

Junior high tours meant to be an eye-opener

BY MARY MAYS Staff Writer

AMBOY – The community group, 272 KIDS (Knowledge, Infrastructure & Development for Students), was on-hand Tuesday, Jan. 16, to lead tours of the Amboy Junior High building for residents of Amboy CUSD #272. The tours were designed to give a full picture of why 272 KIDS is supporting the construction of two additions to the high school and the March ballot referendum that would fund them. The two additions would include a new, separate Junior High area, on the east side of the High School, and a new entrance, media center and gymnasium for the High School, on the west side.

The group gave around 20 tours during the two-hour open house. A partial list of the areas of concern pointed-out were inefficient and/or non-working windows, a heating system that is so outdated that repairs are frequent and costly, water damage to ceilings caused by burst pipes and other leaks, a gym air handler that is so old repair parts must be custom made, buckling hallway floors and gym flooring in desperate need of replacement. Asbestos in floors and in the insulating wrap on exposed pipes would require expensive abatement to safely remove it. A lack of access to adequate electrical outlets required for current technology is apparent throughout the building. According to 272 KIDS, the nearly 100 year-old building no longer meets code requirements and making improvements would not be cost-effective.

The March 20 ballot referendum will ask district voters to approve a \$15.8 million General Obligation Bond that will increase taxes for 20 years. The tax increase on a home valued at \$100,000 is estimated to be \$246 per year.

For more information on 272 KIDS or the proposed project, call Nichole Stenzel at 815-757-0815 or email her at d.stenzel1@comcast.net.



The tours of the junior high were designed to give a full picture of why 272 KIDS is supporting the construction of two additions to the high school and the March ballot referendum that would fund them. Pictured above, is some of the asbestos in the floor tiles that need to be replaced.

Mary Mays/Amboy News



The AFC Lady Raider and Amboy Lady Clippers pose for a picture with their t-shirts from the Pink and Gray Night during the basketball game on Friday night. Photo submitted

Lady Clippers, Lady Raiders raise money to fight cancer



Girl Scout Daisy Troop visited the Amboy Fire Station on Friday night to work on requirements for a Special Safety Award and earn their pin. The girls were allowed to climb up into a fire truck and into an ambulance.

Monetta Young/Amboy News



BY MONETTA YOUNG Reporter

AMBOY — On Friday, Jan. 19, the Girl Scout Daisy Troop visited the Amboy Fire Station to work on requirements for a Special Safety Award and roll method if their clothing were to catch on fire. Choking – the girls were taught how

to determine if someone were choking and the basics of performing the Heimlich maneuver.

What to do if you are lost – the troop

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers and AFC Lady Basketball squads teamed up to win the battle against cancer.

The two teams came together to host a Pink/ Gray Out Night on Friday, Jan. 19, during their game. The girls held a 50/50 raffle, gift raffle, quilt raffle, t-shirts sales and a silent auction.

Together the teams raised \$3,000 during the night and contributed the proceeds to the CGH Health Foundation Women's Health Program and Charity Stripe.

CGH Health Foundation Women's Health Program help women living in the Sauk Valley area, who are in need of health services, will be able to receive a mammogram, breast exam, Pap test and other diagnostic tests through the CGH Health Foundation because of their generosity. Proceeds also go to provide CGH Medical Center cancer patients with comfort bags. These totes contain

gas, meal and phone cards along with other items which can assist in their journey. Donations are accepted year-round by calling Amanda Blaine at 815/625-0400, ext. 5575 or making a gift online at www.cghmc.com/foundation. Blaine was on hand during the event with a display of what services the CGH Health Foundation Women's Health Program

does. The Charity Stripe® is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for charitable recipients who are experiencing financial and/or

emotional hardship due to military service, debilitating illness, natural disaster and/or other philanthropic conditions.

Pam McCracken won the 50/50 drawing and donated her winnings back to the cause.

The organizers would like to thank everyone that donated: Karen McCoy, The Warehouse, Gaylene Noble, The Main Flower Shop, Sheila and John Hemminger, The Donna Family, CGH & CGH Health Foundation, RT. 52 Road House, The Blaine Family, Amboy District 272, Fresh-Soph, Lady Clippers, Varsity Lady Clippers, Fresh-Soph Lady Raiders, Varsity Lady Raiders, AJH Lady Vikings and their families, AFC and AHS coaches and their families, Brandy Stern, Iron Tree, Joyce Schamberger, Rebecca Bontz, Katie Montavon, Kaleel's Printing, Local Cup & Cake, Ellie Rae's, The Warehouse Salon -Terri, Tasha, and Kelli, Rod Schauff, Linda Klein, Joe Jahn, Chris and Lisa Jahn, Pete and Elizabeth Jahn, Mike and Teri Jahn, Jeff and Rhonda Jahn, and Main Street Hair Salon-Kirsten Donna.

Even the crowd took part in the pink and gray night by wearing those colors. Monetta Young/ Amboy News earn their pin.

During the evening, the five members of the troop were given a tour of the fire station, where EMT Molly Rose and FF/EMT Jaclynn Yanez explained to the girls about the things that go on at the fire station. The girls were allowed to climb up into a fire truck and into an ambulance.

Members include Audriana Plut, Brynleigh Payne, Amelia Kent, Caiddie Phelps and Kylie Zellhofer.

There were three requirements for the special safety award and each of the girls completed them during the evening.

Stop, drop and roll - the girls were taught the importance of stop, drop and

was instructed on the importance of knowing their name, address and phone numbers, as well as identifying safe people to seek help from: ex. Firefighters, police and teachers.

This is the first year for the Daisy Troop in Amboy. The troop meets every other Friday night from 6-7:30 p.m. If you know someone interested in becoming a member of the troop, please call the leader, Julie Plut at 815-263-0966.

Watch for the Daisy Troop at businesses later in February when they will have a booth to sell Girl Scout Cookies. A schedule has not been determined at this time.

Illinois tax filing season begins

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Revenue ("IDOR") will begin accepting 2017 state individual income tax returns on Monday, Jan. 29, the same date that the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") begins accepting federal individual income tax returns. IDOR is reminding taxpayers that filing tax returns electronically and requesting direct deposit into a checking or savings account is still the fastest, most secure way to receive a refund. IDOR begins this tax season with a continued focus on protecting taxpayers and state government against fraud.

As fraud prevention measures continue, IDOR anticipates direct deposit refunds will be issued four weeks from the time an error-free electronically-filed return was submitted. MyTax Illinois, IDOR's free online account management program will begin accepting Individual Income Tax returns on Jan. 29. Taxpayers can file their Form

IL-1040 for free using MyTax Illinois. In calendar year 2017, over six million individual income tax returns were filed with IDOR. Of those, 84 percent were filed electronically. Over 4 million or 66 percent of those who filed an individual income tax return received a refund. The tax rate increased in July 2017 to 4.95 percent from 3.75 percent. Most filers will use a blended rate of 4.3549 percent.

For the most up-to-date information, forms, schedules, and instructions for the 2017 tax year, please visit tax.illinois.gov.

24/7: www.amboynews.com

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ote Yes - March 20th Amboy Jr. High/High School Building Projects Our schools. Our kids. Our future. More information at:

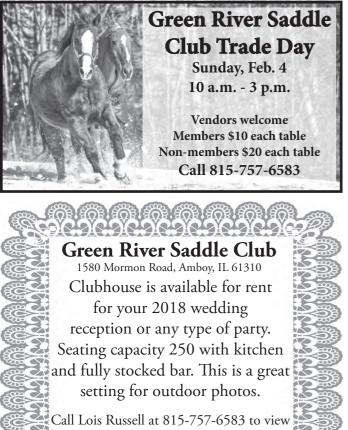
https://amboy272kids.wixsite.com/272kids

paid for by 272 KIDS Knowledge, Infrastructure & Development for Students

USDA's market assist commodity loans for 2017 crops

AMBOY — Jerald B. Quinton, County Executive Director for the Lee County Farm Service Agency (FSA) is reminding farmers of their options for their grain that was harvested last fall.

The Farm Bill provides for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments for 16 commodities, including corn, wheat, oats, barley, grain sorghum, soybeans, cotton, rice, oilseeds and wool. Under the price support program, producers may store their harvested crops and pledge them to the Commodity



Call Lois Russell at 815-757-6583 to view the facility and book your date!

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Credit Corporation (CCC) as collateral for marketing assistance loans. Grain can be farm-stored or warehouse-stored.

Currently, commodity prices for corn and soybeans have fallen around \$3.14 and \$9 per bushel levels but are still above the established loan rates offered by the Farm Service Agency. FSA is reminding its farmers if their grain is going to sit in storage for a period of time and the producer still has control or title of the crop, he may want to consider pledging that grain as collateral with CCC and save themselves interest with their primary loan institution.

Commodity loans can be repaid anytime during the 9-month term and before the loan matures using the lower of two methods: 1) principal plus interest, or 2) using the Posted County Price (PCP) which changes on a daily basis. However, FSA is changing the way it calculates marketing loan repayment rates and loan deficiency payments which will be based on 5-day or 30-day moving averages.

To be considered eligible for an LDP, producers must have form CCC-633EZ, Page 1 on file at their local FSA Office before losing beneficial interest in the crop. Pages two, three or four of the form must be submitted when payment is requested.

The current interest rate for January 2018 is 2.625 percent. Lee County FSA's 2017 commodity loan rates are \$1.98 for corn and \$5.09 for soybeans. The 2017-crop commodity loan programs are not subject to sequester reductions.

Bushels used for collateral and stored on the farm can be certified by the farmer or measured by the FSA Office.

Commodity loan eligibility also requires compliance with conservation and wetland protection requirements; beneficial interest requirements, acreage reporting and ensuring that the commodity meets Commodity Credit Corporation minimum grade and quality standards.

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.

Young Seekers 4-H Club to meet on Feb. 1

AMBOY — The Amboy Young Seekers 4-H Club welcomes kids ages eight to 19 and their families to an open house, at 6:30 p.m., on Feb. 1, at the Lee Co. 4-H Center and Fairgrounds. Talk with current 4-H members and families, and see their award winning fair projects. Learn more about the club's community service efforts and how 4-H helps develop leadership and communication skills. Refreshments will be available. Stay for the club's meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. to see how 4-H members conduct business and have fun.

For more information call Katie Pratt, (815) 719-0405.



"Whimsical Night Owl"

Spanish Honor Society to host Paint Party fundraiser Feb. 17

AMBOY - The public is invited to get creative at the Amboy High School Spanish Honor Society's upcoming Paint Party Night fundraiser. This fun event will take place from 6:30 - 9 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 17, in the AHS cafeteria.

Everyone, ages 10 and up, can take part. Participants will be guided step by step as they create a fun painting titled "Whimsical Night Owl" to take home. In the painting, a wide-eyed owl, highlighted in blue, perches on a looping branch that is set against a night sky in varying shades of purple.

The \$25 cost covers all supplies and materials for the evening. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the AHS Spanish Honor Society.

To sign up or for more information, e-mail AHS Spanish teacher/ Spanish Honor Society advisor Kim Sondgeroth at ksondgeroth@ amboy.net.

Stormy

Hello all. My name is Stormy. Not the kind that annoys you with snow and ice. I'm the kind that loves you up when you come home and makes life wonderful. I'm a medium sized, grey domestic shorthair who is simply beautiful. I'm at Happy Tails in Rock Falls waiting for the right person to take me home. You might be that person. Come see me and we can decide. Photo submitted



svcc.edu/bcc • 815.835.6212



www.fnbamboy.com

FDIC





Frankie

Frankie is a 6 year old spayed female Domestic Short Hair with an attractive black coat. She is front declawed and litter box trained. Frankie was left in a carrier outside the shelter with a note attached. She was so upset and angry with us for awhile, but eventually calmed down. This pretty girl loves it when she can get some petting and rub up against you. She really prefers adults and doesn't care for other cats or loud dogs. To see Frankie, visit Granny Rose Animal Shelter. 613 River Lane, Dixon. Hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday, and closed on Sunday. Call 815-288-PETS(7387) or visit www. grannyrose.org.

Photo submitted



Gehant Bank earns five star rating

WEST BROOKLYN — BauerFinancial, Coral Gables, Florida, the Nation's Premier Bank Rating Firm, is proud to announce that Gehant Bank, West Brooklyn, has once again secured a 5-Star rating. A five-star rating indicates the bank excels in areas of capital adequacy, profitability, assed quality and much more.

Gehant Bank has earned and maintained this top honor for 54 consecutive quarters putting it an even more prominent positions as an "Exceptional Performance Bank." This designation is reserved for those banks securing a 5-Star rating for 40 consecutive quarters or longer.

"Because community banks put their focus on local people and small businesses, they are perfectly positioned to provide the specialized support that is unique to their area," acknowledges Karen L. Dorway, president of BauerFinancial. "Community banks, like Gehant Bank, promote local growth by investing back into the same neighborhoods that their deposits come from. By fostering these local relationships, they achieve two goals: they are highly capitalized and they are accountable to their customers."

Bank has been reinvesting in its local communities for 120 years. It currently operates through two conveniently located offices in Triumph and West Brooklyn and can also be found online at www.gehant-<u>bank.com</u>.

Gehant Bank: "Your Community Bank." Member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

BauerFinancial, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank and credit union rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. Banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution can pay for or opt out of a BauerFinancial rating. Star-ratings are all available for fee at bauerfinancial.com.

OSF Saint Paul to host heart seminar, luncheon

MENDOTA — Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), every year, one in four deaths is caused by heart disease.

February is American Heart Month. OSF HealthCare and the OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute are marking the occasion by encouraging you to be your own Heart Hero. Heart disease can often be prevented by making healthy choices and managing health conditions. You can fight heart disease villains like high blood pressure and inactivity and lessen your risk. Take action and take better care of your heart today.

OSF Saint Paul is hosting a free lunch and learn on Wednesday, Feb. 14 in Conference Room C. Doors will open at 11 a.m., lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. with a heart program to follow at noon, given by cardiologist, Dr. Mauro Montevecchi. The lunch that will be served will be meatless to accommodate those that are observing Ash Wednesday. Seating is limited so please call weekdays to (815) 539-1411 to reserve a spot.

To find additional American Heart Month activities near you, please visit osfhealthcare.org/heartmonth.

Established in 1897, Gehant

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department, 309 S. Galena Ave., will have Childhood Immunization Clinics, by appointment only. Call 815-284-3371 to schedule an appointment or to find out about other services offered, like Adult Vaccines.

AMBOY-A Novel Idea Book Club will meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at Pankhurst Memorial Library, 3 S. Jefferson. Call the Library at 815-857-3925 for more information.

AMBOY-The Amboy CUSD#272Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at Amboy High School, 11 E. Hawley.

DIXON-The Granny Rose K-9 Enrichment Center will host Kids & Dogs Game Day, presented by 4-H volunteers and professional dog trainer Pat Manernach, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27. RSVP to Tammy Norman at 815-440-6668 or Kathy Book at Lee County Extension Office at kbook@ illinois.edu.

AMBOY-The American Red Cross will have a Blood Drive, sponsored by the Amboy Civic Organizaton, from 12 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Call Darlene Hinkle at 815-857-3864 or visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

AMBOY-Master Naturalist Mark Jordan will present Climate Reality from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at the Lee County Extension Office, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Register by Jan. 29 at go.illinois.edu/ climatereality or call the office at 815-857-3525.

AMBOY-The Lee County Soil & Water Conservation District will have absentee ballots for the Annual Election of Directors available beginning Thursday, Feb. 1, by contacting

Community Calendar

the office at 319 S. Mason Ave., or by phone 815-857-3621 Ext. 3. Ballots must be returned by Friday, Feb. 9. Regular voting will be held Feb. 14.

AMBOY-The Amboy Young Seekers 4-H Club will hold an Open House at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, at the Lee County 4-H Center and Fairgrounds, 1196 Franklin Rd. Kids ages 8 to 19 and their families are invited to talk with current 4-H members and learn what 4-H has to offer. Call Katie Pratt at 815-719-0405 for more information.

FRANKLIN GROVE-The Lee County Extension presents Master Gardener Aimee Hoffman's program on Orchid Care at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Winifred Knox Memorial Library. 112 S. Elm St. The program is free but registration is appreciated by calling the library at 815-456-2823.

AMBOY-The Amboy Fire Protection District Board of Trustees will meet at 8 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 5, at the Fire Station, 25 N. East Ave.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy committees will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 5, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY-The Amboy American Legion Post#453 will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 5, at the Amboy Family Restaurant community room.

Stewards 4-H SPIN Club, for 8-12 year olds, will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays in February from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Woman's Club Shelter, Atlasta Park, S. State St. For more information, call the Lee County Extension office at 815-857-3525 or register online at https://web.extension.illinois. edu/registration/?Registration ID=17796.



ROCK FALLS-The American Red Cross, in coordination with Mayor William B. Wescott of Rock Falls and Bethany Bland, President/CEO of Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce, will hold two monthly Blood Drives on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Rock Falls Community Building, 601 W. 10th St. The first Wednesday of the month drive will be held from 1 to 6 p.m., Feb. 7. The third Wednesday of the month drive. Feb. 21, will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call 800-733-2767 or visit

redcrossblood.org to make an appointment to donate.

AMBOY-Immanual Lutheran Church, 960 US RT 52, will host Community Bingo at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8. Bingo will be followed by a light lunch. Call the church at 815-857-2225 for more information.

AMBOY-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd.



Police Blotter

Lee County warrant On Jan. 15, at 12:30 p.m., Riese R. Arcos, 26, of Amboy, was arrested on a Lee County warrant for retail theft. He was transported to the Lee County Jail.

operating uninsured vehicle and speeding 43 mph in a 30 mph speed zone. He was issued a traffic citation and released after posting bond.

> Speeding On Jan. 18, at 2:36 p.m., Rick

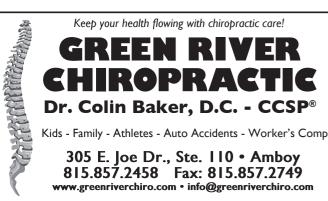
A Sessler 60 of Mendota was

Email community calendar items to mmays@ amboynews.com

Onerating uninsured vehicle

On Jan. 18, at 4:27 p.m., Aaron P. Houska, 28, of Chicago, was issued a citation for

issued a citation for speeding 45 in a 30 mph speed zone. He was issued a traffic citation and released after posting bond.





Boys Basketball

Logan Welchel

Girls Basketball

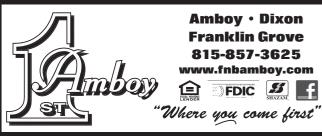
Taylor Stevens

Wrestling

Mason Costner Christopher Morris



The First National Bank in Amboy







CENTRAL SCHOOL MENU January 29 - February 2

All Breakfast meals will include fruit, juice and a milk All Lunch meals will include veggies, fruit and a milk

Monday	 Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart Creamed chicken w/biscuit, fresh cut veggies w/ranch, broccoli & cheese, mixed fruit 	
Tuesday	 Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart Lasagna bake, cheese, garlic bread, peas, 	
	carrots, green beans, pineapple, cupcake	
Wednesday	- Biscuit & gravy	
	- Chicken soup, goldfish crackers, cheese stick, salad, veggies w/ranch, applesauce, jello cup	
Thursday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from	α
2	breakfast cart	5
	- Nachos grande, lettuce, tomato, onion, salsa, beans & rice, bread/butter, pears	01007010
Friday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from	<u> </u>
Thuay	breakfast cart	
	- Hot ham sandwich, cheese slice, chips, cowboy	
	beans, veggies w/ranch, peaches, trail mix	

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JR HIGH MENU January 29 - February 2

Milk served at each meal Breakfast option of cold items or the featured item Lunch option each day of the featured item or salad bar with soup or yogurt with whole grain crackers or peanut butter & jelly or Grab&Go smoothie.

Monday	 Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart Creamed chicken w/biscuit, fresh cut veggies w/ranch, broccoli & cheese, mixed fruit
Tuesday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart
	- Lasagna bake, cheese, garlic bread, peas, carrots, green beans, pineapple, cupcake
Wednesday	- Biscuit & gravy
	- Chicken soup, goldfish crackers, cheese stick,
	salad, veggies w/ranch, applesauce, jello cup
Thursday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from
	breakfast cart
	- Nachos grande, lettuce, tomato, onion, salsa,
	beans & rice, bread/butter, pears
Friday	- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from
	 breakfast cart Hot ham sandwich, cheese slice, chips, cowboy Geans, veggies w/ranch, peaches, trail mix
	- Hot ham sandwich, cheese slice, chips, cowboy
	beans, veggies w/ranch, peaches, trail mix

Obituaries/Local

OBITUARIES Rosamund G. Buckley Jan. 16, 2018

AMBOY — Rosamund G. Buckley, 83, a resident of Maple Crossing of Amboy, formerly of Sublette, died Jan. 16, 2018 in KSB Hospital in Dixon.

Services were held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 20, in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette with the Rev. Randy Fronek officiating.

Burial followed at St. Michael Sandy Hill Cemetery, Sublette. Visitation was held one hour prior to the services in the church. Arrangements are through the Fiocchi-Jensen Funeral Home, Princeton.

Mrs. Buckley was born in Amboy to Cornelius T. and Gertrude (Batton) Garland. She

grew up in Amboy and graduated from Amboy High School in 1951. She married Francis J. Buckley on Nov. 29, 1952 in St. Patrick's Church, Amboy. They lived in the Sublette/Amboy area most of their married life.

She worked at a variety of jobs over the years, including Conco, Mendota Trouser Factory, Mendota Community Hospital, and Amboy Middle School before her retirement. She was a member of OLPH Church and a dedicated gardener.

She is survived by three sons, Stephen (Kim), of Palos Heights, Timothy (Debra), of West Allis, Wis., and Lawrence (Rose), of Sublette; two daughters, Trudy (Robert) Lahman, of Amboy, and Bridgett (Ray) Drag, of Shorewood; 15 grandchildren; 19 greatgrandchildren; three brothers, Richard (Leila) Garland, of Sublette, Robert (Sue) Garland, of Springfield, and Ray (Doris) Garland, of Sycamore; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; four sisters; and three brothers.

Pallbearers will be her sonsin-law and grandsons.

Memorials may be directed to Sublette Community Volunteer Fire Department, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, or Sandy Hill Cemetery Fund.

OSF HealthCare names new President of OSF Saint Paul Medical Center

MENDOTA - Dawn Trompeter has been named president of OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. She will begin transitioning to her new role on Jan. 28.

Trompeter replaces Jennifer Junis, who will be serving as the new president of OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg

In her new role, Trompeter will lead OSF Saint Paul Medical Center to align with the overall strategy of OSF HealthCare. She will be responsible for directing all internal operations, while continuing to ensure that high quality and cost-effective health care is delivered to patients.

"I'm honored to be named as the next president of OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center and look forward to continuing to working with the Saint Paul team to serve the medical needs of the Mendota region," said Trompeter. "It is my experience that to be a truly great organization

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and to offer excellence in care, leaders must spend time and attention developing and supporting a culture of caring and empathy. It is evident that the leaders at OSF Saint Paul have done just that and I am committed to carry that mission forward."

Trompeter has served as the vice-president/ chief financial officer at OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. She has been serving OSF Saint Elizabeth since 2009 and OSF Saint Paul since April 1, 2015, when that institution was also acquired by OSF HealthCare. Dawn has effectively helped both organizations improve their HCAHPS results and has engaged the rank and file membership at both organizations to improve quality, reduce cost and improve Mission Partner engagement. Prior to joining OSF HealthCare she served at Ottawa Regional Hospital in various capacities since August of 1991.

The family of Rory and Ryan Miller are so thankful for our communities who helped us through this difficult time. Words cannot express our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who touched our lives forever.

We want to especially thank KSB Hospital and staff, Pastor Ben Anderson, Rev. Jim Tilley, the Dixon Rural Fire Department and all of the first responders who showed so much compassion on the day of the accident.

We are also grateful for the respect and honor shown by the funeral procession police escort and the "Tractor Tribute" that warmed our hearts. The local brotherhood of farmers in our community is a strong and generous group; one that we are so thankful to belong to. We have done our best to personally thank those who have supported us; however, we know that some answer the call to help silently. We are truly grateful for the caring communities that we call home.

Amboy High School announces its first semester honor roll

Kallie Appleman, Benjamin

Clark, Mason Costner, Svd-

ney Friel, Kenneth Hartman,

Conor Janik, Cynthia Lutyens,

William Morrison, Benjamin

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

Highest Honors

Seniors

Winters

Vaessen

Molly Ackert, Justin Barton, Rhine, Kaitlin Tarr and Kaitlyn Cassidy Corcoran, Justin Hart, Wilhite Reece Vaessen and Logan

Juniors

Bailee Highbarger, Noelle Jones, Clayton Kemp, Rachel Lachat, Mitchell McLaughlin, Kaitlyn Ortgiesen, Mackenzie Payne, Cameron Simpson, Mary Thompson and Ashley Winters

Sophomores

Bell, Sidney Corcoran, Mad-

dison Full, Alison O'Rourke,

Tyler Stewart and Nastasja

Freshmen

Brianna Blaine, Matthew

High Honors

Seniors

Dinwiddie. Preston Henkel.

Mallory Powers, Nicholas Tarr

and Trevor Vaessen

Ashley Althaus, Mercedes

Sophomores Rachel Ackert, Avery Shaw, Margaret Vaessen Joshua Yocum and Jade Zimmerly

Freshmen Samantha Goldman, Brady Jones, Erin Latta, Eden Lindenmeyer, Madelyn McLaughlin, Brian Murphy, Carter Seier and Brooklyn Whelchel Honors

Seniors

Collin Eisenberg, Alyssa Gascoigne. Alexis Goatcher. Samantha Holt, Ethan Latta, Cheyenne Linder, Dalton Mc-Coy, Tyler Noftz, Lukas Schaver and Justin Yocum Juniors

Dorian Barlow, Emma Bick-

Sophomores

Brittany Barlow, Bailey

Bickett, Kyleigh Donna, Abig-

ael Ely, Arian Fekolli, Tristan

Graves, Justin Janssen, Daunte

Kessel, Rebekah Lewis, Austin

Norman, James Popovich and

ett, Hannah Burris and Frank

Juniors

Jillian Barnes Adriana Bartoschek, Kelynn Boyle, Evelyn Curl, Breanna Fisher, Isabel Garza, Savannah Ikens, Alexandra Jones, Chloe Landrus, Maverick Lindenmeyer, Shannon Lytle, Nicholas Moore, Nevaeh Sheaves, Kelsey Stewart, Abril Vazquez-Tapia, Logan Whelchel and Hunter Zimmerly

Kenzie Scudder Freshmen

Piscitello

Jessica Coleman, Tori Daniels, Dashad Greene, Mariah Hoffman, Gabrielle Jones, Gabrielle Ketchum, Makai King, Ethan Larson, Caden Latta, Margaret Lowery, Dominic McClard, Florian Mimini, Eric Newberry, Abigayle Payne, Matthew Raymond, Calvin Seier, Shannon Simpson, Chloe Welch and Logan Wood

Amboy Junior High announces its second quarter honor roll

AMBOY — Amboy Junior High announces its second quarter honor roll.

Eighth Grade Highest Honors

Lauren Althaus, Zoey Bulfer, Ian Eller, Sabdy Herrera, Andruw Jones, Dana Merriman Amelia Mondro, Alexis Morgan Samuel Russell, Lauren Tarr and Angel Warner

Seventh Grade Highest Honors

giesen and Garrett Pertell

Montavon, Alexa Morris, Aaliyah Pointer, Austin Shugars, Eliseo Vazquez-Tapia and Landon Whelchel

Fifth Grade Highest Honors

Jarrett Althaus, Brysen Full, Mathias Jomant Dillon Merriman, Devyn Pasley, Vitaliana Perino Addison Pertell, Caleb Shugars, Haleigh Stenzel, Sydney Thomas, Tyrah Vaessen and Karagen Welch

Eighth Grade High Honors Jacob Bickett, Angela Daszkiewicz, Cody Donna, Jairon Hochstatter, Connor Hummel, Ingrid Larson, Elizabeth Malach Haden McCoy, Riley McNair,

Olivia Miller, Chanlor Pohl, Lauren Richardson, Madalvn Shuck, Haley Sus, Caden Wittenauer and Haidyn Zimmerly **Seventh Grade**

High Honors

Olivia Costner, Charlie Dickinson, Sierra Huffman, Isela Jomant, Landon Koppien, Courtney Lachat and Kelton Schwamberger

Sixth Grade

High Honors Brennan Blaine, Caleb Donna Blerta Fekolli, Gabrielle Fuller, Teagan Jergens, Gabriel Jones, Rylyn Karrow, Sarah McCulloh-Ossey, Madison O'Malley, Nicholas Ochoa, Vido Perino, Madison Smalley, Madison Thomas and Kimber Zitelman

Fifth Grade High Honors

Lillianna Anderson, Cordia Asencio, Carson Barlow, Brody Christoffersen, Ava Cline, Dominic Fonderoli, Elijah Garcia, Atticus Goff, Chloe Heath, Adrian Mimini, Kaydlyn Moore, Gloria Parker, Natalie Pratt, Hunter Rasmussen, Elizabeth Schaefer, Alena Shaw, Alainie Wittenauer and Jessica Worman

Nicole Latta, Sophia Nelson, Baylie Nickel, Susana Santiago-Meirndorf and Zoey Smith

Seventh Grade Honors

Rvan Dickinson, Bradley Dinwiddie, Ana Lopez-Belmontes, Kyler McNinch Ethan

Pratt, Alexzandra Vaessen and Rebecca Wilson Sixth Grade

Honors

Aden Albee, Zachary Dunne, Eliasz Hansen, Austin Heath, Kye Koch, Cole Larson, Maeve Larson, Eann Trenholm, Skyler Ware and Madison Wittenauer

Fifth Grade Honors

Fabian Arteaga, Kole Beckham, Bristol Bulfer, Wyatt Eisenberg, Brianna Henkel, Lexi Huene, William Jones, Ouinton Leffelman. Amelia Moan, Emersyn Noble, Keith Raulerson, Carlo Romero, Emily Sachs, Tristan Salazar and Kaysi Schaeffer

Email news items to

James Curl, Courtney Ort-Honors

Sixth Grade Highest Keaten Altizer, Elizabeth Clarida, Emma Dinges, Elly Jones, Alexis Ketchum, Landon

The Miller Family



Eighth Grade Honors Abigail Christoffersen, Dylan Daniels, Olivia Dinges Mason Ely, Jordan Gulley, tgreenfield@ amboynews. сот

CH DIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Parish **Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor** 32 N. Jones, Amboy Parish Office Phone 857-2315 www.stpatrickamboy.org Mass Monday, Wednesday, & Friday - 5 p.m. Tuesday, & Thursday - 7 a.m. Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Sunday - 7:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Confessions - Saturdays 3:30-4:15 p.m. Wednesdays - 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament -Fridays, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

> St. Mary Church - Walton **Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor** Mass Saturday, 6 p.m. Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

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.

Lee Center Congregational Pastor Jack M. Briggs **United Church of Christ** Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 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.

Grace Fellowship Church - Ashton Pastor Brad Pittman (interim) 2128 IL Route 28, Ashton 815-453-7464 Sunday Worship Service 9 a.m. Grace Fellowship Church - Amboy Pastor Brian McWethy 37 S. East Avenue, (Farm Bureau Bldg.) 815-857-3900 Sunday Worship Service 10:15 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

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.

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

St. Flannen Church - Harmon Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor Mass Sunday, 9 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

> 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.

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.

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

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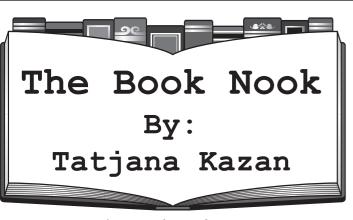
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Social News

The Amboy News • A5

Rosalie Boehle



In the midst of winter

onsidering the winter we've been bearing up under, it's heartening to read the quote from which Isabel Allende 'takes the title of her new novel: "In the midst of winter, I found there was within me an invincible summer." The winter in Allende's novel is the blizzard of 2016, which broke the snowfall record for New York City.

The novel has elements of a romantic comedy – the smart, vivacious woman versus the crotchety, oblivious man caught up in a zany caper – but Allende has more in mind. In alternating chapters, she creates lengthy backstories for her three characters, which, alas, take up the bulk of the novel.

Lucia Maraz is a Chilean-American author who was invited to teach Latin American Studies at New York University by the reclusive head of the department, Richard Bowmaster. Richard is also Lucia's landlord in a forbidding mansion in Brooklyn. Even though Lucia occupies the icy basement apartment, she is as sunny as Richard is bleak.

Evelyn Ortega is a young illegal Guatemalan nanny, whose car Richard rear-ends during the blizzard. She is too horrified to speak. Richard reassures her in jumbled Spanish and hands her his business card. That night Evelyn appears at Richard's door and shows Richard the trunk, which won't shut and which contains a body. Richard, too horrified to speak, hurries off to enlist Lucia's help. And so begins their odyssey which takes them to upstate New York and during which their stories unfold.

Lucia, who is sixty-one, comes from a wealthy Chilean family that got caught up in the violent events of the 1973 overthrow of Salvador Allende's socialist government by the military. (Isabel Allende is second cousin to the murdered president.) Lucia's brother is rounded up during the brutal crackdown and Lucia escapes into exile.

Richard's story is one of sin and its punishments. He has been imprisoned for twenty-five years in an agony of guilt to which his raw ulcer periodically testifies throughout the trip.

It is Evelyn's story that is most compelling. In Guatemala, the vicious MS-13 gang murdered her two brothers and left her for dead. The ordeal is devastating. A kindly priest secures a passage for her north to her mother in Chicago. The novel comes to life as we follow her on her harrowing journey. When she reaches the border, she is on the verge of death from extreme dehydration, but is saved when a border guard finds her.

The novel is admirable for its compassion for the downtrodden, but backstories of calamity, murder, and suicide mix rather uneasily with the conventions of a breezy romantic comedy. Still, in the end, be it tragedy or comedy, it's that invincible summer inside Allende's characters amidst their horrendous winters that carries the day.

Florissa Center to offer music therapy

DIXON — Florissa Center, the children's division of Kreider Services has announced it will be offering an eight week music therapy group for school age children beginning Tuesday, Feb. 13 and running through April 10. The music therapy interventions will be in a group setting in order to address physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs. Music Therapy sessions will be 30-45 minutes long starting at 3:45 - 5:30 p.m. The first group on Feb. 13, will be a meet and greet with the therapist and Florissa staff.



Helen Hopkins

Hopkins to celebrate **100th birthday**

STERLING - Helen Hopkins, formerly of Franklin Grove, is celebrating her 100th birthday.

Her daughters, Shirley Morgan and Marilyn Greenwood and their families, are hosting an open house from 2 - 4 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 3, at Morningside of Sterling located at 2705 Avenue E, Sterling, IL 61081.

If you are unable to attend you are encouraged to send her a card.



BY PASTOR MARK GLENN

ome books are known by their first lines. See if you know this one: "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." Anyone recognize where that comes from? (Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities [1859]). We may not have read it, but we know how it begins. Here's another: "Life is difficult."

Three words that grabbed a whole generation of boomers by the throat and forced millions of them to buy a pop psychology text called The Road Less Traveled (2003) by M. Scott Peck. A favorite first line in literature is from the acclaimed Jewish novelist Chaim Potok. He started his 1975 book called "In the Beginning" with a great truth. Are you ready? It is four words, not three. "All beginnings are hard."

Beginnings are hard. Just ask Jesus. Getting started is always the most grueling, uphill step any of us will ever make. No matter how many times we are called upon to make it. To take a first step forward is always and everywhere, a miracle. As any inventor or church planter can tell you, the distance from zero to one is greater than the distance from one to any other number.

The first great gift Jesus receives at his baptism is to be driven out even deeper into the wilderness-that is the place where only God rules—and to be tempted by Satan. Some gift. Some new beginning. Mark's gospel does not detail these temptations like Matthew does, but Mark does specify that Jesus was both experiencing the world's worst and at the same time heaven's best -he was both "with the wild beasts" and

"angels waited on him."

Boehle to celebrate

FRANKLIN GROVE - Rosalie Boehle, formerly of Ashton,

A card shower is planned for her, please send your cards and

greetings to 570 N. State St. Apt. 110, Franklin Grove, IL 61031.

95th birthday

celebrated her 95th birthday on Jan. 18 with family.

From one wilderness to the next is Jesus' journey. Instead of proclaiming his status to the religious center of Jewish faith, Jerusalem, Jesus heads back to his home town, to Galilee, the region that had provided John the Baptist with one baptism. And yet it is in Galilee that Jesus begins his ministry. It is in Galilee that Jesus first proclaims, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent. Believe in the good news.'

Jesus' message is much like John's with one big exception: it is no longer time to "prepare," it is time to "act now." Jesus is the long awaited one. Jesus is the Messiah. John announced the kingdom. Jesus is the Kingdom. Jesus is the one whose presence is the kingdom of God.



Children will be placed in a group based on age, need and ability. The cost of the eight week group is \$90. Financial assistance is available. The deadline to pay and register for the music group is Feb. 7, 2018.

Colleen Thomas, MT-BC, is a board certified music therapist with Music Speaks, LLC. She received a Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy at Illinois State University and specializes in working with adults and children with developmental and Intellectual disabilities.

The group will be held at Florissa, located at 144 North Court Street in Dixon, in the lower level of the KSB Edwards Clinic. To register or learn more about the group, people can call Janet O'Donnell at Florissa, 815-288-1905.

Information on other programs and services at Florissa can be found at www.florissacenter.org. Florissa is a program that works in conjunction with KSB Hospital and Sinnissippi Centers that provides services for children birth—18 years old. Florissa provides the opportunity locally for evaluation, diagnosis and treatment under one roof. Florissa embraces a holistic approach to treatment, seeking to identify what supports need to be put into place for the entire family and to promote community integration. The ongoing supports and resources available at Florissa are vital to improving the system of care for children and families in local communities.

Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com



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Van Beek awarded degree at YSU's Fall Commencement

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio-Lori Van Beek of Paw Paw, was one of more than 600 graduates awarded undergraduate and advanced degrees and certificates at Youngstown State University's Fall Commencement recently on the YSU campus.

Van Beek earned a Bachelor of Arts, Journalism.

Youngstown State University is a comprehensive urban research university that offers nearly 13,000 students more than 135 undergraduate and graduate programs. Located in the heart of the Tech Belt between Cleveland and Pittsburgh, students to actively participate with accomplished faculty, often in one-on-one settings, on advanced research and creative collaborations. For more information, visit www.ysu.edu.

Wilhelm earns Semester Honors at Edgewood College MADISON, Wis. - Del-

aney Wilhelm, of Amboy, has earned Semester Honors for the Fall 2017 semester at Edgewood College. Fulltime students who achieve a 3.5 grade point average for the semester are eligible for this honor.

Located in Madison, Wis., Edgewood College is a liberal arts Catholic college in the Do-

offers more than 40 academic and professional programs, including master's degrees in business, education, and nursing, and doctoral degrees in educational leadership and nursing practice. For more information about Edgewood College, please visit www. edgewood.edu.

Local students named to the Dean's List at Aurora University

AURORA — Aurora University has named the follow-

for the fall 2017 semester. The Dean's List recognizes full-time undergraduate students who have earned a 3.6 GPA or higher. Students recognized with high honors (*) have earned a perfect 4.0.

Local students named to the Dean's List include:

Dixon

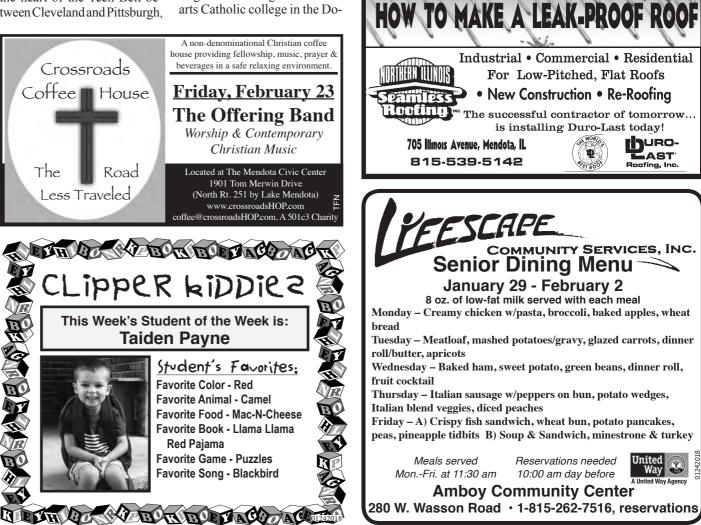
Brittney Sondgeroth *, Business Admin Kaitlyn Spencer*, Bachelor

of Soc Work

Franklin Grove Connor Ross *, Art Paw Paw

Stephanie Gonzalez *, Accounting

Mitchell Lave *, Parks & Recreation Leader





Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or pinion 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 **Coaching kids? Starts with jelly donuts**

s I've mentioned before, I'm not very **Guest Column** tor" because, apparently, it leaps entire family trees. athletic. I made this realization in the third grade, when I was knocked unconscious

32 times playing dodge ball. After that first game, I remember waking up in the nurse's office and being told of a special program for "gifted" athletes who were so special they got to wear a football helmet during recess. Of course, I eventually figured out there was no "special program," and openly expressed my feelings of betrayal when I slammed my helmet on the desk of my high school counselor.

After which I was taken to the hospital with a broken finger.

I live with the memory of being an unathletic child on a daily basis. Particularly when I look in

the mirror and see a man whose head still fits into a third-grade football helmet. For this reason, many years ago when my daughter asked me to coach her fourth-grade basketball team, I smiled, took her hand and began faking a seizure. I panicked at the thought of providing guidance to a team of fourth-grade girls, any one of whom could take me to the hole. This includes my daughter, who has inherited a recessive "athletic" gene I call the "monkey fac-



You see, neither side of our family is particularly athletic. This is officially documented in video of their mom and me playing one-on-one basketball. To the outside observer, it appears to be footage of two heavily-medicated adults trying to catch the Walmart happy face.

Of course, none of this mattered to my daughter; she just wanted Dad to coach her team. Knowing this attitude would eventually change (possibly by the end of our first practice), I made the decision to put aside my own petty fears and be her team's coach. In addition, I also put aside some petty cash for psychological treatment later.

To prepare myself as coach, I read books about fundamental basketball skills. I talked with other coaches. I installed a tiny basketball hoop over the trashcan in my office. Before long, I had gained confidence knowing that with hard work and determination, someone would be able to undo the damage I was doing.

For our first practice, we worked on free throws and lay-ups. I chose these areas because, as everyone knows, they are the most common — and easiest ways — of scoring a basket.

On This Day in History 100 Years Ago Jan. 25, 1918

During the past seven or eight months that the Amboy Red Cross workshop has been in operation, more than 10,000 surgical dressings have been made and sent away for use in dressing the wounds of American an French soldiers.

Uncle Sam is on the lookout for black walnut lumber for use in making gun stocks. County Supt. Of Highways, L. B. Neighbour has been investigating the number of black walnut trees in Lee County and it is estimated that several carloads of the valuable timber can be shipper or government use.

Auctioneer John Gentry is busy advertising his big closing out sale which will be held Thursday, Jan. 31.

75 Years Ago Jan. 21, 1943

Amboy joined the rest of northern Illinois Tuesday and Wednesday in digging out after one of the worst blizzard in recent years. At the office of County Superintendent of Highways Fred Leake at noon Tuesday, it was reported that practically every road in the highway system was closed.

Having defeated Oregon and Rochelle in conference games, Polo's Marco quintet came to Amboy Friday evening prepared to carry home another victory and were sadly disappointed when Coach Franklin Graham's varsity netters handed them a 35-24 trimming.

50 Years Ago Jan. 25, 1968

Open house will be held Sunday, Jan, 28, in the new office building occupied by the Lee County ASCS, SCS and FHA. Hours will be 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. according to Wayne Hoyle, ASCS manager.

The East Grove Clubs 4-H Club met at the home of Merrill Draper, Jan. 8, 10 members being present. Mike Draper opened the meeting. The treasurer's report was given by Julie Burke and the secretary's report was read by Alan Spratt. Plans were made to hold a swimming part at Lincoln Lodge, the date to be set later.

Albert N. (Bob) Kennedy, 51, today announced he will be a Republican candidate for the nomination for state's attorney of Lee County.

25 Years Ago Jan. 28, 1993

The 110-acre Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort in Amboy has been recognized with a top award within its franchise groups. The camping resort has won the "Jim Webb Spirit" award at the annual convention of the Yogi-Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort group meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In these time of tight governmental budgets and talk of national sacrifices, Amboy Park Board has the enviable take of figuring out where to spend over \$15,000 in additional money.

Grants of up to \$200 are available this winter to help needy residential gas heating customers who are having difficulty paying natural gas bills, but are ineligible for other energy assistance programs.

The Presidency

residents need over-**Guest Column** sight and scrutiny;

reach toward that purpose.

ability to summon Americans to free-wheeling give and take session with journalists or other Unless you are me.

As it turns out, repeatedly sending a wad of paper through a six-inch hoop over your trashcan doesn't mean you'll be able to sink a regulation basketball from the free throw line. Particularly if your entire team and most of its parents are watching, in some cases using their iPhones to send live images to friends while laughing hysterically.

Confident that I had taught my team an important lesson in determination, humility, and the value of having a "shared minutes" plan, we moved on to lay-ups. It was at this point I asked parents to please put their phones away. In addition to the distraction it was causing, there were also safety issues to consider since many parents had now moved under the backboard to get a better angle.

When practice ended a week later (okay, but it felt like a week) we joined hands and reached an important understanding as a team: The coach has no "game."

Apparently, my players don't see this as a problem. What mattered to them most was whether I could be trusted, as their coach, to coordinate the snack rotation. I assured them I could, and things went pretty well; they brought "game," and I bring jelly donuts.

This year, I am coaching second- and third-graders again, with help from my daughter, who is now 23.

Her first assignment as assistant coach?

Get jelly donuts.

Ned Hickson is a syndicated columnist with News Media Corporation. Write to him at nedhickson@icloud.com or c/o Siuslaw News, 148 maple St., Florence, Ore. 97439.



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Something to say?

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

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

Letter writers may only have two letters published per month,

L they need a Congress that will press them and insist on consultation. They get very little of that pressure today.

Because we live in such tumultuous political times, it's easy to believe that today's intense public focus on the Trump presidency is something new — an obsession like none we've ever seen before. Yet to one degree or another, the president has always been at the center of the public's attention.

This is because he or she is the central actor in American government. The sheer complexity of our system, with its three branches, separation of powers and competing centers of power, demands someone who can make it work.

So we have high expectations for the president in this country. We want him or her to run the government efficiently and effectively, to work hard to resolve our problems, lead the world, inspire the nation, console us in times of disaster, serve as an example for young people, represent the national interest, and in a sense carry our hopes and desires for the country on his or her shoulders.

Which is why, no matter who's president, there is enormous public curiosity about every detail of his life and actions. When I was in Congress, the subject would come up whenever I was back home in the district, at formal public meetings and in casual conversations. People wanted to know about his family, his personal characteristics, his strengths and failings, and what he was doing to make the country work.

This fascination is exacerbated by the news media, which focuses attention on the president and much less on Congress, a body that by its nature is diffuse and complicated.

Presidents are both ordinary and extraordinary. They have all the strengths, vulnerabilities

By Lee Hamilton



and limitations of the rest of us. They may be perceptive, politically astute, even wise, but they all make mistakes - the interning of Japanese-Americans under Franklin Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan's dereliction of duty in Iran-Contra, the handling of the Vietnam War under LBJ

Yet there's also something out of the ordinary about the people who become president. You have to be driven by ambition to seek the office in the first place, as well as highly competitive and disciplined in both thought and speech. The most effective presidents are unusually persuasive. The greatest among them have a real connection to the American people, a sense of high moral purpose and the

Because as unremittingly difficult as the job is, in many ways the toughest part is persuasion: trying to build support for one's goals. We talk about the president as being the most powerful person in the world, but over the decades I've been struck by how often presidents talk about the limitations on their power. Looking out from the White House, what they see are opposition and constraints.

Which may be why every president seeks to expand the power of the office, usually with some degree of success. This is not all bad - presidents do need power to get things done. But this trend has diminished the role of Congress and, fundamentally, of representative government. President Nixon had some 300 people on his staff; presidents these days may have as many as 2,000.

This has allowed the president to insulate himself. Presidents are hard to reach today. They don't want to be scrutinized on policy, and far too often, Congress has played along. The presidential press conference has also faded in importance. Presidents rarely have to answer questions in a politicians.

And so it's harder to understand why the president does what he does now, why he makes the choices he does. Presidents need oversight and scrutiny, they need a Congress that will press them and insist on consultation. They get very little of that pressure today.

Don't get me wrong: I favor a strong president, but I also favor a strong Congress. And these days, we have a Congress marked by passivity and inability to exercise its constitutional responsibilities.

I'm equally impressed by the responsibility we have as citizens in choosing our leaders. We get what and whom we choose. Presidents really do make a difference in our lives. No choice as a citizen is more important.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IUSchool of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



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.

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Local News/Sports



Amboy hosted Ashton-Franklin Center for the "Pink and Gray Game" on Jan. 19 and the Lady Raiders came away with a 50-39 victory.

Photo submitted Lady Clippers split games

trol of the game early and then cruised to a 51-28

15-3, in the third frame to pull away.

Thirteen players scored for Amboy, led by Abi grabbed a career-high 13 rebounds.

Powers (two points, four rebounds).

Wrestling Tournament to be held Saturday, Feb. 3

Other teams in the regional include Ashton

First-, second- and third- place winners from

AMBOY — Due to the extreme cold weather many American Red Cross blood drives had to be canceled or the participation was low and as always in the winter there is a shortage of blood supply.

health restored.

Go online for your Rapid Pass or call Darlene at 857-3864 to schedule your appointment for Tuesday, Jan. 30 between noon and 6:00 p.m. They'll be looking for you at the Amboy Community Building 280 W. Wasson Road and will be ready to serve lunch to all our VIP guests.



On-the-Road Seminar offered Feb. 15

AMBOY — Trucking regulations can be complicated, and farm exemptions compound that complexity.

It seems that everyone has a different answer to your question. Come join the Lee County Farm Bureau at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15 at the Lee County Farm Bureau, 37 S. East Ave., Amboy to find out what you need to know.

The Lee County Farm Bureau is hosting a twohour seminar that focuses on trucking laws-old and new-specifically for farmers. They'll use a new format this year to remind you of rules that apply and help you identify means of relief. And a new segment will use your real-life examples to illustrate how regulations affect farmers.

Trucking laws have been reshaped in recent

years with more changes scheduled for 2018 Rules affected include: farmer exemptions, Harvest Season Emergency permit, longer trucks on local roads, Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs), UCR filing deadline, anhydrous ammonia nurse tank movements, and proof of citizenship requirements.

Presenting the seminar will be Kevin Rund and Kirby Wagner who specialize in farm transportation issues for the Illinois Farm Bureau®. The seminar is free courtesy of your county and state Farm Bureaus®, but advance registration is requested. Please call 815-857-3531 to reserve your place at the On-the-Road Seminar.

Come and join the Lee County Farm Bureau to get your farm trucking questions answered.





Farm & Business Jack S. Baylor, Agent Ashton, IL 61006 • P.O. Box 3 Lee Center, IL 61331

REAL ESTATE







FINANCIAL

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newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.



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Clinton \$14+

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Shifts \$11+

Evening Commercial Cleaning

ServiceMaster Clean has immediate multiple opens for Evening Commercial Cleaning positions in Amboy, IL.

Commercial Cleaning experience is preferred but not required. The position that you would be applying for will require debris removal, vacuuming, mopping, restroom cleaning, and other cleaning needs.

This position is Monday thru Friday 5p.m. to 8:45p.m. The starting wage is \$9.00 /hr.

Servicemaster Clean has been serving the Amboy and the surrounding areas for more than 25yrs. We take pride in the commercial cleaning we provide our clients. We are looking for qualified candidates

that take pride in the work they perform. ServiceMaster Clean provides the training and support that you will need to be successful. Your success is our success.

If you wish to apply go to www.smbycontractservices.com or to apply in person come to our home office located at 205 6th Ave in Sterling, IL. Office hours are 9a.m. to 5p.m. Monday thru Friday. For any additional questions

you can contact us at 815-626-2511. Servicemaster Clean is an equal opportunity employer.

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Park Model with 1 bedroom, bath and large converted kitchen/ dining room; then the attached full sized room addition, with ewer roof, opens up to give you a large oversized family/living room for entertaining or sleeping space 2nd parcel--13-21-01-378-010= RE Taxes \$137.20) Property owner is responsible for yearly assessment: his is not a homestead property

tely. Lot has to sell first!

2013 Keystone Laredo TG 308 Camper with power tongue hitch weight compensating system and outdoor kitchen. Asking \$18,000 Call to see today!

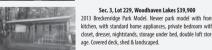
Sec. 10, Lot 159 \$21,900

Sec 6, Lot 41 and 42 \$35,000

511 S. Ottawa Ave., Dixon REDUCED! \$38,000

Sec 3, Lot 246 \$51,000







barely used! All top end cabinetry, kitchen island, stainless stee appliances, loft area, 3 slideouts, awning. Gravel pad and drive, Ig open deck, shed, fire pit with gravel surround patio, paddle boa and view of Sunset Lake from the back of the lot. Located in cul-de-sac. Property owner is responsible for nts, water, sewer, real estate taxes and electric



815-535-6295 • lorierbes@gmail.com



view of park/playground to the rear! Features include a 20x20 morton building in back insulated, elec and heat for entertainin or mancave, 2.5 car detached garage, sun porch off the back and firepit. Furnace and air conditioner are only a few years old, home

407 W. Main Street, Sublette \$105,000

has a living room, family room and dining room, all appliances, breakfast bar with bar stools and first floor bath. Call today! Seller is selling for less then they paid! Very motivated!

704 W. Santee Street, Sublette \$124,900

Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 1 bath home! Fe compression of the second seco

serverage injector pump(2sump pump), and coper value fine. Appl ances in 2011. Newer septic, updated wiring, updated kirkler- bar with 4 stools, central air in 2012. Large 120:125 lot, and much more. This home is ready for you to move into. (There is a lot next door that the seller will sell for \$10,000 if the buyer wants more land)

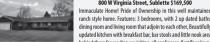
2067 Shaw Road, Amboy \$139,900

Own a piece of History! This one story building used to be the home of the Old Shaw Church! Great investment as it features 3 bedrooms, first floor laundry area, 4 baths, 2 kitchens, living oom, entertainment room, reflection area(church), large roo for storage, handicap ramp, and deck. You can live in one part and to ut the other or just make into one big home. So many possibilities! Realtor related! Call for more info.

2077 Montavan Rd., Amboy REDUCED \$168,500

This home is located on 7.364 Ac. Features include: 3 bedroom 2 baths, dining room, kitchen, all appliances stay, laundry room, living room, front enclosed porch, full basement, 2.5 attached garage, back deck and some tillable land. (Lp tank is rental) Call for your showing today!

800 W Virginia Street, Sublette \$169,500 Immaculate Homel Pride of Ownership in this well maintaine ranch style home. Features: 3 bedrooms, with 2 up dated bath:



a BLLD

updated xitcriter with prevariast bar, par stoods and nitre noor area behind there for reading or visiting, all appliances, first floor laun dry area, Back endosed porch for entertaining, shed, two car attached garage, full finished basement with bedroom, bath, kitchenette, living room with woodburner store and lots of storage area.

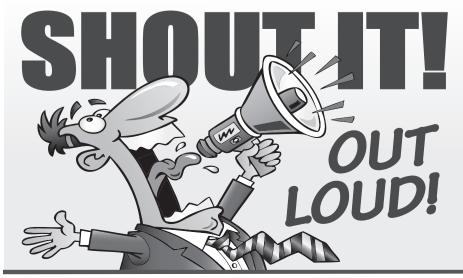
Woodhaven Lake Properties are in a gated facility. Must have property owners pass or be accompanied by a Real Estate Broker

LAND LISTINGS

Commercial Ave., Amboy	\$4,950
Sec. 17, Lot 283, Woodhaven Lakes	\$5,500
Sec. 29, Lot 26, Woodhaven Lakes	\$6,500
Sec. 24, Lot 113, Woodhaven Lakes	\$9,995
Sec. 3, Lot 228, Woodhaven Lakes w/ shed & trailer	\$14,000
Virginia and Wyoming St., Sublette	
25 W. Milton, Amboy	
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LORI JEAN MUNSON Broker Associate 815-228-4852 • lorimunson@erbesrealty.com

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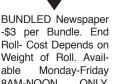
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2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 4x4, Red\$38,500	Cab, 4x4,	ry 1500, Crew LTZ, Z71, \$34,900
2017 Buick Lacrosse Essence Blue\$26,500 2017 Chevy Impala Premier, Silver\$24,000 2017 Chevy Malibu LT	2015 Chev Crew Cab, Black 2015 Chev	rrolet 1500, 4x4, LTZ, \$33,900 yy 1500, Crew
Gray\$18,900 2017 Chevy Cruze Permier	2015 Chev	LI, \$31,500 rrolet Traverse, , White\$27,900
Gray\$16,900 2016 Chevy Tahoe LTZ, Brown \$51,900	2015 Chev	y Equinox FWD \$19,900
Brown\$51,900 2016 GMC Sierra Crew Cab, SLT,	2015 Buick Black Grar	c Encore FWD hite\$17,500
White\$45,900 2016 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab	1LT, Silver	y Equinox FWD
4x4, LTZ, Silver\$32,500 2015 Chevy Suburban 4x4, LTZ, Silver\$48,900	Crew Cab,	vrolet K-1500 , LTZ, 4x4 \$32,900
2015 Chevy 2500, 4x4, Crew Cab, LTZ, Diesel, Black\$45,500	2014 Chev Double Ca	
2015 Chevy K-2500 Crew LTZ, Red\$39,500	Cab, 4x4,	vy 1500 Crew LT, Z71, \$26,900
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Don't Miss An Issue!

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

Don't forget to call the Amboy News and let us know your new mailing address.

Call Mary at 815-857-2311



Call for your tax appointment today!

Dear Sam,

I thought we were in this together, but apparently I was wrong.



INCOME TAX REPARAT



Call For An Appointment: NEIL BRINKMEIER **IRS Registered Tax Practioner** 402 N. Jones • Amboy, IL 61310 Home Office (815) 857-2471

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You've been ignoring me for a while. We don't go for walks as often as we used to. You barely eat anything green anymore. And you don't realize the daily pressure you put me under. It's just too much.

Sincerely,

Your Heart

Don't let your heart quit on you. If you are living with high blood pressure, just knowing and doing the minimum isn't enough.

Uncontrolled high blood pressure could lead to stroke, heart attack or death. Get yours to a healthy range before it's too late.

Find out how at heart.org/BloodPressure



Check. Change. Control.™





14

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Amber Waves





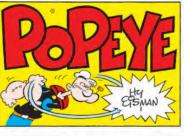




The Spats



PUT THET POT AWAY, MAMA





by Mike Marland



by Jeff Pickering







Posting Date January 22, 2018

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King Crossword

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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: • • •

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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

er ...'

45 46

- 8 Colorful fish 12 Clay-rich soil
- 13 Blunder
- 14 Portrayal
- 15 Democrat or Republican
- 17 Radiate
- 18 Faucet
- 19 Arouse 21 Fireworks
- reaction
- 22 Delany or Carvey
- 23 Venomous
- viper 26 Zodiac cat
- 28 Passenger
- 31 Prosperous
- time
- 33 Knock
- 35 Pepsi competitor
- 36 Soothe
- 38 Tatter
- 40 Actor Danson
- 41 A long time
- 43 Bugging device
- 45 Tranquil
- 47 Pencil end
- 51 Impulse carri-
- er 52 Multiple mar-
- riage 5 54 Expectorate

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- 55 56 58 59 27 Rowing need 55 Ailing 6 Curved path 56 Malaria symp-7 Wide 29 - out a living 30 Primary color 8 Occurring tom 57 Pop naturally 32 Purplish 58 Oklahoma city 9 Bikini pat-30-Down 59 Untouchable tern? 34 Kneecap Eliot 10 Lotion addi-37 Longing 39 Indiana city tive 11 Chopped DOWN 42 Brownish 1 Swiss peaks 16 Implement tone 20 Card game 44 Heathen 2 Animated Betty for two 45 Back talk 46 World's fair Java neighbor 23 Lawyers' org. 48 Wise one 4 Chihuahua 24 Scale mem-49 Ostriches' kin chum ber "- a borrow- 25 Edwin Land's 50 Deli loaves
 - 53 On in years company

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1. MYTHOLOGY: What was the name of the chariot-driving Greek sun god?

2. MOVIES: What was the first movie that Elvis Presley appeared in?

3. LITERATURE: Which Russian author wrote the novella "Notes from Underground" in the 19th century?

4. GEOGRAPHY: In what mountain range is Mount Everest located?

5. HISTORY: When was the Woman's Peace Party organized in the United States?

6. MUSIC: What famous singer/songwriter won the Pulitzer Prize for Literature in 2016?

7. U.S. PRESIDENT: Who was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms?

8. ANATOMY: What is the largest internal organ in the human body?

9. GOVERNMENT: What was the first capital city of the United States? 10. AD SLOGANS: What popular drink was advertised as "pure as sunlight" in 1927?



"C'mon, James! You gotta laugh at your problems! Everybody else does!"

"Hey, Mom, Dad's home — and I think he's already looked in the

Plod	
GURTED	
Acute HARPS	
Avoid	
Leave PEACES	
Т	ODAY'S WORD



HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



thiseing: ۲. Hat is missing. ک. Heart is missing. ع. Cloud is smaller. 4. Cuffs are missing. 5. Arm is moved. 6. Skates are missing. New! 24 HOCUS FOCUS puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamail.com

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: A equals S

WFSMFSB FQ ZGQDZKZET ZIAT QN

AVHHZAAWVEET RIFE QIGFA, F'M

AIT KT CDNQRZD RIA QRZ BFWQ

NW HIC.

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> GARAGE Τοday's Word 3. Ignore; 4. Escape 1. Trudge; 2. Sharp; uoianjos SCRAMBLERS

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flo.Coca-Cola

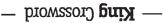
- 9. Philadelphia
 - reviJ.8
- president
- 7. Grover Cleveland, 22nd and 24th
 - 6. Bob Dylan
 - 5. 1915, in response to World War I
 - 4. Himalayas
 - 3. Fyodor Dostoyevsky
 - 2. "Love Me Tender"
 - l. Helios

Trivia Test Answers

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Solution time: 25 mins.

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YewerA





The Amboy News • A11

Prices good through Jan. 27, 2018



808 W. Riverside Blvd. Mon-Thurs 10am - 6pm | Fri 10am - 7pm Sat 10am - 7pm | Sun 12pm - 5pm

6651 E. State St. Mon-Fri 10am - 8pm | Sat 10am - 7pm Sun 12pm - 5pm



Canyon Leather Recliner ^{\$}549⁹⁹ or ^{\$}274⁹⁹ as **BOGO** item Displayed at State Street Location.



Power Reclining Sofa for \$2089⁹⁹ get the matching Loveseat for \$974⁹⁹ as **BOGO**

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Displayed at State Street Location.

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