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First-ever statewide Smoke Alarm Blitz sees over 5,000 alarms distributed to 71 Illinois fire departments

1,678 residents in Illinois are now protected with new, working smoke alarms

SPRINGFIELD – The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal, Camp I Am Me by Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and the Illinois Community Risk Reduction Taskforce launched the first-ever statewide smoke alarm installation blitz the week of October 20th in conjunction with Fire Prevention Month.

“Data shows that nearly 59% of home fire deaths were caused by fires in properties with no working smoke alarms, almost three out of every five home fire deaths in the U.S. resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or non-working. These are scary statistics as fires burn hotter and faster due to synthetic construction materials in modern construction reducing escape times to less than 3 minutes,” said Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera. I encourage all departments across the state to engage with their residents and stress the importance of having working smoke alarms in their homes.”

“The Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm Installation Program continues to help keep Illinois residents safe as departments work hard to educate their residents on the importance of having a fire escape plan and how to prevent fires, while also installing lifesaving working smoke alarms in homes,” said Philip Zaleski Executive Director Camp I Am Me by Illinois Fire Safety Alliance. Since Be Alarmed! began in 2018, Illinois Fire Departments have installed 35,000 alarms across the state. This first-ever statewide blitz also saw 10 new departments join the Be Alarmed! Fire Alarm Installation Program. We are excited to see this program continue to grow while helping make Illinois a safer place for residents to live.”

“I am proud of the amazing efforts of the staff here at the Buffalo Grove Fire Department, who were also assisted by the Buffalo Grove CERT Volunteers, as they were able to install 600 smoke alarms in just one week during the blitz,” said Buffalo Grove Fire Chief Larry Kane. “Our firefighters are committed to helping protect our residents and educate them about the importance of not only having working smoke alarms, but developing a fire escape plan that includes all the needs of every family member and making sure they know two ways out of every room in their home.”

This new initiative saw 71 Illinois fire departments canvas their communities, educating their residents on the dangers of fire in the home and ensured there were working smoke alarms properly installed. The campaign was an extension of the Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm Installation program, a fire prevention program which distributes fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed

battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The fire departments then deliver the education while installing smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and the smoke alarms are provided to the fire departments at no cost as a result of funding from both Camp I Am Me and OSFM.

Blitz Data (Data listed below is what has been reported by participating departments as of 11/6/24):

- 71 – Participating fire departments
- 5,232 – Smoke alarms distributed to fire departments
- \$130,800 – Equipment value provided to fire departments
- 2,351 – Smoke alarms installed by fire departments
- 743 – Homes protected with new, working smoke alarms
- 1,678 – (989 high-risk) residents protected with new, working smoke alarms

The OSFM, Camp I Am Me and the State of Illinois CRR Taskforce are planning to hold a statewide smoke alarm blitz again October 19-25, 2025.

To learn more about the Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm Installation Program, visit <https://www.ifsa.org/prevention-resources/smoke-alarm/>

blitz at the Dinges Center as well as refreshments. The Grace Fellowship Church served free hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn. There was also face-painting at the church. Lighting of the community Christmas tree took place at 6 p.m. in the downtown area following the lighted Christmas parade. To add to the festive mood, there was caroling around the community tree.

Santa Claus greeted children at the McGraw Tax and More office. A band also played Christmas music in the building. Shuttle service was provided by Mendota Hills Campground to take visitors to the various locations.

The celebration drew a large crowd despite very cold weather.

Quinn Leffelman named Amboy High School’s December Student of the Month

AMBOY – Quinton Paul Leffelman, son of Terri and Jason Leffelman, has been named The First National Bank in Amboy Student of the Month for December.

GPA: 3.7

Memberships and Involvement: FFA, football, basketball, baseball, Student Council, National Honors Society, FFA Plot Manager

Awards and Honors: Inducted into the National Honors society, two-time football state champion, two-time football captain, two-time basketball captain, all-conference baseball player, all-conference football player, two time all-state honors in football, Code of Conduct Chapter Meetings state champion.



Amboy High School is holding a can drive; Bring donations to the school by Friday, Dec. 13

Sublette brings the Christmas cheer

SUBLETTE – The Village of Sublette ushered in the Christmas season with its annual “Christmas in the Village” celebration on Dec. 1.

The local shops, restaurants and stores were open to welcome visitors.

The festivities included crafters and vendors in the Ellice Dinges Center and the Sublette Community Building. There were also

dancers at the Dinges Center as well as refreshments. The Grace Fellowship Church served free hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn. There was also face-painting at the church. Lighting of the community Christmas tree took place at 6 p.m. in the downtown area following the lighted Christmas parade. To add to the festive mood, there was caroling around

the community tree. Santa Claus greeted children at the McGraw Tax and More office. A band also played Christmas music in the building. Shuttle service was provided by Mendota Hills Campground to take visitors to the various locations.

The celebration drew a large crowd despite very cold weather.

Illinois Supreme Court announces creation of Data Task Force

SPRINGFIELD – As part of continuing its mission to capture accurate and consistent court data from all 102 counties, the Illinois Supreme Court announced the creation of a Data Task Force (Task Force).

Data is crucial to state courts for effective case management, court performance, allocating resources efficiently, making informed decisions, understanding the communities the courts serve, and maintaining public trust through transparency and accountability.

The Task Force is charged with identifying court events relating to pretrial decisions and generating a set of those court events to be captured on each circuit or county’s order(s) entered in conjunction with pretrial hearings. After the court events are identified, and with support from the Administrative Office of Illinois

Courts (AOIC), the Task Force will work with individual circuits/counties to ensure their local orders are consistent with these requirements.

The Chair of the Task Force will be Fourth District Appellate Justice Eugene G. Doherty.

Members of the Task Force will include one chief judge and one circuit clerk representative from each of Illinois’ five Judicial Districts, as well as two trial court administrators and a university data specialist.

The Task Force is required to report back to the Supreme Court with its findings and recommendations on the first two charges by February 28, 2025. Thereafter, the Task Force is to give monthly status reports on its third charge, with the objective that such work will be substantially completed by June 30, 2025.

Friday, Dec. 13

Christmas in the Grove

Stop by The First National Bank in Amboy at our Franklin Grove Lobby, 108 N Elm St, 5-7 PM. We'll be serving up cream puffs, hot chocolate, and good cheer!

Saturday, Dec. 14

Amboy's Hometown Christmas

Visit The First National Bank in Amboy at our Amboy Lobby, 220 E Main St, 4-6 PM. Grab a hot chocolate with all the goodies from our hot chocolate bar! Kids can enjoy a craft ornament kit in our craft area.

Serving Up Cheer

The First National Bank in Amboy
Amboy - Dixon - Franklin Grove - Monroe Center
815-857-3625 - fnbamboy.com

LOCAL NEWS

Amboy High School Report

Janet Crownhart, Principal

Thank you to Bill Burke for funding students to attend the Illinois 8-Man Football Association State Championship on the fan bus and providing the snacks they devoured.

It was much appreciated by all students and the bus drivers for not having to stop on the way home from the game.

We are getting ready for final exams and encourage parents to get their students to school from now until final exams are finished. With final exams being worth 20% of a student's overall grade, we want to make sure they are well-prepared for those tests.

Students can earn a maximum of two exam exemptions this semester.

Thank you do Dunkin' as well. The Dunkin' cooperation donated gift cards to AHS for every student and staff member to get a \$5 gift card. We appreciate their support and the faculty enjoyed the donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate to kick off the week.

Country superstar Megan Moroney to perform at Illinois State Fair

SPRINGFIELD – Named by People Magazine as «Country's New Darling,» Megan Moroney is set to bring her emo cowgirl charm to the Illinois State Fair Grandstand on Saturday, August 10.

With nearly 2 billion total global streams to date, the Georgia-bred singer/songwriter kicked off the latest era of her formidable career with her critically acclaimed sophomore album *Am I Okay?*, a July 2024 release that debuted at No. 9 on the Billboard 200, emerged as the year's third-biggest debut from a female country artist, and won rave reviews from many of the music world's leading publications (including Rolling Stone, The New York Times, Variety, Billboard, American Songwriter, and more).

«The Illinois State Fair has a long tradition of showcasing artists early in their careers,» said Illinois Department of Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II. «We're looking forward to Megan Moroney's Grandstand appearance in August. She has a bright future in Country music.»

Am I Okay? features the post-breakup ballad «No Caller ID» — a track that shattered the record for the biggest Country female song debut in streams in the U.S. — and continues the meteoric rise first set in motion with «Tennessee Orange,» a 3X platinum #1 hit included on her 2023 blockbuster debut *Lucky*.

Soon after *Lucky*'s arrival, Moroney began amassing a steady stream of accolades, in-

cluding winning Breakthrough Female Video of the Year at the 2023 CMT Music Awards, MusicRow's Breakout Artist of the Year at the 2024 CountryBreakout Awards, and New Female Artist of the Year at the 59th ACM Awards (where she reigned as the most nominated female artist with six nods), in addition to racking up nominations from the CMA, iHeart, CMT Music, and Billboard Music Awards.

Now up for three categories — Female Vocalist of the Year, New Artist of the Year and Music Video of the Year («I'm Not Pretty») — at The 58th Annual CMA Awards (airing November 20), Moroney's highly anticipated headline *AMIOKAY? TOUR* launches in March 2025.

AMBOY CHRISTMAS WALK

DECEMBER 14TH, 2024 4-7PM

Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk



Trolley Stops

- Amboy Central School
- Amboy Fire Department
- Express Lane Shell
- Inspired Home Décor & Gifts
- Johnson Tractor
- Pankhurst Memorial Library
- Santa's Village
- St. Patrick's Church
- Teen Turf



Wagon Stops

Sponsored by Mendota Hills Campground

- Amboy Central School
- Amboy Fire Department
- Santa's Village

Amanda Hintz Photography

- Photos w/ Santa @ Santas Village (Depot Museum Parking Lot) 4-6PM

Amboy Central School

- Craft & Vendor Show 3-6PM
- Gingerbread House Contest
- Face Painting

Amboy Depot Museum

- Hot Spiced Cider
- Make your own ornament
- Mr. & Mrs. Lincoln
- Under the Mistletoe Kiss Cam

Amboy Family Restaurant

Amboy Fire Department

- Balloon Animals
- Ornament Decorating
- Face Painting
- Popcorn/Cocoa
- Olaf

Amboy Food and Liquor

- Food and Liquor tasting

The Cookie Jar

- Christmas Cookies
- Hot Cocoa Bombs
- Gift Baskets

Depot Tap

Emerald Beauty Bar

- Selling Christmas Gift Cards at Inspired Home Décor & Gifts

Express Lane Shell

- Cookies and Hot Chocolate

The First National Bank of Amboy

- Hot Chocolate Bar
- Take and Make Ornaments

Inspired Home Décor & Gifts

- Open House
- Holiday Sale
- Reindeer Food Mix
- Giveaways
- Emerald Beauty Bar

Johnson Tractor

- Vendor Show
- Folsom's Treats
- Photos with the Grinch by Enchanted Memory Photography
- «The Alamo» Food Truck

The Last Alarm

- Bows by Barb
- Holiday Drink Special

Long Branch

- Drink Specials

Main Flower Shop

Marias Pizza

- In-House Giveaway
- Hot Chocolate and Cookies

Pankhurst Memorial Library

- Giveaway Prizes
- Hot Cocoa

Revolution Wellness

- Holiday Drink Menu
- Protein Hot Chocolate

Santa's Village

- Photos w/Santa and Mrs Claus 4-6PM
- Starlight Dance Studio Performance 4-6PM
- Music by Rusty Loomis
- Food Trucks
- Starlight TRIBE selling hotdogs, brats, chips, hot cocoa, and bake sale

Sensient Flavors

- Eggnog and Peppermint Candy at Santas Village

St. Patrick's Church

- Cookie Walk 3-7PM

Starlight Dance Studio

- Performance at Santas Village 4-6PM
- Starlight TRIBE selling hotdogs, brats, chips, hot cocoa
- Bake sale at Santas Village

Teen Turf

- Repurpose and Decorate Wreaths
- Santas Workshop- Economical Gifts for Everyone

Two Sisters on Main

Uncle B's Bar & Grill

Uncommon Reign

AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

Be sure to stop in during the
2024 Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk
Saturday, Dec. 14 from 4-7 p.m.

- Beer, Wine and Liquor Tasting
- Indian Cultural Food & American Cuisine
- And Many More Events Planned!

242 E. Main St., Amboy IL

815-857-7020

Happy Holidays



From Our Family To Yours

LOCAL NEWS

AMBOY POLICE

DOMESTIC BATTER/ UNLAWFUL CONSUMPTION

Logan B. Cox, 20, of Dixon, was arrested at 6:42 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 71 E. Kellen Dr. in Amboy on charges of domestic battery and unlawful consumption of alcohol by a minor, while additional charges were pending. Cox was taken to Lee County Jail.

WARRANTS

Cami J. Menold, 32, of Kewanee, was arrested and taken to Lee County Jail at 3:20 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8 at 200 Hawley Street in Amboy on warrants from Henry County for possession of meth and a controlled substance.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT – HARASSMENT

A 13-year-old female juvenile was arrested at 12:37 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14 at Amboy Junior High School on a disorderly conduct – harassment – charge. The female was issued an Amboy City Ordinance Citation with a \$100 fine.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT – SPEEDING

Adam C. Wetsel, 46, of Amboy, was arrested at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29 at the intersection of N. Metcalf Ave. and Wasson Rd. for excessive speeding eastbound on Sterling Rd. and Robbins Rd. Wetsel was issued an Amboy City Ordinance Citation with a \$100 fine.

AMBOY – You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program 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.

AMBOY – The Board of Trustees of The Amboy Township will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the Amboy Township Building, located at 106 South Prospect St. in Amboy.

PAW PAW – The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Paw Paw will commence at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the Paw Paw Village Hall.

LEE CENTER – The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12.

AMBOY – The Amboy City Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16 at the Amboy Community Center, 290 W. Wasson Road. The council meets every third Monday each month.

AMBOY – The Amboy/Lee Center

Multi-Township meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Amboy Township building, located at 106 South Prospect Ave.

AMBOY – The Amboy Lions Club meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23 at the Amboy Community Center, located at 280 W. Wasson Rd. The Lions Club meetings take place the second and fourth Monday of every month.

AMBOY – The City of Amboy committee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6 at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

SUBLETTE – The next Village of Sublette meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13 at the Ellice Dinges Center at 202 S. West Street in Sublette.

EAST GROVE – East Grove Township is holding its next meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14 at the East Grove Township Hall.

Do It Best Foundation supports Charley Co Boxing

DIXON — The Do it Best Foundation announces their latest distribution of \$112,597 in grants to organizations focused on building a brighter future for kids and families in the communities where the Do it Best team lives, works, and plays.

The distribution includes a \$2,000 grant to Charley Co Boxing to purchase boxing equipment for at-risk and vulnerable populations in their community.

Charley Co Boxing has a strong track record of supporting the community’s needs as it addresses anti-bullying and domestic violence initiatives and education, while offering general boxing training, which will be funded by the grant. Additionally, the organization will be able to invest in upgraded equipment, like gloves, pads, bags, and gear, which will allow for safe use for many years to come.

“I’ve seen first-hand the value that this program offers our community,” said Rich Jordan, general manager of the Do it Best warehouse in Dixon. “And I’m proud that our team is able to recommend funding to this worthy organization. Our future is dependent on the strength and resilience of our youth and teaching boys and girls violence prevention and physical well-being will only make us stronger.”

Since its founding



in 2019, the Do it Best Foundation has distributed over 125 grants totaling \$1.4 million. The Dixon community previously received grant support this year for Hope Cancer Wellness Center, Rock River Hospice and Home, and United Way of Lee County. Applications for eligible 501(c)(3) organizations are accepted through November 22 by visiting doitbestfoundation.org.

About the Do it Best Foundation

The Do it Best Foundation supports not-for-profit community organizations that focus on serving the needs of others. Rooted in servant leadership, the Foundation awards grants to agencies that help build

a brighter future for kids and families through housing stability, food security, health care access, and clothing assistance. Nonprofit organizations located in or near cities where Do it

Best has business operations are given priority consideration. To learn how you can support the work of the Do it Best Foundation, follow us on Instagram and visit doitbestfoundation.org.

LIFEESCAPE
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Senior Dining Menu
Dec. 16-20
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – Baked chix breast, mashed potatoes/gravy, steamed peas, whole grain dinner roll, applesauce

Tuesday – Meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, California blend veggies, whole grain wheat bread, diced pears

Wednesday – Chicken cordon bleu, twice baked potato, broccoli, holiday dessert, whole grain dinner roll

Thursday – Italian sausage w/peppers & onions, seasoned potato wedges, Italian blend veggies, apricots, whole grain bun

Friday – (A) Crispy fish sandwich on whole grain wheat bun/tartar, tator tots, peas, diced peaches; (B) Turkey/minestrone

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:30 am

Call 800-779-1189 to make reservations 24 hours in advance

Amboy Community Center
280 W. Wasson Road

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A United Way Agency

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Chris Klein

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Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854

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08142024

Amboy Firemen Christmas Basket

FOOD DRIVE

Help Us Help Them
providing food to families and individuals in need

Accepting Donations
by way of monetary donations and non-perishable food
final day - 12/12

Drop Off / Mailing Location
Amboy Fire Department
25 N East Ave | Amboy, IL 61310
8am-5pm

Large donations please contact the fire department at 815-857-2325 to arrange pickup.

11272024

OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Douglas (Doug) Smith April 16, 1933 - Nov. 17, 2024

SYCAMORE – Douglas (Doug) Smith, 91, of Sycamore, died on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024, in his home, surrounded by loved ones.

The family would like to thank St. Croix Hospice for the amazing job of care and support, and especially to Rachel, Bri, Jeremy, and Jessica. Funeral arrangements will be held in late April, 2025. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Doug to St. Croix Hospice or Alzheimers Association Illinois Chapter.

Doug's story began on April 16, 1933, in Sublette, IL where he was born to parents Robert and Doris (Bates) Smith.

Smith grew up in Amboy, sweeping floors at his father's filling station, happy to assist in any task assigned to him. At Amboy High School, he excelled in athletics and enjoyed being a part of school activities such as drama club, Latin club, yearbook, and chorus. Doug was a constant, kind, and welcome face at the school up to his graduation in 1951.

In 1952, Doug married his high school sweetheart, Joanne Anderson. Their partnership would last 63 years, enduring three moves and six kids. They had a happy and fulfilled marriage until her death in 2015.

After graduation, Doug stayed in Lee County, working as a

bookkeeper for Amboy Milk Plant and then worked in the Accounting Department at the Farmer's Telephone Company (Contel). In his 28 years with the company, Contel frequently promoted Doug and with that came transfers to Mascoutah, Wright City, Mo., and finally, Sycamore, where he would reside for the next 48 years. He retired from the phone company in 1990.

People remember Doug Smith for his kind eyes, stoic demeanor, and, most of all, his selfless heart. Every place he went, he offered his help. Whether it was his time as a volunteer fireman in Amboy, Mascoutah, and Wright City (where he was the Fire Chief); doing taxes for Senior citizens; or his faithful commitment to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sycamore. Doug enjoyed helping people and serving the community and he never asked for anything in return.

He was once quoted as saying, "We are to be like Jesus. He taught us to love one another and help each other whenever we can. The reward is the joy in helping and seeing the appreciation of another in their eyes. It is the least we can do."

His reverence was even more devout to those in his family. Known to his grandchildren by the moniker "Papa", his



calming demeanor, wise words, and generous nature were sought after by all in his family.

Doug is survived by six children, Karen (Gary) Springer, Gregory (Dee Ann) Smith, Blair Smith, Theresa (Rick) Johnson, Keith (Lisa) Smith, Karri Smith; eleven grandchildren, Erin, Amy, Doris, Tabitha, Charlie, Luke, Mary Grace, Chelsea, Lauren, Leigh-Ann (sp), Stephen; thirteen great grandchildren, Kindall, John, Dyllon, Meadow, Jenny, Maxine, Kaley, Taylor, David, Madison, Brianna, Brayden, Bentley; and three great-great grandchildren, Conner, Carson, Cadence; a brother, Lee (Sue) Smith, nephew Rick (Cheryl) Lamb, sister-in-law, Janet Jones and several beloved nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joanne; two sisters, Shirley Yentzer and Barbara Herbst; and granddaughter, Sarah Swantner.

Those who have survived him will miss him immensely; those who preceded him will be overjoyed to see him.

Charlotte Bontz Dierdorff Sept. 16, 1927 - Dec. 7, 2024

HARMON – Charlotte Bontz Dierdorff, 97, passed away peacefully on Saturday Dec. 7, 2024.

Visitation will be on Wednesday Dec. 11, 2024 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Funeral services will be held on Thursday Dec. 12, 2024 at 11:00 AM at the United Methodist Church in Harmon. Burial will be at Oakwood Cemetery. A memorial has been established. Arrangements by the Jones Funeral Homes. Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Dierdorff was born on September 16, 1927 in Dixon to Howard "Hy" and Ruth Emmert. Charlotte grew up on College Avenue in Dixon, IL and was proud to graduate from Dixon High School. She attended the Katherine Shaw Bethea School of Nursing in Dixon, graduating as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1947.

She married Warren E. Bontz on August 19th, 1955. He preceded her in death on October 25, 1989. Warren and Charlotte moved to the family farm in Harmon to raise their children. Char-

lotte was a homemaker and utilized her nursing skills at the Dixon State School and providing private duty care. She worked as a school bus driver for Amboy Community School District for 17 years (loving all her kids).

Charlotte was known for her musical ability. She was an organist for the United Methodist Church and St. Flannen's Catholic Church in Harmon, United First Congregational Church and St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Amboy for decades. She sang and played for countless weddings and funerals while also entertaining at local nursing homes with her grandchildren. Vacation Bible School was a favorite as well as taking photos. She was an avid bowler, bowling four times a week for many years with the Odd Couples Sunday League, Monday Night Ladies League, Tuesday and Thursday Senior Bowlers. She continued to bowleven at the age of 95 years.

After many years as a widow, Charlotte was happy to reconnect with her high school sweetheart, Lyle A. Dierdorff (Chet).



Chet and Charlotte were married in Amboy on July 21, 2001. He preceded her in death on Dec. 4, 2007.

Survivors include her children, Janet (Pete Kink) Lynch of Dixon, William (Connie) Bontz of Amboy, James Bontz of Harmon. Grandchildren, Laura Enlow of Dixon, Bryce Lynch of Clinton, IL, Larissa Lynch of Austin TX, Kelsey (Joseph) Petrillo of Hoboken NJ, Warren (Randi) Bontz of Mount Morris, IL, Kevin (Rebecca) Bontz, Daniel (Edelia Jo Rivera) Bontz, Jason (Lizzie) Bontz of Amboy, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Robert Emmert, sister Alice Whitmore, her daughter Linda James and her great grandson Derrick Enlow.

William "Bill" Reinhold April 3, 1954 - Dec. 6, 2024

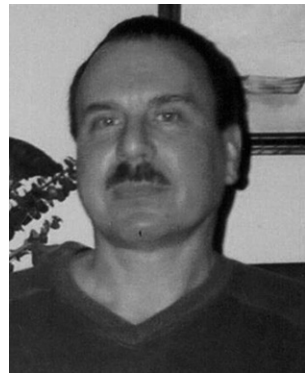
AMBOY – William L. "Bill" Reinhold, age 70, of Amboy, passed away on Friday Dec. 6, 2024 at KSB Hospital in Dixon following a short illness.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial has been established to Pankhurst Memorial Library in Amboy. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Reinhold was born on April 3, 1954 in Amboy, the son of Cecil and Ruth

(Ringenberg) Reinhold. He is a graduate of Amboy High School and earned his associate degree at Sauk Valley Community College. Bill worked for HWI/Do It Best for 40 years and enjoyed reading, lawn work, feeding the birds and going for walks.

Bill is preceded in death by his parents. Bill is survived by his sister Penny (Dennis) Nelson of Dixon, two nephews Aaron (Cristina) Nelson of Chandler AZ, Reuben (Amanda) Nelson of



West Dundee IL, and one great-nephew Alex Nelson. He is also survived by his good friends Mike (Kim) Damhoff and Tom (Karol) Harrison.

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Steve Schmitt (815)538-5276 *Family owned since 1913* **Ron Schmitt (815)539-7068**

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
Masses: Tuesdays-Friday Daily Mass at 8 a.m.
Confessions: Wednesday 5:30 p.m.,
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
8:30 a.m. - noon on Fridays after 8 a.m. mass

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
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Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

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

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

East Grove Union Church
449 Reuter Road,
Amboy, IL
Phone 815-440-5321
½ Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd
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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 Fronек
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronек
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
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Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
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Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church
Pastor John Kalebaugh
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Harmon United Methodist Church
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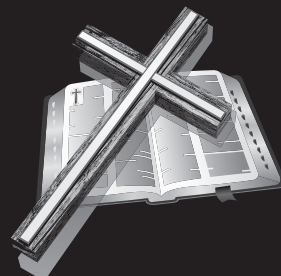
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LOCAL NEWS



Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra presents “The Sparkle of the Season”

OTTAWA—The Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra (IVSO) continues its year-long diamond anniversary celebration with a festive concert titled The Sparkle of the Season at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14th, at the Ottawa High School auditorium.

The program opens with the stirring Glory Overture by Michael W. Smith, arranged by David Hamilton, followed by Dan Goeller’s enchanting Christmas Fantasy and more holiday classics. Audiences can also look forward to a lively holiday sing-along to cap off the afternoon.

This concert is a collaboration with three choirs,

creating a 90-member chorus composed of Ottawa High School’s two top choirs, under the direction of Ali Stachowicz, and the Illinois Valley Community College Collegiate Choir, led by Jenilyn Roether.

Together with Roether as the soloist, the ensembles will perform selections from Handel’s Messiah and Robert Shaw and Robert Russell Bennett’s The Many Moods of Christmas. The Collegiate Choir will also present standalone pieces, including Long Ago and This Little Babe.

After the concert, attendees are invited to join the IVSO at Lone Buffalo in Ottawa to celebrate the unveiling

of “The Maestro” lager, a special 75th-anniversary commemorative brew by Tangled Roots Brewing Company.

Tickets are available at ivso.org. Adult general admission is \$20, college students are \$5 with ID, and students through 12th grade are free.

The 2024-25 IVSO season is sponsored by Miller Group Charitable Trust and this program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. All IVSO venues are accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For questions about accommodations, please contact accessibility@ivso.org.



Kish College Foundation announces creation of Albert and Frances Besserman Endowment

MALTA—A new endowment fund has been established with the Kishwaukee College Foundation thanks to two former employees, Albert and Frances Besserman.

The fund will provide scholarships for students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. The fund will also provide financial support for the Kishwaukee College Library.

“Our interest is in providing financial support to students in need of scholarships, especially students pursuing a career in math or teaching math. Starting a career in mathematics is one of the best things that happened to me, and the opportunity to pass it along is meaningful,” Albert said.

“We would also like part of it to support Kish students through Library

Services and any program enhancements or funding they need to enhance their services,” Frances said.

Currently retired in North Carolina, Albert and Frances were longtime employees at Kishwaukee College. The couple met while attending Illinois State Normal University (now Illinois State University), where they earned bachelor’s degrees. Starting in 1968, Albert was one of the first instructors hired at Kishwaukee College and taught mathematics until retiring in 1997. During his tenure, Albert served as the mathematics department chair for six years and was named Kish’s Outstanding Educator of the Year twice. Frances started at Kish in 1973 as a part-time Library staff member. After completing her master’s degree in library science, Frances worked as a Reference Li-

brarian, later becoming the Director of the Learning Resources Center. During her time at Kish, Frances assisted with renovations to enlarge and improve the Library and retired in 1998.

“The Bessermans have a long legacy of contributions to Kishwaukee College. The Foundation is honored to continue to work with them as they provide generous, continued financial support for our students and our community,” said Courtney Walz, Kishwaukee College Foundation Director.

Albert and Frances credit their son, Mark, for bringing the idea of creating a Foundation endowment to their attention.

To learn more about the Kishwaukee College Foundation, visit kish.edu/foundation.

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Opinion

Moving is for the birds

Whenever I want to have some fun during interviews with individuals under 18, I'll throw a sidwinding question to throw them off, 'What is your least favorite chore?'

I've heard the gambit of chores such as dishes, babysitting, garbage, bathroom, mopping, sweeping, dusting, grocery shopping, walking the dog, windows, laundry, cleaning the car, and yard work.

Through the years, my answer has changed as I always answer quietly to myself while I'm waiting for the result from my subject.

But without a shadow of a doubt, I am not changing my answer again.

Moving.

Some may not think it's a chore and call it a job instead, which I wouldn't argue, but for the sake of this column and because, in my opinion, work and chores are synonymous, moving is the absolute worse.

When you're a kid, your body doesn't creak, crack, and ache, and it's fun to open the boxes when you get to the new places. It's almost like Christmas. Plus, it's exciting to meet the new neighbors, see a new scenery, and be in a new location with all kinds of grand unforeseen adventures.

However, as you get older, moving becomes less

and less, and then zero fun.

The Christmas-like joy is gone as you know everything that is in every box and you have to figure out if you want to put them in a new place in the new abode, put them in a different spot you may forget an item is even there, or maybe even throw it away after you already packed it, took up room in a box or tote, and used muscle fatigue to transport.

The older we get, the creaks, cracks, aches, pains, possible fractures and scars, are tougher and tougher to get over or recoup from, especially if there are steps or a long walkway.

I'm in solid shape since I'm an IHSA official and have had long spurts in the weight room or walking/jogging/running every day, but my body still feels a move the next day. Or the next two weeks.

Then there is the factor we don't think of when we're younger.

Why did you move?

After 30, it's probably because of a bad breakup, a divorce, or a loved one passed away or needs help at home because of health reasons. Each one of those brings negative energy and a depression sets in before the move even takes place because of the bad omens or lack of enthusiasm because of the situation.

When going through the boxes, each item makes you think of something.

Hopefully, all of the nostalgic memories make you think of happy thoughts like people you love to the moon and back, moments of triumph, or a souvenir of someone you miss who lives somewhere else or you haven't seen in a while.

Then there are the bad ones.

The sweater given to you by your late, great grandmother.

The charm you received for a birthday or Christmas from the former loved one, who is the reason you're going through the moving process in the first place. There are many more I could list, but I like to keep these upbeat and funny as much as possible.

Nothing funny about your heart being ripped out and stepped on after you've spent all of your Monster or Purpose Nutrition energy trekking up and down stairs for four hours.

The point is, moving is by far the worst.

It takes time, gas money, physical pain, and emotional grief.

Hopefully, you stay in one place and don't have to experience the angst of moving except from high school to college, college to a home, and maybe one or two additional moves due to career or family advancement.

But don't be silly and force yourself into unwanted suffering by unneeded or unwarranted packing.

Column

By Brandon LaChance



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

As of Dec. 4, 2024

100 years ago
Dec. 5, 1924

Amboy is to have a community Christmas tree this year, an object of light and beauty which all may enjoy and where all may be drawn together in the Christmas spirit of good will and genial fellowship.

Maintenance of Illinois highways this year will include keeping the state roads free from snow throughout the winter. According to the Dixon office of the state highway commission, snowplows are now on hand ready for use on the Lincoln Highway in Lee County and on Route 2 from Mendota to Dixon.

John Sullivan, who has participated in athletics at the Township High School for four years, was elected captain of the 1924-25 Amboy basketball team.

75 years ago
Dec. 8, 1949

This week L.S. Griffith announces that Max T. Foster is now associated with him and that they will continue to write all types of insurance under the name of Griffith and Foster Insurance Agency.

Amboy's new Baptist Minister, Rev. Wilford Paul, his wife and their two little daughters, Ruth and Lois, arrived from Miami, Mo., and are now living in the parsonage at 147 North Jefferson Ave.

"If You Knew Susie," the three-act farce comedy by James F. Stone, will be presented Dec. 9 at the Amboy High School auditorium by the junior class. The play is under the direction of Mrs. William Olmstead, assisted by George Malach and Greg Goy.

Postmaster William E. Clark and his staff at the Amboy Post Office will appreciate having you mail our packages early.

50 years ago
Dec. 5, 1974

John Blackburn of Harmon was one of Carthage College's all conference football players on the defensive units.

Visit Santa at Shaws Gamble Store Toyland for games, toys, dolls, puzzles, etc.

The Amboy Clippers, seeking their third consecutive Indian Invitational Championship, were bombed by a big Rich South squad 58-26 in the championship game of the Sandwich Invitational.

Irvin G. Koch, Lee County Board member from District Two, was unanimously elected chairman of the Lee County Board. A veteran member of the board since 1956, Koch served as chairman in 1967-68. He is also supervisor of Viola Township.

25 years ago
Dec. 2, 1999

Once again, the Amboy Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the Christmas Lighting Contest. Enter yourself or nominate your friends and neighbors you think have an outstanding display.

Low bids totaling more than \$122,853,654 million on highway and bridge improvement projects throughout the state were received by the Illinois Department of Transportation, including several in Lee County, according to a report by Illinois Department of Transportation.

The efforts of the caretakers and stewards of Nachusa Grasslands have expanded over the last 12 years so much it has outgrown its barn on Lowden Road. As a result, Nachusa Grasslands is relocating an historic barn from rural Ashton to the preserve. The barn is an 1868 timber frame, bank barn.

As of Dec. 11, 2024

100 years ago
Dec. 12, 1924

Punch boards in Dixon were doomed when members of the police department swooped down on places of business in which the boards were in operation.

A fresh shipment of Martha Washington candies. Order early for Christmas at the Arlington Hotel.

E.C. Coates is now employed at the Amboy Cash Grocery.

L.S. Griffith, Lee County's Farm Adviser for the past nine years, is to leave the work at the end of the present contract March 1, 1925.

75 years ago
Dec. 8, 1949

Robert W. Smith was elected Worshipful Master of Illinois Central Lodge AF&AM No. 178 P.S. Flach was senior warden; Glen Boyer, junior warden; Cecil Emery, treasurer; and John Stouffer, secretary.

Alfred Meyer of Amboy is the owner of a registered Holstein cow, which recently completed a lifetime production record of more than 100,000 pounds of milk.

New or good used toys that are

in workable condition are sorely needed for the Amboy Lions Club Christmas distribution. Rev. Charles M. Hill, Pastor of the Amboy Congregational Church, who is chairman of the committee.

Mrs. Ruby Proctor of Crown Point, Ind., a former Amboyian, author of numerous children's stories which have been published in "Child Life" and other magazines, was guest speaker at the Christmas meeting of the Modern Minervas in Warren.

50 years ago
Dec. 12, 1974

Paul Steder purchased the Delmar Cleaning Building at 203 E. Short St. He has located his general contracting business there and his wife will be serving as the Vita Tone Cleaners representative.

Dr. Wayne Spenader, of Mendota, who serves Amboy, was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

City water will cost customers more in 1975 as the result of action taken by the Amboy City Council. Plans to increase the water rates by approximately 25% were discussed and an ordinance will probably be passed at a special council meeting so that the new rates may become effective Jan. 1975. There will be no

change in the sewer service charge, the aldermen agreed.

25 years ago
Dec. 9, 1999

Amboy Junior High School Principal Don Wyzgowski took a victory ride through the streets of Amboy. Each year the Junior High Student Council assists the Amboy firemen in their can drive, but this year the staff decided to tie the drive to the year 2000. The goal was 2,000 cans. The firemen approached Wyzgowski with the idea of personally delivering the items on the fire truck, dressed in a Santa suit, if the goal was met. They agreed, the goal was met, and Wyzgowski was Santa on the firetruck.

Amboy Community Unit School District #272 approved a levy of \$2,777,400.

Amboy High School will go to block 8 scheduling for the 2000-01 school year after the decision was made by school board members.

A total of 23 students from this area are included in the 33rd Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1998-99. Playing at Plaza Cinemas in Dixon is Sleepy Hollow, End of Days, and Toy Story 2.

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

Established In 1854
The Amboy News
The Depot Museum

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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 300, Mendota, IL 61342, or emailed to blachance@mendotareporter.com.

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

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STATE NEWS

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts receives nearly \$3 million mental health grant award

SPRINGFIELD—The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) is pleased to announce approval of a competitive grant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services.

The grant project titled “Assisted Outpatient Treatment: A Pathway to Community Care” allocates up to \$2,915,393 over 4 years.

The AOIC and several justice partners will use the funds to operationalize a replicable and effective structure to increase the utilization of statutorily-created civil outpatient pathways to mental

health care, also referred to as Assisted Outpatient Treatment, in Cook and McLean Counties. This form of civil commitment authorizes the judicial system to commit eligible individuals with severe psychiatric disorders to mental health intervention in the community to improve the health, safety and welfare of both individuals and the public.

“The AOIC is proud of this achievement and honored to receive its first ever SAMHSA funding award,” said Marcia M. Meis, AOIC Director. “I would like to thank the Illinois Supreme Court Special Advisory Committee for Justice and Mental Health Planning, State Court Behavioral Health

Administrator, Grants Manager, Administrative Services Division, and several justice partners for their leadership in developing a competitive application and project model. The grant project is well aligned with the Illinois Courts’ Mental Health Action Plan and will help further efforts to improve the courts’

response to individuals living with serious mental illness.”

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation.

The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight on its way to the Coronado Theatre

ROCKFORD – After mesmerizing audiences across Europe and the UK, The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight is set to electrify the USA once again. Prepare for a spellbinding 90-minute spectacle that infuses iconic Rock & Metal anthems with a hauntingly beautiful energy.

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See The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight at the Coronado Theatre at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 1, 2025. Tickets are available on Ticketmaster.com, by calling 815-968-5222, or in-person at the BMO Center box office (10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday).

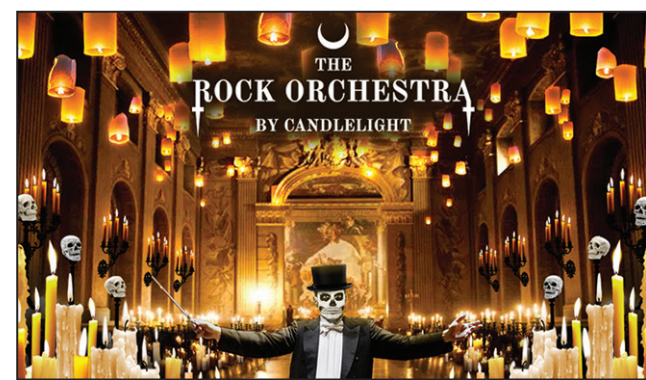
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CHRISTMAS WALK

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**Join Pankhurst Memorial Library's
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We will be offering crafts, cookies, and several holiday raffle drawings. We are a trolley stop, so come in and join the fun, and see all of the updates that Pankhurst Memorial Library has done in the past months.

We can't wait to see you!

Stop in and see us during the Amboy Hometown Christmas Walk or anytime!



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

BID NOTICE FOR AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272

PROJECT:
Renovation Project at
Amboy Central Elementary School for
Amboy CUSD #272
LOCATION:
Amboy Central Elementary School
30 East Provost Street
Amboy, Illinois 61310
OWNER:
Amboy CUSD #272
11 E. Hawley Street
Amboy, Illinois 61310
ARCHITECT:
Richard L. Johnson Associates, Inc.
4703 Charles Street
Rockford, Illinois 61108
(815) 398-1231
SCOPE:
Bids shall be submitted for a single contract for all Work.

DATE DUE:
Sealed bids will be received by Amboy CUSD #272 for the Renovation Project until 11:00am, Thursday, January 9, 2025 at the Amboy CUSD #228 District Office and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.

PRE-BID MEETING:
A Non-Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting is scheduled at 10:00am, on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at the Amboy Central Elementary School.

PRE-BID SITE VISIT:
Contractors are required to make a mandatory survey of the existing conditions prior to bidding.

ACCESS TO BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Bidding Documents are on file for reference at the Office of the Architect, Rockford, Illinois Bidding Documents may be secured from the office of the Architect.

Plans and Specifications are available for download at www.rljarch.com under "Bidders".

DEPOSIT REQUIRED:
Bidders may secure up to two (2) sets of bidding documents

by submitting \$50.00 non-refundable deposit per set, or \$60.00 per set if documents are to be mailed.

BID FORM:
Bids shall be submitted in duplicate on forms included in the specifications by the Architect.
PERFORMANCE BOND:
A performance and payment bond for the full amount of the Contract will be required of the successful bidder. All costs associated with the bond shall be included in the bid amount.

BID SECURITY:
Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of at least 5% of the total amount of the base bid and all additive alternate bids. This may be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, bank draft, or bid bond, payable to the Owner as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract with the Owner and will furnish the proper performance and payment bond within the time limited by the Owner. If the successful bidder so files the contract and performance and payment bond, upon the execution of the contract by the Owner, the Bid Security will be returned to all bidders. If he/she fails to file such contract and performance and payment bond the amount of the Bid Security will be forfeited to the Owner as liquidated damages.

WAGE RULES:
The general prevailing rate of wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each craft or type of worker or mechanic needed to execute the contract will adhere to all Federal Laws and Regulations applicable to the work hereunder, and having force of law.

RIGHTS RESERVED BY OWNER:
The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or

reject any or all bids when, in the opinion of the Owner, such action will serve the best interests of the Owner.
WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS:
No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of bids without written consent of the Owner.
By order of the Board of Education for Amboy CUSD #272.
No. 1202
(December 11, 2024)

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119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

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301 ANTIQUES

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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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2022 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4 Z71, 50K Miles, White.....	\$42,900	2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT 4x4 Z71, 29K Miles, Red.....	\$33,900
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LOCAL/STATE NEWS

Illinois State Dental Society, Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations launch campaign to fight unlicensed dental care

SPRINGFIELD – In response to a troubling rise in reported unlicensed dental practices across the state, the Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS) and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations (IDFPR) have joined forces to launch a collaborative campaign urging the public to seek dental care only from licensed dentists.

The campaign ‘Fake Dentist, Real Risk – Verify Before You Trust’ aims to educate Illinois residents about the serious dangers posed by unlicensed dentists. It promotes verifying dental licenses and provides easy-to-use tools and resources for reporting unlicensed activities. This initiative comes in response to multiple reports of unlawful dental practices by unlicensed

practitioners, which have resulted in harm to patients – from fake braces and chipped teeth to permanent damage and infections.

“Unlicensed dental treatments can be very dangerous. They often lead to infections, bad procedures, and permanent damage to your teeth and gums. Licensed dentists have extensive training to provide safe and effective care. Our work with IDFPR highlights the importance of seeing licensed dentists. It’s not just about the law—it’s about keeping you safe and healthy,” said ISDS Executive Director Eric Larson.

“Our mission at IDFPR is to protect the residents of Illinois and ensure that only qualified professionals provide services,” said IDFPR Secretary Mario

Treto, Jr. “This campaign with the Illinois State Dental Society is a perfect example of that commitment. By working together, we are helping residents make informed choices about their dental care and safeguarding public health.”

The campaign goals include three key steps:

1. Only choose a licensed dentist for your dental care. Fake dentists often operate in unsafe conditions, lack proper training, and neglect knowledge on proper care and treatment, leading to severe health risks like infections, irreversible damage, and financial scams. You can check if a dentist is licensed with IDFPR by using the Department’s online License Lookup Tool at <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/lookup/>

licenselookup.aspx.

2. Know how and where to verify your dentist’s license. Spotting a real or fake dentist involves paying attention to their licensing, office environment, professionalism, communication, payment practices, and use of quality dental instruments.

3. Report suspected unlicensed activities. Don’t wait. Report any suspicious or unlicensed dental activities immediately to ensure quick identification and patient protection. Unlicensed activity may be reported to IDFPR by filing a complaint at <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/admin/dpr/dprcomplaint.html>.

For more information and resources on the campaign, visit the campaign’s website idfpr.illinois.gov/realdentist.

Comedian Matt Mathews to embark on ‘Boujee On A Budget’ comedy tour

ROCKFORD – After the success of his recent debut tour, rising comedian and social media sensation, Matt Mathews, is thrilled to announce his latest national stand-up comedy tour – Boujee On A Budget.

Mathews brings his tour to the Coronado Theatre at 8 p.m. April 12, 2025 in Rockford. Tickets are on sale now at [LiveNation.com](https://www.livenation.com) or [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com).

Produced by Live Nation, the massive 53-city tour will zigzag across the United States, kicking off on October 25th visiting major markets including Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago and many more with additional dates to be announced. Widely known and celebrated for his relatability and situational humor, Matt discusses a variety of topics and personal experiences in his stand-up, including his daily life of living on a farm, his career as a boudoir photographer, relationships, and more. The comedian will also bring his ever-popular “Confessions with Matt” video series to the live stage, where he

provides a real-time comedic take on audience members who voluntarily spill their deepest darkest secrets.

On the heels of the announcement Matt Mathews adds, “Growing up a broke, gay kid from the south I always dreamed of being a performer, but let’s be real, those big dreams don’t typically come true,” he continues, “Thankfully, I decided to take the risk and bet on myself as a comedian. Never in my life did I imagine I would then sign an incredible deal with Live Nation for a second headlining tour. I couldn’t do this without the incredible support of the fans and I’m so excited, honored, and humbled that so many people believe in me. I can’t wait to be back on that stage! Boujee on Budget is going to be wilddd.”

In a short amount of time, Matt has skyrocketed into the social media stratosphere through his hilariously raw social posts, side-splitting short-form videos and stand-up clips—earning him over 4.8 million followers on TikTok and over 2 million followers on Insta-



gram. Matt recently wrapped his debut headlining tour, When That Thang Get Ta Thang’n and sold-out 100 dates and 150,000 tickets across the country.

Matt recently taped his first stand-up special at the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham, AL that will be announced soon. On

September 22nd, Matt will premiere his new six episode YouTube series, Doin’ the Most With Matt Mathews as the cameras follow him around as he takes on new challenges from ballet class to bartending.

Mathews is repped by CAA, Vault Entertainment and Rogers & Cowan/PMK.

Illinois’ Winter Weather Rule took effect Dec. 1

CHICAGO – The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is reminding consumers that Illinois’ winter weather rule will take effect from December 1 – March 31. The winter weather rule prohibits utilities from disconnecting eligible customers who use electric or gas as their primary source of home heating.

“Frigid winters are a given in Illinois. The state’s winter weather rule offers peace-of-mind for individuals and families who might otherwise be struggling to stay warm during the coldest months of the year,” said ICC Chairman Doug Scott.

To protect Illinoisans during dangerous cold, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) participants; electric space heating customers; and military personnel and veterans cannot be disconnected if they fall behind on their utility bills. The rule excludes disconnections related to theft, tampering, or safety.

The cold weather rule also protects residential

customers from disconnections when temperatures are forecasted to be at or below 32 F, and on days preceding holidays and weekends when the forecast is expected to drop to freezing.

To protect against disconnection, customers with past due balances should contact their utility to enroll in a Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA). If your electric or gas service has already been disconnected, contact your utility directly to see if you qualify for reconnection at less than the full amount owed.

Other residential customers or master-metered apartment buildings who used gas or electricity as the primary source of space heating equipment during the previous winter cannot be disconnected for non-payment unless: the utility has offered the customer a DPA with a maximum down payment of 10 percent; provided the customer with contact information for public and private aid agencies; the customer refused to enter a DPA; and all disconnection notices provisions have

been met.

Households struggling to pay their utility bills are encouraged to apply for LIHEAP annually with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Ameren, Nicor, North Shore, and Peoples Gas natural gas customers who qualify for LIHEAP or whose incomes are at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty line are eligible for a monthly discount on their gas bills through the state’s new low-income discount rates.

Enrollment in the programs mentioned above is free of charge, and customers can access LIHEAP benefits regardless of immigration status.

Contact the ICC’s Consumer Services Division at 1-800-524-0795 for further guidance or to file a complaint against your utility.

About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Util-

ity Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient, and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses, and repossession agencies. The Commission’s Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities, and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices, and bureaus, click here. If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint here. For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

Do you know how to dance?

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for Amboy Community Unit School District #272 for 2022, will be held Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Central Elementary School Gym. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Joshua Nichols, Superintendent, Amboy Community Unit School District #272, 11 E. Hawley Street, Amboy, IL 61310, Telephone (815) 857-2164.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$8,888,226.39.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$9,993,877. This represents a 12.44% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service for 2023 were \$1,335,458.74.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service for 2024 are \$1,313,750.00

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2023 were \$10,223,685.13.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$11,307,627.00. This represents a 10.60% increase over the previous year.

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SPORTS

Clippers win first boys hoops game of the season

AMBOY – The Amboy boys basketball team started the season just the way it wanted it to as the Clippers won their first game of the season 57-37 against DePue Tuesday, Nov. 26 on the road. The non-conference win was followed by three losses and another win for a 2-3 record five games into the season. Amboy senior Eddie Jones scored a game high 23 points and dished nine assists, while freshman Bryson Deery had eight points and six rebounds, and junior Ezra Parker finished with eight points and five rebounds. Game 2 of the season ended with a 56-21 loss to Northwest Upstate Illini Conference South Division foe Eastland on Monday, Dec. 2 at Eastland. Parker led the Clippers with nine points. The Clippers first home game of the season was Tuesday, Dec. 3 as they hosted non-conference opponent, Hinckley-Big Rock.

Amboy fell 66-30 to HBR, while being led by Jones’ eight points and Parker’s six points. Martin Ledbetter recorded a game high 24 points for the Royals. The second win of the season, 37-31, came Saturday, Dec. 7 on the road in Ot-tawa against the Marquette Crusaders. Jones led the way with 17 points, while Parker dropped 11. In a nailbiter on Monday, Dec. 9 in Somonauk, the Clippers dropped a 44-43 result to the Bobcats. The game was close throughout as the Clippers led 13-9 after the first quarter, Somonauk held a one-point halftime advantage, 20-19, and the Bobcats held on to a 33-30 lead after three frames. Jones led Amboy with 17 points, while senior Brody Christoffersen scored 11, and Deery and Parker added five each. Game 6 of the season is a 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 non-conference con-test against LaMoille at Amboy.

Amboy kicks off the season going 2-2 at Oregon Thanksgiving Tournament

AMBOY – Coach Mike McCracken and his Amboy girls basketball team were ready to kick off the season during the Oregon Thanksgiving Tournament Novem-ber 20-23 in Oregon. Amboy began the season posting a 2-2 record during the tour-nament with wins against Rochelle, 59-47, and Oregon, 46-36, while falling to Genoa-Kingston, 34-32, and Elgin St. Edwards, 55-27. The Lady Clippers

had three players in double-digit scoring against Rochelle as junior Ellie McLaugh-lin led with 14, senior Emily Sachs had 13, and junior Jillian An-der-son had 12. Senior Tyrah Vaessen had 11 rebounds and seven assists. In the loss against Genoa-Kingston, Vaessen recorded a double-double of 15 rebounds and 10 points, while Sachs and junior Bella Ya-nos had five rebounds each. Senior Addi-

son Pertell broke her thumb against the Lady Cogs and will miss action for the next 4-6 weeks. Vaessen, Sachs, and McLaughlin each had six points against St. Edwards. In the win over Ore-gon, sophomore Alexa McKendry led the Amboy scoring with 13 points, Anderson added 11, and Vaessen chipped in 10 to go with her 13 rebounds for a double-double. Sachs had 10 rebounds in the effort.

Amboy JVBoys’ Basketball 2024-25 schedule

- Dec. 14 – LaMoille – 1 p.m.
- Dec. 17 – at Earlville – 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 19 – at Leland – 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 26-28 – at LaMoille Holiday Tournament
- Jan. 4 – Warren – 1 p.m.
- Jan. 6 – Newman – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 7 – Eastland – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 9 – at Ashton-Franklin Center – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 13 – Stillman Valley – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 15 – Morrison – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 17 – Fulton – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 21 – at Mendota – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 23 – at Polo – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 27 – at Oregon – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 29 – at Milledgeville – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 4 – Ashton-Franklin Center – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 6 – at Morrison – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 8 – St. Bede – 1 p.m.
- Feb. 10 – Forreston – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 12 – at Fulton – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 14 – at Bureau Valley – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 18 – Polo – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 20 – Milledgeville – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 24-28 – Regional

Amboy Girls’ Basketball 2024-25 schedule

- Dec. 13 – Ashton-Franklin Center – 6 p.m.
- Dec. 21 – Rock Falls – 1 p.m.
- Dec. 26-28 – Amboy Holiday Tournament (V&FS)
- Jan. 3 – at Mendota – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 8 – Somonauk – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 10 – Fulton – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 11 – at Eastland Shootout
- Jan. 14 – at Milledgeville – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 16 – Morrison – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 18 – Pearl City – 2 p.m.
- Jan. 21 – at Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 22 – Polo – 6 p.m.
- Jan. 24 – at Eastland – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 28 – at Ashton-Franklin Center – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 1 – Stockton – 1 p.m.
- Feb. 5 – at Fulton – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 7 – Milledgeville – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 11 – at Morrison – 6 p.m.
- Feb. 13 – Earlville – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 17-21 – Regional

Amboy-AFC Wrestling 2024-25 schedule

- Nov. 26 – at Mendota – 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 4 – at Newman – 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7 – at Seneca Tournament
- Dec. 12 – Lena-Winslow, Morrison – 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 13-14 – at Plano Tournament
- Dec. 21 – at Stillman Valley Tournament
- Jan. 9 – Genoa-Kingston, Mendota – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 11 – Amboy JV Tournament
- Jan. 23 – Fulton, Polo – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 24-25 – at Orion Tournament
- Jan. 29 – Dakota, Durand-Pecatonica – 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 30 – Kewanee, Marquette – 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 1 – at Oregon F-S Tournament
- Feb. 8 – Regional



Glow-N-Fire HotWheels Monster Trucks to rev up in Rockford

ROCKFORD – Following the suc-cess of Glow Party, Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live™ is thrilled to announce its new theme for 2025: Glow-N-Fire. This exciting new experience will fea-ture the same level of fun and excitement that fans have come to expect, but with an added fiery twist. Get ready for more heat and action as we continue to bring the ultimate monster truck show to fans at BMO Center on February 28 through March 2, 2025. Tickets can be purchased at Ticket-master.com, by calling 815-968-5222, or in-person at the BMO Center box office (M-F, 10AM-5PM). Additional event information is available at hotwheels-monstertruckslive.com. Tickets are subject to convenience and facility fees. Show times are as follows: Friday, February 28, 2025 at 7:30PM / Power Smashers Pre-Show 5PM-6:15PM / VIP 5:45PM Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 12:30PM / Power Smashers Pre-Show 10AM-11:15AM / VIP 10:45AM Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 7:30PM / Power Smashers Pre-Show 5PM-6:15PM / VIP 5:45PM Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 2:30PM / Power Smashers Pre-Show 12PM-1:15PM / VIP 12:45PM Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live™: Glow-N-Fire is produced by Family Entertainment Live and brings fans’

favorite Hot Wheels Monster Trucks to life including Mega Wrex™, Tiger Shark™, HW 5-Alarm™, Bone Shaker™, Bigfoot®, Gunkster™, and intro-ducing the brand new Skelesaurus™, the giant that unleashes his fossil fury. Fans can also witness a special appear-ance from a transforming robot, plus the high-flyers of Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Freestyle Motocross Team. Special kids pricing is available for all shows providing a BIG value for the whole family! Hot Wheels fans also have the chance to participate in the all-new Power Smashers Pre-Show Party, held two and a half hours prior to every performance. The unique experience provides fans access to the arena floor where they can get up close and see the outrageous designs and epic size of the Hot Wheels Monster Trucks along with autograph signings from their favorite drivers and performers. Each Power Smashers Pre-Show Party ticket includes an autograph card, souvenir pass, and a lanyard ex-clusive to Powers Smashers Pre-Show Party attendees. Passes will be available for purchase while supplies last. The new Pre-Show VIP Backstage Experience is an exclusive tour guided by the hosts of Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live! Experience what happens behind the scenes before all the smashing and crashing goes down.

More than 54,000 deer harvested during first weekend of Illinois firearm season

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 54,661 deer during the first weekend of the Illinois firearm deer season between Nov. 22-24. Comparatively, hunters took 53,348 and 52,354 deer during the first firearm weekends in 2023 and 2022, respectively. During the first weekend, Lee County harvested 424 deer this year, which bests 385 in 2023, and 314 in 2022. La Salle County harvested 392 in 2024, which was down from 499 in 2023 and 427 in 2022. Illinois’ seven-day firearm deer season will concluded Dec. 5-8.

Remaining 2024-2025 deer hunting opportunities in Illinois include: Muzzleloader-only deer season Dec. 13-15. Late-winter antlerless-only and chronic wasting disease deer seasons in select counties only, Dec. 26-29 and Jan. 17-19. Archery deer season continues through Jan. 19. Please note that archery deer hunting is closed Dec. 5-8 in coun-ties open for firearm deer season. Go online to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources’ website for more information about deer hunting.

What looks like a local call, could be scammers dialing for dollars

ROCKFORD – With the rise of technology, robo-calling has become a prevalent issue, leading to a surge in spoofed scam calls across the nation. Scammers are increasingly using local area codes to deceive victims, making them more likely to answer the call. The Better Business Bureau is warning northern Illinois residents that Chicago area code 312 is number eight on the list of the most often spoofed area codes used in scam calls. Dennis Horton, director

of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau says, “These fake calls are designed to trick unsuspecting in-dividuals into giving up personal information and/or financial details.” According to Truecall-er, Americans lose 10’s of billions of dollars to phone scams every year and, from 2021 to 2024, the numbers continue to rise in many categories. The other most com-monly used area codes are: 202 – Washington D.C. 214 – Dallas, TX

310 – Beverly Hills, CA 407 – Orlando, FL 702 – Las Vegas, NV 917 – New York, NY 786 – Miami, FL Horton notes, “The calls are growing in frequency and sophistication. The scammers use familiar area codes to target individu-als, often impersonating legitimate organizations, government agencies, or financial institutions.” The intent is to create a sense of urgency, prompt-ing recipients to act quickly without verifying the legit-imacy of the call.

LOCAL NEWS

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OSF HealthCare Foundation donates 4,000 pounds of produce to I-80 food pantries

PEORIA – In an effort to improve the lives of the people in the communities OSF HealthCare serves, the OSF HealthCare Foundation, along with dedicated Mission Partners (employees) and community volunteers, donated nearly 4,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious produce to food pantries across the I-80 corridor, including Ottawa, Streator and Mendota in 2024.

The OSF community gardens offer participants the opportunity to learn about gardening and empower volunteers to garden independently. The gardens also enhance nutrition and food preparation education, helping people make healthier dietary choices. This initiative underscores the

ongoing commitment of OSF HealthCare to health and wellness by addressing food insecurity and ensuring access to healthy foods for community members in need.

Key OSF Mission Partners, including Marisa Kibble from OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center, Ellen Vogel from OSF Center for Health - Streator, and Tammy Sheenan from OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center, coordinate the planning, recruiting volunteers, planting, maintaining, harvesting, and distributing the produce in their respective locations.

Additionally, OSF is grateful for the collaboration with community partners, including Friendship House residents in Ottawa,

Streator area food pantries, and Mendota Christian Food Pantry, whose support was vital in distributing fresh food to local families.

This collaborative effort highlights the OSF HealthCare Mission to foster positive change and improve lives within its communities. “We are incredibly grateful for the dedication of our Mission Partners, community volunteers and local food pantries in this initiative,” says Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF Saint Paul and OSF Saint Elizabeth. “By working together, we are making strides toward improving health and wellness in our communities and helping ensure families have access to fresh, nutritious food.”



Father John Gow and the Catholic communities of St. Patrick, Amboy; St. Mary, Walton; and St. Flannen, Harmon, invite you to Come Home for Christmas.

**Tuesday, December 24th -
Christmas Eve Mass**
St. Patrick, Amboy - 4:00 pm Mass

**Wednesday, December 25th -
Christmas Day Mass**
St. Flannen, Harmon - 7:30 am Mass
St. Mary, Walton - 9:00 am Mass
St. Patrick, Amboy - 10:30 am Mass

St. Patrick - 857-2315

St. Flannen and St. Mary - 857-2670

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To Begin Again

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COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

6:30 pm – **OLPH, Sublette**

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

4:00 pm – **SMA, West Brooklyn**

10:00 pm – **OLPH, Sublette**

CHRISTMAS MASS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

8:00 am – **St. Patrick, Maytown**

10:00 am – **OLPH, Sublette**

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

4:00 pm – **SMA, West Brooklyn**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

8:00 am – **St. Patrick, Maytown**

10:00 am – **OLPH, Sublette**

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

4:00 pm – **SMA, West Brooklyn**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST

8:00 am – **St. Patrick, Maytown**

10:00 am – **OLPH, Sublette**

“MAY GOD GRANT A **HOLY ADVENT** AND A **MERRY CHRISTMAS** TO ALL WHO WOULD READ THIS AD, AND MAY GOD BLESS YOUR **FAMILY** WITH A **RENEWED** AND STRENGTHENED DEVOTION TO HIS SON IN **THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**.”

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201 Locust Street

Sublette, Ill. 61367

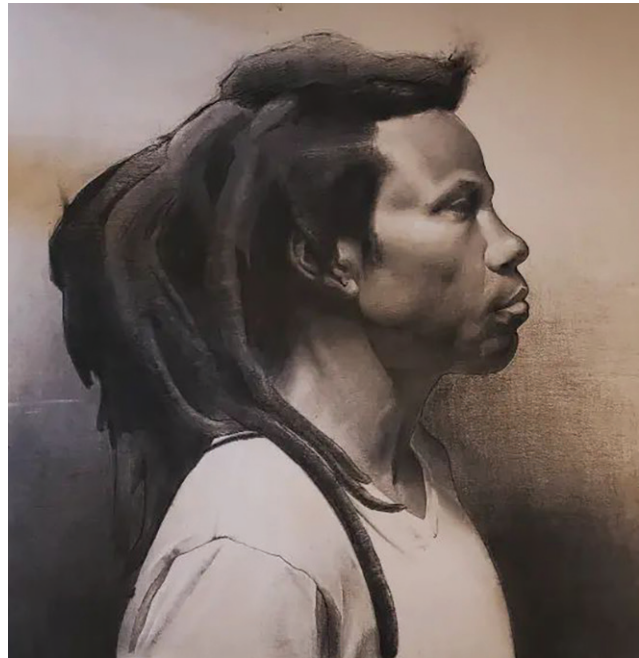
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LOCAL/STATE NEWS



Woodlawn Arts Academy presents its 2024-25 Winter Art Exhibit, "Portraits" featuring works from, left to right, Matt Jagitsch, Heather Shore, and Ryan Jandrey. The opening reception for the exhibit is 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at the academy in Sterling.

Winter art exhibit 'Portraits: Faces in Art' opens Dec. 13 at Woodlawn Arts Academy

STERLING — Woodlawn Arts Academy presents its 2024-25 Winter Art Exhibit, "Portraits: Faces in Art," opening Dec. 13. "Portraits" features works by local artists Matt Jagitsch, Ryan Jandrey and Heather Shore.

The public is invited to attend the opening reception for the

exhibit from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. The artists will be present, and artwork will be on display in the halls and lounge at the Academy, 3807 Woodlawn Road, Sterling. Refreshments will be available. Artwork will remain on display through Feb. 7, and the exhibit is free and open to the public during regular

business hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays.

Woodlawn Arts Academy is an agency of United Way of Whiteside and Lee Counties. Woodlawn Arts Academy acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council. Registration is available throughout

the year for various programs. Visit WoodlawnArtsAcademy.com for details on programs and financial assistance.

During the year, the Academy presents three other exhibits. The 2025 Student-Teacher Art Exhibit, featuring artwork by area students and their teachers, opens Feb. 21. The 2025 Summer

Art Exhibit will open in May. The 2025 Juried Art Exhibit will open in late August. In addition to the featured exhibits, the Winter and Summer Exhibit opening receptions will feature artwork from Woodlawn Arts Academy's Exploration Art School students and students from other WAA visual arts classes.

Your favorite Disney characters return to Rockford

ROCKFORD — Disney On Ice presents Mickey's Search Party is bringing the magic to guests through dynamic moments that take place on the ice and in the air. This adventure delivers compelling storytelling through multi-leveled production numbers so be prepared to join this magical search and help unlock an epic journey when Disney On Ice presents Mickey's Search Party delivers an unforgettable experience with eight fun-filled performances.

Disney On Ice tickets went on sale Tuesday, Oct. 7 at Ticketmaster.com.

The performances are Thursday, Jan. 16 (7 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 17 (7 p.m.), Saturday, Jan. 18 (11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.), Sunday, Jan. 19 (1 p.m., 5 p.m.), Monday, Jan. 20 (1 p.m.) at the BMO Center, located at 300 Elm St., Rockford.

Join Mickey Mouse and his friends at Disney On Ice presents Mickey's Search Party, an adventure filled with world-class skating, high-flying acrobatics and unexpected stunts! Look for clues in the search for Tinker Bell

through immersive, fantastic worlds. Explore the colorful spirit realm of Coco, sail away with Moana as she bravely saves her island, see Belle in the sky as the enchanted chandelier comes to life, and sing-along with Elsa in the icy world of Frozen. Make memories during Aladdin, Toy Story and The Little Mermaid as the search party becomes an all-out celebration.

Embark on a quest with Mickey Mouse and pals as they follow Captain Hook's treasure map for clues to find Tinker Bell after he attempts to capture her magic. Journey across the Marigold Bridge with Miguel from Disney Pixar's Coco into the magnificent and mystical Land of the Dead and discover a vibrantly colorful performance with skeletons atop sway poles dancing over the audience in a beautiful cultural celebration of family. Travel to the wintry world of Arendelle and sing along with Elsa as video projection creates a kaleidoscope of crystals to help build her ice palace. Witness Belle lift into the

sky as the enchanted chandelier comes to life high over the ice. Demonstrate the power of teamwork when Buzz Lightyear, Woody and Jessie recruit the Green Army Men for a daring rescue in Andy's room. Laugh hysterically as the hilarious pirates flip, tumble, and twist on tumble tracks, stilts and more in an effort to showcase their talents for Captain Hook. Sail away with Moana on her daring voyage across the ocean and bravely encounter the fiery wrath of Te Ka.

"Wayfinding with Moana" Character Experience

Enhance your Disney On Ice show ticket with a preshow Character Experience that includes a dance party, crafting, and interactive time with Moana. Bring your personal device for photo opportunities with Moana and her special guest, Mickey Mouse.

NOTE: Each guest (ages 2 and up) must have both a Character Experience ticket and a Disney On Ice show ticket to attend; children must be accompanied by an adult.



The 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:

Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Community Action Network, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of 365 DAILY WINNERS - TOTAL CASH PRIZES EQUAL \$18,250 PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

• **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CASH CALENDAR.**

• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:

In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest and Hub City Senior Center

In Oregon at: Merlin's

In Dixon at: Shining Star

• **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail your cash calendar to you!

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Dec. 17
AHS Boys Basketball @
Earlville-5:30 pm

Dec 18
AHS Art Club-Art Room-
3:30-4:30 pm

Dec. 19
AHS Boys Basketball @
Leland-5:30 pm
School Board Meeting-
Central School-6:30 pm
AHS Wrestling @ West
Carroll w/Freeport-5:30 pm

Dec. 20
EARLY DISMISSAL-
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
DAY-AHS-11:18/AJHS-
11:20/Central-11:25
End of 2nd Quarter

Dec. 21
AHS Girls Basketball (H)
Rock Falls-1:00 pm
AHS Wrestling @ Stillman
Tournament-TBA

YES! Send me my 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
(Please Print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

Clip and mail this form along with \$23.50

(\$20 per calendar plus \$3.50 per calendar postage)

Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

242 E. Main Street, Amboy IL. 61310

815-857-7020

NEW HOURS!

Store Hours
Everyday, 7am-10pm

Deli Hours
Everyday, 9am - 7pm

Grocery delivery for disabled & senior citizens - in town only.

Soup Is Back At The Amboy Deli!

Sale Prices Valid Dec. 11 - 17 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

Now Accepting EBT/Link Cards

PRODUCE

Tomatoes on the Vine  \$1.79/lb.	Cauliflower  \$1.49/lb.	Russet Potatoes 5 lb. bag  \$2.99/ea.	Michigan Apples 3 bag  \$2.99/ea.	Cucumbers  \$0.99/ea.
Limes  4/\$3	Yellow Onions 3 lb bag  \$2.49/ea.	Whole or Sliced Mushrooms 8 oz Baby Bella  \$2.29/ea.	Dole Romaine Classic or Greener Selection 9 to 11 oz  \$1.99/ea.	Fowler Farms Apple Cider Half or Gallon  \$3.99/ea.

HOT BUYS

Holiday Special Prime Rib  \$10.99/lb. Reg. Price \$13.99/lb. Limited Time, Please Pre-Order ASAP AMBOY DELI	U.S.D.A. Choice Angus Boneless Chuck Roast  \$5.99/lb. Reg. Price \$6.99/lb. AMBOY DELI	Plain Chicken Breast  \$3.49/lb. Reg. Price \$3.99/lb. AMBOY DELI	Bone-In Pork Chops  \$2.99/lb. Reg. Price \$3.49/lb. AMBOY DELI
Campbell's Soup 18.6 to 19 oz.  2/\$5 Reg. Price \$3.69/ea. AMBOY DELI	Tombstone Pizza 17.2 to 27 oz.  3/\$12 Reg. Price \$6.29/ea.	Food Club Milk 2% gallon  \$3.99/ea. Reg. Price \$4.29/ea.	Pepsi Products 16.9 oz 6 pack  4/\$12 Reg. Price \$5.99/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Food Club Meatballs 26 oz  \$5.99 ea. Reg. Price \$6.59/ea.	Badger Ham 16 oz Pre Sliced Smoked or Honey  \$5.99 ea. Reg. Price \$6.99/ea.	Stouffer's Entrees 28 to 40 oz  \$8.99 ea. Reg. Price \$10.99/ea.	Silk Plant Based Milk 59 or 64 oz  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.69/ea.	
International Delight Coffee Creamer 32 oz.  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.	McCain Potatoes 19 to 32 oz.  \$4.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.39/ea.	That's Smart Oyster Crackers 9 oz.  2/\$2 Reg. Price \$1.29/ea.	Quaker Instant Oatmeal 8.2 to 12.1 oz  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.29/ea.	Ragu Pasta Sauce 16 to 24 oz  \$2.99 ea. Reg. Price \$3.69/ea.
Minute or Success Rice 12 or 14 oz  \$1.99 ea. Reg. Price \$2.49/ea.	Betty Crocker Frosting 16 oz Assorted  \$1.99 ea. Reg. Price \$2.79/ea.	Kellogg's Cereal 9 oz Frosted Flakes or Froot Loops  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.49/ea.	Club Crackers 13.7 oz Assorted  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.	Lay's Party Size Potato Chips 13 oz  2/\$11 Reg. Price \$6.19/ea.

Sale goes through Dec. 17, 2024