannen Church</b> Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Mass: Sunday, 9 am</p>	<p><b>East Grove Union Church</b> 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 &amp; 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 &amp; Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!" Come as you are and join us on the journey!</p>	<p><b>St. Mary's Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronek West Brooklyn Tuesday &amp; Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Refuge Church</b> Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows</p>
<p><b>United First Church of Amboy</b> Pastor Mark Glenn East Main &amp; Jefferson 815-440-0745 Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.</p>		<p><b>St. Patrick Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronek - Maytown Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Harmon United Methodist Church</b> Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.</p>

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Chevrolet  
815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center  
815-857-3044

The Amboy News  
815-857-2311





## SOCIAL NEWS



## THE PASTOR'S PEN

## Not In Our Own Hands

BY PASTOR JACK BRIGGS

Someone you know may currently have one. You may have had one. I had one. I'm not talking about some ailment, but rather a raggedy piece of fabric that we dragged around everywhere we went. Soft and snugly and a source of comfort, it is a security blanket, otherwise known as a "blankie" in technical terms.

Even as grownups, our "blankie" may be family, or a regular daily routine, or a fat bank account, or health and fitness. Maybe it is having lots of friends. We spend a lot of time, energy and money, trying to control our own fortunes and destiny and make the world work the way we think it should. But at some point, we find out that the security and safety we long for just cannot be found in the things we cling to in this world our "blankies."

As Christians, we believe that our destiny is not ultimately in our own hands, the hands of world leaders, or technology, or anything else of this world. It is in God's hands. The problem we face is that there are times when we simply do not see it, or really, honestly believe that all things work together for good. Consider the passing of a loved one, especially a child. Attempting to

console, invariably someone will blurt, "Well, God must have needed another angel in heaven. We have to accept God's will. This will all work out for good somehow." Really?! God did this? That the child's death is God's will? That this death will bring somehow bring good into our lives?

For the record, the child was what was good, so very good. His or her death is what is bad!

Make no mistake. Bad things happen in our world and in our lives: sickness, suffering, death, accidents, addiction, crime, abuse, war, floods, tornadoes - you name it. The notion that all things happen for good according to God's purpose doesn't ignore the realities of pain and evil and suffering in our world. But it does mean that this world and our lives are not in our own hands, but in God's loving hands, God who so loved us that God sent his only Son to die for us. So to believe that in all things God works for good is as much a statement of faith.

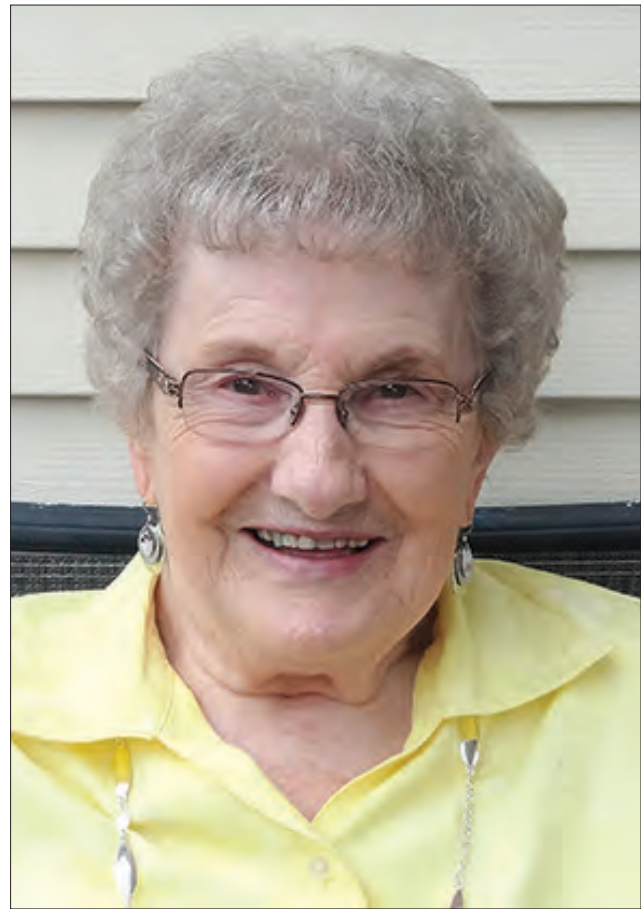
True, there may be many times when we will not see or recognize the good even if it were right in front of us, and may have to accept that our definition of good may not always square with what God calls good in God's infinite

wisdom. Yes, God's will be done in the end. But are we going to be participants in God's will? Or is God's will going to be accomplished in spite of us?

Sometimes God's good will is accomplished through ordinary folks just like you and me. For example, when a natural disaster occurs, it doesn't mean sitting back and saying, "God will take care of them. It will all work out for good." But it may mean digging into the 'ole wallet or purse and helping that good to happen, or volunteering time and energy to bring relief to those who suffer.

From our limited perspective, we can't comprehend God's Grand Plan, for God's ways are not our ways. But one day we will, and all the big questions we ponder this side of heaven, particularly regarding "Why (fill in the blank)?" will be revealed.

In the meantime, let us try to do everything we can to live in line with God's will and not sit "riding the pine" on the sidelines, but be agents in helping bring about the good that God promises in this broken and hurting world. That promise is our anchor in this troubling and confusing and often wacky world. That promise is our comfort, our hope, and our security.



Elaine Henkel

## Henkel to celebrate 90th birthday

**MENDOTA** – Elaine Henkel will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Tuesday, March 9.

She was born March 9, 1931, and was married to the late Donald Henkel for 64 years in West Brooklyn. She has four children, 10 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

A card shower will be held in celebration of her birthday. Cards may be sent to: Elaine Henkel, 1700 Burlington St., Apt. 24, Mendota, IL 61342.

## Kish offering four short-term training programs in Summer 2021

**MALTA** — The Kishwaukee College Continuing Education department is offering four Short-Term Training programs during the Summer 2021 semester. Two are offered online. Two are offered in a hybrid format (online learning/in-person practice). Short-term training programs prepare people for a variety of entry-level positions in a wide range of career fields. The programs are a great way to explore a career before committing to a degree. Short-term training programs range from 11 to 20 weeks. Some include an externship.

The Short-Term Training programs offered in Summer 2021 are:

## Online

**Pharmacy Technician: May 9-Aug. 21**

Pharmacy Technicians assist pharmacists to dispense prescription medication. Pharmacy Technicians may also manage third-party billing, answer telephones, direct customers to items or to the pharmacist for medication consultation, receive written prescriptions, clean and sterilize dispensing bottles and instruments, answer questions regarding non-drug products and collect payments. Instruction is provided via D2L/Bright Space in an asynchronous format.

**Sterile Processing Technician: May 9-Aug. 14**

Sterile Processing Technicians provide support to all patient care services in a health care facility. They are responsible for decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, sterilizing, storing and distributing the medical devices and supplies needed for patient care, especially during surgery. Instruction is provided via D2L/Bright Space in an asynchronous format.

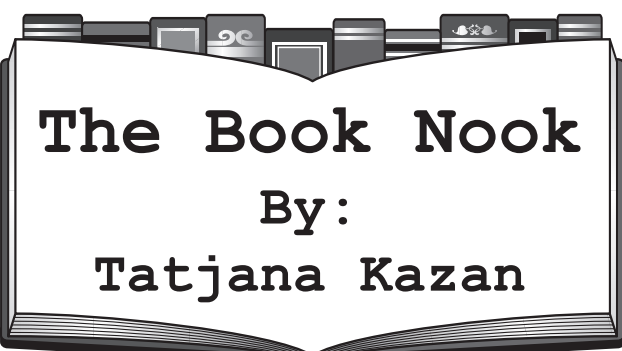
**Hybrid (Online Lecture/In-Person Practice)****Dental Assistant: May 9-July 31**

Dental Assistants are skilled health care professionals who work closely with dentists and dental hygienists to provide quality preventive and corrective dental care and administrative support in dental offices. Dental assistants are trained in the history of dentistry and dental assisting, oral anatomy, dental equipment, operation and maintenance, proper patient positioning, dental anesthesia, and sterilization as well as an introduction to the dental office legal aspects of dentistry. Instruction is provided via D2L/Bright Space in an asynchronous format. In-person practice will be conducted on Tuesdays (6-9 p.m.) in a local dental office.

**Phlebotomy Technician: June 13-Sept. 3**

Phlebotomists are skilled health care professionals who have been trained to collect, transport, handle and process blood and other specimens for laboratory analysis using venipuncture and micro collection techniques. Instruction is provided via D2L/Bright Space in an asynchronous format. In-person practice will be conducted on Monday/Tuesday/Thursday (6-8:30 p.m.) at Kishwaukee College.

Registration opens on April 5, 2021. Prospective students should contact Melissa Gallagher, Director of Short-Term Training & Continuing Education, at [mgallagher1@kish.edu](mailto:mgallagher1@kish.edu) as soon as possible to schedule a phone meeting.



## Avian Heroes

Unlike people (usually urbanites) who malign pigeons as rats with wings, I love pigeons. They are intelligent, brave, and loyal; "their colors and patterns are often exquisite, they are graceful in flight, but endearingly waddle on their short legs." Which is to say that I really enjoyed Alan Hlad's novel "The Long Flight Home" about pigeons who served in the British National Pigeon Service during World War Two. The National Pigeon Service, a civilian volunteer organization, delivered over 200,000 homing pigeons between 1939-1945.

Hlad knew little about "pigeon fanciers or the heroism of their war pigeons" before 2012 when he came across a British news report about a man who, while renovating an abandoned farmhouse in Surrey, discovered the skeletal remains of a homing pigeon in the chimney. Attached to its leg was a small canister containing a coded message written during World War Two.

France capitulated in late June 1940, and on Sept. 7, the Germans began their bombardment of Britain. That day over

300 bombers and 600 fighters targeted London. The city was attacked on 57 consecutive nights. The Blitz lasted eight months, killing 43,000 civilians and destroying well over a million houses and apartments. In Epping Forest, some 17 miles from London, Susan Shepherd and her grandfather Bertie watched the fires range high into the London sky. German fighter planes blackened the Epping sky night after night and there was fear of an imminent invasion.

Susan, an orphan, was raised by her grandparents on an Epping pigeon farm. Bertie raced pigeons, but now he had to prepare his pigeons for the National Pigeon Service, and Susan had come home from university to help him. The farm had over a thousand pigeons, but the beautiful Duchess was special. She hatched from an egg that Susan had incubated in a bowl under her grandfather's desk lamp. Duchess's amazing exploits made her the undisputed hero of this war novel.

Meanwhile, in Buxton, Maine, Ollie Evans, a young crop-duster pilot, decided to join Britain's Royal Air Force after his parents were killed in a freak car accident. He ended up at Bertie's farm, where Susan was involved in a covert mission called "Source Columba," to air-drop 500 homing pigeons into German-occupied France. Most did not survive. The French, constantly hungry under occupation, treated the pigeons in their small cages parachuting into the countryside as food packages.

Soon the friendship between Ollie and Susan deepened, but when his plane crashed behind enemy lines, his chances of survival were slim to none. Yet Duchess rose to the occasion, unstintingly relaying messages between Susan and Ollie as war raged on. I didn't much care for the ending. After truly compelling story-telling, Hlad inexplicably let the air out, settling for a tame resolution instead of the celebration that should have brought down the curtain on this exceptional tale.

## From The Heart Calendar winners

**February 2021 From The Heart Calendar Winners**

Feb. 1 - Kenny R. Dougherty, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 2 - Lynette Alcock, Monroe Center, \$25  
Feb. 3 - Chris Haas, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 4 - Rotary Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 5 - Ellen Katoll, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 6 - Peggy Holt,

Rockford, \$250  
Feb. 7 - Susan Helfrich, Oregon, \$50  
Feb. 8 - Donna Trout, LaMoille, \$25  
Feb. 9 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25  
Feb. 10 - Denise Hoffman-Clark, Sycamore, \$25  
Feb. 11 - Tiffany Meyers, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 12 - Christopher Norkus, Creston, \$25  
Feb. 13 - Roger & Susie

Ahlensdorf, Kings, \$25  
Feb. 14 - Judith Faaborg, Rochelle, \$250  
Feb. 15 - Cindy Stumph, Sycamore, \$25  
Feb. 16 - Tom Hartnett, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 17 - Jordan Bernardin, Oregon, \$25  
Feb. 18 - Jeff Hayenga, Kings, \$25  
Feb. 19 - Laura Irk, Glenview, \$25  
Feb. 20 - Michelle Glen,

Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 21 - John Farris, DeKalb, \$50  
Feb. 22 - Tom Hartnett, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 23 - Rochelle Rotary, \$25  
Feb. 24 - David C. Bills, Port Byron, \$25  
Feb. 25 - Katie Fredericks, Dixon, \$25  
Feb. 26 - Berkeley Thompson, Rochelle, \$25  
Feb. 27 - Steu Znaniacki, \$25  
Feb. 28 - Lucas Miles, Bloomington, \$50

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

## Steward students learn and live history

**STEWART** — Students at Steward School District recently participated in a real learning experience as they reenacted digging trenches and exploring conditions of a World War II community.

Superintendent Lowell Taylor shares, "Students learn best when they become part of the process. We're able to help history come alive by allowing students to explore their own understandings when they participate or reenact events that shaped our world."

Steward School District has been working with staff to develop significantly improved student participation

in reading groups, physical education, art, and science. "We are fortunate to have low student to teacher ratios," says Superintendent Lowell Taylor, "which allow a more complete and comprehensive

approach to knowing each student's needs and abilities."

The continuing plan is for Steward School to offer expanding curricula and to develop enrichment activities for students of all ages.

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## AMBOY CUSD #272 KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION

Parents and guardians of children that live in the Amboy School District and will be five years of age on or prior to September 1, 2021, will need to pre-register for kindergarten. This will be done by coming to Amboy Central School beginning March 1st to pick up a packet. Parents/Guardians must bring a photocopy of their child's certified birth certificate (not hospital copy). All health forms and proof of residency need to be turned in on or before the first day of student attendance in August. Completed paperwork can be dropped off at the school during packet pickup times, and lunch pick up times.

Packets can be emailed out to you by request, contact Mrs.Schamberger@ jschamberger@amboy.net or call the school at 815-857-3619.

Recycle!  
Recycle!  
Recycle!



# 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

## Australian and Springfield chairities look after orphans and widows

At first, Olivia Hayse received an email from a stranger in Australia that claimed he wanted to donate more than \$15,000 to her Springfield employer – but first he needed their bank account and check routing numbers.

“We thought this is a scam for sure and just ignored it. More emails came. And they ignored them too.

Hayse works for the James Project, a Springfield charity that helps foster children. And she couldn’t imagine why a couple they didn’t know, in a country on the other side of the planet would want to send them a big check.

But the Aussies became more persistent and kept leaving messages on the office phone.

“He had a thick Australian accent and we didn’t know what to think,” Hayse said.

Finally, they connected with the fellow.

“It turns out that his family wants to start a ministry that helps foster families in Australia and they wanted to call it the ‘James Project.’ When they googled the name, they found

### Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



out there was a ministry in Springfield with the same name that is essentially doing the same thing they want to do. They prayed about it and said they felt called to first give to our ministry before starting their own.”

“There is no way we would be able to do this without the assistance of the James project,” she said. “We didn’t have a

house big enough for this many kids. But the James Project provides us with a five-bedroom, three-bathroom house rent free,” she said.

Kasey is a teacher at Calvary Academy and Ryan is a youth pastor at Clear Lake Church of Christ.

The James Project also pays for enrichment activities. For example, for the Miller children, the organization pays for gymnastics, karate and piano lessons.

“We are saving during this period that they have no rent or mortgage payments. We hope to use those savings to someday build a house for our family,” Kasey said.

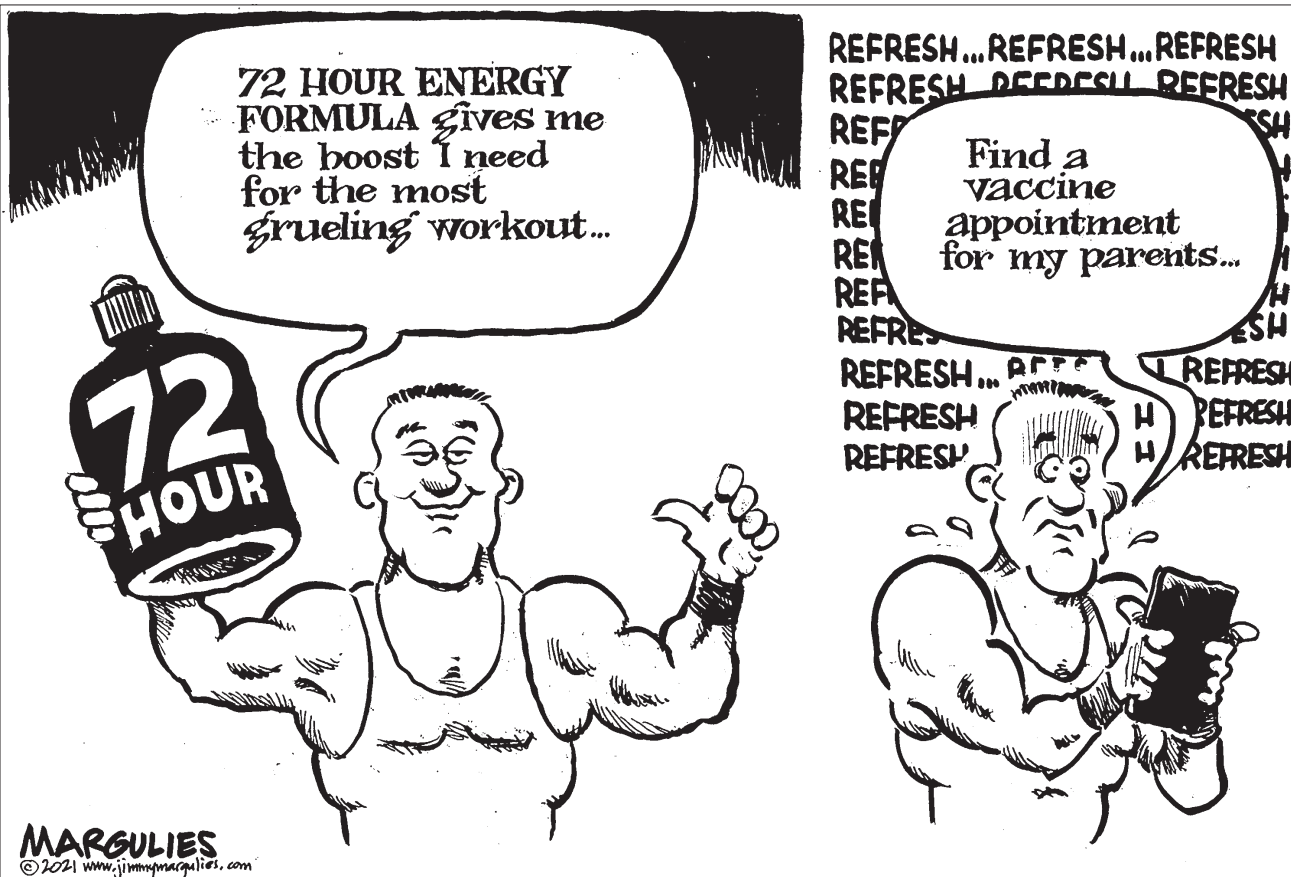
The James Project provides four families with houses to live in at no cost and is in the process of providing a fifth house. Since 2014, the ministry has helped 78 foster children. They also provide clothes, toiletries, beds, diapers and other items for foster families.

“This donation came through at a critical time for foster families,” Hayse said. “A year ago, there were 515 foster kids in Sangamon County. Today there are 625. At the same time, we have fewer families willing to foster because of the demands of home schooling during Covid and other pandemic related issues.”

Hayse said the Springfield ministry is providing guidance to the Australian family as they work to form their outreach.

“They are really a wonderful family who feels called by God to help. And we are happy to help them,” she said.

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 March 4, 1921

Miss Louise Wohnke went to Chicago Sunday evening where she spent Monday and Tuesday buying millinery goods for the Ideal Hat Shop.

Mrs. Rutledge of Indiana is visiting here in the homes of her son S.M. Goode and daughter Mrs. Bruno Reinboth.

Repairs for shoes – Sole leather, taps, heels, nails, all found at Logan’s Cash Store.

Dr. and Mrs. C.R. Pool of Compton were business visitors in Amboy Monday.

### 75 Years Ago Feb. 28, 1946

The Eccles service station at Binghampton will be reopened Monday, March 4, after being closed for three years.

Miss Marie Faivre’s beauty shop will be closed Monday and Tuesday while

Miss Faivre is in Chicago attending the Beauty Convention in Hotel Sherman.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Eccles and family moved last Wednesday from their farm in Maytown to an apartment in the resident of Mrs. Letha Poulos on Mason Avenue.

### 50 Years Ago March 4, 1971

The subscription rates of The Amboy News will be increased as of April 1, 1971. Subscriptions in Lee and adjoining counties will be \$4.50 per year; elsewhere \$5.00 per year.

Larry Hawes was elected President of the Amboy Public Hospital Board of Directors at the organization of the board held Monday evening in the hospital dining room. Other officers elected were Ray Dallam, vice president; the Reverend Wayne Wachholz, secretary; and Mrs. John Ditsch, treasurer.

Volunteers collected \$477.97 in Amboy for the March of Dimes during January. Those in charge of the drive

said, “We think this collection was very good.”

### 25 Years Ago Feb. 29, 1996

Congratulations to Bryce Lynch and Colleen Dickenson who were the first at Amboy Junior High to successfully read 20 books on this year’s Rebecca Caudill Master List.

Second grade students at Central School were introduced to a taste of Mexico recently when Mr. Arteaga of the Sublette Lodge served 100 tamales to all of the students.

Gordon Porter protected the middle for Amboy during the Clippers 62-41 regional playoff win over Ashton-Franklin Center on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Porter received a standing ovation when he left the game in the fourth quarter after scoring 21 points and collecting 19 rebounds. The Clippers moved on to Sectional play against the Mendota Trojans, losing a close game 69-64.



Established In 1854

## The Amboy News

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

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## SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 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.

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

Phone 815-857-2311  
Fax 815-857-2517  
Website [www.amboynews.com](http://www.amboynews.com)



# LOCAL NEWS

## Steward's innovative reading program leads to 100 percent success

**STEWARD** — Many concerns in the education world have arisen over the last year. Time and time again we keep hearing the phrase “students are falling behind.” The good news is that the students at Steward Elementary School are not “falling behind” in reading during the pandemic. Our students are evaluated at least twice each quarter to determine their reading levels. All of this comes as no surprise to the teaching staff and administration.

In fact, since August of 2015, when Superintendent Lowell Taylor gave the green light to teachers to try an unconventional and innovative framework for reading instruction, the student reading levels and achievement have been steadily climbing. In traditional reading instruction, all students in a grade level read out of the same textbook, regardless of students' individual reading abilities. Students are

grouped based on grade level and have little chance to read material they find interesting and engaging.

In August of 2016, students in grades 2-6 were assessed to determine their actual reading levels. Just 10 of the 32 students (31%) were reading at or above their expected level. The students were then put in small groups depending on their skill level at that time rather than their grade levels. Instruction was given to these small groups using books that were at an appropriate reading level for the members of the group. Students' reading levels were assessed every few weeks, and the small groups were rearranged accordingly. After one semester of this type of reading instruction, 17 of the 32 students (53%) were reading at or above their expected level. The efforts of teachers and students, intelligently applied created a 71% increase in students reading at grade level!

After the 2016-2017 school year, the small group framework was expanded to include first grade and some seventh and eighth grade students. Students were also given more choice about what books they would read as long as the books were within their instructional levels. As students progressed through the reading program their reading levels continued to improve. At the end of the 2017-2018 year, 51 of 59 students (89%)

were reading at or above their targeted level. By the end of the 2018-2019 school year the number was 46 of 49 (94%).

As of January 2021, 100% of our students in second through eighth grade are reading at or above the expected levels that were established before the pandemic.

In other words, despite the hardships beginning last spring, our students continue to thrive and we are confident that any students that may

fall behind will get caught up quickly in this program.

An administrator, like Superintendent Taylor, focused on empowering innovative teaching helps students reach their full potential. A teaching staff supported by that kind of administration and willing to go the extra mile to construct their own curriculum for the benefits of their students, will continue to showcase the growth of students even during challenging times.

As a staff we want parents and families to know how extra-ordinary it is for a school to be able to say, with evidence-based proof, that 100% of students read at or above grade level and we are proud of the tremendous student progress.

For more information on student progress, innovative programming, or student learning, contact Steward School District Superintendent Lowell Taylor.

## Illinois Farm Bureau to offer nurse practitioner scholarships

**LEE COUNTY** — Applications are now available for nurse practitioner scholarships through the Illinois Farm Bureau® Rural Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Program. There will be 15 scholarships, worth \$4,000 each, granted this year.

The scholarship program, now in its 29th year, helps encourage and develop the pool of rural health practitioners to help meet primary health care needs

in rural Illinois. Students who receive scholarships agree to practice for two years in an approved rural area in Illinois.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be Illinois residents and be a Registered Nurse accepted or enrolled in an accredited Nurse Practitioner Program.

Funding is provided by the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program (RIMSAP).

Applications are available at county Farm Bureaus® throughout the state, on the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program website at RIMSAP.com, or by writing Donna Gallivan, Program Manager, Illinois Farm Bureau, PO Box 2901, Bloomington, IL 61702-2901. Applications are due May 1.

For additional information, contact Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350, or via e-mail at dgallivan@iflb.org.

# COMMUNITY MATTERS

### AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

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www.vaessenbrothers.com

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**Dr. Joel Hochstatter, D.M.D. and**  
**Dr. Brandon Klein, D.D.S.**  
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815-857-2015

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815-857-3625 • www.fnbamboy.com

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815-628-3121  
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**Pioneer State Bank (FDIC)**  
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www.pioneerstatebank.com

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815-535-6295 • Lorierbes@gmail.com

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### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

 ESTATE OF  
Donald L. Clark,  
deceased  
Case No. 2021-P-15

#### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Donald L. Clark of Sublette, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued of February 10, 2021 to Mary Jones of 2234 Shady Oaks Road, West Brooklyn, IL 61378 as Independent Executor whose attorney is Guilfoyle Law Firm, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before August 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.

No. 0206

Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 2021

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

 ESTATE -OF  
WYONNE C. HUENE,  
2021-P-10  
Deceased

#### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of WYONNE C. HUENE. Letters of Office were issued to Rosalind Pate, Sharon Leesman, and Terry Huene, 1294 Hickory Street, Eldena, IL. as Co-Executors, whose attorney is David T. Fritts, 217 N. Dement Ave., Dixon, IL 61021. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Lee County, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021 or with the Executor, or both on or before September 12, 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 Executor and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

 Date: February 17, 2021  
Rosalind Pate, Sharon Leesman, Terry Huene, Co-Executor  
DAVID T. FRITTS  
ARDC # 0888672

ATTORNEY FOR

 CO-EXECUTORS  
217 N. DEMENT AVENUE

DIXON, ILLINOIS

61021

815-284-1841

No. 0204

Feb 24, March 3, 10, 2021

### 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

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### 113 FINANCIAL

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

### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

UNJ JUMPERS Indoor/Outdoor Bounce House Rentals Available Year Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

### 301 ANTIQUES

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

### 301 ANTIQUES

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

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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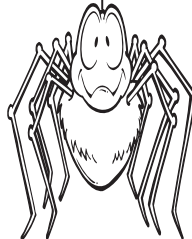
### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly 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.

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### Don't forget to call the Amboy News and let us know your new mailing address. Unless you call us your subscription will not follow you to your new/ temporary address.

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### 235 E. Main Street

### Amboy IL 61310



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### INFORMATION

#### Office Hours:

Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - noon

Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

#### Phone:

815-857-2311

#### Fax:

815-857-2517

#### Email:

mmays@amboynews.com

#### Address:

245 E. Main Street, Amboy

#### Mail:

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### DEADLINES:

Mondays at 10 a.m.

(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:

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2020 Chevy K-3500 Crew Cab LTZ, Diesel, 24K Miles 4x4, Blue.....\$61,500

2018 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab LTZ, 6.0 Gas, 68K Mi 4x4, Z-71, Red .....\$43,900

2020 Chevy Tahoe LT 4x4 Loaded, DVD, Sunroof Nav, 21K Miles .....\$49,900

2018 Chevy Traverse AWD Premier, 54K Miles Silver.....\$30,500

2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black.....\$45,900

2018 Chevy Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black.....\$17,500

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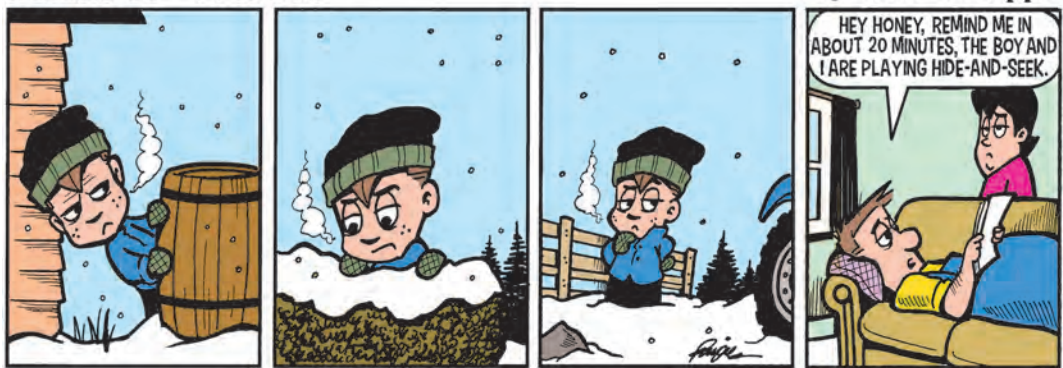
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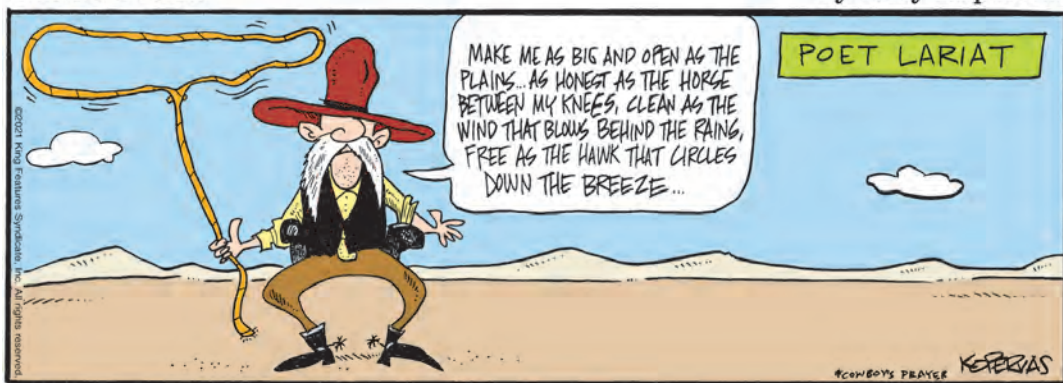


# LOCAL NEWS

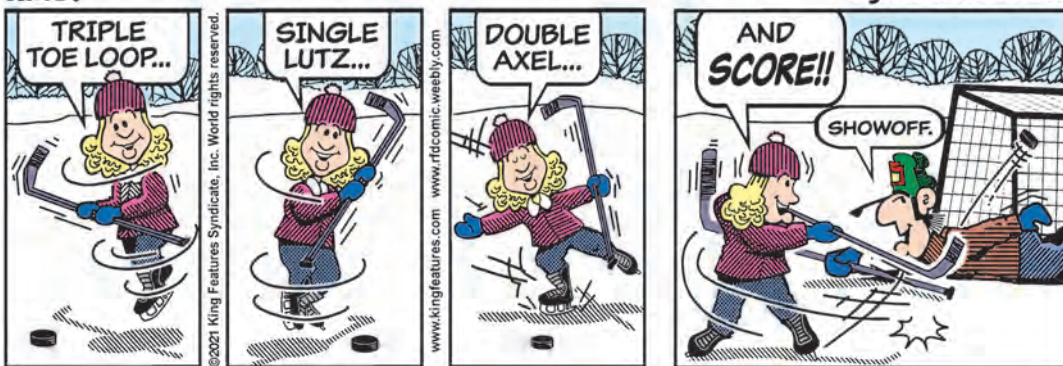
## Amber Waves



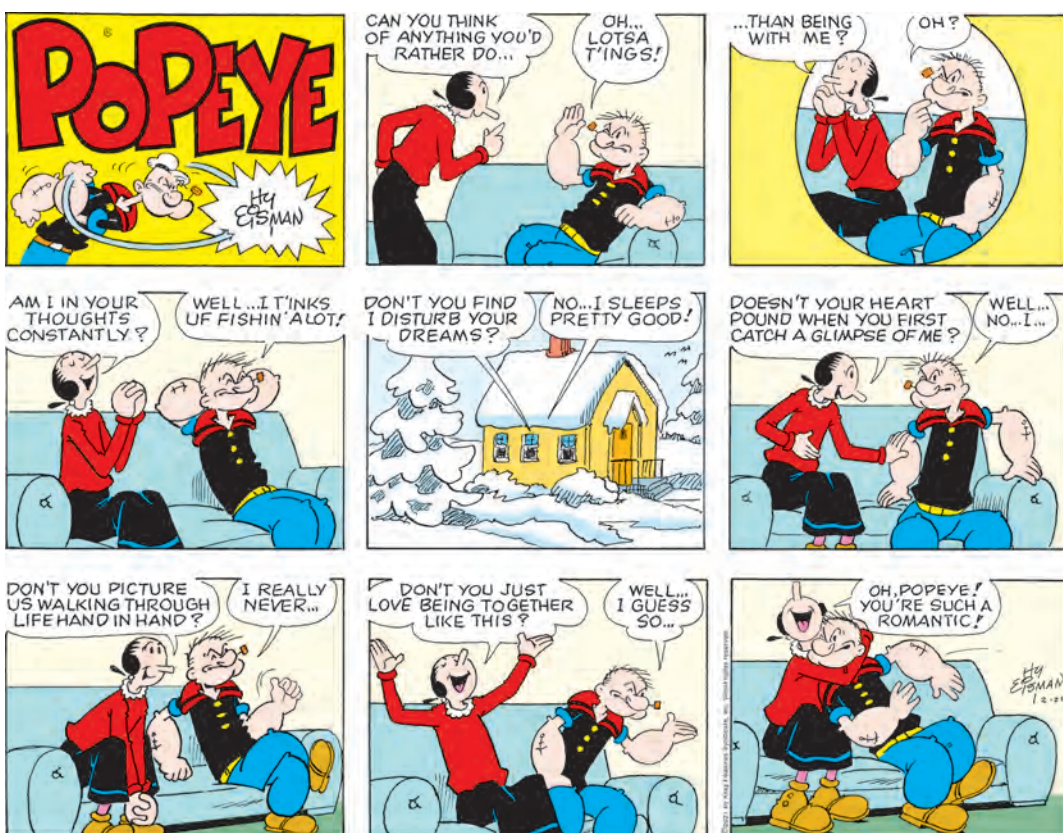
## Out on a Limb



## R.F.D.



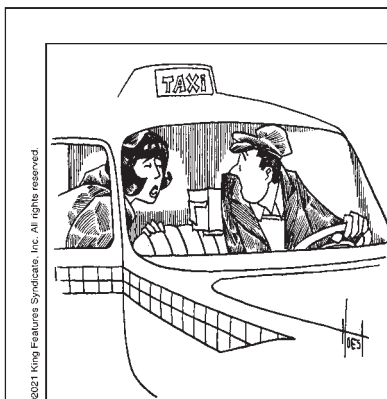
## The Spats



## Just Like Cats & Dogs



## LAFF-A-DAY



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!

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ARGON  
Crate  
ASTECK  
Rebound  
BUNCOE

## TODAY'S WORD

I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ there.

by Dave T. Phipps

by Gary Kopervas

by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

Posting Date March 1, 2021

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Peruke
- 4 Touse
- 8 Labyrinth
- 12 Altar constellation
- 13 Isaac's eldest
- 14 Modern taxi alternative
- 15 World of organized crime
- 17 Dross
- 18 Earth (Pref.)
- 19 Poetic feet
- 21 Ohio city
- 24 Actress Long
- 25 Mentalist Geller
- 26 Candied veggie
- 28 Knight wear
- 32 Stagger
- 34 Gaiety
- 36 Flintstones' pet
- 37 Seoul setting
- 39 Fawn's mom
- 41 Dol. fractions
- 42 Bearded beast
- 44 Salsa scoopers
- 46 "La Mer" composer
- 50 4, on a phone
- 51 Pre-diploma hurdle
- 52 Ruffian
- 56 Church area
- 57 Rochester's

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
		18			19		20			
21	22			23		24				
25			26		27		28		29	30
32			33		34		35		36	
37			38		39		40		41	
			42		43		44		45	
46	47	48			49		50			
51				52		53			54	55
56				57					58	
59				60					61	

- love
- 58 Citrus drink
- 59 Privation
- 60 Source
- 61 At once
- 8 Hot dog condiment
- 9 With skill
- 10 Gusto
- 11 Work units
- 16 "Gosh!"
- 20 "Homeland" org.
- 21 Ankara resident
- 22 Crunchy cookie
- 23 Klutz
- 27 Wet dirt
- 29 State made of two peninsulas
- 30 Aware of
- 31 Colonial seamstress
- 33 Lentils, for example
- 35 Dijon denial
- 38 Reply (Abbr.)
- 40 Aerie newborn
- 43 Leading man?
- 45 Greek X
- 46 Transaction
- 47 Big fair, for short
- 48 Striped fish
- 49 Vacillate
- 53 Spanish gold
- 54 Hubbub
- 55 Just out

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

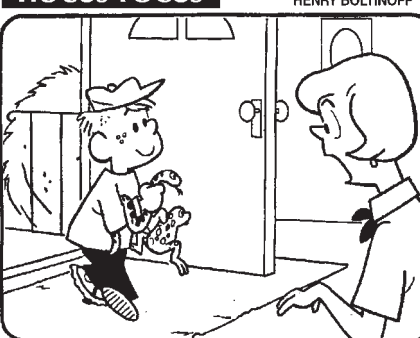
### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

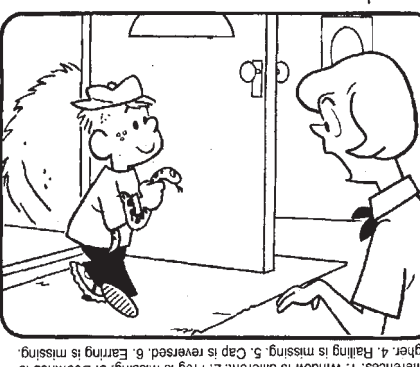
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Window is different. 2. Frog is missing. 3. Dooknob is higher. 4. Failing is missing. 5. Cap is reversed. 6. Earring is missing.

## DOCTOR

Today's Word

3. Caskey. 4. Bounce.

1. Adept. 2. Groan.

solution

## SCRAMBLERS

## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: L equals O

VS Y GVBAR GWQW BQYKWMVCN

KWQZ SYEB, OL ZLD EDFLEW ERW

HVNRB JW LC Y ELCVA JQLLH?

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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which 1980s-90s sitcom featured the Conner family?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "pan" mean in English?
- MOVIES: Which artist sang the song that inspired the movie title "Pretty Woman"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the first primary color that babies can see?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the world's longest cave system?
- MEDICAL: What is a fasciculation, the medical term for a common ailment?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was the only one to be elected a U.S. senator after leaving office?
- GEOLOGY: Emerald and aquamarine are types of which mineral?
- U.S. STATES: What was the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution?
- MEASUREMENTS: What dosing measurement (metric) is used to administer liquid medication?

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- 10. milliliter or ml
- 9. Delaware
- 8. Beryl
- 7. Andrew Johnson
- 6. Involuntary muscle twitch
- 5. Mammoth Cave, Kentucky
- 4. Red
- 3. Roy Orbison
- 2. All
- 1. "Roseanne"

W	O	N	T	O	O	R	S	S	I	O	S
A	P	E	E	A	R	E	E	S	E	A	P
N	A	N	A	G	A	N	A	N	A	N	A
D	E	B	A	S	G	I	H	I	O	H	A
S	O	H	C	V	A	N	N	G	N	G	S
K	O	E	A	D	O	E	C	I	S	C	S
R	E	E	L	F	U	N	D	I	O	N	I
H	O	M	A	R	M	A	M	A	M	A	M
T	O	L	E	O	O	I	N	A	I	N	A
G	E	A	C	T	A	C	T	A	C	T	A
G	A	L	A	G	L	A	G	L	A	G	L
A	R	A	E	S	A	U	B	E	R	U	B
W	I	G	M	U	S	S	M	A	Z	E	M

Solution time: 25 mins.

### Answers

## King Crossword

—

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

### Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU

—

If a witch were traveling very fast, do you suppose she might be on a sonic broom?

answer

Cryptoquip



# SPORTS

## Clipper Highlights: #35 Dan Morrissey

This week's Clipper we travel back in time 60 years. This highlight is also one of the most meaningful to me personally as not only did we both wear the Clipper red but wore the same last name across our backs. I am proud, honored, and humbled to announce this week's Clipper, #35, my Great Uncle, Dan Morrissey.

Dan was a 1961 graduate of Amboy High School, three year Varsity starter on the gridiron, and dual sport athlete.

My bias takes over again in saying this was one of the best interviews I've been a part of. Of course we spoke of games, stats, and awards but far beyond any game, touchdown, or accolade we spoke of the life lessons we learned and how we live our lives today, by the same pillars our program and community stand on.

Dan's athletic career started well before his Clipper

days in the corn crib at the farm off Halligan Road. The youngest of five Morrissey boys, Dan had no choice but to compete no matter the sport or chore.

Baseball was Dan's first love and arguably his best sport.

"I played a lot of baseball in the summers and my dad told me I could play as much as I wanted just as long as I was in the field by 6 a.m.," Dan shared.

One of the neatest stories I heard growing up, that speaks to Dan's athletic ability, was when he hit three home runs in one game and when he went up for his fourth at bat the opposing team attempted to intentionally walk him. However, Dan stepped into the pitch and hit his fourth home run of the game.

Back to the gridiron, Dan started Varsity as a Sophomore. Dan played offensive guard and middle linebacker. Dan was one of four Sophomores moved up to the

### Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



Varsity ranks that season by Coach Goode.

Dan's Junior and Senior seasons he would play middle linebacker and fullback on offense.

"We didn't have a weight program back then. We had school, practice, and then chores and you were expected to do all of it 100 percent," Dan shared.

Dan also kicked for the Clippers his two Varsity seasons. In a time when kicking field goals and extra points was not widely adopted or popular Dan did it with success. One of the coolest stories of our history, for me personally, is knowing that Dan held the record for the longest field goal (38 yards). If the story is true to the records, My Great Uncle's record would stand until it was broken by my Uncle Mark nearly 20 years later.

Dan earned All Conference Honorable Mention honors his Senior season. Also, due to his kicking ability, Dan was recognized in a Rockford Register Star highlight which chose only five area players. All of the game stats were harder to recall in the 60 years that have passed, but Dan recalled a game his Senior year where he rushed for 2-3 touchdowns.

Former teammates and great friends, Don McCoy and Gordy Koch each provided a brief statement on Dan as a football player and teammate.

"Dan was a hell of a player. He played hard the whole time. Ran hard and fought hard. He was the leader of the team. He always provided encouragement to do your job and work hard. He was just a teammates teammate," McCoy said.

"Our class was very close and got along so well. We still do to this day. Newman wanted Dan to go play there but we sure are glad he didn't. He would always back you up anyway he could and what he lacked in size he made up for in toughness," Koch said.

Dan also shared the same kind words for his two former teammates. Dan, Gordy, Don and the class of 1961 will celebrate their 60th High School Class Reunion this year. Though it's been two of my lifetimes thus far, their statements, memories, and friendships are proof that Amboy Football goes far beyond the hash marks.



#35 Dan Morrissey

The bond, brotherhood, and pride are timeless.

The closeness with his teammates and school spirit for Clipper Football are two of Dan's favorite parts of his Clipper journey.

Dan shared, "They were just some of the best times you had in your life. At that age sports mean so much."

As many Clipper Highlights have shared in their interview, the discipline, hard work, selflessness, and importance of family are the roots to our program's success. Dan lives those principles to this day as each day of the past 60 years.

"Amboy football is never quit no matter the score. We hit you as hard the last play of the game as we did the first play. It's a closeness that is hard to explain to those that haven't done it or felt the emotion it brings out."

Dan concluded with one of the best pieces of advice to any Clipper, past, present, or future, "If you have goals or plans in life, do it, accomplish them now. You never know when it's over." Great

advice from a man who lives his own words every day.

So, to my Great Uncle, #35, Dan Morrissey, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. You're proof that living your life by the pillars of our great program and community results in resilience, pride, success and family. In Morrissey fashion an Irish blessing: "May your troubles be less and your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door." 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.



### STAND-OUTS

Former Three Rivers Conference standouts recently competed in the NAIA Conference meet at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa. They are from left: Megan Grady, (Amboy, 3rd place in the 5K), Alissa DeShane (Erie-Prophetstown, 5th in the pole vault), Madisyn Quinn (Spring Valley-Hall, 3rd in the pole vault), and Mackenzie Clary, (Erie-Prophetstown, 3rd in the 4x4).

Photo submitted

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# SPORTS

## Amboy Lady Clippers split games with Eastland

**AMBOY** — Amboy and Eastland battled for the first time since their sectional championship thriller last year, and the rematch did not disappoint, except for maybe the outcome if you're a Lady Clippers fan.

Amboy held an early lead, but Eastland came back and ended up with a 51-49 victory over the Lady Clippers on Feb. 23 at Lanark.

The Lady Clippers jumped out to a 12-3 first-quarter lead. The margin got smaller after each quarter. Amboy struggled with contact all game long. AHS ended the game with four more baskets than Eastland, but the Lady Cougars converted 19 free throws compared to just seven for Amboy.

The Lady Clippers were led by Mallory Powers with 19 points, 12 rebounds and four steals. Abi Payne added 14 points, four caroms and four assists. Gabby Jones dropped in seven points and grabbed five rebounds before fouling out. Olivia Dinges, also hindered by fouls, added five points and four boards, while Brianna Blaine chipped in two points and three steals, and Madelyn McLaughlin supplied two points, three rebounds and a pair of assists.

Two days later, Amboy hosted Eastland and the drama continued, but the outcome was much more to the Lady Clippers' liking. They continued building on a halftime lead and came away with a big 66-52 victory over Eastland.

The Lady Clippers held leads of 15-12 after one and 31-26 at intermission. Amboy went up by double-digits in the third period when it outscored the Lady Cougars, 18-10. AHS continued to convert big baskets in the fourth to thwart off any Eastland comeback attempts.

Five players scored at least nine points for the Lady Clippers. The balanced attack was led by Gabby Jones with 16 points. She also pulled down five rebounds and dished out four assists. Powers was next with 15 points, 10 rebounds, four assists and three steals. Payne and Dinges both supplied 13 points, while Payne led with



*Amboy faced Eastland twice last week. The first on Feb. 23 in Lanark where Eastland won 51-49. Two days later, the teams faced off again, this time in Amboy, and this time the Lady Clippers came away with a 66-52 victory.*

Photos courtesy of Kirsten Donna



five assists and Dinges had nine rebounds, three blocked shots and four assists. Blaine completed the scoring with nine points and she also picked off eight rebounds. Blaine, Jones and Dinges shot 80 percent, 67 percent and 63 percent, respectively, from the field to give Amboy

its best balanced scoring of the year.

\*\*\*

Amboy took on another talented team, Lena-Winslow, on Feb. 27 at the AHS gym. The Panthers had just come off of two-point losses to Dixon and undefeated Stockton.



The Lady Clippers took control early and then held off Lena-Winslow in the second half for a 57-43 triumph. Amboy was in front 22-7 after the opening stanza and 38-19 at halftime. The Panthers owned the third quarter, but the Lady Clippers righted the ship in the

fourth to post the win.

All five starters hit double figures in scoring for Amboy. Blaine topped the chart with 14 points and she added four rebounds. Gabby Jones was next with 13 points on six of eight shooting. She also had five rebounds, two assists and two steals. Dinges

chipped in with 10 points, eight rebounds, three blocks and two assists, while Powers (10 points, nine rebounds) and Payne (10 points, eight assists, five steals) added to the victory.

Amboy's records now stand at 8-1 overall and 5-1 in conference play.



### IN HONOR OF PAT

*A month ago the Amboy Clippers lost one of their biggest fans, Pat Burke, to cancer. Because Pat was such a huge fan of all of Amboy sports, the Lady Clippers wanted to do something in her honor. They decided to have Pat's initials added to their warm ups. Kaleel's Printing in Dixon generously donated their time and supplies so the Lady Clippers could honor Pat in this way. The girls greatly miss seeing Pat cheer them on from the top of the bleachers but know she is with them in their hearts.*

Photo courtesy of Kirsten Donna

## Clippers suffer pair of losses

**AMBOY** — Amboy struggled to score points and suffered a pair of losses in varsity boys' basketball action last week.

The Clippers were taken out by Freeport Aquin, 61-35, on Feb. 22 at Highland Community College in Freeport.

Aquin grabbed an 11-7 lead after the first quarter, and then it doubled the margin over Amboy at halftime, 24-12. The Bulldogs outscored the Clippers, 20-9, in the third frame to take a commanding lead with just eight minutes left to play.

Trevor Vaessen and Tuck-

er Lindenmeyer topped the Amboy scoring chart with eight points apiece.

\*\*\*

Amboy hung tough with Eastland for a half before the Cougars pulled away in the second half for a 55-34 victory on Feb. 26 at the AHS gym.

The count was knotted at

6-6 after one and Eastland held a narrow 20-16 halftime advantage. The difference came in the third period when the Cougars outscored the Clippers, 17-5.

Connor Simpson pumped in seven points to pace Amboy, while Hayden McCoy and Vaessen each provided five markers.

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2 AXLE FARM WAGONS AND FERTILIZER BUGGIES	9000 LBS.
3 OR MORE AXLES	
DUAL REAR TIRES	33000 LBS.
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AXLE W/ TWO TIRES	18000 LBS.

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Brady Jones

**Girls Basketball**  
Brianna Blaine

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