

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY: Members of Amery's first WIAA hockey team gather after 25 years P15



CONTRIBUTED

### First baby of New Year: Welcome baby Eli!

Amery Hospital & Clinic welcomes the first baby of the New Year. Eli John Michael Peterson was welcomed into the world January 3, 2022 by his parents Samantha and Tyler Peterson of Amery. See story and additional photo on page 14.

## New hats thrown into spring election ring

BY APRIL ZIEMER  
EDITOR@THEAMERYFREEPRESS.COM

The spring election is just short of three months away and when voters hit the booths April 5, 2022, they will see some names missing and others added in various local elections.

The Amery Board of Education has two members up for re-election, Dale Johnson and Chelsea Whitley. Both have decided to run. Joining them on the ballot are Joe Vierkandt and Stephanie Jansen. Keith Anderson, Char Glenna and

Erin Hosking are not up for re-election and will hold their seats.

In the City of Amery, one name sits in the spot for Mayor; Chad Leonard. Paul Isakson has decided his current term will be his last. Leonard has filed Non-Candidacy for his current Alderperson seat in District 1 in order to run for Mayor.

Eric Elkin is running for Alderman At Large. Sarah Flanum currently holds an Alderperson At Large seat and

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 2

## Snowmobiles set sail on Stower Trail

BY APRIL ZIEMER  
EDITOR@THEAMERYFREEPRESS.COM

According to an email from Ben Elfelt, Polk County Parks and Trails Coordinator, Polk County Snowmobile trails, including the Stower, will opened at 10 a.m. January 6, 2022.

In January 2021, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) reached a decision on the Stower Seven Lakes State Trail after years of debate whether or not to allow motorized activity on the trail. There were meetings

SEE STOWER, PAGE 3

## Big numbers for small town pharmacy

### Amery's very own Chet Johnson Drug tackles vaccinations

BY APRIL ZIEMER  
EDITOR@THEAMERYFREEPRESS.COM

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, everyday practices for people across many fields changed, and to say that Chet Johnson Drug did some tweaking to "business as usual" would be an understatement.

Chet Johnson Drug closed out 2021 with over 10,700 vaccinations, which is huge for a small-town pharmacy sitting within a population of 3000 people. The pharmacist team at Chets mutually agree that actually giving the vaccinations was the easy part.

When the vaccine was about to launch, even big box pharmacies

grappled with the logistics of providing the vaccination service to those wanting it. Chet Johnson Drug tackled the dispensation of the vaccine with the same attitude the third-generation pharmacy has always handled business, doing whatever it takes to provide

SEE CHETS, PAGE 9



APRIL ZIEMER | AMERY FREE PRESS

Chet Johnson Drug's Nicole Sheldon, Matt Wlogyda, Sarah Flanum, Matt Johnson and Julie Hanlon-Johnson.

## Your friend in knee (and hip and shoulder)

Solve joint pain. Call 715-268-8000 or visit [healthpartners.com/ameryhealth](http://healthpartners.com/ameryhealth) to learn more.

 Amery Hospital & Clinic



NEWS  
715-268-8101  
editor@theameryfreepress.com

ADVERTISING  
715-268-8101  
marketing@theameryfreepress.com

PUBLIC NOTICES  
715-268-8101  
marketing@theameryfreepress.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS  
715-268-8101  
dstangl@theameryfreepress.com