www.AmboyNews.com

Board discusses remote learning as a permanent part of education

BY BONNIE MORRIS

Volume 165 - Number 44

AMBOY - "Remote learning is here let's deal with it." That sentiment, which was expressed by Amboy School Board member Katie Pratt during the Oct. 20 Board of Education meeting, kick-started a lengthy discussion on what improvements could be made to make remote learning better for everyone involved.

Pratt said the Amboy School District was fortunate because there was a good foundation for remote instruction when the pandemic hit in March. Amboy students already had Chromebooks and familiarity with Google Classroom and other online platforms, unlike some schools that were not as far along with technology. Pratt suggested that rather than focusing only on what teachers and schools are doing, parents should be surveyed to get their opinion - find out what are parents doing right, what could be better, as well as what they need help with. She emphasized that everyone knows education requires parent involvement for students to be successful but this year, that reality has become very clear and is more important than ever. While Amboy schools have been able to

hold in person classes since school started in August, there have been some temporary shifts to remote learning. At Amboy High School, all students were moved to remote learning for two weeks, Oct. 12-23 because so many were in quarantine. Then on Oct. 20, Central School's entire second grade class was also switched to remote learning for two weeks.

Superintendent Joshua Nichols explained that three second grade students had tested positive for COVID-19 and based on advice from the Lee County Health Department, the decision was made. In a letter to parents, Nichols noted that none of the cases were linked back to the school.

"This decision was not made lightly as we recognize the inconvenience and challenges it will cause families. However, we felt it was the best way to protect the health and welfare of our students and staff as we navigate this unprecedented time together," he wrote.

In addition, a two-day transition to remote learning had to be made at Amboy Junior High on Oct. 16 and 19. Fortunately, that situation was not due to illness but rather to a water main break at the junior high on Oct. 15. Students were evacuated from the junior high to the high school that day to finish the rest of their school day. Nichols said the water main could not be repaired right away, so the transition to remote learning was made and everyone did a great job of dealing with the situation.

Pratt and others attending the board meeting, either in person or via Zoom, shared many ideas for improving remote learning.

"Remote learning is not just a temporary thing - we need to stop thinking of it that way," Pratt said. "It's here and we can make it better. Maybe teachers don't need to live stream every class every day and please, no more busy work. We need to clearly state the expectations for what remote students are supposed to be doing every day so they know the expectations - if they don't like it, they can return to in person classes - don't go chasing them.

"We need to change our way of thinking," she continued. "A survey of parents and teachers will help us move forward. What is going right? What can we improve? What do they need? Remote learning is not a placeholder - it's here.'

See SCHOOL page A7

Fourth graders decorate pumpkins courtesy of Amboy Lions Club

AMBOY — The Amboy Lions Club added some fun to the Central School's Fourth Grade Class daily routine with a pumpkin decorating contest. Lion Jim Travi harvested and delivered pumpkins for each fourth grade student at Central School. The pumpkins were donated by Country Kids Produce in Peru.

The fourth grade teachers and the Central School art teacher worked with the students to help them create ideas and then decorate their pumpkins. Once completed, the classes voted on the best decorated pumpkins.

The top six winners were awarded a \$5 gift card each from Meusel's Dairy Delight in Amboy. Dairy Delight also furnished a token to all of the fourth graders for a free ice cream cone to be used during the coming year.

This was an enjoyable activity for the students and hopefully helped them take their minds off of the current pandemic in our community. The students were allowed to take their

decorated pumpkins home to display on their front porches. This is one of many ways that the Amboy Lions serve the community by bringing some fun and enjoyment to our area students. The Club started the Pumpkin Decorating Contest in 2019 with the fourth grade classes and hope to continue this activity yearly.

Draw Down

In other Club news, the annual Draw Down in September was a huge success under the leadership of Lion President Dave Kemp. This year the Draw Down had to be virtual due to the pandemic.

The objective of this Draw Down was to help stimulate local businesses in a small way and to raise funds for the 2021 Amboy High School scholarships.

See LIONS page A2



Winner Addison Bump



Winner Camryn Noble



Winner Avarice Seier



Winner Hannah Shoemaker

Lee County COVID-19 **Update: Oct. 26, 2020**

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department has reported that there is currently an outbreak at Dixon Rehab & Healthcare Center. These cases are not yet reflected in Lee County's numbers

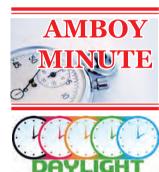
Between Oct. 20 and Oct. 26, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 127 new cases have been reported and here are the ages that were announced: 6 under the age of 10, 1 between the ages of 10-14, 1 between the ages of 11-14, 6 in his or her teens, 26 in his or her 20s, 20 in his or her 30s, 12 in his or her 40s, 19 in his or her 50s, 14 in his or her 60s, 5 in his or her 70s, and 5 in his or her 80s. Twelve of the cases is an inmate in the Dixon Correctional Center.

This brings the total number of cases to 734 as of Oct. 26. Of the 734 cases, 517 have recovered. Currently, there are 6 residents hospitalized due to COVID-19.

Mobile Testing

The Lee County Health Department announced a the State of Illinois is hosting a community drive-through test site on Thursday, Nov. 5. from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Elks Lodge, 1279 Franklin Grove Road, Dixon. Simple nasal swabs will be used, and you will be called with results within 4-7 days. There is no cost for the testing. Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested even if you don't have insurance. Anyone can get tested. You don't have to have symptoms or be sick.

See COVID page A7



ends **FALL BACK** NOV. 1



REGIONAL **CHAMPS**

Amboy's Boys Cross Country team brings home Regional Championship Title

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CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #66 Tony Albiero **PAGE B2**

Obituaries

Tiffany E. Blake

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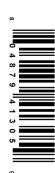
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Inserts

Snyders



Region 1 advances to Tier 2 Mitigations as region reports 11.9 percent rolling positivity rate

ROCKFORD - Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) are announcing additional COVID-19 mitigation efforts that will be implemented in Region 1, Northwestern Illinois, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020. After mitigation efforts initially took effect in Region 1 on Oct. 3, the positivity rate has remained the highest in the state, with the region reporting an 11.9 percent rolling positivity rate today, Oct. 22.

Region 1 has been under Tier 1 of the state's resurgence mitigation plan since Oct. 3, after seeing a 7-day rolling average test positivity rate of 8 percent or above for three consecutive days. Beginning Oct. 25, Northwestern Illinois will face additional mitigations, such as a tighter gathering cap of 10 individuals rather than 25 and new table caps of six rather than 10 when eating out. Region 1 includes Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside

and Winnebago counties. "We've said all along that if things don't start to turn around after two weeks in Tier 1, we can add more stringent measures to help usher in the progress we need to see to get things more open again," said Governor JB Pritzker. "That is now the case in Region 1, which has seen its positivity rise by nearly two points since Oct. 14 alone. Region 1, bordering Wisconsin and Iowa, carries the additional responsibility of navigating a situation where the massive surge of cases in our neighboring states will continue to have a spillover effect. There is no easy fix. So as colder weather comes upon us - and brings flu season along with it - it's imperative that we take extra caution and extra care. Because at the end of the day, this is bigger than you. This is about all of us, and the communities we call home. We have to take care of each

See **REGION 1** page A2

51 Illinois counties at warning level for Coronavirus disease

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today reported 51 counties in Illinois are considered to be at a warning level for novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). A county enters a warning level when two or more COVID-19 risk indicators that measure the amount of COVID-19 increase.

Fifty-one counties are currently reported at a warning level – Adams, Bond, Boone, Carroll, Cass, Christian, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, DeKalb, Douglas, Edwards, Fayette, Ford, Franklin, Gallatin, Greene, Hamilton, Henderson, Jersey, Jo Daviess, Johnson, Kane, Kendall, Knox, LaSalle, Lee, Macon, Macoupin, McDonough, McHenry, Mercer,

Morgan, Moultrie, Ogle, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rock Island, Saline, Shelby, Stephenson, Union, Vermilion, Wabash, Warren, Wayne, Whiteside, Will, Williamson, and Winnebago.

Although the reasons for counties reaching a warning level varies, some of the common factors for an increase in cases and outbreaks are associated with gatherings in people's homes, weddings and funerals, bars and clubs, university and college parties as well as college sports teams, family gatherings, long-term care facilities, correctional centers, schools, and cases among the community at large, especially people in their 20s.

See LEVELS page A7

General Election set for Tuesday, Nov. 3

LEE COUNTY — The General Election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. In this election, voters will decided the next President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives and Senators in Congress, Judges and local officials. Also on the ballot is the constitutional amendment for imposing higher income tax rates on higher income tax levels.

Due to press time, the edition of the Amboy News on Nov. 4th will not have results of the Nov. 3rd election. Those election results will appear on our website at www.AmboyNews. com and in the Nov. 11th edition of the paper. Unofficial results in Lee County will be available at www.

leecountvil.com. In Amboy, voting will be conducted at the Amboy Com-

munity Building, 280 W. Wasson Road, for precincts Amboy 1, Amboy 2, Amboy 3 and Lee Center. In Sublette, the Ellice Dinges Center will be the voting

location for Sublette and May precincts. The Lee County Clerk will be open for in person early voting from 8:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. - noon on Saturday, Oct. 31. The votes cast during the early voting will not be counted until Election Day.

Sublette News

Trick or Treat

Trick or Treat hours for Sublette have been set for Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. Residents with treats will have their porch lights lit. The Sublette Fire Department will be patrolling the streets for the safety of trick or treaters.

Fire Department featured

The Sublette Fire Department was recently featured on the This Week in AgriBusiness TV program. Nick Dinges, Assistant Fire Chief, was interviewed by Max Armstrong regarding volunteerism in rural fire departments. The interview was videoed at the Sublette Fire Station.

Recycle! Recycle!



Amy Johnson Lee County Circuit Clerk Time for New Leadership

VOTE November 3rd!!!

ADAM HAS OUR BACKS:

Paid for by Citizens for Amy Johnson

★ Working to Restore our way of Life,

and Renew the American Dream

Protecting the Family Farm and

and First Responders

Farm Bill

Rebuild a strong and healthy economy,

★ Fighting for our brave Troops, Veterans,

★ Defending our American Freedoms

ADAM

KINZIN

LIONS continued from page A1-



Winner Jasmine Rhodenbaugh



Each ticket purchased gave the purchaser a \$30 gift certificate to be used at an Amboy or Sublette business establishment. The \$30 certificates were purchased by the Club from the Draw Down proceeds. As in the past, all ticket purchasers were eligible to win the \$2,000 grand prize. This year's winner was Mr. and Mrs. Larry Eisenberg, of Amboy.

To brighten up the Amboy Welcome signs after the faded summer blooms were removed, Lion Jim Travi secured donations for various fall harvest decorations. Autumn decorations were donated by Rick and Debbie Cardot (pumpkins, broom grass, Indian corn), Willis family (pampas grass), and hay bales from Dan and Mary Schetrompf.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the Amboy Lions activities or becoming a member, please look us up on our Facebook page(www.facebook. com/amboylionsclub) or contact a Lion member.

REGION 1 continued from page A1 -

'We know that people and communities need to work together to lower viral spread and reduce the number of new cases being diagnosed," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "I urge people in Region 1 to look at their activities and what they can do to reduce spread. Consider postponing having people over to your home for a celebration, make

sure you are distancing from other people, and wear your mask anytime you're around

For Region 1, additional mitigation measures taking effect October 25 include the following:

Bars and Restaurants

 Reduce party size from 10 to six individuals Meetings, Social Events

and Gatherings • Maximum indoor/out-

- door gathering size of 10 individuals o Applicable to professional, religious, cultural and
- social group gatherings o Not applicable to students participating in-person
- classroom learning o This does not reduce the overall facility capacity dictated by general business
- guidance, such as office, retail, etc. o Not applicable to sports,

see sports guidance

Indoor recreation

- Maintain lesser of 25 people/25 percent of capacity
- No groups more than 10 individuals
- Does not apply to fitness These mitigations do not apply to schools or polling

In response to the rising

test positivity rate across the state, the administration continues to strengthen its nation-leading testing operation. Illinois is now averaging over 70,000 tests per day and today the administration reported surpassing 7 million total tests. Testing is readily available throughout the state, as it remains a critical step to reduce the spread of the virus, given that a positive test result begins the contact tracing process to prevent further spread in Illinois' communities. To find the nearest testing center, please visit DPH.Illinois.Gov/Testing.

In the coming days, IDPH will continue to track the positivity rate in Region 1 to determine if mitigations can be relaxed, if additional mitigations are required, or if current mitigation should remain in place.

IDPH has been working closely with local health departments in Region 1 to provide education to the public and offer information to businesses and organizations on safe ways to reopen. The administration has also provided guidance to retail stores, restaurants, offices, and businesses, as well as guidelines for outdoor events, sports, and recreation. The significance of face coverings, social distancing, and hand washing have been continuously emphasized by the administration throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Monday, Oct. 19, the administration announced Tier 1 COVID-19 resurgence mitigations will be implemented in Region 5, in Southern Illinois, beginning today, Oct. 22. On Tuesday, the administration announced Tier 1 resurgence mitigations will be implemented in Region 7 (Will and Kankakee counties) and Region 8 (Kane and DuPage counties), beginning tomorrow, Oct. 23. These regions are seeing a 7-day rolling positivity rate of 8 percent or above for three consecutive days, which exceeds the threshold set for establishing mitigation measures under the state's Restore Illinois Plan. Currently, four of the 11 public health regions have now triggered the state's failsafe state-action metric.

A full list of mitigation measures pertaining to some businesses and industries may be found on the DCEO

State agency calls for applications for CARES payments

\$140 million in CARES payments to Medicaid providers, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is encouraging

SPRINGFIELD – Fol- Medicaid providers to apply lowing the Pritzker admin- for the second round of fundistration's announcement of ing through its HFS CARES Portal before the deadline of Oct. 31, 2020.

> "Although we've received hundreds of applications for funding, we know there are

providers out there that still haven't started an application," said Theresa Eagleson HFS Director "This pandemic has magnified inequities in our health system, and we especially want our community partners in disproportionately impacted areas to apply."

Earlier this year, the Illinois General Assembly appropriated funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to HFS to distribute to Illinois Medicaid providers. To help providers apply for and receive this money, HFS created a streamlined portal at CARE-

Sapp.hfs.illinois.gov. The portal is open from Sept. 29, through noon on Saturday, Oct. 31. Providers are advised not to wait until the last minute because it may take significant time to gather the information required for

an application. CARES payments can be used to offset unexpected costs incurred due to COVID-19.

See CARES page A4

Rep. Demmer Works Hard for Us

Paid for by Kinzinger for Congress



Improving access to healthcare for communities across Illinois

U.S. CONGRESS

- Fighting for the unemployed & small businesses during COVID
- Sponsoring ethics reform bills to clean up state government
 - Bringing new jobs and new investments to help our area

Endorsed by:

✓ Illinois Farm Bureau

Sheriffs of Illinois

Illinois Health Care Assoc.





Got Yard Work? X

The Amboy Volleyball team, in honor of Breast Cancer/Cancer month, is offering yard work services to raise money to donate to CGH Women's Health Fund. Proceeds will go towards:

- Free mammograms for every Sauk Valley woman

- Free hot meals to patients receiving chemotherapy

Gas cards to help patients get treatment

Comfort bags for each patient

- And much more!

To schedule a time for your yard work, please contact Coach Dunlap at 815-757-6092 or by email at adunlap@amboy.net. Donations are greatly appreciated!

The Amboy Volleyball team thanks you for your continued support as we continue to fight cancer together!

10282020

ON NOVEMBER 3RD VOTE DAN SWANSON FOR CONTINUED LEADERSHIP AND A REPRESENTATIVE VOICE IN SPRINGFIELD.



PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF DAN SWANSON





209 S Jefferson Ave., Amboy \$95,900 Two story Amboy home. Offers

4 bedrooms & 1 1/2 baths. Spacious main floor with living, dining, kitchen, & laundry. Take a walk up the beautiful open

staircase to the second story to find a bathroom along with all of the bedrooms. Also has an unfinished basement & walk up attic. Furnace was just replaced this year! Outside you will find a large deck with stairs & a ramp as well as a 2 car garage with a shop that can be accessed from both the alley & the front. Please note that the renter has been in the home for 10+ years, rent is \$600 a month



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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

Thank Yous

Thank you to an anonymous donor who gave a large donation. Thank you to Hugh and Susan McCoy for their monetary donation. Thank you to Carolyn Floto for the cards and the monetary donation. Thank you Dixon Walmart for supporting us with their donation. Thank you to Mendota Hills Campground for their large donation. Thank you to John and Sheila Hemminger for the furniture. We are grateful to all our volunteers who help us during homework club: Fran, Donna, Chris, Kelsey, Shannon, Will, Maddy, Maggie, Kaylee, Kimber, and Robert. Another special thank you to our peer tutors Chloe and Jaden as well. Everyone has their special talents they bring to the table to help our students.

If You are in Need If you or someone else you know needs anything, for

example, food, toiletries, or medicine, please don't hesitate to contact Eileen Piper at 815-440-8195. She can arrange for someone to pick and drop off those items in a safe and timely manner. We also have extra meat, milk, eggs, and bread if you need them.

A Note to say hello or Happy Birthday in November We sent out a few birthday cards this month.

If you know any person, young or old who is need of a Hello or a Happy Birthday. Please reach out to us via Facebook Messaging or please call Eileen Piper at 815-440-8195. We have given out over 125+ cards.

Final Word

A Prayer to Heal Stress

Loving God, please grant me peace of mind and calm my troubled heart. ... Give me the strength and clarity of mind to find my purpose and walk the path you've laid out for me. I trust your Love God, and know that you will heal this stress. Just as the sun rises each day against the dark of night.

U. OF I. EXTENSION NEWS

Safety Education website for

updates, or contact the PSEP

Up your small

business export

game with help

from SBDC

SBDC International Trade

Centers can help small busi-

nesses take advantage of ex-

porting. University of Illinois

Extension is providing a free

online webinar at noon, Nov.

10 to cover the benefits and

opportunities available from

State and federal trade

comotion and export funding programs available will

be discussed, including the

Illinois' State Export Promo-

tion grant program. ISTEP

provides Illinois' small busi-

nesses with both financial

and technical assistance to

nois.edu/lgeExport111020.

For a reasonable accom-

modation to participate in

the webinar, contact Mike

Delany at mdelany2@illi-

Presenters include Jean

Lin, program manager for the

International Trade Center

at College of DuPage, and

Mariel Huasanga, director

of the International Trade

Center at Champaign County

Register online at go.illi-

increase their exports.

exporting.

Learn ways the Illinois

office at 800-644-2123.

All Illinois pesticide training, testing moves online

All University of Illinois Extension's Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) training and testing will be completed online through spring 2021. The change protects the health of attendees, staff, and communities where testing has been held, says Michelle Wiesbrook, Illinois Extension specialist. Several options are available to replace in-person testing and training,

"Online, asynchronous training courses allow participates to complete the training on their own schedule and at their own pace," Wiesbrook says. "The courses, taught by PSEP specialists, are engaging and provide exam-preparation questions throughout." Participants who prefer may purchase printed self-study training publications for each license category at Pubs Plus. Workbooks align with the manuals and provide sample questions.

Testing

An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 certification exams will be administered by the Illinois Department of Agriculture during 2021. The majority of those tests will be administered online using a commercial proctoring service. Participants must complete the online test in the allotted time, similar to in-person testing.

Limited in-person testing is available for participants needing alternative testing options. "Due to social-distancing requirements and occupancy restrictions, there will be limited availability of in-person testing sessions," Wiesbrook says. "IDA is working to increase location availability, and this will likely evolve rapidly over the next several months."

Training and testing will be rolled out from Nov. 1 to March 1. Check the Pesticide

Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews. com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department will have Immunization Clinics for Children and Adults by appointment only. Call 815-284-3371 to make an appointment or for information on other services available. You may also visit the website at www.lchd.com for a list of services available

DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 7 to 11 a.m on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Do It Best Corporation, 816 W. Progress Dr. Call 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood. org to make an appointment to donate.

ROCK FALLS-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 2, at the Rock River Christian Center, 1800 Prophet Rd. Call 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate.

Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 2, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

MENDOTA-OSF Healthcare St. Paul Medical Center will host a Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center Blood and Plasma Drive from 12 to 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 6, in Conference Room C. Call Community Health Services at 815-539-1411 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are required.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 2020 S. West St.

maintenance building.

AMBOY-The City of

MAY TWP-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at the township

Granny Rose - Tank

Tank is a handsome Pit Bull Terrier that came to the shelter from animal control. He was adopted, but recently returned as it was not a good fit. His age is approximately 5 years old and he is neutered and fully vaccinated. Tank has a short black coat with white markings and weighs 80 pounds. This big boy is solid built and has a very friendly disposition. Tank loves attention from people and enjoys playing with toys---especially the squeaky ones! He might enjoy a larger dog companion, but he is not good with cats or smaller dogs. Tank seems housebroke and his manners are fairly good although he does pull on the leash. He is a big strong boy that likes to give big "doggy kisses." To see Tank, call Granny Rose Animal Shelter at 815-288-PETS(7387) or visit www.grannyrose.org.

Photo contributed

Vote Republican November 3, 2020 for Judge of Fifteenth Judicial Circuit **CHARLES BOONSTRA** for Lee County States Attorney **AMY JOHNSON** for Lee County Circuit Clerk **JESSE PARTINGTON** for Lee County Coroner Paid for by the Lee County Republicans 10282020

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8

p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12, at the township building, 2202 Shaw Rd.



VIRTUAL DRAW DOWN

GREEN RIVER SADDLE CLUB

Due to COVID restrictions the event will be Live on Facebook Nov. 14 at 2 p.m.

Anyone purchasing a \$40 ticket will receive 2 chances to win!

Call Lois at 815-757-6583 for ticket information

FARMLAND AUCTION: 400± ACRES - 4 TRACTS

SAT, NOV 14, 2020 11:00 AM

Farm Location: 3900 Howlett Rd, Paw Paw, IL Auction Location: VFW Post #540, 1560 IL-38, Dixon, IL

SEC 36 - WILLOW CREEK TWP - LEE COUNTY, IL Tract 1: 125± Ac 139.0 PI - Tract 2: 80± Ac 134.8 PI Tract 3: 95± Ac 133.5 PI - Tract 4: 100± Ac 138.6 PI Tracts to be offered as "CHOICE" — 392 Total Tillable Acres

Owners: Kathleen Tryner & Elizabeth Mager Richard A. Olson & Assoc.

See website for Flyer, Terms, Maps and more info.

www.richardaolson.com

The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854 Kip Cheek, Publisher Tonja Greenfield, General Manager Bonnie Morris, Editor Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News 245 E. Main St., Amboy, IL 61310 Phone: 815-857-2311 Fax: 815-857-2517 Periodicals postage paid at Amboy. IL Publication Number USPS 016820

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Classified Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday All Editorial Deadline: 4 p.m. Friday **Letters Policy:** The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The

newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.

NOTICE OF

VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING

Cathy Myers, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that beginning THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 2020, VOTE BY MAIL and EARLY VOTING will be conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse, 112 E. Second St., Dixon.

VOTE BY MAIL~ signed applications will be accepted through Thursday, October 29, 2020 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~ must be conducted in person Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

MASKS MUST BE WORN WITHIN THE **COURTHOUSE** PLEASE NOTE: Lee County Courthouse will be

closed October 12, 2020. 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 Email: election@countyoflee.org **Phone:** 815-288-3309 **Cathy Myers**

 $_{09232020}$ Lee County Clerk & Recorder

I am asking for your vote to Re-elect **Lee County Circuit Clerk Denise McCaffrey Erhmann Experience counts**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Denise McCaffrey Erhmann

Re-elect Lee County Circuit Clerk

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Roll Your #SleeveUp to #FightFlu

SPRINGFIELD – Getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever as we brace for a dual outbreak of flu and COVID-19 this fall and winter. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and local health departments across Illinois are challenging everyone to roll their #SleeveUp to get a flu shot and help protect not only themselves, but those around them.

"There is the potential that people could become co-infected with both flu and COVID-19," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "Although a COVID-19 vaccine is still being developed and tested, we do have a vaccine to combat this season's anticipated flu viruses. I want to challenge everyone to roll their #SleeveUp and show us you that you've received your flu shot and are committed to protect those around you."

Show your support by using the hashtag #SleeveUp on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok) and show you care about the health of those around you and are doing your part to #FightFlu. For the IDPH #SleeveUp social media toolkit, please visit http://www.dph.illinois.gov/ sleeveup.

By increasing the number of people who are vaccinated, we can help reduce the number of flu illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths,

Amboy News Obituary Policy

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

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Designated Managing

Broker



Mary Lovgren, 815-994-1449



Realtor/Broker 312-952-3409

Salvador Bayron,

Lisa Maher, Realtor/Broker 773-459-5472



Justin Wiley, Realtor/Broker

> Marcia Kosowski, Realtor/Broker 815-582-2381

which can in turn help reduce the burden on our medical system and save medical resources for patients with COVID-19.

Wearing a mask, washing your hands often, getting a flu vaccine, and watching your distance are four simple actions that everyone, especially people at higher risk of developing serious flu complications, should take to help reduce the spread of flu.

- · Mask Up: Cover your nose and mouth with a mask when out in public.
- · Lather Up: Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
- · Sleeve Up: Roll up your sleeve to get a flu shot. • Back Up: Keep 6 feet
- of distance between you and The more people vacci-

nated against flu, the more people protected from flu. Learn more: https://www. cdc.gov/flu/season/protectyour-health.html.

OBITUARIES

Tiffany E. Blake Dec. 11, 1970 - Oct. 18, 2020

SUBLETTE — Tiffany E. Blake, 49, of Sublette, died unexpectedly at her home Sunday, Oct. 18, 2020.

Tiffany was born Dec. 11, 1970 in Dixon to Ronald and Marlene (Conway) Egler.

Tiffany was blessed to have three children, Alexis (Cassy Fey) Ferguson of Ky., Morgan (Caylan Phillips) Ferguson, of Amboy, Lucas Blake of Henderson, Nevada, and bonus son, Tristen (Jessica) Blake, of Maryland, and bonus daughter, Chelsea Heerdt, of Dixon; two beautiful grandchildren, Jaxen and Jacey Phillips, who lit up her life with so much happiness, and two bonus grandchildren, Rylynn Durham and Andi Blake; and Don Erbes, her soulmate who shared her life and her family.

Tiffany is survived by

her parents; brothers, Chad (Heather) Egler, of Mendota, Ryan (Araceli) Saratoga Springs, of Utah, and Miguel (Maca) Celestino, of Madrid, Spain; many nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles she loved dearly; her children's fathers, Scott Ferguson and Jeff Blake; and special friends, Nick Wittenauer and Tim Ikens. She was preceded in death

by her maternal grandparents, Joe and Dorothy Conway, and paternal grandparents, Donald Egler, Ellen and Gifford Fordham. Tiffany had an infectious

smile that would light up a room and a heart of gold. Tiffany enjoyed spending

as much time as she could with family and friends and loved being a grandma, playing games on her iPad



and creating beautiful diamond art.

There will be a private family funeral on Wednesday, Oct. 28, and in the spring there will be a celebration of life and all are invited. Arrangements by the

Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Condolences can be left at

www.thejonesfh.com.

Jesse White reminds motorists to help keep Illinois roads clean and safe

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding motorists to drive safely and keep roads and highways clean.

"Although traffic has decreased due to the pandemic, littering can be a traffic safety issue on our roads whether it is from a truck whose truckload is uncovered or from a driver who has disposed of garbage out of a car window," said White. "We should be mindful of the dangers of littering to others and to our environment," said White.

According to the Illinois Litter Control Act, there is a mandatory minimum fine of \$50 for any person who is convicted of violating this act and a maximum fine of \$1,500 and possible A second conviction can result in

up to one year in jail and a maximum fine of \$2,500. White recommends the following

tips to help keep our roadways clean

• Always carry a trash bag in your

car. If you have litter, there will be somewhere to dispose of it. Securely cover open loads on all

- · Clean out pickup truck beds. Ran-
- dom trash left in the back of pickups can easily blow out onto the street. • Set an example for others. Children
- often imitate what they see. Prevent bad behavior by picking up after ourselves and not littering. • Put cigarette butts where they be-
- long: in ashtrays.

CARES continued from page A2-

Examples include expenses related to providing PPE for employees or customers, deep cleaning services, payroll expenses for hazard pay, and other healthcare supplies. CARES payments cannot be used to replace lost revenue, but can be used for the reimbursement of regular costs, such as rent and utilities, that providers are having trouble covering because of lost revenue due to unexpected lower utilizations as a result of the pandemic. The payments may be applied to eligible expenses from March 1 to Dec. 30, 2020. Providers who have already received

funding from other state and federal sources are still eligible for these payments.

HFS will consider the other funds received when determining payment award amounts. For help with applications, providers

can email HFS.CARES@illinois.gov or call 866-385-0600 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call center support is available in English and Spanish.



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Pastor Barb Otten

960 U.S. Route 52

Phone 857-2225

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Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Rev. Randy Fronek

Locust Street, Sublette

Phone 815-849-5412

Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.

Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church

Pastor John Kalebaugh

Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52

Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930

10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

Harmon United Methodist Church

Pastor Leanne Keate

202 N. Grove, Harmon

Phone 359-7302

Worship - 8:30 a.m.

CH DIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org

St. Patrick Church

New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 8am-5 pm

> St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670

New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670

New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st Mass: Sunday, 9 am

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

Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m

First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center www.LeeCenter-UCC.org

> Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

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

Worship 10:30 a.m.

www.graceisforyou.com

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

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

First Baptist Church Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 www.fbcamboy.com Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.

Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous addictions program from 7-9 p.m.

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

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

St. Mary's Church

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

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

KSB Medical Center

The Amboy News 815-857-2311



Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. The Following Community Businesses Sponsor Area

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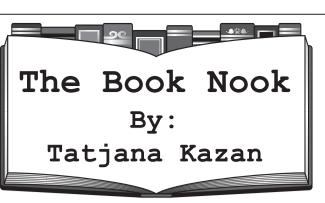
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"How to Catch a Yeti,"



Almost Happ

The writer Natalia Ginzburg was obsessed with family. It is "where everything starts, where the germs grow," she once said. Ginzburg, who died in 1991, was one of the great Italian post-war generation of writers. Long neglected in the English-speaking world, she is enjoying a revival, due perhaps to the immense success of Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan Quartet. In her beautiful, recently reissued novel "Happiness, as Such," a woman writes to her son in England about his father's death: "Happiness made out of nothing, because I knew that even if my relationship with your father wasn't about hatred anymore it was still made of something sad and cowardly. But I remember the sunset, beautiful pink clouds over the city, and for the first time in a long time I was almost serene, almost happy.

The story is told in letters, augmented by a third-person narrative. In 1970, when the militant Red Brigades were founded in Italy, an upper-class family's beloved only son, Michele, flees to England because of his radical politics. His mother and sisters are left to clean up his mess - debts, his destitute girlfriend Mara who has just given birth to possibly his baby, a machine gun in a stove that needs to be disposed of.

We meet Adriana, the mother, on her forty-third birthday in her detested new house in the country. She sits down to write one of her many letters to her son. She is witty, cajoling, skeptical. "But people don't love each other only for happy memories," she tells Michele, "at a certain point in life, you realize that you just love the memories." An assortment of off-center characters float in and out Adriana's life, including Michele's friend Osvaldo Ventura, "his hair was grey-blond, his skin flushed pink, his eyes yellow," who is perhaps in love with Michele. And Mara, the high maintenance moocher with her jaundiced view of everyone but Michele, whose only worldly possession is a fur coat. "I chat with people I meet in the park and tell them lies. It's nice to talk to strangers when you're depressed. At least you can make things up."

Michele's sister Angelica is the novel's heart. She takes care of everybody and everything, including tossing the rusty machine gun into the Tiber River. When a horrific tragedy strikes the family, it falls to Angelica to hold things together. She writes to Mara, "But we're all unreliable and broken somewhere inside and sometimes it seems desperately attractive to be unrooted and breathing nothing but your own solitude. That's how people find each other, and understand."

SVCC to host virtual job fair Oct. 28

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College will host a virtual job fair on Wednesday, Oct. 28. Area employers will be available 9 – 11 a.m. and 2 - 4 p.m. for networking and discussing open positions.

The public is invited to participate and network with local manufacturing employers during this virtual event. Learn about available job opportunities and interview on the spot! Registration is required for all job seekers. Please register at svcc.edu/jobfair to complete the online form and learn more about opportunities during this event and future hiring events.

This particular event is geared toward the manufacturing industry; however, monthly job fairs will be held throughout the year. SVCC will host virtual job fairs the last Wednesday of every month, excluding December. Area businesses are encouraged to represent their companies and find new talent through these virtual job fairs. For event information, contact Dana Chacon 815-835-6294 or visit svcc.edu/jobfair.



BY EMILY GOFF Head Librarian

ew books for the month of October will be here any day. If you see you one that you want, please call or Facebook message the library with your request.

New books in the Adult Library are:

"The Inheritance Games," by Jennifer Lynn

"Unbirthday," by Liz Braswell

"Return to Virgin River," by Robyn Carr "My Kind of Christmas,"

by Robyn Carr "The Sentinel," by Lee

"Wrapped Up for Christmas," by Katlyn Duncan "A Time for Mercy," by John Grisham

"Troubles in Paradise,"

by Elin Hilderbrand "Truly, Madly, Deeply,"

by Karen Kingsbury "Jingle All The Way," by Debbie Macomber

"Sprinkle With Murder," by Jenn McKinlay "The Book of Two Ways,"

by Jodi Picoult "Vanishing Girls," by

Lisa Regan "Silent Bite," by David Rosenfelt

"Christmas at Holiday House," by RaeAnne Thayne "The Christmas Backup

Plan," by Lori Wilde
"Shakeup," by Stuart Woods

New books in the Children's Library are:

"The Bad Seed," by Jory

"Cozy," by Jan Brett "The Deep End," by Jeff

"The Great Pet Heist," by Emily Ecton

by Adam Wallace

"I Am Anne Frank," by Brad Meltzer

"I Survived the Shark Attacks of 1916 (Graphic Novel)," by Lauren Tarshis "Little Acorn," by Mel-

anie Joyce "On Account of the

Gum," by Adam Rex "Super Pete," by James

"That Monster on the Block," by Sue Gantz-Smith

"What Was Pearl Harbor?," by Patricia Demunth "What Was the Ice Age?," by Nico Medina "What Was the Under-

ground?," by Yona Mc-Donough "What Was Woodstock?,"

by Joan Holub "What Were the Roaring Twenties?," by Michele

Mortlock "What Were the Salem Witch Trials?," by Joan Holub

"Where is the Amazon?," by Sarah Fabiny

"Who Was Annie Oakley?," by Stephanie Spinner

"Who Was Charles Dickens?," by Pamela Pollack

"Who Was Clara Barton?," by Stephanie Spinner "Who Was Daniel

Boone?," by Sydelle Kramer Who Was H.J. Heinz?-Michael Burgan

"Who Was Jim Henson?," by Joan Holub

"Who Was Johnny Appleseed?," by John Houlb

"Who Was Leonardo Da Vinci?," by Roberta Edwards

We are open our regular hours of 11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays.

We are also offering curbside pickup for those that would like to use that option.

Don't forget that we do have DVD checkout outs. All DVDs are able to be checked out for two weeks.

Pankhurst Memorial Library

3 South Jefferson Avenue Amboy IL 61310 815-857-3925

OSF Medical Center to host blood drive

MENDOTA — Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center (MVRBC) will hold a blood drive from noon until 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6, 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 or by calling 833-610-1025. For additional information,

potential donors or physicians may send inquiries to 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.



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or firefighting by joining your local fire department! AFPD has secured grants for firefighter

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entry. One entry per child. Submissions will be accepted until Friday, Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. Voting begins on Oct. 1 and runs through Friday, Nov. 6.

The top 3 vote getters will receive a candy prize. This contest is open to children ages 12 and under.

Winners will be announced in the Nov. 11th edition of the paper along with a picture of the winning pumpkins.

This contest is sponsored by the Amboy News, the City of Amboy, Amboy Lions Club, and Amboy Food and Liquor.

pinion

By Scott Reeder

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

Neither side is being particularly honest on proposed amendment

income tax amendment to the Illinois Constitution, neither side is being particularly honest.

Sadly, that's come to be expected in any political campaign, but it doesn't make it any easier for voters to make an informed decision as they cast their votes before polls close Nov. 3.

What the proposal would do is move Illinois from its current flat income tax rate of 4.95 percent to a graduated income tax that takes a higher percentage of folk's income as they

Gov. JB Pritzker and other advocates of the change say it will lower taxes for 97 percent of Illinoisans and raise it for just 3 percent.

Maybe. But probably not the case for the long haul.

Here's why - the rates aren't included in the constitutional amendment. The amendment empowers the Illinois Legislature to set the rates at whatever it sees fit.

It is true that the Legislature has passed a measure setting rates that would very slightly reduce taxes for most people and jack it up for top earners. But – and this is a big but folks – Illinois lawmakers could change rates at any time for anyone. So, the rates they are proposing almost certainly won't be permanent.

In fact, since top earners derive much of their income, not from paychecks but from investments, fluctuations in the stock market would make it hard to depend on revenue under the proposal year-to-year.

That's why it's likely the higher rates will spread downward to those earning much less.

When the state constitution was drafted in 1970, a flat tax rate was created as a deterrent to lawmakers routinely raising rates. The idea was that if all voters would see more withheld

Luckily, Anheuser-Busch is here to help. Budweiser's

responsible drinking campaign, "Drink Wiser" is focused

on responsible drinking behaviors to help keep you and

your friends safe. However you plan to celebrate, be sure to

hydrate between Buds and plan ahead for a safe ride home.

damage for you and your loved ones.

Then it comes to the proposed Guest Column from their paychecks, lawmakers would think income tax amendment to the twice before increasing taxes. On the other hand, opponents of the change

haven't exactly been paragons of virtue either. For example, one of the most oft repeated

lines is that creating a progressive income tax will lead to taxing retirement incomes. Lawmakers could tax retirement income

now, but choose not to. They could choose to tax retirements if the constitutional amendment is passed, but it's a stretch to think one causes the other. One often shared meme on social media is,

"Every state with a progressive income tax, taxes retirement income.' Well, only three states --Illinois, Pennsylva-

nia and Mississippi -- don't tax proceeds from

retirement accounts or pensions. But Mississippi has a progressive income tax, so that statement isn't accurate.

Also, Alabama and Hawaii don't tax pensions but both have progressive income taxes.

So, the argument is spurious at best.

That said, there are sound reasons not to alter our state's constitution and give greater taxing powers to legislators.

I routinely receive letters and emails from readers saying they are leaving the state because of the high taxes levied here. It's not just the income tax, it's the aggregate load of property, income, sales and business taxes that are fueling

Passing this amendment will spur more wealthy individuals and businesses to leave for better managed, tax-friendly states. And when businesses leave, workers will follow.

Somehow, we need to stem the flow of people and jobs from this great state.

The governor and Democratic legislative leaders need to

For more than 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler

embrace reform before they even think of asking voters for more taxing power.

Here are some good places to start:

- Reduce the number of governmental entities in Illinois. Illinois has about 7,000, much more than any other state and this is an expensive, inefficient way of delivering services. Whether it is mosquito control boards, townships, libraries, school districts or a host of other entities, we need to consolidate.
- Bring pension reform to Illinois. The Land of Lincoln has the worst funded pension system in the nation and desperately needs to reduce its liabilities. For too long, lawmakers have talked but failed to act on ways of reducing costs that contribute to an unfunded liability that exceeds \$130 billion.
- Embrace ethics reform. Four of the last 10 men elected Illinois governor have ended up in prison. Commonwealth Edison is cooperating with federal prosecutors in an apparent corruption investigation of House Speaker Michael Madigan. And a host of legislators and other state officials have gone to prison over the years on corruption charges. It's time for lawmakers to implement reforms and end this culture of insider deals and pay-to-play politics.

These are reforms well within the power of the General Assembly to address. And, yet, they haven't. Only after they have they done so, should we even consider amending our

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and a freelance reporter. He can be reached by email at ScottReeder1965@gmail.com.

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mmays@amboynews.com Something to say?

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

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

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 tgreen field @amboynews.comThe Amboy News reserves the right to edit or reject any

letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, its management and or ownership.

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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.

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As the spookiest season of the year draws near, Americans partners have invested more than \$1 billion in responsible everywhere are stocking up on pumpkins and candy corn drinking initiatives and community-based programs to prevent in preparation for Halloween night. But as witches ready underage-drinking, impaired driving and other harmful use of their brooms and goblins prepare to fright, make sure you alcohol. At G&M Distributors, we're proud to work alongside take time out to make a plan to keep yourself and those in Anheuser-Busch to ensure that you can enjoy Halloween in your community safe. Unlike the scares on Oct. 31, making a safe and sweet way. irresponsible choices when drinking can cause longstanding

This Halloween, leave the nightmares to the monsters and Drink Wiser under the moonlight.

Wishing everyone a safe night full of hair-raising trickery

Sincerely, Mary Adolphson **Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator**

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Letters to the Editor

Plan ahead for a safe ride home



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Oct. 29. 1920

The Amboy Milk Products Company are issuing a notice to their patrons to the effect that after Nov. 1, the manufacture of butter will be discontinued at the Amboy creamery, as the condensing plant will then be in operation.

Miss Irma Becker of Mendota spent the weekend at Happy Home Farm.

Charles Elliott who is attending school here, spent his vacation this week at his home near West Brooklyn.

75 Years Ago Oct. 25, 1945 Donald G. Smith pastor of the Bap-

tist Church, has left for Detroit, Mich.,

where he will be ordained Friday by

his home church, The Gratiot Avenue

Baptist Church.

Missess Audry Johnson, Lois Hinkle, Betty Morrissey, Charlotte Bothe and Ruth Donnelly enjoyed a slumber party last Wednesday night at the home of Miss Joanne Branigan.

Miss Josephine Egan was here from Geneva Friday calling on friends.

50 Years Ago Oct. 29, 1970

Seven Amboy students and three from Sublette were among the students named State Scholars in the 1971-1972 competitive State Scholarship Program. The Amboy students named are Bruce E. Brown, Lynda A. Grasser, Barbara G. Hiatt, Kenton Koppien, Kathleen M. O'Brien, Robert P. Smith and Carol J. Stahr. From Sublette are Mary L. Florschuetz, Barbara S. Kelly and Myron

Lee County voters will go to the polls next Tuesday, Nov. 3 to elect the candidates of their choice and to express their wishes on the various questions being presented to them.

25 Years Ago Nov. 2, 1995 Amboy's Annual Halloween Parade

last Sunday afternoon brought out a wide

1995 was given to Matt Walter, Catherine Schamberger, Ella Engelkes, Ryan Engelbarts, Phillip Gedgaud, Ashley Dinges and Aaron Rook. The award is given in memory of Curtis Boehle to one player from each team in the Amboy Youth Soccer League who exemplifies good sportsmanship.

variety of costumes and characters. The Curtis Boehle Soccer Award for

LEVELS continued from page A1 –

Public health officials are observing businesses blatantly disregarding mitigation measures, people not social distancing, gathering in large groups, and not using face coverings. Mayors, local law enforcement, state's attorneys, and other community leaders can be influential in ensuring citizens and businesses follow best practices.

Several counties are taking swift action to help slow spread of the virus, including increasing testing opportunities, stressing the importance of testing to providers, hiring additional contact tracers, working with schools, and meeting with local leaders.

IDPH uses numerous indicators when determining if a county is experiencing stable COVID-19 activity, or if there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county.

A county is considered at the warning level when at least two of the following metrics triggers a warning.

- New cases per 100,000 people. If there are more than 50 new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning. • Number of deaths. This metric indi-
- cates a warning when the weekly number of deaths increases more than 20% for two consecutive weeks. • Weekly test positivity. This metric
- indicates a warning when the 7-day test positivity rate rises above 8%.
- ICU availability. If there are fewer than 20% of intensive care units available in the region, this triggers a warning.
- Weekly emergency department visits. This metric indicates a warning when the weekly percent of COVID-19-like-illness emergency department visits increase by more than 20% for two consecutive weeks.
- Weekly hospital admissions. A warning is triggered when the weekly number of hospital admissions for COVID-19-likeillness increases by more than 20% for two consecutive weeks.
- Tests performed. This metric is used to provide context and indicate if more testing is needed in the county.

 Clusters. This metric looks at the percent of COVID-19 cases associated with clusters or outbreaks and is used to understand large increase in cases.

These metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness to help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions about personal and family gatherings, as well as what activities they choose to do.

The metrics are updated weekly, from the Sunday-Saturday of the prior week.

A map and information of each county's status can be found on the IDPH website at https://www.dph.illinois.gov/county-

COVID continued from page A1

The Unified Command Team would like to remind our community that COVID-19 remains in our area and continues to be a real threat. Some people who have tested positive have had no symptoms or mild symptoms. Others have felt miserable or even been

Although there are individuals considered at a higher risk for complications due to COVID-19, some otherwise healthy people have also become very sick. The more the virus spreads & the more cases we have locally, the risk of very ill or hospitalized individuals increases.

Please, for yourself and others, follow the state and federal recommendations. It's easy to remember as the 3 W's: Wash your hands; Watch your distance; and Wear your mask.

Also, we'd like to mention the process of contact tracing. If your local health department tries to contact you, please answer or return their call. Some people may feel distrustful or afraid of the term "contact tracing." This is actually a strategy used for many years in public health to reduce the spread of infectious disease. Contact tracing is a critical piece of our mitigation efforts against COVID-19. More information can be found at this link: https://www.cdc.gov/ coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/ contact-tracing.html What to do if you think you have or have

been exposed to COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, individuals with symptoms SHOULD NOT GO to health care facilities such as hospitals, clinics, and urgent care centers without CALLING FIRST. Instead, they can seek care by using one of the following options:

Anyone with COVID-19 like symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, chills, sudden loss of taste and or smell and fever) OR who have a risk factor, such as contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19, a compromised immune system or a serious chronic medical condition can get a test, even without a doctor's order. And now the following people can be tested with or without symptoms.

- Work in health care facility
- · Work in correctional facilities, such as
- Serve as first responders, such as paramedics, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement officers, or firefighters
- Support critical infrastructure, such as workers in grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants, gas stations, public utilities, factories, childcare and sanitation.

Call the KSB Hotline Monday-Friday, 9-5 at 285-7777 to determine eligibility for testing. Residents can go to the following websites for additional information:

Go to KSB, LCHD, IDPH, or CDC web-

sites. Lee County Health Department provides regular updates on its Facebook page. · https://www.ksbhospital.com/coronavi-

- rus-outbreak-covid-19/
 - http://www.lchd.com
- http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/ diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- For businesses: https://www.cdc.gov/ coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html
- · Facebook: Lee County IL Health Department

SCHOOL continued from page A1

out that some things, such as live streamed classes, are required by the state. "They require two hours of live interaction for remote learners per day, so we have to comply with that," he said. "The state has set standards of what we do but there are things we can work on." Board President Nicole Jones

In response, Nichols pointed

expressed her appreciation to all of the schools for their efforts in dealing with all the uncertainty. "Kudos to the junior high staff, high school staff and Central. It's been a crazy year, so thank you, thank you!" she said. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Principal Joyce Schamberger, Central Elementary

School Improvement

- Parent Teacher Conferences were scheduled to be held virtually on Oct. 22 and 23.
- · Report cards were sent home on Oct. 21.
- Kindergarten teachers uploaded the KIDS assessments.
 - The preschool was monitored

this year with a virtual compliance visit and all required paperwork sent electronically.

• Central held their first quarter celebration in classrooms on Oct. 21 and fall classroom parties were also held that day. Schamberger gave special thanks to Lindsay Kaleel and Ed Ely for the pumpkin donation.

School Activities Picture retakes were done on

- · Schamberger thanked Jim
- Travi and the Amboy Lions Club for their generous donation of pumpkins. Central's fourth grade students were able to draw on their pumpkins and put them on display for everyone to enjoy. Principal Andrew Full, Amboy

Junior High

Curriculum and School Improvement

• On Oct. 1, the School Improvement Team met with Anji Garza and Krista Peterson from the Regional Office of Education to discuss remote learning days, Eureka/Wit &Wisdom implementation, walk throughs, coaching support, data review, data walls, and school improvement reports.

• On Oct. 8, a faculty meeting

- was held to discuss Parent/Teacher Conferences and observations for evaluations. Grade levels began meeting
- to discuss students, problem solve, and choose students of the month.

School Activities Full said 13 junior high stu-

- dents returned from remote learning on Oct. 1, but there are still 52 students who have chosen to stay/ go to remote learning, which is 21.9 percent of junior high students.
- Full said he is looking into having Amboy Junior High join the Rock River Valley Conference for sports.

Amboy High School Principal Janet Crownhart congratulated September Student of the Month Brianna Blaine.

Curriculum and School Improvement

sitional teams met to plan homeroom lessons for the coming weeks. Seven AHS students attended

• On Sept. 30, the SEL and Tran-

- a nursing video chat with a nurse practitioner from Mayo Clinic on • The SIP day was held on Oct
- 21. SEL and Transitional Teams met to discuss the next few weeks of homeroom. • Crownhart said although the
- two-week move to remote learning at AHS changed the idea of school for the teachers and students yet again, they are doing well. • Math teachers are piloting the
- Savvas (formerly Pearson) curriculum that the high school plans to purchase for next year.

School Activities

- Crownhart congratulated Wes Wilson for making it past regionals in golf and golfing in sectional competition on Oct. 14 at Spring Creek.
- Cross country was scheduled to run in regional competition on Oct. 24 at St. Bede.

OTHER BUSINESS

 A motion to add six half days to the 2020-21 school calendar was approved by the board. The extra time will give teachers more

time to plan and prepare for remote

- Approval was give to the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) policy revisions.
- The board approved the annual audit report following a presentation by Ryan Steines of Winkel, Parker & Foster, CPA PC

PERSONNEL

Following closed session, the board accepted the retirement resignation of Kay Shaw as a bus driver, effective Oct. 16, and accepted the resignation of Vanessa Goslin as Art Club sponsor for the 2020-21 school year.

The board approved the revised extra curricular positions for the 2020-21 school year.

The next regular board meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at Central School. All

meetings are open to the public.

CGH Medical Center issues stricter visitor policy for COVID-19

STERLING—Due to the recent increase of COVID-19 cases in our area, CGH Medical Center has issued a revised visitor policy for the health and safety of our patients, staff and providers.

Effective Monday, Oct. 26, no visitors will be allowed in the hospital. Some exemptions will be made for children admitted to the hospital, the Birthing Center, outpatient testing patients that need assistance, or end-of-life situations. In these situations, one designated support person may be allowed. They must be age 18 or older, and be either immediate family members, powers of attorney, guardians or patient representatives.

The CGH Main Clinic and all outlying clinics request that patients attend appointments alone if possible; if needed, only one

designated support person will be allowed.

As always, all support persons must comply with the screening and temperature check at the facility entrance and must wear a personal face covering (mask that covers nose and mouth) during the entire visit or he/ she will be asked to leave.

CGH remains a safe place for patients. Along with noting these Visitor Policy changes, please do not neglect your other health needs. Remember that we are all in this together.

Continue to protect yourself and others by washing your hands frequently, wearing a mask and maintaining social distance.

For more details on visitor restrictions and general COVID-19 information, visit www. cghmc.com/covid19.



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Classified 11: Marketplace

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



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Petitions for the Sublette Township 2021 Consolidated Election are now available for the following positions: Supervisor, Clerk. Trustees and Highway Commissioner. Petitions and all related material and information can be obtained from Deb Schultz 815-440-6708. The filing deadline is December 21, 2020.

101 LEGAL NOTICE

No. 1004

Oct. 28, 2020

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

105 BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITIES**

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS "This publication does

119

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 HELP WANTED

Information

it's care.

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

before placing a child in

301 **ANTIQUES**

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

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

305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE **SALES**

ROCHELLE: 209 S 11th St. Thursday October 29th Thru Saturday October 31st, 9am-4pm. Numerous Items, Electric Antiques, Trains, Kitchen Items, Miscellaneous Tools. Clothing, Collectibles, Old Farm Tools, & Antique Wheel Barrels. (10-28-20)

BARN SALE II - This

is Kinda Last Minute But we Have Decided to Throw in One More Sale This Fall!!! The is Going to be on Thursday the 29th and Friday the 30th of October... It Looks Like the Weather Will be Cool but Decent and This Time of the Year That's all that you can ask for!! Lots of New Stuff, as we Have Filled the Holes of Sales From Last Sale Plus a Whole Bunch More... If we Have Time we are Also Going to Throw in Some Small Stuff too Instead of Just Furniture!! Days Getting Shorter so the Hours for This Sale are 9 to 4 Each Day... Please Make Note, Only Thursday and Friday this time as Saturday is Halloween!! Dick & Janaan Harms 2765 W Pines Road Oregon, IL. 61061(10-

307 **MISCELLANEOUS** FOR SALE

SALE - BMW Wheels & Tires. 4 @ 15" and 4 @ 16". All \$175.00. Call 331-575-9355. (11-01-20)

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

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY

EON WANTED: We pay \$5\$ R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified 312-598-1758 or visit. RefrigerantFinders.com

HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

ROCHELLE: Available NOW! 1-BEDROOM,1-Bath. \$475/Month Plus Deposit. 847-373-2173. (11-01-20)

ROCHELLE: LARGE 2-BEDROOM, North Side. Heat & Water Included. No Pets. Available Now. 815-919-9015. (10-28-20)

509 **HOUSES FOR RENT**

3-BEDROOM Home. Garage, Large \$950/Month. References & Deposit. 815-761-9568. (10-28-



511

STORAGE UNITS

\<u>Amboy & Sublette</u>/ 10 x 20 inside storage & outside storage for semi-trucks/trailers, boats, campers, etc \ Call '815-857-2252`

Don't Miss An Issue!

Have you moved? Are you planning a move? **Going someplace** warm for the winter?

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.

Call Mary at 815-857-2311





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

P.O. Box 162,

Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

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

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

• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter • Mendota Money Saver

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

DISCLAIMER:

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

601

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GM Exec., Loaded w/ Nav., DVD, Sunroof, Leather & More! Maroon

\$59,900

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2018 Chevy Impala LT

47K Miles, Blue\$19,000

2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black\$45,900 2020 Chevy Malibu LT

2.0 Ltr, New Tires, One

Remote Start, Power Seat,

2018 Chevy Malibu LT

Leather, Nav., 44K Miles 8K Miles, Red\$23,500 Silver.....\$18,900

2019 Buick Encore FWD 2017 Buick Envision Preferred White.....\$20,900 AWD, 21K Miles,

Black\$24,900 2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab

LTZ, Z71, 4x4, Black .\$40,900 2017 Chevy Cruze LT Sunroof, 15K Mi, Red.\$17,900 2018 Equinox Premier AWD

2017 Chevy Cruze LT Owner, Maroon\$22,500 Remote Start, Power Seat,

White.....\$15,500 2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD 20K Miles, Pepperdust ..\$22,900 2016 Chevy Colorado Crew

Z71, 4x4, Gray......\$27,900 2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD,

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2017 GMC Acadia Denali

Z71, 4x4, Black......\$23,500 Dually Diesel, LTZ, 2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, Silver.....\$19,900

2014 Chevy 1500 2WD Reg. AWD, Maroon\$28,900 Cab, WT, Red\$15,900 2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab 2013 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab Gray.....\$34,500

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FIND NEW ROADS



CHEVROLET

IT'S MY BIRTHDAY NEXT WEEK AND YOUR MOM IS

GOING TO TURN FORTY.

HELLO? YES... CAN YOU TELL ME, 15 YOUR PEFRIGERATOR

WHAT'S

THE

THEME?

OF WATER EVERY

"IFI DEVOUR 5 HE SAID" MY BURGERS WITH HEALTH COULD THE FIXINGS" BE PERFECT!"

by Dave T. Phipps

RUNNING? YOUR REFRIGERATOR, YES..." HEY, FIFE DOWN YOU GUYS.

DON'T YOU ALWAYS SAY "AGE IS JUST A NUMBER"?

Amber Waves

WHAT'S WRONG, MOM? YOU LOOK KINDA SAD.

Out on a Limb

R.F.D.

WE DECIDED

TO GO WITH

A THEME

The Spats

JOG GOING

Just Like Cats & Dogs

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR! I ASKED THEM

TO PUT A CANDLE FOR EVERY YEAR, BUT

THEY SAID IT WOULD BE A FIRE HAZARD.

PEOPLE IN GLASS HOUSES SHOULDN'T

THROW STONES.

LOCAL NEV

Posting Date October 26, 2020

King Crossword

ACROSS 1 Cracker spread Easter entree 15 "The Thin Man" dog 18 19 12 Verve 13 Past 14 Use scissors 15 Sudden temperature drop Christian Andersen 18 Dueler's ally 42 19 Pass by 21 Watch chain 22 Foolish

26 Path 28 Gaggle mem-55 Under the bers 31 Conks out

35 Paint crudely phrase "Yes we can" 57 Start a garman den

58 Nutritional

word qty. 40 Kan. neighbor 59 Health cen-41 Mr. Gingrich

antelope 47 Time of the mammoths

45 Curvy-horned DOWN

38 Oft-tattooed

23 Andrews or Edwards, for

33 Joke

43 Tear

by Dave T. Phipps

YEAH, BUT I JUST WISH IT WASN'T SUCH A BIG NUMBER.

by Gary Kopervas

by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

AND THEY ALSO SHOULDN'T WALK AROUND

THE HOUSE NAKED.

PRANK CALL OF THE WILD

51 Churlish one 52 Guiding principle

54 Not working

legume 10 Supermarket stack

9 Crisp-pod

11 Church section 16 Winter fore-

23 Commotion

1 Chest muscast cles, for short 20 Drag along

tive 3 Body powder 25 Tall thin per-4 The — the son

27 Thanksgiving 53 Antiquated

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48 49 50 52 54 55 56 58 5 Purse veggie weather 6 Khan title 29 Seek damag-56 Takeout Motorized bike 30 "Chicago" 8 Embarrassed lyricist

> horses, really 42 Long-snouted critter

44 Nuisances 45 Wading bird 46 Fashion

32 Ślandered

37 Piercing tool

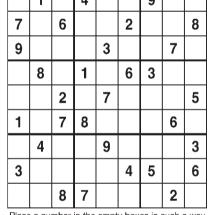
39 Cinderella's

34 Ape

24 Little white lie 48 On 49 Infatuated 50 Cupid's alias

2 Lotion addi-

Weekly **SUDOKU** by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging **♦♦♦** HOO BOY! © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.



hygrometer measure?

2. TELEVISION: What was the postman's name on the sitcom "Cheers"?
3. LITERATURE: Which 20th-centu-

ry novel begins with the line, "For many days, we had been tempest-tossed"?

4. GEOGRAPHY: The Adriatic Sea lies east of which country? 5. HISTORY: Who was the first woman

appointed to a U.S. president's cabinet? 6. ADVERTISING: Which company's mascot was named Poppin' Fresh?

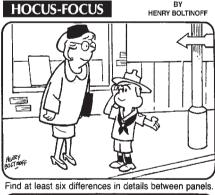
7. LANGUAGE: What is a monde-8. GAMES: How much is the Luxury

Tax in the board game Monopoly? 9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the only president to attend Oxford Univer-

sity in England as a Rhodes Scholar? 10. U.S. STATES: What does the name Nevada mean in Spanish?

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lyric





Bricks are added to building. 6. Woman's shoes are nats. Differences: 1. Window sign is missing. 2. Boy's hat is different. 3. Arrow points in opposite direction. 4. Woman's hair is different.

CryptoQuip

for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error

Clue: G equals L

KTHHFKVMY UM VMKAJQ XUK

KVMYVMY XVQE JGFKAC GVHK,

PVYEQ VQ IA JUGGAC U ETPITY?

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DESSERT

Today's Word

3. Cherub; 4. Iterate

1. Snide 2. Parse;

uoitulos SCRAMBLERS

10. Snow-covered 9. Bill Clinton 8.875 7. A misheard word, phrase or song 6. Pillsbury 1933-45 5. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, 4. Italy 3. "The Swiss Family Robinson" 2. Cliff Clavin 1. Humidity Answers



Solution time: 25 mins.

– **King** Crossword –

Þ	7	ŀ	3	ç	7	8	6	9
9	6	S	Þ	8	2	ŀ	7	3
3	8	Z	1	6	9	ç	ħ	7
6	9	7	ç	Þ	8	7	3	ŀ
g	L	8	6	Z	3	2	9	ħ
L	ħ	3	9	2	ŀ	6	8	9
ŀ	Z	9	8	3	9	ħ	7	6
8	3	ħ	7	ŀ	6	9	g	L
7	g	6	L	9	ħ	3	ŀ	8

Answer

Meekly SUDOKU

might it be called a humbug? singing with closed lips, Supposing an insect was CryptoQuip

SCRAMBLERS

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

Rude Dissect Baby

Emphasize TREATIE

"If I promise to leave room, can I have ____ first?"

DINES SPEAR

BUCHER

"I'm making a last-minute change to my wedding list...there'll be a different groom."

MY DOCTOR
DIDN'T REALLY
SUGGEST THE
BURGERS...

LAFF-A-DAY

NEEDS TO BE

TODAY'S WORD

Illinois Department of Agriculture awards specialty crop grant funds

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) received more than \$591,000 through the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. Producer groups, trade associations, nonprofits and colleges and universities were eligible to apply for grant funds through the department.

IDOA will split the funds between ten projects that are intended to expand the availability of fresh, locally grown produce and strengthen the state's specialty crop industry.

"Illinois may be best known for corn and

soybeans, but we are a nationwide leader in specialty crops as well," said Jerry Costello II, IDOA Acting Director. "These funds will help expand markets for our specialty growers, allowing them to maintain a viable industry."

The state devotes more than 100,000

acres of farmland for growing specialty crops, which produce nearly \$393 million in sales for Illinois farmers.

Illinois is the number one producer of

pumpkins and horseradish and ranks among the top ten for production of lima beans, asparagus, cauliflower and green peas.

The 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant recipients are as follows:

• The Experimental Station to further expand the 61st Street Farmers Market's educational programming and partnership with Carnegie Elementary School and Jackson Park Terrace to rebuild local knowledge of the nutritional benefits and pleasure of consuming fresh and healthy foods, and knowledge of how to grow and prepare them.

The Land Connection to increase knowledge and consumption of Illinois specialty crops by engaging consumers with woody perennials, a less readily available specialty crop, and home production.
Advocates for Urban Agriculture to

expand the Good Practices for Growing in Chicago program and provide increased technical assistance designed to support Chicagoland farmers in implementing good agricultural practices (GAP) that foster more sustainable business development for urban

farm specialty crop producers.

- Southern Illinois University to minimize risk of microbial pathogens in fresh strawberries by developing a predictive model for microbial growth in different stages of strawberry production, handling, treatment, storage, transportation, retail sale and consumption.
- IAA Foundation Illinois and Ag in the Classroom to raise awareness and further education on specialty crops as an effective way to engage young consumers in understanding the importance of agriculture, and leading them to healthy food choices, like eating more fresh fruits and vegetables.
 Freeport High School to facilitate a
- student garden, greenhouse, and orchard and run a specialty crop business producing and selling over 50 different varieties of vegetables, herbs, and fruits. Over 100 students are involved with the project through the summer work training program.
- Southern Illinois University to determine the suitability and economic value for producing organic specialty butterhead lettuce in

high tunnels for early spring Illinois markets to improve consumer access to high quality locally produced foods at a time when local foods are lacking in the marketplace.

• Illinois Green Industry Association to create a digital platform to serve as a tool where motivated buyers can connect with the high-quality plant material they seek, ultimately linking them to a local producer in their community where they can complete the purchase.

•Illinois Specialty Growers Association to offer educational opportunities for specialty crop farmers with educational programs at the annual Illinois Specialty Crop Conference and additional workshops and webinars throughout the 2021 year.

• Illinois Farmer's Market Association to conduct a series of regional, statewide training for new, beginning, socially disadvantaged, existing farmers, specialty crop producers, and market managers. The series will focus on professional development and training in post-pandemic producer-to-consumer local food systems.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

COMMUNITY MATTERS

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BAR/RESTAURANT

Sublette Saloon Inc. 1831 Tower Road • St

1831 Tower Road • Sublette • 815-849-5470

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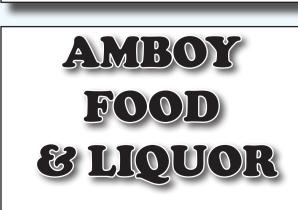


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THE FARMER'S REPORT

U of I receives funding to create, expand mental health resource network for farmers

URBANA - Even without the added stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, agricultural producers experience high levels of anxiety, depression, substance use, and death by suicide. Researchers at the University of Illinois and Illinois Extension are working to ensure producers and their families have the resources and access to services to manage their stress and mental health.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), through the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) grant program, awarded nearly \$7.2 million in investment funding for the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center (NCFR-SAC), a 12-state collaborative that will create and expand stress management and mental health resources and services to agricultural producers and stakeholders in the North Central region. The project is led by Josie

Rudolphi, assistant professor in agricultural and biological engineering, and Courtney Cuthbertson, assistant professor in human development and family studies, both in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at U of I, and both specialists with Illinois Extension. "We know the agricul-

tural community is under tremendous stress, which can negatively affect mental health," Rudolphi says. "While producers experience a number of barriers to formal mental health care, we realize agricultural producers are nestled within families and social groups, the agricultural industry, and larger communities. These community connection points provide opportunity for resources and service intervention."

The NCFRSAC network will expand programs that provide professional agricultural behavioral health interventions, support farm telephone hotlines and websites, and provide needed training and resources for producers and those in agriculture-related occupations. "Our goal is to ensure agricultural producers have access to resources and services where and when they need them," Rudolphi says.

Cuthbertson adds, "Agricultural producers are facing a great deal of stress, and reaching out to ask for help can be challenging. Many people, agencies. and Cooperative Extension services are stepping up to help. I am excited to work together through the North Central effort to expand access to information and resources to help agricultural producers and stakeholders reduce stress and improve

The key target audiences for this project include individuals engaged in production agriculture with specific emphasis on producers (male and female operators, farmworkers); farm youth and farm families; and allies and supporters of agricultural producers, specifically agribusiness professionals and healthcare providers.

wellbeing.'

"The agricultural workforce is diverse, across farming characteristics like farming role, generation, and commodity, as well as demographic characteristics like age, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and so on. Through NCFRSAC we aim to offer inclusive resources that better fit agricultural producers and stakeholders as a diverse group," Cuthbertson notes.

The researchers and Illinois Extension have already completed several activities related to supporting producer wellbeing. In fall 2019, Illinois Extension convened a farm stress team to meet regularly to discuss existing needs and appropriate action steps toward providing farm



stress-related programs and

Under the 2019 North Central FRSAN grant, Illinois Extension is offering Mental Health First Aid courses to Extension, agribusiness, and agricultural stakeholders across the state.

In spring 2020, Illinois Extension collaborated with Michigan State University Extension to prepare and publicly offer, at no cost, a Rural Resiliency course online for the public to learn more about farm stress. Also in spring 2020, Illinois Extension worked with MSU Extension to gain access to the Farm Stress train-thetrainer program, enabling nine Illinois Extension educators to become facilitators in two different programs— Weathering the Storm, a workshop for farmers and farm families, and Communicating with Farmers under Stress, for professionals who support farmers. Both courses include information about agricultural economic trends, unique stressors to farmers, how to communicate with a distressed producer, and warning signs of suicide.

In March 2020, Illinois Extension and Illinois AgrAbility co-hosted the Ag Mental Health Summit with Illinois Farm Bureau. Over 55 Extension, agribusiness, public health, and healthcare professionals participated in this one-day summit to identify the resources and services available to agricultural producers, explore collaborations, and identify programming, resource, and service gaps.

In summer 2020, the Illinois Extension farm stress group created brief videos called, "A Moment for Mental Health," played during commercial agriculture webinars to introduce topics such as identifying stress, coping strategies, how to find a mental health professional, and mindfulness.

"Farming is a complex, multi-dimensional profession that places a unique set of demands on those working in it," says Shelly Nickols-Richardson, associate dean and director of Illinois Extension. "Our faculty are driving signifi-

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cant developments in mental health resources for farmers by combining cutting-edge behavioral health science with a deep understanding of the agricultural industry.

USDA-NIFA introduced the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FR-SAN), a competitive grants program reauthorized by the 2018 Farm Bill, to support projects that provide stress assistance for people in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations and offers a conduit to improving behavioral health awareness, literacy, and more favorable outcomes for them and their families.

The NCFRSAC will partner with key network collaborators in the North Central region to achieve project objectives. Collaborators include: Iowa State University Extension; Purdue University Extension; Kansas State University Extension; Michigan State University Extension; University of Minnesota Extension; University of Missouri Extension; University of Nebraska Extension; North Dakota State University Extension; Ohio State University Extension; South Dakota State University Extension; University of Wisconsin Extension; Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH); National AgrAbility; and Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF).

The USDA award for NCFRSAC was included in a recent announcement of investments totaling more than \$28.7 million, over three years, for four regional entities to ensure vulnerable agricultural producers and their families have more options for high-quality, affordable help close to home.

USDA awards nearly \$500K to support Wetland Mitigation Banking in Illinois

CHAMPAIGN - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced it will award \$498,010 for a new wetland mitigation banking project in Illinois through the Wetland Mitigation Banking Program. This program helps conservation partners develop and/or establish mitigation banks to help agricultural producers maintain eligibility for USDA programs.

"These banks will provide agriculture producers a streamlined mitigation option to remain compliant for USDA Farm Bill programs while maintaining wetlands to support functions and environmental values. Healthy wetlands help filter our water, sequester carbon, curb soil loss, and provide habitat for wildlife," said Ivan Dozier, Illinois State Conservationist.

The key partner in this Illinois effort is Magnolia Land Partners, LLC. They will establish two agricultural mitigation bank sites totaling 60 acres. Illinois NRCS will provide \$498,010 in funding and Magnolia Partners will contribute \$252,000. These sites will be added under Magnolia's NRCS approved statewide agricultural mitigation banking instrument. Magnolia will coordinate the location of the sites with farm groups.

'While 60 acres doesn't sound like a lot, the environmental benefits and water quality improvements can go a long way, given the relatively small size of wetlands typically converted for farmland," explains NRCS Assistant

State Conservationist for Compliance, Winnie Chen. "All partners involved—as well as new partners to come—see these projects as the start of many new mitigation bank sites that can start impacting Illinois land, water, and soil for years to come," Chen adds.

Mitigation banks create credits through restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetlands to compensate for impacts on ecosystems in developing communities. Establishing these banks serves Ag producers in more flexible ways. According to Dozier, having Magnolia facilitate and manage all the details for landowners is helpful in what can be a complex legal process. "We'll keep everyone posted on the site locations and track progress and long-term benefits for the projects," Dozier adds.

Producers seeking benefits through USDA programs must comply with wetland provisions by avoiding impact on wetlands. In situations where avoidance or on-site mitigation is challenging, the Farm Bill offers participants options to mitigate activities off-site through the purchase of mitigation banking credits. This competitive grant program

helps states, local governments, and other qualified partners develop wetland mitigation banks to assist agricultural producers with meeting wetland conservation compliance requirements to remain eligible for USDA programs. Nationally, USDA will award \$5 million for eight wetland mitigation banking projects nationwide.

Did you know?

Many people rely on the agriculture industry for their foods, but think little of the impact that agriculture has on the larger economy. However, data indicates that agriculture can serve a significant role in the process of solidifying the economy of a country, particularly developing nations. Agriculture also can contribute to the economic prosperity of advanced countries. IPP Media points out that the economic history of many developed countries indicates that agricultural prosperity contributed heavily to their economic advancement. When the basic food supply is strong, the national economy can be strong as well. Particularly in the early days of the United States, farming held a crucial place in establishing the American economy and culture, and still shapes the country today. Many states find that farming and other agricultural pursuits contribute much to the local and national economy. The public should not disregard how strong a factor agriculture can be in establishing a strong economic environment. Safeguarding agricultural jobs and the agricultural industry is crucial to economic

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SPORTS

Amboy boys crowned Regional Cross Country Champions

PERU – Both of the Amboy High School cross country teams advanced to the sectional round after competing in the St. Bede Class 1A Regional on Oct. 24 in Peru.

The Clipper boys were crowned regional champions by a wide margin. Amboy scored 50 points and beat its nearest competitor, Sterling Newman, by 42 points. Rounding out the top five teams were Seneca (97), Pontiac (121) and Minonk Fieldcrest (129). Other teams in the field were Rock Falls (144), Lowpoint-Washburn (152), Mendota (191), St. Bede (262), Henry-Senachwine (269), Ottawa Marquette (274), Hall (312), Newark (328) and Princeton

Brock Loftus and Kyler McNinch have been at or near the top of every race this season, and the Clipper harriers were no different in the regional. Loftus was the second runner to cross the finish line in a time of 16:52, while McNinch was right behind him in third place with a clocking of 17:07. AHS's Ian Eller also finished in the top 10, in eighth place with a time of 17:23.

Rounding out the Clipper lineup were Charlie Dickinson (15th, 18:07), Andruw Jones (22nd, 18:38), Wyatt Lundquist (23rd, 18:40) and Ryan Dickinson (51st, 19:31).

Ottawa Marquette's Lucas Hoffman was the overall champion with a time of

"For the second year in a row the boys have qualified for the sectional, but more importantly Amboy has a boys'regional championship in cross country," said coach Mike Robinson. "This is the first boys' regional championship in school history.

races and showed why we won. From start to finish in each flight, we never dropped lower than fifth. They have worked hard



The Clipper boys were crowned regional champions by a wide margin. Amboy scored 50 points and beat its nearest competitor, Sterling Newman, by 42 points.

(112) and Amboy (114).

Rounding out the team stand-

ings were Lowpoint-Wash-

burn (172), Ottawa Mar-

quette (177), St. Bede (190)

and Minonk Fieldcrest (214).

second year in a row the

girls' team has qualified for

the sectional," said Robinson.

"The girls ran very strong and showed they deserve a spot

"These girls have worked

hard all season and they have

had their ups and downs, but

in the end, they prevailed and

reached one of their team

goals. They gained some

confidence and will do even

participate in the Seneca

Class 1A Sectional on Sat-

urday, Oct. 31. The girls will

race at 10 a.m. and the boys

will compete at 1 p.m.

The Amboy teams will

better in the sectional.'

in the sectional.

"Like the boys, for the

all season and won a lot of

meets while missing people.

Our season continues one

more week and we look to

runners in the girls' race and

Lauren Althaus was the first

AHS competitor through

the chute in 10th place with a time of 21:36. Elly Jones

was next in 16th place with

a time of 22:22, followed by

Madelyn McLaughlin (21st,

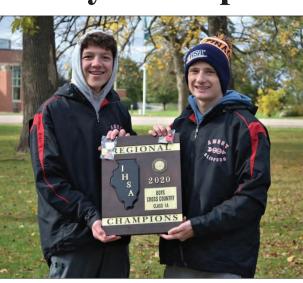
22:57) and Brittney Mundell

The Lady Clippers had six

get even better."

Photo courtesy of Heather Loftus

More Regional **Cross Country** pictures appear on B4



Pictured above are Kyler McNinch, left, and Brock Loftus, holding the Championship plaque. Loftus and McNinch have been at or near the top of every race this season, and the Clipper harriers were no different in the regional. Loftus placed second and McNinch was right behind in third place. Photo courtesy of Heather Loftus

Amboy's Andruw Jones finished 22nd at the Regional meet Photo courtesy of Heather Loftus



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(27th, 23:17). Bailey Ellis (40th, 25:01) and Brooklyn Whelchel (43rd, 25:35) also Calin Gaulrapp of Rock Falls was the individual "All the boys ran great champion in 20:11. Rock Falls also claimed the team title with 29 points. The rest of the top five included Seneca (55), Henry-Senachwine (102), Princeton

Celebrate All Saints Day by learning to pray the chaplet of the Infant Jesus of Prague.

All Mass attendees will receive a sanitized chaplet and instructions on how to pray to the Communion of Saints.



Saturday, October 31st 4:00 pm Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette

Saturday, October 31st 5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption, West Brooklyn

Sunday, November 1st 8:00 am Mass at St. Patrick, Maytown

Sunday, November 1st 10:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette

SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #66 Tony Albiero

his week's Clipper Highlight is #66, State Champion,

Tony was a 1985 graduate of Amboy High School. Tony was an elite member on the 1984 Amboy Clipper State Championship team. A twoway starter at offensive guard and linebacker, Tony helped lead the Clippers to our first and only undefeated season and State Championship title.

Tony was 1st team All Conference, 1st team All Area at linebacker and offensive guard. Tony was selected to play in the Shrine game and selected 1st team All State at

Deemed as the vocal and "spiritual" leader of the 1984 Clippers, passion, tenacity, and competitiveness were certainly in no short supply. Add those qualities to a wildly talented, extremely driven, close-knit, band of brothers and Football glory was not only "expected", but

The 1984 Amboy Clippers

simply had it all. Talent, depth, speed, mental toughness, physical toughness, football intelligence, the will to win, and the list goes on and on. The common theme that stands out above all those team attributes is how those 44 men believed, trusted, and loved one another. I had the great privilege in talking with Tony prior to this article. In our, over an hour long, conversation Tony stated, "there was no greater bond, we were a family." Tony continued and said,

"I played like a Roughneck maniac. When I was on the field, I had the mindset that no one was better than me and we were going to win."

This mindset comes once in a generation. It is my personal belief that all of us who wore a Clipper uniform had pieces of that mindset but there are only two that have had the full intensity that mindset brings. Tony was the first and last week's highlight, Taylor Kaleel, was the second.

Clipper **Highlights**

By Spencer Morrissey



It is my personal belief that Tony had more than just the will to win. Tony had a supreme confidence and a competitiveness that could not be turned off or matched by any opposition. Add that to Tony's football knowledge and talent it makes for one damn good football player. But Tony's exploits on the field are not the only reason he's one of the greatest Clippers of all time. He also was the greatest of teammates. I've never met Tony and only spoke with him for the first time yesterday. But if hadn't, I would still know how great and how much Tony meant to the 1984 Amboy Clippers by how his teammates continue to speak of him. Dennis Ely, Sam Jones, Dan Etheridge, Ben Leake, John Bothe, Brad Goy, and all other team members' accounts of Tony would be more than enough to know Tony's character and heart.

Tony was so honored when I shared I have received the outpouring of requests for his highlight. Showing true Clipper humility, Tony said, "I could brag at length about all my teammates."

Tony spoke of numerous teammates but one comment stood out, "I'm probably not an All State linebacker without playing behind Sam Jones." A true glimpse at Tony's humility and thankfulness for his teammates.

Tony remembers more than just the 1984 State Title. He spoke about the competitive nature of his senior class.

"It didn't matter if it was kickball or wiffle ball we were always wanting to win," Tony shared. Tony also spoke highly of his coaches, Coach Weidman, Coach Mahar, Coach Jones, and Coach Wyzgowski. Tony gave high praise to one of his coaches in particular, "I really thought highly of Coach (Tank) Jones. I wanted to be like him." When asked what Am-

boy Football meant/means to Tony, he answered, "A brotherhood, no greater bond, every piece worked together from the top down. I'll always remember the families, the people, the barber shop windows with signs that said 'Go Clippers!' or 'Gone to the Game.'The family, the atmosphere, it was like something I've never seen.'

As when I heard Tony say this, to writing it out now, I get the same chills and lump in my throat that I know all of you feel too. Great words by a great man.

So, to #66, State Champion, Tony Albiero, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. Thank you for showing us all that no matter the distance or time that passes, the bonds, the family, the brotherhood always remains. Most importantly, thank you for the time you gave me for this article. I'll surely remember it for many years to come and again reminds me that, "Once a Clipper, Always a Clipper." Sail on.

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

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9. Jackson 288

10. Bureau 285

8. Rock Island 318

"Deer populations are

common in both rural and

urban areas which means

deer-vehicle collisions can happen anywhere," said

IDNR Director Colleen

Callahan. "And remember, if

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accident to local law enforce-

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in the event the animal must

to the shoulder, turn on your hazard lights and call 911 to

report the accident. Do not

exit the vehicle to check on

an injured deer or pull it from

If you hit a deer, pull off

be euthanized."

the road.

Clipper spirit is strong at Junior High

AMBOY — During the week of Oct. 26-30 at Amboy Junior High School, the spirit will be strong as the AJHS Student Council has a Spirit Week planned.

Students started Spirit Week on Monday with Sports Day. Students were decked out in their sports gear and showed off their favorite team. On Tuesday, students and staff grabbed a friend, and planned their outfits, for Twin Day. On Wednesday, the students will wear their class color, which was chosen by the grade level representatives on Student Council. Fifth grade color is yellow. Sixth grade color is orange. Seventh grade color is blue. Eighth grade color is white.

On Thursday, students will be encouraged to wear pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. On Friday, Clipper colors will flood the hallway as they have Clipper Pride Day. Student Council sponsors for this year are Miss Kaylee

Jones and Mrs. Ashley Platz.

Oh, deer: Mating season ups crash risk

SPRINGFIELD—As the leaves begin to change and cooler temperatures prevail, the Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois Department of Natural Resources are reminding you to watch out for deer. With autumn comes deer mating season, a time of increased activity at dawn and dusk from October through December.

"We are starting to begin our peak season for deer-vehicle crashes," said Acting Illinois Transporta-

tion Secretary Omer Osman. "We ask all drivers to keep a watchful eye and remember the cardinal rule: don't veer for deer. While the urge to swerve is instinctual, it could cause you to lose control of your vehicle or drive into oncoming traffic, increasing the severity of a crash."

This fall, take the following steps to help ensure your

- · Be aware of your surroundings, especially in areas with deer crossing signs. Scan the sides of the road

for eye shine – the reflection of headlights in their eyes. • Slow down if you see a

- deer. They travel in groups, so more are likely nearby.
- Prepare for the unexpected. Deer may stop in the middle of the road or double

• Deer are adaptable and can flourish in rural, suburban and urban environments.

• If a collision is inevitable, try to glance your vehicle off the deer and avoid swerving into opposite lanes In 2019, a total of 16,213

crashes involved deer in Illinois. Of these, 15,605 resulted in damage to property or vehicles, while 604 caused personal injuries. Four of the crashes were fatal.

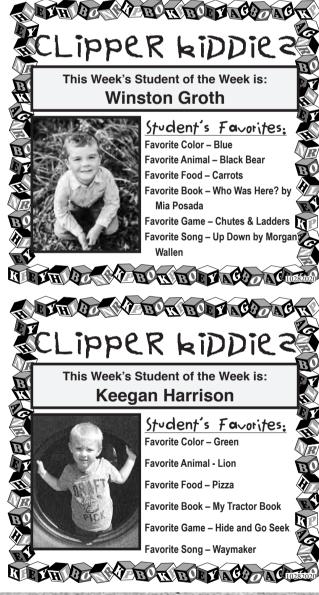
More than 40% of crashes involving deer in Illinois occurred in October, November and December, with November being the highest-risk month. Rural environments were the site of more than 90% of all motor vehicle crashes involving deer, with more than 70% occurring at twilight or nighttime.

The top 10 Illinois counties for crashes involving deer

- 1. Cook 472
- 2. Madison 434
- 3. Sangamon 406
- For more information on how to claim a deer that was involved in a crash, visit www.dnr.illinois.gov/ hunting/deer/Pages/Claim-

a-Road-Kill.aspx. To report possession of a deer killed in a deer-vehicle crash, fill out the form at http://dnr.illinois.gov/ SalvageDeer/(S(2g2y5tunjelyrx45y2dzqd55))/Salvage-Info.aspx.







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Jesse White urges student readers to enter "Letters About Literature in Illinois"

SPRINGFIELD—Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White is urging students in grades 4 through 12 to enter the 2021 "Letters About Literature in Illinois" — a statewide reading and writing competition offered by the Illinois State Library's Illinois Center for the Book.

'Letters About Literature in Illinois" invites students to read a book of their choice and write a letter to the author about how the work changed their life or view of the world. Students can enter on their own or through their schools, libraries or other youth organizations. "Every year, thousands of students in Illinois enjoy partic-

ipating in this inspirational competition," said White. "Anyone who has read past letters can see how literature inspires and touches the lives of our young people. I encourage all our students to take part in the competition and I hope their participation leads to a lifetime of reading.'

There are three levels of participation: Level 1 for grades 4-6, Level 2 for grades 7-8 and Level 3 for grades 9-12. The deadline to enter the competition is Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020,

One winner will be selected from each group and receive a cash award and a plaque signed by Secretary White. Teachers of the winning students will receive a certificate and a cash award for their school to purchase books for the library.

Winners will be formally announced in May 2021. All runners-up will receive certificates in May prior to the endof-the-year award ceremonies. For more information about the competition, contact

Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065 or bmatheis@ilsos.gov. Information also is available at: http://cyberdriveillinois. com/departments/library/center_for_the_book/.

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In Dixon at: Shining Star

In Amboy at: Amboy News Office

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: 12

The Amboy News is once again doing a section featuring Veterans and military personnel and would like you to send or bring us a military picture of yourself or favorite military hero along with a short biography of their service history, present or past.

Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves or Merchant Marines.

Our special section featuring your own local heroes will be published on

November 4th.

Deadline for submitting Photos/ Information is Fri., Oct. 30, Noon







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Location of Training:	
Dates in Service:	_
Tours of Duty:	_
Any Other Interesting Information: (limit 50 words, please)	
	$-\ $
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Photos may be picked up at The Amboy News office after November 4th, or so us a self-addressed stamped envelope and your photo will be returned.	end

Clippers advance to Sectionals



Amboy's Brittney Mundell finished 27th at the Class 1A Regional on Oct. 24 in Peru. Photo courtesy of Heather Loftus



Amboy's Lauren Althaus was the first AHS competitor through the chute in 10th place with a time of 21:36.

Photo courtesy of Deb Althaus



**Does not include cost of material. Expires 10/31/20. *To be eligible for this promotion, the participant's estimated job cost must be at least \$7883. The advertised payment of \$99 a month is an estimate only, and assumes that third-party financing is available for new customers at an estimated 9.99% annual percentage rate for 132 months. Promotion available to qualified buyers on approved credit with \$99 down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Higher annual percentage rates apply for buyers with lower credit ratings. LeafGuard is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with LeafGuard, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all of which are subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. LeafGuard does not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing its customers. Expires 10/31/20. †All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo 10, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 21 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 10/31/20.