

# Local PROGRESS



# 2024



Established In 1854

# The Anthony News

The Depot Museum

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 • Section B

# LOCAL PROGRESS



## Orzech Towing

Orzech Towing is celebrating its 1st anniversary as a repair shop for all automobiles, semi-trucks, and trailers and 24-hour towing service located at 301 N. Richmond St. in Sublette. Ethan Orzech, 30, from St. Charles and has lived in Compton for the last eight years, previously had a tow yard in Compton, which began in 2019. When Chris Leffelman was looking to sell Leffelman Auto Repair, Orzech felt the Sublette location would be a great way to expand his services. In his words, "Business has picked up since I've opened in Sublette and being along Rt. 52." Orzech towing has traveled as far as the Wisconsin border and Chicago suburbs.

301 N. Richmond St.,  
Sublette

815-849-5171

# ORZECH



## Auto Truck And Tow LLC

- 24/7 Light/Medium Duty Towing & Recovery
- Auto Truck Repair
- Emergency Roadside Assistance
- Jump Starts
- Fuel Delivery
- Flat Tire Changes
- Lock Out Service
- Secure Impound Yard



## Becker Detailing

There are two phrases you may hear from Becker Detailing specialists, when Becker Detailing is being discussed or you may say one of them when you pick up your vehicle, "Looking like new again," or "Looks better than the day I bought it." Becker Detailing, located at 204 N. Jefferson Ave. in Amboy, offers detailing and ceramic coating services and it sells detailing products and vehicle accessories such as truck bed coverings, running boards, and floor mats. Becker Detailing has been serving vehicles for six years. Call 815-823-7697 for detailing inquiries or check out beckerdetailingllc.com to see what the detailing company has to offer.

## Celebrating 6 Years!

The Little Details Matter



Detailing, Paint  
Correction, Ceramic Coating  
and More!  
WeatherTech DigitalFit Floor  
Liners/Cargo Liners

204 N. Jefferson Ave., Suite A, Amboy, IL  
815-823-7697

On Facebook and Instagram @BeckerDetailing  
beckerdetailingllc.com

Ask about or check out our car care accessories on our FB page!



## Vaessen Brothers – 98 years strong

VAESSEN Brothers Chevrolet, Inc. was started in 1926 by Paul and Ralph Vaessen as an auto repair shop. In 1933, the Vaessens obtained the franchise with Chevrolet. In 1953, the dealership expanded. While repairs were still being made at the first location, the new building (currently known as Rt. 52 Roadhouse) consisted of a showroom, office and a three-bay service station. By 1976, the dealership was ready for expansion again to where they are currently located. In 1977, Ralph Vaessen retired and his son, Neal joined the business.

When Paul retired, Neal and his wife, Donna, became full owners of the business. Their three sons, Greg (Fixed Operations Manager), Jeff (Parts Manager) and Nick (Sales Manager) have all joined the business. In 1998, the business underwent a remodel in the current building. Greg's daughter, Kourtney joined the business as the Internet Manager and is the first of the 4th generation to join the business. In the year of 2012, the dealership underwent a full remodel of their building and expanded

the showroom by adding a new-car delivery stall and two more sales offices. The remodel was fully finished in 2014.

Today the second, third and fourth generation all work together to help provide the customers with the best car buying experience in the area.

"We are a family owned and operated business providing the best in the area service department, a great parts department and wide selection of new Chevrolets and used vehicles."

This year, Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet, Inc. will be celebrating 97 years of business. Their most recent remodel in 2012 changed the front of the building and the inside from top to bottom. Come see how great their building looks for yourself.

In the sales department, they have sales consultants who have received the Mark of Excellence Award for their outstanding work, and in the service department they have ASE and GM Certified technicians.

They are family owned and operated—let them treat you like family too!

## New Owner, same community-based hangout

It wasn't a joking matter when Rachel Miller took over as the new owner of The Last Alarm from Barb Harrison on April 1, 2024, April Fool's Day.

The new owner laughs with her customers and has a good time with her business endeavor, but she doesn't giggle when it comes to giving back to the community or the behind-the-scenes duties which lead to the fun hangout offering events, entertainment and beverage specials.

"I've worked at The Last Alarm for 11 years. I originally took this job to get out of the house. When someone mentioned Barb wanted to retire, I couldn't imagine working for someone else because I knew I would be left to answer a lot of questions on how do this or how do we do that. I kind of went into it as I either buy the bar or I'm not doing it at all.

"It's business as usual. We will still have Queen of Hearts on Wednesdays. We have Trivia on Tuesdays. Both events have been great because you can drink or not drink and still enjoy yourself. And we're planning on utilizing our indoor and



patio space as much as possible with bands and entertainment.

"We have our everyday drink specials posted on our board inside the bar and on weekends we'll put a chalk board on the sidewalk showcasing what we have as well."

The Queen of Heart drawing has become a big event as the winning pot is split between the winner, a non-profit organization, and 10 percent goes back into the pot for the next drawing.

Teen Turf, the Amboy Lion's Club and the Amboy Fire Department have been beneficiary organizations of Queen of Hearts previously, while Buddy

Bags for the Lutheran Church will receive a donation from the current game.

Giving back to the community through Queen of Hearts was important to Harrison and is as equally important to Miller.

The new owner has already brought in a DJ and plans to schedule entertainment throughout the year.

Of course, customers can sit inside and enjoy the scenery, or they can listen to music while relaxing with a drink outside on the patio, which was created only three years ago.

For information about The Last Alarm, call 815-857-3483.

## VAESSEN BROTHERS & CHEVROLET – Celebrating 98 Years of Service!



"GREAT DEALS - GREAT SERVICE  
SINCE 1926"

**VAESSEN  
BROTHERS  
CHEVROLET, INC.**

HIGHWAY 52  
SUBLETTE, IL 61367  
800-227-5203



[WWW.VAESSENBROTHERS.COM](http://WWW.VAESSENBROTHERS.COM)

## Celebrating 20 years in business!



## Daily Drink Specials!



Like us on  
Facebook

43 S East Ave. • Amboy, IL  
815-857-3483

\*Owner Rachel Miller\*

# AMBOY PROGRESS

# 2024

# 1,019

Years of Continuous  
Service to the Community

## 170 Years The Amboy News

Since 1854  
PO Box 162 • Amboy  
www.amboynews.com  
(815) 857-2311

## 119 Years Kaleel's Clothing & Printing

Since 1908  
704 N. Galena Ave. • Dixon  
(815) 284-5833

## 114 Years

### Jones-Berry Lumber Co.

Since 1910  
1 S. Commercial • Amboy  
(815) 857-2525  
www.jonesberrylumber.com

## 98 Years Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet, Inc.

Since 1926  
Highway 52, Sublette, IL  
(815) 849-5202 (800)227-5203  
www.vaessenbrothers.com



## 84 Years First State Bank

Since 1940  
Mendota • West Brooklyn • LaMoille  
firststatebank.biz  
800.362.9623  
Member FDIC

## 57 Years Gerdes Truck Sales, Inc.

Since 1967  
128 S. Mason Ave., Amboy  
(815) 857-3722  
www.gerdessales.com

## 53 Years Woodhaven Lakes Realty

Since 1971  
509 LaMoille Rd.  
Sublette  
815-849-5476

## 53 Years Woodhaven Association

Since 1971  
509 LaMoille Rd., Sublette  
815-849-5209  
www.woodhavenassociation.com

## 52 Years Green River Oaks Camping Resort

Since 1972  
1442 Sleepy Hollow Rd. • Amboy  
(815) 857-2815  
www.greenriveroaks.com



# AMBOY PROGRESS

# 2024

# 1,019

Years of Continuous  
Service to the Community

## 52 Years

### Mihm-Jones Funeral Home

Since 1972

303 E. Main St. • Amboy  
(815) 857-2611 • [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com)

## 49 Years

### Sensient Flavors

Since 1975

25 E. Main St. • Amboy  
(815) 857-3691

## 38 Years

### Meusel's Dairy Delight

Since 1986

303 Mason Ave., Amboy



## 23 Years

Working and Living in Amboy. Helping  
you buy and sell all properties.

### River Country Properties

Since 2002

(815) 973-1197

[www.rivercountryproperties.net](http://www.rivercountryproperties.net)

## 20 Years

### The Last Alarm "Firehouse Pub"

Since 2004

43 S. East Ave. Amboy  
(815) 857-3483

## 8 Years

### Amboy Food & Liquor

Since 2016

242 E. Main Street, Amboy  
(815) 857-7020



## 8 Years

### Main Street Repair

Since 2016

205 W. Main St. • Sublette  
(815) 849-5225

## 8 Years

### Becker Autobody, Inc.

Since 2016

33 S. East Ave. • Amboy  
(815) 857-2632

## 7 Years

### Erbes Realty, LLC

Since 2017

1922 Tower Rd. • Sublette  
(815) 535-6293

Over 30 Years of Experience

## 6 Years

### Becker Detailing

Since 2018

204 N. Jefferson St. • Amboy  
(815) 823-7696  
[www.beckerdetailingllc.com](http://www.beckerdetailingllc.com)



# LOCAL PROGRESS

## Jones-Berry Lumber offers convenience of online shopping for their customers

**J**ONES-BERRY Lumber offers even more convenience for their customers with their website [www.jonesberrylumber.com](http://www.jonesberrylumber.com). This user-friendly website makes it easy to browse Jones-Berry's comprehensive catalog of hardware items and place orders from the comfort of home.

Shoppers now have instant online access to Jones-Berry's vast array of merchandise including hand tools, electrical, lawn and garden, power tools and accessories, plumbing, automotive, fasteners, heating and cooling, sporting goods, hunting, fishing and camping supplies, hardware, housewares, office and school supplies, paint and sundries.

Customers are invited to check out the website,



where they will also find details about the product lines Jones-Berry carries and a convenient link to e-mail questions or submit an order.

After more than 100 years serving Amboy and the surrounding area, the Jones-Berry Lumber Company is pleased offer this technology while staying true to their commitment of customer service, which has been their mission

right from the start.

The lumber company began with William Jones, a farmer and businessman born and raised in Bradford Township, who formed the lumber company in 1910. Jones was committed to "reasonable prices and honorable methods" a practice that is honored to this day.

Over the years construction products and techniques have changed

but the commitment to customer service remains the same at Jones-Berry. They offer personal, friendly, courteous and honorable service.

The skilled staff at Jones-Berry is on hand to provide a variety of special services. This in-

cludes custom building in the shop of storage sheds, decks, feed bunks, shade structures for livestock and recreational furniture. They can also repair windows, cut pipes, cut keys, sharpen chain saw blades and lawn mower blades. Free estimates are avail-

able for services.

Jones-Berry carries many popular brand names in hardware items, paint, tools, electrical and plumbing supplies. Names such as Andersen, Valspar, Cabot, Stanley, National, Cooper, Genova, Werner, Irwin, Rust Oleum, Mil-



[www.jonesberrylumber.com](http://www.jonesberrylumber.com)

**Jones-Berry Lumber Co.**  
Hardware and Building Materials

1 South Commercial • Amboy, IL 61310  
Phone (815)857-2525

**LUMBER** Western SPF 2x4 & 2x6, premium stud grade 2x4-8 and precuts. Douglas fir 2x8 through 2x12 for superior framing strength and integrity

**PLYWOOD** Southern pine sheathing, fir sanded, superply and oriented strand board (OSB)

**ROOFING** 3 tab and composition architectural shingles, modified bitumen, ice and water shield as well as roll roofing products

**INSULATION** faced and unfaced fiberglass, cellulose and blown fiberglass products, insulated sheathing

**TRUSS** Roof truss, floor truss, LVL, Laminated Beams, 1 joist to 60 feet

**CEMENT** Portland, Brickset, Premix Concrete products, Cement Block, Patio Block, Brick

**MILLWORK** Andersen & Hayfield windows & doors. Insulated doors, moulding, barn sash. EMCO doors.

**HARDWARE** Name brand builders hardware and painting including Valspar, Olympic, Sikkens, DAP, 3-M, Makita, Stanley, National, Leviton, Genova and more.

**— CUSTOM —**

- Decks - supplies or assembled units in a variety of sizes. Featuring #1 SYP, thick deck Ponderosa pine, Trex and Timber Tech
- Utility buildings from 4x8 to 10x20. Assembled and delivered ready to use.
- Repair: key cutting, chain saw sharpening, lawnmower blade sharpening, reglazing, rescreening, pipe threading
- Propane tank exchange and Airgas industrial gas exchange station

# SENSIENT® FLAVORS



Sensient Flavors and Extracts Group, a unit of Sensient Technologies Corporation, is one of the world's leading flavor and fragrance manufacturers.

25 E. Main St., Amboy, IL  
[www.sensient.com](http://www.sensient.com)

# LOCAL PROGRESS

## First State Bank is at the forefront of technology in a competitive financial world



First State Bank is located in West Brooklyn at 2514 Johnson St., West Brooklyn with a driveup ATM location, below, across the street.



First State Bank is celebrating over 80 years of community banking in the Mendota area. Founded in 1940, First State Bank has transformed over the last eight decades from a small single-location facility on Washington Street into a 19-branch strong \$1.5 billion financial institution with a presence from Champaign to St. Charles.

What hasn't changed, though, is our commitment to community banking offering the high-quality financial products like the big banks, but with the personal community banking touch you've come to depend on.

From high Interest FSB Premier checking to Treasury Management Services, we offer a full suite of business and personal banking options for every customer. Our digital banking solutions – including internet banking, our mobile app and FSBDirect – allow you to seamlessly conduct business 24/7, wherever you are. Mobile Pay allows you to add your FSB debit or credit card information to your mobile phone for contactless payments. Instant issue debit cards can replace your lost or stolen card in minutes. FSB Cards allows you to see every purchase made with your FSB debit card, create spending controls, turn your card on and off and more.

Zelle is a person to person payment platform. Zelle is a fast, safe and easy way to send money directly between almost any bank account in the U.S., typically within minutes. With just an email address or U.S. mobile phone number, you can send money to people you trust, regardless of where they bank. Quilo is our online personal loan officer that allows you to apply for a loan in minutes! It won't impact your credit score to apply and there are no fees, no penalties and payments you can afford. Check our website for more details on all our products.

As a federally insured institution, your deposits are covered by the FDIC's general deposit insurance guidelines. For additional coverage, check out our IntraFi deposit products, just ask for details.

First State Bank is committed to remain at the forefront of the technology necessary to be competitive in the financial industry, while maintaining our community banking roots. #comeseeyourfriends.

# Ready to SWITCH?



At First State Bank we combine comprehensive digital banking and financial products with customized personal attention.

## Switching to FSB is EASY - make the move with these simple steps!

**1** Open a new FSB account online, at one of our convenient branch locations or here!



**3** Download and use our mobile app with powerful card controls to manage all your financial transactions at your fingertips.



Available for iPhone and Android

**2** Switch your direct deposits and automatic payments to your new FSB account here!



firststatebank.biz | 800.362.9623



*First State Bank has transformed over the last eight decades from a small single-location facility on Washington Street into a 19-branch strong \$1.5 billion financial institution with a presence from Champaign to St. Charles.*