

AMBOY MINUTE

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Snyders

## Sublette Village Board awards bid for sidewalk project

**By BRANDON LaCHANCE**  
*Amboy News Editor*

**SUBLETTE** – Downtown Sublette is going to become a construction site in the near future. The Sublette Village Board awarded a bid for the West Main Street Sidewalk Project at the May 12 meeting at the Ellice Dinges Center in Sublette.

“We received five bids by Monday, May 5. O’Brien Civil Works from Mt. Morris was the winning bid at \$94,905,” said Sublette Village President John Stenzel. “Helm Civil bid \$151,014.80, Twin City Construction bid \$103,777, Gillan Construction bid \$123,987 and Stenstrom Excavating & Blacktop Group bid \$105,371.75.

“The motion was to award the W. Main Street Sidewalk Project to O’Brien Civil Works on contingent of IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) approval. IDOT has to wait eight days for a grace period before it’s actually awarded. In the motion, it also allowed the village president to sign supporting contracts and documents.”

The project will be funded by the Rebuild Illinois Motor Fuel Tax funds, a \$25,000 infrastructure grant Sublette received, and \$29,000 from the local MFT.

“It’s good to see this project move forward.

From what I understand, O’Brien should be done by the end of October with the W. Main Street Sidewalk Project,” Stenzel said. “They will fix the sidewalk on the south side of West Main. It goes from the Main Street Business District to as far west as there is currently sidewalk.

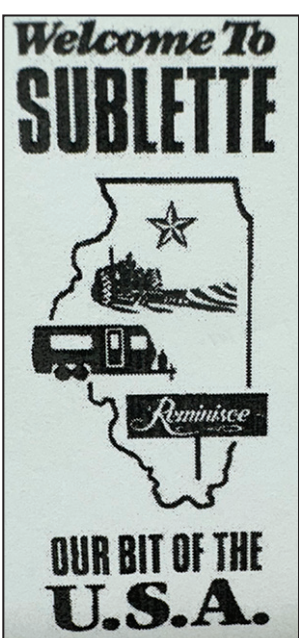
“It’s about two blocks, but it’s actually four blocks because there isn’t connecting streets on that side. There are a couple driveways and handicapped accessible street crossings that have to be addressed.

“We’re also putting in two crossings for Main Street to go from the south side to the north side.”

Other projects in the works include storm tile under Rt. 52 and West Main Street being resurfaced.

The Rt. 52 project is under Sublette’s watch as Stenzel reached out to Hoerr Construction and gave them videos taken of the tile to see if it can be a candidate to line the tile rather than replacing it.

“It won’t be cheap, but it’s cheaper than if



we had to physically dig through the highway,” Stenzel said.

Lee County is in charge of the W. Main Street resurfacing. The county awarded the bid to Marti & Company out of Oregon. A work begin or end date hasn’t been released.

In Stenzel’s president report, he mentioned was at the last Northern Illinois Mayors Association meeting. A woman was there talking about Illinois America 250, which is a state-wide commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States of America.

Stenzel doesn’t know if Sublette is going to do anything yet, but he wanted the board to know it’s coming and it’s hard to believe the country is 250 years old.

For USA’s 200th birthday in 1975, there was a committee, a parade, and restaurants had placemats with patriotic information.

The NIMA meeting was Stenzel’s last as the president of the association.

The next Sublette Village Board meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, June 9.

## Family vacation overshadows gelilah for Zimmerly

**BRANDON LaCHANCE**  
*Amboy News Editor*

**NATIONAL HARBOR, Md.** – What could have been a somber experience half a country away from home, Parker Zimmerly was optimistic and took in all of the joys of an unplanned family vacation.

Zimmerly won the Amboy Spelling Bee and the Lee-Ogle-Whiteside Regional Spelling Bee to earn his way to the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee May 27-29 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland, which is just outside of Washington D.C.

After leaving home at 3 a.m. and arriving in Maryland around noon, Zimmerly had a picnic with other spellers at Nationals Park, the baseball park for Washington Nationals of Major League Baseball.

Tuesday, at 9:30 a.m., it was time to spell with 242 other letter connoisseurs across the country.

“It’s very nerve racking to be up there because you know you’re on a nation-



**Parker Zimmerly, left, met spellers from across the United States of America during a picnic at Nationals Park, the baseball field for the Washington Nationals of Major League Baseball, and at the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee. He also got to sight see in Washington D.C. with his family.**  
Photo courtesy of Joanie Zimmerly

al stage. There are more people watching you,” Zimmerly said. “When I went up there, I was pretty nervous when he gave me a word. The word was tough just like all the other ones who went before me. I got the word, gelilah, and I did not know it. I spelled

it wrong.

“I asked for the origin and the definition, but it didn’t really help me because I had never seen or heard the word before.”

Although he misspelled gelilah, which has a red line under it in a Microsoft Word

document because it is a Hebrew girl’s name meaning “rolling hills” and a Jewish ritual term referring to the wrapping and dressing of the Torah scroll, Zimmerly wasn’t upset for long that he was out of the national spelling bee.

He had his mother Joanie Zimmerly, father Cody Zimmerly, sister Haidyn Zimmerly and grandparents Jim and Sheila Hicks to keep him company in the richest location in the United States when it comes to history, things to see, and making memories.

“I was disappointed at first, but it didn’t last long. If I advanced to the next round, I wouldn’t have been able to see all the museums and sight see with my family while I was there,” Zimmerly said. “Getting the word wrong, opened up more opportunities to make it a vacation.

“We went to many of the Smithsonian museums, Holocaust Memorial Museum, White House, Arlington Cemetery, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Memorial and the Vietnam Memorial.

“It was my first time in Washington D.C. I knew what all of the monuments, museums and memorials meant and why they were there. It made me appreciate what I got

to see while I was there.”

Joanie Zimmerly, a second-grade teacher at Amboy Central School, knows the difficulty of spelling every day American words let alone gelilah.

It didn’t matter if her son spelled 15 words correctly or missed the first one, she’s still beaming with pride.

“I am beyond proud of him. I’ve always been so intrigued by the kids that can spell like that. One of my favorite things about the trip was watching the finals of the spelling bee. It was amazing,” Joanie said. “I am proud of him for setting a goal to win the regional spelling bee this year. He took us to Washington and made memories that will last a lifetime.

“Tom Wadsworth, who was named the Volunteer of the Year, and he runs the regional spelling bee in Dixon, was given a video presentation of what he’s done. Parker was on the huge screen several times because he won this year.”

### Arellano, Fritts to provide Legislative update June 10

**DIXON** – Join the conversation on Illinois Legislation as your State Senator Li Arellano Jr. and State Representative Brad Fritts provide a Legislative Update from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 10 at Post House Ballroom, located at 100 W. Second St.

This event offers a unique opportunity to hear firsthand about the latest developments in Springfield.

Don’t miss this chance to stay informed and have your questions addressed by those shaping our state’s future.

The session will include lunch. Admission is \$15 for Dixon Chamber of Commerce & Main Street members, and \$35 for nonmembers.

Go to [bit.ly/lgupdd](https://bit.ly/lgupdd) to register.

### Memorial Day traffic campaign numbers released by Lee County Sheriff’s Office

**LEE COUNTY** – The Lee County Sheriff’s Office announced it issued seven citations during the Memorial Day “Click It or Ticket” enforcement period.

During the enforcement period, Lee County deputies wrote one citation for a seat belt violation and took the following additional actions: three speeding citations, two distracted driving citations, and one driving while license suspended.

The “Click It or Ticket” campaign is funded with federal highway safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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# LOCAL NEWS



## Memorial Day in Amboy

The Amboy community came together to pay honor to Amboy brethren who gave their lives to fight for the United States of America. Judge Matthew Klahn was the keynote speaker and Pastor Fritz gave the opening prayer. Hunter Rasmussen and Morgan Kreiser performed taps after the 21-gun salute performed by Amboy American Legion Post 453 and Gloria Parker read the Gettysburg Address and the Memorial Day Order of General John A. Logan. The Amboy High School band, led by director Travis Kemmerer, played many musical selections including the songs of each branch of the U.S. military. (Photos courtesy of Janet Crownhart).



## Start your 4th of July at Brush & Broom

**DIXON** – Brush & Bloom is an annual family favorite held annually during the Petunia Festival in Dixon. Local artists of all ages show off their skills on the sidewalks of the Lee County Courthouse, located at 298-200 S. Ottawa Ave. Discover Dixon provides the paint and supplies for all to enjoy. This year's event is from 9 a.m.-noon Friday, July 4. Please note, paint will not be distributed after 11 a.m. Registration details: 1 Square w/ T-shirt: \$25 – Available through June 13 Pre-sale 1 Square w/o T-Shirt: \$15 – Available through July 2 Day-of 1 Square w/o T-Shirt: \$20 – Based on availability - First come, first served In the event of inclement weather, Brush & Bloom will not be rescheduled. Your registration fee will be treated as a donation and will not be refunded. Go to <https://www.discoverdixon.com/event/brush-bloom-3/> to register in advance. This event is presented by Dixon Autobody Clinic, alongside the 2025 Event Season Pinnacle Sponsors Sauk Valley Bank and Raynor Garage Doors.

## Summer music returns to Amboy stage

**AMBOY** – One of the most attended summer activities in Amboy returns as Summer Music will take the stage. There are three acts booked for June. Each will play from 6-8 p.m. on Saturdays. New Vocal Blend will be June 7, Rusty Loomis on June 14 and Jeff Kagey on June 21.

## St. Ambrose reunion returns to Sublette

**SUBLETTE** – The village of Sublette will be invaded by bees on Thursday, June 12 – St. Ambrose Fighting Bees. Each year in June, St. Ambrose alumni, family and friends gather in large cities across the country for a Bee Happy Hour. For the past four years, Sublette has been included as a location for the bees to swarm. The gathering will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at LaFiesta Restaurant in downtown Sublette. There will be light snacks and an open bar. This is a chance for the bees to get together and network with people who have an interest in St. Ambrose. The event is being hosted by Linda Gray, Penny Farringer, Madison Althaus and Don Dinges. For more information, contact Grady at 815-883-1100 or Dinges at 815-713-5675. More information is also available on the St. Ambrose website. St. Ambrose University is located in Davenport, Iowa, and many students from the Rockford Diocese attend the school. **BLOODMOBILE SET FOR JUNE 10** A bloodmobile will be held from 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 10 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall. Walk-ins are welcome.

## Rep. Fritts announces June Summer Tour events

**DIXON** – State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) has officially announced his 2025 Summer Tour events for June. The tour consists of coffee & conversation events and town halls held on most Wednesdays from June 4 - August 27th. Coffee & conversation events will all be held at locally owned coffee shops and restaurants. The June events include the following: **Coffee & Conversation:** 8 a.m.-10 a.m., Wednesday, June 4 at Lincoln Way Café, 137 N. Elm St. in Franklin Grove 8-10 a.m. Wednesday, June 11 at Shabbona Café, 114 W. Comanche Ave. in Shabbona 8-10 a.m. Monday, June 16 at Ziggy's Family Restaurant, 1212 1st Ave. in Mendota **Town Halls:** 6-7 p.m., Wednesday, June 4 at Clinton Township Community Center, 160 W. Lincoln Highway in Watertown 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 11 at the Leland Village Hall, 285 W. Genesee St. 6-7 p.m., Monday, June 16 at the Compton Village Hall, 766 IL-251

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Pankhurst Memorial Library events in June

Summer Reading is here. This year's theme is STEM. The reading program is on different days for different ages.

**Preschool-kindergarten:** 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays, June 10, 17, 24

**First & second grade:** 10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25

**Third & fourth grade:** 10-11 a.m. on Thursdays, June 5, 12, 19, 26

Other July programs at Pankhurst Memorial Library:

**Book Club:** 5-6 p.m. Mondays, June 2, 16, 30

**Diamond Painting:** 4-6 p.m., Mondays, June 9, 23

**Crochet Club:** 5-6:15 p.m. Wednesdays, June 11, 25



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# LOCAL NEWS

## AMBOY POLICE

### LICENSE REVOKED/ REGISTRATION SUSPENDED

Colton A. Engler, 24, of Amboy, was charged with driving while license revoked and operating a motor vehicle while registration suspended on Saturday, May 17 at the intersection of E. Bluff Street and Jefferson Avenue. Engler was taken to the Lee County Jail.



Kevin and Debbi Esler of Ottawa recently created two community-enriching funds with the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation. Gathering recently in downtown Ottawa are SRCCF President Fran Brolley, left, and Director of Operations Janice Corrigan with the Esler's. Photo contributed

### Eslers create funds through SRCCF

OTTAWA – Kevin and Debbi Esler fell in love with the Ottawa riverfront while on a guided boat tour more than 20 years ago.

The couple, formerly of Lombard, have created two charitable funds with the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation to demonstrate just how much they cherish the region. The Esler's created a Donor Advised Fund and a Donor Designated Fund to make charitable gifts now and in perpetuity.

Their Donor Designated Fund will one day make annual gifts to Reddick Library in Ottawa, Pet Project (a no-kill shelter) in Marseilles, the Ottawa YMCA, the Veterans Home at LaSalle, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

With the Donor Advised Fund, the Eslers can make gifts anytime to qualified nonprofits.

"At the recommendation of their attorney, Robert Eschbach, Debbi and Kevin approached us to help facilitate their philanthropy," said Fran Brolley, Starved Rock Country Community Foundation president. "Kevin and Debbi are kind and friendly individuals who have worked hard all their lives and have helped others all along the way. Our foundation will magnify the impact of their giving and make

it stress-free."

The Esler's worked with SRCCF Foundation founder Pamela Beckett to create the funds.

It was 2002 when the couple took that fateful boat tour down the Illinois River. When a riverfront home came up for sale on Ottawa's beautiful Birchlawn Place, they purchased it as a weekend home (it is now their fulltime home).

Kevin, a carpenter by trade, ran his own carpentry business for years. He is an avid skier across the nation and world.

For 20-plus years, Debbi worked for McDonald's Corporation at their former headquarters in Oak Brook and worked in downtown Chicago for another 20.

They are members of the Starved Rock Yacht Club and are in a bowling league at The Alley. Both are active members of the Ottawa YMCA and contributed to its building campaign.

To create a Donor Designated or Donor Advised Fund with the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation, call (815) 252-2906, stop in the office at 116 W. Lafayette St., Suite 2, Ottawa.

For information about the Esler funds, visit: [srccf.org/fund/esler-donor-advised-and-donor-designated-funds](http://srccf.org/fund/esler-donor-advised-and-donor-designated-funds).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**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 Amboy Lions Club meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, June 9 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.

**SUBLETTE** – The next Village of Sublette meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, June 9 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, June 10 at the East Grove Township Hall.

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

**MAY TOWNSHIP** – The monthly May Township meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 11 at the township maintenance building.

**LEE CENTER** – The Lee Center Township meeting is at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 12 at the Township Hall.

**AMBOY** – The Amboy/Lee Center Multi-Township meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 18 at the Amboy Township Building, located at 106 South Prospect in Amboy.

**AMBOY** – The Amboy City Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 23 at the Amboy Community Center, 290 W. Wasson Road. The council meets every



Kishwaukee College Registered Nursing graduates pose for a photo at Kish's Spring 2025 Nursing Pinning Ceremony. Graduates were presented with a pin before family and friends during the ceremony, which recognized the successful completion of the program. Photo contributed

**MALTA** – Kishwaukee College nursing students were honored during a pinning ceremony on Wednesday, May 14, at the College.

Kish recognized 24 students for completing the Registered Nursing program and presented each graduate with a special pin before family and friends during the ceremony.

The Registered Nursing graduates of Spring 2025 are Madolyn Bellah, Nicole Braasch, Keyle Brown, Foluke Esan, Amanda Gamauf, Leticia Garcia, Brent Gross, Xzaria Hansbrough, Leslie Hernandez, Melissa Huneke, Jasmine Kemp, Destiny Kennedy, Tasha Kimble, Michele Lidren, Kylie Mapes, Tyniya Patterson, Jacob Pierce, Alicia Salgado, Emily Stewart, Carly Summers, Abigail Taylor, Krystal Torres, Morgan Tuttle and Morgan

Widick.

Brown, Esan, Gross, Hernandez, Kimble, Lidren, Mapes, Stewart, Summers, Taylor and Torres were recognized as Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honors Society members. Kyle Brown was named the Spring 2025 Outstanding Student. In her address, Brown acknowledged the perseverance of her graduating class.

"I want to acknowledge the sacrifice and determination it took to reach this point," Brown said. "These past two years, though demanding, have been deeply rewarding. The growth, the connections, the support—we will carry it all forward. No matter where we go from here, we have earned our place in this field."

The ceremony included an address from Barbara Leach, Vice President of Instruction, and Angela Delmont, Director of Nursing.

third Monday each month.

**AMBOY** – The City of Amboy committee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, July 7 at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. The meetings take place the first Monday of every month.

**DIXON** – The Lee County Board of Health will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 8 at the Lee County Health Department, located at 309 Galena Avenue, Suite 100 in Dixon.

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## The Amboy News

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# HEALTH NEWS



## OSF Saint Katharine honors Kelly Patterson with DAISY Award

**DIXON** – OSF HealthCare Saint Katharine Medical Center proudly recognized Kelly Patterson, RN, of the OSF Palliative Care department, as the spring DAISY Award recipient.

The DAISY Award is an international recognition program that celebrates the extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate care nurses provide every day. It was established by the family of J. Patrick Barnes, who died from an autoimmune disease, to honor the nurses who profoundly impacted his care.

Patterson was nominated by one of her patients, who is courageously battling stage four pancreatic cancer. In her heartfelt nomination, the patient described Patterson as a beacon of compassion and strength during one of the most challenging times in her life.

“Kelly has not only provided me with exceptional care but has also brought comfort, kindness and compassion into my life,” the patient wrote. “She comes to my home to draw blood, sparing me the exhaustion of hospital visits, and always treats me like more than just a patient.”

Patterson exemplifies the spirit of the DAISY Award - compassionate, skilled and deeply committed to her patients. Her recognition is a testament to the profound impact one nurse can have on a life.

The nomination highlighted Patterson’s gentle bedside manner, attentiveness and unwavering advocacy. From coordinating with multiple medical teams - including Mayo Clinic - to ensuring timely interventions, Patterson has consistently gone above and beyond. One moment that stood out was when she recognized her patient’s urgent need for a blood transfusion and swiftly arranged for hospitalization, potentially preventing a serious complication.

Elizabeth Murphy, MBS, BSN, RN, general manager of outpatient palliative care, praised Patterson’s dedication.

“Kelly is a fantastic nurse and a true patient advocate,” Murphy said. “She goes above and beyond for all of her patients to ensure that they have what they need. I am blessed to work with her.”

Patterson exemplifies the spirit of the DAISY Award - compassionate, skilled and deeply committed to her patients. Her recognition is a testament to the profound impact one nurse can have on a life.

## Illinois Department of Agriculture lifts poultry exhibition suspension

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Department of Agriculture is lifting the temporary suspension on the exhibition or sale of poultry at swap meets, exhibitions, flea markets and auction markets.

The suspension was initially issued in February in response to the ongoing threat of H5N1 avian flu and continued through today.

“We have closely monitored the threat posed by avian flu and have taken appropriate measures to ensure biosecurity for the safety of both the public and the poultry industry,” said Dr. Mark Ernst, IDOA state veterinarian. “Should the situation change, we will re-evaluate, but for now,

we feel it is safe to resume poultry exhibition and sales.”

Avian flu is caused by an influenza type A virus which can infect poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, domestic ducks, geese, and guinea fowl) and wild birds (especially waterfowl). Avian flu virus strains are extremely infectious, often fatal to chickens, and can spread rapidly from flock to flock.

Poultry flock owners, managers, and veterinarians should report any unusual findings in domestic poultry, such as increase in mortality, decrease in water consumption, decrease in egg production, or respi-

ratory signs, including coughing and sneezing, immediately to IDOA at 217-782-4944 or the United States Department of Agriculture at 866-536-7593.

The public is reminded not to handle or attempt to capture wild waterfowl or other birds displaying signs of illness. Due to risk of infection to other animals, cats should be kept away from the carcasses of birds that may have died from avian flu.

For more information regarding avian flu, visit the USDA site at [aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections](https://aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections)

## Marisa Kibble honored with 44th annual Conkey Family Award

**MENDOTA** – The recipient of the 44th Annual Conkey Family Award was announced as Marisa Kibble, a dedicated senior financial analyst, at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center as part of National Health Care Week.

A mission partner for nearly 20 years, Kibble lives in rural Dixon and was nominated by a colleague for her compassion, quiet leadership, and perseverance. Her impact extends far beyond her professional responsibilities.

Since 2019, when she accepted responsibility for the OSF Saint Paul Community Garden, Kibble has led every aspect of its



Heather Bomstad, left, vice president and chief nursing officer, Marisa Kibble, center, 2025 Conkey Award Winner and Dawn Trompeter, president.

success, coordinating volunteers, planting, weeding, harvesting, cleaning, and delivering produce, often

outside of work hours, all while continuing to fulfill her job duties and care for her family.

Under her leadership, the garden now yields more than 1,000 pounds of fresh produce each season, all of which is donated to the local food pantry to support individuals and families facing food insecurity.

The Conkey Family Award was established to honor Mission Partners whose actions reflect the values of the OSF Mission. Marisa Kibble’s selfless dedication truly embodies the spirit of this award and the legacy of the sisters who serve with the greatest care and love. Established in 1982, the award has recognized exemplary service annually since its first presentation in 1983.

## Free children’s podiatry assessment clinic June 24

**DIXON** – Illinois Elks Children’s Care Corporation in cooperation with Northwest District Elks Lodges will sponsor a free children’s podiatry assessment clinic on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at Morrison Podiatry located at 841 N. Galena Avenue Suite 300 Dixon with Dr. David Yeager as the clinician in charge.

The Clinic starts at 8 a.m. and is by appointment only.

To make an appointment call the Illinois Elks Children’s Care office at 1-800-272-0074 between the hours of 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There

are no charges for any services at this clinic.

No medical referral is necessary for the clinic but physicians are welcome to refer patients to the clinic for a specific reason or second opinion. School nurses are welcome to refer children and families to the clinic.

The Elks Organization has been working with physically challenged children since 1928 and this is one of the 15 clinic locations throughout Illinois. The clinic is an ideal time to have a child reviewed for bone and joint development. If your child has

feet pointing inward or outward or complains of foot pain they can be seen at this clinic. There is no charge for any diagnostic services at this clinic. The Elks will provide financial assistance to the best of their ability for children needing further treatment or specialty equipment when the family lacks sufficient resources to do so. In the past, the Elks have purchased therapy services, corrective shoes, braces, wheelchairs and augmentative communication devices to help children overcome a variety of physical challenges.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

**St. Patrick Church**  
Fr. John Gow  
32 N Jones, Amboy  
815-857-2315 • [www.stpatrickamboy.org](http://www.stpatrickamboy.org)  
Masses: 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  
815-440-0745  
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

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

**Grace Fellowship Church**  
Amboy-Sublette  
Pastor Kyle Kelly  
500 W. Main Street, Sublette  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
[www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

**East Grove Union Church**  
449 Reuter Road,  
Amboy, IL  
Phone 815-440-5321  
½ Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd  
Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship  
Youth Church, Ages 3 – Grade 4  
10:15 am Sunday School, Age 3 – Adult  
Come as you are and join us on the journey!

**First Baptist Church**  
Pastor Rocky Fritz  
24 N. Mason Avenue  
Church Phone 857-2682  
[www.fbcamboy.com](http://www.fbcamboy.com)  
Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Service - 6 p.m.  
Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  
King’s Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday  
Reformers Unanimous addictions program  
from 7-9 p.m.

**St. Mary’s Church – West Brooklyn**  
Rev. Randy Fronck  
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.  
Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

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

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

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church**  
Rev. Randy Fronck  
Locust Street, Sublette  
Phone 815-849-5412  
Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

**Refuge Church**  
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10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

**Harmon United Methodist Church**  
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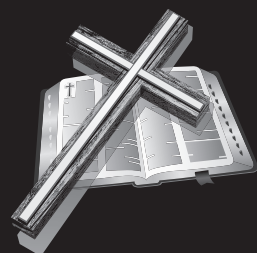
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**The Amboy News**  
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Amboy Junior High School Quarter 4 Honor Roll announced

**AMBOY** – The end of the 2024-25 school year may have been on the minds of students at Amboy Junior High School. However, they didn't let it show on their report card as many made the Honor Roll whether it was highest, high or honors.

**Eighth Grade Highest Honors:** Mallory Bodmer, Owen Dallam, Sophia Fonderoli Isabelle Klein, Scarlett Payne, Charlie Schoenholz, Norah Shearer, Parker Zimmerly.

**Eighth Grade High Honors:** Adelynn Kreiser, Sydney Noble, Natalie Skrzypa, Cooper Welch, Hannah Whitman, Parker Williams, Jaron Wittenauer

**Eighth Grade Honors:** Mackenzie Alletto, Jacie Blaine, Addison Bump, Laci Daniels, Erika Decker, Ian Hassler,

Joivvee Hirsch, Mason Morris, Camryn Noble, Brynleigh Payne, Kinsley Pogue, Gibson Ramirez

**Seventh Grade Highest Honors:** Mason Heath, Amelia Kant, Blake Mumm, Amelia Nichols, Mason Payne, Madison Phillips, Kylee Zellhofer

**Seventh Grade High Honors:** Payton Angermeier, Leah Bonnell, Cooper Fox, Vanessa Gross, Tinley Helms, Jaxon Hudson, Cylas Jackley, Rylen Koch, Annabelle Leffelman, Jack McCoy, Teagan Moore, Abel Mumm, Thomas Payne, Caidie Phelps, Alivia Schultz, Nolan Scully, Kylie Vaupel, Alexis White, Bailey Wittenauer, Zoey Zambrano

**Seventh Grade Honors:** Eli Lewis, Liam McBride, Maxwell Patterson, Hunter Roberts, Ken-

dyll Whitney, Jacob Wittenauer Casey Stampfler

**Sixth Grade Highest Honors:** Michael Dallam, Brison Fenwick, Kensley Helm, Julius Jones, Alice Klein, Levi McLaughlin, Emersyn Miller, Makayla Phillips, Cozette Schoenholz, Grace Zambrano, Myla Zambrano

**Sixth Grade High Honors:** Mackenna Alletto, Ali Althaus, Leah Bodmer, Gunner Christoffersen, Lilly Dolan, Averie Failor, Cam Florschuetz, Greyson Henkel, Kaiya Kaleel, Noah Lopez, Taylry McNinch, Emily Meyers, Reagan Miller, Eyan O'Malley, Zoie Pettersen, Gillian Schneider, Clayton Zimmerman

**Sixth Grade Honors:** Blake Atkinson, Raylai Berogan, Ethan Farster, Silas Grennan, Emerson Gross, McKenna Hood, Thomas Keene, Kayden McCrary,

**Fifth Grade Highest Honors:** Everly Boyle, Liam Carter, Paisley Kant, Rudra Patel, Mandi Ritter, Owen Schaeffer, Jackson Scully, Roman Spinelli, Everett Walter, Emery Williams

**Fifth Grade High Honors:** Tuc Bergfeld, August Boyle, Evalyn Bump, Lillyanna Bunch, Abel Camire, Annelise Considine, Charlotte Cook, Ellie Henkel, Savannah Hufford, Caitlyn Hummel, Eli Kaleel, Wilhemina Machen, Brycen Moore, Emersyn Moore, Evelyn Payne, Brooklyn Rutherford, Audree Schaefer, Ava Unzueta, Catherine Wittenauer

**Fifth Grade Honors:** Aubreyanne Kimball, Brooklyn Larson, Abigail Park-er, Aurora Wilhite, Jace Williams

## End of the year Honor Roll for Amboy Junior High; applaud your hard work

**AMBOY** – The end of the school year brings many things including summer break, warm weather, sports camps, band camps, more time with friends and pride for your school accomplishments.

Many fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students at Amboy Junior High School have plenty to celebrate, especially with the end of the year Honor Roll.

**Eighth Grade Highest Honors:** Mallory Bodmer, Owen Dallam, Isabelle Klein, Adelynn Kreiser, Scarlett Payne, Charlie Schoenholz, Norah Shearer, Jaron Wittenauer, Parker Zimmerly

**Eighth Grade High Honors:** Sophia Fonderoli, Mason Morris, Cooper Welch, Hannah Whitman

**Eighth Grade Honors:** Mackenzie Alletto, Jacie Blaine, Addison Bump, Laci Daniels, Erika Decker, Owen Eisenberg, Camryn Noble, Sydney Noble, Brynleigh Payne, Kinsley Pogue, Jasmine Rhodenbaugh, Natalie Skrzypa, Anthony Sus, Parker Williams

**Seventh Grade Highest Honors:** Leah Bonnell, Mason Heath, Jaxon Hudson, Amelia Kant, Rylen Koch, Teagan Moore, Blake Mumm, Amelia Nichols, Mason Payne, Caidie Phelps, Madison Phillips, Kylee

Zellhoffer

**Seventh Grade High Honors:** Payton Angermeier, Cooper Fox, Vanessa Gross, Tinley Helms, Abel Mumm, Maxwell Patterson, Thomas Payne, Nolan Scully, Kylie Vaupel, Alexis White, Kendyll Whitney, Bailey Wittenauer

**Seventh Grade Honors:** Bricen Davis, Shawn Hummel, Cylas Jackley, Annabelle Leffelman, Eli Lewis, Jack McCoy, Hunter Roberts, Alivia Schultz, Jacob Wittenauer, Zoey Zambrano

**Sixth Grade Highest Honors:** Averie Failor, Brison Fenwick, Kensley Helm, Greyson Henkel, Kaiya Kaleel, Alice Klein, Levi McLaughlin, Taylry McNinch, Emersyn Miller, Makayla Phillips, Gillain Schneider, Cozette Schoenholz, Grace Zambrano, Myla Zambrano

**Sixth Grade High Honors:** Mackenna Alletto, Ali Althaus, Leah Bodmer, Gunner Christoffersen, Michael Dallam, Emerson Gross, Julius Jones, Thomas Keene, Noah Lopez, Kayden McCrary, Jamison Meyer, Reagan Miller, Eyan O'Malley, Casey Stampfler, Clayton Zimmerman

**Sixth Grade Honors:** Blake Atkinson, Raylai Berogan, Nathan Dewey, Lilly Dolan, Ethan Farster, Cam Florschuetz, Silas Grennan, Kyzin Gries, Emily Meyers, Chandler Reber

**Fifth Grade Highest Honors:** August Boyle, Everly Boyle, Mila Burke, Liam Carter, Annelise Considine, Kainan Considine, Ellie Henkel, Eli Kaleel, Paisley Kant, Timothy Marsh, Brysen Moore, Emersyn Moore, Summer Nantz, Rudra Patel, Taiden Payne, Jackson Scully, Ruth Shearer, Roman Spinelli, Everett Walter, Emery Williams

**Fifth Grade High Honors:** Ariyah Bellows, Evelyn Buckley, Evalyn Bump, Abel Camire, Jazlynn Campiran-Ramirez, Charlotte Cook, JioVanny Fonderoli, Griffin Ohlendorf, Abigail Parker, Evelyn Payne, Mandi Ritter, Brooklyn Rutherford, Audree Schaefer, Owen Schaeffer, Ava Unzueta

**Fifth Grade Honors:** Tuc Bergfeld, Lillyanna Bunch, Selena Daffer, Jace Davis, Savannah Hufford, Caitlyn Hummel, Aubreyanne Kimball, Brooklyn Larson, Adisyn Latta, Oliver Machen, DeShawn Robinson, Harper Shoemaker, Aurora Wilhite, Jace Williams, Kaylee Williams, Catherine Wittenauer

**Congratulations to all the Amboy Junior High School and Amboy High School students who worked hard on many stages - academically, musically, athletically, behaviorally, mathematically, performingly, and all the other lys - whether made up or not. Enjoy your summer!**

# BUSINESSES & SERVICES



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# Opinion

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

## Hard to wrap a trip including NBA playoffs, legendary TV crew and new gear into one adjective

Bittersweet.  
In full disclosure, bittersweet is the adjective I'm using to describe my trip to the NBA Eastern Conference Finals Game 4 between the New York Knicks and the Indiana Pacers on Tuesday, May 27 in Indianapolis.

I mean I'm a Chicago Bulls fan through and through, so not being at the United Center in Chicago for a game seemed weird.

But I wanted to go to my first NBA playoff game, I had vacation days and my original plans were changed, Indianapolis is only a 3 1/2 - hour drive, I love basketball, and who knows when the Bulls will be good enough to host a playoff game.

This is where the bittersweet ended.

After the Bulls' factor, it was all sweet.

I'm going to fast forward to the end and then I'll come back, but one of the sweetest parts of the entire trip to Indy was, I was a member of the live audience for one of the Inside the NBA on TNT's last broadcasts as I was less than 10-feet away from Ernie Johnson, Shaquille O'Neal, Charles Barkley, and Kenny Smith.

I have been a basketball fan since Day 1. Football and boxing have taken turns for being second, but they were never close to my love for hoops.

Growing up a nerd, I would watch games, keep stats and tell people around me to be quiet when games or the pre-show or post-show were on so I could hear every insight. Who would have thought I've been a journalist, mostly in sports, for the last 20 years?

Most of the time (after the Bulls, Michael Jordan and NBC dominated NBA TV broadcasts in the 1990s), it was the Inside the NBA crew. They're funny, knowledgeable, real and picked on each other like real brothers. NBC has the NBA TV contract again and I believe the

same crew is making the transition, too, but nothing is ever the same when a move like this is made, so it was special for me to be there for one of the last TNT shows.

Back to the game.

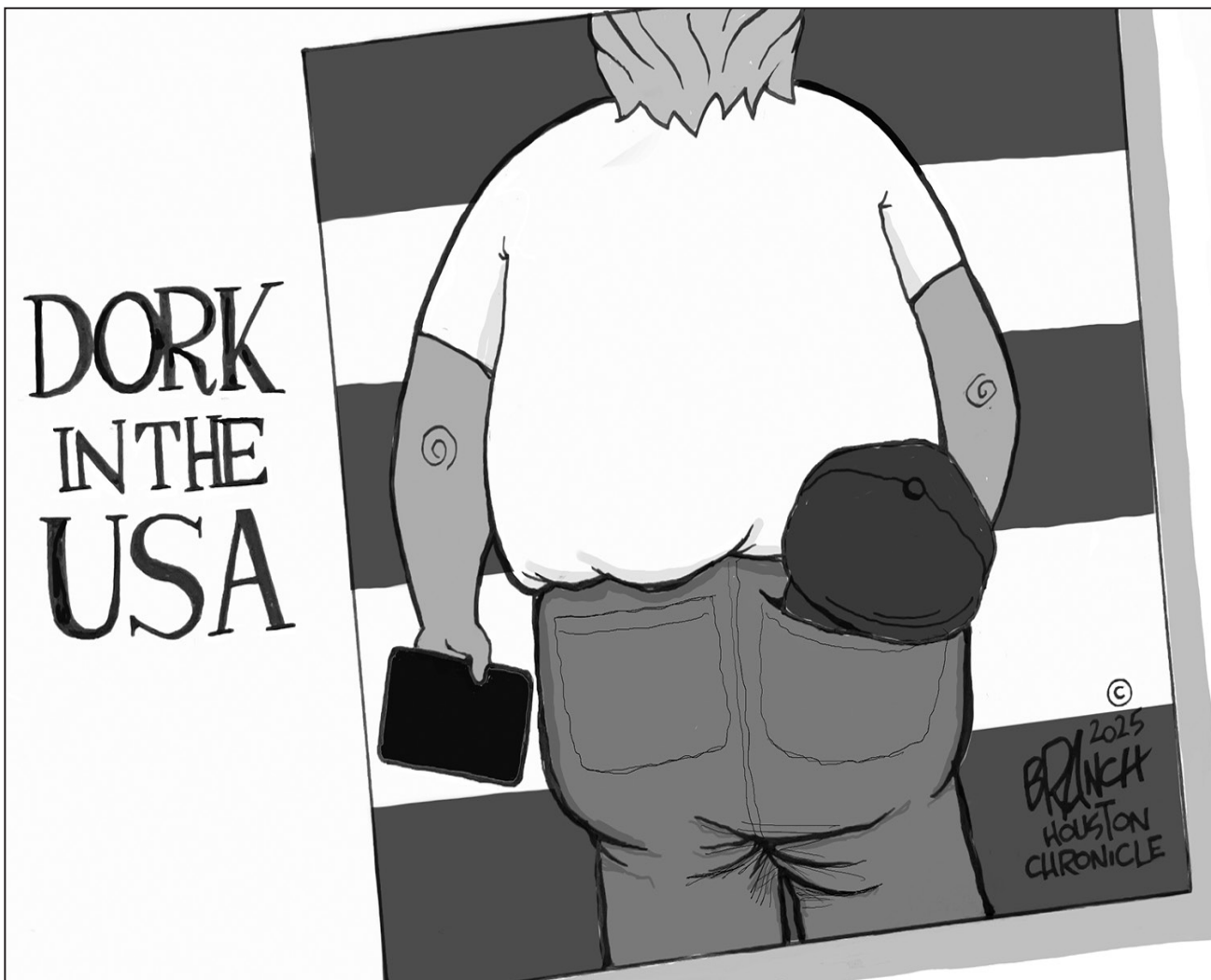
I didn't have a horse in the race, but I subconsciously sided with the Pacers because I saw their momentum coming in as they won the first two games of the series and lost the third because Karl Anthony Towns had a massive fourth quarter.

Also, Tyrese Haliburton is becoming one of my favorite players in the league because he plays unselfishly while putting his team on his back when need be. I bought a Haliburton city jersey/T-shirt to make my fandom official.

It was boosted more when Haliburton recorded a triple-double with 32 points, 15 assists and 12 rebounds. In my head, it was a quadruple-double because he had zero turnovers. Super crazy, although, his Game 4 performance puts him in a four-way tie for No. 8 (Chris Paul times two and Magic Johnson) on the list as Rajon Rondo and Norm Nixon tie for 19 assists without a turnover in a playoff game, while Magic Johnson, Robert Reid and Johnny Moore are listed with 17, and Paul and Jason Kidd were flawless with 16 assists. Still, watching Haliburton do his thing in person

### Column

By Brandon LaChance



## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 years ago  
June 5, 1925

Lightning made two attempts to burn the large William Steder barn southeast of Amboy. The bolts struck only a few seconds apart, the first tearing the roof, shingles and rafters, the second following down the hat track and setting the barn on fire. The blaze was quickly extinguished and only slight damage was done by the fire.

Members of the Congregational church in Amboy voted to begin repairs on the church building at a special business meeting. The trustees were instructed to secure bids on the approved plans.

F.E. Winchell, proprietor of the Arlington Hotel here, has sold out his place of business to T.J. McNamara, formerly of Toledo, Ohio.

Olive Dewey has resumed her work at the First National Bank, having completed her course at Brown's Business College.

75 years ago  
June 8, 1950

George Lindquist of Dixon, who has been awarded the general contract for the building of the addition and remodeling of Amboy High

School, broke ground and began work. Three new classrooms and two shop rooms as well as rest rooms for both girls and boys will be included in the addition.

Mrs. Lucille Zeigler will present her piano pupils in two recitals to be held at the Zeigler home on South Blackstone Avenue in Amboy.

50 years ago  
June 5, 1975

Amboy High School's Junior-Senior Prom king and queen and their retinue enjoyed Prom. The court consisted of Robin Rod, Tom Welty, Angela Reuter Mike Blackburn, Lisa Dempsey, Greg Koch, Barbara Bonnell, Tony McCoy, Queen Denise Morrissey, King Tim Hamlink, Sherri Homen, Tim Flessener, Ron Stephenitch, Lavonne Faber.

Amboy has been approved as a Bicentennial Community and will receive the appropriate flag in approximately 30 days. This announcement was made when the Amboy Bicentennial Commission met at the Depot Museum.

Beggs' Certified Foods ad offers lean ground beef for 89 cents per pound, family pack frying chickens for 55 cents per pounds, three heads of lettuce for \$1, Dean's Onion Dip for 49 cents.

25 years ago  
May 31, 2000

Under cloudy skies and a light to moderate wind on Sunday, May 28, members of the Eckburg family welcomed the Amboy community to a ceremony to dedicate the Prairie Repose Chapel in memory of their parents.

Amboy Veterans of Foreign Wars members Bob Dickenson, Bill Apple, Charles Otto, W.C. Kessel, Ole Dickeson and Don Schamberger stood at attention during a speech on Memorial Day.

A couple handfuls of bids and requests for use of facilities were on the docket for consideration at the Amboy Community School District 272 meeting in May. Amboy Education Foundation's fifth annual Lyle Reuter Open golf outing will take place June 10. The district received an Equipment-to-Books grant for \$1,000.

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Amboy celebrates its 1030th anniversary.

The Amboy boys track and field team's 400-meter relay team of Ryan McCoy, Kevin Hopper, Cody Darbe and Jason McLaughlin finish sixth at the IHSA State Track Meet at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

was amazing.

It was also cool to see the Knicks' Jalen Brunson, Mikal Bridges, Josh Hart and Anthony Towns play in person because I hadn't yet.

The atmosphere was awesome.

I sat next to a University of Indiana student from Japan who is at the school for her first year of a two-year program. She had never been to an NBA game, regular season or playoffs, and was just as excited or more excited than I was to be there (although I will debate).

In front of me were two drunk Pacers' fans who playfully talked smack to a group of six or seven Knicks' fans who had hilarious comebacks. They made a great game even better.

Prices for anything (I had a few beverages and purchased two T-shirts, while the third was given to every chair in the Gainbridge Fieldhouse) were cheaper than I would have had to pay in Chicago. I think I got two Coronas (I double fistfisted so I didn't have to come back) for what I would have paid for one at the United Center.

Oh, there was also the score, the Pacers won 130-121 to take a 3-1 Eastern Conference Finals Series lead. The Pacers won the series 4-2 on Saturday, May 31.

Now, I'm trying to find my next sport, game, location for a weekend trip because, schedule and commitments pending, this is now a thing.

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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10 weeks manual pay \$11.75

auto pay \$11.00

### OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.,

Monday-Friday

Closed Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342

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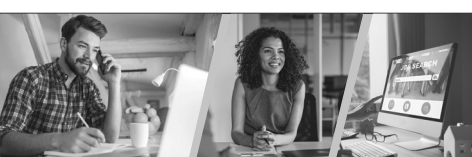
**NOTICE**  
A Zoning Board Appeals hearing will be held on Wednesday June 11th at the Amboy Community Building at 4:30p.m. This hearing involves an application from Tyler Humphrey property review request-pin 12-14-12-400-004 (Ordinance Plant) zoning No. 0607 (June 4, 2025)

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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Applicants should possess excellent communication and organizational skills with a positive personality and team-player approach. Previous media sales or related marketing experience is a plus, including print, digital and social media advertising.

The sky is the limit on earning potential and career development in this position. We offer a competitive base salary plus commission.

Qualified applicants should mail or e-mail their resume to the following address:

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or email to  
[bmcmacken@newsmediacorp.com](mailto:bmcmacken@newsmediacorp.com)**

**ROCHELLE News-Leader**  
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## 305 GARAGE / RUMMAGE SALES

### AMBOY GARAGE SALES

**Garage Sale**  
32 East US Highway 34, Mendota  
June 13th 8am - 5pm  
June 14th 8am - Noon  
Seasonal decorations, jigsaw puzzles, cook-books, precious moments, clothing, household and glassware, child's picnic table, pack'n play, frozen car, baby bed, pictures, antiques, rotor tiller.

## RUMMAGE SALE

Franklin Grove  
Presbyterian Church basement  
106 S. Walnut [accessible basement]

Fri., June 6, 8-4 • Sat., June 7, 8-1+

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## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those

## 203 HELP WANTED

## ROCHELLE News-Leader

### Part-time local delivery driver

The Rochelle News-Leader has an opening for a part-time newspaper bundle delivery driver who would load and deliver bundles to the post office, store racks and machines.

The daytime deliveries would be two or three days per week (including weekends) and consist of approximately 4-5 hours per shift depending on the route usually 10-15 hours per week.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid driver's license, proof of insurance and a safe driving record. Drivers will use company vehicles when delivering, and will be trained on the respective routes.

Candidates must be able to load, unload and carry multiple bundles of 5 to 10 pounds each. Driver applicants must be reliable, personable and have a general knowledge of area streets and roads.

This position is perfect for someone looking to supplement their income or retirement.

**Interested individuals must fill out an application in person at the Rochelle News-Leader office at 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle.  
No phone calls please.**

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# LOCAL/STATE NEWS

## Illinois EPA notifies 47 community water systems of right-to-know requirements triggered by recent rulemaking

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is notifying the owners and operators of 21 Community Water Systems that there has been a detection of one or more Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in the most recent water sampling of those specified CWSs at levels exceeding newly enacted groundwater quality standards.

The Illinois EPA is also notifying owners and operators of 26 connected CWSs that obtain water from CWSs that had one or more PFAS exceedances. Existing state Right-to-Know laws require a CWS to notify all end users when groundwater contamination poses a threat of exposure to the public above the Class I groundwater quality standards. This law establishes methods of notification and strict time frames for providing notice.

PFAS are a group of several thousand human-made chemicals that are manufactured for their oil and water-resistant properties. Since the 1940s, PFAS have been used in a wide range of consumer products, industrial processes, and in some fire-fighting foams (called aqueous film-forming foam or AFFF). This has resulted in PFAS being released into the air, water, and soil. PFAS do not easily break down under natural conditions and are often referred to as “forever chemicals.” Attached is a copy of the Public Health Notice being provided to the CWSs, which includes information on potential health effects, home water filter treatment options, and ways to minimize PFAS exposure from other sources.

On December 7, 2021, the Illinois EPA filed amendments of the Illinois Pollution Control Board’s (Board) Part 620 groundwater quality regulations to preserve and protect Illinois groundwater and to ensure that the state’s groundwater quality standards match current scientific data and methodologies. The Illinois EPA’s proposal included new groundwater quality standards for six PFAS, based on the most recent scientific information available:

- perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
- perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)
- hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid, also known as GenX (HFPO-DA)
- perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)
- perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)
- perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)

On April 11, 2025, the Board’s adopted amendments to Part 620 were published in the Illinois Register, triggering this Right-to-Know notification. Attached is a complete list of the affected systems, the most recent detected concentration, and the new groundwater quality standards.

Due to the prevalence of PFAS in the environment, Illinois has been among the most proactive states in the country in developing and implementing PFAS health standards and groundwater quality standards, in order to protect its residents. Between 2021 and 2024, Illinois EPA issued seven PFAS Health Advisories to provide guidance to local officials and CWS operators in protecting the health of water consumers, and calculated 16 health-based guidance levels (HBGLs) which represent the concentrations in drinking water at which no adverse health effects are expected to occur. The adoption of Part 620 groundwater quality standards will replace five of the Health Advisories with the other two, Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) and Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA), remaining in effect until an enforceable groundwater standard exists. Additionally, U.S. EPA recently set Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), which are federal drinking water standards, for certain PFAS. CWSs will need to sample for and comply with the federal MCLs for PFAS by April 2029.

Although these state PFAS groundwater quality standards are newly established, Illinois EPA has collected PFAS data from every CWS in the state. In 2021, Illinois EPA completed a statewide investigation into the prevalence and occurrence of PFAS in finished, or treated, drinking water sampling all community water systems across Illinois. The data are available on the Illinois EPA PFAS Investigation Interactive Dashboard. Further, from 2023-2025, U.S. EPA is conducting PFAS testing in the State of Illinois under the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) which is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule-data-finder#data-finder>.

Within the 47 CWSs included in this notification, only three of the six PFAS for which a groundwater quality standard now exists were detected above the groundwater quality standards. Those PFAS are PFOA (4 parts per trillion (ppt)), PFOS (4 ppt), and PFHxS (10 ppt), none of which are volatile contaminants. The

21 affected primary CWSs supply drinking water to an estimated 406,363 individuals. Those CWSs also provide potable water to 26 satellite systems, supplying drinking water to approximately 32,226 additional individuals.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Act requires the owners or operators of these CWSs to notify their customers of this contamination by mail, email, post card, text message, or telephone within five business days of official receipt of the Illinois EPA’s notice. Within seven days of sending the notices, the owners or operators of the CWS must provide the Illinois EPA with written proof that the notices have been sent.

While this notification includes only a small percentage of Illinois CWSs, other communities and residents may be at risk from PFAS exposure. PFAS are stable, persistent chemicals and will bioaccumulate in blood and organs over time. Current scientific literature indicates that people are primarily exposed to PFAS through the ingestion of food and water, including:

- ingestion of contaminated food and water, including food packaged in containers or wrappers containing PFAS.
- hand-to-mouth contact with products treated with PFAS (such as carpets and textiles) or products that contain PFAS (such as paints, and cosmetics).
- incidental ingestion of household dust.

Until additional regulations related to PFAS are promulgated at the federal and/or state level, Illinois EPA encourages all CWSs, private well owners, and residents to be proactive in addressing potential PFAS contamination, not only in drinking water, but through the other common routes of exposure. Ways to reduce exposure include:

- Choose stainless steel, cast iron, or non-stick cookware that does not contain PFAS.
- Avoid water repellents on clothing.
- Use personal care products without “PTFE” or “Fluoro” ingredients.
- Use water filters designed to remove PFAS (NSF/ANSI 53 or 58 standards).

## State Republicans call for immediate action to address Illinois’ energy crisis

**SPRINGFIELD** – In response to anticipated rate hikes on Illinois residents, Senate Republican members of the Energy and Public Utilities Committee are calling for immediate legislative action to help offset future energy price increases.

According to Ameren Illinois, rates are expected to increase from an average

of \$37.62 to \$45.98 per month for Ameren customers for the four-month summer season as a result of the most recent MISO grid auction. Meanwhile, ComEd customers are expected to see their average monthly bill go up from \$108 per month to \$118.60 per month due to the latest PJM grid auction.

With the expected rate

increases, the Senate Republicans on the Committee are calling on Democrat lawmakers to take swift action on a legislative package aimed at addressing Illinois’ ongoing energy concerns.

“Illinois families are already struggling to keep up with rising costs across the board, and now they’re being asked to pay even more just to keep their lights and air conditioning on,” said State Senator Terri Bryant (R-Murphysboro), who is the Minority Spokesperson of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee. “We need to stop pretending these rate hikes are just a coincidence. The policies coming out of Springfield are directly driving up energy prices, and we need to enact legislation right now that will provide our state with a path to stabilize our grid, lower prices, and prioritize reliability.”

The package is comprised of three bills. The first bill, Senate Bill 1234,

creates the Illinois Regional Generation Reliability Task Force Act to study the effect of state laws, including CEJA, on energy prices as well as grid reliability.

“For the state to have reliable power sources and to avoid future rate hike increases, our state must perform a comprehensive study of its energy grid and future capacity,” said State Senator Erica Harris (R-Glen Carbon). “There is no reason any lawmaker should oppose reasonable legislation to protect our energy future.”

The package also includes a bill, Senate Bill 1235, which would repeal the forced 2045 closure date for coal and natural gas power plants that was implemented under Governor Pritzker’s Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) of 2021. This legislation would also allow companies to build new gas peaker plants to help supplement the state’s energy needs without the fear of forced closures.

“CEJA’s misguided decision to close traditional power plants is having very real consequences on the people of our state,” said State Senator Dale Fowler (R-Harrisburg). “The demands of our state’s energy grid cannot be met through renewable energy alone. We need consistent, reliable baseload energy, which coal and gas power plants have provided to the state for decades. This legislation could help lower consumer costs and help keep Illinois’ energy mix one of the best in the nation.”

The final part of the legislative package is Senate Bill 1236, which eliminates red tape at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that has been preventing new power plants from coming online in a timely fashion by fast-tracking the state permitting process. A prime example of the current permitting process would be the Lincoln Land Energy Center in Pawnee, which started the permitting process with the Illinois EPA in 2017. The

plant is finally expected to open in 2028 after delays in construction permit approval, despite its owner’s original plan to open the plant in 2022.

“By cutting red tape and fast-tracking energy projects, this proposal helps expand supply, lower prices, and reduce government delays,” said State Senator Neil Anderson (R-Andalusia). “For too long, we have had potential energy for our grid delayed by unreasonable regulations that have harmed our energy production, and the people of our state have paid the price.”

“Reliable, affordable energy is not a luxury, it’s a necessity,” said State Senator Sue Rezin (R-Morris). “Illinois needs to take immediate steps to strengthen grid stability and prevent further price spikes. This legislative package is about smart, practical reforms that will protect consumers, support energy growth, and ensure our energy policies reflect the real-world needs of families and businesses.”

## Fraudsters turn up the summer heat

**ROCKFORD** – The Better Business Bureau advises job seekers should exercise caution in their employment search for two reasons. First, when there is an economic downturn, scammers capitalize on people being in such a rush to find work they don’t pay as much attention to the signs of a job scam. Second, there’s more competition for jobs in the summer. High school and college students, often the most eager, are particularly vulnerable.

“That ‘perfect job’ you saw online might not be real,” says Dennis Horton, BBB Senior Director of the Rockford Regional Office. “It could be a con. Job scams pose a serious

risk of money loss and identity theft.”

Employment scams are the second riskiest scam type in the U.S. These scams remained BBB’s No. 2 riskiest scam type in 2024. Among ages 18-34, employment scams were BBB’s No. 1 riskiest scam type last year. Median dollar loss was \$1,500.


Horton notes, “While searching for a job is easier than ever, you should expect to encounter scams. They are widespread and increasingly more sophisticated.” Also, if you post your resume online, that makes your personal information widely available. Fraudsters actively look for these resumes.

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# SPORTS

## Billhorn, Nichols indulge state track experience

By **BRANDON LaChance**  
*Amboy News Editor*

**CHARLESTON** – Joel Billhorn and Henry Nichols were where every track and field athlete wants to be at the end of the season on Thursday, May 29 – Eastern Illinois University in Charleston at the IHSA State Track Meet.

Billhorn, a then-senior/now-Amboy High School graduate, ran in the 400-meter dash and took 11th with a personal record of 50.70 seconds. Nichols, a then-sophomore/now junior, ran a 10:38.55 in the 3,200-meter run for 31st.

Billhorn fought nerves at sectional to get to state. When he was there, it was all about doing the best he could.

“Last year, I was under the qualifying time for the 400 pretty much all year. I got to the sectional and just fell apart,” Billhorn said. “It meant a lot to me to make it to state, especially after what happened last year. This year’s sectional race was the most nervous moment of my life because I didn’t want to miss state again.

“I played basketball for my first three years. This year, I decided to quit basketball. After football ended, I completely focused on track and put in as much work as I could for this season.

“During my sophomore year when I went to state as part of the 400-relay team, if I didn’t run great, I knew I had guys who were going to back me up. Coming into this year, I knew it was going to be my last time ever running. I wanted to go out with a bang. There was a lot more

pressure, but I’m pretty happy with how it went.”

Billhorn finishes his AHS athletic career as a six-time state qualifier as he was a member of the last three state appearing (one) and champions (the last two years), two times at outdoor track and once in indoor track.

Although sports have been fun, he is already adulting as he currently has a job and wants to get into the sheet metal workers union in Rockford.

In a short two years, Nichols has made teammates, coaches, opponents and sports writers very aware of his name.

Advancing to the state track meet as a sophomore has everyone’s attention now.

“It was nice to qualify for state. I’ve been working hard. All of my coaches have been working with me and giving their all to try to get me to state,” Nichols said. “It was really nice for it to pay off. I was pretty confident at sectional. There was some tough competition, but I was able to pull it off to get to state.

“State was a mixture of excitement and nerves. It was new; an entirely new experience running at a higher level.”

With his first state experience in the books, he wants to keep adding pages.

“I’m really hoping for a lot more next year and the year after. I know I can drop my time. Hopefully, eventually, I’ll make podium. We’ll see,” Nichols said. “Going to state this year really gives me motivation to work hard for both cross country and track to try to go to state again.”



The Amboy boys track and field team had athletes compete at the IHSA Class 1A State Track Meet on Thursday, May 29. Henry Nichols, left, made his state debut as a sophomore in the 3,200-meter run, while now-graduated Joel Billhorn ran his fastest 400-meter dash of his career in 50.70. Photo contributed

## Register now for the Briar Knoll Hunting and Fishing Club Wingshooting Clinic

**SPRINGFIELD** – Youth, 12-plus, and adults can now register online for the Briar Knoll Hunting and Fishing Club’s Hunter Level Wingshooting Clinic from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on June 14-15 at the hunting and fishing club.

This clinic is designed for those above beginner and novice skill levels wishing to improve their clay target shooting skills. Registration is

required and there is a fee of \$30 per participant. Go online (<https://givebutter.com/X1YTJ5>) to register and to view the 2025 wingshooting clinics calendar.

Wingshooting clinics resemble actual field hunting situations, and participants will encounter presentations that mimic the flight characteristics of pheasants, quail, rabbits, doves, ducks,

and other game species.

The clinics are taught by certified Illinois Department of Natural Resources or National Sporting Clays Association instructors.

This event is sponsored by The Briar Knoll Hunting and Fishing Club, The Illinois Conservation and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

## Illinois State Fair box office is officially open

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois State Fair Box Office opened for in-person ticket purchases June 2. Regular box office hours are 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

While purchasing concert tickets, fairgoers will be able to purchase tickets at the box office for events at The Arena as well as car races at the Grandstand.

“The 2025 Illinois State Fair is packed with entertainment options for the whole family,” said Jerry Costello II, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. “The box office opening day specials are even more reason to come out and buy tickets in person.”

Discounted Mega Passes are available for purchase at the Emmerson Building or online and give fairgoers unlimited access to all the thrilling rides in the Carnival Midway and Adventure Village. Grab a Mega Pass for \$80 or a Jumbo Pass (which includes the Giant Slide) for \$90 through July 31. Beginning August 1, the price will increase \$20 on both passes.

For just \$45, a Discount Admission Book provides 11 any-day admissions to the 2025 Illinois State Fair. A seasonal Infield Parking Pass can also be purchased for \$40. This allows you to park on the fairgrounds all 11 days of the fair.

Grandstand Concerts:

Friday, August 8: Jake Owen  
Tier 3 - \$30 / Tier 2 - \$35 / Tier 1 - \$40 / SRO Track - \$50 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$95

Saturday, August 9: The Black Crowes  
Tier 3 - \$70 / Tier 2 - \$75 / Tier 1 - \$80 / SRO Track

- \$80 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$135

Sunday, August 10: Megan Moroney – SOLD OUT  
Tier 3 - \$47 / Tier 2 - \$57 / Tier 1 - \$67 / SRO Track - \$77 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$122

Tuesday, August 12: Sheryl Crow  
Tier 3 - \$40 / Tier 2 - \$45 / Tier 1 - \$50 / SRO Track - \$55 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$105

Wednesday, August 13: Snoop Dogg  
Tier 3 - \$85 / Tier 2 - \$90 / Tier 1 - \$110 / SRO Track - \$125 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$165

Thursday, August 14: Brad Paisley  
Tier 3 - \$55 / Tier 2 - \$60 / Tier 1 - \$70 / SRO Track - \$70 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$125

Friday, August 15: The Chainsmokers  
Tier 3 - \$85 / Tier 2 - \$90 / Tier 1 - \$95 / SRO Track - \$95 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$150

Saturday, August 16: Def Leppard  
Tier 3 - \$85 / Tier 2 - \$90 / Tier 1 - \$110 / SRO Track - \$125 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$165

Sunday, August 17: Turnpike Troubadours  
Tier 3 - \$55 / Tier 2 - \$60 / Tier 1 - \$70 / SRO Track - \$70 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$125

A \$30 Pre-Show Party ticket is offered as an additional upgrade for all paid concerts.

Amboy High School

**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

**Boys Track and Field**

Joel Billhorn, Sr

400-meter dash - Second at sectional, ran personal record at state (50.70)

Henry Nichols, So

3,200-meter run - Second at sectional, advanced to state

Congratulations  
From Your Friends At

**The First National Bank in Amboy**

Amboy - Dixon - Franklin Grove - Monroe Center  
815-857-3625 - [fnbamboy.com](http://fnbamboy.com)

**Arteaga** Tree Service & Landscaping

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03/05/2025

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Call Jim at **630-201-8122**

03/19/2025



# AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

**NEW HOURS!**

**Store Hours**  
Everyday, 7am-10pm

**Deli Hours**  
Everyday, 9am - 7pm

**242 E. Main Street, Amboy IL. 61310**

**815-857-7020**

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

**Soup Is Back At The Amboy Deli!**

Sale Prices Valid June 4th - June 10th – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

Now/Accepting  
EBT/Link/Cards






## PRODUCE

<b>Strawberries</b> 1 lb Pkg	<b>Green Giant Idaho Potatoes</b> 3 lb Bag	<b>Tomato On The Vine</b>	<b>Tri-Color Bell Pepper</b> 3 Pk	<b>Driscoll's Raspberries</b> 6 oz Pkg
				
<b>\$299/ea</b>	<b>\$199/ea</b>	<b>\$159/lb</b>	<b>\$499/ea</b>	<b>\$399/ea</b>
<b>Green Giant Matchsticks Carrots</b> 12 oz Bag	<b>Dole Garden Salad</b> 12 oz	<b>Broccoli Crowns</b> Per lb	<b>Dole Celery</b>	<b>Whole White Mushrooms</b> 16 oz
				
<b>\$199/ea</b>	<b>\$199/ea</b>	<b>\$199/lb</b>	<b>\$199/ea</b>	<b>\$349/ea</b>

## HOT BUYS

<b>USDA Choice Angus Boneless Rump Roast</b>	<b>Fresh Bone-In Pork Steak</b>	<b>Beef-New York Strip Steak</b>	<b>Deli Special-Large Crazy MAC &amp; N Cheese Pizza</b>
			
<b>\$599/lb</b> Reg. Price \$6.99/lb.	<b>\$299/lb</b> Reg. Price \$3.49/lb.	<b>\$1199/lb</b> Reg. Price \$12.99/lb.	<b>\$1099/ea</b> <b>NEW ITEM</b>
<b>Food Club Milk</b> Gal 2%	<b>7 Up Products</b> 12 Pk Cans	<b>Pepsi Products</b> 24 Pk Cans	<b>Tostitos Or Ruffles</b> 9 to 13 oz
			
<b>\$399/ea</b> Reg. Price \$4.29/ea.	<b>\$699/ea</b> Reg. Price \$8.49/ea. <b>HOT DEAL</b>	<b>\$1299/ea</b> Reg. Price \$14.99/ea.	<b>2/\$900</b> Reg. Price \$5.99/ea. <b>HOT DEAL</b>

## WEEKLY SPECIALS

<b>Kings Ford Ribs</b> 24 or 28 oz	<b>Land O' Frost Lunch Meat</b> 7.5 or 9 oz	<b>Oscar Mayer Fully Cooked Bacon</b> 2.5 oz	<b>Coffee-Mate Natural Bliss Coffee Creamer</b> 32 oz
			
<b>\$1199/ea</b> Reg. Price \$15.99/ea. <b>HOT DEAL</b>	<b>\$349/ea</b> Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.	<b>\$499/ea</b> Reg. Price \$5.99/ea.	<b>2/\$800/ea</b> Reg. Price \$5.99/ea.
<b>Mc-Cain Potatoes</b> 14 or 32 oz	<b>Healthy Choice Entress</b> 9.25 to 10.3 oz	<b>Prairie Farms Ice Cream</b> 16 oz	<b>Cafe Valley Turnovers</b> 12 oz
			
<b>2/\$900/ea</b> Reg. Price \$5.39/ea.	<b>\$349/ea</b> Reg. Price \$4.19/ea.	<b>\$279/ea</b> Reg. Price \$3.29/ea.	<b>\$399/ea</b> Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.
<b>Chips Ahoy Cookies</b> 9.6 or 19.5 oz	<b>Kellogg's Cereal</b> 9.6 or 16.1 oz, Select Variety	<b>Vlasic Pickles</b> 24 oz	<b>Food Club Syrup</b> 24 oz
			
<b>\$449/ea</b> Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.	<b>2/\$800/ea</b> Reg. Price \$5.49/ea.	<b>\$349/ea</b> Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.	<b>\$229/ea</b> Reg. Price \$2.79/ea.
			<b>Betty Crocker Frosting</b> 12 or 16 oz, Select Variety
			
			<b>2/\$400/ea</b> Reg. Price \$2.79/ea.

Sale goes through June 4th - June 10th