

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, December 3, 2020

Anna, Illinois

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News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

An American Red Cross blood drive is planned from noon to 6 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the First Baptist Church in Anna.

Union County Alliance of Churches plans to sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive on Friday afternoon, Dec. 18, at the Main Street Center in Anna.

Snow flurries were flying through the air early Monday morning in Union County.

The snow flurries accompanied what the National Weather Service office in Paducah described as "some of the coldest air of the season so far," which arrived Sunday night.

The first day of winter, by the way, is Dec. 21.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is Dec. 7.

Union County officeholders were set to take office Tuesday morning, Dec. 1.

Good luck to hunters who will be out in the woods and fields Dec. 3-6 for the conclusion of Illinois' 2020 seven-day firearm season.

Southern Seven Health Department reported that 131 free COVID-19 tests were completed at a drive-thru testing event held Saturday, Nov. 28, in Cairo. That was the largest turnout the health department has seen at its free testing events. Some of those events have been held in Union County.

The Union County Alliance of Churches' bell-ringing campaign was scheduled to begin Nov. 28 and continues through Dec. 31. Bell-ringers are scheduled to be at the Anna Kroger store, the Walmart supercenter store in Anna and at Union County Market in Jonesboro.

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Southern Seven update, as of Nov. 30

1,170 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Union County

As of Monday, Nov. 30, Union County had recorded nearly 1,200 confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began.

Southern Seven Health Department reported Monday that the county had a total of 1,170 confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The total included updated statistics which were recorded from Nov. 26 through Nov. 29.

Southern Seven Health Department also reported two new deaths in Union County as a result of COVID-19.

COVID-19 claimed the lives of a male in his 60s and a male in his 70s.

Southern Seven Health Department reported a cumulative total of 3,427 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in its service area as of Nov. 30.

The health department serves Union, Alexander,

Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope and Pulaski counties.

The health department reported 67 newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Union County as of Nov. 30. The updated numbers included newly confirmed cases for the period of Nov. 26 through Nov. 29.

The health department reported the following number of newly confirmed cases in the county, by age:

One under 5, 12 in their teens, 13 in their 20s, 14 in their 30s, eight in their 40s, eight in their 50s, four in their 60s, three in their 70s and four in their 80s.

The number of individuals confirmed to have COVID-19 in Union County since the start of the pandemic, as of Nov. 30, follows:

1,170 cases. 696 had recovered. 448 active cases. 23 deaths had been reported.

Shawnee School District families benefit from emergency food program

WACO, Texas – The Baylor University Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty, BCHP, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA, and key public and private organizations, announced that it served more than 38.7 million meals between March and August to more than 270,000 children impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic as part of the Emergency Meals-to-You, eMTY, program.

Locally, more than 239 children were served in the Shawnee Community Unit School District No. 84 region from June through September. A total of 119 households participated in the program.

A total of 1,660 boxes were shipped, with 33,200 meals served.

The Shawnee School District includes parts of Union, Alexander and Jackson counties.

The eMTY initiative was an expansion of a regional pilot program that had previously served Texas households in 2019.

As part of the federal government's pandemic response, the USDA asked BCHP to exponentially scale its meal delivery work to meet the needs of children in rural areas nationwide.

The collaborative accepted the challenge and called in key public and private partners to assist, ultimately growing the program from its origins of more than 475,000 meals to 4,000 students in Texas only to serving a total of 38,783,700 meals to 270,483 children in 43 of 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.

Children in some of the most remote areas of the United States received meals, said Jeremy Everett, BCHP executive director.

(continued on page 2)



Santa welcomes visitors

Santa welcomed visitors last Saturday night at the Anna Fire Station. Santa and his friends were standing next to the Anna Fire Department's brightly decorated ladder truck.

Lighting up the night in Anna for 2020 holiday season

The Christmas holiday season kicked off last Saturday night in Anna with the debut of the Union County city's new Gumdrop Drive holiday lights route and a drive-thru Christmas dropoff to help support the local Pay It Forward program.

The Gumdrop Drive holiday lights route features holiday lights and decorations along South Main and Davie streets in Anna, as well as Herman Wright Drive at the Anna City Park.

Sponsorships were sold for light poles and trees to be decorated. Nearly 60 sponsors contributed to success of the new holiday season event in Anna.

As of Nov. 25, the sponsorships had generated \$3,275 for the Pay It Forward program.

The lights are scheduled to be on display through New Year's Day.

Also taking place Saturday night was a 2020 holiday season Operation Pay It Forward Giving Parade. The parade gave the community a chance to support the local Pay It Forward program.

Community members were invited to drive thru and drop off unwrapped Christmas gifts at the Anna Fire Station Saturday evening.

Those who stopped by could see the Anna Fire Department's ladder truck, which was decorated with bright and colorful lights for the holiday season.



Fireworks display

A short fireworks display was presented Saturday night at the Anna City Park by Brad Dawson.



Commissioner honored for 40 years of service to Union County

A review for posting of a combined annual budget and appropriations ordinance for the fiscal year beginning Dec. 1 and ending on Nov. 30, 2021, was one of the items on the agenda at a regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners which was held Monday morning. The meeting was at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

The meeting was highlighted with the recognition of Union County Commissioner Bobby Toler Jr. Toler was honored for 40 years of dedicated service to county government. He had been serving as the board's vice chairman. He also served for many years as Union County clerk. Toler's term ended Nov. 30. County board of commissioners chairman Max Miller presented a plaque to Toler in recognition of his many years of service. From left are county commissioners David Gould, Kent Pitts, Bobby Toler Jr., Max Miller and Dale Foster. Photo provided.



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Emergency meals

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“In this unprecedented time of so much need, children in rural areas can be among the most vulnerable,” said Jeremy Everett, BCHP executive director.

“Without access to school lunch programs, public transportation and other resources, households in some of the country’s hardest hit communities were left scrambling for ways to replace much needed meal resources. BCHP’s collaboration with the USDA and its partners filled that need for more than 127,700 households nationwide as our meal delivery brought resources right to their front door.”

Everett said building strategic public and private partnerships to tackle hunger is key, and BCHP’s previously established partnerships with organizations like McLane Hunger Solutions, PepsiCo’s Food for Good and Chartwells made this rapid response not only possible, but successful.

“Participation in this program was a vital part of our overall efforts to address the serious needs of our district’s families during this pandemic,” said Shelly Clover-Hill, Shawnee School District No. 84 superintendent.

“Our partnership with BCHP on this effort allowed us to reach students and families in ways we never imagined.”

McLane Hunger Solutions, which provided Meals-to-You boxes for BCHP’s Texas program, was eager to launch the emergency program in response to COVID-19.

‘Participation in this program was a vital part of our overall efforts to address the serious needs of our district’s families during this pandemic,’ said Shelly Clover-Hill, Shawnee School District No. 84 superintendent.

McLane has been a long-time philanthropic supporter of both hunger initiatives and Baylor University.

“When we first heard of COVID-19, no one could have imagined how vast the impact would be on our everyday lives. As school closures spread across the country, this public-private partnership with the USDA, Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty, our team at McLane Global and PepsiCo, mobilized rapidly and have responded to so many in need,” said Denton McLane, chairman of McLane Global.

“In such a short period of time, we have sourced for, packed and shipped nearly 40 million meals to rural students from Alaska to Florida, Hawaii to New York. The Meals-To-You home delivery program works and is an important example of how innovative solutions can help feed our nation’s children.”

PepsiCo’s Food for Good, another key partner on the rural meal program, has been an invaluable partner to the Baylor Collaborative over the years, Everett said.

The PepsiCo Foundation recognized the importance of being able to ramp up the eMTY operation quickly and provided financial support to jumpstart preparations.

This dual role as vendor

and financial partner ensured a successful start for the program, Everett said.

“PepsiCo’s Food for Good program has been fighting childhood hunger for over 10 years, and we’re proud to bring our logistical expertise and vast resources to our partnership with the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty in the Meals-To-You program,” said Matt Smith, senior director of PepsiCo’s Food for Good program.

“By embracing the unique skills and experiences of the public, private and non-profit sectors, Meals-to-You was able to provide millions of nutritious meals to families during this difficult time. We are eager to build off this partnership and continue to tackle childhood hunger together with partners across the country.”

As the program started running, BCHP heard from many other companies interested in providing meals.

The team at Chartwells offered a collaboration with a commitment to nutrition and menu variety and the company came on board as the third vendor for the program.

“As a school meal partner to 675 districts across the country, our responsibility is to ensure children’s nutritional needs are not forgotten in the pandemic.”

In the U.S., nearly 50 percent of school-age children depend on school lunch programs and when schools are closed, or held virtually, six out of seven hungry children don’t get adequate meals,” said Belinda Oakley, CEO of Chartwells K12.

“That’s why being a part of the innovative Meals-to-You Program has been so valuable. Times of crisis and uncertainty prompt innovation and collaboration and it’s a privilege to be a part of a groundbreaking program that helps ensure hunger is one thing children don’t have to worry about.”

“While this program provided an immediate lift for summer meal delivery, the work of addressing hunger and poverty in this pandemic crisis is far from over,” Everett said.

“The Baylor University Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty has been passionately working to create partnerships and deliver solutions for more than a decade, and COVID-19 makes that work more crucial than ever. Through our statewide and national focus, BCHP is exploring new pathways, convening strategic partners and finding creative ways to tackle the tough and pervasive topic of hunger. We are deeply appreciative of the partnerships that brought together the unprecedented work of this summer, and are looking ahead at more good work that needs to be done with the support of organizations and individuals united to find ways to end the epidemic of hunger.”

News Notes

(continued from page 1)
Rural Health Inc. offered drive-up COVID-19 testing at its Anna clinic. Testing was done by appointment.

The annual Boy Scout Scouting for Food collection is scheduled to continue until Dec. 13. Drop off points are located throughout the Union County area.

Anna Head Start families were given a Tree of Thanks activity to work on together during November. Each leaf has something written on it that the child said she or he was thankful for.

The Union County Hospital District Auxiliary welcomes support for its annual

Scholarship Tree program during the holiday season.

Looking for a “local” gift? Don’t forget about items which the PAST organization of Union County has available.

A disc golf tournament is planned Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Cobden Community Park. Tournament play is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

Area weather watchers may be interested to know that radar upgrade work is planned at the National Weather Service office in Paducah. Beginning Dec. 2, the weather service office’s radar was expected to be down for about two weeks.

COVID-19 claims 446 lives in Illinois over holiday weekend

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois
phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – The COVID-19 pandemic claimed 446 lives in Illinois over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend while the rate of hospitalizations declined for the first time since the recent surge began in late September.

As of late Sunday night, the Illinois Department of Public Health reported that 5,849 people were hospitalized with the disease, bringing the seven-day average number of hospitalizations to 5,944 per day, a decline of 114, or about 1.9 percent, from the previous week.

That number had been rising steadily since the week of Sept. 20, when an average of 1,501 people were being hospitalized each day.

As of Sunday night, 28 percent of all hospital beds available to be staffed in Illinois were open. Of all the hospital beds in use, 17.9 percent were being used by COVID-19 patients.

Of those reported in hospitals on Sunday, 1,217 were in intensive care units. From Tuesday, Nov. 24, to Sunday, Nov. 29, there was an average of 1,209 patients in ICU beds per day, an increase of 30 from the previous week’s average.

Of those in ICU beds on Sunday, 715 were on ventilators. That made for a weekly average of 699 per day, an increase of 113, or about 19 percent, from the prior week.

IDPH also reported Monday that 40,837 new cases of the disease had been

confirmed since Wednesday afternoon, for an average of 8,167 per day.

Those cases were from 393,461 tests performed, for a five-day positivity rate of 10.4 percent.

The preliminary seven-day rolling average of cases as a percent of tests stood at 10.2 percent, down from 10.9 percent a week earlier.

IDPH said there had now been 726,304 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Illinois since the pandemic began, including 12,278 fatalities. More than a quarter of those fatalities, 3,204, were recorded in November.

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Local foods

When the holiday table is set this year, check if something is missing. It may be the care that local farmers, ranchers, bakers and cooks put into their work.

For four years, Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator Kelly Allsup has challenged herself to buy mostly fresh, local ingredients for her family’s meal.

Supporting regional food providers is good for you and your community, Allsup says. It encourages economic growth, benefits the environment and promotes a safer food supply.

Locally grown foods also have more nutrients since they have a shorter time between being harvested and reaching the consumer.

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Current Average ER Wait Time
UnionCountyHospital.com



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If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.



Tis the season...

...for the Union County CEO program to deliver its 2020 Christmas Around the Community gift boxes. Two hundred Christmas season gift boxes were created for the special project. The boxes contained unique gifts with a Union County touch, including baked goods, local produce, home-crafted products, coupons and much more.

Drive-thru pickup of the gift boxes was available last Saturday morning in downtown Anna, where the accompanying photo was taken. The photo was posted on the Union County CEO program's website. Delivery of gift boxes also was offered.

Those involved with the Union County CEO program also voiced their appreciation to everyone who purchased a box, sponsored the boxes and put products and coupons/ads in the boxes, noting that: "Our UCCEO team had so much support from the business community, their mentors, the UCCEO board members, parents and friends of the program. Thank You doesn't fully express how grateful we are for everyone who was somehow involved with Christmas Around the Community!!! You are our HEROES!!! THANK YOU!!!"

CEO, which stands for Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities, is a high school class which educates students about life, leadership and business skills. This year, there are 14 Union County high school seniors in the class.

Anna VFW, Auxiliary planning to serve drive-thru fish fry, meal

A drive-thru fish fry and a drive-thru homemade lasagna meal 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, Dec. 4. 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 Dec. 4 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.

Homemade Lasagna Meal

The Auxiliary to the VFW plans to serve a drive-thru meal on Monday, Dec. 7.

Serving is scheduled from 4:30 p.m. until 6 p.m.

The menu will include homemade lasagna, California mixed vegetables, salad, garlic bread and dessert for a \$10 donation.

Those who would like to order a meal are asked to call 833-5182 before noon on Dec. 7 to make reservations for pick up.

You will then drive under the awning in front the VFW post building at the time you select, give them your name and they will bring the meal out to you.

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.



Historic St. Anne's Church in Anna. File photo.

'Carols at Candlelight' will not be held this year

The PAST organization of Union County has announced that "Carols at Candlelight" will not be held this year. PAST shared an announcement about the event for 2020: PAST regrets they will not host "Carols at Candlelight" at Historic St. Anne's Church on South Main Street this year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we feel it is best to skip this year.

This event has taken place on the first Sunday in December at 4 p.m. at St. Anne's ever since PAST completed the renovation of the church in 2004.

We have hosted many talented musicians and musical groups for this event through the years and have always had enthusiastic guests.

Looking forward to December 2021, when PAST can hopefully resume this treasured tradition at St. Anne's Church.

Weather
Snow flurries seen Monday in Union County

Winter cold, and even some snow flurries, arrived a little ahead of schedule in the Union County area.

Snow flurries and high temperatures only in the 30s were seen Monday, Nov. 30, in the area. Winter does not arrive until Dec. 21.

Temperatures during the period of Nov. 17 through Nov. 30 ranged from a high of 70 degrees to a low of 25.

Precipitation during the period included .17 of an inch of rain on Nov. 22, .36 of an inch of rain on Nov. 24, .90 of an inch of rain on Nov. 25, and a trace of snow and precipitation on Nov. 30.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Nov. 17	51	29
Wednesday, Nov. 18	58	28
Thursday, Nov. 19	68	46
Friday, Nov. 20	70	53
Saturday, Nov. 21	58	50
Sunday, Nov. 22	50	30
Monday, Nov. 23	54	27
Tuesday, Nov. 24	54	37
Wednesday, Nov. 25	63	48
Thursday, Nov. 26	49	33
Friday, Nov. 27	59	32
Saturday, Nov. 28	52	28
Sunday, Nov. 29	51	25
Monday, Nov. 30	38	31

November Weather

The high temperature for the month of November was 80 degrees, which was recorded on Nov. 8. The average high for the month was 62.

The low for the month was 24, which was recorded on Nov. 2. The average low was 37.

Precipitation for the month totalled 2.32 inches of rain. The most rain in a 24-hour period totalled .91 of an inch, which was recorded on Nov. 25.

Precipitation for the year through the end of the month totalled 55.04 inches.

Hess News
By Glenn Heisner

The new bridge on Nash Road is completed. The road had been closed for thru traffic for weeks.

Gary and Sue Hoskins recently came up from Tennessee for a visit.

Danny Heisner then came for a couple of days.

Recent visitors in the neighborhood were Chad and Tabitha File from Texas. Also her brother, Ben Bassett from Maine.

We had a Thanksgiving meal with Delores Pribble.

I found two buck deer with wire around their antlers. It must have been quite a fight. Lots of pictures taken.

Santa Claus plans visit to Cobden

Santa Claus is planning to visit Cobden from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5.

He is scheduled to be at the downtown Cobden park near the playground. In case of rain he will be under the pavilion at the north end of the park.

Social distancing will be in practice and masks must be worn.

Santa will talk to kids from a safe distance. Pictures will be allowed but children will not be able to sit on Santa's lap and must remain at a safe distance.

Kids may write or bring a letter to Santa and leave them at the event. Gift bags of candy will be given out while supplies last.

Organizers noted that the event is subject to the latest state COVID-19 regulations and may be cancelled without notice.

Coad of Anna would like to invite the community to take a FREE Christmas photo with this decorated 1950 Red Chevrolet Christmas Truck Dec. 8-19. Bring your own camera or cell phone and please follow social distancing guidelines as recommended by the governor's office.

Coad Chevrolet-Ford of Anna's new general manager is a third generation family member, Matthew Kennard. Matt currently lives in Cape Girardeau, MO with his wife, Emily, and two daughters, Kinsley and Parker (pictured). Matt's grandfather, Joe Coad, purchased the first Coad Dealership back in 1964 in a small Southern Illinois town called Ridgway. In 1978, they purchased a second Coad dealership in Anna. The Coad family of dealerships today includes Coad Chevrolet-Ford in Anna, Coad Chevrolet in Cape Girardeau, Coad Toyota in Cape Girardeau, and Coad Toyota in Paducah. The Anna dealership sells Chevrolet and Ford lines as well as a vast assortment of pre-owned vehicles to help you find the vehicle that best fits your needs. From the moment you walk into the showroom you'll know the commitment to customer service is second to none. They have a very strong and committed parts, service, detail, and sales staff, with many years of experience, satisfying customer's needs each and every day. Matt's family have been long-time supporters of Anna and the surrounding areas and he intends to continue that legacy for years to come. He is excited and honored to be given the opportunity to serve this community.

Coad of Anna wishes you a healthy and safe Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! 51G

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Sports

Cobden basketball player sets sights on scoring record

By Mike Estel

Cobden High School's Noah Franklin could end up setting a record in scoring this season for the Appleknockers basketball team.

Franklin, a senior, has scored a career high 1,529 points since he began starting as a freshman for Cobden.

He could top the scoring record when the season begins this year that has been held since 1979 by Harold Blunt, who scored 1,825 career points.

"Noah's bigger and stronger and really working hard," Cobden boys' basketball coach Wendell Wheeler said of Franklin. "He's really filled out this year."

Franklin, a 6-7, 220 pound center, averaged 17.2 points, 9.2 rebounds and 5.7 assists last year as a junior.

The Appleknocker senior has made a lot of noise on the court, leading the team in scoring and assists for three-straight seasons. In his final 11 games as a junior last season, he had 87 assists.

Last year, he was named to his third All-Conference South Egyptian team and was selected to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association All-State third team and also was an Associated

Press (AP) All-State Honorable Mention selection.

"Several schools are already looking at him," Wheeler said.

Franklin has received scholarship offers to play at Division 2 colleges, including McKendree, Truman State, Pittsburg State and Quincy, while also receiving two Division 1 offers from Army West Point and IUPUI (Indiana University in Indianapolis, Ind.).

The basketball season has still been put on hold by the IHSA and a decision on when to play will be discussed by them by the middle of this month on when to begin the 2020 season.

"Everything is so uncertain now with the virus," Wheeler said. "It's all kind of on hold. At this point, if it's a yes, we're ready to go."

Cobden will return two other seniors this year, John Eck and Sipriano Zamora, to join Franklin. Noah's younger brother, 6-4 sophomore Tyler Franklin should also be a contributor to the squad this season as well.

Cobden finished 24-9 overall last year and won a regional title and will attempt to improve on that record behind Franklin's inside basketball talents.



All-conference runners

Three Anna-Jonesboro Community High School cross country runners have earned 2020 Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division all-conference recognition. The A-J student athletes who were honored are, from left, Jayden Perez, Kaylee Stover and Beto Vaca Diez. Photo provided.

Shawnee boys' basketball has new coach

Shawnee High School boys' basketball team will be coached by Will Jewell when the season begins.

He will replace LaDonna Bachmann, who resigned after one season.

The high school basketball season has been put on hold and temporarily suspended because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

2020 firearm deer hunting season to conclude in Illinois

The seven-day firearm deer season in Illinois is scheduled to conclude Dec. 3-6.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, reports that hunters in the state harvested a preliminary total of 47,147 deer during the first weekend of the firearm deer season.

The first weekend of firearm deer hunting in Illinois was Nov. 20-22.

The preliminary harvest total for the first weekend of the 2020 firearm deer hunting season was down when compared to the 50,173 deer taken in 2019.

IDNR statistics showed that hunters in Union County harvested 772 deer during the first weekend of the firearm season. The total was down from last year's 913.

Harvest totals in other area counties included:

Alexander County: 257, down from 311 in 2019.

Jackson County: 1,227, down from 1,422 in 2019.

Johnson County: 857, down from 1,026 in 2019.

Massac County: 219, down from 261 in 2019.

Pulaski County: 177, down from 209 in 2019.

Williamson County: 943, down from 1,220 in 2019.

In addition to this week's conclusion of the firearm season, other deer hunting opportunities which are coming up in Illinois include:

Muzzleloader-only deer season, Dec. 11-13.

Late-winter antlerless-only, Dec. 31, 2020, to Jan. 3, 2021; and Jan. 15-17, 2021.

CWD deer season (in select counties only): Dec. 31 through Jan. 3, 2021; and Jan. 15-17, 2021.

Archery deer season: the season continues through Jan. 17, 2021. Archery deer season is closed Dec. 3-6 in counties which are open for the firearm deer season.

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High water on Anna street

Vehicles made their way through high water in the 500 block of East Vienna Street in Anna. The photograph was taken when heavy rain fell in early January of this year. File photo.

Effort to end flooding on Anna street during heavy rain continues

Anna officials continue to work on plans to ease flooding which occurs on a city street during heavy rainfall.

The matter was discussed at a regular meeting of the Anna City Council which was held Tuesday evening, Nov. 17.

Attendance at the meeting was available via teleconference.

Flooding frequently occurs in the 500 block of East Vienna Street when very heavy rain falls.

Concerns about the flooding have been discussed at numerous Anna City Council meetings in recent years. Attempts also have been made to resolve the matter.

City officials are continuing to talk with the Illinois Department of Transportation in an effort to find a remedy and end the flooding.

The city council's Nov. 17 meeting also featured discussion about plans to look into the possible establishment of a Tax Increment Financing, TIF, district in the City of Anna.

The city has approved allocation of \$8,000 to fund

a TIF district pre-eligibility study with Moran Economic Development.

The overall goal of establishing a TIF district would be to promote economic growth and development in Union County's largest community.

In other business at the November city council meeting:

The council had extensive discussion about the possible waiving of liquor license fees. The city's liquor license fees range from \$900 a year to \$1,500 a year.

The possibility of waiving the fees was brought up in relation to the negative impact the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic has had on revenues generated by local businesses and organizations.

Representatives of several Anna businesses and an organization participated in the meeting via teleconference. "We're all hurting," one of the participants said.

Mayor Steve Hartline, who also serves as the city's liquor commissioner, said he appreciated hearing from those who participated in the meeting.

"We are going to do something," the mayor said.

The matter was on the agenda for a regular meeting of the city council which was scheduled for Tuesday evening, Dec. 1.

Other concerns related to the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic were discussed. Efforts continue to emphasize safety for city workers.

The city council approved a \$500 donation to the Shop with a Cop/Firefighter program.

An allocation of \$1,157.26 in capital equipment funds was approved for the Anna Police Department to purchase cameras which will be placed at the Anna City Park.

A resolution was approved to set the city council's meeting dates for 2021. The city council plans to continue to have regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

The city council accepted a bid of \$525 for a 1996 Ford F350 truck. The vehicle had been declared as surplus property.

SIU planning to recognize more than 300 employees for their years of service

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to recognize 308 employees for their service and commitment during a virtual ceremony on Dec. 4.

The virtual event is scheduled to take place at 9 a.m. Chancellor Austin A. Lane will introduce the program, and the university's vice chancellors and deans will announce the honorees from their respective areas via Zoom.

Anyone may watch the program live via a link on YouTube. Employees and retirees will receive their pins and certificates after the event.

The event will honor employees with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service to SIU Carbondale.

The employees have a combined total of 5,475 years of service to the university.

There are 43 employees with 25 years of service, 14 employees with 30 years of service, six employees with 35 years of service and one employee with 40 years of service.

The following employees, listed by their hometowns, years of service and departments, will be honored:

Alto Pass

15 years: Gordon Scott Keith, Physical Plant Service; Julie Marie Lindsey, Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; David Scott Lingle, Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Mark Steven Wilkins, University Housing.

Anna

10 years: Matthew J. Denny, Physical Plant Service; Stephen Kohl Hambleton, Physical Plant Service; Andrea Lynne Stearns, Student Health Services.

15 years: Carol Sue Clary, University Housing; Judith Ann Ray, School of Law.

20 years: Melissa K. Carter, Procurement Services; Amy Lu Rendleman, Information Technology.

25 years: Aaron Michael Lisee, Library Affairs; Ronald Lance Van Meter, Information Technology.

Buncombe
15 years: Jeff Howard Johnson, Information Technology.

Cobden
15 years: Teri S. McSherry, School of Health Sciences; Barbara Niechciol, Human Resources; James Brett Shuck, Travel Service.

20 years: Patricia Ross McCubbin, School of Law; John S. Ramsey, Office of Economic and Regional Development.

30 years: Jerry Carlis Monteith, School of Art and Design.

Jonesboro

15 years: Sarah E. Gibbs, Student Health Services.

Makanda

10 years: Brian E. Kerley, Accounting Services.

15 years: Frank M. Chipasula, Africana Studies; Timothy James Crosby, University Communications and Marketing; John Tugaw Legier, School of Applied Engineering and Technology; Beth Ann Martell, Library Affairs; Daniel T. Smyth, University Housing; Ning Weng, Electrical and Computer Engineering.

20 years: Meredi Ann Anders, Student Health Services; Arunima Mallick Bhattacharya, School of Journalism; Christopher P.

Crews, Physical Plant Service; Yong Gao, Chemistry and Biochemistry; James Edward Garvey, Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center/School of Biological Science; Janice Ione Thompson, School of Journalism/Radio, Television, and Digital Media; Thomas David Upton, School of Health Sciences; Mingqing Xiao, Mathematics.

25 years: Susan Jo Parks, Vice President for Financial and Administrative Affairs-SIU University-wide Services.

35 years: David G. Gilbert, School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences; Linda Lou Wheatley, Human Resources.

Ceremony scheduled at SIU to honor retired employees

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to recognize 69 retired employees for their service to the university during a virtual ceremony on Dec. 4.

The virtual event is scheduled to take place at 9 a.m. Chancellor Austin A. Lane will introduce the program and the university's vice chancellors and deans will announce the honorees from their respective areas via Zoom.

Anyone may watch the program live via a link on YouTube.

Retirees and service employees will receive their pins and certificates after the event.

The recognition is for university employees who retired between Aug. 1, 2019, and July 31, 2020.

The retirees had 1,397 years of combined experience with the university.

Of the retirees, 26 had 20 to 29 years of service; nine employees had 30 to 34 years of service; one employee had 38 years of service; and another employee retired with 45 years of service.

Employees who are be-

ing honored, listed by their hometown, department and years of service, include:

Alto Pass

Lori Linn Reed-Robertson, Registrar's Office, 28 years.

Anna

Vicki R. Lang-Mendenhall, Touch of Nature, 15 years.

Robert Warshawsky, School of Human Sciences, 23 years.

Buncombe

Monica Lyn Russell, School of Health Sciences, 21 years.

Cobden

Billy C. Cheek, ASA Aviation Technologies, 9 years.

Linda Diane Laird, Department of Public Safety, 24 years.

Makanda

Cheri W. Kelly, Family and Community Medicine-Physician Assistant Program-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 26 years.

Robin Rhuennell Vaughn, Student Health Services, 19 years.

Ullin

James S. Baker, Physical Plant Service, 6 years.

DAR honors veterans

By Dixie Terry

Although members of the Daniel Chapman Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution could not hold their community Veterans' Day service this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, the chapter honored veterans at its November meeting.

The meeting was held on the morning of Nov. 11 at the Carnegie Library in Vienna, with a call to order by regent Doda Starkey.

A Veterans Day tribute began at the Veterans Memorial Wall on the library grounds. The DAR Ritual followed. The honoring of the veterans was declared, with the laying of a patriotic wreath.

The president general's report was read by vice regent Julia Mowery. The national defense report was the veterans program.

Chapter officers' reports followed by chaplain Carol Palmer, recording secretary Cara Webb and the registrar's report by Margaret Mathis for Loudene Lemme.

Committee reports included DAR schools by Suzan Harvel and DAR Good Citizen by regent Starkey for Jeanne McKenzie.

Unfinished business was the discussion of the community service award.

New business discussed was the storage of DAR records.

Cara Webb and Margaret Mathis were thanked for all of their work on commemorative events.

The nominating committee of Julia Mowery, Carol Palmer and Suzan Harvel was nominated, but without a quorum present, the nominating slate could not be entertained.

The chapter's next meeting is planned Monday, Dec. 7, at either the library or via Zoom, with details to be announced.

Those present for the meeting were Suzan Harvel, Margaret Mathis, Julia Mowery, Carol Palmer, Doda Starkey and Cara Webb.

Following the meeting, emails were sent to absentee members asking them to vote yes or no on the nominating committee.

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You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands. From the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'" From the Gospel of Mark

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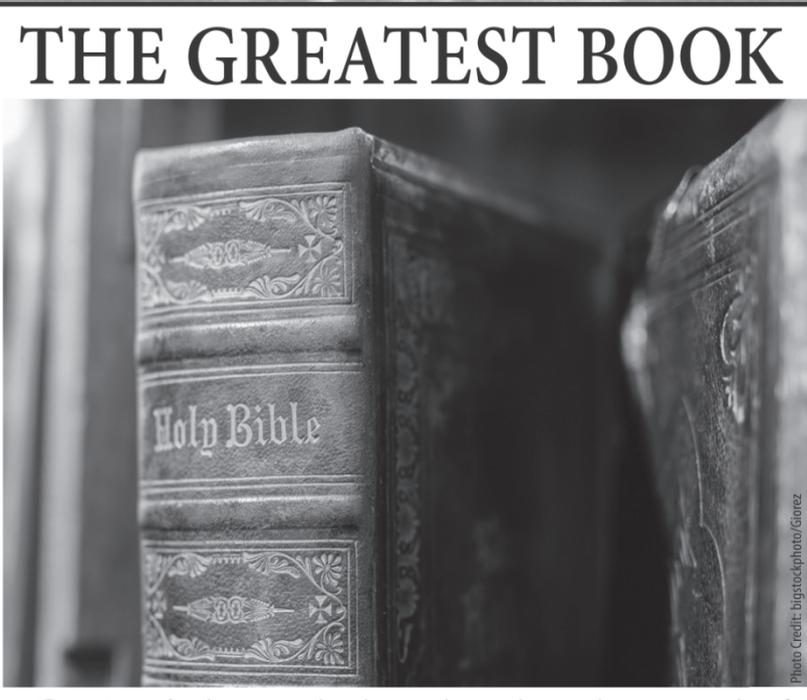
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Daily Bible Reading

Psalm	Psalm	Mark	Mark	Daniel	Daniel	Daniel
24	144	13:1-23	13:24-37	7:1-14	7:15-28	12:1-13

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org
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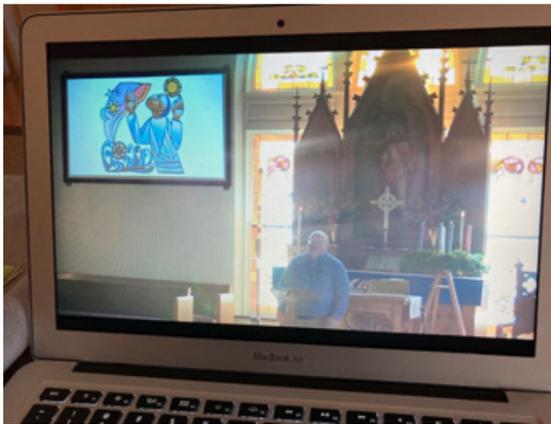
Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna

Sunday, Nov. 29, was the beginning of Advent. The theme of Pastor Mark's sermon was "Hurry up and Wait."

The message shared that "we can only deal with what is right in front of us, but the gospel tells us about waiting. The Lord said 'Heaven and earth will pass away, but My word will not pass away.'

"We need patience to wait for what we have been promised to get, even if it is not in our lifetime. Jesus makes it clear that no one knows the day and time, except for God the Father. And it is all according to His plan. Keep waiting; stay alert; be prepared."

Prayers were offered for the whole church of God, and for those in need of healing: Ann West, Marlee Smith, Stephen Busey, Kati Rausch, Gail Malott, Virginia Housman, Craig Bass, Karen Hubbs, Ron Hartley,



'Normal' worship...again
This is the normal worship again for the next few weeks at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna. Photo provided.

Faye Bledsoe, Mike Chase and David Ury.

Prayers were also offered for those grieving for Earl Stahlheber.

Congregational worship is scheduled to resume on Dec. 13. The church is ordering poinsettias, and the cost is \$10. If you want to order, contact Liz at the

church office, phone 833-5234.

Bell ringing will be done by members of Mt. Moriah at Kroger on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Those who want to help can contact the church office.

Ladies Night Out is planned Monday, Dec. 14, at 5 p.m., in the church basement and will be individually packaged meals for each person from The Kitchen on LaFayette. Call the church office no later than Dec. 11 to sign up and get information about the cost. Social distancing will be observed.

The church council for next year will remain the same. The council is doing an excellent job, and the church is thankful for each and every one of them.

Be safe, stay healthy, wear your masks, practice social distancing. And be patient. Thanks be to God.

Gospel singing set in Villa Ridge

A gospel singing is planned Saturday, Dec. 5, at Shiloh Baptist Church in Villa Ridge.

A potluck meal is planned at 6 p.m. Singing begins at 7 p.m. The Gloryroad Travelers and local talent will be featured.

Shawnee School District announces honor roll students for first quarter

Shawnee School District No. 84 has announced first quarter honor roll students.

Shawnee Junior-Senior High School

High Honor Roll
6th grade: Zoe Myers.
8th grade: Mallory Follis, Noah Mayberry, Jaeda Qualls.

Freshmen: Olivia Clover, Jaci Harris, Karsynne Livingston, Allie Myers.

Sophomores: Abigail Smith.

Juniors: Autumn Derossett, Gabriella Smith.

Seniors: Mariah Faire, Kyliegh Harris, Courtney Smith.

Honor Roll

6th grade: Adyson Choate, Addilyn Clark, Nick Dallas.

7th grade: Cindy Price, Landon Smith.

8th grade: Gracie Davisson, Jaslyn Phelps.

Freshmen: Luke Choate, Kiersten Holloway, Ryan Libbert, CJ Schaefer, Jace Williams.

Juniors: Koda Abraham, Connor Benbrook, Braeden Freeman, Alexis Miller, Aubrey Walters.

Seniors: Austin Heise.

Shawnee Elementary School

1st grade: Damion Barnes, Annabelle Davis,

Aydon Elder, Mavis Ford, Brady Mayberry, Aubree McMahan, Luke Nax, Randall Neilson, Connor Patrick, Jarett Pickel, Cooper Sullivan, Mason Taylor, Zoey Welker, Alexander Wise.

2nd grade: Kylee Bade, Easton Bigham, Drake Chapman, Hunter Clark, Titan Cobin, Kamedyn Gregory, Ayden Griffin, Jacklynn Kennedy, Camden Keppner, Tally Myers, Ryland Rhymer, Drellynn Spencer, Jackson Weber.

3rd grade: Carlie Chapman, Aubree Davisson, Ella Faulkner, Adalyn Follis,

Mia Griffin, Journey Hubbs, Liam McDonald, Clayton Myers, Lilly Park, Bentley Parker, Madelyn Patrick, Carter Phillips, Chelsie Pind, Tinley Qualls, Rusty Smith, Murphy Wilson.

4th grade: Gabby Barnes, Thia Boucher, Spencer Griffin, Nolan Hubbs, Jacob Pickel.

5th grade: Eliza Ford, Eva Ford, Lillie Griffin, Tucker Hale, Berkli Holtman, Brayden Howell, Sterling Livingston, Brody Maeser, Emma Neilson, Kyle Shirley, Quanya Townsend, Matthew White, Connor Wilson.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

John Turner led worship music for the morning worship service on Sunday, Nov. 29

Pastor Nick's sermon was titled "How to Have Joy in a Pandemic," part 5. Scripture was from Philippians.

Due to COVID-19, the church plans to have two services on Sunday morning, one at 10 a.m. and one at 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday evening Bible study continues. Pastor Nick is teaching about the Book of Revelation. Bible study starts at 6 p.m.

Information about ser-

vices is available by contacting the church. Office hours are between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The church is located at 409 Morgan St. in Anna. The phone number is 833-5416.

An American Red Cross blood drive is planned from noon to 6 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the church.

A monthly food giveaway is planned Dec. 10, starting at 11 a.m. in the parking lot behind the church. This is available to anyone in the community.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

A drive-in service was held on the church parking lot Sunday, Nov. 29, at 10:35 a.m. and by Zoom inside the sanctuary.

Singing was led by Pastor Randy Wright and the worship team. Special music was provided by Madison Schnaare, Jessica Elkins and Lottie Smith.

On the first Sunday of Advent, the candle of "Hope" was lit.

The pastor's message on Sunday was titled "Confident Expectations: Hope." Scripture was from Hebrews.

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

Birthdays: Emily Hammer, Nov. 29; Blake Wells, Dec. 2; Peacelyn Benefield, Dec. 4.

Friday night Bible study is planned at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, in the fellowship hall. CDC guidelines will be followed, with the wearing of masks and social distancing. The Bible study also will be available on Zoom. Pastor Wright can be texted for the password prior to the meeting.

The church's next grocery giveaway is planned from 10 a.m. to noon on Dec. 5. Enter the parking lot by way of Kirk Street and proceed to the fellowship hall.

Sunday School for children is planned from 9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. on Dec. 6.

A parking lot service is planned at 10:35 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, if the

weather permits, and on Zoom. Services will be inside the sanctuary if the weather is bad following CDC guidelines by wearing masks, social distancing and families sitting together.

Bible quizzing is planned at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, in the fellowship hall, with CDC guidelines being followed by wearing of masks and social distancing.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, with praise and worship in the sanctuary and on Zoom. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the password.

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.

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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.

Holiday Art Exhibit

Marie Samuel has art work on display in Herrin at the Hartley Gallery for the juried holiday exhibit which is on display until Jan. 29.

Downtown Herrin has windows decorated for the holidays.

The Hartley Gallery Holiday Show reception may not be possible, and the exhibit will probably be a virtual one with the current pandemic situation.

"Moon and Stars" was shown in the annual Gather-

ing of Quilts at Cedarhurst in Mt. Vernon from Aug. 1 to Oct. 4. It is a banner quilt with a space scene also on the reverse side.

The work was made in response to a children's poem. It is hand stitched, appliquéed and hand quilted. New works made this year have helped pass time during times isolating.

Window Display

Eat, Paint Gallery in Chicago is featuring a community window display from Dec. 7 through Jan. 1 featuring original art by invited artists.

Marie Samuel has a collage and poem in the display.

Proceeds from the sales of donated work are given to the non-profit group of the artist's choice.

Marie chose Gateway to Learning, whose mission is to provide lifelong learning for adults with intellectual challenges and developmental disabilities that promotes active inclusion at home, at work, and in the community.

Small Business Saturday

It was a beautiful day for Small Business Saturday in Anna.

Everyone used social distance and enjoyed shopping in the stores and all the crafts.

Then bringing your Pay It Forward gift to the fire station, the lighting of the Christmas trees and ending with fireworks by Brad.

If you haven't driven through our Anna park come look at all the beautifully decorated trees and light poles.

Thanksgiving Guests

Willie and Terrie had a Thanksgiving Eve meal at

their home in Dongola.

Visiting were Jamie and Rebecca Yates, Ruby, Mason, Violet and Miles from Anna, Jordan & Alexis Rhymer, Junior, Hadley and Jaxson of Dongola, Sue Schultz and friend Mona from Wetaug.

Celebrating Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving evening, the Rhymers had dinner with Rev. John and Cheryl Gourley and their families in Dongola.

Sympathy

Terrie Rhymer and families were shocked and saddened to hear the news of their niece Lucinda Jewell Chamness (Cindy) had passed away suddenly at her home in Florida.

Cindy grew up in Anna on Warren Street. She was the daughter of Scott Chamness of Goreville and Vicky Chamness of Anna.

Memorial services were held for her in Florida on Dec 3.

Enjoying Weather

Marie and David Samuel enjoyed a nice scenic drive Saturday. The weather was beautiful.

Guest

Guest of Susan Whitemountain was her grandson Aidan Whitemountain from Webster Groves near St. Louis. Aidan enjoyed helping at the Anna Arts Center on Small Business Saturday.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sympathy to the family of Melba Nork, who went to be with our Lord last week. Melba was a faithful member of the church and will be missed.

Rev. Tim and Myra Gossett's family visited them for Thanksgiving: son Adam and Katie, daughter Melissa and Eric and grandchildren Cameron, Lucy, Lucas and Lexi.

Sunday morning, Rev. Tim preached on the church's website. Scripture was from Colossians. Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

The ceremony will be at our Anna Cemetery on Dec. 19 at 11 a.m.

A special thanks to all



From Rev. Tim Gossett: A big shout out to Officer Jason Leek of the Anna Police Department. He was patrolling in their neighborhood and took the time to stop and spend some time with their grandchildren playing catch with them. They were a little surprised that he did that but had a blast. He also gave them a police badge sticker and they thought that was something special. He is the epitome that good cops still exist. Thanks Officer Leek.



A special thanks to the CEO class for passing out their surprise packages people bought for Small Business Saturday. Lots of goodies were inside from our Union County businesses.



Carol Gordon is very proud of her gift from Jeannie and Tom Porter from their shop Salt of the Earth gifts and decorations. They wanted Carol to have this and asked her to pick out something from their shop to put in the casket at the funeral of Carol's sister Janice Lewellyn and then for her to take it home and keep it to remember them by. They told Carol she and Janice were their best customers and always loved when they visited their store.



Loretta Milton and Carlene Tripp ringing bells for the Alliance of Churches Saturday at Kroger. They are both long-time members of Anna First Baptist Church.



Gary, Andrea, Abigail and Edward Dahmer decorated the Christmas tree at the 4 way stop in Anna. The tree has grown tall in six years.



Union County Housing staff decorated the pole across from Jim and Dot's Western Store on East Davie Street for Gumdrop Drive. Pictured are Lana McCarver, Bonnie Williams and Emily Waynick.

who bought wreaths for our veterans.

Rion and Shannon Thompson in honor and memory of Don Rion Korean War. Anna State Bank for 15 veterans. Union County Housing Authority 15 Honor Wreaths for Veterans to honor the memory of veteran tenants and past tenants. Judy Guthrie in honor and memory of her husband Ronnie Guthrie.

Jimmy and Deborah Walker from Parsons, Tenn., in honor and memory of 5 veterans. George W. "Bud" Hill, Steven A. Hill, D. G. Sanders Duffy in memory of Edward Kaupas and 2 veterans that do not have anyone to buy for them.

Richard A and Lorri A Loker for a veteran that doesn't have anyone to buy for them. Sandra Davis in



Eat, Paint Gallery in Chicago is featuring a community window display from Dec. 7 through Jan. 1 featuring original art by invited artists. Shown here with her collage and poem donation is Marie Samuel.



The work shown here, "Moon and Stars," made by Marie Samuel is displayed in Herrin at the Hartley Gallery for the juried holiday exhibit which is on display until Jan. 29.



Cheryl Clover was at The Here and Now Shop on Small Business Saturday in Anna. Cheryl made the Christmas decoration she is holding. She made the hat. It was not a bought hat she decorated. She also makes beautiful purses and other crafts that are for sale all the time at The Here and Now Shop.



Aidan Whitemountain from Webster Groves near St. Louis was visiting his grandmother Susan and helping Saturday at the Anna Arts Center craft sales for Small Business Saturday in Anna.



Bessie Ellis with Tina Waller shopping on Small Business Saturday in beautiful downtown Anna. Tina was working at the Moose Lodge outside sale.



Santa visited Anna and was waving at people passing by in their cars for Small Business Saturday.

honor and memory of Ora Lewis Davis.

John and Tracee Foley in honor and memory of John's dad John J. Foley US Navy. David and Barbara Cox 5 wreaths in honor and memory Ray Cox, Carl R. Brimm, E. Leon Brimm, Bobby L. Brimm in the Anna Cemetery. Buddy J. Brimm Marion Cemetery. All served in the U.S. Army.

Debbie and Michael Fitzgerald for Debbie's dad James A. Smith WWII Navy and for Debbie's uncle Adolph W. Walter III.

Stephen Burns for William J. Stephews Sgt. 9th Illinois Civil War, Ross S. Stephews Army WWI, Andrew Dobbins Civil War.

Carol A. Baker for Glen Eddleman, William Eddleman, George Gray WWII, and for a veterans who doesn't have one.

Wayne and Betty Sirls for Wayne P. Sirls, James Neilson, James Henry and Orville McMullin.

Celebrating Thanksgiving

I enjoyed three Thanksgiving meals at different homes and feel very blessed.

Congratulations

Cherry Hammack congratulates her daughter Alexis Hammack who won Ambassador large trophy and her own personal ambassador night. Prettiest Smile. National title mega high point supreme.

Birthday Celebration

Cathy Ziegler celebrated her birthday Nov. 23 with her brother Daryl McCoy & sister Corinne Steveson by having supper from Wok 'n Roll in Marion.

Special Thanks

Carol Gordon really appreciates the thoughts and gifts from Salt of the Earth for a memorial for her sister Janice Lewellyn.

They told her they wanted Carol to pick something from their store to put in Janice casket then after her funeral for Carol to take it home and keep it.

They said Carol and Janice were their best customers and would really miss Janice visiting their store.

Union County Alliance of Churches

The Union County Alliance of Churches will be ringing bells on weekends at Kroger, Walmart and Union County Market through Christmas Eve and Dec. 28-31 at Walmart. If anyone would like to ring the Bells please give Pete Housman a call at 833-7083.

The community Thanksgiving service was live stream. Thanks to pastors Nick DiMauro, First Baptist Church Anna; Rev. Tim Gossett, United Methodist Church Anna; Rev. David Fischler, EPC Anna; Rev. Mark Hasty, Mt. Moriah; and Carla Anderson Anna United Methodist for a wonderful service.

Dec. 18 UCAC Community Red Cross blood drive 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Call 800-red cross to schedule an appointment.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

Pastor Darryl continues in his series Essentials. In this series, he will go through essential doctrines that you must know to help you understand and defend



Welcome new business on the square in Jonesboro, Margaret's. Jennifer and Bill Cleghorn are the owners of this nice restaurant. Right now you need to call your order in and they will have it ready shortly. Jennifer is also a teacher at A-JCHS and the students love her cooking class.

your faith. This week Personal Holiness 2 Timothy 2:21.

Sundays in person at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. or watch their livestream at 10:30 a.m. on the website, Facebook or on their YouTube channel.

As always, if you need prayer or to talk with someone about your faith, call or text the church office at 833-5916.

December birthdays: 2nd Kendall Echols, Jerry Land, Alexis Tripp; 3rd Alisha Murillo; 4th Jolie Barger; 7th JC Vaca Diez; 8th David Houseman; 9th Lillian Duckworth, Chris Vick.

Anniversary: 3rd Michael and Debbie McLane. AHBC Post Office.

Bring your Christmas cards for Anna Heights family members and drop off at the church and put money in donation box for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Momma Lou's Craft Sale, Dec. 6, will have a table full of crafts that has

been made this year in the foyer, an envelope will be available for donations. All proceeds will go to the Baptist Children's Home.

Be sure and look on their social platforms, Facebook and YouTube for up to date Bible studies, services and other announcements.

Anna Heights has online services on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and in house worship on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Some classes are meeting for small group Bible study on Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Anna VFV

Thursday, today, the Auxiliary will have a short meeting to pay the bills and then will have their cookie and candy exchange. Bring three dozen of your favorite holiday cookies or candies and a tin to put them in and come have fun with social distancing.

Friday, Dec. 4, the post plans to have a drive-thru fish dinner from 4:30 p.m.



Welcome new business on the square in Jonesboro, Splash & Dash paint parties. Owners Lisa Hicks and Cortni Hicks. Lisa is a retired art teacher from Cobden.

to 6 p.m. for a \$10 donation. Calls for this have to be no later than noon Friday at 833-5182.

If anyone wants to help Linda Jackson wrap gifts please call her at 833-7737. Linda does the Pay It Forward program for needy families at Christmas and they will meet at the Anna Fire Department to wrap gifts. This is a great community service project.

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

Thanks for your service to our country. Trace Faire,

John Michael Brimm, Ka-leb Meier, Nathaniel Moss, Derek Nelson, 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 Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C.J. Youngerman, Freddy Morse and wife Megan in Alaska.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Chrisley	(5:15) "Movie"	"Underwater" (20)	"Lovely Bones" (09)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM	Station 19 (HD)	Young	Thursday Night Football Dallas Cowboys at Baltimore Ravens (Live)	The Voice (HD)		Bang (HD)	Chrisley	TBA	Between the World and Me (HD)	"Cold Pursuit" (19) Hunting Killer. (R) (HD)	Shameless (HD)
8 PM	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	B Positive (01) Mom Unicorn		Law & Order: SVU	College Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Chrisley	Just Roll	"The Family Man" (20) Bachelor's choice.	"Before the Devil Knows You're Dead" (07)	★ ★ ½ "The Humanity Bureau" (18)
9 PM	A Million Little Things	Star Trek: Discovery		Dateline NBC (HD)		Bang (HD)	Chrisley	TBA			Moonbase 8
10 PM	Local	Local		Local		Bang (HD)	Chrisley	Austrn/Ally			"Schindler's List" (93) A man of conscience.
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Seinfeld	Chrisley	Wizards	Industry "Sesh" (HD)	Warrior (HD)	
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night		Conan	Chrisley	Jessie	Undoing		

DECEMBER 3, 2020

FRIDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Wom. College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Seinfeld	Chicago P.D. (HD)	(5:25) "Movie"	(5:10) "True Grit" (10)	★ ★ "Dangerous" (08)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM	Shark Tank (HD)	MacGyver (HD)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	The Voice (HD)		"Movie"	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Jessie	Real Sports (HD)	(15) "The Kitchen" (19) Three housewives.	Shameless (HD)
8 PM	(01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	Magnum P.I. (HD)	Blue Bloods (HD)	Dateline NBC (HD)	College Football Cincinnati Bearcats at Tulsa Golden Hurricane (Live)	(15) "Movie"	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Jessie	"Misery" (90) Fan abducts author.	Warrior (HD)	"MACHO" (20, Documentary)
9 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs Local info.	Local			(01) Chicago P.D.	Raven	The Undoing		"Full Metal Jacket" (87) Marines in Vietnam.
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs Local info.	Local			Family Disney Fam	Stuck Mid.	Family "The Bloody Truth"	(02) Warrior (HD)	
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	ELEAGUE (HD)	Family	Jessie	Industry "Sesh" (HD)	"Trick 'r Treat" (09)	Reagans
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night			Family	Jessie			

DECEMBER 4, 2020

SATURDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Scoreboard	Local Programs	Coll. Ftbl	Local Programs	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	(5:30) "Movie"	"John Wick: Chapter 2" Out of retirement.	TBA	"Queen & Slim" (19)	Warrior (HD)	Shameless "Lost" (HD)
7 PM	College Football (HD)	Kid of the Year	Extra (HD)	Dateline NBC (HD)				BUNK'D	★ ★ ½ "The Photograph" (20) (HD)	★ ★ ★ "Anna" (19, Action) Feared assassin.	Shameless "Found"
8 PM		Play On (HD)	To Be Announced. Info unavailable.	The Wall (HD)	College Football Cincinnati Bearcats at Tulsa Golden Hurricane (Live)	Bang (HD)	"San Andreas" (15) Rescue attempt after an earthquake.	Jessie	Industry "Induction party."	"LUV" (13, Drama) A young hero.	"The Turning" (20, Drama) (HD)
9 PM		48 Hours (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Sat. Night Live (HD)	Scoreboard	Bang (HD)		Big City	(45) Industry (HD)	(02) Warrior (HD)	(35) "Brahms: The Boy II" (20)
10 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs Local info.	Cosmos	Local	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Jokers	(32) "Red 2" (13) Nuclear device.	Amphibia	(40) The Undoing	(35) "Jacob's Ladder" (90) (HD)	"Green Book" (18)
11 PM	Local Programs	Local	Local	Sat. Night Live Sketch comedy.		Jokers		Mickey	Jessie	"Underwater"	

DECEMBER 5, 2020

SUNDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Videos New puppy.	NFL (Live)	Simpsons Burgers	Football America (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Grinch Elf (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Liv Maddie TBA	"The Photograph" Famous photographer.	(5:05) ★ ★ ½ "Shant" (19)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM	Supermarket Sweep	60 Minutes (HD)	Simpsons	Sun. Night Football Denver Broncos at Kansas City Chiefs (Live) (HD)	Champ. NBA Preseason Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live)	"Wonder" (17) Afflicted boy enters local fifth grade. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven	★ ★ ½ "The Photograph" (20) (HD)	★ ★ ★ "Anna" (19, Action) Feared assassin.	The Reagans
8 PM	Who Wants to Be a	A Holly	The Harts Burgers	Fam Guy		"Jingle All the Way" (96) Frantic toy search.	Law & Order: SVU	Just Roll	Euphoria (HD)	"Alita: Battle Angel" (19) Amnesia cyborg.	Your Honor
9 PM	Card Sharks (HD)	NCIS: L. A. (HD)	Fam Guy	Local Programs Local info.		"Paddington"	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	Murder on Middle Beach (HD)	"Pearl Harbor" (01)	Moonbase 8
10 PM	Local Programs Local info.	Local	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Family	Wizards	Euphoria (HD)		Your Honor
11 PM	(35) Local	Local Programs	Local	Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Family	Girl World	Murder on		Shameless

DECEMBER 6, 2020

MONDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	Monday Countdown	Fam Guy	Chicago P.D. (HD)	(4:55) "Movie"	"Snow White and the Huntsman" (12) (HD)	★ ★ ½ "The Watch" (12)	"Heartbreak Ridge"
7 PM	Monday Football Buffalo Bills at San Francisco 49ers (Live)	Neighbor. Bob Hearts	L.A.'s Finest "Thief"	The Voice Hopefuls coached. (HD)	Monday Football Buffalo Bills at San Francisco 49ers (Live) (HD)	Fam Guy	WWE Monday Night Raw (T) (HD)	Raven	His Dark Materials	"The Warriors" (HD)	Shameless (HD)
8 PM		All Rise "Bad Beat"	I Can See Your Voice			Fam Guy		Raven	Industry Holiday party.	(35) ★ ★ ½ "The Fighter" (10) Brown Sugar (02) Woman in love.	"1917" (20) Two young British soldiers. (HD)
9 PM		Bull (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Nurses "Incoming"		Dad (HD)		Raven	Axios (HD)	(25) Warrior (HD)	Your Honor
10 PM	(15) Local	Local	Local	Local	(15) SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	Conan	Family	Jessie	His Dark Materials	"Peak"	Your Honor
11 PM	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	Seinfeld	Family	Jessie	Industry		

DECEMBER 7, 2020

TUESDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Playoff	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	(4:55) "Movie"	(5:40) "Just Mercy" (20) A young lawyer. (HD)	"8 Mile" (02) Eminem.	Ray Donovan (HD)
7 PM	The Bachelorette (HD)	NCIS (HD)	Cosmos	The Voice (HD)	College Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	TBA	"Can You Keep a Secret?" (19)	"Can You Keep a Secret?" (19)	Your Honor
8 PM		FBI "Liar's Poker" (HD)	NeXt "FILE #7" (HD)	This Is Us (HD)		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	BUNK'D	"40 Years a Prisoner" (20) (HD)	(35) ★ ★ ½ "Brown Sugar" (02) Woman in love.	Inside the NFL (HD)
9 PM	(01) Big Sky (HD)	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs Local info.	Transplant (HD)	College Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Undercover	"Downhill" (20) Thoughts.	(25) Warrior (HD)	"The Best I've Seen"
10 PM	Local	Local	Local	Local		Conan	Family	Liv Maddie	(20) Axios	(20) Axios	Shameless (HD)
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	Seinfeld	Family	Jessie	Winning	"Kitchen"	

DECEMBER 8, 2020

WEDNESDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	NCIS Naval security.	(5:00) "Movie"	"Sherlock Holmes" Criminal mastermind.	(5:25) "Nerds IV" (94)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM	The Great Christmas Light Fight Teddy bears.	Amazing Race (HD)	The Masked Singer	Dr. Seuss' The Grinch Musical! (HD)		Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (Live) (HD)	Big City Amphibia	"Art of Racing in the Rain" (19)	★ ★ ★ ½ "Gone Baby Gone" (07) A missing girl.	
8 PM		SEAL Team (HD)	I Can See Your Voice		College Basketball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)		Bizaard	"Alabama Snake" (20) (NR) (HD)	★ ★ ★ "The Great Gilly Hopkins" Family found.	Your Honor
9 PM	For Life (HD)	S.W.A.T. "Fracture"	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)		Bang (HD)	"Hunter Killer" (18) Submarine captain uncovers coup.	Bizaard	Euphoria (HD)	"Red" (10) Bruce Willis. A retired CIA agent.	
10 PM	Local	Local	Local	Local	(15) SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	Conan	Frontal	Good Luck	The Rock & Roll Hall of (HD)		
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	Seinfeld	Frontal	Good Luck			
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	Sports	Conan	Family	Good Luck			

DECEMBER 9, 2020

THURSDAY

Time	7:00pm
7:00pm	ABC Station 19 "We Are Dixon" Ben, Dr. Richard Webber, Emmett Faxon and former Fire Chief Dixon testify during Sullivan's disciplinary hearing; the crew investigates electrical fire. TV14 (HD)
	USA Chrisley Knows Best "Retail Therapy" Faye's constant doting over Todd begins to cause issues; Savannah misses playing football and decides to join a team to return to the sport. TV14 (HD)

FRIDAY

Time	9:00pm	9:35pm
9:00pm	CBS Blue Bloods "Triumph Over Trauma" Frank and Regina Thomas confront each other over recent protests; Danny and Baez worryingly vanish during their pursuit of a dangerous killer. TV14 (HD)	SHOW Full Metal Jacket ★ ★ ★ ½ (1987, Drama) Matthew Modine, Adam Baldwin. A group of young men enlisted in the Marines makes it through basic training on Parris Island and confronts the realities of war during Vietnam's Tet Offensive. R (HD)

SATURDAY

Time	7:00pm	10:00pm
7:00pm	HBO The Photograph ★ ★ ½ (2020, Romance) Lakeith Stanfield, Issa Rae. After a famous photographer dies unexpectedly, she leaves her estranged daughter feeling hurt and full of questions, but she soon finds herself on a journey. PG-13 (HD)	TBS Impractical Jokers Hosts Joe Gatto, Brian "Q" Quinn, James "Murr" Murray and Sal Vulcano compete in a series of dares designed to embarrass and humiliate one another in public. TV14 (HD)

SUNDAY

Time	7:30pm	9:00pm
7:30pm	CBS A Holly Dolly Christmas Host Dolly Parton helps offset the pain caused by the trying times of COVID-19 through a sharing of personal stories and performances of her musical work.	ABC Card Sharks A college student, a wedding planner, a property manager and a cosmologist compete against each other for the chance to advance to the final round. (HD)

MONDAY

Time	8:00pm
8:00pm	FOX I Can See Your Voice "Episode 9: Robin Thicke, Nicole Byer, Jeff Dye, Cheryl Hines, Adrienne Houghton" Actress-comic Nicole Byer and comic Jeff Dye join the panelists to choose which contestant gets to perform with musician Robin Thicke. TVPG (HD)
	DISN Raven's Home Raven utilizes her psychic ability in an attempt to be a better mother to her 11-year-old twins, as well as a superior fashion designer and genuine friend. TV G (HD)

TUESDAY

Time	8:00pm	8:35pm
8:00pm	NBC This Is Us A group of strangers are affected by life's unexpected events when their paths cross and life journeys intersect in unlikely ways, revealing shared attributes. TV14 (HD)	MAX Brown Sugar ★ ★ ½ (2002, Romance) Taye Diggs, Sanaa Lathan. An executive at a successful hip-hop label rethinks her feelings for her childhood friend when he proposes marriage to his girlfriend. PG-13 (HD)

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YARD SALE

UNION COUNTY GUIDELINES

**PERTAINING TO
YARD/GARAGE SALES:**
1. Social Distancing must
be exercised.
2. Please wear a mask
and/or other protective
clothing.
3. No more than 10 peo-
ple at one time permitted.
tfn

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
SHOP:** Cobden. 117 S.
Appleknocker. Weekends
- November 7 through Decem-
ber 19. Saturday, 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 p.m.
to 4 p.m. Trees, decorations.
(618)-893-2865.
46p-1gc

CHRISTMAS YARD SALE:

Friday & Saturday, December
4 & 5, 8 a.m. 525 Casper
Church Road, Anna. Holiday
& household decor, boots
6-8, cookbooks, kids grab
bags, kitchen items, coats
ETC. Discuss prices on site.
Reasonable offers accepted.
50p-51gc

***CLEARANCE SALE:*
REPPERT'S OFFICE
SUPPLY,
112 LAFAYETTE
STREET, ANNA.
MONDAY-FRIDAY,**

5, 2021 at 3 p.m. for the fol-
lowing: SALE OF SURPLUS
REAL ESTATE LOCATED
AT 306 N GREEN STREET,
ANNA, ILLINOIS. PIN#14-
00-08-577.

Questions shall be di-
rected to Dori Bigler, City
Administrator, at dbigler@cityofanna.org. All bids must
be received prior to the date
and time shown above. No
late bids will be accepted. All
received bids will be opened
at the regularly scheduled
Council Meeting on January
5, 2021 at 5 p.m.

50-52g

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

**ESTATE OF
MICHAEL K. STUTE,
DECEASED.
NO. 2020-P-44
IN PROBATE**

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to
creditors of the death of
Michael K. Stute of Anna,
Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on November
17, 2020, to Barbara Stute,
3150 John Rich School Road,
Anna, Illinois 62906, as
Independent Administrator,
whose attorney is Elvis C.
Cameron, 205B N. Main St.,
Anna, Illinois 62906.

The estate will be admin-
istered without Court super-
vision unless, under Section
5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill.
Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755,
Par. 5/28-4), any interested
person terminates Indepen-
dent 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 Indepen-
dent Administrator, or both,
on or before May 26, 2021,
or if mailing or delivery of a
notice from the Independent
Administrator 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 Ex-
ecutor and to the attorneys
within ten (10) days after it
has been filed.

Dated: November 18,
2020.

BARBARA STUTE
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATOR

CAMERON LAW FIRM,
LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR
PETITIONER
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
ARDC ## 6244394
PHONE: 618-833-2220
50-52g

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Dongola Public Library
District
12/08/2020, at 5:45 p.m. at
Dongola Public Library
District**

A public meeting will
take place on December 8,
2020, at 5:45 p.m. at Dongola
Public Library District for the
purpose of providing general
information to the public
regarding the proposed New
Roof for the Library project.

The public is invited
to attend and comment on
such issues as economic and
environmental impacts, ser-
vice area, alternatives to the
project or any other pertinent
issues.

Due to COVID 19, this
meeting can be accessed via
conference call.

BY Heather Miller,
Library Director
51g

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

**ESTATE OF
RAYMOND L. BUTLER
DECEASED.
IN PROBATE
NO. 2020-P-45**

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to
creditors of the death of
Raymond L. Butler, of Anna,
Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on November 20,
2020, to Katrina K. Butler,
8811 Gowdy Ave., San Diego,
CA 92123, as Independent
Executor, whose attorney is
Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N.
Main St., Anna, Illinois.

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 admin-
istered without Court super-
vision unless, under Section
5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill.
Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755,
Par. 5/28-4), any interested
person terminates Indepen-
dent 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 W. Market St., Jonesboro,
Illinois, or with the Indepen-
dent Executor, or both, on
or before May 26, 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: November 23,
2020.

KATRINA K. BUTLER

CAMERON LAW FIRM,
LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR INDE-

PENDENT EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
51-1g

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE CLEAR CREEK
LEVEE AND DRAIN-
AGE DISTRICT
(no number assigned)**

NOTICE

The Commissioners of the
Clear Creek Levee and
Drainage District have filed
in my office on October 29,
2020, their Annual Report
showing the amount of mon-
ies collected by the District
since the last report and the
manner in which the funds
have been expended.

Any owner of land within
the District may file an objec-
tion to the report with
the Clerk of the Circuit
Court, Union County Court-
house, 309 West Market
Street, Jonesboro, Illinois
62952, on or before Decem-
ber 16, 2020.

If no objection to the report
is filed, the Court may approve
the report without a hearing.
Dated this 5th day of No-
vember, 2020.

TIFFANY BUSBY
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Union County, Illinois
51g

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE PRESTON LEVEE
AND DRAINAGE
DISTRICT
(no number assigned)**

NOTICE

The Commissioners of the
Preston Levee and Drainage
District have filed in
my office on October 29,
2020, their Annual Report
showing the amount of mon-
ies collected by the District
since the last report and the
manner in which the funds
have been expended.

Any owner of land within

the District may file an objec-
tion to the report with

the Clerk of the Circuit
Court, Union County Court-
house, 309 West Market
Street, Jonesboro, Illinois
62952, on or before Decem-
ber 16, 2020.

If no objection to the report
is filed, the Court may approve
the report without a hearing.
Dated this 5th day of No-
vember, 2020.

TIFFANY BUSBY
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Union County, Illinois
51g

CITY OF ANNA, ILLINOIS NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-
76-4 of the Illinois Municipal
Code, the City of Anna has
declared the following Ex-
hibit A Surplus Property List,
as surplus personal property
and offers the same for sale.

Said property may be
inspected at the Anna Police
Department located at 201 E
Vienna Street in the City of
Anna and is sold in "AS IS"
condition, without any im-
plied or expressed warranties.

EXHIBIT A
Surplus Property
2006 Chevy Impala, VIN
2G1WS551X695352738,
89,900 miles, runs poorly,
possibly blown head gas-
ket, minimum starting bid
\$250.00

Sealed bids, identifying
the above-described item(s),
shall be received by the City
Clerk during normal busi-
ness hours, Monday through
Friday at the Anna City Hall,
103 Market Street, Anna,
Illinois through December
15, 2020. The minimum
bid has been established for
each surplus item. Please see
Surplus Property List for the
Minimum bid, as no bid for
less than that amount will be
accepted. A check or money
order shall accompany all
bids for not less than 10%
of the bid.

All bids will be opened and
read at the regular meeting of
the Anna City Council to be
held on December 15, 2020 at
5 p.m. at the Anna City Hall.
The City of Anna reserves the
right to reject any and all bids.

Dori Bigler
City Clerk
51-52g

Support the Advertisers in The Gazette-Democrat To place your ad call (618) 833-2158



Obituaries

William L. 'Bill' Musgrave

William L. "Bill" Musgrave, 72, of Cobden, died Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020, at the Marion VA Medical Center.

He was born on March 16, 1948, in Gary, Ind., the son of Richard and Helen Surver Musgrave.

Mr. Musgrave is survived by his children, Randy Musgrave (Judy Ray) of Anna, Bill Jr. (April) Musgrave of Anna, Christina (Brad) Walling of Jonesboro, Ark., Josh (Tobie) Clark of Indianapolis, Ind., and Lisa Clark of St. Louis; nine grandchildren, Anthony Musgrave, Heather (Scott) Carter, Katlyn Turner (Andrew Yeakey), Logan Turner, Lainey Walling, Mason Musgrave, Megan (Freddy) Morse, Marilyn Musgrave and Hannah Trexler; great-grandchildren Gage Musgrave, Meredith, Camden, Hayden and Makenzie Carter; siblings Richard (Brenda) Musgrave of Marion, Sue (Terry) Johnson of St. Louis, Robert (Diana) Musgrave of Johnston City and Theresa Major of Texas; many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; an infant daughter, Alice Musgrave; a great-grandson, Clinton Musgrave; twin sister Mary Fox; a niece, Kathryn Fox; and a nephew, Daniel Fox.

Mr. Musgrave retired from the Marion Federal Prison after working for 22 years as a correctional officer.

He served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam. He was the retired DAV commander for the State of Illinois and the past post commander for the VFW's Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 in Anna.

Graveside funeral services were at noon Friday, Nov. 27, at the Alto Pass Cemetery, with chaplain Richard Bittle officiating. Interment immediately followed.

Military rites were conducted by the VFW's Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna and the Illinois Army National Guard funeral honor team.

Memorials can be made to the activity fund at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden was in charge of arrangements.

Mandar D. Rhine

Mandar D. Rhine, 31, of Cobden, died Monday, Nov. 23, 2020, at his home.

He was born on Jan. 27, 1989, the son of Scott and Karen Harvell Rhine.

He married Kamea Dudek on June 20, 2015.

He is survived by his wife, Kamea; their daughter, Ardea Rhine; his mother, Karen Rhine; a sister, Cory Rhine; his maternal grandparents, Clara and Melvin Harvell; two aunts, Stacey Chilman and Janice Osman; an uncle, Tony Harvell; numerous other aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Kay and Rodell Rhine; an uncle, Craig Rhine; and a cousin, Zachary Roberts.

Mandar was passionate in the creation of all things artistic, everything from beautiful sketches to any nature of musical instrument and even some phenomenal tattoos on himself and friends.

He loved spending time with his daughter and being in nature and is one of the most beautiful souls to have walked this earth. He will be dearly missed by many.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Memorials can be made to the family to begin a savings account for Ardea.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden is in charge of arrangements.

Sandra Sue Hewlett

Sandra Sue Hewlett, 80, of Anna, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020, at Integrity Healthcare in Anna.

She was born on April 11, 1940, the daughter of James and Jennie Bernowski Seymour.

She is survived by her daughter, Pam (Rob) Needling; grandchildren Jared Blessing and Jenna (Tyler) Webb; great-grandchildren Kimber and Kaylor Webb; two nieces, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by a sister, Nancy Walker.

She worked in the banking industry for 50 years. There will be no public services at this time.

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

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.



Frances L. Cavness

Frances L. Cavness, 63, of Grand Tower, and formerly of Wolf Lake, died at 7:20 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at her home.

She was born on Jan. 25, 1957, in Carbondale, a daughter of Jack Ray Taylor and Sandra Jean Spicer.

She married Roger Dale Cavness on July 20, 1977. He preceded her in death on Jan. 8, 2016, after 38 years of marriage.

Mrs. Cavness was a long-time employee of Dyno-Nobel in Wolf Lake. She loved chickens and roosters, visiting with her friends at the Duck Inn Tavern, which is her family owned and operated restaurant, and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her daughter, Melissa Cavness of Grand Tower; her son, Nathan (Dianna) Smith of Anna; her father, Jack Taylor of West Frankfort; four grandchildren, Darien LeFevre of Grand Tower, Blake H. LeFevre of Jonesboro, Amber Smith and Justin Smith, both of Anna; one great-grandson, Ryker Dale Ford; two sisters, Debra Norman of Versailles, Mo., and Jackie Taylor of West Frankfort; her special, dear friends, Marilyn "Hag" Cripps, Rhonda Robertson and Retha Clover; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She had three fur babies, Cricket, Violet and Buttercup.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Sandra Spicer; her husband, Roger Cavness; one sister, Sherri Briese; and her granddaughter, Haleigh Slusher.

Funeral services were held at Crain Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at noon, with the Rev. Jack Thornton officiating.

Interment was in Walker Hill Cemetery in Grand Tower on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the American Diabetes Association or to the American Cancer Society.

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



Robert 'Bob' Dillow

Robert "Bob" Dillow, 81, of Anna, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at St. Louis University Medical Center.

He was born on Aug. 6, 1939, in Union County, the son of Sescel and Opal Treece Dillow.

He married Dorothy Hazel on Aug. 22, 1958, in Ware.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy of Anna; his sons, Robert (Johnna) Dillow Jr. of Titusville, Fla., and Kevin (Tracy) Dillow of Melbourne, Fla.; grandchildren Joni (Travis) Geske, Jacob Dillow, Gini Marks, Sarah (Landon) Combs and Beth Otto; great-grandchildren Sabrina Geske and Charlie Combs; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Edward "Bud" Dillow; a sister, Anita Bunch; an infant sister; one grandchild and one great-grandchild.

He served in the U.S. Army. He loved to play golf and was a member of the Union County Country Club.

Graveside funeral services for Robert "Bob" Dillow were held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, at the Anna Cemetery, with Bill Littrell officiating.

Interment followed, with military honors provided by Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of the VFW in Anna and the Illinois Army National Guard funeral honor team.

Memorials can be made to the activity fund at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna was in charge of arrangements.

Melba Lee Nork

Melba Lee Nork, 89, of Cobden, died Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2020, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Jan. 9, 1931, in Omaha, Neb., the daughter of Clearence and Viola Goettch Shadlow.

She is survived by her children, Diane Ramero of Salinas, Calif., Jerry Roche of South Carolina, Ronnie Roche of California, Bob Roche, Joann Marks of Cobden, Shanna Walker of California and Bethenie Nork; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; a sister, Carol Kleespies of Iowa; nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Eugene Charles Roche, James Milton Walker and Heldur Nork; a son, Larry Walker; and brothers Craig and Gary Shadlow.

There will be no services held at this time. To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden is in charge of arrangements.



Oliva Lopez Carmona

Oliva Lopez Carmona, 90, of Alto Pass, died Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020, at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale.

She was born on May 15, 1930, in Ojo de Agua, Mexico, the daughter of Jose and Maria Guadalupe Carmona Lopez.

She is survived by her children, Maria Guadalupe (J. Luz) Rosas, Ma. Elena (Izidro) Carmona, Memoria (Reynaldo) Calderon, Nicolas (Ofelia) Carmona, Eliceo (Cecilia) Carmona, Esmeraldo (Oralia) Carmona, David (Maricela) Carmona, Pastor (Alicia) Carmona, Izidra (Marin) Carmona, Miguel (Carolina) Carmona, Maria Raquel (Rogelio) Hernandez, Carmel (Esther) Carmona, J. Luz (Carmela) Carmona, Olivia (Izidoro) Mendez, and J. Antonio (Ma. Elia) Carmona. She was blessed with numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her husband, David Carmona.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 30, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden.

Interment will take place at a later date in Panteon Municipal de Santiago in Maravatio, Guanajuato, Mexico.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Alto Pass is in charge of arrangements.

The Gazette-Democrat Serving Union County Since 1849

"The Preaching Pen"

Can I Say The Sinner's Prayer to be Saved?

A few years ago at the Veteran's Day parade, when my son was 10, a man approached him and the group he was with and urged them all to say the "sinner's prayer." My son asked to see this man's Bible and argued from the Scriptures that prayer is not the means by which anyone is saved, citing I Peter 3:21, which states, "...baptism doth now also save us (not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." Incredibly, this man took back his Bible and read aloud to Jason, "baptism doth also now save us not..." He stopped mid-sentence - completely ignoring the fact that God didn't put a period there! What a blatant abuse of the Scripture!

It's true that more than just baptism is involved in salvation, but the real issue in this article is: Does God act based upon requests made by someone who is not a Christian?

Consider the story found in John 9. During His travels, Jesus encountered a man who had been blind since birth and healed him. After the former blind man left Jesus and His followers, he was brought before the Pharisees and questioned. They reasoned that because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, He must have been a sinner. The blind man defended Jesus to these Pharisees when he said: "We know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth" (John 9:31). Simply put, his argument was: (1) Only God could have worked such a miracle as giving sight to the blind; (2) God doesn't hear the petitions of sinners; (3) therefore, Jesus could not be a sinner, because He restored the man's sight by the power of God.

It's interesting that not a one of those religious leaders tried to correct or contradict his statement. Why? Because the Pharisees were well trained in the Law, and the blind man's statement was a well-known fact.

Saul of Tarsus prayed for three days after arriving in Damascus, yet his sins were not "washed away" until he was immersed in water - baptized - in obedience to God's command (Acts 22:16). If there ever was a case to be made for the "sinner's prayer," this was it; and yet it didn't save him!

Prayer is an avenue of communication between a "child of God" and his heavenly Father. The model prayer begins: "Our Father which art in heaven..." (Mt. 6:9), and one becomes a child of the Father only by being born again (Jn. 3:3-5), not by praying. The sinner's prayer will not save anyone, because prayer is not the means by which man is saved - repentance, confession and baptism - that's the Lord's way of salvation.

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

Pastor's Corner
by Pastor Don Cox

How bad does it have to be before the majority of Americans get on their knees and beg God for deliverance? For Israel, it was always too late!

Congregational Church of Alto Pass
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
Worship-Message at 10:30 a.m.

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Gerald L. 'Jerry' Berry

Gerald L. "Jerry" Berry, 87, of Cobden, died Monday, Nov. 23, 2020, at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

He was born on March 21, 1933, in Zeigler, the son of Francis R. and Ruth B. Graham Berry. He married Loretta Lamer. She preceded him in death on Nov. 17, 2002.

Mr. Berry is survived by his three daughters, Leslie Berry of Chicago, Jerilyn (Larry) Miller of Hillsboro and Jo (Shawn) Cox of Salem; two grandchildren, Jason Lee Miller and Jessica (Clint) Evans; two great-grandchildren, Harper and Claire Evans; a sister, Judith (Mike) Anderson of Crown Point, Ind.; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father; his mother and stepfather, Ruth B. and William E. "Bill" Waring; a brother, Francis "Sonny" Berry; and a sister, Jackie Goodman.

Mr. Berry served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of the VFW's Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 in Anna.

He worked as a mechanic and taught auto body repair for many years. He owned and operated the JB Body Shop in Cobden for over 40 years.

He worked for the Illinois Department of Transportation at the Anna yard for many years as a heavy equipment mechanic until his retirement in 2008.

Graveside funeral services were at 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, at the Cobden Cemetery. Interment immediately followed.

Military rites were conducted by the VFW's Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 in Anna and the Illinois Army National Guard funeral honor team of Marion.

Memorials can be made to PAWS or to the activity fund at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden was in charge of arrangements.



Jan Michelle Porterfield

Jan Michelle Porterfield, 58, of Antioch, Tenn., and formerly of Dongola, died Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020.

She was born on May 1, 1962, in Anna, the daughter of Franklin Delano (Barney) and Elaine Jodene (Jo) McCommons Porterfield.

She was a Dongola High School and a Murray State University graduate.

She was well loved at Glenwood Baptist Church, where she made many wonderful contributions, especially in the choir and in the Glenwood Quartet.

Survivors include her uncle, Leon (Barbara) Porterfield of Dongola; an aunt, Patricia Beggs of Anna; a special sister and brother-in-law, Cynthia and Kyle Kern; nieces Erica (Jacob) Poat and Gracen Kern; a great-nephew and a great-niece, Carson and Aubrey Poat, all of Dongola; many cousins and a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Franklin (Barney) and Jodene (Jo) Porterfield.

Private services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, at Christian Chapel Cemetery, with the Rev. Paul Sadler officiating. Interment followed.

Services were livestreamed through the Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Service Facebook page.

Memorials can be made to the Christian Chapel Cemetery and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Crain Funeral Home in Dongola was in charge of arrangements.



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



Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Dolores Reynolds of Reynoldsville was a dinner guest of Jackie and Jay Jennings of Reynoldsville on Thanksgiving. Others present were Justin, Hunter, Gracie and Paxton Wilson.

Jessie, Rhiannon and Lane Livesay of Wolf Lake and Greg Reynolds of Reynoldsville visited with Dolores Reynolds on Friday.

Gracie Wilson of Reynoldsville spent Friday night with Dolores Reynolds.

Rodney Reynolds of Wolf Lake visited Saturday afternoon with Dolores Reynolds.

Jackie and Jay Jennings and Gracie Wilson had lunch with Dolores Reynolds on Sunday.

Kevin Eudy of Cape Girardeau visited Sunday with Sue and Steve Eudy.

Joe Schneider of Cape Girardeau visited Wednesday with Shirley Miller of McClure.

Those spending Thanksgiving Day with Penny and Kerry Hill of McClure were Shirley Miller, David and Kristy Miller of St. Charles, Mo., and Julie, Eric and Tessa Burtin of St. Peters, Mo.

Those enjoying Sunday dinner at the home of Penny and Kerry Hill were Shirley Miller and Eric, Julie and Tessa Burtin.

You are invited to attend services at Reynoldsville Missionary Baptist Church. Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening worship service is at 6 p.m. Rev. Jamie Bridgeman is the pastor.

Obituaries Online at annanews.com

Raymond Alexander Baggott

Raymond Alexander Baggott, 19, of Du Quoin, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020, at 8 a.m. at his home.

Alex was born on Oct. 24, 2001, in Carbondale, the son of Raymond L. and Lori Lyerla Baggott.

Alex attended First Baptist Church of Tamaroa, where his grandpa serves as the pastor.

He loved spending time with his family and friends. Alex loved his country and aspired to serve in the United States Marines after finishing school.

Survivors include his parents, Raymond L. and Lori Baggott of Du Quoin; three sisters, Sarina Lyerla (Garrett Dorsey) of Du Quoin, Amber Baggott of Du Quoin and Jeni (Andy) Beck of Energy; his paternal grandfather, the Rev. Raymond D. Baggott of Du Quoin; his nieces and nephews, Kyson and Loryn Dorsey, Annie Sturgill, Lane Hamilton and Abbey and Jake Beck; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmothers, LaVada Simpson and Diane Baggott; his maternal grandparents, Loran and Dorothy Lyerla; and his aunt, Rebecca Johnson.

A private funeral service will be held at Crain Funeral Home in Anna, with the Rev. Danny Miller officiating. Interment will follow in Kelly Cemetery near Cobden.

For those who prefer, memorials can be made to Crain Funeral Home, 135 W. Vienna St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

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

James Leo 'Jim' Karraker

James Leo "Jim" Karraker, 78, of Mt. Zion, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic private family services will be held.

Dawson & Wikoff West Wood Street Funeral Home in Decatur is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials can be directed to Allstripes (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy) or Morningside Church of Christ.

Mr. Karraker was born on July 31, 1942, in Anna, the son of Leo and Imogene Dillow Karraker.

He served in the U.S. Army.

Mr. Karraker married Patricia C. Geofray on Dec. 26, 1970.

He retired from PPG after 40 years of service as a mechanical engineer, working at the Crystal City, Mo., Carlisle, Pa., and Mt. Zion plants.

Mr. Karraker was a faithful member of Morningside Church of Christ. He was a country boy who enjoyed deer hunting. He was a jack-of-all-trades and was a St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan.

Mr. Karraker is survived by his wife, Patricia C. Karraker of Mt. Zion; children Shannon James Karraker of Springfield, Shelley Karraker of Nashville, Tenn., and Brandon James (Erica) Karraker of Huntsville, Ala.; a sister: Beverly (Carl) Magsamen of Schaumburg; and grandchildren Kaleb James Karraker and Kristyn Karraker.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents Ray and Blanche Dillow and Charles and Mable Karraker; and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Arthur and Reva Geofray.

Messages of condolence can be sent to the family at www.dawson-wikoff.com.



Sunset on a November evening

A colorful sunset could be seen in the sky over Union County Friday evening, Nov. 27. The image was captured from the parking lot at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Sunday began the season of Advent in churches throughout the world.

Camp Ground Church's first Sunday of Advent was a bit different this year, as each family was together in their home participating in the service via Zoom.

Following the call to worship, Rev. Dee Ann Thompson began the Hanging of the Greens service with the reading of selected scriptures.

The significance of the Hanging of the Greens was shared by Sandra Boaz.

Karen Vaughn read the purpose of the Advent Wreath as well as the reading for the first Sunday of

Advent.

Dwight Boaz shared the meaning of wreaths and evergreens in relation to Advent. David Miller told why an evergreen tree is used.

LaDonna Miller described the Chrismons and their various meanings.

Reading of the lighting of the evergreen tree was by Tony Gerard.

Donna Williams told about the creche. Rachel Bonner shared the relationship between the poinsettia and Advent.

The Spirit of Christmas was given by Rev. Thompson. Berna Gerard shared about the meaning of Em-

manuel, God with us.

Rev. Thompson then shared an essay by C.J. Mahaney titled "Disturbing Christmas: The Manger and the Cross" as her devotion. If you haven't heard this composition, it is well worth your taking time to find it online and reading it.

As each section of the

service was read, Zoom host David Miller displayed pictures of the particular topic. Especially moving, during the devotion, was a photo of the manger over-shadowed by a cross.

A happy birthday wish goes to Reed Crane on Dec. 7.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, Nov. 29, Pastor Perry Williams spoke at both morning and evening services.

The morning message touched on the need for revival, "a bringing back to life." Scripture was from 1st Kings.

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 church building is now opened for services. Check the church's Facebook page, Jonesboro FBC, for the latest in-

formation about possible closings.

Birthdays: Ashley Massey, Dec. 2; Rhonda Boyd, Dave Johnson, Dec. 4; Samantha Charles, Dec. 6.

Currently, the regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist Church for the coming week 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.

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

Congratulations to the winners of the Thanksgiving Turkey Contest from The Gazette-Democrat and Union County Market.

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| Jim Jerolds | Anna Tire & Auto Center |
| Emilia Eddleman | Southern Illinois Electric Coop |
| Donna Hennesy | First State Bank of Dongola |
| Sherry McCann | Farmers State Bank of Alto Pass |
| Robert Wright | Cardinal Corner |
| Kevin Calvin | SI Builder Supply, LLC |
| Darrell Ross | A&G Automotive |
| Vicky Wilson | Rod's Towing/Wright Bros. Auto |
| Billie Wyatt | Anna-Jonesboro National Bank |
| Brandy Naumann | Cobden Auto Repair |
| Ricky Williams | Gurley & Son Heating & Cooling |
| Janet Hawk | Crabtree & Merriman Optometry |



Despite positive signs, governor warns of another COVID-19 surge

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois
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SPRINGFIELD – Despite some slight improvement in key public health metrics over the past week, Gov. JB Pritzker said he has no immediate plans to roll back COVID-19 mitigation efforts as he warned of a possible post-Thanksgiving surge.

Speaking during his daily COVID-19 briefing Monday in Chicago, Pritzker quoted Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, who warned over the weekend of “a surge within a surge” due to the large volume of holiday travel over the Thanksgiving Day weekend.

“He is not alone in that assessment,” Pritzker said.

“The dip in Illinois’ cases over the last few days comes as we are seeing near-record high numbers of hospitalizations, meaning that our ability to handle any new surge in COVID patients is still limited,” he added.

According to data from the Illinois Department of Public Health, the daily average number of patients hospitalized for COVID-19 in the state actually fell Nov. 24-29, to 5,944.

That was a decline of 114, or roughly 1.9 percent, from the previous week’s average.

But that number was still higher than the peak of the first wave of the pandemic in early May when it stood at 4,816, and it remained four times higher than the hospitalization rate recorded the week of Aug. 2 when it stood at 1,410.

As of late Sunday, about only 28 percent of the state’s staffed hospital beds remained available, while nearly 18 percent of all hospital beds in use were occupied by COVID-19 patients.

IDPH reported Monday that there had been 40,837 new confirmed and probable cases of the disease since Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 25, and 446 additional deaths, bringing the statewide totals since the pandemic began to 726,304 cases and 12,278 fatalities.

Although the rate of hospitalizations was down slightly for the week, there were slight upticks in the use of intensive care unit beds and ventilators.

The number of patients in ICU beds averaged 1,209 per day over the Thanksgiving break, an increase of 30 over the prior week. But that was a slower rate of increase than what the state

had seen over the previous five weeks.

Ventilator use averaged 142 patients each day during that same period, an increase of 13 over the prior week.

IDPH also reported slight improvement in the number of cases being detected as a percentage of all tests that were conducted.

The preliminary seven-day rolling average positivity rate for the week of Nov. 23-29 stood at 10.2 percent, down from 10.9 percent a week earlier.

“But we had seen even before this last week that there was a suggestive trend of things starting to move in the right direction, and we’re just all hoping and praying that does not get reversed with the activities from Thanksgiving,” IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said.

Still, Pritzker said, it could take several days, or even weeks, before the state sees what impact holiday travel and gathering will have on its infection rate, and he said he has no plan to scale back the Tier 3 mitigations in place for at least the next three weeks.

Pritzker said he had spoken by phone just before the news conference began with members of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, including Dr. Fauci, about the timing of a rollout of vaccines that are being developed.

That call came on the same day the biotechnology company Moderna Inc. applied for emergency use authorization of its vaccine. Pritzker noted that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is expected to decide Dec. 10 on another request for emergency use authorization by the drug company Pfizer. But even if the FDA grants that request, he said, it could take several days before the vaccine is available in Illinois.

The governor added that the state still does not know how many doses of the vaccine will be made available, but he said the first priority will be to vaccinate health care workers and other first responders who work directly with COVID-19 patients.

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.



Service viewed on YouTube

A Union County Alliance of Churches community Thanksgiving service was livestreamed on YouTube.

Union County community Thanksgiving service presented

A community Thanksgiving service has been a long-standing tradition for the Union County faith community.

In the time of the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, the tradition continued in 2020.

This year, the service, like so many other activities, was a little bit different.

The Union County Alliance of Churches presented a community Thanksgiving service on Tuesday evening, Nov. 24.

Mt. Moriah Lutheran

Church in Anna hosted the service.

However, instead of gathering together in the church, the community was invited to participate in the service via YouTube.

The service was livestreamed on Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church’s YouTube page.

Four pastors from Union County churches participated in the service, including:

Nick DiMauro, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Anna. Tim Gossett, pastor of the United Methodist Church in Anna.

David Fischler, pastor of

the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Anna. Mark Hasty, pastor of Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church.

The keyboardist for the service was Carla Anderson from the United Methodist Church in Anna.

The service’s coordinator was Pete Housman from Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church. Housman sang hymns during the service.

(Editor’s note: the photograph which accompanies this story is from a screen shot which was taken during the livestream of the service on YouTube.)

Illinois Farm Bureau: Food availability not in question ahead of holiday season

The Illinois Farm Bureau last week shared an outlook about food availability, just before the Thanksgiving holiday:

With concerns resurfacing over possible food shortages, a study from a national farm group found the supply chain is as resilient as ever – and it was showing up in the form of lower prices for many traditional Thanksgiving dinner ingredients.

This year, the American Farm Bureau Federation’s, AFBF, annual Thanksgiving dinner survey calculated the average cost of a traditional Thanksgiving meal for 10 people at \$46.90. That’s less than \$5 per person and down 4 percent from last year.

“The average cost of this year’s Thanksgiving dinner is the lowest since 2010,” said AFBF chief economist John Newton.

“Turkeys, and other staples of the traditional Thanksgiving meal, are currently in ample supply at grocery stores in most areas of the country.”

The national survey’s menu includes turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, a veggie tray, pumpkin pie with whipped cream, and coffee and milk, in generous amounts accounting for leftovers.

Volunteer shoppers across the country tracked the prices of these items in stores near them and online.

The average price for a 16-pound turkey was \$19.39, down 7 percent from last year, according to survey results.

Prices also dropped for sweet potatoes and whipping cream, while the cost of other staples, like dinner rolls, cubed bread stuffing and pumpkin pie mix, rose moderately.

The falling total cost came as a surprise for some, given the effect COVID-19 had on grocery bills earlier this year.

“There was an expectation that the prices would have gone up, as we saw last spring,” said Illinois Farm Bureau associate director of food systems development Raghela Scavuzzo.

“I’m glad to see the price decreases, especially for those who are struggling this holiday season due to the impacts of the pandemic.”

Some consumers responded to the pandemic by cooking more at home and stockpiling the ingredients.

But farmers and the food industry adapted. Despite the ongoing shifts in supply and demand seen by the agriculture industry over the past several years, farmers

have continued to provide a healthy food supply.

“Even in the throes of a pandemic, life goes on; farms continue to produce and we continue to eat,” said IFB consumer engagement manager Gracie Weinzierl.

“While the supply chain surely does not look the same as it did a year ago, we’ve figured out how to adapt and make sure that consumers have steady access to food.”

Weinzierl said the “great news” was that “upholding our Thanksgiving traditions” would be affordable this season, “regardless of whether we choose to prepare our favorite family recipes for a small gathering at home, partake in a dinner drop with friends and family to enjoy in their separate homes, or order takeout or delivery from a local restaurant.”

Smaller turkeys

on menus

URBANA – As concerns rise over the possible spread of coronavirus during large family gatherings, the expected smaller holiday party size is affecting the food production industry.

Smaller guest invitations mean consumers are looking for smaller whole turkeys on the holiday menu in 2020.

Local health authorities, including the Centers for Disease Control, are warning against large family gatherings for the holidays, so consumers may be downsizing from their usual 25-pound bird or switching the menu entirely.

“What’s going to happen is people are going to have smaller group settings and buy boneless turkey breasts instead of the whole turkey,” says Ken Koelkebeck, a University of Illinois animal sciences professor. “There may also be more demand for ham.”

Koelkebeck, who specializes in poultry production, says supermarkets will be serving up good deals this year, especially on birds larger than 15 pounds. He’s seen prices between 33 cents to 39 cents a pound.

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'Winter Weather: Get It Together'

Planning, preparation, patience, understanding needed by motorists

As snow-and-ice season fast approaches, the Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois State Police are reminding the driving public that it's time for "Winter Weather: Get it Together."

Because of the continuing threat of COVID-19, planning and preparation, as well as patience and understanding, will be needed more than ever from drivers this winter, state officials said.

"Our snow-and-ice response teams have prepared throughout the year to make this upcoming winter driving season as safe as possible. Whenever you see them doing their jobs, please slow down and give them room to work," said Omer Osman, the acting secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

"This year, we need the

public to always be planning ahead and truly asking themselves before heading out if snow and ice are in the forecast: Is this trip really necessary?

"Like everyone else, we feel the effects of COVID-19 at IDOT. Although we are taking every precaution we can to keep employees safe, we are prepared for the possibility our staffing levels this winter will be impacted by the coronavirus."

Since the start of the pandemic, IDOT has adopted several measures to help keep frontline personnel safe, including frequent cleaning and disinfecting of facilities and equipment.

Employees responsible for snow-and-ice removal are instructed to wear masks, socially distance and avoid congregating in common areas at all times.

Contingency plans will be in place to provide coverage and clear roads as quickly as possible if workers need to be quarantined, but response times could be affected.

At all times, motorists are advised to be mindful of winter driving skills and to build extra time into their schedules in the months ahead.

As part of the "Winter Weather: Get it Together" campaign, travelers are encouraged to follow these guidelines:

Bookmark GettingAroundIllinois.com to check travel conditions 24/7.

Wear a seat belt. It's the law in Illinois. And it's your best defense if you are involved in a crash.

Drop it and drive. Put down the devices: it, too, is the law.

Do not travel during bad



Driving through snow

A vehicle made its way through falling snow last January in Anna. File photo.

weather unless absolutely necessary. If you do have to drive, check the forecast and make sure someone is aware of your route. Familiarize yourself with public transportation options.

Slow down. Slower speeds, slower acceleration, slower steering and slower braking are required throughout the winter.

Don't crowd the plow. A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you. Any plow that's hit must be pulled out of service, resulting in one less resource available to clear the roads.

Watch out for black ice. A road may appear clear but can be treacherous.

Be especially careful when approaching intersections, ramps, bridges and shaded areas. All are prone to icing.

Prepare an emergency kit

that contains jumper cables, flares or reflectors, windshield washer fluid, a small ice scraper, traction material, blankets, non-perishable food and a first aid kit.

Carry a cell phone and a car charger in case of emergency.

Give them distance. Obey the Move Over Law by slowing down and changing lanes when approaching any stopped vehicle with flashing lights.

For the upcoming winter, IDOT will have more than 1,800 trucks available for deployment to plow almost 16,000 miles of roads statewide, the equivalent of driving from New York to Los Angeles and back almost six times.

Last year, IDOT spread more than 427,000 tons of salt statewide. This winter, salt domes throughout the state are close to capacity, with more than 466,000 tons

on hand.

"The men and women of the Illinois State Police will face additional dangers on patrol during winter weather months while protecting and serving all motorists," said Illinois State Police director Brendan F. Kelly.

"Please refrain from driving unless it is essential. If you must get on the road, remember to adjust your driving to the weather and road conditions.

"Winter road conditions are unpredictable and a crash could happen at any moment. The fewer drivers on the road, the fewer crashes, the safer everyone will be.

"If you approach an emergency vehicle with its lights activated or a disabled vehicle with flashing lights, please slow down and move over. Our goal is to ensure everyone makes it home safely."



Hawk portrait

A hawk was keeping watch on the world when it was spotted last week while perched on a utility wire along West Vienna Street in Anna. The bird did not seem to be bothered by traffic or by a freight train which passed by.

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Opinion and Commentary

Editorials

CEO gift box project

It appears the Union County CEO Christmas Around the Community gift box project was a huge success. Boxes were delivered or picked up Saturday in downtown Anna. The Christmas Around the Community boxes were filled with items from businesses and merchants in Union County.

Students in this program are top notch. The team work in this effort was great. A learning experience. It was akin to the Union County Women in Business "Business Expo" conducted each spring.

The "Shop at Home" theme indicated the wide variety of products and services available in the county. JLR

Sample mailing

This week's issue of The Gazette-Democrat is being mailed to all residents of Union County. Current subscribers may receive two copies.

We are currently proud of our subscriber saturation in the County but always seeking to reach everyone. Nearly 1,000 copies are sold each week to individuals buying the newspaper at grocery stores, convenience stores and other businesses and they could save about half the price with a subscription and have it mailed to their home.

A special offer: subscribe or renew your subscription and have another as a gift free for a friend, neighbor or loved one. A great Christmas gift idea. A coupon is in this issue or call the office, 833-2158, and pay by credit card. JLR

Letters to the editor

Ensure vote count is accurate

To the editor

I believe President Trump has every right to not concede the election until he is satisfied that the vote count is accurate. However, I can agree that Mr. Biden, in the interest of national security, should get the briefings necessary to prepare him to take office if he is determined the winner.

I also disagree with mail in ballots being automatically being sent to everyone. I am glad that in our state at least a person had to request one. I further believe a person should vote in person when they are able, either early at the courthouse or on Election Day and with a photo ID. An ID is easy to obtain at the drivers license facility and is required for many other services. This would reduce the opportunity for voter fraud.

I think that election rules for federally elected offices should be nation wide not different in every state. I hope and pray that in future elections there is no need for any wide spread mail in ballots with the exception of military or physically handicapped. We should not need to wait for weeks to know who the winner is.

The Electoral College is necessary to preserve an equal voice for all areas of the country not just the highly populated areas. It has not out lived its usefulness in my opinion.

Finally if you accept what the major television networks report I have some ocean front property for sale right here in Union County at bargain price.

Signed, Chuck Weilmuenster, Vietnam Vet, Anna

Blessed by caring staff

To the editor,

Our family lost a beloved member on October 26, 2020: Jay R. Minton – he is an uncle to my two daughters and also an uncle to some of my nieces and nephews.

Due to his untimely death and the COVID-19 epidemic and so many travel and funeral restrictions we reached out to the immediate family with choices made to supply food. My daughter and one of my nieces called on the Kroger store in Anna to assist us. Even though the time was short the staff at the Anna Kroger store accommodated both of the orders for two separate days and they were each a different kind of meal sent to the family.

How blessed with are to have such a caring staff and in particular in the deli department at the Anna Kroger.

Our thanks for the special care of having the food ready and the orders filled as ordered when a family member came by to pick up the food on each of the separate days. Thanks again Anna Kroger store employees.

Thank you to The Gazette-Democrat for sharing our thanks and remind the residents of the Anna area what a blessing it is to be assisted in such a helpful way in our time of need.

Sincerely, Pat (Aldridge-Gott) Fuller, Mackinaw

Illinois Poet Laureate named

First Lady MK Pritzker recently announced the selection of Angela Jackson as the next Poet Laureate for the State of Illinois.

Jackson is the fifth Illinoisan to hold the title, an honorary position which is selected by a committee of experts and subsequently appointed by the governor.

Jackson is an accomplished and award-winning poet, novelist and playwright, who has published three chapbooks and four volumes of poetry.

As Illinois' next poet laureate, Jackson will work to promote poetry at the state and national level.

She will join only four other poets who have previously held this coveted title.

The first Illinois Poet Laureate, Howard B. Austin, was named in 1936. The three other poets who have held the title are Carl Sandburg (1962-67), Gwendolyn Brooks (1968-2000) and Kevin Stein (2003-2017).

In June, Gov. Pritzker posthumously named John Prine an honorary Poet Laureate.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Cats in the White House...Thanksgiving...

Before we get started, just wanted to mention that we heard over the weekend that a cat will be coming to the White House in 2021...

My first thought: oh, great, now cats everywhere will be even more insufferable than they already are...

Also learned over the weekend that President Abraham Lincoln had a couple of cats during his time at the White House.

Information shared in an article posted on the website for the Presidential Pet Museum explained that President Lincoln "was given an unexpected gift of two kittens from Secretary of State William Seward." (As always, since the information about Lincoln's cats was found on the internet, it must be true...)

The website continued, explaining that Mr. Lincoln "doted on the cats, which he named Tabby and Dixie, so much that he once fed Tabby from the table during a formal dinner at the White House."

A friend, the article continued, "recalled how the president would pick up one of the cats and "talk to it for half an hour at a time." During his first term in office, the article shared, "Lincoln was said to have observed in frustration, "Dixie is smarter than my whole cabinet! And furthermore she doesn't talk back!"

And, not unlike a certain special person in my life, Mr. Lincoln "had a special infinity for stray cats and was known to bring them home on occasion."

Meanwhile...moving on to some other stuff...

Guess we can all agree that 2020 has been, well, a little bit...unusual...odd...out of the ordinary...(pick your own word, or words, if you would like)...

Maybe that would explain a couple of things that happened on The Journey Through Life during past week or so...

For example, yours truly saw fireworks at the Anna City Park...on a cold, clear November night... That was a first.

Like lots and lots and lots of other folks, The Other Half and yours truly celebrated a rather unusual Thanksgiving last week.

It was just the two of us...and our cats. We had a Thanksgiving feast for two...a turkey that looked remarkably like a chicken...one of the last tomatoes out of the garden... potatoes grown by The Other Half in her garden...pumpkin custard (no pie crust...it's kind of a long story)...and (at least for yours truly) a whole bunch of whipping cream (the kind you spray out of a can – the good stuff)...



Look...up on the pole...it's a bird (not a plane or Superman)...but not a turkey...spotted this woodpecker of some sort while on a walkabout...which, I guess, makes this bird the word...

A Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, December 3, 1970

The social event of the season, which traditionally opens the Christmas season in the Union County area, will be held in the American Legion Community Center, Anna, Monday, Nov. 7, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The annual Ladies Night Banquet, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, is expected to attract a larger number of persons than normal, due to the prominence of the speaker engaged for the evening.

The speaker, Dr. Tom Haggai, is well known to area residents.

Flowers, plants, red ribbon, hollyberries, pine cones, greenery, elves on branches, these are all a part of the holiday season, and were shown in abundance at the Open House at Ginny's and Robinson's Florists Sunday, Nov. 29.

A community carol sing will be held Monday, Dec. 21, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Village of Cobden. The village fire department will be on hand to serve coffee.

Union County Clerk Fred Blaylock has announced that the first date to file petitions in the office of the County Clerk for the position of County Commissioner for a four year term is Monday, Dec. 7.



This is the "majestic" tree mentioned in the accompanying word salad. If memory serves me correctly, and there is no guarantee of that, it's an oak tree...

And, yes, the cats shared in just a little bit of our Thanksgiving feast...they seemed to enjoy the chicken... (For the record, what was left of our Thanksgiving fowl was transformed into homemade chicken soup for dinner on Saturday night. Good stuff.)

On Thanksgiving night, we joined gazillions of other folks and had a family Zoom meeting...very strange experience, these Zoom gatherings...but it was nice to see folks...

Thanksgiving Day actually started with a bit of a tradition...yours truly baked some cinnamon rolls...been doing this for many, many years. Have to admit, though, that the rolls were not made from scratch...baked the kind that come out of a tube that you smack on the edge of the kitchen counter...still, they were good...in keeping with tradition.

Tried to watch a football game on Thanksgiving Day. Yup. That was strange, too. Sure, there was a game being played on the field...there just were not many, if any, fans in the stands...

Thanksgiving Day included a nice long walk around town...

The walk took me past a majestic tree which is not far from home. I believe the tree is an oak of some sort. That's the tree, branches now bare of leaves, in the photograph.

From what I understand, oak trees can live to a very ripe old age...maybe for hundreds of years, depending on the variety.

I wondered how many Thanksgiving Days had come and gone during the life of this particular tree. And, in keeping with 2020, I wondered if the tree had been growing the last time we experienced a global pandemic. Seemed like an awfully deep sort of thought for a holiday.

The rest of our Thanksgiving holiday weekend was pretty quiet. Saturday night, we once again welcomed a possum which paid a visit to our front porch. This critter was pretty stubborn...went outside to shoo it away... it bared its teeth at me...and I needed a broom stick to encourage our visitor to move along.

Sunday night, we had another special visitor. This time it was a raccoon. We hadn't seen a raccoon on our front porch in a number of years.

The way things are going, I wouldn't be surprised if reindeer show up on the front porch one night in a few weeks. Hey, it's been a strange year...

One last thing for this week...dinner on Sunday evening included our last tomato from The Other Half's 2020 garden. A "fresh" tomato on the next-to-last day of November wasn't bad at all.

With that in mind, The Other Half already is making plans and working on next year's garden. She's ordered seeds. And she continues to work on having a small greenhouse in the backyard.

Planning next year's garden, of course, is a good thing. After all, 2021 is going to be "normal." Right...



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