

Illinois corn, soybean production drops by roughly 20 percent

Record-wet planting season caused dramatic decrease in cash crop yields

BY BEN ORNER
Capitol News Illinois
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SPRINGFIELD — Production of Illinois’ two most valuable crops fell by roughly one-fifth last year, according to final crop yield numbers released Friday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Corn and soybean growers saw production drop 18.6 percent and 20.4 percent respectively compared to 2018.

Farmers harvested just over 1.8 billion bushels of corn, down from more than 2.2 billion the year before. Soybean production decreased from around 667 million bushels to just over 532 million.

2019 was the worst year for corn since 2012, when farmers produced about 1.3 billion bushels. Soybean production had its worst year since 2013, which saw 461 million bushels.

Yield per acre was down 14 percent for corn at 180 bushels and 15 percent for soybeans at 54 bushels. That’s the lowest for corn since 2015 and the lowest for soybeans since 2013.

Wetter-than-normal planting and growing conditions are to blame for last year’s stunted production, said Mike Doherty, senior economist at the Illinois Farm Bureau in Bloomington.

“We had the latest-planted corn crop at least in my history of 30 years as an ag economist here” because of record-breaking spring rain, Doherty said. “I’ve never seen anything like it.”

January through June was the wettest first six months on record in Illinois, according to the state climatologist’s office.

In April, the month when farmers begin to plant corn and soybeans, less than a week was suitable for planting. Illinois then saw its third-wettest May and wettest June in state history, forcing many farmers to plant most of their



crop in the summer.

“Just about every time these farmers were turning around, they were being hammered with the worst field conditions that they had seen,” Doherty said.

Record spring rain and periods of untimely rain during

the fall harvest season forced late harvests across the state. Only 93 percent of Illinois’ corn crop was harvested by the end of November, according to USDA figures, the lowest total in a decade.

See **CROPS** page A2



Jesse White awards over \$1.2 million in grants to school libraries

AMBOY — Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has awarded over \$1.2 million in FY 2020 School District Library Grant Program awards to 684 public school districts.

More than 1.5 million Illinois students served by school library programs will benefit from the grants.

Amboy Community Unit School District was awarded \$750.

“As a former public school teacher and administrator, I know our school libraries are very important in helping students learn and prepare themselves for the future,” White said. “Illinois was the first state to implement

a school district grant program, and I’m pleased that we can continue to provide school libraries with some of the financial resources they need to produce well-educated students.”

From FY 2020 appropriations approved by the General Assembly and the governor, school library grants were awarded based on a formula of \$.75 per student, with a minimum grant award of \$750.

School libraries can use the funds to acquire fiction and/or nonfiction books, educational CDs and DVDs, and library subscriptions to electronic resources, as well as to improve technology by purchasing new computers or improving Wi-Fi connectivity.

Complimentary admission to museums and zoos available through Demmer’s office

DIXON — State Representative Tom Demmer (R-Dixon) invites residents of the 90th District to take advantage of a free ‘Constituent Education Resource Card’ that is available through his legislative office in Dixon. The resource card allows free General Admission entry for up to four people to several of Chicagoland’s world-class museums and zoos.

Any resident of the 90th District may reserve the Constituent Education Resource Card on a first come first served basis, to visit any of the following museums in 2020:

- Adler Planetarium
- The Art Institute of Chicago
- Brookfield Zoo
- Chicago Botanic Garden
- Chicago Children’s Museum
- Chicago History Museum
- Dusable Museum of African American History
- The Field Museum
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Museum of Contemporary Art
- Museum of Science and Industry
- National Museum of Mexican Art
- National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture
- Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
- John G. Shedd Aquarium

Because only one group pass is available at a time, reservations are required. To reserve the free pass, please contact Rep. Demmer’s office at tom@tomdemmer.com or 815-561-3690. A reservation can be made by providing a name, address, and the date(s) the card will be needed. Upon reserving the pass, constituents may pick it up and return it to the Demmer legislative office, located at 105 E. First Street, Suite #110 in Dixon.

Board hears from residents on sale of cannabis in the village

BY TONJA GREENFIELD
General Manager

SUBLETTE — Three Sublette Village Board members reported hearing back from citizens with opinions against the village allowing the sale of cannabis in the village, but no action on the matter was taken.

The board met for its monthly meeting on Monday night in the Ellice Dinges Center. All board members were present.

The issue of allowing the sale of cannabis in the village was first brought up during the December board meeting. Acting Village Mayor John Stenzel asked the board in December what they would like to do about businesses selling recreational cannabis in Sublette after it become legal in 2020. If the village allows for the sale of recreational cannabis in the village, it can tax that sale up to 3 percent. Sublette Village Trustee Julie Kessel made a motion to allow for the sale of cannabis in the village with a 3

percent retail tax. The motion died without a second. Stenzel then asked that the public contact the village trustees with their opinion on the matter.

During Monday night’s meeting, Stenzel said he has heard a lot of mixed reviews on the matter. He said, he himself, is against the village allowing for the sale of cannabis, even though the village would get the sales tax dollars. Sublette Village Trustee Jeff Myers said he had a couple of phone calls from residents who were opposed to it. Sublette Village Trustee Robert Bulfer said he too had heard from some residents who were opposed to it.

Stenzel said he would talk with the village attorney and find out if the village needs to vote on a motion if they do not want the sale of cannabis in allowed in the village.

See **BOARD** page A4

Keep your family safe from carbon monoxide this winter

SPRINGFIELD — Cold temperatures mean Illinoisans will be turning up their thermostats to stay warm this winter. The Office of the State Fire Marshal encourages residents to have their furnaces checked and to make sure carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke detectors are working.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, heating equipment is a leading cause of fires in U.S. Homes. Local fire departments responded to an average of 52,050 fires involving heating equipment each year in 2012-2016, accounting for 15% of all reported home fires during that time. Annually, these fire lead to the loss of 490 civilians’ lives, 1,400 civilian injuries and account for around \$1 Billion in direct property damage. Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January and February.

Fossil fuels like natural gas are used to heat a vast majority of Illinois homes, and malfunctioning heating equipment leads to accidental carbon monoxide deaths. These can include your home’s furnace, improperly vented gas appliances, kerosene or propane space heaters, charcoal grills and Sterno-type fuels.

“Carbon Monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas which means it’s important that you install and maintain CO alarms in your home,” says State Fire Marshal Matt Perez. “Carbon monoxide fatalities rise during the winter months and these alarms, when working, will give you a warning and let you know to leave your home when levels are too high. Never use a gas generator, grill, oven or range to heat the inside of your home.”

In 2018 according to National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), Illinois Fire Departments responded to 8,965 incidents related to carbon monoxide.

See **SAFETY** page A2

Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District to host annual election of directors on Feb. 12

LEE COUNTY — To all owners and occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District, notice is hereby given that an Annual Election of Directors will be held from 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., on Feb. 12, at the Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District Office in Amboy. Three directors will be elected to each serve a two-year term and one director will be elected to serve a one-year term on the Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of the State of Illinois.

All persons, firms, or corporations who hold legal title or who are in legal possession of any land lying within

the boundaries of the said district are eligible to vote at said election, whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise.

Only such person, firms or corporations are eligible to vote.

Absentee balloting will be available to those who are unable to attend the Election of Directors. Absentee

ballots can be requested beginning Feb. 1. All absentee ballots must be completed by Feb. 9.

For further information or to request an absentee ballot, please contact the Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District, located at 319 S. Mason Ave., Amboy, or by phone at 815-857-3621, ext. 3.

AMBOY

MINUTE

Blood Drive

BLOOD DRIVE

The ACO is hosting a American Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday January 21st at the Amboy Community Building from noon until 6p.m. Walk-ins are accepted.

Obituaries

Tamra Bierbom

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Inserts

Snyders



LOCAL NEWS



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Ready set grow gardening workshop hosted by Carroll, Lee, Ogle and Whiteside Counties Master Gardeners

DIXON — Happy New Gardening Year. University of Illinois Extension is pleased to announce that the registration for the 2020 Ready...Set...Grow... Gardening Workshop is now open! Ready...Set...Grow... will be held on Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m. – 2:15 p.m., at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon.

This event is open to anyone who is interested in plants, enjoys gardening, a teacher or a Master Volunteer, to name a few.

They offer a keynote speaker; 12 breakout sessions over a wide variety of topics including Eastern Bluebirds: Little Blue Gem in Your Garden, The Cook's Garden, Fun with Fermentation, "Are My Trees and Plants in

Trouble?" New Invaders Update, and many more; vendors with unique items for purchase; a Master Gardener Q & A Desk; and Continental Breakfast & Buffet Lunch. This year's keynote address, Apples, Getting to the Core of things! will be given by Richard Hentschel, University of Illinois Extension, Horticulture Educator.

The fee for this program is \$45, and registrations will be accepted until March 16.

For more information or to register for Ready...Set...Grow..., please visit: go.illinois.edu/ReadySetGrowWorkshop or call Ogle County Extension Office at 815-732-2191.

SAFETY continued from page A1

Symptoms of CO poisoning are very similar to the flu and include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Other signs of possible CO presence include condensation on walls and windows, house pets becoming sluggish and chronic odors from malfunctioning appliances. If you suspect you may be experiencing these symptoms, smell natural gas leaking in your home, or if your CO alarm activates, if you can evacuate the building, do so immediately. Only open windows on your way out if they are easily accessible. If someone is unable to leave the building, or is unconscious, open doors and windows to the outside in the area the person is located and stay as near to the open window or door as possible until first responders arrive. Close any doors that open to other areas of the building to isolate the room the person is in. Turn on any exhaust fans that may be present. Once you evacuate, then call 9-1-1 from outside your home or a neighbor's house.

Space heaters lead to countless fires due to improper use during the winter

months. It's important to plug space heaters directly into wall outlets and not extension cords. Keep space heaters at least three feet from curtains, clothing, furniture or bedding. Purchase units with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over or you forget to shut it off.

Here are some tips to keep in mind when it comes to winter heating safety:

- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional; change furnace filters frequently.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturers' instructions.
- Keep interior and exterior air vents clear of blockages or obstructions.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet away from heating equipment, like a furnace, fireplace, wood

stove, or portable space heater.

- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before being placed into a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Create a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Test smoke and CO alarms at least once a month and be familiar with the sounds they make.
- Never use an oven or range to heat your home.
- Remember to turn off portable or space heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Install carbon monoxide and smoke detectors on each floor of your home and within 15 feet of each sleeping area.
- CO detectors have a limited life span, check the manufacturer's instructions for information on replacement.

CROPS

continued from page A1

"It was probably one of the most stressful growing seasons that most farmers can probably remember," said state Rep. Dan Swanson, R-Alpha.

Swanson grows about 1,600 acres of corn and soybeans on his farm in western Illinois. He has yet to calculate his yields but predicts "considerably less than what we wanted or needed."

In 2018, 100 percent of Illinois' corn and soybeans were harvested by late November, according to the USDA. Swanson said he knows of some farmers in his district who still have crops yet to harvest.

Despite the difficult year, Illinois farmers were able to harvest 97 percent of corn acres planted and 99 of soybean acres. Illinois also continues to be a national leader in those two crops, producing the most soybeans of any state and the second-most corn, behind Iowa.

Nationally, soybean yields were down 20 percent from 2018. The top 16 soybean-producing states saw production drop between 8 percent in Kansas and 42 percent in South Dakota. Only Delaware, North Carolina and Pennsylvania saw increases.

Corn yields dropped only 5 percent nationally. A number of top-growing states, however, saw significantly lower totals, including Minnesota, Indiana and South Dakota.

The low yields reported across the country were not as bad as experts had predicted, Doherty said. He says government assistance like crop insurance programs and trade aid payments helped cushion the blow for farmers.

"Given the yield numbers we had in Illinois, we would have had particularly some counties where the entire county's economy would have been a disaster," he said.

List of certain Illinois crops and their 2019 yields, compared to 2018:

Corn: 1,846,000,000 bushels; 18.6% drop
Soybeans: 532,440,000 bushels; 20.4% drop
Hay: 1,140 tons; 12.91% drop
Wheat: 36,850 bushels; 0.3% drop
Oat: 650 bushels; 68.67% drop

Illinois numbers for other popular crops, such as sorghum and potatoes, were not included in the USDA's report.

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LOCAL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Alison O'Rourke

O'Rourke named January Student of the Month for Amboy HS

AMBOY—Alison O'Rourke, daughter of Curt and Renee O'Rourke, has been named the January Student of the Month for Amboy High School.

GPA: 4.08/4.0

Memberships and Involvement: National Honors Society, Spanish Honors Society, Band, Softball, Leo's Club, and Student Council

Awards and Honors: Softball First Team All-Conference Best Memories of AHS: Freshman year, my cross country team went to state. Even though I couldn't run due to injury, it was still a great experience to be there and cheer on my team.

Future Plans: Majoring in Psychology, but I am not decided on a school.

Kreider Services to co-host epilepsy support meeting on Jan. 27

DIXON—Kreider Services just released a NW Illinois Epilepsy Support Meeting to be held at 6 p.m., on Monday, Jan. 27. The meeting will be held at the KSB Towne Square Center, 101 West Second Street, Conference Room 2 in Downtown Dixon.

The meeting is for individuals with epilepsy and epilepsy/developmental disabilities, their families and support people. Any age person is welcome to attend this meeting.

Discussions will include but not limited to personal experiences, challenges and successes in areas of Primary Health Care, Memory and Thinking, Employment, Transportation, Psychosocial Health and other topics of your choice.

The meeting is planned in conjunction with Kreider, Streator Unlimited and KSB Hospital. If you have questions, please contact Stephanie Harcharik at Streator Unlimited 815-673-5574 or email sharcharik@streatorunlimited.org. Kreider phone number is 815-288-6691.

Safe sitter course offered at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center

MENDOTA—OSF HealthCare Medical Center is offering a Safe Sitter course for young teens, grades sixth through eighth. Safe Sitter will be held from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 8, in Conference Room C. This course provides hands-on practice in lifesaving techniques for young teens who are home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. They will be equipped with the skills and confidence to act in an emergency. Participants will learn basic first aid, infant and child choking rescue, along with CPR.

The cost is \$35 per child and the class size is limited. To register your son, daughter, call 815-539-1411 weekdays or register for the course online at www.osfsaintpaul.org. Each participant will need to bring a sack lunch with to the class along with a sweatshirt. Juice and snacks will be provided. A brief Safe Sitter graduation ceremony will take place prior to 4 p.m. dismissal.

Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

Senior Dining Menu
January 20 – 24
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – Hamburger patty, wheat bun, macaroni & cheese, Calif. blend veggies, diced pears

Tuesday – BBQ chicken breast, cheesy potatoes, seasoned green beans, dinner roll, jello w/fruit

Wednesday – Baked pork chop, mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed veggies, dinner roll, apple crisp

Thursday – Sweet and sour meatballs, fluffy rice, blended veggies, wheat bread, apricots

Friday – A) Tuna noodle casserole, broccoli/carrots, pineapple tidbits, dinner roll B) Soup & Sandwich, tomato & chicken salad

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:30 am
Reservations needed 10:00 am day before

Amboy Community Center
280 W. Wasson Road • 1-815-262-7516, reservations

AMBOY—The Amboy-Lee Center Multi-Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Amboy Township Building, 106 S. Prospect.

DIXON—The Lee County Health Department, 309 S. Galena Ave., will have Childhood Immunization Clinics, by appointment only, on Jan. 16, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30. Call 815-284-3371 to schedule an appointment or to find out about other services offered, like Flu and other Adult Vaccines, free radon test kits, the application process for medical cannabis, Glucose and Cholesterol screenings, tick kits, or mammogram and Pap test programs.

STERLING—Rock River Hospice & Home will hold Hospice Volunteer Training from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, January 18 and 19. Call or email Stacey at 15-625-3858 or staceynielsen@hospicerockriver.org.

LEE CENTER—The Lee Center First Congregational United Church of Christ will hold the 43rd Annual Chili Luncheon on Sunday, Jan. 19, from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Carryouts will be available.

Proceeds will benefit the youth camp scholarship fund and building repair fund.

AMBOY—The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 20, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY—The Amboy American Legion will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 20, at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N. Metcalf.

AMBOY—The Amboy Civic Organization will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive from noon to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at the Amboy Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Call Darlene at 815-857-3864 to schedule an appointment to donate.

DIXON—The Lee County Health Department, in conjunction with KSB Hospital, will have a Glucose & Cholesterol Screening on Thursday, Jan. 23. Fasting is required for 12 hours. Call 815-284-3371 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

AMBOY—The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on

Amboy Business After Hours event planned for Jan. 16

AMBOY—Everyone is invited to the next City of Amboy Business After Hours mixer on Thursday, Jan. 16, at The Long Branch Saloon, 55 S. East Ave., Amboy

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m.

This after hours mix n' mingle is open to the public, not just the business owners. So, grab a friend and stop by to see some familiar faces while catching up on what's going on around town, and most importantly support your local businesses.

Lee County Honor Flight to host baked potato and soup bar

DIXON—The Lee County Honor Flight, a Chapter of the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities, will host a Baked Potato and Soup Bar to raise funds for an upcoming Honor Flight Trip to Washington D.C. The Baked Potato and Soup Bar will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Dixon VFW, 1560 Franklin Grove Road, IL Route 38, just east of Dixon. The baked potato bar with "all the fixin's" and soup choices (including chili, ham and bean, vegetable and chicken noodle) will be available for a good will offering. All proceeds will benefit the Honor Flight.

Applications for veterans and guardians will be on hand at the fundraiser. Applications are also available online at HonorFlightQC.org. The flights are free for veterans. All guardians are volunteers and pay their own way.

If you know of a World War II, Korea or Vietnam Veteran that might like to participate in the upcoming Oct. 29 Honor Flight Trip, bring them to the supper to find out more. Questions about the Lee County Honor Flight Chapter or the Oct. 29 Honor Flight Trip may be directed to Tom Bushman at 815-440-3054.

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

Thursday, Jan. 23, at Central School Gym, 30 E. Provost.

DIXON—The Lee County Honor Flight will hold a Baked Potato and Soup Bar Fundraiser from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Dixon VFW, 1560 Franklin Grove Rd. (RT 38). Proceeds will benefit the Oct. 29 Honor Flight Trip to Washington D.C. Applications for the trip will be available.

AMBOY—The Pankhurst Memorial Library Book Club will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 27, at the Library, 3 S. Jefferson. Call the Library at 815-857-3925 for more information.

AMBOY—The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 27, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

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Favorite Game – Spiderman Chutes and Ladders
Favorite Song – Can't Stop The Feeling

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Tamra L. Bierbom Jan. 28, 1960 - Jan. 8, 2020

UTICA - Tamra L. Bierbom, 59, of Utica passed away Jan. 8, 2020 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, Jan. 26 from 1-5 p.m. at the Mendota Elks Lodge. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Tami was born Jan. 28, 1960 in Mendota to Lyle and Carol (Hill) Wendel.

Survivors include her mother of Mendota and her three children, Kendra (Dustin) Wolford of Prince-

ton, Kelsey Bokus of Utica and Cole Bokus of Utica.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents and her father in 2014.

Tami graduated from Mendota High School in 1978, Illinois Valley Community College in 1980 and Western Illinois University in 1981. Besides her children her passions were coffee, chocolate and shopping.

Memorials may be directed to Cops 4 Cancer and the Pink Ribbon Club through Illinois Valley Community Hospital.



OSF Saint Paul Medical Center achieves '4-Star' HCAHPS rating, honored for excellence in quality of care outcomes

MENDOTA — The Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) recently recognized OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota, for its ongoing commitment to exceptional quality of care, during a ceremony held Nov. 13 at the I-Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign.

As part of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program (MBQIP), OSF Saint Paul Medical Center and other critical access hospitals were asked to voluntarily participate in four defined domains of quality outcomes.

These four domains include: Patient Safety/Inpatient; Patient Engagement; Care Transitions; and Outpatient Measures.

"Often, in rural hospitals, having a devoted staff member to abstract and submit this data can be both time-consuming and burdensome," said Angie Charlet, ICAHN Senior Director of Quality, Educational Services, and Compliance. "This hospital realizes how important quality of care and

an engaged staff is for its patients... From its top leadership on throughout the facility, each strives for continued quality on a daily basis, and that is what we are celebrating today."

OSF Saint Paul Medical Center was honored for demonstrating the most improvement over one year, and also for receiving a '4-Star' rating in HCAHPS (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Survey) scores. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) created the HCAHPS Star Ratings to allow consumers to more quickly and easily access the patient experience of care information on the Hospital Compare website. Star ratings also allow consumers to more easily compare hospitals.

"We are very proud of our team for achieving this level of excellence in health quality," said Dawn Trompeter, President. "This is truly a team effort that recognizes our dedication to delivering a healthcare experience of which our patients and staff can be proud."

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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Everyone participating in FSA program should report changes in your farm operation

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Amboy is reminding the farmers and farm landowners the importance for everyone participating in FSA programs to make sure their records with the county office are accurate.

Any change in the following requires the updates and changes to be shared with the Lee County FSA Office:

- Mailing address and email address changes
- Direct deposit and bank account changes
- Death of a farmer or associate on the farm (Successor-in-Interest).
- Entity status (Individual, Trust, Partnership, Estates, etc)
- Change in operator, tenant or land ownership

- Farm changes when land is sold or purchased (copy of Recorded Deed)
- Changing administrative counties
- Land brought into production or clearing of brush and trees
- Before new tile is installed

Updating record changes now will save time during contract sign-up. Farm changes will also significantly impact your acreage reports that are filed annually with the Farm Service Agency and your crop insurance agent.

Our records are only as accurate as you report them.

For more information regarding FSA programs contact the Lee County FSA Office or visit the USDA Web site at <http://www.usda.gov>.

Leaving your car running, unattended is against the law in Illinois

BY JIM MORAN

The Center Square

ILLINOIS — As cold weather grips most of the state, it is not uncommon to see a car left unattended and running, but many motorists don't realize this is against Illinois state law.

The Illinois State Police is reminding drivers who leave their cars running and unattended could face fines or a bigger problem: Car theft.

Illinois State Police Public Information Officer Sgt. Delila Garcia said leaving a car unattended during the wintertime gives car thieves an easy opportunity. She said drivers should turn off the vehicle and take the keys out of the ignition when leaving the vehicle for any amount of time.

"This time of year, it is cold outside, people want to warm up their car before they get in it for their drive to work or wherever they have to go," Garcia said. "But if they do so, they leave the door open, potentially, for someone to come along and get in their

vehicle and take off."

Drivers could face up to a \$250 fine. Garcia said the fine is intended to help discourage people from becoming car theft victims.

Garcia said that leaving young kids in an unattended car was an even worse idea.

"For the same reason, somebody can come in and take the vehicle," she said.

Garcia said having a child in the car makes for a much worse situation.

The law does not apply to cars with a remote starter system. Garcia said in those instances, the doors are automatically locked, which prevents someone from being able to get in.

For motorists who don't follow the law and find themselves becoming a victim of car theft, Garcia said to call 911 and try and get a physical description. She said not to try to stop the car thief.

"You never know if they have a weapon," she said.

BOARD continued from page A1

In other board news:

- Stenzel reported that the contractor put too small of bulbs in the LED lights downtown and will come back and replace them at no cost.
- Stenzel said they are looking at March for a showing of the film "All The

Queens Horses." He said the filming would have to be in the Ellice Dinges Center gym because of the need to stream the movie.

• The board approved the purchase of two fireproof file cabinets for a total of \$1,548 from Meyers Furniture, two minute books at a cost of \$148 each from Staples, and new binders for ordinances.

• Stenzel asked for a committee meeting to discuss the village moving to

UBMax, an online utility management software, for water bills. He said with this software residents could look up their bills online and pay their bills online. He said the initial cost is \$895 and then a yearly charge. The village currently pays around \$500 a year for their current billing software.

The next village board meeting will be held at 7 p.m., on Monday, Feb. 10, in the Ellice Dinges Center.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Rev. Timothy Draper

32 N Jones, Amboy
815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 5 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 7 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 9 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 Rev. Timothy Draper

912 Walton Rd., Walton
815-857-2670
Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

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.

St. Flannen Church Rev. Timothy Draper

213 S Second St., Harmon
815-857-2670
Mass: Sunday, 7:30 am

United First Church of Amboy Pastor Mark Glenn

East Main & Jefferson
815-440-0745
Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.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.
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Come as you are and join us on the journey!

First Baptist Church Pastor Rocky Fritz

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

St. James Evangelical Congregational Church Robert Dunbar, Pastor

US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon
815-288-2447
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

St. Mary's Church Rev. Randy Fronek

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

St. Patrick Church Rev. Randy Fronek - Maytown

Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Barb Otten

960 U.S. Route 52
Phone 857-2225
Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Rev. Randy Fronek

Locust Street, Sublette
Phone 815-849-5412
Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh

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

Harmon United Methodist Church Pastor Leanne Keate

202 N. Grove, Harmon
Phone 359-7302
Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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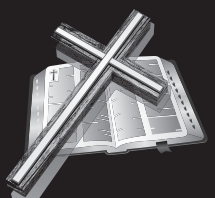
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815-849-5232

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

KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

The Amboy News
815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Reset Your Focus

PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

About one or two times a year, Glenda (my wife) and I “co-preach” ... I’ll share something that she said or wrote and use it in a sermon. Here is a recent one we did.

“I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ Jesus saved me for and wants me to be. No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on that one thing. Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead. I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven.” Philippians 3:12-14

As we have now closed the books for 2019 and are a couple of weeks into 2020, I wonder what things in our lives God may want us to leave in “the

past” in order to embrace what He has for us in the future? The Apostle Paul who gave us about 2/3’s of the NT by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the man who had worked so hard, accomplished and endured so much, pours out his heart to us. He was humble enough to say, “I am still not all I should be”.

As we look back on all that has taken place in 2019 and reflect on our relationship with the Lord—what would we say? Are we all that Christ saved us for – or desired us to be? I feel like I have fallen short. But when I look at Paul and think of all that he had endured and accomplished up to this point in his life it is hard to imagine that he could feel that way. That is one of the things we love about Paul - he is “real”. He truly helps us keep the faith and challenges us how to keep going.

When we think of the closing of the year, it reminds us that it is a good time to readjust our focus. We don’t ignore

where we have been, because it happened. Whether it was sins or failures in life or stresses or whatever... anything that slowed or hindered our walk with the Lord. Tell God about it and ask Him to forgive you. And then follow Paul’s example, put it away and forget what was behind! That means don’t keep bringing it up and dragging it behind you. It is time to “bury it” and know that God has forgiven you. Set your focus on what lies ahead.

There are also endless possibilities in a brand-new blank year ahead. Let’s take some time to refocus. Put away what needs to be put away and set your focus on what is before you.

Multitudes are out there in this next year that need the touch of God that only your life can give. Let this be a perfect time to reset your focus. May you be ALL that God saved you for and wants you to be.

God Bless You

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

Traitor

In 1983 in Rome, a young man presses the intercom buzzer on the gate of the American embassy. “I’d like to speak to someone in Intelligence,” he announces in fluent English. His name is Alon Regev, and he tells the CIA officer interviewing him that he has all the qualifications to rise to the highest echelons in the Israeli government. He wants to spy for America. He does indeed rise to the top and all the while funnels high-value intelligence to his American handler. Except the CIA officer in Rome was a Soviet mole.

So begins Jonathan de Shalit’s spy thriller “Traitor.” De Shalit, who was a high-ranking Israeli intelligence officer (his novel was vetted by a government committee), said of his premise: “I played with the idea of someone knocking on a door, but fatefully, without being aware, he enters a totally different world. And I wondered how he would react when he starts to doubt his perception of reality when he discovers that he is part of a very different story.”

Thirty years on, a hazy suspicion that a traitor may be operating within the highest levels of the Israeli government sets in motion a manhunt that ranges deep into the Russian hinterland, Europe, and the United States. Former Mossad chief Aharon Levin is tasked with assembling a group of operatives who will work outside Shin Bet, Israel’s internal security service, and the Mossad. De Shalit has created convincing backstories for his intrepid operatives, of whom he says “Ya’ara Stein, the beautiful, violent, charming operative is in my eyes, without doubt, the main character. She is the person who we care about.”

As to the traitor Alon, whose code name is Cobra, de Shalit depicts him as an arrogant princeling, but crucially does not address the danger he presents to Israel. There is not a single detail of the damage he has caused. How his handler, a Russian mole in the guise of an academic at an East Coast university, is hunted down is far more interesting than anything about Cobra. There is also a wonderful old Soviet agent Katrina who takes sweet revenge on her loutish colleagues. Ya’ara Stein’s encounter with Katrina is perhaps the finest part of the novel.

Though “Traitor” suffers considerably by comparison, it is very much in the tradition of John le Carré’s classic “Tinker, Taylor Soldier Spy.” (De Shalit has said that “Traitor” is a conscious homage to John le Carré.) But unlike “Tinker, Taylor,” de Shalit opens his story to include the East German and Soviet spy masters, who, though brutish, lack the brilliant malevolence of le Carré’s mysterious Karla. Still, the sense of authenticity, the well-drawn characters, the dogged attention to detail and humming suspense make for a darn good thriller.



By Emily Goff

Head Librarian

Pankhurst Memorial Library offers a Tales for Tots every Thursday from 10 -10:45 a.m. This program is for 18 months- Preschool aged children and their caregivers. We read a story, make a craft, play games, and have

a snack. You do not need a library card to join us, but you will need a library card to check out any materials.

For the month of January only, we are offering a special for Non-Residents wishing to renew, or sign up for a card.

Usually, a card is \$50 per year, for the household but for this month only you can get a card for \$25. Any questions please call the library at 815-857-3925.

Library hours are 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.

Follow us on Facebook for more library happenings.

Amboy High School announces its first semester honor roll

AMBOY—Amboy High School announces its first semester honor roll.

HIGHEST HONORS Seniors

Brittany Barlow, Sidney Corcoran, Nathan Friel, Alison O’Rourke, Kenzie Scudder, Tyler Stewart, and Margaret Vaessen

Juniors

Brianna Blaine, Erin Latta, Madelyn McLaughlin, Mallory Powers, Matthew Raymond, Nicholas Tarr, and Trevor Vaessen

Sophomores

Lauren Althaus, Ian Eller, Connor Hummel, Andrew Jones, Dana Merriman, Amelia Mondro, Alexis Morgan, Samuel Russell, and Lauren Tarr

Freshmen

Olivia Costner, James Curl, Charlie Dickinson, Courtney Orgiesen, Kelton Schwamberger, and Wesley Wilson

HIGH HONORS Seniors

Ashley Althaus, Bailey Bickett, Arian Fekolli, Madison Full, Trevyn Gunning, Jakob Highbarger, Daunte Kessel, Rebekah Lewis, Nastasja Vaessen, Joshua Yocum, and Jade Zimmerly

Juniors

Preston Henkel, Mariah Hoffman, Brady Jones, Gabrielle Jones, Ethan Larson, Margaret Lowery, Dominic McClard, Florian Mimini, Abigayle Payne, Calvin Seier, Carter Seier, Brook-

lyn Whelchel, and Zachary Winters

Sophomores

Angela Daszkiewicz, Olivia Dinges, Saddy Herrera, Jairol Hochstatter, Ingrid Larson, Chanlor Pohl, Lauren Richardson, Madalyn Shuck, Haley Sus, Angel Warner, and Caden Wittenauer

Freshmen

Bradley Dinwiddie, Landon Koppin, Courtney Lachat, Ana Lopez-Belmontes, Garrett Pertell, Alexandra Vaessen, and Aislinn Zitelman

HONORS Seniors

Rachel Ackert, Mercedes Bell, Kyleigh Donna, Justin Janssen, Austin Norman, James Popovich, Avery Shaw,

Riley Sus, and Andrew Thier

Juniors

Darla Appleman, Makai King, Caden Latta, Eden Lindenmeyer, Brian Murphy, Manon Poubanc, Liberty Sheaves, and Logan Wood

Sophomores

Hannah Blanton, Nicholas Corcoran, Mason Ely, Nicole Latta, Elizabeth Malach, Sophia Nelson, Baylie Nickel, Kenzie Nickel, and Haidyn Zimmerly

Freshmen

Ryan Dickinson, Jose Herrera, Sierra Huffman, Brian Moore, Phillip Stewart, Valentin Vazquez, and Kaylin Woodyatt

Northern Illinois 4-H summer camp – change your child’s life

LEE COUNTY — 4-H Camp is a five-day, four-night residential camping experience that is conducted cooperatively by University of Illinois Extension staff in Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago Counties and the professional staff at RRCC.

Historically, parents have sent their children to 4-H Camp for a variety of reasons: to have fun, to make new friends, to develop new skills, to be physically active and to appreciate nature. 4-H Camp is about way more than one week of fun. Sending your child to 4-H Camp will allow them to create memories they will carry with them through adulthood. 4-H camp teaches youth to make good decisions, build their self-confidence, become independent and gain the ability to work well with others. These skills will help youth develop into strong adult leaders. In addition, 4-H camp counsel-

ors devote much of their personal time to ensure today’s campers have the same great experience they did as children.

Campers at 4-H Camp will check-in from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 8, and checkout from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 12. During camp week, youth will engage in a variety of activities designed to challenge, educate and entertain. Two or three free-choice periods will be offered daily and will include options such as hiking, shooting sports, arts and crafts, crate staking, team building challenges, zip-lining, swimming, and more.

Evening activities will be provided by the 4-H camp counselors and include campfires, a games night and a dance. It is guaranteed to be a blast!

4-H Camp is open to ALL boys and girls, ages 8-14 by June 8. 4-H membership is not required; however all participants will be expected to comply

with the same high behavior standards expected of 4-H’ers. Youth need to be interested and excited to have a week of outdoor fun, away from television and technology.

Cost is \$250 for 4-H members and \$270 for non-4-H members until March 1. After that date, the price goes up \$50. All camp fees must be paid in full and postmarked by May 15. Download a camper application on-line at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/bdo> or you can register online at: <http://go.illinois.edu/4HSummerCamp>.

You may also call an office near you: Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273; Ogle County Extension at 815-732-2191; Stephenson County at 815-235-4125; Carroll County at 815-244-9444; Lee County at 815-857-3525; or Whiteside County at 815-632-3611.

Slots for boys and girls cabins will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Lee Center church to host annual chili luncheon

LEE CENTER — The Lee Center First Congregational United Church of Christ is hosting its 43rd Annual Chili Luncheon from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 19.

The menu includes all-you-can-eat

chili or soup with toppings, crackers, carrots, salad, cake and drink. Ticket prices are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages five to 12, and children under the age of five are free. Carry outs are available.

New this year will be a basket raffle.

A variety of baskets will be available. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

Proceeds from the luncheon and quilt raffle will go toward the youth camp scholarship fund and building repair fund.

Crossroads Coffee House

A non-denominational Christian coffee house providing fellowship, music, prayer & beverages in a safe relaxing environment.

Friday, Jan. 17

Community Prayer

Doors Open 6 p.m./ Music Begins 7 p.m.

For more info, contact Dr. Cathy Wolf at: coffee@crossroadsHOP.com

Located at The Mendota Civic Center, 1901 Tom Merwin Drive (North Rt. 251 by Lake Mendota)

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Green River Saddle Club Trade Day

Sunday, Feb. 2

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Vendors welcome

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Non-members \$20 each table

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Thank You Neighbor

If someone has done something kind for you, let them know by nominating them for the “Thank You Neighbor Rose.” Send a brief description of their act of kindness to:

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Opinion

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

Despite history degree, Blagojevich shows lack of historical perspective

Arrogant and combative have become servile and obsequious. That's all I could think when I read Rod Blagojevich's latest mash note to Donald Trump.

As most everyone knows, the former Illinois governor is locked up in a federal prison for multiple counts of corruption and wants the president to pardon him. Based on the tone of his essay this month in NewsMax, he must really, really want out.

Despite holding a history degree from Northwestern, Blagojevich's composition shows him to be lacking in historical perspective and void of shame.

"He was always like a boxer ready to go out and fight. With Blagojevich, it was never like he was seeking a meeting of the minds to get something accomplished," said former state Sen. Denny Jacobs of East Moline.

I dealt with the Blagojevich administration daily for his entire time in office. I'm still amazed by what I witnessed.

During a formal meeting in the governor's office, Blagojevich got in a shouting match with then-Sen. Mike Jacobs in which he is alleged to have repeatedly called the senator a two-word obscenity that inferred he was unnaturally close to his mother.

During legislative sessions he wouldn't deign to sleep in Springfield; he flew in the state jet back to Chicago each night.

He called the Illinois General Assembly into special session 36 times, which is about half of the total number of special sessions called since 1970. The sessions disrupted lawmakers' time off, accomplished little and Blagojevich

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



himself refused to attend.

So, are you getting the picture? He was arrogant and always at war with somebody.

The tone he took in his essay last week is quite different.

Writing from the federal prison in Englewood, Colo., Illinois' 40th governor finds striking similarities between our current president and Abraham Lincoln.

"I, like most people from my home state of Illinois, am a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln," Blagojevich said. He adds his own "unhappy experience," provides "this interesting and unique perspective about impeachment as I sit here in prison."

I suppose the "unhappy experience" he is referring to is being impeached and removed from the governorship.

Blagojevich further pontificates, "Today's Democrats would have impeached Lincoln for obstruction of Congress and abuse of power when he unilaterally issued his Emancipation Proclamation."

The Chicago Democrat added today's Democrats would have impeached Lincoln for "Confederate collusion," bribery and an "illegal quid pro quo."

Blagojevich also contends today's Democrats would demand a special counsel because Lincoln offered command of the Army "to a guy who would go on to become the top military commander of the other side."

My goodness, Federal Inmate 40892-424 would do well to remember Robert E. Lee was a colonel in the U.S. Army when Lincoln offered him the command.

How can someone with a bachelor's degree in history

from Northwestern University spew this kind of nonsense?

Did he stay awake during class? Does he have any shame?

"I guess he fancies himself a Lincoln scholar – but he's not," said longtime statehouse observer Mike Lawrence. "This is a pretty transparent effort to get Trump to pardon him."

Blagojevich is serving a 14-year prison sentence for trying, as Illinois governor in 2008, to sell a U.S. Senate seat for campaign contributions.

Writing for the conservative website NewsMax, Blagojevich wonders "what would have happened had Nancy Pelosi been the Speaker of the House when Abraham Lincoln was president."

He contends that today's Democrats would have impeached Lincoln because he "didn't ask Congress for permission when he declared an end to nearly 250 years of slavery."

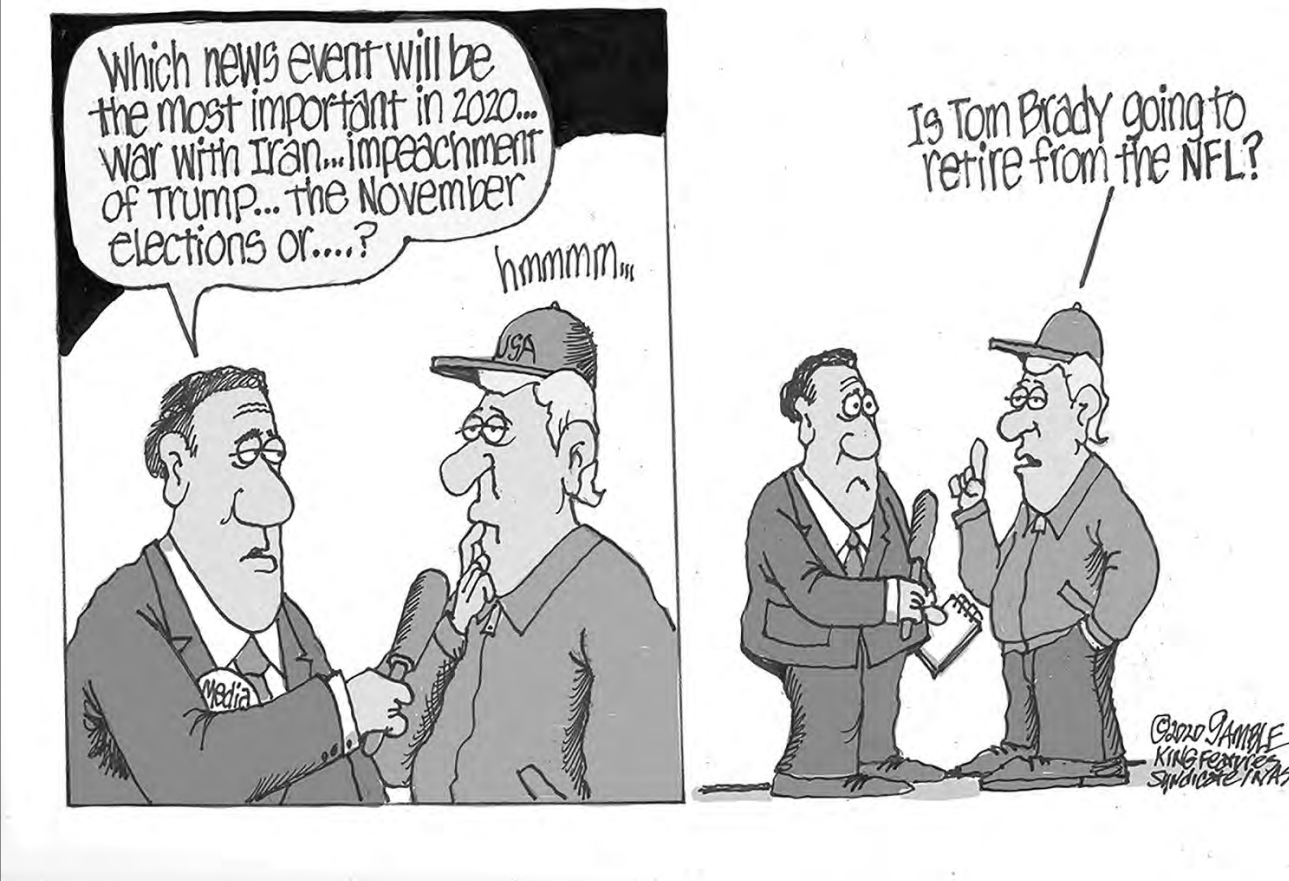
Has the former governor never heard of the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery? It was approved by Congress and ratified by state legislatures. Shouldn't a person with a law degree know this?

I recall him telling me and several other reporters: "I went to law school at a place called Pepperdine in Malibu, California, overlooking the Pacific Ocean — a lot of surfing and movie stars and all the rest. I barely knew where that law library was."

There is much that Blagojevich told me during his time in office that I don't believe. But I never doubted that statement.

And after his latest literary endeavor, neither should you.

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



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Jan. 16, 1920

Miss Bessie Hewitt entertained with a slumber party at her home on West Main Street Monday evening. Misses Helen Graff, Louise Doty, Mary Rooney and Frances Lester, with Mrs. A.C. Kauffman as chaperone.

Miss Josephine Egan is enjoying a new 5-passenger Dodge Sedan car, a new Year's gift from her brother Frank.

Mrs. Percy Hargitt and children returned to Bloomington Sunday after a visit with relatives.

Miss Hermina Hecker was the guest of Dixon relatives over Sunday.

75 Years Ago Jan. 11, 1945

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hecker and family moved Wednesday from near Dixon to the Buckingham farm west of Amboy formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George Lahman, Sr.

Mrs. Helen Woods sustained a sprained left ankle Friday when she slipped on the ice and fell. She was absent from her work at the Amboy Milk Products Co. for a few days.

J.R. Tait came out from Evanston Tuesday on account of the illness of his sister, Mrs. William Lafferty, who submitted to surgery at K.S.B. Hospital Monday.

50 Years Ago Jan. 15, 1970

Announcement has been made by the office of the Secretary of State that the Amboy Education Association has been incorporated as a "not for profit corporation."

High winds that caused a great deal of drifting snow last Thursday resulted in District No. 272 school buses being dispatched late in the forenoon. Those students who don't ride the buses remained in school until mid-afternoon.

Amboy varsity Clippers Tuesday eve-

ning trounced Tampico High School here 72-48. Blackburn, Glaser, and Murphy controlled the boards for Amboy and the team showed a well organized fast break.

25 Years Ago Jan. 19, 1995

Pete Montavon defeated Matt Welty on his way to first place in the wrist-wrestling tournament held at the Depot Tap Saturday.

Donations of \$747.63 each were presented to Dr. Brigitte Wilken, director of Lee County Special Education and to Patricia Wilson of Kreider Services by Les Cook, chairman of the Tootsie Roll Drive, and Ken Hackbarth, grand knight of Amboy Council No. 8277 Knights of Columbus.

Members of the former Amboy Woman's Club recently met to reorganize as Amboy Civic Organization (ACO).



Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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Office Manager/Circulation/Commercial Printing
Mary Mays
mmays@amboynews.com

SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Lee, Bureau and LaSalle Counties

1 year	manual pay	\$39.50
	auto pay	\$37.50
10 weeks	manual pay	\$10.50
	auto pay	\$9.50

Non-local

1 year	manual pay	\$45.00
	auto pay	\$32.00
10 weeks	manual pay	\$11.75
	auto pay	\$11.00

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Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Wednesday and Friday by appointment only.
Closed Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

Phone **815-857-2311**

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Website **www.amboynews.com**

LOCAL NEWS

Educational Briefs

UW-Madison announces Fall Dean's List

MADISON, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2019-2020 academic year.

Locally, Zoey Colglazier, of Dixon, was named to the College of Letters and Science, Dean's List

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

SVCC President's, Deans' List Announced for Fall 2019 Semester

DIXON — Two hundred twenty-five full- and part-time Sauk Valley Community College students have been named to the President's List for high academic achievement during the fall semester. Another 130 students made the Deans' List.

President's List—Full-Time Students (4.0 GPA)

SVCC President Dr. David Hellmich said 50 full-time students topped the President's List with straight "A" averages. The students and their hometowns include:

AMBOY
Jillian A. Barnes and Kaitlin M. Tarr.
ASHTON
Savannah R. Stinnett.
SUBLETTE
Natalie D. Vaessen.

WALNUT
Nataleigh L. Nugent.
President's List—Part-Time students (4.0 GPA)

AMBOY
Demi E. Becker, Matthew A. Fawkes, Arian A. Fekolli, Jordan S. Jacobs, Caden R. Latta, Erin K. Latta, Alison V. O'Rourke and Rhonda D. Payne.

ASHTON
Mitchell R. Meurer and Scarlet E. Soto.
FRANKLIN GROVE
Isaac C. Erdmann, Courtney R. Giddings, Tristan J. Munroe and Natalie H. Sondgeroth.
SUBLETTE
Margaret M. Vaessen.

WALNUT
Lacy S. Berndt, Andrew P. Jameson and Terri A. Jamison.

WEST BROOKLYN
Callie J. Shrimplin.
President's List—Full-Time students (3.75 GPA or Better)

AMBOY
Conor D. Janik and Nastasja N. Vaessen.
FRANKLIN GROVE
Graycyn M. Bennett.

SUBLETTE
Madeline M. Vaessen.
President's List—Part-Time students (3.75 GPA or Better)

WALNUT
Jennifer L. Jacobs.
Deans' List—Full-Time students (3.5-3.749 GPA)

AMBOY
Kelynn K. Boyle, Danna Cadenas and Courtney R. Rhine.
FRANKLIN GROVE
Calvin C. Jahn.

SUBLETTE
Nevaeh L. Sheaves.

WEST BROOKLYN
Emily C. Shrimplin.
Deans' List—Part-Time students (3.5-3.749 GPA)

AMBOY
Maddison E. Full, Abigail K. Noble and Audrey E. Woods.

ASHTON
Brett A. Buhrow and Melissa L. Munnich.
FRANKLIN GROVE
Brook L. Miller.

SUBLETTE
Ashley R. Althaus.
WALNUT
Ashley R. McAlvey.

Vaessen named to dean's list at Olivet Nazarene University

BOURBONNAIS — Reece Vaessen, of Amboy, was named to the dean's list at Olivet Nazarene University during the recently completed fall 2019 semester.

To qualify for inclusion on the dean's list, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Kishwaukee College announces Fall 2019 Part-Time Student Honors List

MALTA—Kishwaukee College is pleased to announce its Part-Time Student Honors List for Fall 2019. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have completed a minimum

of 6 (but less than 12) semester hours of college-level courses during the academic term at Kish with a grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The following Kishwaukee College students have been named to the official Fall 2019 Part-Time Student Honors List:

Dixon
Cassandra E Hintz
Lee
Evelyn Witte

Kishwaukee College announces Fall 2019 Dean's List

MALTA—The Office of Student Services at Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Fall 2019 Dean's List. To be eligible for Dean's List honors, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (at the 100/200 level) during an academic term at Kishwaukee College with a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The following Kishwaukee College students have been named to the official Fall 2019 Dean's List:

Ashton
Christopher Matthew Holden
Lee

Joanna Nicole Farnsworth, Jade Renee Mi-lostan, Raymond Tomas Ragan and Thomas Michael Rissman

Paw Paw
Anthony Micheal Castaldo and Joshua M. Mateja

Steward
Lindsey M. Miller and Austin Suddeth

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois launches 2020 Girl Scout cookie season with new cookie and new packaging

AMBOY — Northern Illinois - Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI) officially launches the local 2020 Girl Scout Cookie™ season on Jan. 8—when Girl Scouts across northern Illinois become entrepreneurs as they earn money to power their own leadership opportunities and adventures! This season, GSNI announces two sweet new ways to celebrate young female leaders: a new lemon cookie and refreshed packaging reflecting the amazing experiences cookie earnings make possible for girls.

Local Girl Scouts will take cookie orders in-person from Jan. 8–Feb. 2. The new Girl Scout Cookie is Lemon-Ups™, a crispy lemon cookie baked with messages inspired by Girl Scout entrepreneurs. "I am a go-getter"

and "I am an innovator" are among the eight phrases that bring the experience of Girl Scouting to life. The new cookie joins the 2020 lineup which includes refreshing Thin Mints, caramel-y Samoas, peanut butter-stuffed Tagalongs, crunchy Do-si-dos, buttery Trefoils, sweet S'mores, and toffee-chipped Toffee-tastics (gluten free, too!). Cookies are on sale for only \$5 per box.

The refreshed cookie packaging continues to emphasize what the cookie program encompasses. Updated images feature current Girl Scouts taking part in a diverse range of experiences available to members—from adventure-packed camping and canoeing, to exploring space science and designing robots, to taking action to improve their communities.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program® teaches girls about entrepreneurship as they have fun learning essential skills like money management, public speaking, and decision making, which set them up for a lifetime of success. Nine in ten Girl Scouts say the cookie program has built their entrepreneurship skills and their interest in pursuing entrepreneurship as a career path—so every cookie purchase is an investment in the world-changing business leaders of tomorrow.

What's more, each and every purchase stays local to power amazing experiences and leadership opportunities for girls in communities across the United States.

Girl Scout Cookies can only be purchased from a registered Girl Scout. Don't know a

Girl Scout? Email cookies4you@girlscoutsn.org to be connected to a local entrepreneur who would love to add you to her customer list or visit www.girlscoutsn.org/buycookies.

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois uses cookie earnings to power amazing experiences for girls through their programming, while girls and their troops decide how to invest in impactful community projects, personal enrichment opportunities, and more.

Skills girls learn in the cookie program also influence later success as data shows more than half (57 percent) of Girl Scout alumnae in business say the cookie program was beneficial to skills they possess today, such as money management, goal-setting, and public speaking.

COMMUNITY CENTER

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Julie DeArmist - Manager

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Garrett Drew
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rdrew1046@gmail.com

Dick Drew
Cell: 815-973-0175

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www.woodhavenlakes.com

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Mihm-Jones Funeral Home

Patrick Jones
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815-857-2611
www.thejonesfh.com

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Lori Erbes, GRI
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- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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

101 LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF)
Robert E. Meinhardt,)
deceased)
Case No. 2019-P-73

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Robert E. Meinhardt of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 12, 2019 to Nancy A. Mathieu of 2164 Shaw Road, Amboy, IL 61310 and Kristine M. Woodhouse of 210 Batavia Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 as Independent Executors whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before July 10, 2020 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
No. 0102
January 1, 8, 15, 2020

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

ESTATE OF)
Lucille E. Nicholson)
deceased)
Case No. 2019-P-69

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Lucille E. Nicholson of Paw Paw, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 4, 2019 to Linda K. Sellers of P. O. Box 524, 344 Grummon St., Paw Paw, IL 61353 and John K. Nicholson, P. O. Box 516, 218 Wiley street, Paw Paw, IL 61353 as Independent Executors whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before July 10, 2020 and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
No. 0103
January 1, 8, 15, 2020

NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that on December 20 A.D. 2019 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Lee County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting business known as Becker Detailing located at 1702 Lee Center Road, Amboy, IL 61310 Dated this 20th day of December A.D. 2019
Cathy Myers
County Clerk
No. 0101
January 1, 8, 15 2020

TRAINING/EDUCATION
AIRLINE CAREERS FOR NEW YEAR - BECOME AN AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECH. FAA APPROVED TRAINING FINANCIAL AID IF QUALIFIED - JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE CALL AIM 800-451-5312

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 HELP WANTED

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

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.com

301 ANTIQUES

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, 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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: Coin operated machines, slot machines, pinball, arcade, trade simulators, jukeboxes. Working or not working. 815-397-6586.

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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203 HELP WANTED

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To apply go to www.roe47.org, Resources, Area Vacancies-Applitrack, complete & submit application.

01132020

511 STORAGE UNITS

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08172016

601

VEHICLES FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 2006 Ford Taurus SE. Selling for \$2,000, Bottom Line. For Questions, Call 815-643-2334. (01-22-20)

INFORMATION

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Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. - noon, and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. - noon
Closed Wednesday

Phone:

815-857-2311

Fax:

815-857-2517

Email:

mmays@amboynews.com

Address:

245 E. Main Street, Amboy

Mail:

P.O. Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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

DISCLAIMER:

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

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab



LTZ, 4x4, Loaded, Diesel, Maroon, 1-Owner, Local Trade, Lots of options including Leather Interior, Heated/Cooled Seats, Nav. & much more!

\$51,900



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- 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty
- 24/7 Roadside Assistance
- 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process
- 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee

2019 Chevrolet Equinox AWD Premier, Maroon.....\$27,500

2019 GMC Terrain AWD SLT White.....\$27,500

2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab High Country, 4x4, Duramax Diesel Black.....\$53,900

2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, Loaded, Diesel Maroon.....\$51,900

2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LT Diesel, Z71, 4x4, Red ..\$38,900

2018 Chevrolet 1500 LT 4x4 Crew Cab, w/ Leather Silver.....\$33,500

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew LTZ 4x4, Z71, Midnight Edition Black.....\$36,900

2017 Chevy Malibu Hybrid Black.....\$17,900

2017 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, Silver\$17,900

2017 Chevy Equinox, FWD LT, Sunroof, Blue\$17,500

2017 Chevy Cruze Premier Gray.....\$14,900

2016 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LTZ, Diesel, Red\$47,900

2016 Chevy Dbl. Cab 1500 LTZ, Z71, 4x4, Silver ..\$32,500

2016 Buick Enclave, Leather, AWD, V6, White\$22,900

2015 Chevy Tahoe LTZ Loaded, Gray\$39,900

2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LT, Maroon.....\$27,500

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2017 Chevrolet Traverse LT AWD, Trailer Pkg, Captain Chairs, Silver\$20,900

2016 Chevy 1500 Double Cab LT, 4x4, Z71, Gray\$26,900

2015 Chevy Colorado 4x4 LT Crew Cab, Red\$22,900

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FIND NEW ROADS

01082020

Not sure why business is slow?



is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



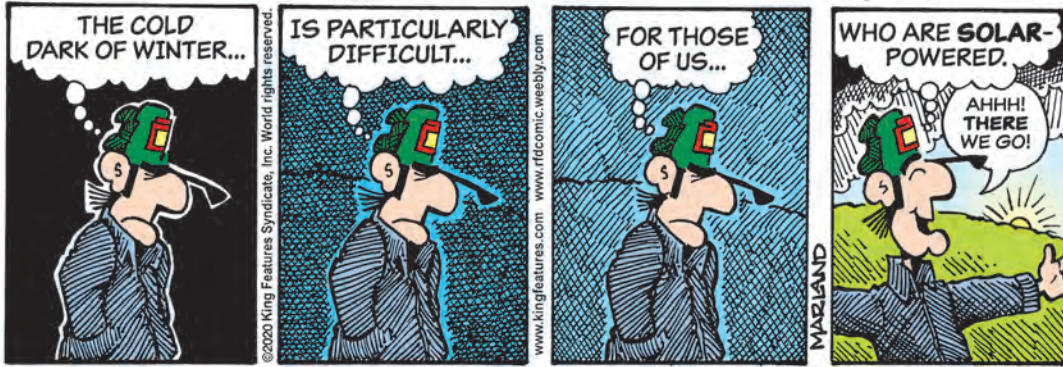
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



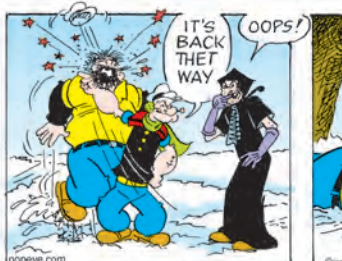
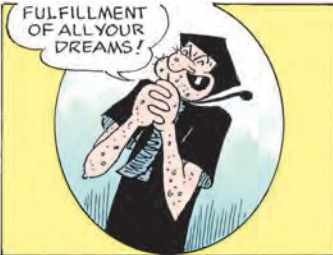
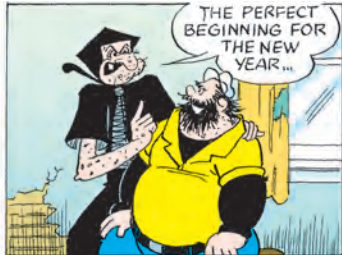
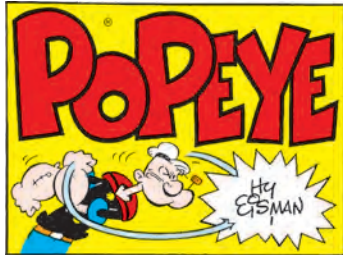
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



ACROSS

- 1 Cleans the floors
- 5 Pouch
- 8 One of the Three Bears
- 12 Admitting customers
- 13 Time of your life?
- 14 Change for a five
- 15 Draped dress
- 16 Sailor
- 17 Western state
- 18 Deceptive
- 20 Melody
- 22 Lengthwise, to 16-Across
- 26 In spades
- 29 Actress Farrow
- 30 Mai — (cock-tail)
- 31 Exceptional
- 32 Corral
- 33 Check
- 34 Film trickery, for short
- 35 One of the Brady Bunch
- 36 Cartoonist Trudeau
- 37 Everywhere
- 40 Surround
- 41 Attachments
- 45 Blunder
- 47 Rowing need
- 49 Help in crime
- 50 Padlock fastener
- 51 Oilfield struc-

King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19		20	21			
			22		23				24	25
26	27	28			29			30		
31				32			33			
34			35			36				
37			38			39				
		40			41			42	43	44
45	46			47	48		49			
50				51			52			
53				54			55			

- 8 100 pence
- 9 Enemy of an "army"?
- 10 Shade of green
- 11 Shade of blonde
- 19 Plaything
- 21 Actress Merkel
- 23 Make corrections
- 24 Equitable
- 25 Wee
- 26 St. Louis landmark
- 27 Creche trio
- 28 Annoyingly proper
- 32 Internet radio
- 33 Numbers to be crunched
- 35 Cookie container
- 36 Deity
- 38 Ballerina in "Fantasia"
- 39 Ginormous
- 42 Last write-up
- 43 "Finding —"
- 44 Flight component
- 45 That girl
- 46 Fond du —, Wis.
- 48 Have something

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

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Trivia test

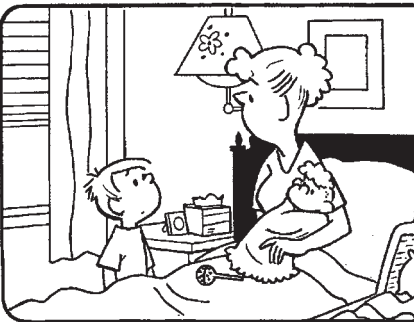
by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: What is the motto of "The Three Musketeers" in the 19th century novel?
- MUSIC: What were the first names of the Allman brothers?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: New York City is divided into how many boroughs?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Malaysia?
- HISTORY: Which was the first U.S. state to be admitted to the union after the original 13 states were admitted?
- MATH: What is the first number in which the letter "a" appears in its spelling?
- GEOLOGY: What kind of rock likely would form at the bottom of a river?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president once worked as a fashion model?
- MOVIES: How many people were killed in the 1996 movie "Scream"?
- FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: Which ancient Roman philosopher once said, "Every new beginning comes from other beginnings' end"?

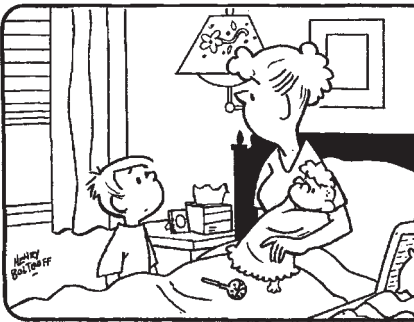
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Lamp is different. 2. Curtain is shorter. 3. Rattle is moved. 4. Foot is showing. 5. Sleeve is longer. 6. Tissue is higher.

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: E equals S

GYDM JYD UCLU DL UDR CM RHPHMR

DPDLTUZBT LCMBZQ GHKB

YCHLEJTKDE, HJ GCE EYDCL

QCBMDEE.

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PRAYER

Today's Word

3. Arrange; 4. Typical

1. Prawn; 2. Wobble;

solution

SCRAMBLERS

King Crossword

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

When the barber began giving

everybody random wild

hairstyles, it was sheer

madness.

answer

CryptoQuip

"Great news! They're going to allow _____ in cooking class."

TODAY'S WORD

LOCAL NEWS

Country Financial to host two ag seminars in Freeport, Henry

FREEPORT — As 2020 arrives, the Illinois crop planting season won't be far behind, and there are plenty of tools and updates to help farmers plan and prepare for a successful season. Upcoming Agribusiness Seminars are scheduled across the state to assist farmers on a variety of topics, including Federal Crop Insurance offerings, navigating the crop insurance claims process should devastation hit your farm, and a market outlook on grain prices for 2020.

"We are excited to connect with our COUNTRY clients, Farm Bureau members and others interested in information that will help them better plan for the 2020 crop year in Illinois," said Doug Yoder, COUNTRY Financial Crop Agency Manager. "These meetings proved helpful during a rough 2019 and assisted many of our clients to be in better positions to overcome the weather challenges they faced because they better understood the resources available to them. I encourage all Illinois farmers to find the nearest Agribusiness Seminar this winter and plan on attending."

COUNTRY Financial®, Illinois Farm Bureau and other organizations are pleased to team up for these Agribusiness Seminars, and offer dozens of talks throughout Illinois to better equip farmers and growers with the knowledge they need to make informed

decisions for their operations.

Two upcoming seminars are being planned — one in Freeport and the other in Henry.

A seminar will be held at 12:30 p.m. and again at 6 p.m., on Thursday, Jan. 16, at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, 210 W Spring St. Freeport. Registration opens at noon and 5:30 p.m. and meal begins at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Guest speakers for this event include:

Doug Yoder (Crop Agency Manager, COUNTRY Financial) - Crop Insurance Update

Brad Clow (Crop Operations Manager, COUNTRY Financial)- Crop Claims Update

A seminar will be held at 12:30 p.m., on Friday, Jan. 17, at Marshall Putnam County Farm Bureau, 509 Front St., Henry. Registration opens and lunch begins at noon.

Guest speakers for the event include:

Doug Yoder (Crop Agency Manager, COUNTRY Financial) - Crop Insurance Update

Dr. Gary Schnitkey (Soybean Industry Endowed Chair in Agricultural Strategy, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois) - Farm Bill Update

Brad Clow (Crop Operations Manager, COUNTRY Financial) - Drone Presentation

and Crop Claims Update

For additional scheduled seminars, visit COUNTRYCrop.com. As new meetings are scheduled, the online calendar will be updated each Friday. Events began in

mid-December and continue through February, and possibly early March. If concerns about weather or other event needs arise, attendees may contact the meeting host, listed for each event on the online schedule.

USDA conducting more public information meetings for 2018 Farm Bill Programs

AMBOY — The Farm Service Agency has scheduled three public information meetings to explain the farm programs of the 2018 Farm Bill.

The meetings will all be held at the Lee County Farm Bureau building in Amboy

Thursday, Jan. 16, at 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 17, at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 1:30 p.m.

Because seating is limited, please contact the Lee County Farm Bureau office to RSVP

by Jan. 14 with Danelle Burrs at leecfb@comcast.net or 815-857-3531.

For more information, please contact the Lee County FSA Office in Amboy at 815-857-3621, extension #2, or visit their website at www.fsa.usda.gov or www.farmers.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Jerry Quinton at 815-857-3621 extension #2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8333.

*Email news items to
tgreenfield@
amboynews.com*

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www.pioneerstatebank.com

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SPORTS

Lady Clippers take on two state ranked teams, earn one win, and one loss

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers had the biggest week of their season when they took their state ranking against two other state-ranked teams.

The fourth-ranked Lady Clippers hosted conference foe and second-ranked Lanark Eastland on Jan. 7 at the AHS gym. The overflow crowd was thoroughly entertained as the two teams battled to the wire with Amboy coming out on top, 60-57.

Amboy jumped out to a 15-5 lead after the first quarter, but Eastland came back strong and trimmed the AHS lead down to one (28-27) at intermission. The Lady Clippers carried a 41-39 margin to the fourth frame and held on for the win.

Amboy had many heroes in the game. The first hero was the crowd, which created

a great atmosphere.

Mallory Powers paced the offense with 16 points and four assists. Gabby Jones was next with 14 points on six of eight shooting and two of two from the line. Abi Payne had a great second half, scoring all 12 of her points and adding a game-high eight assists. Despite foul trouble, Kyleigh Donna tallied nine points and led with eight rebounds. She also had two steals and two blocked shots. In addition, Olivia Dinges added seven markers, including two big three-point field goals in the first half. She chipped in with three assists and a pair of steals.

Of Amboy's 19 fourth-quarter points, eight came from the free throw line. Payne sank three, Donna and Jones had two apiece and Dinges added one.

Amboy met another highly-ranked foe on Jan. 9 when it journeyed to Rock Falls to take on the Lady Rockets, who were ranked No. 10 in Class 2A. It was another heart-stopping game, but this time the Lady Clippers were on the short end of a 45-42 score.

From the first call of the game, Amboy fans knew it would never be easy. The Lady Clippers held a 10-8 lead after the initial stanza, but Rock Falls' physical play allowed it to outscore Amboy, 17-7 in the second period to take a 25-17 advantage to the locker room.

The third quarter continued much the same way and Rock Falls led at the conclusion, 36-26. Amboy never stopped working hard and won the fourth frame, 16-9, but came up short in the final score.

The Lady Clippers outscored Rock Falls from the field, 42-33, but they shot only two free throws compared to 16 for the home team. Amboy did not react very well to the rough game and did not shoot the ball well, making 17 of 48 field goal attempts.

Powers again led Amboy with 17 points and four steals, while she also had three assists. Dinges was next with eight points and three steals, Payne contributed five points and nine assists, Jones tallied six points and grabbed six rebounds, and Donna provided five points and four caroms.

Amboy (16-1) had four players with three more fouls, while no Rock Falls player had more than two fouls in the game.

Inclement weather prevented Amboy's game with Dakota from happening on Jan. 11.

Kishwaukee College women's basketball playing Pink Zone game Feb. 1 for breast cancer awareness

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College women's basketball is participating in the nationwide Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) breast cancer awareness and fundraising event, Pink Zone, on Feb. 1 in the College gym.

WBCA's Pink Zone raises money

for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund for breast cancer research. The Kishwaukee College event will include several activities designed to create awareness, recognize cancer survivors and raise funds for breast cancer research.

The women's and men's basketball teams will play scheduled

games against South Suburban College. Women's tip-off time is 1 p.m. and men's tip-off time is approximately 3:00 p.m. Silent Auction items will be open for bidding from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Fans wearing pink will be admitted for a \$1 ticket price. Items for inclusion in the Pink Zone Silent

Auction are being accepted now through Jan. 29.

Area businesses or individuals who would like to donate Silent Auction items should contact Krystal Gundy, Kish head women's basketball coach, at 815-825-9527 or at kgundy@kish.edu.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle

during the game that will close at 3:30 p.m. T-shirts will also be available for purchase. Cost of the shirts is \$12.

For more information on the Pink Zone event please contact Krystal Gundy, Kish head women's basketball coach, at 815-825-9527 or at kgundy@kish.edu.

IDNR NEWS BITS

January 2020

Lake Le-Aqua-Na Improvement Projects: Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Recreation Area in northern Illinois is closed as of Jan. 1 for site improvement projects that will continue through 2020. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will oversee a road improvement project that will include culvert replacements, road realignments, pavement removal and replacement, dump station replacement, and campsite improvements for the park. The scope of the projects requires closing the park throughout 2020, with the park reopening with improved facilities and amenities following completion of the work.

Pere Marquette Bald Eagle Days: Enjoy watching bald eagles on the Illinois and Mississippi rivers near Pere Marquette State Park this winter by participating in one of the park's popular Bald Eagle Days tours. The informative programs are conducted on select winter dates in January, February and March. The programs are free, but registration is required by calling 618-786-3323. For more, visit <https://bit.ly/2MJhY9e>.

Cocoa the Bison: Fifth graders in Mr. Bacidore's class at Trinity Catholic Academy in La Salle named the newest bison to live at Buffalo Rock State Park. Cocoa has become fast friends with the park's resident bison, Pebbles, who was named by schoolchildren after she was born at the park in 2005. Cocoa arrived at Buffalo Rock in November from the bison herd at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. She was relocated to Buffalo Rock following the passing of Pebbles' mother, Holly, last September.

Late-Winter/CWD Deer Season Jan. 17-19: The Illinois Late-Winter Antlerless-only and Special CWD deer hunting seasons conclude Jan. 17-19. There will be 20 counties open for the final segment of the Late-Winter season and 15 counties open for the final weekend of the Special CWD season. Hunters should check the IDNR website to make sure

the county they intend to hunt is open for the Late-Winter or Special CWD season: <https://bit.ly/2Qghl9v>.

Eagle Days on Old Chain of Rocks Bridge: The Eagle Days at the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge Festival is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 18-19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Visitors can view eagles through spotting scopes from the historic Old Chain of Rocks Bridge at Granite City. Visit <http://greatriversgreenway.org/eagledays/> for more details.

Starved Rock Bald Eagle Watch Weekend: The Bald Eagle Watch Weekend in and around Starved Rock State Park is set for Jan. 25 and 26. Activities are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. both days at the Illinois Waterway Lock and Dam Visitor Center, Starved Rock Visitor Center and Starved Rock Lodge. The Bald Eagle Watch Weekend is hosted by the Illinois Audubon Society, Illinois Raptor Center, IDNR, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Starved Rock Lodge, and is sponsored in part by Ameren Illinois. For more details, visit <https://bit.ly/2QNa2VR>.

INPC Meeting: The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will meet Wednesday, Jan. 22, beginning at 10 a.m. at the IDNR headquarters, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call 217-785-8686.

Ice Fishing Safety: Ice fishing can be great fun, but safety should be taken seriously. Review important ice fishing safety information on the I Fish Illinois website: <https://www.ifishillinois.org/programs/ice.php>

Fulton-Mason Eagle Day: The annual Fulton-Mason Eagle Day will be held Saturday, Feb. 1 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Activities will include live raptor programs, hands-on activities and crafts for kids, and bird watching in various locations in Lewistown and Havana, Illinois. The event is free and for all ages. For event schedule, sponsors and other details, visit this link: <http://www.illinoisstatemuseum.org/content/fulton-mason-eagle-day-1>

Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grants: Teachers in Illinois can apply now for the annual Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant program. Funding for the program is donated by the Independence Tube Corporation in Bedford Park, the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation in Skokie, the D. F. and M. T. Grohne Family Foundation in Wilmington and the Illinois Conservation Foundation. Application details for these nature field trip grants are online at <https://bit.ly/35enXt8>; the application deadline is Jan. 31.

Campground Project at Pere Marquette: The campground at Pere Marquette State

Park in Jersey County will be closed from Feb. 1 through June 30 while contractor crews install new electrical services and make other improvements to the facility. The project will provide for a campground electrical system upgrade, campsite pad resurfacing and other campground improvements, including improved turning radiuses to accommodate larger vehicles.

While the campground is closed, the park and its other recreation activities will be open, and lodging and other amenities will be available at the Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center.

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Wed., Jan. 15

AJHS 7th Grade Girls Basketball @ Waterman - TBA

Thurs., Jan. 16

AJHS Girls Basketball (H) Montmorency - 4:00 p.m.
AHS Fresh/Soph Scholastic Bowl @ Pecatonica - 4:00 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 17

Sat., Jan. 18

AHS Wrestling @ Fulton w/Polo - 5:30 p.m.
AHS Boys Basketball (H) Eastland - 6:00 p.m.
AHS Girls Basketball (H) AFC - 6:00 p.m.
AJHS 8th Grade Girls Basketball @ Paw Paw - TBA

Mon., Jan. 20

Tues., Jan. 21

NO SCHOOL – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
AJHS Girls Basketball (H) AFC - 4:00 p.m.
AHS Scholastic Bowl @ West Carroll - 4:00 p.m.
AHS Wrestling @ Winnebago w/Oregon - 5:30 p.m.
AHS Girls Basketball @ Eastland (Lanark) - 6:00 p.m.
AHS Boys Basketball (H) Morrison - 5:30 p.m.
AJHS 7th Grade Girls Basketball (H) Faith Christian - 4:00 p.m.
School Board Meeting - Central School - 7:00 p.m.
AHS Girls Basketball @ Polo - 6:00 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 22

Thurs., Jan. 23

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Boys Basketball

Tucker Lindenmeyer

Girls Basketball

Mallory Powers

Olivia Dinges

Wrestling

Justin Wicaryus & Dashad Greene



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Where you come first



JR HIGH MENU January 20 – 24

Low-fat chocolate, strawberry or unflavored white milk served at each meal.
Choice of breakfast items from cart with juice and fruit.
Warm breakfast choice on Wednesdays.
Lunch option each day of the featured item or salad bar or yogurt with whole grain crackers or peanut butter & jelly or Grab&Go smoothie.

Monday	- No School
	- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Tuesday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Two bosco sticks, dipping sauce cup, fresh cut veggies, peas, carrots, peaches, jello
Wednesday	- Pancake pup or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Pulled pork on a bun, bag a chips, baked beans, fresh cut veggies, strawberry cup
Thursday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Chicken nuggets, roll/butter, broccoli, cauliflower, cheese sauce, applesauce cup, cookie
Friday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Breakfast for lunch-choice of eggs, yogurt & cheese plus juice box, fruit cup, graham, raisins

01152020



CENTRAL SCHOOL MENU January 20 – 24

Fat-free chocolate, strawberry or unflavored white milk are served at Breakfast and Lunch.
Choice of five 100% real fruit juice cups are served at Breakfast.
Warm breakfast choice on Wednesdays.

Monday	- No School
	- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Tuesday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Two bosco sticks, dipping sauce cup, fresh cut veggies, peas, carrots, peaches, jello
Wednesday	- Pancake pup or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Pulled pork on a bun, bag a chips, baked beans, fresh cut veggies, strawberry cup
Thursday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Chicken nuggets, roll/butter, broccoli, cauliflower, cheese sauce, applesauce cup, cookie
Friday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Breakfast for lunch-choice of eggs, yogurt & cheese plus juice box, fruit cup, graham, raisins

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Reg. Price \$2.79 eac



Shurfine or Food Club Sour Cream

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ea.

Reg. Price \$1.79 ea.



Shurfine Pasta

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ea.

Reg. Price \$1.29 each.



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Assorted 18-19 oz

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Reg. Price \$2.99 each



Shurfine Saltine Crackers

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Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.



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Reg. Price \$5.39 each



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ea.

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Sale goes through Jan. 21, 2020

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