

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

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Anna, Illinois

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News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area



Frozen precipitation was a common sight on windshields on Dec. 31. With freezing rain in the forecast, the National Weather Service office in Paducah issued a winter weather advisory for parts of Southeast Missouri and Southern Illinois, including Union County, from 9 p.m. Dec. 31 to 9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 1.

The Union County Sheriff's Office reported that the New Year's holiday was quiet.

WIBH Radio in Anna is anticipating delivery of more than 500 coats for the New Coats, New Hope Campaign Thursday, today, in Anna.

Cobden American Legion Post No. 259 has made a major donation which will support expansion of the popular disc golf course at the Cobden Community Park. More on this to come.



The familiar white head could be seen when a bald eagle was spotted recently along a Union County highway.

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Southern Seven offers COVID-19 vaccine registry

Southern Seven Health Department is inviting anyone in the counties it serves who is interested in getting a COVID-19 vaccine to add their name to a vaccine registry.

The health department serves Union, Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope and Pulaski counties in Southern Illinois.

A link to the COVID-19 Vaccine Registry online contact list has been posted on the health department's Facebook page and on its website at www.southern7.org.

The survey can also

be visited directly with the following link: <https://form.jotform.com/20363536921153>.

"We have started to see a sizeable increase in the amount of calls coming into the health department with people wondering when they might be able to get a COVID-19 vaccine," said Nathan Ryder in a news release.

Ryder is outreach coordinator for Southern Seven Health Department's contact tracing program.

"We have elderly folks who are concerned they might get skipped when it

comes time for them to get a vaccine," Ryder said.

"We also have a lot of people who may not have access to the internet or traditional news media."

"It's important to note that this is not a reservation form, a vaccination appointment or a 'wait list,'" said Ryder.

"It is simply a way for us to maintain a list of contacts so we can keep people notified of the different vaccination phases as we move through them."

"We will also continue to update vaccination opportunities on our social media

channels like Facebook and Twitter, in addition to our print, radio and TV news outlets in the region."

At the end of December, based on guidance from Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, Southern Seven Health Department expects to receive a weekly shipment of vaccine.

The vaccines will be distributed throughout the seven counties based on guidance from IDPH and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, CDC.

Currently, COVID-19 vaccinations are being provided to frontline health-

care workers and residents of long-term care facilities under Phase 1A of the CDC's COVID-19 vaccination program.

Phase 1 is characterized by having access to a limited amount of COVID-19 vaccine.

"It is anticipated we will be in Phase 1 until the end of January," Ryder stated.

For questions regarding COVID-19, contact Southern Seven Health Department at 618-634-2297 or visit the department on Facebook and online at www.southern7.org.

Vaccines made available at state's veterans homes

The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, IDVA, on Dec. 31 announced that all residents and employees of the state's veterans home have had the COVID-19 vaccine made available to them.

The state operates four veterans homes, with facilities in Anna, Manteno, Quincy and LaSalle.

The first dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine was administered last week to all residents and staff who opted to receive it.

The second dose will be administered at the homes in three weeks, with vaccine continuing to be made available to those who have not yet opted to receive it.

Among adults, the risk for severe illness and death from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults considered to be at the highest risk.

Accordingly, Gov. JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, said they have prioritized the veterans' homes,

(continued on page 2)

Weather

Taking a look back at week, month of December, year of 2020 highlights in Union County area

Ice pellets and a trace of snow highlighted weather in the Union County area as 2020 came to an end and 2021 started.

The ice pellets were recorded on Dec. 30, when precipitation totalled 1.12 inches. A trace of snow was recorded on Jan. 2. On Jan. 3, .01 of an inch of precipitation was recorded.

Temperatures during the period of Dec. 29 through Jan. 4 ranged from a high of 52 to a low of 25.

Following are temperatures for the period as recorded by local weather observer Dana Cross in Jonesboro:

H	L
Tuesday, Dec. 29	43 25
Wednesday, Dec. 30	51 33
Thursday, Dec. 31	34 29
Friday, Jan. 1, 2021	49 32
Saturday, Jan. 2	38 34
Sunday, Jan. 3	43 26
Monday, Jan. 4	52 25

December Weather

The high temperature for the month of December was 66 degrees, which was recorded on Dec. 10. The average high for the month was 48.

The low for the month was 13, which was recorded on Dec. 25. The average low was 27.

Precipitation for the month totalled 2.42 inches of rain. The most rain in a 24-hour period totalled 1.12 inches, measured on Dec. 30.

Snow was recorded on Dec. 16, with 1 1/2 inches



Grinch in December snow

The Grinch's feet might have been getting cold after light snow fell on Dec. 16 in the Union County area. The Grinch was featured in a Gumdrop Drive display at the Anna City Park.

on the ground.

2020 Weather Highlights

A look back at weather for 2020 showed that the high temperature was 94 degrees, which was recorded on July 17 and July 19.

The low reading for 2020 was 9, which was recorded on Feb. 14.

Precipitation for the year totalled 57.44 inches. The average for the year in the area is around 45 inches.

Monthly precipitation

totals for 2020 follow:

January, 7.25 inches. February, 4.66 inches. April, 2.23 inches. May, 4.04 inches. June, 9.66 inches.

July 6.91 inches. August, 3.83 inches. September, 2.62. October, 5.68 inches. November, 2.32 inches. December, 2.40 inches.

The only measurable snow which was recorded during 2020 fell on Dec. 16, with 1 1/2 inches recorded in the Union County area.

10 biggest weather events of 2020 remembered



Tornado damage

January 2020 storms caused damage across parts of Southern Illinois and Southeast Missouri. The National Weather Service confirmed reports of tornadoes touching down and causing damage in a number of places across the region, including in Ware. High winds from an EF-1 tornado in Ware toppled a tree on to the roof of a house. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

The year 2020 featured several severe weather events across the region, the National Weather Service office in Paducah reported.

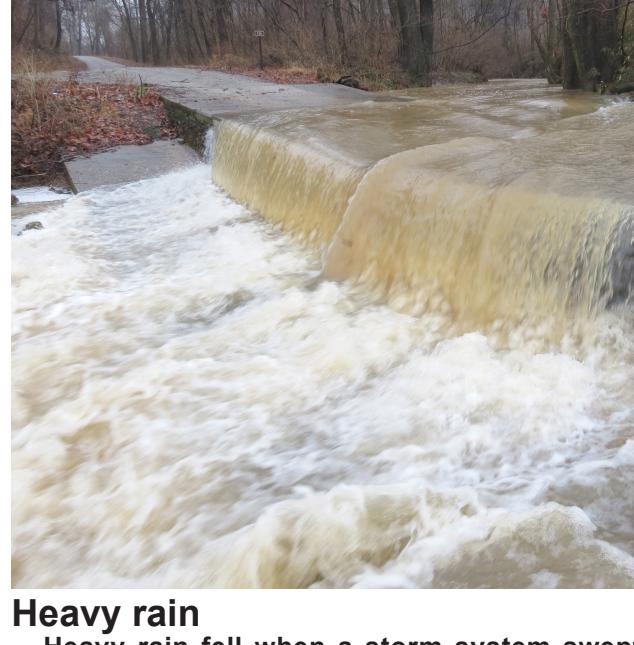
The weather service posted a listing of the 10 biggest weather events of 2020 on its website.

The first significant event occurred during the early morning hours of Jan. 11 with 12 tornadoes, including an EF-2 twister in Cape Girardeau County.

An event on March 28 featured two EF-2 tornadoes hitting the Henderson, Ky., and Newburgh, Ind., areas.

Large hail occurred with several events, with up to baseball sized hail being observed near Poplar Bluff, Mo., on March 12.

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Heavy rain

Heavy rain fell when a storm system swept through the region on Jan. 10-11, 2020. Water in a swollen creek rushed over a ford on the road to the Pine Hills Campground near Wolf Lake on Jan. 11.





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News Notes

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Christmas break was set to end Jan. 5 in the Cobden School District. Thursday, today, and Friday are scheduled to be remote learning days for students. Remote/in-person learning is set to resume on Jan. 11.

Cobden High School Family and Consumer Science Club members collected toys and donated them to Toys for Tots in December.

Also in December, the Cobden FFA donated items to the Union County animal control shelter. The items were donated by Cobden students and FFA members.

Remote and in-person learning are planned as the Christmas break comes

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"The Preaching Pen"

Lessons From Winter

Always find it funny when someone complains about the heat in the middle of Summer and the cold in the middle of Winter. My reaction is usually to think, "Well, it's that time of year. What'd you expect?"

Cold winter weather can remind us of a few things.

1. Winter reminds us that God always keeps His promises. God said in Genesis 8:22, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." The change of seasons is proof of God's faithfulness to His word. If you're one of those who would exclaim, "It's hot!" during July or August, just wait a few months and it'll be time for a heavy coat. When you're tired of that, take heart, for cooler weather is just around the corner! God has never failed to keep a promise. Consider that in light of the resurrection, eternal life, and Heaven. He will keep every promise (II Peter 3:9)!

2. Winter reminds us that life is cyclical. A passage I often think of when the New Year comes around is Ecclesiastes 3. In verses 1-2, & 11, the Bible says, "To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted...He has made everything beautiful in its time." There is a time for everything. Without the greening of the leaves in summer, there would be no colorful Fall. Without the cold of winter, there would be an overabundance of insect life in the Spring. "To everything, there is a season..."

3. Winter reminds us we must "die" in order to live. Winter is the season when many plants die, but are reborn in the Spring.

Spiritually speaking, we must die to sin (Rom. 6:2). We must mortify the deeds of the body in order to live (Rom. 8:13). When we die to self and sin, then and only then are we able to live unto Christ. Romans 6:4, "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." The Bible makes it clear that we haven't truly begun to live until we've died: died to sin & Satan.

Enjoy the Winter season, for it's part of God's Creation, and also, come study with us at the Anna church of Christ at 104 Nile St. We love to have visitors and wish you a great day!

R.W. McAlister, Minister

Anna church of Christ

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2020 weather events

(continued from page 1)

The year will also be remembered for a lack of snow and abnormal warmth during the winter season.

Paducah finished with a trace of snow for the winter, which tied for the least snowy winter on record.

Jan. 11-12 Tornadoes, Severe Thunderstorms, Flooding

An unseasonably strong storm system by January standards impacted the region Jan. 10-11, 2020.

Heavy rainfall, flooding, damaging winds, tornadoes, and gusty non-thunderstorm winds impacted the region during this time.

The bulk of the event occurred overnight and into the morning hours on the 11th.

Rainfall totals ranged from 2 to 5 inches, which resulted in widespread areal flooding and flash flooding across the region.

Damage surveys revealed 12 tornadoes occurred, with the majority occurring in Western Kentucky.

Most were rated EF-1, but there was one EF-2 that touched down in the Jackson, MO area.

An EF-1 tornado was reported in Ware. No deaths or injuries were reported.

The tornado lasted from 2:02 a.m. to 2:03 a.m. on Jan. 11. The twister had estimated peak winds of 100 mph, a path length of 0.9 of a mile and a maximum width of 50 yards.

The weather service reported that the tornado in Ware snapped large branches on trees, overturned and destroyed a large open storage shed, snapped and uprooted numerous trees and blew the roofs off of several structures.

Winter 2019-2020 Season Summary, Dec. 1 Through Feb. 29

Temperatures averaged around 4 to 5 degrees above normal, ranking as the fourth warmest winter on record in Cape Girardeau and sixth warmest in Paducah. Every month of the winter finished above normal.

The warmest months, when compared to normal, were December and January, both finishing 5 to 6 degrees above normal.

February brought some of the coldest temperatures of the winter, but the region still managed to finish around 1 to 2 degrees above normal.

Paducah observed 51 days with high temperatures at or above 50 degrees, which was the third most for a winter season on record.

The record for 50-plus degree days in a winter was set back in 1949-1950, with 58 days.

Paducah also only observed three days when the high temperature remained below 32 degrees and 14 days with sub-40 degree high temperatures.

For comparison an average number for a winter season is 11 days with sub-freezing high temperatures and 29 days with sub 40 degree high temperatures.

The winter season finished wetter than normal. It started out drier than normal in many areas in December, but reverted back to the wetter pattern in January and February. Both of those months finished in the top 10 wettest on record in Paducah.

Although, the region experienced a wet winter, nearly all of the precipitation that occurred was in the form of rain.

Paducah finished with no measurable snow for the entire winter season (from December through February).

Paducah tied a record with trace of snow, also set back in the winters of 1991-1992, 1956-1957, and 1952-1953.

Summary of March 2, 2020, Severe Weather Event

Severe thunderstorms moved across the region on the evening of March 2.

A long-track supercell thunderstorm produced accumulating hail in Ballard and McCracken counties in Western Kentucky, large hail up to golf ball size near Paducah and an EF-1 tornado just south of Crofton, Ky., in Christian County.

Other severe thunderstorms produced wind damage and large hail in Southeast Missouri.

Overview of March 12, 2020, Severe Weather Event

Two episodes of severe weather occurred on March 12.

A cluster of severe thunderstorms formed around midday in Southern Illinois, then moved southeast along a warm front across the Pennyville region of Western Kentucky.

During the late afternoon, a supercell thunderstorm formed over the Ozark foothills of Southeast Missouri and tracked across the Poplar Bluff area.

Overview of March 28 Severe Storms

Numerous thunderstorms formed ahead of a cold front during the late afternoon. Some supercells and bowing line segments were embedded within the large area of convection through the evening hours.

A few transient low-level circulations were observed in the supercells, which exhibited stronger and more sustained rotation in the mid levels of the atmosphere. The bowing line segments produced isolated wind damage.

Summary of April 8 Severe Weather Event; Very Large Hail

Severe thunderstorms occurred during the late afternoon and evening hours as a strong cold front moved into the area.

Surface low pressure

moved across Central Illinois during the late afternoon hours, with the region well into the system's warm sector.

High temperatures soared into the mid-80s in many locations, which helped to prime the atmosphere for severe thunderstorm development.

Discrete storms formed over Southeast Missouri and far southwest Illinois initially around 5 p.m. and quickly became severe. These storms continued to push east/southeastward into the evening hours.

As a cold front approached from the northwest, a line of storms moved into the I-64 corridor but seemed to lose their intensity as they progressed across the Wabash Valley and Evansville Tri-State region.

Very few wind damage reports were reported during this event.

There was some wind damage associated with storms in Perry County, Mo., and Jackson County in Southern Illinois.

The highest observed wind gust from any observing station in the area was 63 miles per hour at the Todd County, Ky., Mesonet station near Trenton.

Large hail was common with many of the storms during this event.

The largest hail observed was 2.25 inches in the Sikeston, Mo., area. Golf ball sized hail was reported in Wayne and Bollinger counties in Southeast Missouri.

Summer Summary

Temperatures averaged slightly above normal by around 0.5 of a degree to 1 degree.

The warmest month compared to normal was July, with temperatures over 2 degrees above normal. June was slightly above normal.

The pattern flipped in August and ended up finishing slightly below normal.

It seems like the region was on constant repeat cycle with the wetter than normal conditions, and summer 2020 was no different.

Most areas picked up between 12 and 20 inches of rain, with some localized higher amounts over 20 inches.

Veterans homes

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along with other long-term care facilities and health care providers in the first round of the state's vaccination plan.

As of Dec. 31, 794 residents and staff had received a combination of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

The county health departments in each of the homes' respective areas delivered the vaccine to the homes.

Until the COVID-19 pandemic is controlled, staff and residents who receive the vaccine will continue following IDPH guidance to limit the spread of this virus.

Staff and residents who have not opted to receive their first dose will continue to have the vaccine made available to them, along with education and direct

outreach encouraging all who are eligible to opt in to receive the vaccine.

Following the initial vaccine program, 74 percent of residents in the homes

had been vaccinated and 40 percent of the staff had received the vaccine.

A breakdown of percentages of staff and residents

at each of the homes who had received the vaccine follows, as reported by state officials:

Illinois Veterans' Home in Anna: 95 percent of residents, 32 percent of staff.

Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno: 90 percent of residents, 18 percent of staff.

Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy: 90 percent of residents, 42 percent of staff.

Illinois Veterans Home in LaSalle: 71 percent of residents, 28 percent of staff.

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February 2020: Snow falling in Union County

Snow was falling in the Union County area, including in Cobden, early Wednesday morning, Feb. 26. Very little accumulation was seen.

Pandemic leaves millions struggling with basic needs

Families require an immediate policy response to meet the needs of children during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has left millions struggling with finances, school, work and mental health, according to a new policy report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a decades-long advocate for young people in America.

In "Kids, Families and COVID-19: Pandemic Pain Points and the Urgent Need to Respond," a 50-state report, data show children and families are suffering from the unprecedented disruption and economic storm set off by the global health crisis.

In assessing food security, the ability to make rent or mortgage payments, health insurance status and mental health concerns, the foundation identified four pain points for children and families that require immediate action for relief and an opportunity to build

a more equitable future. Key findings include:

One in seven families with children (14 percent) said that in the most recent week, there was sometimes or always not enough to eat in their household.

The figures were 23 percent for Black households with children, 23 percent for those of two or more races or another race and 19 percent for Latinos, compared to white (10 percent) and Asian households.

Nearly one in five households with kids (18 percent) said they had only slight confidence or no confidence at all that they would be able to make their next rent or mortgage payment on time.

One in eight families with children (12 percent) lack health insurance, a figure which has been worsening over the past four years.

More than a third of people with children in the household (34 percent) reported that they had delayed

getting medical care in the previous month.

A fifth of respondents with children in their households (21 percent) reported that they had felt down, depressed or hopeless in the previous week, indicating a widespread need for access to mental health care.

"America's children are in crisis," said Annie E. Casey Foundation president and CEO Lisa Hamilton in a news release.

"All across the country, families with children are struggling to overcome an unprecedented convergence of emergencies. We need immediate and decisive action from policymakers that prioritizes equitable solutions to help families survive this catastrophe."

National data indicate that trying to educate children remotely while parents need to work is taking an enormous toll on families.

Nearly half of the adult respondents (49 percent) indicated that they felt they

were not equipped to help their children with schoolwork, and 32 percent reported lacking adequate broadband internet and online learning tools.

More than three in 10 respondents with children said they are less likely to return to work due to the lack of child care (32 percent).

"Our federal, state and local decision makers need to mount a response to COVID-19 that enables America's children and families to weather this crisis and yields more equitable outcomes," said Leslie Boissiere, vice president of external affairs at the Casey Foundation.

"The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which earlier this year provided an unprecedented \$1.8 trillion in support to families, businesses and state, local and tribal governments, is proof our leaders can intervene to reach families and children in pain."

The foundation urges policymakers and child advocates to unite across differences and put COVID-19 response at the top of 2021 agendas to make sure children have what they need to survive and thrive.

Statewide COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to drop

By Sarah Mansur
Capitol News Illinois
smansur@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — The state's COVID-19 hospitalizations and average case positivity rate remain below second-wave highs while public health officials in Illinois continue to caution residents that a post-holiday surge could materialize.

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 5,059 new and probable cases of COVID-19 on Monday, with an average of 5,900 of new cases daily from Dec. 31 to Sunday.

Those case figures are significantly lower than the second wave peak of 15,415 cases on Nov. 13 — which was the highest number of daily new cases reported since the pandemic began.

The latest numbers bring the statewide totals since the pandemic began to 984,880 confirmed and probable cases and 16,834 fatalities. Those fatalities included 477 individuals who died since Thursday afternoon.

Hospitalization rates continued to fall for the sixth straight week.

From Dec. 28 through Jan. 3, the daily average hospitalization count from COVID-19 stood at 4,099, down 7 percent from the week before, and down 33 percent, or 2,029, from the period ending Nov. 23.

At the end of Sunday, there were 3,948 people hospitalized with COVID-19 in Illinois, an increase of 131 from the day prior.

The statewide seven-day rolling average positivity rate has ticked upward slightly, increasing for the eighth straight day.

The average positivity rate increased above 8 percent on Jan. 1 after falling below that figure for 11 straight days.

The statewide seven-day rolling average positivity rate currently sits at 8.6 percent, an increase of two tenths of a percent from the prior day.

There were 816 intensive care beds in use by COVID-19 patients as of

Sunday, an increase of 18 from the day prior.

That left 25.9 percent of ICU beds open statewide, while the seven-day average for ICU bed usage stood at 833.

That was a decrease of 9.9 percent, or 92, from the prior seven-day period. It's the fifth consecutive week that the average decreased.

COVID-19 patients occupied 471 ventilators as of Sunday, an increase of five from the day prior.

The seven-day average for ventilator use stood at 479 as of Sunday, a decrease of 43, or 8.3 percent, from the previous seven-day period.

Illinois Department of Public Health director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said in an interview with "Good Morning America" last week that state officials will be monitoring the data closely to see if there is a spike after Christmas and New Year celebrations.

"Thanksgiving was a much shorter holiday. We had the most tiny blip, almost insignificant. But with the Christmas and the New Year's, with that break being days, weeks actually, there's a lot of concern, especially as the fatigue is real," Ezike said during the Dec. 29 interview.

"So, we will have to follow that closely. But we try to make sure that people know: No matter what choice you made, it's still going to be very important when you come back. If you know you've been out and gathering, you've got to get tested, got to find out quickly in case there was spread of infection so that we can isolate and quarantine those that need to be."

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

House fire claims life

of Anna man

A residential fire last week claimed the life of an Anna man.

The victim was identified as Gary L. Townzen Sr., 74. The Union County coroner's office reported that Mr. Townzen was pronounced dead at the scene.

The fire occurred early Wednesday, Dec. 30, at a residence at 109 Douglas St. in Anna. Mr. Townzen lived at the residence.

Anna Fire Department Chief Mike Dammerman said the blaze was reported at about 2:50 a.m. on Dec. 30.

The Anna Fire Department and the Jonesboro Fire Department responded to the call. Dammerman said that firefighters were at the scene until about 11:30 a.m.

The residence sustained significant damage in the fire.

The cause of the fire was being investigated by the Illinois State Fire Marshal's office and the Illinois State Police.

Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is handling arrangements for Mr. Townzen.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

New Illinois program protects victims of sexual assault, domestic violence

Beginning on Jan. 1, survivors of sexual assault and stalking, as well as domestic violence, could participate in the Illinois Address Confidentiality Program, ACP.

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul encouraged survivors to apply to participate in the program.

ACP gives survivors added protections from their perpetrators by allowing them to obtain a substitute address to use instead of their real addresses.

Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking can apply for the ACP through the attorney general's office in order to receive a substitute address that can be used to create or update public records or personal use.

Additionally, the ACP functions as a mail-forwarding system for all first-class mail.

Raoul cautions that while the ACP is not a witness protection program which can assist with relocation or a change of identity, it can be a valuable addition to a comprehensive safety plan.

"The Address Confidentiality Program is an important added layer of protection and peace of mind for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking," Raoul said in a news release.

Preschoolers can learn how to be superheroes during pandemic

By Christi Mathis
news.siu.edu

Safely navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic can be a bit daunting for anyone, especially little children.

Thanks to a new video created by a faculty member at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and a Canadian colleague, preschoolers, as well as their teachers and parents, are learning in a fun way how to mask up, wash up and be safe, becoming "superheroes" in the battle against the virus.

Preschool Superheroes is now available online at vimeo.com/456563173 for free viewing by everyone.

The eight-minute, high-energy clip is the work of Lisabeth DiLalla, a professor in the SIU Department of Family and Community Medicine in the SIU School of Medicine and professor of psychology at SIU Carbondale, and Clare Gibson, a filmmaker and owner of Allegorical Alchemy, a filmmaking company specializing in issues related to health and health research in Edmonton, Canada.

They received \$1,000 in grant funding in the national #SciCommMake competition hosted by Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society as well as Science Talk.

They subsequently made a virtual presentation to the national Sigma Xi organization about the project, which was filmed at Little Lotus Inc., a preschool in Edmonton.

"Teachers are very stressed and overworked, trying to juggle classroom duties, remote learning duties and more these days. Parents are having to take on extra duties as well, and the frustrations are apparent," DiLalla said.

"With this video, we wanted to show them and the children how to stay safe during the pandemic in a fun and funny way."

The children create su-

"I am committed to ensuring that survivors have access to the resources and support needed to aid their recoveries, and I encourage survivors to participate in this program that can help protect them from the individuals who perpetrated crimes against them."

"A woman had been divorced for years but kept her address private, not wanting her ex-husband to find her. One day out of the blue she received a letter from him, just letting her know that he had found her and she couldn't hide from him," said Vickie Smith, executive director of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

"The Address Confidentiality Program is critical for protection from abusers who refuse to let go of someone with whom they once had an intimate relationship."

"Everyone deserves to feel safe in their communities. The Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault applauds the expansion of the Illinois Address Confidentiality Program eligibility criteria to include victims of sexual assault and stalking," said Carrie Ward, executive director of the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

"Access to this program provides an important op-

tion for victims in the recovery process who fear for their safety. ICASA thanks the Attorney General's office for its implementation of the program's expansion and looks forward to continuing to work together to support survivors throughout Illinois."

Participants in the ACP will receive a substitute address they can use on their driver's license or state-issued identification card.

All state and local government agencies are required to accept the substitute address in place of the participant's home, work or school address, but they are not required to change existing public records.

The substitute address functions like any new address in that the participant's mail will be sent to the substitute address, and then forwarded to the participant's actual address.

The ACP forwards all first-class mail, including bills and other personal mail, and packages sent through the U.S. Postal Service.

The ACP will not forward magazines and junk mail or packages delivered by a shipping service, such as the UPS, FedEx or Amazon.

Officials said that the ACP is most effective when the applicant relocates to

the ACP is free of charge. The attorney general's office is prohibited from disclosing a participant's address unless the office receives a request from law enforcement or a court order requiring disclosure to a specific individual.

Participating in the ACP alone will not adequately protect against violence. The attorney general urges survivors to work with an advocate to develop a comprehensive safety plan.

To locate an advocate, contact the Illinois Domestic Violence hotline at 877-863-6338 or visit <https://icasa.org/crisis-centers> to locate a rape crisis center.

For more information about the Address Confidentiality Program, visit the Illinois Attorney General's website at <https://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov>, or call 1-844-916-0295 or 1-877-398-1130 (TTY).

perhero capes and masks, practice handwashing, social distancing and other safe and positive behaviors as they interact happily and safely with one another and staff.

Local preschools were invited to give the video a test run, DiLalla said, and the results were amazing.

"The children enjoyed it, and the teachers and parents found it to be a very helpful tool," DiLalla said.

Malones Early Learning Center Inc. in Carterville decided to give the video a trial run. Lee Eklund, director, issued an enthusiastic thumbs up.

"Not only were the children super excited about it but so were the parents," Eklund said. "They were happy to supply capes and masks for the kids to decorate, personalize and wear."

The preschoolers even donned their individualized superhero attire and created their own short video clip.

Eklund said his staff had already done a good job teaching the children safety protocols, but the fun video with its superhero message really hit home with the children and their parents.

"I think it helped educate some of the parents



a new address, unknown to the perpetrator, around the time they apply for the program.

Enrollment lasts for a period of four years, and participants can renew their enrollment at the end of the period.

Participants are free to voluntarily withdraw from the ACP at any time.

Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking who fear for their safety are eligible to apply for the ACP.

Additionally, parents or guardians can apply on behalf of minors and people with disabilities if there is good reason to believe that those individuals are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, and fear for their safety.

Other members of the participant's household should also participate in the program in order to best protect the address.

An applicant is not required to report the domestic violence to law enforcement in order to be eligible for the ACP.

Applying to participate in the ACP is free of charge. The attorney general's office is prohibited from disclosing a participant's address unless the office receives a request from law enforcement or a court order requiring disclosure to a specific individual.

Participating in the ACP alone will not adequately protect against violence. The attorney general urges survivors to work with an advocate to develop a comprehensive safety plan.

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Southern Seven announces plans to reopen Head Start Early Learning Centers

Southern Seven Head Start planned to reopen its Head Start Early Learning Centers in the region on Jan. 5 for in-person classes.

The plan to reopen the centers was announced Dec. 29 in a news release.

Remote learning classes are still available for families that request them, Southern Seven Head Start noted.

The reopening comes after the centers were closed on Nov. 29 due to concerns for the health, wellness, and safety of all Head Start staff, children and families as cases of COVID-19 continued to rise in Southern Illinois.

The closure impacted Southern Seven Head Start Early Learning Centers in all seven counties of the region, including Union, Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope and Pulaski.

During the closure, teachers, parent coordinators and other Head Start staff remained in contact with the families they serve.

Southern Seven Head

Start stated that "these communications were also an opportunity for staff to share activities that families could do at home with their children to continue their learning experiences."

Families who experienced any needs during the Head Start Early Learning Center closures were urged to contact a staff member at their local center for assistance.

Southern Seven Head Start reminded families that the most up-to-date information would be shared online at www.southern7.org and on social media regarding virtual activities and the re-opening of all Head Start Early Learning Centers on Jan. 5.

Southern Seven thanked all Head Start families "for their understanding and continued support during this difficult time."

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When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage."

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. From the Gospel of Matthew

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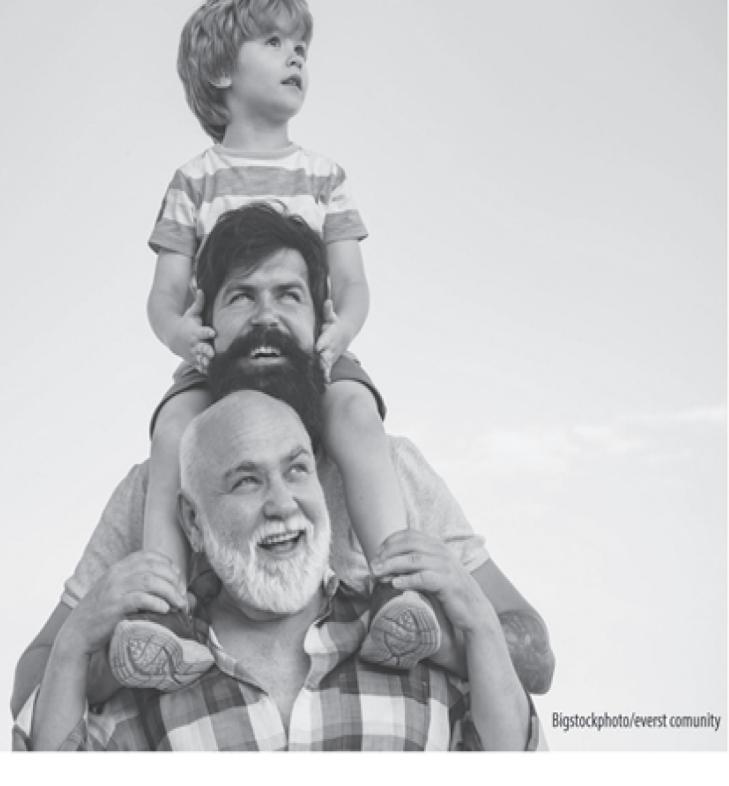
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Daily Scripture Readings

Romans 3:19-31	Romans 5:1-21	Romans 6:1-23	Isaiah 60:1-22	John 5:1-29	John 6:1-24	John 6:25-59
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

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News from

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna

The sermon on Sunday, Jan. 3, was how each of the four gospels tells the Christmas story differently.

Matthew was about fulfilling the prophecies. Luke was written for the non-Jews to tell them that the birth of Jesus was for them as well. It is the longest, most detailed version.

Mark only briefly mentions the circumstances of Jesus' birth. It focuses on what Jesus did as an adult.

John stands out from the other three gospels. There is so much found in John that is not in the other three, because John was a disciple and could record in detail. He talked about Jesus being in the world and the world not recognizing him.

The sermon shared that "John wants us to know Jesus is there for us. Jesus is the light of the world; the



Sunday sermon

The Christmas story in the four gospels was the theme for the sermon on Sunday, Jan. 3, at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna. Photo provided.

light no darkness can overcome. At the end of John you will know one thing: you are loved by God. We can't have Christmas without the first 18 verses of John's gospel."

Prayers were offered for the whole people of God, for those needing healing, and those who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

Christmas decorations will be removed on Dec. 10.

Joint Bible study is planned at Salem Lutheran Church in Jonesboro on Jan. 12 and Jan. 26.

The annual report for Mt. Moriah will be available at the church on Jan. 17.

Mt. Moriah wishes everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2021.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Best wishes for a blessed, healthy, happy 2021 from Rev. Dee Ann Thompson and the congregation of Camp Ground Church.

Rev. Thompson's Epiphany Sunday sermon was titled "Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come," with scripture from Isaiah, and Matthew's account of the magi's visit to the Christ child.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

A morning worship service was held Sunday, Jan. 3, at 10:35 a.m. in the church, on Zoom and on the radio in the parking lot.

Singing was led by Pastor Randy Wright and the worship team.

Sunday's message was titled "Grow Closer to Christ," with scripture from the Psalms.

The message can be found on the church's website at annanaz.com and on the church's Facebook page.

Birthdays: Ed Grisham, Jan. 3; Dorris Johnson, Jan. 7.

Friday night Bible study is planned at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8, on Zoom. Pastor Wright can be texted for the password prior to the meeting.

Sunday School for children is planned from 9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. on Jan. 10.

A morning worship service is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, in the sanctuary and on Zoom. The service will be available in the parking lot on the radio for those who do not feel comfortable coming inside the sanctuary. CDC guidelines will be followed by wearing masks, social distancing and families sitting together.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 13, with praise and worship in the sanctuary and on Zoom and Children's Bible quizzing in the fellowship hall, with CDC guidelines being followed by wearing masks and social distancing. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the password.

A work day is planned on Jan. 16, starting at 8 a.m.

A grocery giveaway is planned from 10 a.m. to noon on Jan. 23.

During this time, the church can be contacted by calling the church office at 833-6702 and leaving a message if necessary or by calling Pastor Wright at 618-534-7103.

Prayer and Bible study, as well as youth group meetings, are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

conjunction indicated a royal birth.

"Magi came because of their wisdom, but they left wiser: they had found God."

Belated birthday wishes go to Aldi and Vodra Gerard, who turned 9 Jan. 1.

Nancy Williams celebrates a birthday Jan. 8.

Camp Ground Church will be worshiping via Zoom through Jan. 17. It is hoped that after that date,

the church can gather again for in-person services. Contact any member of the congregation and they will be able to "connect" you to join in worship.

After worship, a brief congregation meeting was held to elect an elder for 2021-23. Rodney Miller was elected and will be reinstalled to active eldership during an upcoming worship service.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

Pastor Nick DiMauro led the worship music and preached the message on Sunday morning, Jan. 3.

His message was titled "How to Have Joy in a Pandemic, Part 8." Scripture was from Philippians.

The church's worship service starts at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning.

The church family invites the community to be a part of the worship service. The church is located at 409 Morgan St. in Anna.

The messages were sent via transmitter for worshippers who stayed in their cars on the church's lower parking lot while tuned in to their radios on station 87.9 FM.

The message also was live streamed on Facebook, where it can be viewed.

The church's Facebook page has videos and the latest information about possible closings.

During the morning service, music director Dee Rose led worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Connor Benbrook sang "Days of Elijah" as a solo.

Birthdays: Jerry Hunter, Aaron Sheffer, Jan. 7; Sue Clary, Amy Sheffer, Jan. 10.

Currently, the regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist Church includes Sunday School classes on Sunday at 9 a.m., Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. and Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m.

December birthdays: 21st Billy Williams, Sandra Boaz and Juanita.

January birthdays: Nancy Pond, 8th; Josh Schlenker, 10th.

Prayer and Bible study, as well as youth group meetings, are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

2020 Obituaries

Remembering those we lost...

Following is a listing of the names of those who passed away and whose obituaries appeared in The Gazette-Democrat during 2020. The listing is by the week that the obituaries appeared in the newspaper during 2020.

January

Jan. 2. Trish Coleson. William "Bill" Dixon. Bill Lee Eblen. John W. Elkins. Wanda Kay Knupp. Fred Spurlock Jr. Harry Taylor Sr. James "Jim" Ulmer.

Jan. 9. Steven Ray Glassco. Billy Matheny. Marion Gerald Turner.

Jan. 16. Vivian Sue Byrd. Nancy N. Ebert. Fred Alfred Frailey. Harold E. Gee. Edna Havlen. Irene Dalian Kojder. Ann Etta Seliger. Nola Mary Wenger.

Jan. 23. James "Jim" Beisner. Linda S. Clark. Phyllis Ann Goins. Robert Lee Gore. Ronny L. Hancock Sr. David Michael Hannan. Creva Loretta Henson. Mary K. Loomis. Taylor Cheyanne Tomazoli. Richard Waltner.

Jan. 30. Betty Jo Healey. Jeff Goins. Gerald Johnson. Donald C. Michel. Ellen Patterson. Carl Harlan Sandlin Jr. Thomas Strunk.

February

Feb. 6. Mary Ann Archey. Thomas "Tub" Coffman. Josephine E. Hartley. Ann Katherine "Kay" Schaefer. James LeRoy Spraggs.

James R. "Jim" Williams.

Feb. 13. Paul Boie Jr. Mary Helen Moore. Bob Palmer. Allibeth Partridge. Patricia Ann Pearl.

Feb. 20. Terry Griffin. Michael Leon Hight. Diana Lynn Holcomb. Jaime Leigh Blaney-Mullins. Clara Robertson.

March

March 5. Vickie L. Lesar Bolen. Wilburn R. Gibbs.

Lois Frances (Dee) Karaker Finney. Bill Joe King.

Mark Wayne Loyd. Mandy Middlecamp. Charles "Chip" Romack. Kenneth Rushing. Christa Smith.

Allie Jane Sullens.

March 12. Kenneth Leonard Dixon Sr. Sibyl Geraldine "Jerry" Elkins.

Martin Hall. John Everett Manninger. Jerry D. Powles Sr. Marion L. Rafferty.

Martha Joan Tweedy Rider. Patricia Ann Parks Sitter. Peggy Nimmo Walter. Larry Joe Webb Jr.

April

April 2. William E. "Bill" Hileman. Clifton E. "Port" Moreland. Bonnie Lois Marie Penrod. David W. Siebert. Gene Wright.

April 9. Drue Brianne Foster. Nina Goines. Betty Jane Hutchison. Larry Stout. Julie Thompson.

April 16. Colleen C. Deppe. Wilma Lula Loomis Egelston. Jim "John" Smith.

April 23. Kenny Baker. Lucille "Lucy" Gunn Browning. Tracy Hanney. Beverly J. Mays. Roy E. Walker.

April 30. Linda Clutts. Bernard B. "Benny" Davis. Jose Garcia. Dorothy L. Hawkins Smiddy. Ronda

Pearl. Paul D. Penrod. Panfilo "Pan Blanco" Queripa-Velasquez. Larry Joseph Yates.

May

May 7. Bill Boysen. David W. McKee Sr. Grover Leonard "Bud" Nevels. Willis E. "Bud" Noble Sr. Joyce Shepard Owens. Patti Anita Rheinecker. Devin Michael VanderSluis.

May 14. Violet Brimm. Clifford Dean Cain. Sue Vick LaBruyere. Beatrice E. Miller. Nancy Jane Norris. Rose Mary Hunt Orr. Barbara "Barb" Steele.

May 21. Yvonne Marie Albright. Rolla E. "Gene" Baker. Lucille Dale. Lloyd DeWayne Duty. Lyndal Duane Evans. Richard Isaacs Sr.

May 28. Theodore "Teddy" E. Albert. Earl "Fuzz" Benefield. Frankie Cripps. Minnie Mize. Juanita Willis.

June

June 4. Mary Lou Cochran. Paul H. "Doc" DuBois. LaWanda Lyerla. Alice Marie Bauer McMillion. Sherry Raeleen Dabbs Newell. James Price. Christopher Stephen "Chris" Rhymer. Jon R. Sanders. Darlene Zubbrick.

June 11. Gary W. Davis Sr. Burman Eddleman.

Elsie M. Lingle. Larry Kenneth Kerley. Eva Bernice McRaven. Pamela K. Meyer.

June 18. Pamela Diane Bracken. Marilyn Joy Joiner. Barbara B. Lair. Margie Wright.

June 25. Clyde Phillip Casper. Vera L. Colboth.

Judy Lawanda Fowler. Barbara Jean Klein. Bob McIntosh. Elaine Jodene Porterfield.

July

July 2. Charles "Roger" Anderson Sr. William H. Cerney Sr. Shawn Harvey Knupp.

Larry Nance Sr. Haleigh Breyenna Slusher.

July 9. Charles Allen. Onida Davis. Steven William Dearworth. William "Bill" Francis Flamm.

Vivian M. Herdman. Lynn Ray McGill. Loren Benner "Benny" Muckelroy. Joshua Lowell Reinier. Barbara E. Tucker. Robert Allen Yunker II.

July 16. James Ronald "Ronald/J.R." Goddard.

Alma Louis Kimmel Lincoln. Katie Poulos. Teresa L. Smith. Benjamin David Stanley. Anne M. Szafarski.

July 23. Hazel Allafair Davis (nee Keller). Helen Mae Dodd. Betty Lucille Myers. Sandra Ruth Pikula.

Robert (Bob) Lewis Stanley. Donald G. Stokes.

July 30. Tony L. Ferguson. Dennis Darl Lafferty. Marvin L. Powles Sr. Jimmie Wayne Rambeau.

August

Aug. 6. Randall Eugene "Randy" Bridges.

Gilbert G. DeWitt. Homer Lee Forby. Sandra Lee Hartline.

Betty June Lingle. Michelle Marie Lingle. Milas Ray Morse Sr.

Aug. 13. Jesus "El Grande" Amesquita. Betty D. Cast. Matthew Jay Davis. Judith K. Dillow. Ruth Shadowens. Janene Spicer.

Aug. 20. Lloyd "Timmy" Borah. Daniel Bruce Clover. Jimmie C. Courtright.

Betty Virginia Hadders. Mary Virginia Lence. Robert Dean McHenry. Cynthia Oliver. Richard Lee Weaver.

Aug. 27. Larry D. Clover Sr. Elizabeth Corbit. Joseph "Joe" Girtman. Russel Lloyd Healey. James "Jim" Paul Miles. Shirley High Morrison. Howard Powles.

Janet "Jan" E. Winn.

September

Sept. 3. Delmond Dale Ellis. Joseph M. Glisson.

Carl (C.W.) Wayne Nimo. Juanita Kathleen (Granny) Woolridge.

Dec. 31. Joseph "Pastor Joe" Aaron Aldridge. Leona Belle Brown. Millie McGrath.

(Editor's note: every effort was made to include a complete listing of all of the obituaries which appeared in the newspaper during 2020.)

Warren Shelton.

Sept. 10. Julia Ann "Julie" Milton Collins. Danny Wayne Hileman. Frances Eva Sanner. Margetta C. Fox Snead.

Sept. 17. Juanita M. Butler. David Wayne Eubanks. Jack Lee Manus. Orval W. Obptande. Pamela Tischer.

Sept. 24. Max R. Casey. Audrey Cunningham. Colton James Dunaway. Robert "Bob" G. Isaacs. Robert "Bob" Jerrell. Richard "Dick" L. McCain. Tina Marie Tate. Esther Willcut.

October

Oct. 1. Nancy Blandford. Audrey Lois Canupp. William Richard (Bill) Cunningham. Charles Thomas Flamm. Wilmer D. Nall. Timothy Sprouse. Valetta Joy Stoner. Michael Kenneth Stute.

Oct. 8. Dorris Lee Barnhart. William Glen Goins. Lisa Rae Davie Livesay. Evelyn B. Otten. Jackie Leon Reynolds.

Oct. 15. Ronald Lee Charles. Glenda Mae Davis.

Norma Edwards. Harold Dean Hankla. Patsy Lingle. Susanne "Susie" McHenry. Ronald "Lane" Parmly. John "Larry" Robertson. Dorse W. Youngblood.

Oct. 22. Jewell Elean Hicks. Mary Louise "Nanny" Kinder. Dorris E. Penrod. Merl Everet Penrod. Wallace "Wally" Henry Prystalski. Linda Kay Riggs Ryan. Georgianna Tucker.

Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

Please have news to me by Sunday night. Email me at marthanews@frontier.com, mail to me at 118 W. Monroe St., leave news in the back of the green box at the right of my front door or call me at 833-5717.

New Year's Blessings

As we start the new year I wish many blessings for everyone.

Christmas Day guests

Bob and Betty Caraker spent Christmas Day at their daughter and family's home, Kim Caraker Brimm's home, in Jonesboro.

Kim cooked a wonderful Christmas dinner of ham, mashed potatoes/gravy, green bean casserole, dressing and Kim's most delicious deviled eggs. Desserts included pumpkin pie, four layer chocolate dessert and banana pudding.

They all enjoyed watching the two little girls (ages 2 and 3) open gifts and play together with their treasures.

Their grandson, Michael Brimm, was to leave for the Air Force on Sunday, so they all gathered around to wish him well on his new adventure.

The big kids played outside with Nerf guns and had such a good time. They didn't seem to mind the 15 degree temperatures. Lots of laughter and a few "ouch" hollers.

It was a great day for the family later that day when Facetime with Brian Caraker of Arkansas and Lori (Caraker) Doty of Alabama took place. More laughter

could probably be heard by Kim's neighbors. Betty said when my three children are "together," laughter is always heard.

They all left Kim's very filled with warm hearts and full tummies.

Thanks for Service

Bob and Betty Caraker's grandson, Michael Brimm, took his oath of service Sunday in St. Louis for the U.S. Air Force and left for Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Michael had a great send-off which included several of his friends, his girlfriend, Jenna Chamness, his mom and dad, three sisters, two nieces and grandparents Bob and Betty Caraker.

We are all very proud of this young man, and know he will definitely succeed.

Christmas Memory

I asked for people to write about their Christmas from their past and this is from Chris Miller:

Well, I remember the Christmas when I was a kid my Dad made me a wooden stove and fridge. My Mom made me a red housecoat.

My Dad made a wooden manger scene we put out every year. We picked out a real Christmas Tree.

My Dad dressed up like Santa and one year I caught him putting gifts under the tree. We went to the Dairy

Queen a lot. Those were the good old days and the Christmases I treasure the most.

Remembering Christmas Times

By Barbara Bauer

Since I have 85 Christmases to remember, I'll note just a few.

Growing up in a Christian, rural family, our focus was always on Jesus' birthday.

Our Sunday School Christmas story and manger scenes were simple and our fresh-cut trees were small cedars cut from the woods or fencerow.

I still treasure a tree ornament my dad cut from a tin can lid and mother helped us glue on glitter.(1930s)

Other precious ornaments are milk weed pods painted gold and stuffed with berries or tiny figures.

After church nativity reenactments, Santa appeared at church with a brown treat bag of fruit and a candy cane for every child. (1940s) In the 1950s we sometimes wrote and directed our own "modern" plays with a Christmas message. Priceless for the audience and the players.

Aunts, uncles and cousins used to get together on Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays.

In addition to the visit of Santa Claus (whom I was shocked to recognize as a cousin.), we drew names for gift exchange, but one surprise gift stands out in my mind.

I was never "lucky" enough to receive it, but several of my older cousins were. Year after year it was fun to see who might get that "prize."

I wonder in 2020 if any readers remember such a prank. Some young man always got to be the recipient of a pig's tail. It was an annual joke in the Boyd family for someone to get a pig's tail, all wrapped up as a gift.

I remember that for family dinners, the men and older boys were always seated first because there was not room in the homes for everyone to sit.

After the men ate, they would go outdoors to play washers, go hunting or just visit and smoke.

Then the women and girls would sit down and enjoy their dinner before they cleaned up and assembly-line-washed the dishes. What a good time we had.

The men would often go hunting early in the morning and return in time for a holiday dinner. I don't remember having turkey in my childhood, but holiday dinners usually centered on Mississippi Flyway roast goose and/or duck.

The turnips and sweet potatoes were home grown and the pumpkin pies and banana cakes were prize winners.

Today, in addition to reading and acting out the nativity, we still love the

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sure you put for our Anna Cemetery.

Thanks so much to everyone who donated to honor our veterans. If you buy your wreath now for another cemetery the donated wreath from Wreaths Across America will stay in the Anna Cemetery. Thanks.

Call from Texas

I received a call from Texas from Sanford Keller formerly of Anna who thanked me for all the work with the Honor Wreaths and they wanted to wish me a Happy New Year.

He said his dad Clyde Keller was a WWI veteran and his parents were buried in McClure on Grape Vine Trail.

Birthday

Brenda Allen celebrated her birthday Jan. 1.

Light House Outreach

Light House Outreach meets on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of West Chestnut and North Green streets. Gary Broadway is the pastor.

Military Prayer List

Michael Brimm, Trace Faire, Kaleb Meier, Nathaniel Moss, Derek Nel-

son, Nick Pearson, Nate Frankell, Alex Gratz, Lukas W. Davis, Reagan Morrison, Garrett Goins, James McWhorter, Jennifer Ann Bishop, Arin Whitemountain, Katelynn Williams, Lindsey Keene, Jacob Schaefer, Jerod Schaefer, Creighton Laster, Josh Steveson, Josh Williams, Jim Bonner, Nick Harvel, Nona Elizabeth Luke, Lucas J. Strickland, William Nathaniel Frankell, Ethan Maze, Tanner Anderson, Hayden Young, Kiefer Stull, Davis Jorden Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Kilian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C.J. Youngerman, Freddy Morse and wife Megan in Alaska.

New Year's Day

Cathy Ziegler spent New Year's Day visiting with her sister and brother-in-law, Joyce and Don King, in Thompsonville. Her brother, Daryl McCoy, and sister, Corinne Steveson, also came.

Besides visiting, they had lunch and played games. A good time was had by all.

Special Thanks

I would like to thank

Darlene Lingle for sending me the news for the Anna-Jo Garden Club.

We are not sure when we will be meeting again because of the COVID but Darlene is really good about keeping up on the news and calling people to cheer them up.

Also to Barbara Bauer and Terrie Rhymer for all the news they send and everyone else. It takes everyone working together to bring things together.

American Legion

I would like to thank the American Legion for all the help they give with Honor Wreaths for Veterans and the donations they give to those who helped with our ceremony. A special thanks to Phil Ray for leading our ceremony.

Angel Wings

Homer and Janet Hawk's granddaughter was here visiting Christmas and was so impressed with the beautiful wings painted on the wall on the side of Annabelle Market.

Homer asked me who painted them and said the city should have her paint on every building in Anna.

I told him Tasha Faire

and that she is very talented. Those wings have sure brought a lot of smiles to our city from people passing by as well as everyone living here.

A special thanks to Tasha and her family for thinking about doing this.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Rev. Tim Gossett's service was on Facebook because of COVID and not being able to have in church services.

Sunday morning's sermon was The Twelve Days of Christmas. Epiphany of the Lord when the Wise Men came to see baby Jesus, with scripture from Matthew.

Holy Communion was taken. Carla Anderson played organ music.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

Thanks to Terrie Rhymer for the news

January birthdays: 8th Cindy Walker, 9th Stacie Barger and Debbie Hess, 11th Finley Diemer, 12th Gary Roach, 13th Velma Eaker and Don Laster.

January anniversaries: 11th Jed and Hope Mix.

Attendance for Dec. 27:

Sunday morning 8 a.m. worship 60, 10:30 a.m. worship 94. Small group Bible study 148.

Operation Christmas Child January collection: Flashlights, batteries, balls, hats and gloves.

Pastor Darryl Williams started a new sermon series: Ruth: The Road to Redemption. This week: The Disastrous Results of Leaving God, with scripture from Ruth.

Be sure to look on Anna Heights Baptist social platforms, Facebook and YouTube for up to date Bible studies, services and announcements or on the church website at annaheights.com.

Monday through Friday at 8 a.m., there is intercessory prayer ministry held in the church foyer for anyone who would like to come and pray with the group there.

Anna VFW

Happy New Year from the Post and Auxiliary.

Friday, a drive-thru fish dinner is planned. Please call 833-5182 by noon on Friday if you would like one. Time to pick up is 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Anyone

can order this meal and it helps the Post pay the utility bills while the governor has a shut down. It is the only thing keeping the Post alive right now during this difficult time so please help support these meals. They are very good.

Sympathy

Sympathy to the families of these sweet ladies Kay McRaven and Wanda Hase.

Retirement

Thanks for your service of 27 years to Union County Asa Busby.

Anniversary

Dec. 30. Dennis and Eva Prater.

Birthdays

Jan. 2 Keith Ellis, Paula Wetting, Alan Mighell III.

Special Thanks

I got a nice email from Stephen Burns from St. Louis that said he sent a donation for poinsettias for United Methodist Church Anna in my honor and in memory of his great-great-aunt Mary Hart, his cousins Aaron Hart's grandmother. He also sent in honor of Barbara Bauer and Joan Graves Edwards to Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM 6:30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Local	Local Programs	The Home Depot College (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven	(4:40) "Hobbs" ('19)	"Snake Eyes" ('98)	★★★ "Hustlers" ('19) A stripper's scheme. (HD)
7 PM 7:30	Celebrity Wheel of Fortune	Young B Positive	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	Mr. Mayor	Women's College Basketball from Site TBA	Bang (HD)	"Transformers: The Last Knight" ('17) State of war. (HD)	Jessie BUNKD	"The Bee Gees: How Can You" ('18) Gibb family. (HD)	"Equilibrium" ('02) Sean Pertwee. (50)	"Dark Waters" ('19) A determined lawyer. (HD)
8 PM 8:30	The Chase (HD) (01) Mom	Call Me Unicorn	To Be Announced	Man (HD)	Go-Big Show	Bang (HD)	"Transformers: The Last Knight" ('17) State of war. (HD)	BUNKD	"Jay and Silent Bob Strike" ('01)	"Pandorum" ('09) Fatal space mission. (HD)	"Your Honor" ('10) Your Honor (HD)
9 PM 9:30	The Hustler	Star Trek: Discovery	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)	College Basketball UCLA vs Arizona State	Conan	Go-Big Show	BUNKD	"To Be Announced" (HD)	"The Recruit" ('04) CIA recruit spies. (HD)	"Shaquille" ('15) Shaquille (HD)
10 PM 10:30	Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	(35) Tonight (HD)	Go-Big Show	Sydney Jessie	"To Be Announced" (HD)		
11 PM 11:30	Nightline	Corden	Late Night	Sports	Conan			Jessie			

JANUARY 7, 2021

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM 6:30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA (Live)	"The Equalizer" ('14) Man serves justice. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(5:20) "Wrath" ('12)	"Live By Night" ('17)	"Sinister" ('12)	7:00pm
7 PM 7:30	Celebrity Wheel of Fortune	Young B Positive	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	Mr. Mayor	Women's College Basketball from Site TBA	Bang (HD)	"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" Truth about Peter Quill's lineage. (13) Dominic and his team help agent Hobbs.	Big City	To Be Announced (HD)	"Horrible Bosses" ('11) (HD)	NBC Mr. Mayor A retired businessman, who becomes the mayor of Los Angeles, must determine what he stands for and earn respect from his biggest critic. (HD)
8 PM 8:30	The Chase (HD) (01) Mom	Call Me Unicorn	To Be Announced	Man (HD)	Go-Big Show	Bang (HD)	"Fast & Furious 6" ('13) Dominic and his team help agent Hobbs.	Big City	To Be Announced (HD)	"The Truth" ('19) Drama A scriptwriter. (HD)	7:30pm
9 PM 9:30	The Hustler	Star Trek: Discovery	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)	College Basketball UCLA vs Arizona State	Conan	"Ant-Man" ('15) Thief recruited to use super-suit. (HD)	Big City	"CHIPS" ('77) Unlikely partners. (12) Super kids. (HD)	"Chronicle" ('12) Super kids. (HD)	ESPN Women's College Basketball "Teams TBA" (HD)
10 PM 10:30	Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	(35) Tonight (HD)	Frontal	Unstable	To Be Announced (HD)	"1917" ('20) Two young British soldiers. (HD)	TBS The Big Bang Theory "The Allowance Evaporation" When Amy discovers that Sheldon has been sharing intimate details of their relationship at work, they have their first fight since becoming cohabitants. TV14 (HD)
11 PM 11:30	Nightline	Corden	Late Night	Sports	Conan	ELEAGUE (HD)	Go-Big Show	Unstable	"The Talented Mr. Ripley" ('99, Thriller)	"Flags of Fathers" ('00, Thriller)	

FRIDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM 6:30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	NBA (Live)	"The Equalizer" ('14) Man serves justice. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(5:20) "Wrath" ('12)	"Live By Night" ('17)	"Sinister" ('12)	7:00pm
7 PM 7:30	Shark Tank (HD)	MacGyver (HD)	WWF Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	To Be Announced	Charlotte vs New Orleans (Live) (HD)	"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" Truth about Peter Quill's lineage. (13) Dominic and his team help agent Hobbs.	Big City	To Be Announced (HD)	"Horrible Bosses" ('11) (HD)	"The Truth" ('19) Drama A scriptwriter. (HD)	NBC Mr. Mayor A retired businessman, who becomes the mayor of Los Angeles, must determine what he stands for and earn respect from his biggest critic. (HD)
8 PM 8:30	(01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	Magnum P.I. (HD)	Dateline NBC Investigative news. (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	NBA Basketball Los Angeles vs Golden State (Live) (HD)	"Fast & Furious 6" ('13) Dominic and his team help agent Hobbs.	Big City	To Be Announced (HD)	"CHIPS" ('77) Unlikely partners. (12) Super kids. (HD)	"1917" ('20) Two young British soldiers. (HD)	ESPN Women's College Basketball "Teams TBA" (HD)
9 PM 9:30	Blue Bloods (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local	Local	"Ant-Man" ('15) Thief recruited to use super-suit. (HD)	Big City	To Be Announced (HD)	"Chronicle" ('12) Super kids. (HD)	"The Talented Mr. Ripley" ('99, Thriller)	TBS The Big Bang Theory "The Allowance Evaporation" When Amy discovers that Sheldon has been sharing intimate details of their relationship at work, they have their first fight since becoming cohabitants. TV14 (HD)
10 PM 10:30	Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Cosmos	Sat. Night Live (HD)	Frontal	Unstable	"Flags of Fathers" ('00, Thriller)	"Tommy Boy" ('95)	
11 PM 11:30	Nightline	Corden	Late Night	Local Programs Local info.	Sat. Night Live Sketch comedy. (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Go-Big Show	Unstable	"House"		

JANUARY 8, 2021

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM 6:30	NFL Playoffs (Live)	Local NFL Today	(3:00) TBA	Local Programs	(4:00) To Be Announced Info Unavailable. (HD)	"The Equalizer" ('14)	"Guardians" ('15)	Big City	★½ "Walk of Shame"	★★★ "The Doors" ('91)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM 7:30	To Be Announced Info unavailable. (HD)	NFL Playoffs "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	D							

Public Record

from the files at the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro

Realty Transactions

The following real estate transactions were recorded at the Union County clerk's office in Jonesboro:

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Curtis L. Childers, Sandra L. Childers. Grantee: Teresa A. Cox. Tract Section 23 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Sandra K. Roberts. Grantee: Anthony Stein. Subdivision Name: Orchard Drive Sub. Lots 74-81.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jason K. Oliver, Molly G. Oliver. Grantee: John Davis. Subdivision Name: A.D. Finch's 2nd. Add. of Anna. Lot 12.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Pearl Baker, David J. Cook, Frances Cook. Grantee: David J. Cook Jr., Misty Dawn Cook. Subdivision Name: Gattingers Add. of Anna. Lots 39, 40.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Tammy Lorraine Morris. Grantee: Jeannie E. Gerlach. Subdivision Name: Bucks Add. of Cobden. Block B. Lot 2.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Fannie Mae, Federal National Mortgage Association. Grantee: Douglas Meadows II, Megan Meadows. Subdivision Name: Fairview Heights. Lot 6.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Adrianna Caraker, Brandi Caraker, Jade Caraker. Grantee: Jared P. Tetmeyer, Johnna E. Tetmeyer. Tract Section 21 Township 11S Range 1W. Tract Section 28 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Barbara E. Cheek. Grantee: Patrick Harlow, Peggy S. Harlow. Tract Section 8 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Carla A. Harvel, Kimberly E. Harvel, Scott Harvel. Grantee: Levi Lence. Subdivision Name: Forest Place Addition. Block 11. Lots 8, 9.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Kristina Betka. Grantee: Richard C. Newman Jr., Liberty F. Newman, Liberty F. Spurlock. Subdivision Name: Winstead Davies 1st Add. of Anna. Lot 5.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Martin Flores Jr. Grantee: Jamie Bauer, Michael Butler. Tract Section 16 Township 13S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jason E. Menees, Kristie K. Menees. Grantee: Kyle Kueker. Tract Section 19 Township 12S Range 1E.

Subdivision Name: Shannon Lake Subdivision. Lot 24.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jason E. Menees, Kristie K. Menees. Grantee: Jennifer R. Goddard, Jerry L. Goddard. Tract Section 19 Township 12S Range 1E. Shannon Lake Subdivision. Lot 8.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jennifer R. Goddard, Jerry L. Goddard. Grantee: Jason E. Menees, Kristie K. Menees. Tract Section 19 Township 12S Range 1E.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Beth Patterson, Beth Stanley. Grantee: Donna J. Stanley, Terry A. Stanley. Tract Section 26 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Carl E. Rendleman, Joyce M. Rendleman. Grantee: Brandon Hunter, Stephanie Hunter. Tract Section 25 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Lola C. Elkins. Grantee: Hugo Flores. Tract Section 20 Township 12S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Jason L. Stroud. Grantee: Jennifer J. Clardy. Subdivision Name: Cover, Brown & Greens Add. of Mill Creek. Lots 21, 22.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Cheryl Ann Noel. Grantee: Kevin Paul Cerny Jr., Sarah Cerny. Tract Section 7 Township 13S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: George W. Warren Jr., George W. Warren, Linda L. Warren. Grantee: T&I Anna LLC. Subdivision Name: Winstead Davies 1st Add. of Anna. Lot 129.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Caitlyn McGill, Michael L. McGill. Grantee: Logan Crunk. Subdivision Name: T.J. Eddlemans 1st Add. of Dongola. Lots 11, 10.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Douglas A. Cerney, Nancy Cerney. Grantee: Bon Reynolds, Linda Reynolds. Tract Section 36 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Bon Reynolds, Linda

Reynolds. Grantee: Patricia Aydelott, Julie A. Hopkins, Myrtle L. Wolford. Subdivision Name: Miller Heights Sub. of Anna. Block 2. Lot 12.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Stephen Michael Bennett. Grantee: Gregory Browning. Subdivision Name: William Menees Add. of Anna. Lot 19.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Federal Loan Mortgage Association. Grantee: Lesa R. Doublin. Subdivision Name: Lewis 2nd Add. of Anna. Lot 4.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Stephen T. Kunce. Grantee: Galilee Baptist Church, Mindy Livesay. Tract Section 19 Township 11S Range 3W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Bill W. Poole, Billy W. Poole, Brenda Poole. Grantee: Brian P. Latham, Nicholette M. Latham. Tract Section 31 Township 13S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Tiffany Gore. Grantee: Alondra Martinez. Subdivision Name: Henry Kohlers 1st Add. of Anna. Lot 2.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Abel Godinez, Celia Godinez. Grantee: Melissa Britt, Scott Tripp. Name: Morgan and Wright Addition. Lots 5, 6.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Kenneth M. Laster. Grantee: Wunderbar Woods LLC. Tract Section 21 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jackie L. Dillow, James W. Dillow. Grantee: Darrell S. Wright, Marlene S. Wright. Tract Section 16 Township 12S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Glenda A. Franklin. Grantee: Allisha Danielle Velasquez. Tract Section 19 Township 12S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: David R. Mayberry, Shelby J. Mayberry. Grantee: Sharon Alstat, Barbara Charles, Sue Emerson, Margaret Shelton. Tract Section 26 Township 13S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Sharon Alstat, Barbara Charles, Sue Emerson, Margaret Shelton, Sharon Turner, Margaret Watkins. Grantee: Melissa Patterson, Thomas Patterson. Tract Section 28 Township 13S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Don Pippins, C. Denise Pippins, Christian Denise Pippins, Don J. Pippins. Grantee: CILA Properties of Anna LLC. Tract Section 20 Township 12S Range 1W.

Tract Section 29 Township 12S Range 1W. Tract Section 21 Township 12S Range 1W. Tract Section 28 Township 12S Range 1W. Subdivision Name: Maplehurst Add. of Anna. Block 4. Lots 35, 34, 36. Haley Acres Subdivision. Lots 2, 3, 4.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Matthew D. Ahlberg. Grantee: Briana Childers, Preston Childers. Tract Section 30 Township 11S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Scott D. Tripp. Grantee: Melissa Britt, Scott D. Tripp. Subdivision Name: Morgan and Wright Addition. Lot 7.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Southern Illinois Ag Source LLC. Grantee: Draperview Properties LLC. Tract Section 23 Township 12S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Nona Evans, Vickie Gordon, Billy Duane Jackson, Patricia L. Jackson. Grantee: Jaime Lyn Watkins, James Bradley Watkins. Tract Section 29 Township 12S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Linda Berkley, Margaret Gielow. Grantee: Andrew Berkley, Jack Berkley, Nicholas Berkley. Tract Section 13 Township 11S Range 4W. Tract Section 24 Township 11S Range 4W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Wayne Boehme, Beverly L. Brown, Tami O. Williams, Brandon O. Williams. Grantee: Williams Revocable Trust, Wunderbar Woods LLC. Tract Section 12 Township 12S Range 3W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Christina Yana, Robert Yana. Grantee: Joseph Duncan. Tract Section 20 Township 12S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Efren C. Godinez, Tracey H. Godinez. Grantee: Stephanie Sappington. Tract Section 29 Township 11S Range 1W.

Tract Section 20 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Brad Maloney. Grantee: Brad Maloney, Lanie J. Maloney. Tract Section 11 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Bon Reynolds, Linda

Ricky L. Luckhart. Grantee: Robert J. McGee. Tract Section 15 Township 11S Range 2W.

Traffic Citations

The following people were cited for speeding and were assessed \$164 in fines and court costs as recorded at the Union County circuit clerk's office in Jonesboro:

Morgan D. Wilson, St. Louis, Dustin S. Sutliff, Jonesboro. Kerry A. Shipley, Anna, Natalie A. Bridwell, Covington, Ind.

Elise M. Ratajczyk, Plainfield, Alyssa A. Weimer, Carbondale. Kadin Lee Carmack, Grand Tower, Tracy A. Watson, Scott City, Mo.

Owen T. Hazelrigg, Anna, Bradley G. Housewright, Vienna, Jamie D. Hardin, Dyersburg, Tenn. Patrick W. Vinnedge, Oakland City, Ind. Adula Sin, Fort Worth, Texas. Angelo Whittier, Richton Park.

Aaron Everage, Grand Chain, Courtney N. King, Anna, Dalton B. Welch, Pleasant View, Tenn. Gregory J. Masserang, Lake City, Mich. Jason M. Endicott, Carbondale.

Daniela B. Ballesteros, West Lafayette, Ind. Monica Castaneda Diazdeleon, Oakhurst, Texas. Melonie Friley House, Austin, Texas. Sachin Kidambi, Carbondale.

Rae L. South, Scott City, Mo. Elizabeth Ann Bellows, Springfield, Mo. Dominic P. Volpe, Germantown, Tenn. Scott J. Kozak, Barrington, Jeffery Clayton Haynes, Memphis, Tenn. Andrew R. Terhune, Gordenville, Mo.

The following people were cited for the indicated violations and were assessed \$164 fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Travis K. Ford, Dongola, disregard traffic control device. Chris A. Foist, Tamaroa, improper passing on left.

Ginger Lynn Lufcy, Cape Girardeau, electronic communication device. Rejina Dean Fanhoum, Cordova, Tenn., disregard stop sign.

Amber Dawn Barnes, Ellis Grove, electronic communication device. Tara

Joy McLaughlin, Vienna, improper traffic lane usage.

Travis J. McDermott, East Prairie, Mo., seat belt required/driver. Stephanie R. Garcia, Christopher, electronic communication device.

The following people were cited for speeding and were assessed \$251 in fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Marqui L. Edmonds, Carbondale. Amanda N. Miller, Tampa, Fla. Thomas J. Greenhill, Carbondale. Quincy LeMonye McElmurry, Anna, Russell L. Nicks, Marion.

Jennifer L. Corman, Cypress, Kyler Dean Worthen, Murphysboro. Michael Sanders, Chicago. Davon K. Compton, Flossmoor. Paris G. Embry, Chicago.

Roger Alan Rowan, Anna, Leslie C. Parker, Olmsted. Meredith A. Owens, De Soto. Alyssa Kennedy Smith, West Bloomfield, Mich. Debra Ann Sutliff, Jonesboro. Craig A. Wilson, Nashville.

Kimberly Scott Murray, Chicago. Quiana P. Anderson, Sikeston, Mo. Rich J. Jackson, Mounds. Brady E. Cross, Jonesboro. Mauricio Josso Sifuentes, Donna, Texas.

Michael S. Miles, Murphysboro. Justin C. Morgan, Nuovo, Ala. Naomi Ebony Valentine, Mound City. Radim Teuer, Buncombe. Chanyle Mae Woolverton, Paducah.

Michael W. Taylor, Anna, Tyreka L. Ward, Chicago. Meagan Kalea Mea Tanner, Anna, Albert Douglas Heflin, Mooresville, N.C. Kortrell Deshawn Johnson Jr., Carterville.

Jessica Lynn Jackson, Jefferson, Mo. Daniel R. Hendon, Shiloh. Dominique Sherie Hill, Murphysboro. Jokko D. Williams, Carbondale. Christopher James Iannotti, Marion. Riley Robert Klingelberg, Murrieta, Calif.

Judy A. Black, Dowell, Sarah Elizabeth Dumont, Anna, Raymond Christopher Doney, Seattle, Wash. Robert Ted Darr Jr., Gifford. Molly M. Lang, Anna, Samantha Paige Karnes, Benton, Tracy A. Cavaness, Centreville, Va. Andresson Edward Carr, Carbondale.

Tia Chanta Rogers, Carbondale. Cecily Chavon Anderson, Indianapolis, Ind. J. Guadalupe Rivera, Chicago. Brandi M. Gayles, Carbondale. Victoria Santillana, Hoopeston. Kevontae T. Johnson, Jonesboro.

Ashlee A. Randolph, Fontana, Calif. Jonathon S. Wright, Cairo.

The following people were cited for the indicated violations and were assessed \$251 in fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Shanice Shavonda S. Ross, Cape Girardeau, seat belt required/passenger. Stefan Miclea, Bellevue, Wash., improper traffic lane usage.

Tia Rashelle Jackson, Jonesboro, seat belt required/passenger. Sydne Kel Miller, Anna, electronic communication device.

A nthony N o a h Smith, Marion, electronic communication device.

Kimberly D. Jackson, Anna, seat belt required/driver. Natasha Louise Gentry, Anna, electronic communication device.

Krystal Leigh Kohler, Cape Girardeau, seat belt required/driver. Skyler Ethen Nolan, Buncombe, seat belt required/passenger.

Tristan J. Swink, Dongola, squealing/screeching tires. Taylor Anthony Morrison, Cape Girardeau, seat belt required/passenger.

Matthew W. Turner, Jonesboro, disregard stop sign. William Joseph Allen, Carbondale, fail to reduce speed.

Cortney L. Robinson, Marion, seat belt required/driver. Schreta L. Schaaf, Carbondale, transport/carry alcoholic liquor/driver.

Mario Gino Owens, Memphis, Tenn., transport/carry alcoholic liquor/passenger.

Devine Eugene Burden, Whitewater, Mo., use cell phone/op CMV. Andrew T. Carber, Anna, electronic communication device.

Jeffrey T. Dancy Jr., Sparta, seat belt required/driver. Samantha L. Wilson, Carbondale.

Rolland Eugene Bridges V of Cobden and Jessica Caitlyn Capron of Cobden.

Andrew Tyler Carver of McClure and Samantha Lynn Schaefer of Anna.

Anna, pedestrian walking on highway. John Jason Johnson, Hannibal, Mo., seat belt required/driver.

Isiah M. Jones, Cape Girardeau, no valid registration. Sierra Donato Brimm Thomas, Buras, La., electronic communication device.

The following people were cited for the indicated violations and were assessed the accompanying fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Cherokee Lynn Hartline, Dongola, speeding, 11-14 mph above limit, \$251; electronic communication device, \$251. Jody D. Owens, Cape Girardeau, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727.

Nicholas Scott Brock, Paragould, Ark., operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727; speeding, 15-20 mph above limit, \$251. Rachel A. Willis, Sikeston, Mo., operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727.

Eric J. Montroy, Ellis Grove, overweight on axle, \$780. Shawn D. Tucker, Cape Girardeau, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727.

Marriage Licenses

The county clerk's office issued a marriage license to:

Mark Alan Pfau of Dongola and Amber Marie Hammond of Dongola.

Jacob Edward Thomas Haney of Ava and Samantha Nicole Throop of Ava.

Sidney D. Gentles Jr. of Shawneetown and Penny M. Huff of Christopher.

Brandon Randall Burris of St. Ann, Mo., and Nicole Lynai Crawford of St. Ann, Mo.

Dakota Jeremiah Rogers of Makanda and Abigail Jane Askins of Makanda.

Samuel Wayne Kee of Buncombe and Gina Marie Johnson of Buncombe.

Richard Garl Hendrix II of Anna and Jessica Elaine Wettig of Anna.

Brett Edward Taylor of Charleston, Mo., and Katherine Elizabeth Bowman of Charleston, Mo.

Rolland Eugene Bridges V of Cobden and Jessica Caitlyn Capron of Cobden.

Andrew Tyler Carver of McClure and Samantha Lynn Schaefer of Anna.</p

The Gazette-Democrat

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4-7gc

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4-5gpc

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tfn

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Corner of said Northwest Quarter, thence South 1 degree 17' 21" West along the North/South center line of said Section 21 a distance of 701.02 feet to the Southerly right of way of Co. Highway 13, thence Northwesterly along the said right of way line on a curve to the right of radius 990.37 feet a distance along the arc of 422.96 feet, thence North 46 degrees 58' West along the said right of way line a distance of 933.30 feet to the point of beginning, thence South 43 degrees 02' West a distance of 208.71 feet, thence North 46 degrees 58' 28" West a distance of 626.13 feet, thence North 43 degrees East a distance of 208.71 feet to the Southerly road of way line of Co. Highway 13, thence Southeasterly along the said road of way on a curve to the right of radius 4372.46 feet a distance along the arc of 27.06 feet thence South 46 degrees 58' East along the said road of way line a distance of 599.07 feet to point of beginning; as recorded Doc#196612 dated 7/22/1991; 12-3W Township, Union County, Illinois and any building thereon and their contents, if any Common address: 4865 State Forest Road, Wolf Lake; 12-3W Township, Union County, Illinois and any building thereon and their contents, if any.

Property Index No. 11-12-06-943

Said Property was sold on May 30, 2018 for General taxes for the tax year 2016. The period of redemption will expire on April 1, 2021. On April 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM, the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for

Tax Deed should the said real estate not be redeemed.

WILLIAM E. GROOME,
Petitioner
2-4g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 21st day of December, 2020, under the Assumed Name of Lane Co. Boutique with the place of business located at 303 S. Jefferson, Cobden, Illinois 62920 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Mackenzie Laird
303 S. Jefferson Street
Cobden, IL 62920
2-4g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned

with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 28th day of December, 2020, under the Assumed Name of Custom Craft Woodworking with the place of business located at 4590 Burns Road, Dongola, Illinois 62926 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Ethan J. Hostetter
4590 Burns Road
Dongola, IL 62926
3-5gc

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF
WILLIAM L.
MUSGRAVE, SR.,
IN PROBATE
DECEASED.
NO. 2020-P-48

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of William L. Musgrave, Sr., of 104 Thomas Drive, Cobden, IL 62920. Letters of Office were issued on December 18, 2020, to Randy Musgrave, 215 Apple Lane, Anna, IL 62906, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Judith A. Ray, 215 Apple Lane, Anna, IL 62906.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of admission, you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses in open Court or other evidence, as provided by Section 5/6-21

of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21.)

You also have the right, under Section 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1), to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the Court within six (6) months after admission of the Will to probate.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, Par. 5/28-4), any interested person terminates Independent Administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk of this Court.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 West Market, Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before January 29, 2021, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: December 27, 2020.

RANDY MUSGRAVE

JUDITH A. RAY
ATTORNEY NO. 6287164
ATTORNEY FOR
PETITIONER
215 APPLE LANE
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-713-5450

4-6g



April 2020: Lighting up the night for the class of 2020

Shawnee School District No. 84 held a special event for its seniors with the help of local firefighters and rescue workers. On Friday night, April 24, Shawnee High School at Wolf Lake participated in the national #bethelight campaign, a movement honoring the high school class of 2020, who have had their senior year disrupted by the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. Fire trucks, ambulances and other emergency vehicles lined up in front of the school and sounded their sirens for 20 minutes starting at 8:20 p.m. (20:20) for the class of 2020. Seniors drove through the circle drive in front of the school building, carrying signs and honking horns. Members of the Shawnee faculty were on hand to give out gift bags to all the seniors. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.



May 2020: Cobden High School graduates celebrated

The community gathered Friday evening, May 15, to celebrate the Cobden High School graduating class of 2020. A senior graduation parade was held in the Union County village. The schedule for 2020 commencement ceremonies at Union County schools was impacted significantly by the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the Cobden High School class of 2020 were dressed in their caps and gowns for the parade. The route for the event was the one followed by the annual Cobden Peach Festival parade, which has been held for many years. The parade route was from the high school and through the village. Many people gathered along the parade route to salute the graduates. And many of those along the route displayed signs which congratulated the graduates.

Obituaries

Wanda Marie Hase

Wanda Marie Hase, 89, of Anna, went to her eternal home on Dec. 29, 2020, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Feb. 17, 1931, in Crainville, the daughter of Herman and Effie Greenrod Dunaway.

She married Harold "Junior" Hase on June 5, 1949, in Ullin. He preceded her in death on March 29, 2011.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dongola.

She enjoyed many things.

She loved being outside whether it be fishing or working in her flower and vegetable gardens.

When living at The Voyage (River to River) in Anna, she was instrumental in starting and maintaining the many flower gardens that are still enjoyed by the residents today.

Her artistic talent was one that she enjoyed sharing with others. She was a beautiful artist and she blessed all of her family and many friends with paintings.

Also, she sewed, quilted, crocheted, made cards, and loved to weave baskets. She enjoyed sharing her projects with anyone that visited her. She also inherited her family's music ability and enjoyed singing.

She helped on the family farm when her children were young, but as they grew, she owned and operated an upholstery shop in Perks.

She also drove the school bus for Southern Seven. She retired after working for almost 20 years at the Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna.

She is survived by two daughters, Janet (Jerry) Cruse and Joyce (Marion) Hill of Dongola; one son, Jerry (Sheila) Hase of Anna; six grandchildren, Lane (Dee) Cruse, Stacy Hill, Leslie (Stanley) Treat, Erica (Rodger) Goines, Heath Hase and Heston (Alysha) Hase; nine great-grandchildren, Ashton (Jake) Casey, Dalen and Evan Treat, Raegan and Riley Cruse, Garrett and Avery Goines, Claire and Rhett Hase; two great-great-grandchildren, Aliyah and Paisley Casey; two brothers, Raleigh (Cheryl) Dunaway and Leon Dunaway; brother-in-law, Bob (Barb) Hase; many cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; a brother, Jim Dunaway; and a sister, Deloris Peeler Reed.

A pass-through was held Saturday, Jan. 2, from 10 a.m. to noon at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

Funeral services for Wanda Hase were private. Interment was in Friendship Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Harvest Church food pantry or to PAWS and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro was in charge of arrangements.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit www.crainsonline.com.

Kendra Dobbs

Kendra Dobbs, 61, of Maryville, and formerly of Anna, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020, at the Elmwood Nursing Home in Maryville.

She was born on March 8, 1959, in Georgia.

Graveside funeral services were Tuesday, Jan. 5, at the Anna Cemetery. Interment immediately followed.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna was in charge of arrangements.

Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Guests of Dolores Reynolds of Reynoldsville for a traditional New Year's dinner were Greg and Amy Reynolds, Jackie and Jay Jennings, Justin and Gracie Wilson, all of Reynoldsville, Jessie, Andrew Rhiannon and Lane Livesay, and Rodney and Vicki Reynolds, all of Wolf Lake.

Barb and Edwin Livesay of Anna visited with Dolores Reynolds on New Year's Eve.

Sunday, Jan. 3, Rodney and Vicki Reynolds were lunch guests of Dolores Reynolds. Justin Wilson and Greg Reynolds visited in the afternoon.

Brad and Lori Pender of Jonesboro and Kristin Pender and friend Justin of Indiana visited New Year's Day with Fred and Maxine Pender of Fair City. Masks and social distancing were used.

Thank you to Maxine and Fred Pender for re-



Bill Newton

Bill Newton, 70, of Goreville, and formerly of Cobden, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2020, at St. Louis University Hospital in St. Louis.

Mr. Newton was born on Feb. 24, 1950, in Anna, the son of Byford and Verla Billingsley Newton.

He graduated from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School in 1968. He retired from working for the Illinois Department of Transportation.

He enjoyed cooking, attending sporting events, spending time with his friends, and especially cherished the time he spent with his girls. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 627 in Buncombe.

Survivors include his four daughters and their families: Kandi Starkweather of Cave Creek, Ariz., and her daughter, Maci Wagley and her husband, Luis (their children, Payton and Saylor) and her son, Bayli Duff; Brandi Karnes and her husband, Jason of Herrin, and their children, Chance and Presli Karnes; Dusty Palmer and her husband, Donald of Pinckneyville, and their children, Dylln, Dustin and Daci; and Ashley Newton and her husband, Levi Lanpher of St. Louis and their daughter Leighton Lanpher.

He is also survived by his brother, Buckshot Newton; two sisters, Dena Johnson and Rita Belcher; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and many wonderful friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by one brother, Rodger Joe Newton.

Per his wishes, cremation rites were accorded at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

His family held a graveside memorial service for family and friends on Saturday, Jan. 2, at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Lick Creek.

Memorials can be made for the education of his grandchildren. He loved his grandchildren and their success was of utmost importance to him. Memorials can be made to: Bill Newton Memorial Fund, 1413 Summer Dr., Herrin, Ill. 62948.

Crain Funeral home Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro was in charge of arrangements.

Kay McRaven

Kay McRaven, 76, of Anna, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, at her home.

She was born on Feb. 4, 1944, in Anna, the daughter of George Franklin and Magdalene Elizabeth Holshouser Whiteside.

She married Allen McRaven on March 9, 1973, in Johnson County.

She is survived by her husband, Allen McRaven; siblings Janet (Wayne) Mears of Anna, Janice (Curt) Shannon of Jonesboro and Wayne (Doris) Whiteside of Anna; many nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and by a stepson, Keith McRaven.

She was an advocate and volunteer for PAST Historical Society and St. Anne's Church in Anna, as well as for many other organizations. She also volunteered at the Union County Hospital in Anna.

Graveside funeral services were at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1, at Jonesboro Cemetery, with Bill Littrell officiating. Interment immediately followed.

Memorials can be made to the American Cancer Society.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro was in charge of arrangements.

Donald Rangel

Donald Rangel, 64, of Anna, died Friday, Jan. 1, 2021, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

He was born on Sept. 21, 1956, in Peoria, the son of Consuela Rangel.

There will be no services held.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

Joyce Wandalein Cates

Joyce Wandalein Cates, 89, of Anna, died Sunday, Jan. 3, at the home of her daughter, Donna Cates, of Baton Rouge, La.

Funeral arrangements were pending at press time.

THANK YOU

*The family of
Jennifer (Jenny) Betts
would like to thank everyone
for all the thoughts and
prayers, cards and flowers
during this time of our loss.*

4GPC

Edgar 'Ed' R. Johnson

Edgar "Ed" R. Johnson, 85, of Wickliffe, Ky., and formerly of Anna, died Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, at the Lifecare Center of La Center, Ky.

He was born on Oct. 28, 1935, in Miller City, the son of Marshall and Mabel Dover Johnson.

He married June Brown on April 28, 1956, in Apopka, Fla. She preceded him in death in October 2018.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his children, Guy (Yvette) Johnson of Wickliffe, Ky., and Tammy (Bill) Stubbs of Celestine, Ind.; grandchildren Crystal Villar, William R. Stubbs, Ellen Stubbs, Lexi Johnson and Eli Johnson; great-grandchildren Kimberly Villar and Bristol Persinger; a brother, Russell (Judy) Johnson of Jonesboro; a sister, Cheryl Appleberry of Peoria; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, June Johnson; and a son, Jimmy Dale Johnson.

Mr. Johnson served in the U.S. Air Force. He served during the Korean War.

He genuinely loved people. He was the leader of his family and loved spending time with them. He really enjoyed spending time fishing as well.

Funeral services were at noon Thursday, Dec. 31, at the New Beginnings Community Worship Center, with Pastor Guy Johnson officiating. Interment was in the Anna Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna was in charge of arrangements.

Colonel Ike Hawk Jr.

Colonel Ike Hawk Jr. died at 10:45 p.m. on Dec. 2, 2020, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau, surrounded by his family.

He was preceded in death by both of his parents, Colonel Hawk Sr. of Cobden and Ruth Hawk of Cobden; a brother-in-law, Harley Utzinger of Peoria; and one son, Todd Alan Hawk of Cayuga.

He is survived by one brother, Darrell and Diane of Cobden; one sister, Diane Utzinger of Peoria; and his children, Annette and Dale Hoerr of Peoria, Tammy and Donnie of Peoria, Colonel Alex Hawk II of Cayuga, William and Dana Hawk of Kingman, Ind., and Ruth Neher of Cayuga; eight grandchildren, Sgt. Joseph Colson and Katie of Fort Benning, Ga., Jesse Howell of Farmer City, Haley Salyers of Peoria, Adison Hawk of Kingman, Chase, Emma, Isaac and Kaden, all of Cayuga, Ind.; and six great-grandchildren, Aiden, Bentley and Raylynn Lakeland of Fort Benning, Ga., Emmalynn and Eduardo Perez; and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Hawk worked for G&G Mobile Homes for many years and for Royal Mobile Homes. He owned several businesses while he lived in Cobden from 1979 to 2004.



Gary L. Townzen Sr.

Gary L. Townzen Sr., 74, of Anna, died Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020, at his home.

He was born on Aug. 31, 1946, in Granite City, the son of Carl and Irene White Townzen.

He married Bridget Ashmore in 2007.

Mr. Townzen is survived by his wife, Bridget Townzen; children Kristina (Jonas) Townzen-Tindall and Gary L. Townzen Jr.; step-children, Devan Hooks, William Bailey Jr. and Falon Savage; grandchildren Garrett Townzen, Gavin Hooks, Tye Bender, Bailey Hooks, Jaicey Hooks, Zaidee Hooks, Faith Lane, and Courtney Bailey; a great-grandchild, Paizley Smith; a brother, Mark (Dene) Townzen; sisters-in-law JoAnn Townzen, Dixie (Bob) Ventura and Shawna Ashmore; brothers-in-law Joe Lucking and Steve (Sandy) Ashmore; his mother-in-law, Joyce Ashmore; nieces, nephews, cousins; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; by two brothers, Carl Townzen and Brian Townzen; and by a sister, Beverly Lucking.

Mr. Townzen served in the U.S. Air Force.

There will be no services at this time.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

WITH SINCERE THANKS

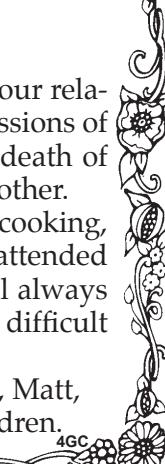
The Family of

Millie McGrath

Would like to sincerely thank our relatives and friends for the expressions of sympathy given to us on the death of our wife, mother and grandmother.

To all who supported us with cooking, flowers, cards, and to all who attended the memorial service, you will always be remembered during this difficult time.

Mike, Courtney, Andy, John, Matt, Tim, Phillip and grandchildren.



Pandemic response, budget, Black Caucus agenda on table for 'lame duck' session

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois
phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois lawmakers will return to the capital city on Friday for a "lame duck" session that is expected to focus on the state's COVID-19 response, a nearly \$4 billion budget deficit and a host of social issues being advanced by the Legislative Black Caucus.

House Speaker Michael Madigan's office notified the chamber's members of the plans in an email sent Wednesday, Dec. 30.

Senate President Don Harmon has not officially announced his plans, but his spokesman said in an email over the weekend that senators have been advised to hold the dates open in the event lawmakers are called back into session.

Lawmakers haven't met since late May when they held an abbreviated special session to pass a budget and a few other items that were considered essential.

The regular fall veto session, which had been scheduled for late November and early December, was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The budget that lawmakers passed during that special session with only Democratic votes was about \$5 billion out of balance.

"They refused to listen to our warnings over and over

again," said House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs. "And now, after voters just sent the Democrats a message, Madigan and his cohorts will be trying to sneak a tax increase — yes, sneak a tax increase — into the lame duck session."

Pritzker has said in the past that he would consider closing certain business tax "loopholes" in order to raise additional revenue, but more recently he has said that he wants to focus on spending cuts.

Madigan, meanwhile, said in December that he was prepared to push for an increase in the state's flat income tax rate, should Pritzker propose one. But Pritzker has given no indication that he plans to make such a proposal.

Rep. Greg Harris, of Chicago, the House Majority Leader, did not immediately respond Monday to a request for comment about his plans for the special session.

In addition to dealing with the budget crisis, lawmakers may also consider measures regarding the state's overall pandemic response, which so far has been managed almost exclusively out of the governor's office.

Many lawmakers, particularly Republicans, have expressed frustration during the pandemic

that they have had no role in making decisions that involve closing schools, restaurants and bars or imposing limits on gathering sizes.

"We can stop allowing Gov. Pritzker to run this state unilaterally by executive order," Durkin said Monday.

"We can fix the state's broken unemployment insurance system that still is barely functioning nearly a year later, resulting in thousands of families struggling to put food on the table each day."

Also likely to be on the agenda is a long list of policy initiatives being pushed by members of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus focusing on racial and social justice issues that were thrust into the forefront following the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers in May.

The session is scheduled to begin Friday, Jan. 8, and could run until Jan. 13, when the 102nd General Assembly will convene to inaugurate new members.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Public health officials address concerns about toxic drug combinations

Zinc and Antiretroviral HIV Medications

Zinc, a popular supplement, can limit the efficacy of HIV medications.

"Many people don't realize the medications in their medicine cabinet could be incredibly dangerous if taken the wrong way," says Illinois Poison Control, IPC, assistant vice president Carol DesLauriers.

"I can't stress enough how important it is to carefully read instructions and consult a medical professional if you're unsure."

"During the pandemic, it's more critical that we reduce stress on our healthcare providers," says Dr. Michael Wahl, who is IPC's medical director.

"By avoiding hazardous drug combinations, we can keep patients safe at home and prevent unnecessary trips to the emergency room."

Since there are many potentially dangerous medication combinations, Southern Seven recommends checking with your doctor before taking any over the counter drugs.

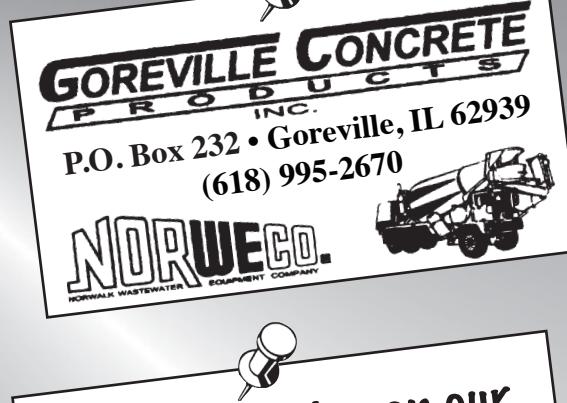
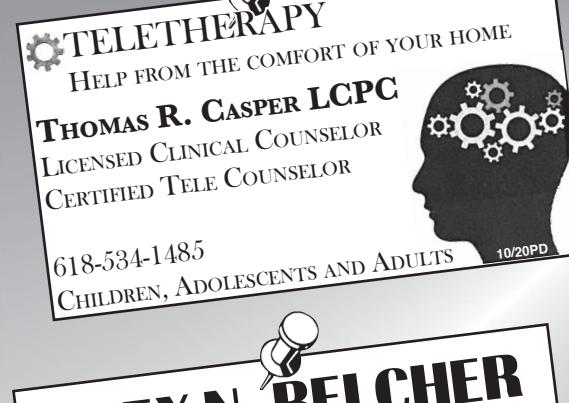
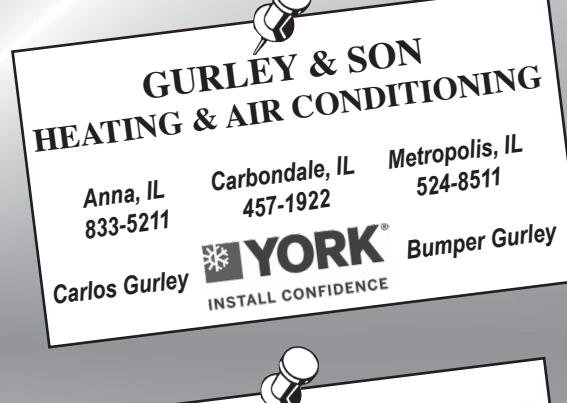
Contact 911 or your doctor immediately if you experience a sudden change in heart rate, blood pressure, breathing or other unexplained reaction following ingestion.

You can also contact the IPC helpline at 1-800-222-1222. IPC experts are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year including holidays.

To learn more, contact Southern Seven Health Department at 618-634-2297.

HERE'S MY CARD!

For information, call 833-2158



Opinion and Commentary

Land of Lincoln has lot to live up to

By Jim Nowlan

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University asked me to do some noodling about the future of Illinois. I have mentioned this to several friends. The responses – a roll of the eyes; a belly laugh; a retort that it is too late to do anything about Illinois. Nobody has responded that it is a good use of my time, needs to be done.

Few, it seems, give a whit about our state. Why might this be so?

In the late 19th century, Illinois was the fastest growing state in the nation. Twenty-seven million people from around the world were dazzled by the White City on Chicago's lakefront, the 1893 World Columbian Exposition.

We had some swagger then, and maybe so up to the post-war period of my childhood, as synergies between city and fertile countryside made our state one of the richest. But now, we're in a funk.

There is no "Eyes of Texas Are upon You" to rally us, to bring folks out of their chairs in unison and pride. There is a real sense of statehood in Texas, which we lack, maybe because Illinois isn't a natural community.

We are a state of regions: Chicago, of course; the 'burbs; Southern Illinois; western Illinois; and so on. When traveling overseas, we aren't "from Illinois," but more often from "near Chicago." We're not alone; many states share similar regional divisions; think of Tennessee, New York.

Illinois does have big problems: a deadbeat state government, drowning in deficits and debt. Illinois also has a reputation across the country as being one of the most corrupt states. All of which dampens interest in doing business here.

Yet Illinois has great strengths. "In each of the five critical Rs – roads, rails, runways, rivers and routers," boasts prominent Effingham entrepreneur Jim Schultz, "Illinois is in the top three among the 50 states."

In addition, Illinois has a strong system of public and private colleges and universities, especially vibrant at the graduate research institution level, critical to innovation and discovery in the future. For example, Marc Andreessen and colleagues at the University of Illinois basically invented internet web browsing, central to everyday lives the world over.

And of course, Illinois is in the middle of the nation; our goods can reach much of the nation in a day's time. Our per capita personal income is also comfortably above the national average; if our economy were that of a nation, we would rank 19th or so in the world.

Based on this, we should have some swagger. But we don't.

In addition to beating on ourselves for so long about our negatives, a self-fulfilling prophecy, we simply have never – never-ever – thought about our future. I have scoured our history, and I cannot find a single illustration of Illinois ever having done any comprehensive, long-term thinking. There is, for sure, much thinking about metropolitan Chicago, but not about the state, which has different functions from local governments.

Maybe it's because we have always practiced meat-and-potatoes politics, where elected officials focus laser-like on simply getting to next year, and getting re-elected in two. We'll worry about the future when it arrives.

Long-term thinking about a positive future doesn't, of course, make it so. Yet such a process can build goal posts to shoot for, and measure our progress as we go. This is what the impressive former Gov. Mitch Daniels famously did in Indiana, with his dashboard of key indicators, to which he held his team accountable.

We have been in a funk so long, I think our problems in Illinois are basically psychological, even more than political. We need to rally ourselves around our strengths.

One small example: Have our Illinois arts and humanities councils hold a competition among our songwriters to come up with a catchy, upbeat tune about Illinois, one we can all hum along to. "By thy rivers gently flowing..." just doesn't cut it. Don't laugh – sparks of life, emotion and passion drive achievement.

Second, bring together the half dozen-plus fine think tanks at our public universities and in the nonprofit sector. Have their scholars gaze out the window and brood about the problems – and potential – of the future. Set up some goal posts.

Then, recruit champions for Illinois from the top rungs of business, labor, and civic life to lead us to some swagger, once again.

We are, after all, the Land of Lincoln. We have a lot to live up to.

Jim Nowlan voted for the new Illinois income tax in 1969, as a freshman House member. A former senior fellow at the University of Illinois Institute of Government and Public Affairs, Nowlan has worked for three unindicted Illinois governors.



Pine cone silhouette

A pine cone appeared to be hanging like an ornament on a Christmas tree when it was seen in a silhouette created by the light of a nearly full moon on a recent December evening.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner



Frozen in time? This turtle was seen in the water at the pond at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro on the final day of 2020.

Oh, no...not another picture of a turtle...

A few weeks ago, way back in the final days of 2020, I shared a photograph of a turtle in this space. At the time, I figured the image would be that last one of a turtle that you folks would get to see for 2020.

The photograph was taken at the pond at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro. As you have probably figured out by now, I pay frequent visits to the picnic grounds.

Often, I am the only person there. Especially when the weather is cold. Or really hot. Or rainy. Or snowy. Just depends.

My visits to the picnic grounds have been a part of my Thursday routine for the last few years. The visits were one resolution for a new year which I actually kept. Seemed like a good way to spend just a little bit of time outdoors during a very busy day.

The visits also give me a chance, occasionally, to spend some time chatting with Abraham Lincoln. Well, a statue of Mr. Lincoln. And, no, I don't really chat with the statue. At least that's the story I'm going with.



The Other Half was a little bit surprised to find a skink while doing some work in her garden last weekend.

A Page from the Past from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

From Thursday, January 7, 1971

A group of more than 50 businessmen and property owners along the proposed highway to be constructed from the intersection of Routes 146 and 51, east of Anna, to the Iron Kettle, attended the Anna City Council meeting Tuesday evening, Jan. 5.

Readers, shivering in the low temperatures being recorded in the Union County area, may take some comfort in the knowledge that last year on January 6, the recording stood at four degrees above zero, and January 7, the low was zero. The low for the week was 8 Wednesday morning, Jan. 6, and the high was 55 Monday, Jan. 4.

The Annual Vegetable Growers School sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 19, in the Farm Bureau Building at Jonesboro.

Illinois Fruit Growers Exchange, Cobden, has entered a cooperative marketing venture aimed at proving that the beauty of apples is more than skin deep. Off-grade apples, those that are misshapen or miscolored but otherwise good, solid and delicious, will be gathered at a new processing facility at Cobden, and then sliced, packed and sold to commercial and institutional bakeries. The manager of the new facility is Fred Flamm, Cobden.

The 15th edition of the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School Invitational Tournament promises to be a very attractive display of high school basketball. This is the first year for Anna-Jonesboro Community High School to have a consolation bracket and it is felt that a great deal of added interest will be shown by the addition of the consolation round.

Anna Masonic Lodge 520 A.F. & A.M. installed officers for the forthcoming year Saturday, Jan. 2, with ceremonies beginning at 7:30 p.m.

VFW, Auxiliary plan drive-thru fish fry, pork steak dinner

A drive-thru fish fry and a drive-thru pork steak dinner are planned at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455. The post is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.

Fish Fry

The VFW plans to serve a drive-thru fish fry dinner on Friday, Jan. 8. Serving is scheduled from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The menu will include fish, potato salad, baked beans, a pickle, and hush puppies for a donation of \$10.

Fish only will be available for a donation of \$2 per piece.

Those who would like to order a meal are asked to call 833-5182 before noon on Jan. 8 to make reservations for pick up.

The VFW asks those who pick up meals to have the correct change; no credit cards or debit cards can be accepted.

Pork Steak Dinner

The Auxiliary to the VFW plans to serve a drive-thru pork steak dinner on Monday, Jan. 11. Serving is scheduled from 4:30 p.m. until 6 p.m.

The menu will include thick cut pork steak, a baked potato, green beans and dessert for a \$10 donation.

Those who would like to order a meal are asked to call 833-5182 no later than 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, to make reservations for pick up.

The Auxiliary asks those who pick up meals to have the correct change; no credit cards or debit cards can be accepted.

The Anna VFW and its Auxiliary continue to thank the community for its support during this difficult time.

Pine cone silhouette

A pine cone appeared to be hanging like an ornament on a Christmas tree when it was seen in a silhouette created by the light of a nearly full moon on a recent December evening.