

# ‘I want to carry on a lot of things we had going’

## Frank Stenzel continues life-long city work as mayor

**BY BRANDON LaCHANCE**  
*Amboy News Editor*

**AMBOY** – Frank Stenzel has tried to be civic minded, and a community advocate his entire life.

Stenzel, 72, moved to Amboy from Maytown when he was six years old after his father, Roland Stenzel, passed away from surgery complications at a young age, and his mother, Jeanne Stenzel decided to move Frank and his two brothers and two sisters.

He joined the Amboy Fire Department and was active for 40 years and has been a lifetime member for 50.

After fighting fires, he decided to try city government and was the third ward alderman for six years in Amboy.

Now, is the next step as he took over as the next Amboy mayor on January 2 and was officially sworn in at the last Amboy City Council meeting on January 15 to replace the former mayor John Schamberger, who resigned in December.

“When I first joined the fire department, they came and asked me if I would be interested. The whole process used to be where you’d be voted on by members of the department whether they wanted you on or not,” Stenzel said. “You were on a year’s probation and then they voted again. I was proud to be asked and moved up the ranks all the way to chief. I loved it. The fire department is a huge family.

“I then had an interest in the city’s government. There was a seat open for the third ward, so I ran against the incumbent. I thought I’d try to see what it’s like and see how I could help the city. I

was successful on my bid, and I enjoyed being an alderman. Working with John Schamberger was just wonderful. He was a really good mayor.

“Everything was running pretty well, and we were getting some things done, so I thought I’d run for another term. I was reelected and shortly after John came to me and said things were changing in his life and he was going to resign. We talked way before anyone knew and he told me, ‘I think you would be a good fit as the next mayor.’”

Stenzel, who retired as a salesman in the agriculture industry, had a heart transplant three years and has felt rejuvenated with energy both physically and mentally to assist him in his next endeavor as mayor.

He not only does he have the support of his family Karen, wife of 47 years (her father Otto Gehant was a former Amboy mayor), daughter Kim Girton, son Chris Stenzel, and five grandchildren, but he also has other city officials and administrators by his side.

“One of things I do since I’m 72, retired, and have the time, is I reach out to other mayors and cities. It has been really helpful,” Stenzel said. “They have so many ideas and they’re willing to help us. We have a good street maintenance department that is behind me. The Amboy City Hall staff is great. We have a good city board. I have a lot of support. My cousin John Stenzel is the president of the Village of Sublette Board. He has been very helpful. I appreciate his help.

See **Stenzel** page A4



Amboy Mayor Frank Stenzel with wife Karen Stenzel. Courtesy photo

Unrath’s sentencing date extended

Donna Unrath, the former accounting administrator for Woodhaven Lakes who pleaded guilty for embezzling over \$300,000 from Woodhaven on Thursday, Nov. 30 was originally given a sentencing hearing of Wednesday, Jan. 17.

The sentence hearing has since been extended to Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Unrath, 55, of Amboy, who was the finance manager for seven years at Woodhaven is facing 4-15 years in prison.

## Worried about the teacher shortage? Invest in your leaders

**By Erika Hunt, Lisa Hood**  
*Regional Office of Education #17*

The “State of Our Education Pipeline 2023” report by Advance Illinois underscores the challenges in Illinois’ education system and the urgent need to address the teacher shortage comprehensively. While recruiting more teachers is important, addressing teacher attrition, responsible for 90% of the demand, requires a deeper examination of root causes and strategies to retain high-quality educators.

Teachers often leave due to poor working conditions and inadequate support from school leaders. Competent school leaders can create a

positive work environment, vital for addressing the teacher shortage. Investing in capable school leaders is vital to addressing the teacher shortage and establishing the necessary conditions for retaining high-quality educators, while effective district leaders play a key role in empowering principals.

Extensive research pinpoints four critical skills of effective school leaders: interpersonal skills fostering a positive school climate, instructional skills prioritizing teacher support, collaboration skills promoting teamwork and professional growth, and organizational skills for efficient management. Diverse leader-

ship has benefits, including increased teacher diversity and better outcomes for students of color.

We urge the Illinois State Board of Education to prioritize:

- Funding the Aspire Fellowship program to support leadership candidates and recruit educators of color.
- Supporting another cohort of the New Principal Recruitment grant for Arab, Indian, and Asian educators of color and under-resourced districts lacking staff with Principal Endorsements.
- Restoring state funding for New Principal Mentoring.
- Maintaining state funding for New Superintendent Men-

toring.

Allocating district capacity-building grants to assist districts in implementing programs centered on the school leadership pipeline.

Illinois must make a significant commitment to establishing a statewide system for preparing and developing effective leaders, crucial for retaining high-quality teachers who can meet students’ learning needs and drive organizational and instructional improvements.

Erika Hunt is director, lead hub; and Lisa Hood is research and evaluation director, lead hub, at Regional Office of Education #17 in Bloomington

## 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.*

CPL. Paul Logan Dornblaser

6th U.S.M.C. Regiment, 2nd Division

WWI Fact: WWI introduced the widespread use of the machine gun, a weapon Hiram Maxim patented in the U.S. in 1884. The Maxim weighed about 100 pounds and was water cooled. It could fire about 450-600 rounds per minute. Most machine guns used in WWI were based on the Maxim design.

Today, over one hundred years after his passing, one of the athletic fields (once



the main football stadium) at the University of Montana is named Paul Dornblaser Field in honor of the heroic sacrifice of one of the university’s star football players of that era.

Born on Aug. 26, 1887 to Thomas and Anna Dornblaser in Topeka, Ks., Paul spent a good portion of his youth in Dixon where his father was a minister at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. He was the youngest of four children, and was an exceptional athlete during his years in Dixon. He was known then as “Mug” Dornblaser, and had many boyhood friends.

By age 22, Paul was a hired hand on a farm near Missoula, Montana where he was attending college.



It is likely that he registered for the first scheduled military call up on June 5, 1917, just weeks after the United States declared war on Germany. On June 27 of that same year Paul traveled to Mare Island, California where he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. During the next year, he would receive training at marine corps bases in Galveston, Texas and Quantico, Virginia before leaving for Europe on June 8, 1918 with the 6th Marine Corps Regiment, 2nd Division.

After arriving in France, Corporal Dornblaser’s unit participated in the St. Mihiel offensive from Sept. 12 – 16. This was the first American led offensive in World War I, com-

manded entirely by General Pershing. Although the army would do most of this operation, the marines played a significant role as they were selected to drive back German outposts in front of American troops. During this offensive, the marines suffered 132 killed in action and 574 wounded.

On Oct. 3, CPL. Dornblaser’s regiment was ordered to attack the German position at Mont Blanc Ridge. During this attack, they confronted a machine gun nest called the “essen hook”, which they captured and turned over to French forces. On Oct. 8, the 6th regiment was given the task of capturing the town of Etienne. Although they succeeded in taking

this village, the unit had suffered 494 killed, and 1,864 wounded. One of those wounded was CPL. Paul Dornblaser, who managed to hold out for two days before succumbing to his wounds.

Years later Thomas Dornblaser, Paul’s father, wrote an autobiography in which he described his son’s bravery at being over the top (out of the trench) twice one day without receiving injury:

When relief came on duty, the officers, citing their inexperience, asked, “Is there any man here who can guide us and show us where the enemy’s machine gun nests are?”

See **Dornblaser** page A4

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AMBOY MINUTE

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## Iowa State University announces fall semester 2023 Dean's List

## Dixon

Nicholas Dean Engle, 4, Accounting  
Madaline Jacobs, 4, Elementary Education  
Justin Micah Reed, 4, Industrial Engineering  
Marcus E. Williams, 2, Communication Studies

## Sublette

Ashley Renee Althaus, 4, Agricultural Systems  
Technology



## AHS Music Dept. receives gift

**Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, left, presents a check for \$3,500 to Travis Kemmerer of the Amboy High School Music Department. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$48,000 to local organizations this year. Tonia Greenfield/Amboy News**



## Depot Days gives to Central

**Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, left, presents a check for \$1,000 to Emily Goff of the Amboy Central School Library. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than \$48,000 to local organizations this year. Tonia Greenfield/Amboy News**

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## ACO/AHS blood drive receives nice turnout

**AMBOY** — Despite the icy roads and cold temperatures, there was a very nice turnout for the Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday Jan. 23, 2024. The annual Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by the Amboy Civic Organization and Amboy High School was full of warmth... thanks to the hospitality, cookies and sandwiches from the ACO members, the welcoming spirit of the Amboy High School National Honor Society members, and the generosity of the blood donors.

Several donors reached milestones this year. Kelly Foster reached the one gallon mark for her donations and Kiera Karlson was a first time donor.

Totally the drive donated 38 units of blood. This is a wonderful gift to give

There are so many people to thank for making this happen.

... Madeline Harvey and the Amboy High School student council, especially Elizabeth Clarida, Micah Miller, Madison O'Malley, Peyton Payne, Kiera Karlson, Haleigh Stenzel, Brysen Full, Brittlyn Whitman and Kaitlyn Dempsey for helping with registration

Scudder, Judy Brinkmeier, Maureen Oester and Christine Noble for the hospitality they showed at the Canteen. Kathleen Adams, Colleen Robinson, Donna Wellman and Peggy Scudder for making cookies. Jane Lovgren, Chris Noble, Maureen Oester and Georgiana Grossman for making sandwiches.

... The First National Bank in Amboy  
and the Shell Gas Station for advertising on  
their marquees

...The Amboy News for publishing articles advertising the blood drive

...The City of Amboy and the Amboy Community Building staff, for the use of their beautiful building

Jeramey Wittenauer and the mainte-

Jeramney Wittenhafer and the maintenance department for setting up and taking down chairs and tables and for shoveling the snow.

... The churches of Amboy for putting a plea out to their congregations

... The Red Cross for all their help. Cora and her crew of three others did an excellent job of keeping on schedule and making everyone feel comfortable and appreciated.

... But most of all the very generous blood donors of our community who braved the cold and ice to come out to donate blood

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## LOCAL NEWS

## 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 24/7 days 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 Thank you

We had a number of kids and volunteers venture out into the cold last night to come to the dance. We were blessed with an anonymous donation again, that allowed the kids to get in free last night. They spent the extra money on glow sticks. We are proud of those who participated in the lip sync contest. Takes a lot of courage to perform in front of people. It started with a crazy duet by Mrs. Piper and Pam and ended with Mr. Piper getting everybody to sing. We played limbo (congrats to Grace, Zoey, and Jaxon for winning) and a number of kids danced. Congratulations to Jaxon who gets the right number of beads and won a huge candy bar. Congratulations to Able, McKenna, Amelia and Kylee for winning the lip sync contest. All the kids did amazing. Thank you to the following chaperones we can't do it without you: Shannon, Laura, Patricia, Brian, Christine, Trisha, Wayne, Mark, Will, Larry, Maddy, and Sid. Special thanks to our SVCC Impact Program students Adriel and Gavin for volunteering.

## 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 next week, Tuesday, Feb. 6 at noon and ends Thursday, Feb. 8 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.

## Mardis Gras/Valentine's Dance

We will be having another double-themed dance on Friday, Feb. 9 from 7-9 p.m. Cost to get in is \$5 and there will be a balloon drop, games, food, and fun. Chaperones are always welcome and your child/children get in free.

## Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Anderson family for the T.V. and candy; First National Bank of Amboy for the monetary donation from Jeans Day; John and Lisa Bickett for the snacks; Todd and Julie Morgan for the blender; Clara and Goodfellows of Lee county for the games and books; Kelsey for the Wings of Fire books; Mark and Veronica Grossman for the snacks and food; Margaret and Jerry Shaw for the Teddy Bears; Andy and Gina McCoy for the snacks and clothes; Janet and Lou Payne for the clothes; Joe Vivian Family for the cookies and paper goods.

## Needs

Nuts, Torque Bolts, and screws.

## Final Note

Father, thank you that we are never alone, your presence calms the troubled sea of our lives and speaks peace to our soul. Your word says that our faith will never be put to shame when our trust is in you. Hear our prayer as we ask for comfort in dealing with the loss of loved ones. Help us to find strength and peace in your presence. Restore joy to our souls. Lord, bless us and keep us, make your face shine upon us. Turn your face towards us and give us peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Blood drive returns to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Every 56 days American Red Cross arrives at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Sublette to host a blood drive.

The 56<sup>th</sup> day this time around is from 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13.

With blood shortages being brought to the attention of the entire

United States of America, Our Lady of Perpetual Help is making the blood donations easy and sweet as pie.

Check out redcross-blood.org to find the Our Lady of Perpetual Help blood drive to set up a scheduled arrival time. Walk-ins are appreciated as well.

## 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](http://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.

**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.

**HARMON**- A spaghetti dinner will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Harmon United Methodist Church, located at 202 N. Grove St. The menu will include spaghetti, salad, desserts, and drinks. A free-will offering will be accepted. Donations will fund new siding for the church.

**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](http://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 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.

## Dinges makes Monmouth College Dean's List

**MONMOUTH** — Olivia Dinges, a physical education major from Amboy, has made the Dean's List at Monmouth College for the Fall 2023 semester. Parent info: Dan and Shauna Dinges of Amboy.

Founded in 1853 and affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Monmouth College provides a transformative educational experience within a caring community of learners. A residential liberal arts college that is the birthplace of the women's fraternity movement, Monmouth College empowers students to realize their full potential, live meaningful lives, pursue successful careers, and shape their communities and the world through service and leadership.



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**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.

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**NOTICE OF VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING**

Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that beginning THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024, VOTE BY MAIL and EARLY VOTING will be conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse, 112 E. Second St., Dixon.

**VOTE BY MAIL~** signed applications will be accepted through Thursday, March 14, 2024, and are available for properly registered Lee County voters. Applications are available on the website or by contacting the Election Department of her office.

**EARLY VOTING~** must be conducted in person Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Lee County Courthouse will be closed February 12, 2024 and February 19, 2024.

The votes cast during this time will not be counted until the polls close on Election Day. Once a ballot has been cast it cannot be rescinded.

**Website:** [www.leecountyil.com](http://www.leecountyil.com)  
**Email:** [election@countyoflee.org](mailto:election@countyoflee.org) **Phone:** 815-288-3309

*Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder*



## Hearts are Wild Casino Night

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All proceeds benefit St. Patrick's Save Our Steeples



# LOCAL NEWS

## Bill payment assistance grants available for Nicor Gas customers with past-due account balances

### Applications now open for Nicor Gas' Shield of Caring Program

**NAPERVILLE** – Income-eligible Nicor Gas residential customers can apply for a grant of up to \$250 a year through the Shield of Caring program, administered by The Salvation Army. Shield of Caring is an emergency assistance and homelessness prevention program that provides individuals and families in Nicor Gas' service area with natural gas bill payment assistance and support for other basic needs, including housing and rental assistance, grocery packages and warm winter clothing items.

Nicor Gas founded the program in 2021 with the support of The Salvation Army through an initial \$5 million contribution to help those impacted by the global health and financial crises. The company announced an additional \$5 million commitment to expand the program in 2022. Since that time, more than 14,500 Nicor Gas customers have been the recipient of a Shield of Caring grant and 28,000 have received basic needs support, including warm winter coats, food boxes and emergency disaster services.

"Our partnership with The Salvation Army began in 1983, and from the beginning we shared a mutual interest of doing the most good in the communities we serve," said Meena Beyers, vice president of Business and Community Development at Nicor Gas. "We know that the past few years have been a challenging time for our customers and the communities we serve. We remain committed to helping our neighbors receive the relief and assistance they need during

these cold winter months, while keeping their homes warm all season long."

Residential customers with a household gross income in the last 30 days below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level can apply at [www.shieldofcaring.com](http://www.shieldofcaring.com). If a customer is eligible to receive financial assistance grants from other programs, such as the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, they should apply for a grant from these programs first to maximize their benefits. LIHEAP is a federally funded bill payment assistance program that helps low- and fixed-income families meet their energy needs. For eligibility and to apply, visit [www.LIHEAPIllinois.com](http://www.LIHEAPIllinois.com) or call 877-411-9276 (WARM).

In addition to Shield of Caring and LIHEAP, Nicor Gas currently offers additional resources to help customers pay and manage their natural gas bill and save on energy costs:

**Sharing Program** – One-time annual grants of up to \$500 are given, with no requirement to be paid back, to qualified residential customers who meet the required income guidelines. Seniors and veterans approved for the program are provided an additional \$150 grant. These funds are administered by The Salvation Army and are funded through direct contributions from Nicor Gas' customers and employees.

**Energy Aide Program** – Provides qualifying households with a grant of up to \$350 toward their past due balance and does not need to be paid back. Residential customers must be

at or below 350% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

**Payment arrangements** – Provides eligible customers with more time to pay past-due balances and brings their account current to avoid possible service disconnections. Customers can check their eligibility for a payment arrangement by visiting [nicorgas.com/myaccount](http://nicorgas.com/myaccount).

**Budget Plan** – Helps customers with current accounts avoid unpredictable bills from month to month by evening out the seasonal highs and lows of their bills through a monthly budgeted amount. Owed monthly amounts may be adjusted every four months to ensure that payments are in line with actual usage and the price of gas. Customers can check their eligibility for the Budget Plan by visiting [nicorgas.com/budgetplan](http://nicorgas.com/budgetplan).

**Energy Efficiency Program** – Provides free home assessments, energy-saving products and incentives to help you save money and energy. Eligible income-qualified households may receive additional free services and equipment upgrades. Customers can call 877.866.4239 or visit [nicorgas.com/saveathome](http://nicorgas.com/saveathome).

**Community Connection Center (C3)** – Helps customers navigate all the above options, as well as basic needs resources. Customers can contact the C3 team at [nicorgas.com/CCC](http://nicorgas.com/CCC) or self-serve online and answer anonymous questions to get recommendations by visiting the Community Assistance Navigator tool.

To learn more about bill payment assistance programs, visit [nicorgas.com/energyassistance](http://nicorgas.com/energyassistance).

## Kish announces Celebration of Black History Month events

Step into a canvas of vibrant expressions as Kishwaukee College transforms its Student Center into a gallery of inspiration this Black History Month. Beginning Thursday, Feb. 1, Kish will proudly showcase Black artists whose brushstrokes tell stories of resilience, culture, and triumph.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13** — Paint and Create — 2:45-4:45 pm in the Intercultural Center, C1132 — Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club

**Monday, Feb. 19** — Vision Boards — 11 am-1 pm in the Intercultural Center, C1132 — Sponsored by TRIO Student Support Services

**Tuesday, Feb. 20** — Create a Collage — 11 am-1 pm in the Student Lounge, C1130 — Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club

**Wednesday, Feb. 21** — Genre of Black-Influenced Music — 10 am-1 pm in the Student Lounge, C1130 — Sponsored by Student Involvement

**Thursday, Feb. 29** — Black Cinema Night — 2-5 pm in the Student Lounge, C1130 — Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club

## Dornblaser from page A1

The Captain of Dornblaser's company described what happened next:

"Your son Paul volunteered to point out to them the enemy's position. While doing so he was mortally wounded; he was literally riddled with machine gun bullets. He lived about twenty-four hours after he was wounded. There was no hope of saving his life"

Corporal Paul Logan Dornblaser died a hero during the Meuse-Argonne offensive one month before the guns of that horrific war were silenced on Nov. 11, 1918. He is buried at the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France,

Plot D, Row 40, Grave 23. He was awarded two Silver Stars for his gallantry at Mont Blanc and Etienne.

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](mailto:demps60@gmail.com) so that those soldiers may be honored and remembered.

Sources  
United States Census, Lee County, Illinois, 1900  
Find-A-Grave Memorial

American Soldiers in World War I

Marine Corps History Division, Reference Branch, 2017

Dixon Evening Telegraph, Nov. 27, 1918.

## Stenzel continued from page A1

"The feedback I've received since it was known I was going to be mayor has been very good. Everyone I have spoken to has been very positive about the situation. When you've been around as long as I have and was active with the fire department for 40 years, people know you. I'm approachable, I think."

When Schamberger first brought his resignation to Stenzel's attention, Stenzel took a month to think about becoming mayor.

After thoughts and conversations with his wife and family, Stenzel was excited to take the role to continue on the path he was already part of.

"I want to carry on a lot of things we had going. Police is a big issue in town. We didn't have a lot of full-time police officers," Stenzel said. "I have two people who were part-time and they will now be full-time officers. That's a big thing for me. We've all been working toward hiring more full-time staff."

"The streets are also a big concern and I think we've been working at those pretty well. I'm all in favor of economic development, but I think we need to keep at a steady pace. We would love to use the buildings we already have standing."

In the spring of 2024, Amboy will receive a \$1 million federal grant to repair and update the city's water lead lines. Stenzel and the city are also working on a Safeways grant which will construct

sidewalks to and from the junior high addition on the high school, which happened two years ago.

Also, Schamberger is still going to oversee a splash pad and park development on the property of the old junior high, which was recently bought by the City of Amboy for \$1 after the junior high was demolished.

Barring any unforeseen changes, Stenzel will be the mayor until the next general election in spring 2025.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

**St. Patrick Church**  
Fr. John Gow  
32 N Jones, Amboy  
815-857-2315 • [www.stpatrickamboy.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

**East Grove Union Church**  
449 Reuter Road,  
Amboy, IL  
Phone 815-440-5321  
½ 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](http://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.

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Home  
815-857-2611

Vaessen Brothers  
Chevrolet  
815-849-5232

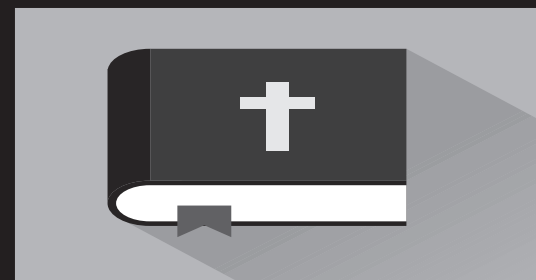
KSB Medical Center  
815-857-3044

The Amboy News  
815-857-2311





# SOCIAL NEWS



## THE PASTOR'S PEN

### When Forgetting is a Good Thing

By Pastor Rick Wulf,  
The East Grove Union Church  
of Rural Amboy

Hello, Friends,  
Happy New Year, again. We've made into the new year, and what a greeting we've received. Now, I know for those of you who still like to play in it and have to work with it, you are probably very happy for the snow. For the rest of us, we're enduring it and hoping for an early Spring. I've heard it said, "You don't like the weather?" "Wait a while, it will change." I guess that they are right. Lol.  
It's also been said, with the New Year comes new opportunities. New opportunities that may be good or bad. It all depends upon how you view them and how you react to them. As we all know, life can be and is challenging. If you have followed my posts, my life has been challenging and continues to be and will continue to be, I am sure, until the Lord calls me home to Heaven our He comes back for the Church in the Rapture. This is our walk of faith that He calls us to take, when we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. Is it hard? Yes, it is. In fact, it is impossible! We can't do it on our own. We have to be living in full reliance upon God the Holy Spirit to live through us.

A favorite passage of many in the new year is found in the Apostle Paul's writing to the Philippian Church in Philippians 3:13,14, where he wrote, "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Now for the Apostle Paul to write this, I believe took quite a lot of faith and courage, because this "forgetfulness" was a two-sided action. He had to forget the past, both the good and the bad. As Saul of Tarsus, even though he had thought of himself as a committed, religious man, he did some pretty bad things, even at the time that he did these acts, he sincerely thought that he was right. God pretty quickly showed him how sincerely wrong he was. If you are not familiar with the account of Saul of Tarsus, you can find his account in Acts 9:1,2. He had done some pretty bad things, all in the name of "religion." When Saul experienced this call from God and received God's forgiveness for what he had done, his life was revolutionized. He became a new man. I am very sure that he was glad to forget those ugly things of his past life. In fact, he also wrote to the Corinthians

in his second letter to them, these words, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here." (2 Corinthians 5:17). He had the assurance from God that those ugly things from his past were completely erased from his record. He believed what is written in Psalm 103:11,12, "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." The Psalmist believed, when he was trusting in God, that God would "forget about," well, at least not hold his past confessed sins against him. This gave him the sense of freedom to live freely from the fear of being held captive by his past sins. These promises give us hope as well when we are trusting in God as well.  
As Paul lived out this new faith in God and grew in that faith experience, he used what he had learned from God and shared with us in 2 Corinthians 5:17 this great truth: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here." Having a relationship of faith in Jesus and living in obedience to His commands, we can live this life with confidence that our sins are forgiven, and we are a new person before

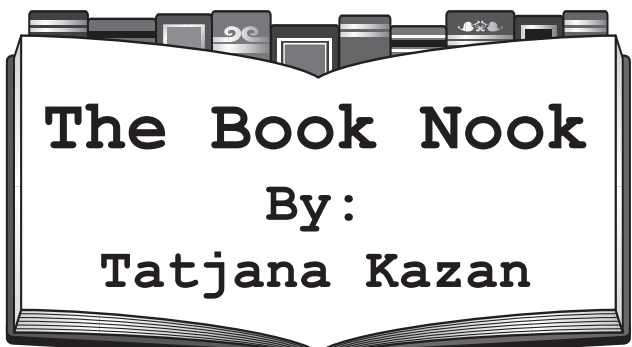
Christ. Our ugly past has been washed away through His blood that He shed on Calvary's cross. How was he able to do this? It's no secret, he tells us clearly and openly in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Paul was able to live this new life in Christ because he identified with Christ. He knew that Christ died on the cross for him to pay the price for his sins. That is why he considered himself, in his old nature, as crucified with Christ. That old nature was dead to him. He wanted to no longer live that way any.  
The other side of the proverbial coin that I believe that Paul had to forget about was all of the great things that he was able to do for God. He had to do this so that he was not tempted to look back on past successes but was always looking forward to what God wanted to do next in and through him. For you and I both, we need to be looking for what God wants to do in and through and for us, for His honor and glory and for the good of others and for our own good! May He receive all the honor and glory.  
May God continue to bless and sustain you.

## Casino Night to help "Save Our Steeple"

BRANDON LaCHANCE  
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Over the last year Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Amboy has held many fundraising events in part of its "Save Our Steeple" project as the church's roof was in bad shape. Through the fundraisers, donations, and generosity of the community and those who once were in Amboy, have moved on, but still support their home turf, St. Patrick's was able to raise the \$309,000 needed for the main roof of the church and it has already been replaced.  
Now, the parish is holding fundraisers such as a Casino Night from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17 at the Amboy Community Center to raise \$90,000 needed for the roofs of the steeples.  
"We have a lot of things going. There will be something for everyone. If people want to play Poker, they can," said Carol Prunty, the

parish's bookkeeper who added 23 percent of the \$90,000 has been collected. "If someone wants to come and eat dinner after 4 p.m. but before 6 p.m., they can come to the food truck. We have many options for our Casino Night." The two food trucks serving food two hours before the event and during the Casino Night are Deebo's Food Truck and Farmer's Smoked BBQ.  
Once the doors open at 6 p.m., Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, and Poker tables will be ready. There will not be cash exchanged as monetary value will be in tickets.  
Fundraiser attendees will pay \$30 at the door to participate and will be given \$50 worth of chips to play. The winnings will be dispersed in prize tickets. There will be a prize for the top winner and door prizes as well.  
Other activities during the Casino Night are a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction, and a dessert bar.



### The Stillwater Girls

Minka Kent's "The Stillwater Girls" is a fairly conventional psychological thriller until it delivers a plot twist so implausible no suspension of disbelief by the reader can rescue its storyline. The novel has two narrators, Wren, a 20-year-old girl (treated by everyone as a 14-year-old) and Nicolette, the beautiful, rich wife of impossibly handsome Brant Gideon. The connection between Wren and Nicolette remains obscure until the improbable plot twist in the second half of the book. Until then, both live in the Stillwater Forest in upstate New York and both are in grave danger.  
Wren's story begins with a lament: "Sixty-three days – that's how long Mama's been gone." Wren lives with her 18-year-old sister Sage in a primitive cabin in the forest. In their entire lives, they have never gone beyond the perimeter of the cabin or met an outsider. When their younger sister

Evie becomes ill, their mother takes the girl to town. (It's odd that in nearly twenty years no one has ever come upon the cabin when there is a town near enough the mother and her sick daughter can walk to.) The girls patiently wait for their return: "It takes a lot of energy to smile when your fingers are icicles and your stomach gnaws away at your insides and your eyelids are so heavy you can't see straight."  
Nicolette's danger is the state of her fragile mind. Ten years ago her life was shattered when she had an emergency hysterectomy. She has never fully recovered. Now she is convinced Brant is having an affair: "Our marriage is a jagged gash, all the good parts – the parts we need to survive and the parts that make us who we are together – gushing from the wound, and there's no tourniquet in sight." They moved to upstate New York so that Brant can pursue in

peace his flourishing career as a photographer, often leaving Nicolette alone in a big empty house on the edge of the Stillwater Forest.  
Winter is coming and Wren knows their days are numbered. And then a knock on the door in the dead of night announces a new terror. Wren finds her gun, but "my fingertips barely graze the metal barrel when the lock on the door gives and it swings open, knocking into me,

and I lose my footing, toppling to the wooden floor, no gun in hand. A gust of winter wind fills our home, and Sage screams. There's a man in our house." He is a monster: "Harsh lines and deep, scarred circles fill his cheeks and forehead and run from the corners of his nose to the sides of his mouth." He does not harm the girls, but he does shoot their favorite goat. Wren knows they must escape.

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Publisher

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# Opinion

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

## Is it over?

Growing up I always had a book, comic book, newspaper, or magazine in my hand.

I read some of the South Beloit, Rockford, Sycamore, DeKalb, and Mendota education system's books before I saw them on the syllabus.

I read comics and drew my own before stuffing them in the pages to pass along to my friends.

My first job at 10-years old was delivering the DeKalb Daily Chronicle. Then I added the Chicago Tribune to my route to add funds in my piggy bank.

I bought an autographed Barry Bonds baseball. It was a fake autograph from Wal-Mart, but I had earned every penny, and I was happy I had the ball until it was thrown over my neighbor's fence by a kid my sister's aunt who used to babysit. I was grounded for two weeks for punching him in the face.

I bought my first pair of Jordans, any candy I wanted from White Hen and multiple scoops, not just one, at the ice cream shop. I went to the movie theater in downtown Sycamore to watch Lion King and the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers so many times I had all of the souvenir cups. Obviously, the White Power Ranger was my favorite.

Plus, I learned how to read the news, understand the news, and accept the importance of what I possessed every day.

It was life.  
I had all the sports standings.  
The movie schedule.  
Cartoons.

Photos of politicians I could draw on.  
Obviously, I grew up and the only writing on the newspaper I did was in the crossword, and I actually read the political, environmental, technology stories to know what was going on.

Over the years, I've had subscriptions to Game Informer, Sports Illustrated, TIME, the Chicago

### Column

By Brandon LaChance



Tribune, the New York Times, and the Southern Illinoisian.

When it came time to decide what I wanted to do for a career after I had already put two plates, a rod, and eight screws in my left ankle from a bone-headed decision, I thought the less physical and more brainy position would be a go-to.

Why not writing?

Why not see my name in the newspaper like all those I've been looking at for all those years?

So, I set on a path to become a writer myself. And since you're reading this, I guess it's worked out.

Along the journey through college, a few newspapers, a few magazines, a few blogs, a podcast, a few radio stations, I've seen changes.

Styles, what words can be written and what can't, presentation, and the list goes on, including circulation numbers.

Newspapers, magazines, and radio broadcasts thrived before the internet. Since the virtual, web boom in the early 2000s reader numbers have dipped almost every year and the comments about print being dead or newspapers not being needed became more vibrant.

Of course, I defend, and I'll continue because there is a need, especially in local communities where no one cares about rural Illinois except the people in the communities like myself, every member of The Amboy News and The Mendota Reporter, the readers, and the advertisers.

Then I read about Sports Illustrated laying off a large number of employees on the spot, and others in 90 days, as the publication of almost 70 years old is over; over as we know it as they plan to continue to have stories but written by AI (artificial intelligence).

This news had to have dampened the aura in every newsroom or broadcast station across the country.

And it should squash the spirits of anyone who enjoys journalism and great stories.

I mean, that's what we all want to do. That's why we become writers and that is what has fueled journalism from the beginning of time.

As readers we want to read something done by a professional who is educated to know how to accurately tell a story with the means, justifications, and the connections of the people behind each happening.

But now stories are going to be generated artificially by technology that doesn't feel, doesn't have connection, can't get behind a story or feel the emotion coming from the subject?

How does a young child grow attachment to reading and writing?

How does a young writer find determination or the desire to become an author or a byline when there won't be professional humans publishing creative work to inspire?

Journalism is my career, so it hits a little harder for someone like me.

But it should hit us all that we're relying more and more on technology to tell us how to live, and now, tell the stories of how we're living.

Established In 1854

## The Amboy News

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## SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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

## ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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Website **www.amboynews.com**

## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

### 100 Years Old Jan. 25, 1924

The new city well has been bored to a depth of something over 900 feet and is now yielding a good flow of water, but whether or not the amount is sufficient for the city's requirements has not been determined.

The schoolhouse in District 41, known as the Palmer School, located one mile west of Walton, was burned to the ground. Arrangements have been made to hold school in the basement of St. Mary's Church in Walton.

### 75 Years Old Jan. 27, 1949

Jack Brink assumed his duties as cashier of the First National Bank in Amboy. Jack returned to Amboy from New York City where he completed a semester of work toward his master degree in banking and finance at Columbia University.

### 50 Years Old Jan. 24, 1974

Otto Hecker caught a 45-pound mackerel while fishing in Louisiana. Jay Noble, butcher at Beggs' Certified Foods, filleted the mackerel and processed 150 pounds of lake trout, blue fish, red snapper, and red fish that Hecker and his party brought back with them.

### 25 Years Old Jan. 28, 1999

Amboy Postmaster Daniel Kelly Jr. will end a 13-year tenure at the Amboy Post Office in January, resigning to pursue interests in the private sector. With close to 21 years of postal service experience, Postmaster Kelly said, "I love my job and have met all it's challenges. It is now time to go on to new challenges."

At last week's Amboy City Council meeting, Don Lee and Daryl Siemstra of the Illinois Department of Transportation presented a plaque to Amboy Mayor Hank Gerdes recognizing him as IDOT's Contractor of the Year.

Brandon Noble, an eighth-grade student at Amboy Jr. High, won the school-level competition of the National Geography Bee and a chance to win \$25,000 college scholarship.

Peter O'Rorke was the second-place winner and Beth Jones placed third in the competition. The school level bee was made up of four rounds and included the entire eighth grade class. Noble took a written exam and is waiting for the results from the state coordinator.

Jon Zinke of Franklin Grove was acquitted by a Lee County jury of charges of home invasion, aggravated unlawful restraint, criminal trespass, and battery. If convicted, Zinke faced up to 30 years in prison. Letitia Young, 29, of Franklin Grove accused Zinke of forcing his way into her apartment on Oct. 1, 1998, and holding her at knife point for 12 hours. During the two-day trial, 11 witnesses were called to testify. After deliberating for only 35 minutes, the jury returned verdicts of not guilty on all charges.





# LOCAL NEWS

## Honor roll students named for second quarter at Amboy Junior High

**AMBOY** — Amboy Junior High School announces its second quarter Honor Roll.

### Eighth Grade Highest Honors

Addison Blaine, Hailey Cagle, Gianna Dempsey, Faith Fenwick, Abigail Fox, Henry Klein, Grady McLaughlin, and Tinley Whitney

### Seventh Grade Highest Honors

Mallory Bodmer, Tavarius Briar, Owen Dallam, Isabelle Klein, Scarlett Payne, Charlie Schoenholz, Norah Shearer, Cooper Welch, Parker Williams, and Parker Zimmerly

### Sixth Grade Highest Honors

Cooper Fox, Vanessa Gross, Mason Heath, Jaxon Hudson, Amelia Kant, Rylen Koch, Madison Lohmiller, Teagan Moore, Abel Mumm, Blake Mumm, Maxwell Patterson, Mason Payne, Madison Phillips, Kendyll Whitney, and Kylee Zellhofer

### Fifth Grade Highest Honors

Ali Althaus, Brison Fenwick, Kensley Helm, Greyson Henkel, Kaiya Kaleel, Alice Klein, Noah Lopez, Levi McLaughlin, Emersyn Miller, Gillian Schneider, Cozette Schoenholz

### Eighth Grade High Honors

Amylia Bump, Landon Carter, Madelyn Clarida, Ayla Costner, Karona Gall, Jason Hemmen, Ethan Lewis, Tyler Mahar, Gabrielle Miller, Ella Noble, Charlotte Patterson, Teagan Payne, Chase Rasmussen, Aden Spinelli, Abel Valdez, Sydney Wheelchel, Charles Wilson, Kaylee Zimmerman

### Seventh Grade High Honors

Mackenzie Alletto, Jacie Blaine, Laci Daniels, Erika Decker, Sophya Fonderoli, Joivvee Hirsch, Adelynn Kreiser, Camryn Noble, Sydney Noble,

Kinsley Pogue, Hannah Shoemaker, Natalie Skrzypa, Hannah Whitman, and Jaron Wittenauer

### Sixth Grade High Honors

Logan Albee, Payton Angermeier, Leah Bonnell, Tinley Helms, Shawn Hummel, Cylas Jackley, Annabelle Leffelman, Eli Lewis, Liam McBride, Jack McCoy, Amelia Nichols, Thomas Payne, Caidie Phelps, Nolan Scully, Kylie Vaupel, Alexis White, and Bailey Wittenauer

### Fifth Grade High Honors

Mackenna Alletto, Leah Bodmer, Robert Bowman, Alexzander Brown, Gunner Christoffersen, Michael Dallam, Abel Dempsey, Lilly Dolan, Averie Failor, Ethan Farster, Cam Florschuetz, Emerson Gross, Brandon Hanson, Julius Jones, Taylir McNinch, Emily Meyers, Reagan Miller, Eyan O'Malley, Makayla Phillips, Graze Zambrano, Myla Zambrano, Clayton Zimmerman

### Eighth Grade Honors

Owen Althaus, Channing Bellows, Bryden Boyer, Makayla Burt, Bryson Deery, Aubrey Gabbard, Kilah Helm, and Caylee Hummel

### Seventh Grade Honors

Amari Aune, Kodie Dempsey, Leah Dempsey, Owen Eisenberg, Ian Hassler, Delilah Horner, Mason Morris, Jasmine Rhodenbaugh, and Anthony Sus

### Sixth Grade Honors

Bricen Davis, Ryan Gascoigne, Enrique Lara Alonso, Pele Maxfield, Hunter Roberts, Dakota Terzo, and Jacob Wittenauer

### Fifth Grade Honors

Blake Atkinson, Thomas Keene, Jaiden Phelps, Taytum Senn, Zaelen Wilson

## Area students make the Fall 2023 Dean's list at St. Olaf College

**NORTHFIELD, Minn.**—The following local students made the Fall 2023 Dean's List at St. Olaf College. The Dean's List is a scholarly award for students who demonstrate academic excellence.

Located on 300 acres in Northfield, Minn., St. Olaf College is a residential liberal arts institution with an enrollment of more than 3,000 students offering over 85 undergraduate majors, concentrations,

and pre-professional tracks. 98 percent of recent graduates are employed, in graduate school, or engaged in full-time service work. St. Olaf is committed to meeting the demonstrated financial needs of every student with 98 percent of students receiving scholarships or grants.

St. Olaf is an Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)-affiliated college. The college's mission is to challenge

students to excel in the liberal arts, examine faith and values, and explore meaningful vocation in an inclusive, globally engaged community nourished by Lutheran tradition. St. Olaf students and faculty come from a wide range of religious traditions, including those who do not claim any faith tradition.

Visit [stolaf.edu](http://stolaf.edu).

Ashton

Sophia Stender, Steven and Jeannette Stender

## University of Dubuque Fall Semester 2023 Academic Dean's List

**DUBUQUE, Iowa** — The University of Dubuque congratulates the following students on being appointed to the Fall Semester 2023 Academic Dean's List.

Full-time students in good academic standing (registered for and having earned 12 or more letter grade credits for the term) who earn a term grade point average of 3.5 or above and who do not have any grades of Incomplete for the term are named to the Dean's List. Once grades have been submitted for any Incompletes,

the Office of Academic Affairs will review eligibility again for possible placement on the Dean's List for the given term.

### Dixon

Dominic Lozano

Ashley Wierman

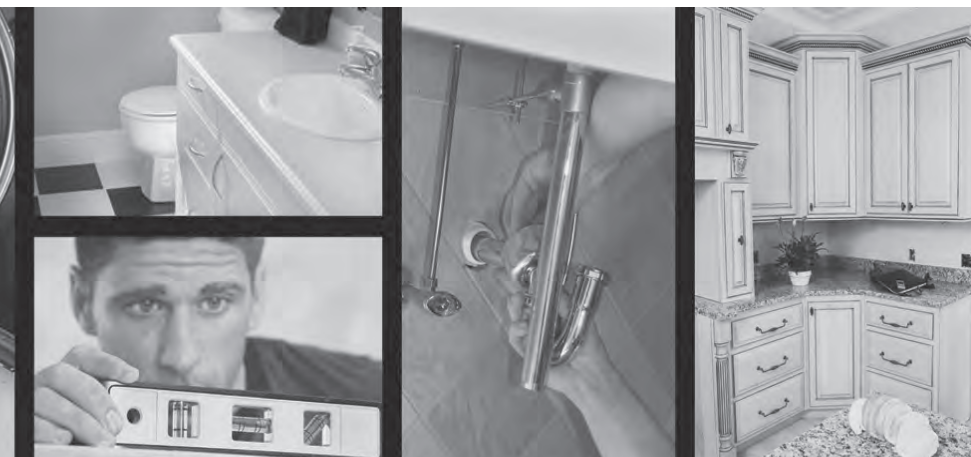
Dean's List is awarded for the fall and spring semesters only and may be awarded retroactively.

About the University of Dubuque

The University of Dubuque (UD) is a private, coed university founded in 1852 that offers undergraduate, graduate, and theologi-

cal seminary degrees as well as other educational opportunities with the intention of educating and forming the whole person. Here, the value of an education is measured in helping our students find their calling in life through academics, community, character, vocation, and stewardship. Our approach to learning is based on professional programs with a liberal arts core, and we prepare students to find their purpose and make meaningful contributions to the world. <https://www.dbq.edu/>

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

## 203 HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED**  
The City of Amboy will be accepting applications for a part-time seasonal mowing position. Applications may be picked up at the city hall. The deadline for turning in an application is 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 23, 2024.

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2023 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab LT, Lthr, 4x4, Z71, Long Box 6 1/2 ft, 41K Miles, Red.....\$44,900	2020 GMC Sierra 1500, SLT 4x4, Loaded, 42K Miles, Maroon.....\$41,900
2022 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4WD, Z71, 37K Miles, Blue.....\$45,900	2020 Chevy Equinox LT, AWD, 2.0 LTR., 63K Miles, Silver.....\$21,900
2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4, Diesel, Z71, 74K Miles, Black.....\$57,900	2020 Chevy Equinox FWD, LT, 64K Miles, Silver.....\$18,900

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2021 Chevy K-1500 Custom 4x4 4cyl Turbo, 90K Miles .....\$27,900	2017 Chevy Suburban 4x4 LTZ, Loaded, 61K Miles, Maroon .....\$36,900
2021 Chevy Equinox FWDLT, Sunroof, Navigation, 78K Miles, Black.....\$17,900	2017 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, Custom, 4x4, 97K Miles, White .....\$21,900
2020 Chevy Equinox AWD LT, Leather, 103K Miles, Black.....\$16,900	2014 Chevy 3500 LTZ 4x4 Z71, Diesel, 104K Miles, Red .....\$33,900
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National Institute on Retirement Security, 2016.





# LOCAL NEWS

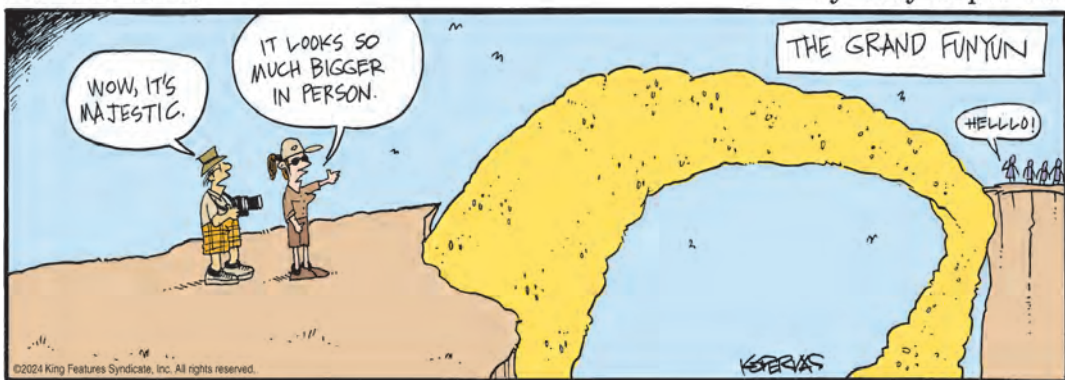
## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



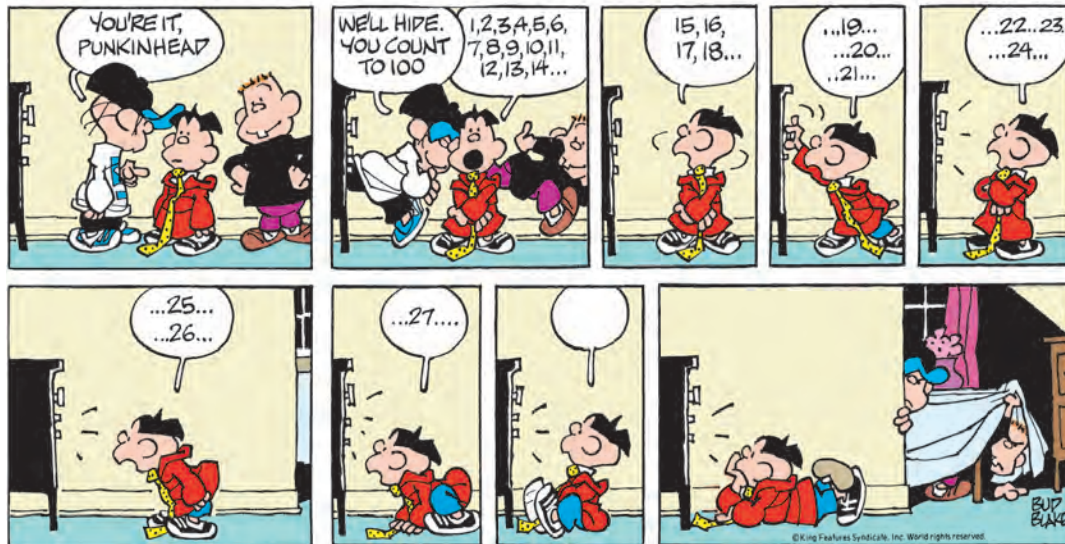
## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



## OLIVE



## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## 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: D equals I

DY U IBGBQUOHBIBO QUHBN U  
JMAEW SY KMJDSMN TOSQDNBN,  
ESMGK IWBZ JB TWSAB-Z  
EGUDQN?

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## SCRAMBLERS

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

Dear ZIPERD  
Kind WESET  
Easy PIMSEL  
Seize INKPAD

TODAY'S WORD



January 29, 2024 Posting Date

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 TV schedule abbr.
- 4 Rotate
- 8 Exerciser's target
- 12 Slithery fish
- 13 Layered cookie
- 14 Greek vowel
- 15 Selflessness
- 17 Seize
- 18 Chapeau
- 19 Slogan
- 21 Garden figurines
- 24 Use henna
- 25 Post-op area
- 26 Apply cream
- 28 College study
- 32 Close by
- 34 "Gee, ya think?"
- 36 Golfer's cry
- 37 Campfire leftovers
- 39 Clothing protector
- 41 Sandwich meat
- 42 "— been real"
- 44 By and large
- 46 Opposite of candor
- 50 Egg quaff
- 51 Bern's river
- 52 Halite
- 56 Egyptian deity
- 57 Shrek, for one
- 58 Half of CIV
- 59 Society newbies

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

- 60 French perfume brand
- 10 — impasse
- 35 "Tell —" (Streisand/Dion song)
- 11 Innocent one
- 16 Ewe's mate
- 20 Workout venue
- 21 Actress Gershon
- 22 Mark Harmon TV series
- 23 Melancholy
- 27 Fella
- 29 "Atlas Shrugged" hero
- 30 Exam format
- 31 "Ratatouille" rat
- 33 Patty Hearst, for one
- 38 Fr. holy woman
- 40 Monopoly job selection
- 43 Seafood
- 45 Cyclades island
- 46 Stated
- 47 Lighten
- 48 Baby's bed
- 49 Boo-Boo's buddy
- 53 — -Magnon
- 54 Lucy of "Elementary"
- 55 Box office buys, slangily

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

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## WORD LADDERS

Can you go from SINGE to PUNCH in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

SINGE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PUNCH

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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a beaver's home called?
2. U.S. STATES: In which state would you find Crater Lake?
3. TELEVISION: Which animated cartoon character says, "What's up, Doc?"
4. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "The Exorcist"?
5. MATH: In Roman numerals, what is XVIII times V?
6. ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Which nation is home to Europe's largest glacier?
8. MOVIES: In which film does Doris Day sing "Que Sera, Sera"?
9. SCIENCE: What is anemophily?
10. MUSIC: Who sang the hit "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"?

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- 10. Cynidi Lauper.
- 9. Pollution by the wind.
- 8. "The Man Who Knew Too Much."
- 7. Iceland.
- 6. 33.
- 5. XC (90).
- 4. William Peter Blatty.
- 3. Bugs Bunny.
- 2. Oregon.
- 1. A lodge.

Answers

### SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

- 1. Prized 2. Sweet
- 3. Simple 4. Kidnap

WINCH, PINCH, PUNCH

SINGE, SINCE, WINCE

Answer

WORD LADDER

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Cryptoquip  
Answer  
If a telemarketer makes a bunch of dubious promises, could they be phone-y claims?

King Crossword  
Answers  
Solution time: 25 mins.



# SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS

## OSF Healthcare to open hospital in Peru

The hospital, located at 925 West St., is tentatively scheduled to open April 7, with emergency services and limited inpatient beds. Diagnostic imaging, laboratory, pharmacy, EKG and respiratory will be available to serve the patients in the ED and inpatient unit. Additional programs and services will become available later in a second phase. There are still many elements that will need to be finalized before officially opening. OSF is appreciative of the collaboration between many entities throughout the state of Illinois and within the Illinois Valley. "After much planning

and preparation, we are excited to open this new OSF campus," said August Querciagrossa, CEO of Western Region, OSF HealthCare. "All along, our goal has been to preserve and sustain access to high-quality, local health care for the residents of the Illinois Valley. Today is a significant milestone in the history of our Ministry."

In addition to the hospital, OSF HealthCare acquired the former Midtown Plaza complex, Midtown Clinic and Granville Clinic. These sites opened last July and included OSF PromptCare, OSF Medical Group – Primary Care locations, OSF

Occupational Health and OSF Rehabilitation. Other new primary care locations opened this month in Spring Valley and Oglesby, along with OSF Medical Group – Obstetrics & Gynecology in Peru. OSF HealthCare has hired more than 450 former employees, physicians and advanced medical providers of St. Margaret's Health to staff the hospital and other locations.

OSF HealthCare has a strong presence in the Illinois Valley, also serving residents of Mendota, Princeton, Ottawa, Marseilles and Streator with 24/7 emergency services,

primary and specialty care, prompt care, OSF OnCall Urgent Care and 24/7 digital urgent care, nurse triage and other types of care.

"OSF HealthCare has provided care to the Illinois Valley and surrounding communities for some time now," says Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. "We are excited to expand our partnership with these communities to provide a local source of health care with all the benefits of a nationally recognized system."

## OSF HealthCare expands primary care services in Ottawa with the addition of Dr. Vijay Sharma

OTTAWA – OSF HealthCare is excited to announce the addition of Dr. Vijay Sharma, MD, to its team of dedicated healthcare providers in Ottawa. Dr. Sharma will be available to see patients at the OSF Medical Group – Primary Care office located at 1614 East Norris Drive, Ottawa.

This expansion aims to enhance accessibility to primary care services

for the community. In addition to his presence in Ottawa, Dr. Sharma will continue to serve patients on Tuesdays at OSF Medical Group Primary Care – Center for Health in Streator.

Dr. Sharma is committed to providing comprehensive primary care services that prioritize patient well-being. He earned his medical

degree from the Windsor University School of Medicine and completed his residency at Southern Illinois University Decatur Program.

New and existing patients can schedule appointments with Dr. Sharma or a care team member by calling OSF Medical Group in Ottawa at 815-433-1010 or OSF Medical Group in Streator at 815-672-4587.

## Big wins for Lady Clippers

Milledgeville and Mendota were on the schedule for the Amboy girls basketball team for their last two games.

Instead of taking it easy against teams with lesser records, the Lady Clippers made sure they came to play and came away with wins of 31 and 32 points.

Against Milledgeville on Friday, Jan. 26, junior Addison Pertell led the way with 12 points to help Amboy win 47-16.

Pertell also had four rebounds and an assist, while juniors Tyrah Vaessen (seven rebounds, three assists) and Emily Sachs had seven points apiece, senior Meave Larson hauled in eight boards

and added six points, sophomore Jillian Anderson tallied six points, and senior Elly Jones recorded five points and five rebounds.

On Saturday, Jan. 27, Amboy defeated Mendota 51-19.

Three Lady Clippers scored in double digits as Jones had 14, Larson pitched in 12, and Vaessen added 11. Pertell had seven, Sachs scored three, and junior Kenley Wilson and sophomore Bella Yanos had two apiece.

Larson snagged a game-high eight rebounds, while Vaessen had six steals and six rebounds, Pertell dished eight assists, and Jones secured five steals.

## Kish to host home daycare provider workshop

Kishwaukee College will host Maggie Fern for a workshop on how to become a home daycare provider as part of Kish's Early Childhood Education (ECE) professional development series. The event is from 5:30-7 pm Thursday, Feb. 8, online via Zoom. The event is free and open to the public.

Fern is a Recruitment, Retention, Referral and Outreach Coordinator for 4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care of DeKalb. She has 10 years of experience in the Early Childhood Education field and works with


providers who want to start childcare businesses in their homes.

The workshop will focus on the beginning steps of how to open a family childcare business, the requirements, and how 4-C can assist in the process. Those interested in a career in ECE are encouraged to attend. The event is supported by the Illinois Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE).

To learn more or register for the event, visit [kish.edu/ecespeakers](http://kish.edu/ecespeakers). To learn more about ECE opportunities at Kish, visit [kish.edu/ece](http://kish.edu/ece).

CLIPPER KIDDIE


This Week's Student of the Week is:  
**Delaney Bulfer**



**Student's Favorites:**  
Favorite Color – Pink and Purple  
Favorite Animal – Cat  
Favorite Food – Watermelon Sour Patch  
Favorite Book – "What Could Darla Do?"  
Favorite Game – Monopoly  
Favorite Song – Fancy Like

CLIPPER KIDDIE

This Week's Student of the Week is:  
**Archie Montavon**



**Student's Favorites:**  
Favorite Color – Black  
Favorite Animal – Lion  
Favorite Food – Yogurt  
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## SPORTS

## Clippers getting in as many matches as possible before playoffs

The IHSA Class 1A Sandwich Regional begins for Amboy and the other 10 competing teams on Saturday, Feb. 3.

Before the Clippers see how far they can get in the postseason, they're stacking the duals and tournaments in preparation.

Amboy defeated Durand 39-6 on Wednesday, Jan. 24 at Durand, lost to Dixon 81-0 on Thursday, Jan. 25, and competed in the freshman and sophomore 2024 Oregon/KSB Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 27 where freshmen Caiden Heath (138 pounds) and Evan Flanagan (215) both won their brackets.

In Durand, sophomore Landon Blanton won by a 7-2 decision at 120, 126-pound sophomore Chase Montavon defeated Evie Anderson via pin fall in 1:13, and Heath pinned Mark Nevdal in 3:44.

Earning forfeit points were freshman Ty Florschuetz (106), freshman Chase Huggins (113), freshman Jose Lopez (144), and senior Lucas Blanton (175).

The Clippers ran into the Dukes and were not able to secure points. Lucas Blanton grappled valiantly at 175 pounds but lost via a 10-4 decision.

Amboy brought five wrestlers to the underclassmen tournament in Oregon and three of them earned a spot on the podium.



Freshman Caiden Heath, center, won the 138-pound bracket at the Oregon/KSB Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 27. Courtesy photo

Heath (19-8) won the 138-pound bracket by securing a 21-5 technical fall victory in the first round, a pin fall win in the quarterfinal in 1:55, a fall in 1:52 in the semifinal, and won the championship match by a 4-2 decision.

At 215 pounds, Flanagan (21-13) took home the



Evan Flanagan, a LaMoille freshman, won the 215-pound bracket at the Oregon/KSB Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 27 in the 215-pound bracket. Courtesy photo

bracket with a bye in the first round, a pinfall victory at 1:40 in the quarterfinal, a 1:15 pinfall in the semifinal, and a pin at 4:54 in the championship.

Florschuetz (17-14) finished fourth at 106, Chase Huggins competed at 113, and sophomore Landon Roath wrestled at 215.

## NIU Fall 2023 Graduation List features area students

**DEKALB** — Over 1,100 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in December. Included among the graduates were the following students from your area:

**Amboy**  
Noah Rodriguez-Chupp, Bachelor of Science, Geography  
**Ashton**  
Heather Winterland, Bachelor of Science in Educ, Physical Education  
**Compton**

Jameson Russie, Bachelor of General Studies, General Emphasis

**Dixon**  
Ethan LeSage, Bachelor of Science, Computer Science - Software Development

Hailey Manzano, Master of Science, Applied Human Development and Family Sciences

Zacharia Muhsin, Bachelor of Science, Accountancy

Kaylee Rhodes, Master of Science, Applied

Human Development and Family Sciences

Lani Rogers, Bachelor of Science in Educ, Physical Education

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through its main campus

in DeKalb, Illinois, and education centers for students and working professionals in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 courses of study while serving a diverse and international student body of about 19,000. The 17 NIU Huskie athletic teams compete in the Mid-American Conference at the highest NCAA Division I level. For more information, visit [www.niu.edu](http://www.niu.edu).

## Amboy hoops drop three

The Amboy boys basketball team lost three games from between January 24-29.

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, the Clippers fell to Polo 56-33. Senior Troy Anderson led AHS with 14 points and junior Quinn Leffelman added 10.

Amboy fell to Eastland 56-14 on Friday, Jan. 26 in Lanark. Junior Eddy Jones had a team high six points.

Monday, Jan. 29 saw Jones drip 13 points, and Anderson 11 but it wasn't enough against Oregon as Amboy fell 63-43.

## Tri-County Opportunities Council 2024 Scholarships

**ROCK FALLS** — At least 12 scholarships will be awarded by Tri-County Opportunities Council to income-eligible students residing in the agency's service area. The scholarships are worth up to \$1,250 and have been made available by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCEO) through its Community Services Block Grant funds.

To be eligible for the scholarship competition:

- The applicant must be a member of an income-eligible household.

- The applicants must attend an Illinois-accredited post-secondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2024.

- Applicants must be a resident of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark, or Whiteside County in Illinois.

- Students must be considered full-time

(minimum of 12 semester hours) to qualify for the full \$1,250 scholarship. Part-time students will be considered in the competition. However,

scholarship awards will be pro-rated if they are selected as a winner. The application deadline is March 15, 2024.

Further information

and application forms may be obtained by contacting the office at 800/323-5434, extension 710, or on the website at [www.tcochelps.org](http://www.tcochelps.org).

## Amboy Community Unit School District #272

## Monday, Feb. 5

AHS Boys Basketball (H)  
Milledgeville-6 pm  
AHS Scholastic Bowl @  
Eastland-4 pm

## Tuesday, Feb. 6

AHS Girls Basketball @  
Forreston-5:30 pm  
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball @  
Dixon Catholic-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm  
AJHS 8th Girls Basketball (H)  
Dixon Catholic-5 pm

## Wednesday, Feb. 7

AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm  
AHS Boys Basketball @ AFC-6 pm

## Thursday, Feb. 8

AHS Girls Basketball @  
Earlville-5:30 pm  
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball @  
Montmorency-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm  
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H)  
Montmorency-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

## Friday, Feb. 9

AHS Boys Basketball @  
Milledgeville-5:30 pm

## Saturday, Feb. 10

AHS Girls Basketball Regionals @  
TBA  
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball (H)  
Tournament-TBA

**Sunday & Wednesday Special:**  
1/4 Fried Chicken with coleslaw and French fries **\$9**

**Monday & Wednesday:**  
\$5 margaritas!

**DINNER FOR TWO**  
Saturday, Feb. 10th

**\$45 New York Steak**  
**Fajitas for Two**  
2 Classic Margaritas & Tres Leches Cake

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## PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Green Peppers



\$0.89/ea.

Cantaloupe



\$3.49/ea.

Idaho Potatoes

3 lb bag



\$2.49/ea.

Blueberries

6 oz pkg



\$2.99/ea.

Dole Chopped  
Salad Kit

9.1 to 13 oz



\$3.49/ea.

Little Potatoes

1.5 lb



\$2.89/ea.

Washington Cosmic  
Crisp Apples



\$1.19/lb.

Cauliflower



\$1.99/lb.

Dole Celery  
Sleeved



\$1.99/ea.

Panera Roasted  
Veggie Dip

11 oz



\$4.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$5.49/ea.

## HOT BUYS

U.S.D.A. Choice  
Rump Roast



\$4.99/lb.

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\$7.99/lb.

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81% Lean Ground  
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Gold'n Plump Whole  
Chicken



\$1.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$2.49/lb.

Lean Cuisine  
Entrees

5.25 to 12 oz



\$2.89/ea

Reg. Price \$3.69/ea.

Food Club Beans

15.5 oz

Select Variety



\$0.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$1.29/ea.

Lay's Chips

5 to 8 oz

Select Variety



2/\$7

Reg. Price \$4.79/ea.

Pepsi Products

24 pk cans



\$13.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$14.99/ea.

## WEEKLY SPECIALS

Lunchables

8.8 to 15.12 oz

Select Variety



\$2.89 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.39/ea.

Oscar Mayer Fully  
Cooked Bacon

2.5 to 3 oz



\$4.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.

Food Club Orange  
Juice

52 oz



\$3.89 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.39/ea.

Food Club Pudding

4 pk



\$1.19 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.49/ea.

Plugra Salted  
Butter

8 oz sticks



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.49 ea.

El Monterey Burritos  
or Chimichangas

32 oz



\$5.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$6.59 ea.

Heinz Tomato  
Ketchup

31 to 38 oz



\$4.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.

Classico Pasta  
Sauce

15 to 24 oz

Select Variet



\$3.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.19 ea.

Progresso Soup

18 to 19 oz

Select Variety



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.49 ea.

Bob's Red Mill  
Oats Bar

5 ct Assorted



\$5.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.89 ea.

Cabot Macaroni and  
Cheese

6.25 oz Assorted



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.89 ea.

Crav'n Popcorn

5 or 6.75 oz



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.79/ea.

Food Club Egg  
Noodles

12 oz



\$1.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.39/ea.

Hi-C

8 pk



\$1.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.49 ea.