

#### Volume 169 - Number 4

#### www.AmboyNews.com

\$1.00

## **Frank Stenzel sworn in** as new Amboy mayor

By GEORGE HOWE Amboy News Reporter **AMBOY** – The central theme of the Amboy City Council meeting held on January 15 was new appointments and promotions.

Deputy Mayor Frank Stenzel was officially sworn in as the new mayor to replace John Schamberger, who resigned in December about 13 months before his term expired due to moving out of the city limits.

Stenzel was in his second term as third ward alderman and didn't really have any aspirations for the top job. "John had let me know some time ago that this might happen, and it gave me time to think about it," Stenzel explained. "I was active at meetings

and part of the Streets and Alleys Committee, so I talked it over with my wife and agreed to finish his term. After that, decisions will have to made."

Luke Christoffersen

was also sworn in as the new third ward alderman, taking Stenzel's place. Christoffersen is a longtime resident, Amboy alumnus, and is very active in youth sports programs where his kids participate through school.

One of the first orders of business Mayor Stenzel presided over was the proposal presented to the council to increase the hourly rate by three dollars for part-time police officers bringing the rate to \$25.00 a hour, which was approved.

Officer Paul Smith has been promoted to fulltime status, with another officer in line for fulltime, which will be further discussed at the next meeting. Stenzel shared that the hope is with the pay increase that the officers will stay in town.

"We seem to have become the training ground for officers," Mayor Stenzel said. "Larger cities will offer a \$7,000-10,000 signing bonus





After former Amboy Mayor John Schamberger resigned in December, Amboy needed to appoint a new mayor. At the Amboy City Board meeting on January 15, Frank Stenzel, left, was sworn in as the new mayor of Amboy. Stenzel, who was the third ward alderman, was replaced by Luke Christoffersen as he was also sworn into his new role on January 15. George Howe/Amboy News

which we can't match being a city of 2500. We always ask our residents that if you see something, please call 911." Amboy's police force

is one of the last of the small cities in Lee County. Franklin Grove, Ashton, Paw Paw, Sublette, and Harmon no longer have police presence.

"It's tough to have a 24-7 police force with the size of our city but we are fortunate to afford to provide this," added Stenzel. "Most of the funding

comes from taxation and tipping fees from the landfill which allows the city budget to stay sound."

See City page A7

#### Winter weather didn't stop Sublette village meeting

#### **By BRANDON LaCHANCE**

Amboy News Reporter

SUBLETTE-Snow and below zero temperatures were not going to stop the Village of Sublette meeting on Monday, Jan. 15 at the Ellice Dinges Center

The meeting did not see much action as the projects on the agenda are hard to accomplish in the winter weather.

In his president's report, John Stenzel said there was a water leak under the trailer at 404 W. Virginia St. TJS Escavating couldn't find the water line, but it was able to fix the leak by using a hydro vector to suck

In unfinished and finished business, topel work on Richmond, Virginia, and Reeve roadways was discussed. The water main may need to be redirected. The estimated price for Willette, Hofmann & Associates, land surveying, is \$7,500.

A motion to pass the cost for the topel work was going to be made until it was decided to table the motion until the weather would allow the work to be done. If passed now, the work still wouldn't start until the spring.

The two LED speed signs for Sublette, one is battery powered and the other solar powered, have been ordered and should arrive any day. The LED signs were bought and paid for by grant money received in 2023.



the water out of a hole in the mobile home

Also, Stenzel met with Nicor Gas Company as the Village of Sublette is still working on whether or not to use a different gas service. Storm tile on E. Main Street and S. Rt. 52 needs to be dug and the president thinks Nicor should cover the cost.

Stenzel ended the report stating garbage charges have been dropped on abandonned houses in Sublette.

Before the meeting was over, bills were agreed to be paid.

Also, Trustee Larry Ellis brought up microphones being used for the village meetings because some board members are hard to hear from the other side of the room, which has been brought to attention in previous Village of Sublette meetings.

Amboy Schools Superintendent Joshua Nichols said thank you to the maintenance staff for their work of keeping the sidewalks of all Amboy schools clear and safe during the Amboy School Board meeting January 18.

**George Howe/Amboy News** 

#### Funds transferred, reports given by Amboy School Board

**BV GEORGE HOWE** Amboy News Reporter AMBOY - The Amboy School Board met in session on a chilly

Thursday, January 18. The first order of business was a public hearing to adopt the resolution authorizing an interfund

transfer of \$120,000 from the Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund.

RECYCLE

See School page A2

## A Tribute to the fallen of World War I

Editor's note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on Lee County veterans who served during World War I. These heroes are part of Amboy's history and it is our honor to publish these articles so you can learn about their service to our country. This article was researched by Jack Mead and Tom Dempsey, and written by Dempsey.

#### Sgt. Lloyd Kaylor Bartholomew

Students Army Training Corps

University of Illinois In 1917, young Lloyd K. Bartholomew was a senior at Dixon High School where he was known as a good student, business manager for the yearbook, fullback on the football squad, and a member of the Dukes' basketball team. The inscription below his yearbook photo described him: "Lloyd is our widely celebrated heart breaker, especially so in Sterling it seems. Girls take warning – do not leave your hearts carelessly about when he is in sight."

Lloydentered the world at the dawn of the new century to Eugene and Emma Kaylor Bartholomew on Feb. 22, 1899 in Dixon where he spent his youth residing on second street. As he neared his high school graduation, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress for a Declaration of War against Germany on April 6, 1917 after continued U-Boat attacks on American merchant ships bound for Great Britain. By that time, public sentiment had shifted from away from isolation in foreign affairs to strongly supporting American involvement in the Great War in Europe.

After high school, Lloyd became a member of the IIlinois Home Guards serving as a corporal in Company F. Alongside other Dixon men, he worked in the shipyards at Wilmington, Delaware. When he registered for the military draft on Sept. 9, 1918, Lloyd was a student at the University of Illinois. His

registration form described him as being of medium height, stout build, with brown eyes and brown hair. He was inducted into the service on Oct. 1, 1918 and became enrolled in the Students Army Training Corps reaching the rank of Sergeant at the University, on course to become an officer in the U.S. Army.

During the early fall of 1918, the flu pandemic had finally visited Illinois with devastating consequences. Camp Grant in Rockford was hit hard, eventually losing over 1,000 lives to the virus. Most Illinois communities had been affected by this time. The most catastrophic aspect of the 1918 flu virus is that it struck down healthy young adults in the prime of life rather than children or elderly people at a time when American young men were being sent off to fight the largest war to date.

On Oct. 4, while working with the training corps, Lloyd became ill with pneumonia and was transported to the hospital in Cham-



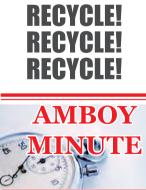
paign. Attacking the lungs, respiratory stress resulted as secondary to the flu virus attack. Penicillin was not yet availableand on Dec. 4, SGT. Lloyd Kaylor Bartholomew succumbed to the world's invisible enemy and died after a valiant struggle.

In the days to follow, Lloyd's remains were returned to his grieving family in Dixon. He was buried with military honors at Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon. NOTE: If you know of other Lee County Soldiers who died in service during World War I, we urge you to share that information to demps60@gmail.com.

Sources

"War History of Lee County Illinois, 1917-1919". Dixon American Legion Post 12, 1919.

Dixon Evening Telegraph, Dec. 5, 1918.



### **Obituaries**

Harold Johnson Marie Miles

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#### **Inserts**

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# LOCAL NEWS

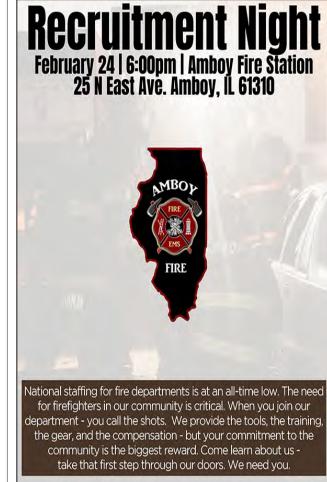


Lee County Ag in the Classroom Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, left, presents a check for \$500 to Ashleigh Erbes of the Lee County Ag in the Classroom. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$48,000 to local organizations this year.



Lee County Fair Association Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, left, presents a check for \$1,500 to Josie Hussey of the Lee County Fair Association. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$48,000 to local organizations this year.

**Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News** 



Must reside within the Amboy Fire Protection District or Harmon Fire Department response area

#### **Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News**

## School continued from page A1

Amboy Schools Superintendent Joshua Nichols gave a brief explanation for the transfer.

"The funds were abated at last month's meeting and at that time, we asked the county not to raise fees because the district will be using the sales tax money to pay the loans on the bonds," Nichols said.

After the customary approval of last month's meeting's minutes, financial reports and current expenditures and payroll, Central School Principal Jessica Meusel presented

her report. School activities included an all-school assembly January 8 to recognize the "smarties" of the week and get an update on the reading progress.

Learning Renewal Interim Assessment testing took place on January 16-19 for third and fourth grade students. These assessments allow teachers to pinpoint knowledge gaps and help to adjust instruction and support to match the student's needs.

Central School has new speakers and a big screen tv in the gym.

"The students and staff love it," said Meusel.

Additional school improvements included on January 3 when the teachers had an institute day where they worked on report cards and planned initiatives moving forward.

Amboy Junior High Principal Andrew Full shared January 3 was Teacher's Institute Day where they were given time to post grades. The afternoon session was held to discuss topics such as discipline and student conversations. Mrs. Bulfer met with teachers January 3 to start the process of having an official mentor programming in the district. On December 20, the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) celebration and assembly was held, where awards were handed out for students of the month. Boys basketball, cheerleaders, and speech team awards were all recognized.

Amboy High School Principal Janet Crownhart stated Mr. Kolton has started to meet with freshman, sophomores, and juniors to go over course options for next year. Parents will be invited January 25 to also

with eighth grade students and their parents to discuss



The National Honor Society will be tutoring students on MWF during homeroom to help those who need extra support. Looking ahead, seniors are being encouraged to share their plans for after graduation.

A "Senior Spotlight" board will soon be available to highlight their plans.

report, Nichols stressed the importance of the "Pathway Program" under the direction of Principal

Crownhart. The idea behind these initiatives first rolled out by the State of Illinois a couple of years ago, is to get students to start thinking about what they might want to do. Currently, there are education, agriculture, manufacturing, an health occupation pathways with funding coming from the state through grants and the Regional Offices of Education (ROE).

"Just as an example, we are a school, there is a teacher's shortage and it makes perfect sense to get students on the path of becoming educators," said Nichols. "The goal is to get our kids to have some kind

with Sauk Valley Community College, kids interested in teaching can go to a college class and observe. In other news, Nichols said that the new roof for the Central School library is completed and not too soon with all of the snow Amboy has received. Speaking of snow, Nichols thanked Director of Maintenance Brian Lampe, Head Custodian John Wagner and their staff for doing a "great" job of removing the snow and keeping all of the walkways cleared at all of the Amboy schools. "We continued to get hit with snow and I know that it was tough to keep up, but the staff did such a good job in order to keep everyone safe," added Nichols.



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# LOCAL NEV

## TEEN TURF

#### After school program

If you have a third grader or above, they may be able to attend. They will ride the bus, have a meal, a fun place to play, and of course complete homework. Applications are in our hallway, which is open 24/7days a week.

#### Volunteers

We welcome all volunteers for our afterschool program, which runs normally Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 5 p.m. Volunteers help serve lunch, supervise kids, and help with various homework tasks. If interested, please call us at 815-857-4800. You can volunteer whatever time you have. We even have volunteers come in the morning to help with other prep tasks.

#### **Glow Dance/Lip Sync Contest**

A full Thank you will be in next week's paper. Valentine's Auction

#### We will be having a Valentine's auction on Airauctioneer.com to raise funds for our free year-round programs. It starts Tuesday, February 6th at Noon and ends Thursday, February 8th at 8 p.m. and will be on airauctioneer.com. Some of the items that will be auctioned off: Ice Hogs tickets, Valentine's basket, cream puffs, fudge, and chocolate chocolate chip cookies. Winning bidders will be able to pick up items on Feb. 9 or 10. We accept Venmo (@Teenturf-235), cash, and check.

#### **Thank You's**

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Anonymous donation from the St. Patrick's fundraiser; Nichole and Dave Stenzel for the lights; Pat Haustein for the various items; Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the meat, cheese, bread, and yummy cupcakes; Dianna Toms for the monetary donation; Anonymous donation of admission of the kids to the Glow Dance/Lip Sync Contest; Lonnie and Dan Schaefer for the various items; Laurie and Chad Whelchel, and Mark and Veronica Grossman for the various items.

#### Needs

#### Nuts, Torque Bolts, and screws. **Final Note**

Dear Lord, when there is chaos all around us, we know we can depend on You to remain right here with us. Thank You for Your loving presence and for sheltering us in every storm. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



## **Train versus tractor**

At approximately 3:05 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15, the Lee County Sheriff's train from Union Pacific Railroad had struck a tractor-trailer that was blocking the railway on Willow Road at Track Road just east of Franklin Grove. Responding deputies were informed that the driver of the tractor-trailer had possibly jumped out of the cab of the semi prior to being struck by the train. Upon arrival, deputies met with the driver of the semi, who was identified as Carlos Rivera Rodriguez, age 35, of Mexico. Mr. Rodriguez is a driver for Olvera Freight, and he

with a load of Hamburger Helper products. The tractor-trailer was Office was notified a heading south on Willow Road when it apparently became hung up at the crossing and was struck by the eastbound train. The snowy weather conditions appeared to be a factor as to how the tractor-trailer was stuck. Mr. Rodriguez was transported to KSB Hospital by Franklin Grove Ambulance for evaluation of minor injuries. Dabney Services was contacted for removal of the tractor-trailer and the product that was spread out across the scene. It took several hours for personnel to clear the scene.

## **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

**AMBOY-** You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program. The program has moved from The Amboy Sports Park to indoors at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 960 US Highway 52, Amboy. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Chairs are provided for an approximate 30-minute workout. For more information, call Chris at 815-857-3963.

**STERLING-** Get a jump-start on your spring gardening. Join University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners and learn how to start seeds and sustain your bedding plants until they are ready for outdoor planting. The workshop will take place from 9 a.m. – noon, on Saturday, Jan. 27 at the Sterling Public Library upstairs meeting room. You will take home informational handouts on planting hints and dates, a seedling and a seed tape, to kick-start your summer garden. This program is free and no registration is necessary.

FRANKLIN GROVE- Wouldn't it be terrific for all ages to learn more about gardening? The Lee County Master Gardeners have started their gardening series again, "Big and Small Gardening." This series will be held at the Winfred Knox Library in Franklin Grove the first Tuesday of each month, with alternating months offering a youth program at 4 p.m. or an adult program at 6 p.m. Join the Master Gardeners for an adult lesson on Feb. 6 to learn the care and propagation techniques for African Violets. One may register for these programs by calling the library at 815-456-2823.

**DIXON-** Kids & K-9's is a survey class that will introduce you to all facets of training including obedience, rally, agility, and showmanship. It is also designed to help your dog become a more integral part of your family. Open to youth ages eight to 18 beginning Saturday, Feb. 10 and running select Saturdays through August. The class will be held at the Granny Rose K-9 Enrichment Center, in Dixon. Beginners will take place at 11 a.m., with advanced classes following at 1 p.m. The fee will be free for 4-H members and \$20 for non-4-H members. Register online at go.illinois.edu/kidsk9.

**STERLING-** Join University of Illinois Extension Educator Kara Schweitzer each month as she leads participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory. We will be offering this program at the Edward Murphy Room at KSB Town Square, 101 W Second St., on Monday, Feb. 12, from 1 - 2:30 p.m. New participants are welcome to join at any time.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6

## AMRO)

p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, Feb. 12. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

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

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

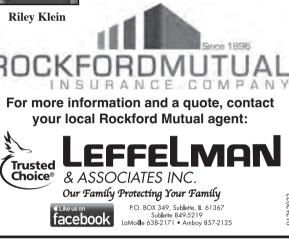
### Putting lives back together, one family at a time.

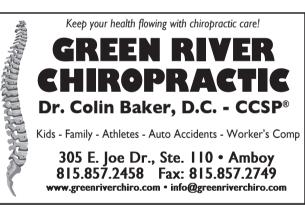


When bad things happen, make sure you have an insurance company that's committed to helping you repair, rebuild and grow. Rockford Mutual is that company. We've been putting lives back together for over 116 years.



**Rockford Mutual Insurance** Company provides insurance coverage for personal auto, homeowners, business owners,commercial auto, and farm owners.





#### **Traffic Citations**

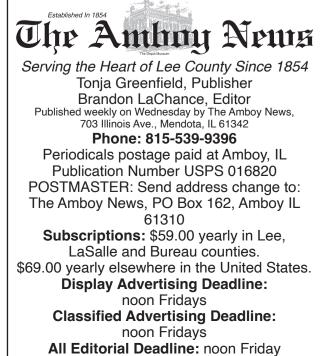
Lucas R. Heniff, 31, of Amboy, was arrested at 8:54 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16 on E. Wasson Rd. at N. Metcalf Ave. and chagred with traffic sitations for leaving the scene of a vehicle damgae accident, failure to report an accidnt to the police, impoper lane usage, and driving without lights when required.

#### **Traffic Citation**

Keavon Nikipouri, 24, of Amboy, was charged with a traffic citation for failure to yield at 10:40 a.m. Monday, Jan. 15. on Mason Ave. and Division St.



### 66 W. Wasson Rd. Unit 265, Amboy AmDoy \$65,000 on't miss this wonderfully unique opportunity own a huge manufactured home in a newly anaged park, that is making continual provements for it's members. The 2200 sq., 1998 Four Seasons home has 3 very large adrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, many updates an mes FULLY FURNISHED. You will have 3 mas the indown sate. Including time sized battle Don't miss this wo comes FULLY FURNISHED. You will have 3 great bedroom sets, including king sized beds, a dinette, couch, loveseat, recliners, over \$3, 000 worth of thermal draperies & more. The appliances stay of course too. The washer & dryer are both Whirlpool Cabrios and are only 5 yrs. old. There is also an upright freezer & brand new Blackstone grill & 2 patio sets includ The furnace and AC were newly installed in '21 & both are Carrier units. All of this sits on ar oversized(double) lot with open farm field to the rear - for a single lot rent. This could be the option for so many different scenarios – first home, starting over, downsizing from a lg. 2 sto Be sure to schedule a showing to see how perfectly this property will fit into your lifestyle. Takes oodhaven **Bonita Willis** Any type of property Managing Broker - any time of year 815-849-5476 (815)849-5476





280 W. Wasson Road

**THERE WILL BE BETTER WEATHER** COMING

## **OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS** OBITUARIES

## Harold W. Johnson, Jr. April 15, 1962 - Jan. 21, 2024

AMBOY—Harold W. Johnson, Jr., 61, of Ambov. passed away on Sunday, Jan 21, 2024 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

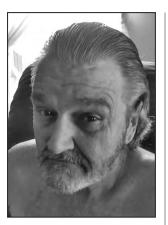
He was born on April 15, 1962 in Aurora, the son of Harold and Sharon (Albright) Johnson. Harold worked for Kraft Refrigeration in Aurora. He was a member of the Moose and was a past Jr. Governor.

Harold married Lauri Scerba on Sept. 27, 1998 in Sandwich.

He is preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Patrick and one sister, Lorrain.

Harold is survived by his wife Lauri; daughter Jill (Michael Burt) Johnson, of Mendota; five grandchildren, Mason Engel, MakaylaBurt, AuroraBurt, Michael Burt, Alira Burt; one brother Mike Johnson; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from noon to 2 p.m., on Saturday, January 27, 2024, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m., on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, with pastor Rocky Fritz officiating, at the funeral home. Cremation rites will follow the service with



burial of cremains at a later date at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy.

established.

## **ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY**

#### **100 Years Ago** Jan. 18, 1924

J.A. Edwards completed his ice harvest and reports his large ice house at the pond is filled with a fine lot of ice.

J.P. Canavan announced the January clearing sale with the opportunity to save money.

#### 75 Years Ago Jan. 20, 1949

Old Man Winter gave Amboy a real taste of winter weather with snow changing to sleet and then back to snow. Although the storm was accompanied by some wind, main highways were kept open.

Reports from the Shippert-Meurer livestock sale listed 34 head of Holstein cattle with a top price of \$340.

#### 50 Years Ago Jan. 17, 1974

Three members of the Amboy Lions Club were honored for more than 25 years of service to the club. They were Orval Spurlin, Ole Dickinson, and Al Meyer. The Amboy BiCentenial Commission

made arrangements to lease the Amboy Depot from the Central Gulf Railroad for \$50 for the next 20 years.

#### 25 Years Ago Jan. 21, 1999

At its regular meeting Monday night, the Amboy City Council discussed plans to create a new title and job description to replace the current position of Superintendent of Public Works, a position which became vacant after the Council earlier in the meeting voted unanimously to remove Jack Braggo as Superintendent of Public Works.

The Rev. Ralph Carr is the new pastor at United First Church in Amboy. Rev. Carr, or Ralph as he prefers to be called, makes his home in Rochelle with his wife Sheila and their children, Jason, Matthew and Wesley. "I am greatly excited to see what God is doing here at United First Church. For me personally, it is intriguing to serve a joint United Methodist and United Church of Christ Church. I have served both denominations before. Both have blessedme.TogethertheyspeakloudlyofOne God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

## **Marie Miles** April 9, 1940 - Jan. 4, 2024

Marie Miles passed away early morning on January 4, 2024, surrounded by her four children and embraced by her loving husband. Her final days were spent in a beautiful setting overlooking the horse fields of Kentucky. Marie's devoted grandchildren flew in from many states to join their family in honoring Marie. A small memorial service was held at the Chapel of Ashton Grove in Georgetown, KY.

Although Marie spent the last four years close to her children in Kentucky, her heart remained in her home state of Illinois. Marie grew up on her family farm in Maytown, IL. She shared many stories of her doting Uncle Vincent and her dear friend Sylvia Montavon. Marie first began working as a waitress at the Parkway Family Restaurant in Mendota. Marie married Lennard Miles on June 6, 1959. After taking off several years to focus on her children, Marie began a long career at the Amboy News in the early 70's. She became friends with her co-workers and enjoyed hosting the annual Christmas party. In 1980, Marie left her career at the newspaper to help take care of her first granddaughter, Melissa. During this time Marie also worked parttime at the Lee County Farm Bureau. In addition to working outside the home, Marie worked endless hours tending to her garden, freezing and canning fruit and vegetables,

raising chickens, sheep and horses and keeping records for their farm. She was an active member of the St. Patrick Parish in Amboy, IL.

Marie was born on April 9, 1940, the daughter of Leo and Ceceila Weber.

Marie's first and forever love was her darling husband Lennard. Marie and Lennard went most everywhere together. You'd never see one without the other. For over six decades they knew they could count on each other to get through life's challenges. Marie was always willing to support her children's interest in the school band, sports and club interest. She hosted many birthday parties and countless sleepovers. Marie encouraged all her children to attend college. Marie's love extended to the next generation. She cherished her time with all of her grandchildren and formed a special bond in each of their lives. Marie spent extensive time with Melissa and Josh. She was a major influence in their life, providing stability, support and encouragement.

Marie enjoyed hosting many holiday parties for her parents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbors. She loved to share in other's happiness and was quick to lend an ear in sorrow. Marie had many friends and cherished her time with them all. Through the years they had Elvis parties, attended belly dancing classes and ped-



aled bicycles to the end of the trails. Her dear friend and sister-in-law, Pat Spratt shared a lifetime of laughter and friends. In the past few years Pat made several trips to Kentucky to spend time with Marie and Lennard.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents, Cecelia Weber and Leo Weber, and grandson Terry Miles.

She is survived by her husband, Lennard: daughters, Kathryn Miles (Doug), Donna Miles and Carol Miles Gensheimer (Rick); son, Harold Miles (Cheryl); grandchildren, Melissa Ikens (Travis) Josh Dewey (Danielle) Kelly Gensheimer, Grant Gensheimer (Nikki), Charlie Miles (Abi) Spring (Adil); Luke Miles (Asya); great-grandchildren Tucker and Hudson Ikens, Logan Gensheimer, Leon Miles, Aria and Azarias Miles; and sister-in-Laws, Pat Spratt and Jane Miles.

A Celebration of Life event will be held in Amboy in early April. In lieu of flowers and gifts a scholarship fund will be established at the Amboy High School for student athletes. Details for the event will be published in March.

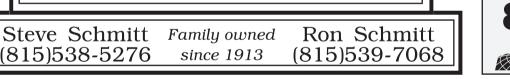




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A memorial has been

Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.





# **ICH DIRECTO** Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org Masses: Monday - Thursday Daily Mass 8 am Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and Mass at 6 pm

> St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 8:30 am

United First Church of Amboy Pastor Mark Glenn East Main & Jefferson 815-440-0745 Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center www.LeeCenter-UCC.org Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

> Grace Fellowship Church Amboy-Sublette Pastor Kyle Kelly 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

East Grove Union Church 449 Reuter Road, Amboy, IL Phone 815-440-5321 1/2 Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship Youth Church, Ages 3 – Grade 4 10:15 am Sunday School, Age 3 - Adult 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. Mary's Church – West Brooklyn Rev. Randy Fronek Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown Rev. Randy Fronek Mass – Friday - 8 a.m. Sunday - 8 a.m.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** Interim Minister Douglas Wood S.A.M. 960 U.S. Route 52 **Phone 857-2225** 960 U.S. Route 52 Phone: 815-857-2225 Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. -Fellowship - 10:00 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.

The Following Community Businesses Sponsor Area **Church News:** 

Sensient Flavors, LLC. 815-857-3691

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

**Mihm-Jones Funeral** Home 815-857-2611

Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet 815-849-5232

**KSB Medical Center** 815-857-3044

The Amboy News 815-857-2311



Local nature

and history

By Jim "Mazie" Long

Winter's outdoor

wonders

Some birds brighten the season

Jim "Mazie"

Long

# SOCIAL NEWS

**PASTOR'S** 

#### By Pastor John Kalebaugh

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God." Psalm 20:7.

It sounds so primitive to think of trusting in "chariots and horses" as a big deal when it comes to national defense. You might even smile or chuckle as you read and think about it. And that's okay because the reality about it is... it really was primitive. But bear in mind, that back in the day in which it was written, horses and chariots were part of what made an army so strong. It was a "must" for any nation that wanted to be number one! If someone was writing this Psalm today, they may substitute "chariots and horses" with something like tanks, stealth fighters, and nuclear submarines or missiles. Now that's power...

Irregardless, the more that we progress as civilization there will always be something new or more modern that will make the previous

"cutting-edge" science or technology seem outdated and obsolete. Even in our nation it is so easy to put our "trust" in other things rather than God. We live in the United States of America, which is perhaps the wealthiest and most powerful nation on earth – ever. And we live in the 21st century... with all its modern technology, conveniences, science, and medicine. We take things like penicillin, front wheel drive, and cell phones for granted. This recent bout of weather with its blowing, drifting snow and below zero wind chills serves as a little reminder of how fragile we are as human beings as many of us were snowbound for a couple of days while we waited for snowplows to get us out.

**YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND** 

THE

PEN

Don't get me wrong – I am in full support of modern conveniences if they are used in a God honoring way, but we should always keep in mind that in any given time of human history, there is always a host of things which can compete for the trust which is meant to be reserved for God and Him alone.

Scripture reminds us, "While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

2 Corinthians 4:18. As humans we do tend to look at the things that we can see and judge our strength and sense of security by them. But even in the comparison of the chariots and horses to tanks and nuclear weapons... there is such a vast difference between things that we can see and eternal things that we cannot see.

May we learn to appreciate our modern conveniences while also remembering they are only temporal and will someday be obsolete, but may we celebrate the fact that God of creation is eternal... and He knows us personally and loves us unconditionally... and that never changes.

God Bless you.

#### Northern Illinois 4-H Summer Camp - change your child's life!

**POLO** — 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 counselors 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 Sunday, June 9, 2024, and check out from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

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, including hiking, shooting sports, arts and crafts, crate stacking, 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 eight to 14 by June 9, 2024. 4-H membership is not required; however, all participants will be expected to comply with the same high behavior standards expected of 4-Hers. Youth need to be interested and excited to have a week of outdoor fun, away from television and technology. The cost is \$300 for 4-H members and \$320 for non-4-H members until March 1. After that date, the price goes up \$50. All camp fees must be paid in full by May 15, 2024. Download a camper application online at: http://web.extension. illinois.edu/bdo/northernillinois-4-h-camp or you can register online at: http://go.illinois.edu/4H-SummerCamp.

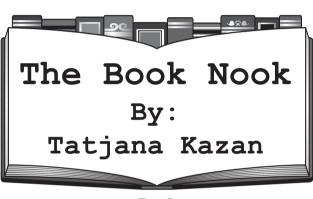
S IN

The striking appearance of the red-headed Woodpecker (young bird left, mature right), is celebrated in this 1873 litograph. Image source: Library of Congress

Lee County is blessed with many beautiful birds. Even in winter, in a solid landscape of white snow, we can see a flash of blue from a Blue Jay or a red streak from a Cardinal flying by. We all enjoy seeing a Bluebird perched on a fence along a country road. And our yellow and black Goldfinch is an equally gorgeous bird. Another bird that can be seen in winter is the brightly colored black and white Red-headed Woodpecker. There is no bird in Europe as beautiful.

Most animals hide from sight.

Meanwhile, groundhogs, gophers, and chipmunks are still taking their winter naps. But the racoon and opossum refuse to retire until it's bitter cold. Their tracks can often be seen in the snow in winter. Though still awake, the skunk however, sees no reason to come out. Beavers and muskrats contend with ice and snow. Since they are excellent swimmers, they search for food under the ice all winter. The carnivores, the fox, coyote, and mink must hunt through the snow to find an animal or bird for food. I think they have the hardest job for survival. Good ears and a good nose are essential. The meadow mouse, in its tunnels under the snow, is active all winter. They and the rabbit must always be on guard for the carnivores. Yet it is the ground hog that has solved all of these survival problems, simply by sleeping all winter. They lose four months of their time in the process, but are just as successful at life as the other animals. Reluctant prognosticator As noted in this column previously, every February 2 the wintering groundhog is somewhat reluctantly brought out into our nation's spotlight. Next Friday, spokes-animal Punxsutawney Phil will once again be called upon to prognosticate our remaining winter weather pattern. Strangely, many of us will want to learn his prediction, even though Phil has since the 1880's only been right 39 percent of the time. This, according to the Stormfax Almanac. – Editor Editor's Note: James Brady Long was born in Amboy on June 12, 1926. Known by many as "Mazie", he grew up in Amboy, served in the army during World War II, then studied forestry at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. His studies in botany and forest protection continued as he ventured into farming here. A beloved story-teller, his farm became a place of learning and adventure for relatives and friends. In his later years, he contributed a series of local nature articles to The Amboy News. Upon his death in 2000, his many hand-written drafts were gathered and initially curated by Brenda Boyle. The present, renewed series draws from those drafts, both unpublished and previously published.

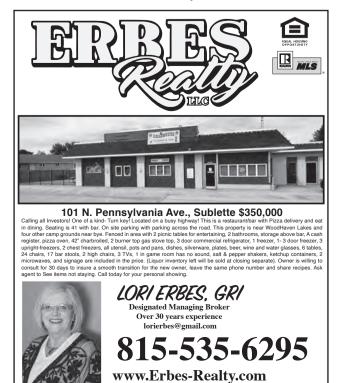


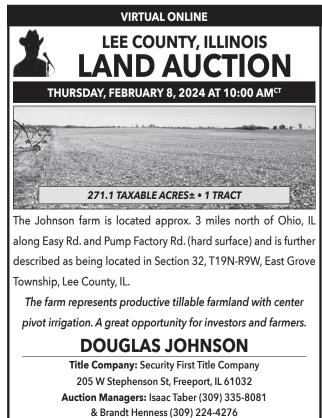
#### Bark

As with most of her work, the subject of Lorrie Moore's "Bark," a collection of eight short stories, is, as one critic dubbed it, Heterosexuality and Its Discontents. "Bark" begins with a divorce and ends with a wedding. In the first story, "Debarking," Ira, amiable, yet mystified, disembarks from a 15-year marriage and tips his toe in the treacherous waters of midlife dating. He cannot pull off his wedding ring. "Actually he had once gotten the ring off in a hot, soapy bath, but the sight of his denuded finger, naked as a child's, had terrified him and he had shoved the ring back on." Ira falls for Zora, a maniacal, vicious harridan, but he feels compelled to call her "a gentle, lovely woman."

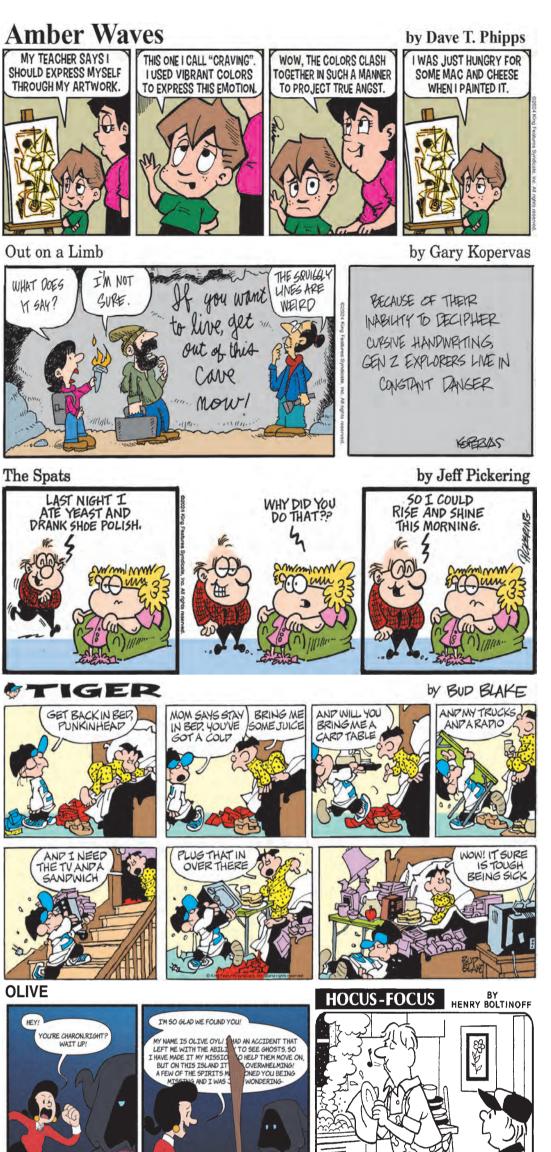
In "Paper Losses," Kit and Rafe, a couple in their 30s, "spawned and raised their hate together." "He was prickly and remote, empty with fury. A blankness had entered his blue-green eyes. They stayed wide and bright but nonfunctional - like dime-store jewelry." Every so often he calls to Rafe, "Hey, cutie," after not having looked her in the eye for two months. "It was like being snowbound with someone's demented uncle: Should marriage be like that? She wasn't sure." In "Subject to Search," Tom, an old CIA agent, must cut short his Paris rendezvous with his new mistress because of the Abu Ghraib torture crisis. "Wings" has a rather predictable story arc with an unpredictable ending. KC and Dench are a couple of failed musicians lethargically getting by in a putrid summer rental. The source of the smell is a group of intertwined moldering rats in the attic. KC strikes up a friendship with Milt, her very old and very rich neighbor. Predictably he leaves his money to her. Dench, the love of her life, is relentlessly charming and witty, but offers neither intimacy nor money. "She had given up trying to determine his facetiousness level....She suspected it was all just habit and his true intent was unknown even to himself." The final story, "Thanks for Having Me," is a tribute to life by the story's protagonist. The source of her hope is her daughter: "I watched her broad tan back and her confident gait. She was a gorgeous giantess. I was in awe to have such a daughter. Also in fear – as in fearful for my life." They are attending the babysitter's raucous Brazilian wedding. A man is overcome with emotion, but she notices his eye job: "He would rather look startled and insane than look fifty-six." But she is filled with an open-mindedness toward the young: "So much urgent and lifelike love went rumbling around underground and died there, never got expressed at all, so let some errant inconvenient attraction have its way. There was so little time."

Email news items to Brandon LaChance, the Amboy News Editor at blachance@mendotareporter. com





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#### January 22, 2024 Posting Date

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	© 2024 King Fe	ature	es Synd., Inc.		

Weekly SUDOKU

#### by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way



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3. GEOGRAPHY: In which country is The Matterhorn located?

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**CryptoQuip** 

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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: X equals C GYN ZJT IFEMHDZ FJG RG GYN ZTU IFJCQD'G GRMN GYN GHUN GF GRCM GF LNFLCN. YN YRQ	LUNCH © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.	WORD LADDER Answer PEACE, PEACH, BEACH, BENCH, BUNCH, LUNCH Selution 1. Voble 2. Heist; 3. Usher; 4. Amend Joday's Word Today's Word Today's Word
GFF URDT LENKKHDZ XFDXNEDK. ©2024 King Features Synd., Inc. <b>MBLERS</b> ters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then ed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag! N	I I	Weekly SUDOKU   Meekly SUDOKU 4 5 3 8 5 4 5 9 6 7 2 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 5 9 6 7 7 9 7 1 5 8 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 2 3 4 2 4 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
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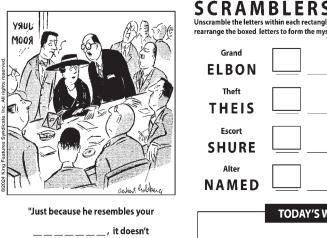
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Just Like Cats & Dogs





mean he's guilty . "

# LOCAL NEWS

## **2023 Lee County Tentative Multiplier Announced**

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

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier", is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g. school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there were no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

State law requires property in Illinois to be assessed at one-third (1/3) of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland and farm buildings assessed according to standards based on productivity.

The equalization factor is

determined annually for each county by comparing the sales price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

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

Assessments in Lee County are at 33.33 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2023 taxes, payable in 2024.

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

The tentative factor is subject to change (1) if the County Board of Review takes actions which significantly affect the county assessments or (2) if local officials or others can present data showing that the Department of Revenue's estimates of the average level of assessments in the county should be adjusted. A public hearing on the tentative multiplier will be held between 20 and 30 days after the tentative factor is published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county.

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease. Tax bills are determined by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens. If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments may have increased.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual's portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.

#### Hub Cluster hosting annual Soup and Dessert

**ASHTON** - The Hub Cluster will host its annual Soup and Dessert Supper fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Ashton United Methodist Church, 906 Richardson Ave., in Ashton.

Serving will be from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Adults are \$8, children are \$4 and those under free eat free.

The menu will include chili and chicken noodle soup and homemade desserts.

Also during the evening there will be a Specialty Dessert silent auction. These desserts can be homemade pies, cakes or cookies; chocolate dipped strawberries, special treats for the upcoming Valentine's Day or homemade breads or rolls, and more.

The Hub Cluster is a group of parishioners and pastors from 10 local United Methodist Churches, including Ashton, Chana, Creston, Esmond, Franklin Grove, Lighthouse, Malta, Reynolds, Rochelle and Steward. The proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to continue the Hub Cluster ministry efforts.

### Amboy Lions Chili Luncheon & Basket Raffle

The Amboy Lions Club will host a Chili Luncheon and Basket Raffle from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 28, at the Amboy Community Building, 280 W. Wasson Rd., Amboy.

Come and join us for a delicious bowl of chili and great fellowship with friends and neighbors. Menu includes: all you can eat chili with toppings, crackers, carrots, jello, cake and drinks. Carryouts are available.

Donations accepted at the door.

Basket raffle ticket fundraiser - tickets are \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00. Variety of baskets available.

## **City** continued from page A1

Under new business on the agenda, approval was requested and granted for the 2024 street project to be overseen by Willett, Hofman & Associates to advertise for bids. A couple of months ago, the city came into an agreement with the school board to purchase the land where the old junior high once stood for \$1. The re-development has been the vision of Schamberger and the council for some time. Stenzel presented a request to transfer funds from Capital Improvement to the Recreation Fund to make plans for a new splashpad on the property.

Additional plans call for a resident friendly green space for walking, and or enjoying the outdoors. One initiative Stenzel would like to spearhead is to continue to look for economic development to stimulate the town and provide new tax revenue.

"We have a lot of older buildings here that could be utilized in a more beneficial way to the city along with giving a new look that has curb appeal to residents and visitors," the mayor said. Stenzel went on to say that along with the help of City Clerk Melissa Eisenberg, the city website will be getting a facelift, along with an easier way to contact the mayor.

"We will be setting up a dedicated email address for the mayor's office so residents can send in suggestions, and information that might be useful," Stenzel said. "I'm excited about this and feel confident that it will be a useful tool."



Your Business can advertise for \$30.00 per month. Call the Amboy News at 815-539-9396 today!



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#### 105 BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITIES**

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#### 113 FINANCIAL

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

#### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"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

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return

-\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

SPLIT Firewood For Sale. Contact 779-251-0254

#### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Housing Act, Fair which makes it illegal advertise to any preference. limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national or intention origin, to make any such limitation preferences, 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 dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

511 **STORAGE UNITS** 

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You're there for them. We're here for you.

Find free Care Guides to support you and your loved one at AARP.org/caregiving







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#### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published anv 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 its care.

#### 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

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

#### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper

**VEHICLES FOR SALE** 

601

## 2019 Chevy Equinox FWD LT



2019 Chevy Equinox FWD LT, GM-Certified, 1-owner, Heated Cloth Seats, Touchscreen Radio and More! 49K Miles. Silver

### \$19,900

2023 Chevy 1500, Crew Cab, LTZ Z71, 4x4,	2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4,
Sunroof, Blue\$54,900	Diesel, Z71, 74K Miles, Black \$59,900
2023 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab LT, Lthr, 4x4, Z71,	2020 Chevy Equinox LT, AWD, 2.0 LTR.,
Long Box 6 1/2 ft, 38K Miles, Red\$49,900	63K Miles, Silver\$21,900
2022 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4WD,	2019 Chevy Equinox FWD LT, 49K Miles,
Z71, 37K Miles, Blue\$45,900	Silver\$19.900

#### QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2021 Chevy K-1500 Trail Boss 4x4 Z71, Loaded, Snrf, Lthr, 45K Miles, White, Crew Cab\$47,900	2019 Chevy Blazer Premier AWD, White, Loaded \$\$26,900
2021 Chevy K-1500 Custom 4x4 4cyl Turbo, 90K	2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4 Z71, White Red
Miles\$29,500	Line Edition\$32,900
2021 Chevy Equinox FWDLT, Sunroof, Navigation,	2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 115K Miles,
78K Miles, Black\$18,900	Silver\$23,900
2020 Chevy K-3500 Crew, LTZ 4x4 Z71,	2017 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, Custom, 4x4, 97K
Diesel, 79K Miles, Maroon\$52,900	Miles, White\$24,900
2020 Chevy 2500 Crew, LTZ Diesel 4x4, Z-71, 77K	2017 Chev Equinox, AWD LT, 76K Miles,
Miles, Silver\$51,900	White\$15,900
2020 Chevy Equinox AWD LT, Leather, 103K Miles,	2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT 4x4,
Black\$19,900	Maroon\$20,900



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## LIFE DOESN'T ALWAYS **GIVE YOU TIME TO** CHANGE THE OUTCOME.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Fast start, second-half rally not enough for Amboy

#### By KIP CHEEK

#### AMBOY NEWS REPORTER

AMBOY – A lightning-fast start and then a furious second-half rally weren't enough for Amboy as it fell to Mendota, 63-48, in a nonconference varsity boys' basketball game on Jan. 20 at the AHS gym.

The Clippers came out firing early in the first quarter as a pair of three-pointers and a conventional basket by Quinn Leffelman lifted them to a 10-2 lead. But Mendota finally found its footing and outscored Amboy, 11-1, over the remainder of the period to take a 13-11 lead.

The Trojans were able to stretch the margin to double digits at 29-16 before Amboy closed out the half on a 5-0 run to slice the count to 29-21 heading to the locker room.

Amboy's Eddie Jones scored the first basket of the third quarter to make it a 7-0 Amboy scoring streak before a three-pointer by Mendota's Aden Tillman halted the run. Atwo-pointer by Tillman gave the Trojans a 36-28 advantage at the 6:04 mark of the third and then the Clippers did all of the scoring over the next two minutes and 19 seconds to take their first lead since the opening stanza.

Brody Christoffersen started a 9-0 Clipper run with a three-pointer, followed by a bucket by Troy Anderson and then a steal and slam dunk by Jones. An Ezra Parker hoop completed the scoring binge to give Amboy a 37-36 lead with 3:45 left in the quarter. The lead went back and forth over the next two minutes with Amboy's final advantage being 41-40. Mendota tallied the final six points of the period to make it 46-41.

Mendota's Dane Doyle connected on a three-pointer to open the fourth frame to finish off a 9-0 Trojan run. A Jones free throw broke Amboy's scoring drought, but Mendota went on to outscore the Clippers, 14-6, the rest of the way. Cale Strouss got a steal and a layup to start a 7-0 Mendota run before two free throws by Christoffersen finished up Amboy's scoring with five second left.

Leffelman finished with a game-high 20 points. He drilled three shots from three-point range. Jones chipped in with 13 markers for the Clippers.



Amboy's Troy Anderson snatches a rebound away from Mendota's Izaiah Nanez, left, and Braiden Freeman on Jan. 20 at the AHS gym. Kip Cheek/Amboy News

#### Grapplers take 12th out of 22 at Bob Miton Invitational

**ORION** – The Amboy wrestling team ventured over the weekend to Orion for the Bob Miton Invitational.

The Clippers finished 12th out of the 22 competiting teams as they had three of their nine wrestlers stand on the podium.

Freshman Ty Florschuets finished fifth in the 106-poiund bracket, sophomore Landon Blanton was second at 120 pounds, and senior Lucas Blanton finished third at 175 pounds.

Amboy coach Brent

at the invitational from many different schools.

He was proud of his team finishing 12th with only nine wrestlers.

Montavon added the team has a lot to look forward to over the next few weeks as regionals begin on Saturday, Feb.

#### Amboy to wrestle at Sandwich **Class 1A Regional**

SANDWICH-The Amboy boys' wrestling team will participate in the Sandwich Class 1A Regional to be held on Saturday, Feb. 3.

In addition to the Clippers, other teams in the regional include Aurora (Central Catholic), Granville (Putnam County) [Coop], Lisle (Sr.), Mendota, Mooseheart, Ottawa (Marquette), Peru (St. Bede), Princeton, Sandwich and Somonauk [Coop].

In order to advance to the sectional round, a wrestler must finish first, second or third in his weight class. Advancing individuals will participate in the Byron Sectional to be held Friday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 10.



### Lady Clippers defeat Polo; fall to Eastland

The Amboy girls basketball team split its two games in the third week of January as the Lady Clippers beat Polo, 42-30, Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Polo, and lost to Eastland in a close game, 48-45, Friday, Jan. 19 at Amboy.

Against Polo, Senior Meave Larson recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds, while junior Addison Pertell scored 10 points to go with her five assists and four steals.

Also aiding Amboy in the win were junior Tyrah Vaessen with eight points, five rebounds, and four steals, senior Elly Jones' six points and five rebounds, and junior Emily Sachs tallied eight rebounds and four points. At home against Eastland, Jones and Vaessen tied for a team high 11 points, while Jones added seven rebounds and four assists, and Vaessen recorded four rebounds and four steals. Sachs had nine points, Larson added five points, sophomore Kiera Karlson hauled in five rebounds, and Pertell snagged four steals.

Montavon said there were great competitors 3. Amboy Community Unit

School District #272

Monday, Jan. 29

Thursday, Feb. 1

AHS Scholastic Bowl (H) Fulton Unity-4 pm AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H) Oregon-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

#### Tuesday, Jan. 30

AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H) Oregon-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball @ Morrison-6th-4 pm/5th-5 pm AJHS Scholastic Bowl (H) St. Mary's, Dixon-4 pm

#### Wednesday, Jan. 31

AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm AHS Girls Basketball (H) Fulton-6 pm AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Montmorency-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball @ Montmorency-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

AHS Boys Basketball (H) Forreston-6 pm AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) East Coloma-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm

#### Friday, Feb. 2

AHS Girls Basketball @ Milledgeville-Varsity-5:30 pm/JV-7:30 pm

#### Saturday, Feb. 3 AHS Boys Basketball @ St Bede-

2:30 pm AHS Wrestling Regional @ TBA

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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24, 2024



## **WEEKLY SPECIALS**



Sale goes through Jan. 30, 2024