# **Amish Neighbors**

It is believed that the first two Amish families moved

to Dixon in 1980. The two matriarchs Joseph Eicher and

Maylen Yoder's families still reside here. It is estimated that

there now are approximately 13 families nestled along the secluded countryside on the outskirts of Dixon. Each family averaging anywhere between 5 and 10 children. One family

has 16 children. They all remain self sufficient. They are

known to locals as being very hardworking, soft spoken, kind

individuals. It is refreshing to see the young people working

in the gardens or on equipment right along side the adults as one drives by. It is a wonderful way to teach the children

responsibility and how to contribute to the family's needs.

It is a common occurance In Dixon to see a horse and buggy

tied, (parked) along the uptown streets or at a local grocery store. In recent years Missouri has been deemed to have the fourth-highest Amish population growth in the country, with

41 settlements and more than 10,000 Amish living in the state.

among other various occupations. The butcher shop started out

just processing deer and now it has grown to soon becoming

a custom butcher shop complete with new building to house the business. It is operated by Roman Miller, who along with

his sons, completed constrution of the new butcher shop in the

fall of 2015. The establishment is named R-N Butchering...the

first initials of Roman and his wife. He jokingly commented

about the idea of RN, "after all RN nurses take good care

of people," he smiled, referring to his chosen name for the

business. Roman stated that customers can bring the meat

of their choice for processing on location. The Millers will

make summer sausage, jerky and snack sticks out of it also if

Missouri's Amish population grew by 15

percent over the last two years, fueled by

large family size, high retention rates and immigration. Researchers say Missouri

is attractive to the Amish because of

available and reasonably priced farmland,

as well as the rural atmoshphere that

The Amish are very diligent in their

business practices according to neighbors. You will find trades such as

a sawmill, newly constructed butcher

shop, handmade furniture and storage

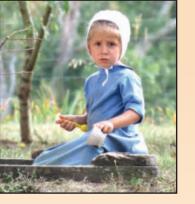
buildings from Eicher Manufacturing

assures them of cherished privacy.

A Vital Part of Our Community by Connie Erisman

Several businesses in the Amish community are located along County Road 636 off BB Hwy in Dixon. Including Ira Yoders sawmill.

Produce and fresh eggs are always for sale in season. Jethro Eicher's Manufacturing business sells storage buildings and garages, to name just a few of the items they build. He has his own trademark.



Eichers manufacturing recently teamed up with Roman and his sons to build a barn for a customer. A harness shop has replaced the former Dogwood Dell Greenhouse. Several Amish women sew, bake, grow and sell fruits and vegetables to residents of Dixon and the surrounding community. These hard working, friendly entrepreneurs welcome the business of area residents.

One neighbor reported seeing the most beautiful load of cedar lumber he had ever seen when visiting Ira Yoder's Sawmill. Mr. Yoder stated he was filling an 18

wheeler load of cedar for a company's order in Arkansas.

no electricity in their homes and instead prefer to spend their evenings under coal oil lanterns. Many of their business operations use diesel engines or other natural means to generate heat and power for their needs.

Amish families prefer to live a modest life foregoing modern amenities such as electricity, telephones, and automobiles. They believe that modern conveniences detract from the solidarity of their community. They attempt in their own way to follow Biblical mandates that refer to living in the world but not OF the world. Their children attend school within the Amish community, grades 1-8. They anticipate 34 children in the 2016-17 school year.

Their unique mode of transportation is usually seen as a black buggy, seating two or more adults pulled by one lone horse. They come to town usually weekly to do business with local merchants but most of the necessities of living are produced by their efficient use of the land around them. We enjoy and are blessed to have the Amish as neighbors!

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## **Emergency Calls Taken**



The Amish value hard work and perseverance as a means to provide for their families needs. They have

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requested.

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