

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Anna, Illinois

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News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area



Icicles were hanging from a gutter on the roof of a house in Cobden during last week's bitter cold winter weather.

Civil War Weekend activities which had been planned Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 19-21, at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center and at the Heritage House in Jonesboro have been postponed due to the weather. Activities now are planned for March 12-14.

Fish dinners which had been planned for Friday, Feb. 19, at the Anna VFW post and at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden have cancelled due to the weather.

Even in the bitter cold, folks looked to be enjoying the snowy conditions on the embankment next to the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football practice field last Saturday afternoon.

Southern Illinois native Jeffrey Isbell is the new executive director for the Bald Knob Cross of Peace.

This year's Annabelle Festival is planned June 11-12 in Anna.

Major winter storm brings heavy snow to area

National Weather Service on Sunday: 'Have your affairs in order before the end of the evening

Another significant winter storm possible by Wednesday into Thursday

Snow began to fall Sunday night in the Union County area as a major winter storm began to impact Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky. Heavy snow fell throughout much of the day on Monday.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah had warned that the storm would affect the region from Sunday night through Monday.

More on the Way?

And more wintry weather was possible by the middle of the week.

The weather service reported on its website Monday night that it was continuing "to track a potential winter system that will impact our area by Wednesday into Thursday. There is the potential for significant wintry precipitation. Exact types and amounts are yet to be determined, but the potential is generally moderate for at least four inches of snow and/or sleet. If you

have travel plans any time this week, stay tuned to forecast updates."

By Tuesday morning, a winter weather advisory had been issued for parts of Southeast Missouri. The advisory was in effect from midnight Tuesday through noon on Wednesday. The forecast was calling for the possibility of 1 to 3 inches of new snow.

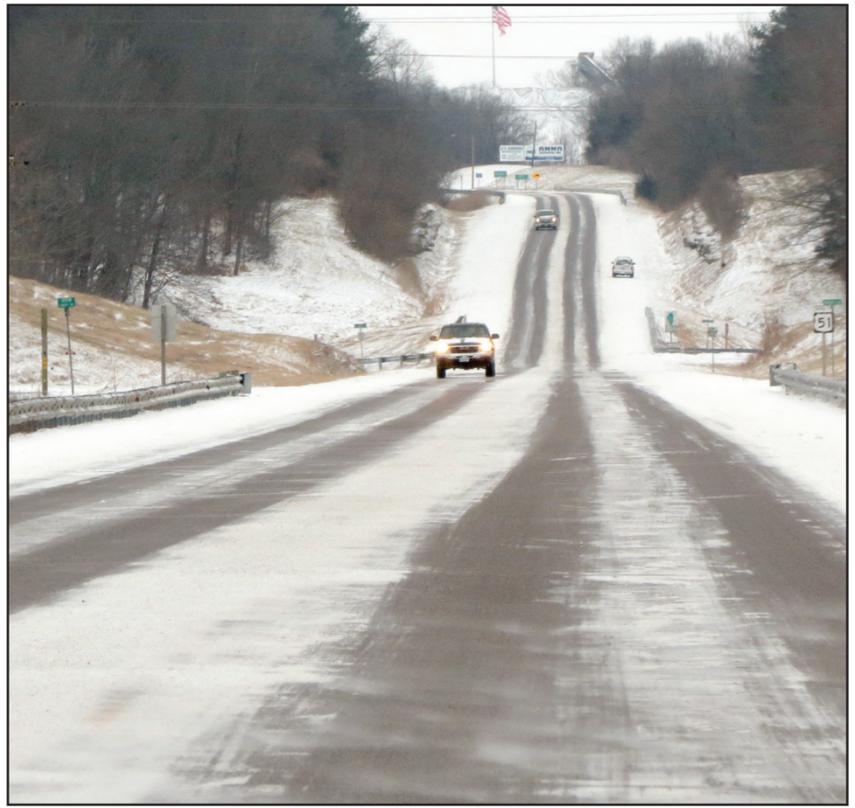
Winter Storm Warning

The weather service on Sunday issued a winter storm warning for the region, which was in effect until 6 a.m. Tuesday.

The forecast was calling for heavy snow, with total accumulations of 6 to 12 inches possible.

The snow was accompanied by bitterly cold wind chills, which ranged from zero to 15 degrees below zero. The coldest wind chills were expected in southwest Illinois and southeast Illinois.

(continued on page 2)



Snowy Monday morning commute

Motorists found themselves facing a snowy commute Monday morning in the Union County area. New U.S. Route 51 near Anna was partly covered with snow at about 8 a.m. Monday. Local roads remained covered on Tuesday morning.

Weather

Monday: 7 inches of snow, high of 8

Heavy snow and bitterly cold temperatures highlighted the Union County area's weather during the period of Feb. 9-15.

A total of 7 inches of snow was measured in Jonesboro on Monday, Feb. 15.

The area also received 2 inches of ice pellets on Feb. 10, a trace of snow on Feb. 11, a trace of snow on Feb. 12, a trace of snow on Feb. 13 and a trace of snow on Feb. 14.

Temperatures during the period ranged from a high of 29 degrees to a low of 2.

The high temperature on Monday, Feb. 15, in Jones-

boro was a bone-chilling 8 degrees. The low on Monday was 2.

Wind chill readings stayed below, or near, zero on Feb. 13, 14 and 15. The wind chill at 6:30 a.m. was 11.6 degrees below zero.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Feb. 9	29	20
Wednesday, Feb. 10	28	21
Thursday, Feb. 11	27	29
Friday, Feb. 12	23	13
Saturday, Feb. 13	14	9
Sunday, Feb. 14	12	2
Monday, Feb. 15	8	2



Courthouse closed

The Union County Courthouse closed early on Feb. 10 due to wintry weather. The courthouse was closed all day on Feb. 11 and again on Feb. 16 – again due to the weather.

Round one brings sleet, snow, ice, bitter cold

The first of several rounds of wintry weather brought snow, sleet, ice and bitterly cold temperatures to the Union County area on Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 10-11.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported on its website that a wintry mix of precipitation impacted parts of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

The frozen precipitation resulted in icy roads, numerous accidents, road closures and scattered power outages.

The event started in the early morning hours of Feb. 10 and continued into the early morning hours of Feb. 11.

Ice accumulations ranged from 0.1 of an inch to 0.5 of an inch across much of the region.

Sleet accumulations of 0.5 of an inch to 1.5 inches also occurred across northern and western portions of the area.

The weather service reported that icy roads on the morning of Feb. 10 resulted in two vehicle fatalities in Western Kentucky.

Numerous traffic accidents occurred from the evening hours of the 10th into the 11th. This resulted

in lengthy road closures along parts of Interstate 57 from Sikeston, Mo., to Mounds, as well as at locations in Western Kentucky and others parts of Southeast Missouri.

At about 9:45 a.m. on Feb. 10, the weather service office in Paducah reported that "extremely dangerous,

life-threatening driving conditions" were occurring across much of the area. At the time, "extremely dangerous" freezing rain and drizzle were moving into southwest Illinois and Southeast Missouri. The weather service was urging everyone to "stay home if you can."

The Union County Sheriff's Office in Jonesboro reported there had not been any traffic accidents related to the weather on Feb. 10 and 11. The sheriff's office reported local residents appeared to be staying home during the bad weather.

The heaviest swath of sleet, ranging from 0.5 of

an inch to 1.5 inches, occurred in areas of Southern Illinois, north of Route 13; and in Southeast Missouri.

By early Thursday morning, Feb. 11, the weather service was reporting that roads in the region remained "very slick and hazardous."

(continued on page 2)



North Main Street in Anna...early Thursday morning, Feb. 11

Not much traffic was seen early Thursday morning, Feb. 11, on North Main Street in Anna. The street was still partly covered with frozen precipitation which had fallen Wednesday, Feb. 10.



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Crews work to clear local roads after wintry weather

Crew were at work Thursday, Feb. 11, clearing snow, sleet and ice from Union County streets, roads and highways following a winter storm.



A Union County Highway Department truck crosses West Market Street in Jonesboro.



A City of Anna truck makes its way through the intersection of Vienna and Main streets. The intersection, known as the four-way stop, is located in downtown Anna.

Major winter storm

(continued from page 1)

Travel conditions were expected to become “extremely dangerous” Sunday night and Monday in the region. The weather service said that commutes on Monday morning, Monday evening and Tuesday morning would be impacted.

“If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency. It will be dangerous to be stranded for any length of time due to the bitterly cold conditions,” the weather service advised.

North winds 10 to 15 miles per hour, with gusts of 20 to 30 mph were likely to cause blowing and drifting of snow.

Dangerous Driving Conditions

By about 9:45 p.m. Monday, the weather service reported that accumulating snow had ended in the region. Dangerous driving conditions remained, along with bitterly cold temperatures.

The weather service warned that roads throughout the region would remain slick and hazardous through the Tuesday morning commute.

In addition, wind chill temperatures by sunrise were expected to range from zero to 10 below, and portions of Southeast Missouri and southwest Illinois may have been even colder.

“The bottom line is that travel is strongly discouraged tonight,” the weather service warned on Monday.

The Illinois Department of Transportation reported late Monday night on its website that Interstate 57 in Union County was covered with ice and snow. Local roads also were reported to be covered with ice and snow.

The Union County Sheriff’s Office joined in urging people to stay off the roads. “Please be safe and stay home if you can,” the sheriff’s office advised in a message which was posted

on social media.

The two rounds of wintry weather kept state, county and local crews busy as they worked to make travel possible.

Local weather observer Dana Cross recorded 7 inches of snow in Jonesboro on Monday. The high temperature on Monday was only 8 degrees, following a low of 2.

The weather service office in Paducah reported that other snowfall amounts in the region included 7.8 inches near Carbondale, 9.0 inches at Murphysboro and 8.0 inches near Marion.

Cancellations, Postponements

The wintry weather forced numerous cancellations and postponements in the Union County area. Schools and churches were among those impacted by the bitter cold, snow and ice.

A Cobden Village Board meeting which had been scheduled for Monday night was cancelled.

A Jonesboro City Council meeting which had been planned for Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, was cancelled due to the weather. The meeting has been rescheduled for 7 p.m. on Feb. 22.

The Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro was closed on Tuesday, Feb. 16, due to the weather.

A Union County Board of Commissioners meeting has been rescheduled for 8:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 19.

The storm which blanketed the region was second round of wintry weather to impact the Union County area during the past week. The area experienced snow, sleet, ice and bitter cold on Feb. 10-11.

The weather service began to alert the region about the potential for the arrival of a major winter storm last Friday afternoon. The weather service posted an urgent winter weather message on its website.

The message was accom-

panied by notice that a winter storm watch had been issued for parts of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

What was then a winter storm watch was in effect from Sunday night through late Monday night.

The weather service advised that “moderate to locally heavy snow” was possible in the region from Sunday night through late Monday night, with accumulations of 4 or more inches possible.

Round one

(continued from page 1)

“Law enforcement and Emergency Management officials continue to warn of the dangerous travel conditions and encourage you to stay off the roads. We’ve had too many accidents to count over the last 24 hours, and conditions are really not any better this morning.”

Last week’s wintry precipitation was accompanied by bitterly cold arctic air. Below zero wind chill readings were expected across all or part of the area each morning from Sunday through Tuesday. The forecast was calling for some readings as low as 15 degrees below zero.

Last week’s wintry weather led to numerous closings in the area.

Due to the inclement weather, the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro closed at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 10. The courthouse remained closed on Thursday, Feb. 11, due to the weather.

The Union County Board of Commissioners had been scheduled to meet at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11. Due to the courthouse being closed, the meeting was not held. The meeting was rescheduled for 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16.

Anna City Hall was closed on Feb. 11 due to icy road conditions.

“The concern for hazardous travel conditions continues to increase. The morning and evening commute could be impacted on Monday,” the weather service stated.

Very cold wind chill temperatures also were in the forecast. Northeast winds of 10 to 15 or 20 miles per hour could cause snow to drift.

The weather service advised everyone to monitor the latest forecasts for updates on this situation.



Anna mobilizes equipment
 The City of Anna mobilized its entire street department fleet of plows and spreaders for this week’s wintry weather. Photo provided.

City of Anna mobilizes entire street department fleet to tackle wintry weather

With the arrival of a second round of wintry weather early this week, the City of Anna mobilized its entire street department fleet of plows and spreaders.

City of Anna public works manager Gary Dahmer on Feb. 12 shared an update about plans to meet the challenges of winter weather, which began last week and then continued this week:

“Our response thus far has been planning and pre-treating roads, especially intersections with liquid salt.

“Once the sleet hit we distributed the granular salt, and with enough traffic and better temperatures the salt activated making it slushy where we can blade off the slush.

“On some side streets where we could not get the wintry mix to melt we put our cinders.

“We started preparing for this a little over a week ago

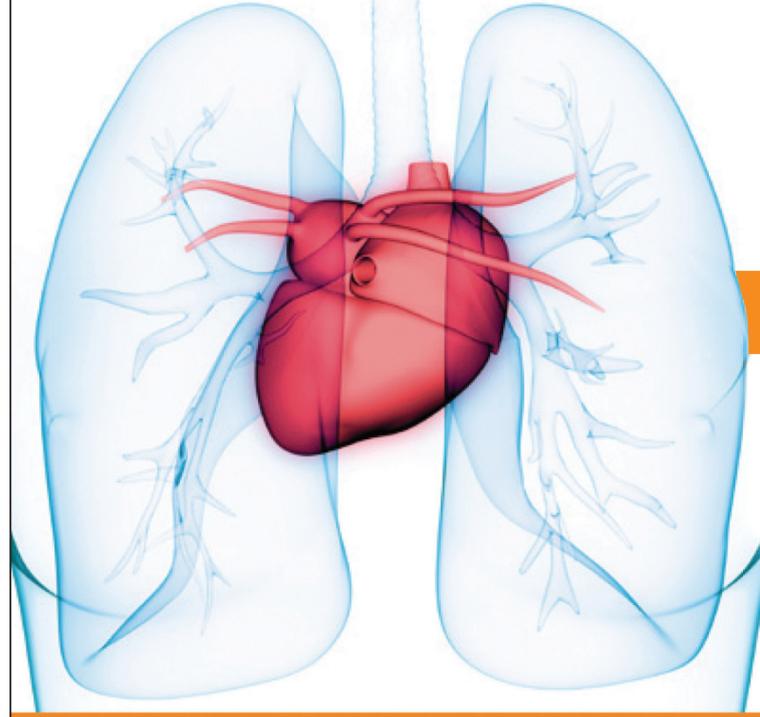
making the liquid salt brine at the garage. Pretreatment started Monday morning (Feb. 8).”

“We have myself, foreman Bill Halter, Bill Sharp, Lonnie Lewis, Sam Hess and Kevin Loveless.

“For the snow, we are mobilizing the entire street department fleet of plows and spreaders: a total of five plows and with three granular spreaders, one liquid salt brine distributor, and just one truck with a plow for alleys and more confined areas.

“When it comes to the bitter cold in the forecast, we would recommend that you leave a faucet dripping, today alone we have had to thaw out four water meters that froze.

“The constant temperatures below freezing are catching up with the meters themselves. As far as water lines themselves go, none have frozen.. yet...and we hope that none freeze...”



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Corps of Engineers working with communities, levee districts

Flood emergency action, evacuation plans to be created

Editor's note: the following article and the accompanying photograph were shared by those working on the Big Five Levee System project.

Imagine your typical day of getting ready to head to work, driving along the beautiful River Road next to the Mighty Mississippi River. It's a bit cloudy, but rain isn't forecast in the area for another couple of hours.

What you don't realize is that farther upstream, heavy rain has been falling on already saturated soils, unable to absorb any more water due to the heavy snowpack from the previous winter.

With nowhere to go, the water has been running off into the streams and rivers, and now the floodwave is heading down the Mississippi.

This scenario has become all too familiar in Alexander and Union counties in Southern Illinois, with multiple record floods occurring in recent years that have tested the strength of the Big Five Levee System.

This levee system is critical, not only to the safety of those who live and work in the communities behind these levees, but also to those who depend on access to Route 3 and the Cape Girardeau bridge in Southern Illinois.

With that as the reality, the need for written emergency action and evacuation plans was identified.

The Big Five Levee System is comprised of Preston, Clear Creek, East Cape Girardeau and North Alexander levee segments, which include 54 miles of levee maintained by local levee districts.

Authorized to reduce the risk of flooding from the Mississippi River and tributaries, it is estimated that the system prevented more than \$241 million in flood damages in 2019.

In addition to protecting more than 40,000 acres of farmland the system

also protects more than 1,700 people, including approximately 300 students in Shawnee School District No. 84.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Louis District, in partnership with several federal, state and local partners, will be contributing to this interagency project under the Silver Jackets program.

The Silver Jackets program brings together agencies to leverage each agency's contributions in projects that reduce flood risk and natural disasters by applying their shared knowledge, and enhancing response and recovery efforts when such events do occur.

With hundreds of projects proposed to the Silver Jackets each year, the students' of Shawnee School District involvement in building awareness of flood risk and the importance these levees have in the community did not go unnoticed.

"What makes this interagency flood risk management project unique is that there is an interest by all partners to have a focus on a flood-prone school system with a nationally recognized student body with respect to levee awareness and student participation," said Hal Graef, project manager for the Corps of Engineers.

"These planning efforts will jointly assist local and state emergency and water management officials, along with school district personnel and students, and will also raise heightened community awareness, potentially reducing consequences from flooding."

Due to the continually increasing flooding events over the years, the need for risk-messaging and an emergency/evacuation plans has become much more urgent.

Shawnee School District spans across multiple counties, with an interconnected transportation



Clear Creek levee, 2019

This aerial image of a Clear Creek levee segment was taken during the 2019 spring flood event. Photo provided.

system and has been identified as a low-lying area in need of emergency action and evacuation plans. (The school district serves parts of Union, Alexander and Jackson counties.)

These plans will increase student and public understanding of the flood risk, transportation corridors, shelter points, messaging and overall coordination before, during and after flood events.

The intended outcome of the project includes:

- A Levee System Emergency Action Plan that the Big Five non-federal sponsors will take ownership of for implementation and make future updates as necessary.

- A levee-incident specific Evacuation Plan that local county and municipal officials will take ownership of for implementation and make future updates as necessary.

"Flood risk management is a shared responsibility, and USACE could not accomplish important projects like these without our partners," Graef said. "At the end of the day, life safety

is the top priority."

Partners in the Big Five Levee System Emergency and Evacuation Plan include the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Illinois Emergency

Management Agency, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Big Five Levee Districts, the Alexander County Emergency Ser-

vices and Disaster Agency, Union County Emergency Management and the Shawnee School District.

The project is expected to be completed by early 2022.

2,113 COVID-19 cases in county

As of Feb. 11, the Southern Seven Health Department reported a total of 2,113 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Union County since the start of the pandemic.

The health department reported 13 newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Union County on Feb. 11.

(The health department did not have daily reports for Friday, Feb. 12, or Monday, Feb. 15, which were

holidays. The health department planned to release its next daily report on Tuesday, Feb. 16.)

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

One in the 20s. Five in their 50s. Three in their 60s. Three in their 70s. One 80-plus.

Total COVID-19 statistics for Union County since the start of the pandemic, as of Feb. 11, follow: 2,113 cases. 2,029 recov-

ered. 58 active cases. 26 deaths had been reported.

Southern Seven Health Department serves Union, Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope and Pulaski counties.

As of Feb.11, the health department reported the following statistics for the seven area counties it serves:

46 newly confirmed cases. 29 newly recovered cases. 245 total active cases. 84 total deaths. 6,377 cumulative total cases.



New board member seated

Mark Chamness, center, was officially seated on the board of directors of Anna-Jonesboro National Bank last week at the organization's annual meeting. Chamness is a CPA and owner of Whitney Accounting in Anna. He succeeds Dick Hodges, who retired from the board after 35 years of service and also served as the board's chairman for many years. Chamness is with Scott Wilson, left, president, and Phil Hileman, chairman.



Directors elected

The annual and organizational meeting of Anna-Jonesboro National Bank was conducted last week. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the usual gathering of stockholders was not possible. Voting was done by proxy. Seven individuals were elected to serve on the bank's board of directors for the coming year. In the first row are Greg Wood, Scott Wilson and Phil Hileman. In the second row are Mark Chamness, Rusty Flamm and Larry Carter. Dr. Steve Beatty could not be present for the photo. Wilson was re-elected as president and Hileman is chairman. Photos by Benjamin Marxer.

Did you know that it's a good idea to look at your credit report at least once a year?

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Sports

A-J girls score road victory against Sparta

The visiting Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team came on in the second half for a 50-45 win over host Sparta in Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division action Saturday, Feb. 13.

"It was a sloppy game, but we pulled it out," A-J coach Matt Denny said. "That trip to Sparta is always tough. We just don't play well up there."

The Lady Bulldogs opened the game with a 3-pointer. The Lady Wildcats fought back with Brodie Denny and Anna Hess combining for the final four points to pull A-J to 12-8 at the end of the first quarter.

A-J trailed 30-23 at the half. Brodie Denny opened the second half with a basket. Teammate Olivia Capel then closed out an 11-point unanswered run for a 34-32 Lady Wildcats' advantage late in the third quarter.

The Lady Wildcats led 40-32 after three quarters. Brodie Denny made an extra point to close out the scoring for the Wildcats for the 5-point win.

Hess led the way for A-J with 15 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals and blocked shots and 2 assists.

Addison Denny scored 9 points with 20 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 blocks and one assist. Brodie Denny scored 8 points with 3 rebounds, 5 steals and 4 assists.

Jaley Watkins had 7 points, 2 rebounds and 2 steals. Jenna Sadler had 7 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists and one block. Olivia Capel had 4 points, 4 rebounds, 4 steals and an assist.

A-J was 19 of 47 in shot attempts from the floor, 1 of 13 from 3-point range and 9 of 30 from the free throw line.

A-J, 1-2, is scheduled to play Friday at Du Quoin and Saturday at home against Benton.

Wildcats post first win with victory over Sparta

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team earned its first win of the season with a 57-40 victory over visiting Sparta in Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division action Saturday, Feb. 13.

Dylan Harvel opened the first quarter with a basket and closed out the period with another basket for an 8-5 Wildcat lead after one.

Harvel scored again for A-J early in the second quarter and Juan Valencia added a basket at the end of the period for an 18-13 A-J lead at the half.

Bryce Henry opened the second half with a basket and the Wildcats went on a 20-point unanswered run with 3-pointers by Mason Watkins and Landon Trammel during the run to build a 40-23 point advantage.

"We kind of challenged them at the half to not be content and get some confidence," A-J coach Mike Chamness said. "They got confidence then and really shot the ball well the third quarter."

Ethan Carver opened the second half with a 3-pointer

for A-J. Bryce Henry scored a basket to close out the scoring for the final points for the 17-point win.

Chamness was grateful for A-J's win.

"Starting this late in the season, we've had a lot of time to prepare. I feel we're getting better every game," he said.

Harvel led the way for A-J with 20 points and 6 rebounds.

Henry followed with 11 points and 8 rebounds. Carver had 8 points and 6 rebounds. Watkins had 7 points and 5 rebounds. Valencia had 4 points and a rebound. Thorpe had 4 points and 6 rebounds. Trammel had 3 points and 3 rebounds.

Nashville 50, A-J 36: Nashville pulled ahead early on its way to the win over host A-J Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Thorpe led A-J with 17 points. Valencia had 7 points for the Wildcats. Henry added 4, Carver and Harvel 3 apiece and Watkins 2.

A-J, 0-3, is scheduled to play Friday at Du Quoin and Saturday at home against Benton.

'Twelve Corners' recalls life in Ozarks 100 years ago

The Center for Regional History in collaboration with University Press, both at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, recently published the childhood short stories of Missouri native Ruby Allee Wright in "Twelve Corners - The Refuge of My Youth."

In "Twelve Corners," readers will step back in time 100 years to rural Brumley, Mo., in the heart of the Ozarks and experience life with little Ruby Allee and her sister, Millie. Posthumously published 16 years after her death, Wright's accounts come to life in this illustrated edition, featuring watercolor images of the girls' adventures.

The book invites readers

A-J takes first in academic challenge

The AJ ACES academic team placed first at the 2021 Academic Challenge regional competition earlier this month.

In addition to the team victory, several Anna-Jonesboro Community High School students medaled in individual categories.

Hallee Menees and Jaley Watkins placed first in biology, with Peyton Otey finishing third.

Bo Schuetz medaled first in chemistry.

Nate Belcher took second in computer science.

In the English category, Connor Hallam, Peyton Otey and Olivia Capel took first, second and third, respectively.

Connor Hallam took first in math, with Lexie Lingle placing second and Evan Keller placing third.

And in physics, Bryce Henry placed first and Bo Schuetz finished second.

to join the sisters as they admire Camden County's famous Ha Ha Tonka Castle, grieve with the loss of a likeable local bootleg whiskey distiller and warmly remember school days along the banks of Brumley Creek.

They also will learn about Twelve Corners, the surprisingly elaborate church built in a remote gelen above Rollins Creek.

Used by several denominations, it became the small community's social center before its decline, "... standing bravely alone, abandoned by all but the animals of the forest."

Fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder will find much to enjoy in "Twelve Corners," said Dr. Adam Criblez, director of the Center for Regional History and associate professor of history and anthropology at Southeast.

Wright played with grandchildren of living Civil War soldiers, visited Uncle Ed and Aunt Sarah Meachum, son and daughter of freed slaves, and even knew an old man, Lige Popplewell, who left for California in the Gold Rush of 1849 and returned with his "...pockets full of gold."

"Likely no person living today ever crossed paths with such people of history. Ruby Allee Wright has written of them, adding a rich historical dimension to 'Twelve Corners,'" Criblez said.

Wright, born in 1916, was a lifelong resident of Miller County, living near Eugene and Iberia, but spent several childhood years in Camden, Pulaski and Laclede counties.

She is the mother of Alan Terry Wright, author of "Murder on Rouse Hill." Wright died in 2004.

"Twelve Corners" is available at Southeast's Center for Regional History and on Amazon.

Pest degree day calculators available for commodity, specialty crop growers

CHAMPAIGN - Two updated pest degree day calculators from the Prairie Research Institute, PRI, are available for commodity and specialty crop growers in Illinois.

The calculators feature seven-day weather forecasts, graphs and insect emergence maps to track accumulated degree days and light for the most notorious pests.

The tools are available online at https://data.prairie.illinois.edu/warm_pdd/default.aspx.

The calculators are free, but registration to the WARM website is required.

Since temperature controls the rate that insects develop, the new degree day calculators use data from the Illinois Climate Network, ICN, so growers can calculate degree days accumulated in their region of the state for specific pests, such as the codling moth, spotted wing drosophila, corn rootworm or emerald ash borer.

"When we see a certain amount of daylight and heat, that factors in to when we start to see insect activity," said Jennie Atkins, program manager of PRI's Water and Atmospheric Resources Monitoring Program, WARM.

"If farmers can track this activity, they can use pest control more efficiently. We wanted to develop tools that would be especially helpful to farmers in planning pest management efforts."

Atkins and Kelly Estes, coordinator of the Illinois Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey, surveyed growers around the state to find out how to improve WARM's previous pest

degree day calculator.

They found that growers want degree day information on specific pests that are currently problematic, they want to be able to plan based on current and future weather data, and they want tools they can use anywhere, especially on cell phones and tablets.

Previous degree day tools used the ICN data to provide current degree day accumulations, and projected degree days were based on historical weather averages.

The ICN data remain vital for providing pest degree day information on the calculator.

The local seven-day forecast, based on weather forecasts from the National Weather Service, allows growers to know what to expect and to zero in on the potential progression of insect life stages, while also determining when crops will be the most vulnerable.

In striving to develop new tools to aid in the timing of improved pest management, there are now three state maps, one each for the corn flea beetle and the prediction of potential Stewart's Wilt severity, Japanese beetle emergence and brown marmorated stinkbug activity.

"As the growing season progresses, we want to provide information not only quickly but also in multiple ways, giving growers a heads-up before insect pests start to emerge or reach problematic life stages," Estes said.

The new tools were funded by the Illinois Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop grant program and the Illinois State Water Survey, a part of PRI.

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Don Cox

WHAT I KNOW:
Jesus from Nazareth actually lived, arose from the dead and changed world history from thereafter.

Congregational Church of Alto Pass
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
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Public Record

Realty Transactions

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

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Michael Coles, Jamie Mach. Grantee: Maria Nunez. Agnes Usserys 1st Add. of Anna. Lots 13, 14.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: S. Christine Dirden. Grantee: Brian Dirden. Subdivision Name: Allens Addition of Jonesboro. Lot 5.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: James L. Dillow, Sandra S. Galbraith, Shirley A. Woods. Grantee: Charles R. Woods. Subdivision Name: Crowell Heights Subdivision. Block D. Lots 5, 6.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: John Demarie. Grantee: Amber Webb. Tract Section 12 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Kathleen Mays, Kathleen Mays-Lee. Grantee: Froem Rose Rentals LLC. Subdivision Name: S.A. Waltons 1st Add. of Anna. Lots 15, 16, 17, 18.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Melissa Sue Britt. Grantee: Gerald Louis Britt. Tract Section 12 Township 11S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Gene W. Cole, Sarah E. Cole. Grantee: Pistol City Properties. Subdivision Name: Rendleman's Subdivision. Lot 15.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Kelly F. Bliss, Matthew Bliss. Grantee: Larry E. Flamm. Tract Section 7 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Belinda E. Penrod, Randel J. Penrod. Grantee: Hugo Flores. Subdivision Name: Russell E. Heacocks Add. Jonesboro. Lot 41.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Richard G. Hendrix II, Jessica Wettig. Grantee: Matt Wettig, Paula J. Wettig. Subdivision Name: Forest Place Addition. Block 2. Lot 1.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Matt Wettig, Paula Wettig. Grantee: Christopher R. Plott. Subdivision Name: Forest Place Addition. Block 2. Lot 1.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Nicole Dixon, Ashley Massey. Grantee: William Dixon. Subdivision Name: A.J. Menees Addition. Lots 21, 23.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Davy Miller, Davy L. Miller, Mary E. Miller. Grantee: David B. Miller. Tract Section 24 Township 11S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Davy Miller, Davy L. Miller, Mary E. Miller. Grantee: Mary Leann Winfrey. Subdivision Name: Abernathys Add. of Alto Pass. Block B. Lots 10, 11, 12, 19, 20.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: McCormick Real Estate Holdings LLC. Grantee: Ryan Wade Dover. Subdivision Name: Richard Perry's 1st Add. Jonesboro. Lot 7.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Barbara S. Adams, David E. Adams. Grantee: Debra Sue Knight, Derek Bryan Knight. Tract Section 27 Township 12S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Gerald Toler, Sharon Toler. Grantee: Beverly Schaefer, Jon Schaefer. Subdivision Name: McIntosh's Heirs Addition of Jonesboro. Lot 1.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Paul Trainor. Grantee: Trainor Ag Properties LLC. Tract Section 25 Township 12S Range 1W. Tract Section 30 Township 12S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Elizabeth McLaughlin, Judith McLaughlin. Grantee: Kelly Aden, Shaun Aden. Tract Section 19 Township 13S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Catherine Sullivan, John Sullivan. Grantee: Martin Amesquita. Subdivision Name: Garrott Addition. Lot 1.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Mary Bassett, Mary Kearney. Grantee: Jason Jenkins. Tract Section 14 Township 13S Range 1E.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Timothy Charles. Grantee: Gail L. Charles, Timothy J. Charles. Tract Section 17 Township 13S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Rebecca Ann Stewart. Grantee: James Brandon Stewart. Subdivision Name: Leavenworth Add. of Dongola. Lot 134.

Warranty Deed. Grantor:

Jonathan E. Beachy, Regina F. Beachy. Grantee: Ruth I. Weaver. Tract Section 21 Township 12S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Chris Williamson. Grantee: Lisa Loew, Lisa Morrison. Subdivision Name: Original Plat of Anna. Lot 128.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Larry Laird. Grantee: Jonathan Biltgen, Linda Laird. Tract Section 27 Township 11S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Benjamin J. Basler, Anne M. Estes, Barbara D. Stute. Grantee: Anne M. Estes, Barbara L. Logan, Barbara D. Stute. Tract Section 35 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Barbara A. Duty, Darrin W. Duty. Grantee: Allie G. Hess, Jacob S. Hess. Tract Section 4 Township 11S Range 2W.

Traffic Citations

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

Joassaint Francois, Fellsmere, Fla., operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$501. Travis D. Kraus, West Frankfort, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$501.

Henry David Wayne Arlt, Marion, seat belt required/

driver, \$164. James D. Williamson, Loveland, Ohio, improper traffic lane usage, \$251.

Daniel A. Hancock, Alto Pass, operate ATV on private land without consent, \$164. Dennis R. Clark, Karnak, improper traffic lane usage, \$276.

Johnathon James Turner, Anna, registration light, \$251. Natasha L. Gentry, Anna, expiration of registration, \$251.

Roberto J. Wilson, Sauk Village, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. Tremayne L. Lee, Springfield, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Donald J. Ralls, Anna, permit unauthorized person to drive, \$251. Brandon L. Griffith, Mounds, disregard stop sign, \$164.

Danna K. Lopez Hernandez, Cabot, Ark., driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Zairee A. Luttrell-Johnson, Scott City, Mo., unlicensed, \$251.

Hazim Husain Shatnawi, Oxford, Miss., improper passing/left/no passing zone, \$251. Lymaira Agosto, Pflugerville, Texas, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251.

Bailey J. Blasdel, Barrington, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Tolulope E. Olatimehin, Maywood,

driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$251.

Maykon Yonatan Aguilar Matias, Chicago, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Angel E. Moore, Memphis, Tenn., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Corinne D. Davis, Mattoon, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. Devante Markell King, Round Lake Beach, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$251.

Kendric Holloway, Country Club Hills, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. James M. Roachman, Carbondale, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Pryce S. Doody, Carbondale, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727. Christopher K. Criddle, Cape Girardeau, seat belt required/passenger, \$164.

Juan M. Cana, Chicago, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$626. Halston D. Lewis, Hurst, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251.

Lonnie W. Johns, Wolf Lake, improper u-turn, roadway, \$164. Vincent Yates Hoffman, Arlington Heights, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164.

Evan D. Zaya, Skokie, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Jeremy Tate Hawkins, West Paducah,

driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Jesus Uriostigui Gaona, Dale, Texas, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Raymond Coello Jr., Chicago, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164.

Rebecca Faith Emmrich, Austin, Texas, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. John Cameron Hutchinson, Pine Grove, La., driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164.

Abdulrahman Muqbil Matar Alanaze, Carbondale, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. Ashley L. Craig, Herrin, fail to reduce speed, \$164.

Tammy J. Barnhart, Springfield, Mo., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251. Cion S. Miller, Dexter, Mo., operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$721; driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$25.

Sunny K. Woods, Carbondale, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. Danyell D. Gibbs, Grand Rapids, Mich., no recip. registration, \$251.

Dale Austin Clemens, North Branch, Mich., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251. Adan Moreno Jr., Carpentersville, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$251.

Ian Matthew-Rob Borden, Niles, Mich., driving 21-25

mph above limit, \$251. Spring M. Andrews, Charleston, improper traffic lane usage, \$251.

Vana Ratnkara Rao, Collierville, Tenn., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164. Anthony D. McLelland, Karnak, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$727.

Staci J. Matlock, Scott City, Mo., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251. Janasia Shanae Maxwell, Marion, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Nathan Rene Castro, Houston, Texas, driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$251. Martez D. Scott, Newark, Ohio, driving 21-25 mph above limit, \$164. James D. Chaffin III, Essex, Mo., driving 15-20 mph above limit, \$164.

Marriage Licenses

The county clerk's office issued a marriage license to: Tyler Paul Rich of Anna and Amanda Jolene Plott of Anna.

Elijah Lee Copeland Boren of Anna and Amy Kathryn McAlister of Jonesboro

John Kory Fox of Alto Pass and Ashlyn Paige Layton of Alto Pass.

Marcus L. Hines Sr. of Makanda and Jessica F. Bond of Makanda.

An Homage to Hometown Happenings

By Kate B. Jerome

No matter where my travels take me, I always seek out the local newspaper.

I know. My smartphone easily provides more detail about a town than I will ever need.

But the local paper does so much more. That's because it fits the many pieces of the community puzzle together. Where else can you get a glimpse of what a citizenry most values and fears – all within a few recyclable pages?

In the tiny town where I grew up, the local paper was a powerful tool – no doubt for many reasons beyond my young comprehension. However, I looked forward to the daily delivery for two simple reasons.

First, I loved to read the personal stories – from tragedy to triumph – about the people in my own community. It was the first inkling I had that I might be part of something larger than the family who lived at 12 Parkview.

Second, I couldn't wait to hear the interesting dinner conversations that some tidbit in the paper was bound to spark. Of course, my favorites were the most heated discussions. And when my parents resorted to spelling out words? Well, let's just say the training led to considerable success in my grade school spelling bees!

Decades of educational publishing experience later, I know my hometown paper was just one arrow in the successful child-raising quiver my parents used. But it was an important tool, and the outcomes it helped produce are still of the utmost importance today.

You see, building a strong sense of place plays a key part in a child's social and emotional development. When children connect with the community around them, it helps them develop their own personal identity. An added benefit is the sense of stewardship it often inspires.

And the value of generating meaningful conversations? In my view, it's off the charts. Too often in our busy world, dialogue with our kids tends toward the practical (Did you pick up your toys?) rather than the profound (Keep trying even when it's hard!). So any tool that inspires discussion of such issues as friendship and community should be deeply valued. Why? Because that's when our own stories of personal grit and resilience begin to flow.

And aren't those the kind of Hometown Happenings that we really want our children to remember?

Kate B. Jerome is the author and series creator of two new Read Together/Do Together children's book series from Arcadia Kids that are designed to jump-start meaningful conversations between kids and their favorite adults. A seasoned publishing executive, an award-winning children's book author, and a recent Fellow in Stanford's Distinguished Careers Institute, Kate is a passionate supporter of intergenerational communication.

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The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head. The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp." From Leviticus

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away, whose sin is covered. Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt, in whose spirit there is no guile. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, my guilt I covered not. I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD," and you took away the guilt of my sin. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart. From the Psalms

Brothers and sisters, Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. From 1st Corinthians

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere. From the Gospel of Mark

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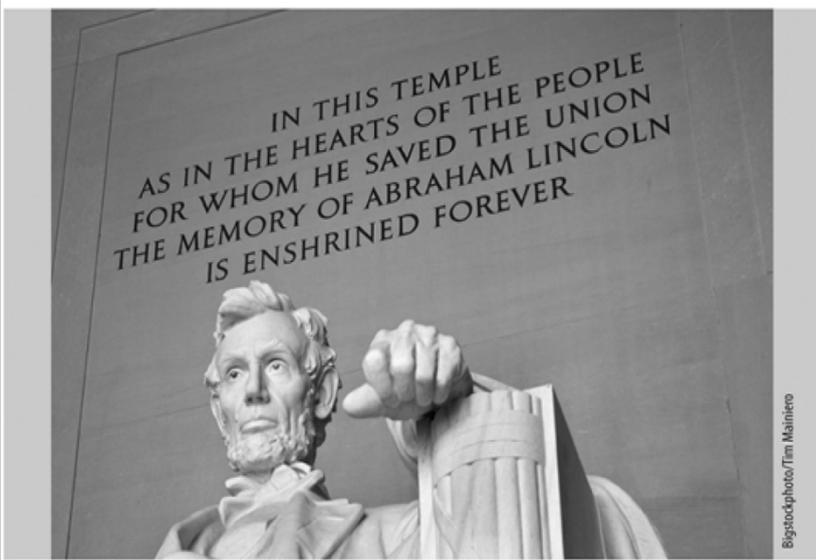
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Daily Scripture Readings

1 Cor.	Colossians	John	John	John	John	Luke
13:1-13	3:1-17	3:1-21	3:22-36	14:15-31	15:1-17	15:1-10

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org
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New state Senate committee prioritizes mental health issues

By Grace Barbic
Capitol News Illinois
gbarbic@capitol-newsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — Leadership in the Illinois Senate has formed a new committee to focus on mental health issues in the current General Assembly as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to significantly alter everyday life.

“Although it’s always been important, because mental health and physical health are one in the same in my opinion, now because of COVID it’s become even more essential that we really address these problems head on,” said Sen. Laura Fine, D-Glenview.

Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, named Fine as chair of the newly created Senate Committee for Behavioral and Mental Health.

When Fine joined the Senate last year, she approached Harmon about establishing a committee focused specifically on mental health and behavioral issues.

Her advocacy on the issue was nothing new.

Prior to joining the Senate, Fine served in the state House of Representatives for the 17th District from 2013 to 2019, when she served as vice chair on the House Committee for Addiction and Mental Health,

chaired by Rep. Deb Conroy, D-Elmhurst.

Fine said she understands firsthand how detrimental and challenging it can be to ensure mental health needs are met.

Her own life experiences have inspired her to bring the issue of mental health to the forefront in the state.

Over 10 years ago, her husband was hit head-on by a truck and his left arm was amputated at the scene. The truck driver did not have insurance, so Fine’s family had to rely on their own insurance to cover the medical bills.

Amid a seven-month legal battle with her insurance company over coverage of multiple surgeries, Fine said her husband struggled to adjust to his life-changing injury.

It got to the point where her husband tried to take his own life. Fortunately, Fine said, she was able to find her husband in time to make it to the emergency room.

But she said she felt helpless because her insurance company didn’t cover mental health, despite her husband’s urgent need for care.

“We need to make sure that when you’re looking for these services, you have coverage for these services,” Fine said.

Previously, most mental health-related bills heard in the Senate would go to

the Human Services Committee, but Fine said that committee was too broad and she wanted to chair one with a more focused approach to mental health.

She said she hopes the new committee, the first of its kind for the Senate, will lead the passage of groundbreaking legislation.

John Patterson, spokesman for Harmon, acknowledged Fine’s dedication to bettering mental health services in the state.

“The Senate believes it deserves a forum for debate and a launching pad for progress,” Patterson said on behalf of Harmon. “The Senate President looks forward to the great work Sen. Fine and the committee will do.”

The House Committee for Addiction and Mental Health has been working for about four years with Conroy as its chair. Conroy saw a need for such a committee when she witnessed the intersectionality of mental health and addiction issues her constituents were facing as the opioid and heroin crisis became prevalent in her district and the state.

As vice chair of that committee, Fine worked closely with Conroy, passing legislation related to mental health parity to ensure that mental health issues would receive the same protec-

tions under law as other health issues when it comes to insurance coverage.

The new law, enacted in the state in 2015, includes important provisions to extend and clarify coverage, educate consumers about their rights, require certain minimum treatment benefits and improve enforcement of the law, according to Get Covered Illinois.

“We started that fight together,” Conroy said. “So now that she’s able to actually have a committee devoted to that in the Senate...it’s great news for our state, for our constituents.”

Conroy said their work with mental health parity will continue into the 102nd General Assembly, and she is looking forward to the working relationship between the two committees.

“When you’re able to take on big issues that affect mental health and addiction and you can educate both chambers at the same time, it helps you to expedite that fight and issues much faster than having to go from one chamber to the next,” Conroy said.

Fine said she plans to file a number of mental health-related bills in the new General Assembly, focusing on medical necessity, addressing the need for psychiatrists in mental health deserts and increasing telehealth availability

for those seeking safe ways to get help during the pandemic.

“I feel like if we could save one person’s life with this committee, that’s huge,” Fine said. “My goal with this committee is to take away that stigma, so everybody who needs help can seek it and do so in an affordable and accessible

way. I’m really excited Illinois is taking mental health seriously.”

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.

Valentines for Seniors sees overwhelming support from public

After an outpouring of public support for his ongoing Valentines for Seniors project, State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, planned to begin distribution of Valentine’s Day cards to assisted-living facilities and nursing homes across the 59th District. Part of Union County is in the district.

“There has been an outpouring of public support for this project, and I’m simply blown away by how our schools, local organizations and communities have stepped up to make this project a success,” Fowler said in a news release.

“This past year has been a challenge for so many, but we know that our senior citizen community has been especially impacted by the pandemic. I hope this Valentine’s initiative brings them joy at a time when they need it most.”

Since January, Fowler has been collecting Valentine’s Day cards from local organizations, schools, church groups, businesses

and residents across the district.

As of last Friday, more than 7,500 cards had been collected as part of the project.

“While it may seem like such a small gesture, I know that these cards, pictures and letters will mean the world to so many of our seniors who have felt so alone and isolated throughout this health crisis,” Fowler said.

Fowler has partnered together with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Southern Illinois to ensure the Valentines are quickly and efficiently delivered to the facilities.

Fowler was also contacted by Pickford’s Flowers in Harrisburg to distribute flower bouquets as part of the project to facilities throughout Saline County.

Distribution efforts were scheduled to begin Friday, Feb. 12. Fowler planned to make stops at several facilities throughout the day and continuing his stops into the weekend.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	Series	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven	“Black Art: In” (21)	“Surrogates” (09)	“Dallas Buyers Club” (13) Man with HIV. (R)
7 PM :30	Feud (HD)	Young B Positive	Hell’s Kitchen (HD)	Mr. Mayor Superstore	Monday Night Football (HD)	Bang (HD)	Chrisley	Jessie	“Don’t Let Go” Detective’s family.	★ “Killerman” (19) A money launderer. (HD)	“The Gentlemen” (20) American expatriate.
8 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	(01) Mom	Call Me Unicorn	Law & Order: SVU		Bang (HD)	Chrisley	BUNCKD	(45) Lady and Bird	(54) ★ “Vice” (15) Fantasy resort.	
9 PM :30	(01) Match Game	Clarice (HD)	Local Programs	The Widower (HD)		Bang (HD)	Chrisley	BUNCKD	(45) “Us” (19, Horror)	“Nurse 3D” (14) Nurse’s Justice.	DESUS &
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Chrisley	BUNCKD	Seinfeld	Christley	Sydney
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SC (HD)	Seinfeld	Christley	Jessie	Investigat		Your Honor “Part Ten”
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SC (HD)	Conan	Christley	Jessie			DESUS &

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

FRIDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	The Last Dance	Seinfeld	Law & Order: SVU	BUNCKD	(05) The Investigation	★★★ “The Score” (01)	“xXx” (02) Vin Diesel. <i>Outlaw secret agent.</i>
7 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)	MacGyver (HD)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	The Blacklist (HD)	The Last Dance	“Movie”	Law & Order: SVU	Secrets Unsitabte	(55) “The Mummy” (99) Return of the dead.	“Ad Astra” An astronaut goes on a mission.	★½ “xXx: State of the Union” (05)
8 PM :30	(01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	Magnum P.I. (HD)	Blue Bloods (HD)	The Widower “Part Two” (HD)	“Movie”	(15) “Movie”	Law & Order: SVU	Unsitabte	Real Time (HD)	(05) ★★★ “Anna” (19, Action) Feared assassin.	Your Honor “Part Ten”
9 PM :30	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local	SC (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Secrets Unsitabte	Painting	(25) Lady and (HD)	“No Country for Old Men” (07)
10 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	ELEAGUE (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	“Crash” (05) (R)	“Tinker”	
11 PM :30	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SC (HD)						

FEBRUARY 19, 2021

SATURDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	National Champ. (HD)	(5:30) “Movie”	Chicago P.D. (HD)	BUNCKD	★★★ “Huntsman” (12)	(5:07) ★½ “Shaft” (19)	(5:45) ★★★ “Hereditary” (18) Sinister ancestry.
7 PM :30	NBA (Live)	NCIS: New Orleans	9-1-1 Block party. (HD)	Games (HD)	The Last Dance		Chicago P.D. (HD)	Jessie	“Argo” (12) Iranian revolution rescue. (R) (HD)	“New Year’s Eve” (11) Love is sought. (HD)	Showtime Championship Boxing “Broner vs. Santiago” (HD) (HD)
8 PM :30	NBA Basketball Miami Heat at Los Angeles Lakers (Live)	48 Hours (HD)	Name That Tune (HD)	Dateline NBC (HD)	“Movie”	Bang (HD)	Chicago P.D. “Ghosts”	Big City	(05) Lady and (HD)	★★½ “Lady in the Water” (06) (HD)	Supervillain “Identity”
9 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	I Can See Your Voice	Saturday Night Live (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Jokers	Temptation Island	Secrets	Painting	(50) “Pearl Harbor” (01, Action)	Your Honor
10 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	The Misery	(04) Chicago P.D.	Jessie			
11 PM :30	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SC (HD)						

FEBRUARY 20, 2021

SUNDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Videos Face filter.	60 Minutes (HD)	Cherries The Harts	Weakest Link (HD)	NBA Countdown (HD)	“Back to Future”	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	★★★ “Independence Day” Aliens attack Earth.	(504) “John Q” (02)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM :30	American Idol “402 (Auditions)” (HD)	The Equalizer	Simpsons North (HD)	The Wall (HD)	(15) NBA Basketball Brooklyn vs Los Angeles (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	BUNCKD	“Argo” (12) Iranian revolution rescue. (R) (HD)	★★★ “Walk the Line” (05) Life of singer. (HD)	The Circus
8 PM :30	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	All Rise “Safe to Fall”	(01) 9-1-1: Lone Star	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	(17) “A Walk Among the Tombstones” (14)	Supervillain “Identity”
9 PM :30	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	All Rise “Safe to Fall”	(01) 9-1-1: Lone Star	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	(17) “A Walk Among the Tombstones” (14)	Supervillain “Identity”
10 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Jokers	Temptation Island	Secrets	Painting	(50) “Pearl Harbor” (01, Action)	Your Honor
11 PM :30	(35) Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	The Misery	(04) Chicago P.D.	Jessie			

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

MONDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	College Basketball Syracuse vs Duke (Live)	Fam Guy	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Raven	(5:55) “Argo” (12) Iranian revolution rescue.	(505) “Popery” (90)	“Trespass”
7 PM :30	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	9-1-1 “Jinx” (HD)	Games (HD)		Fam Guy	WWE Monday Night Raw (Live) (HD)	Jessie	“Dodgeland: True Underdog”	“Pearl Harbor” (01) Ben Affleck. WWII plots fight for a woman’s love.	Supervillain “Identity”
8 PM :30	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	All Rise “Safe to Fall”	Games (HD)	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Fam Guy		Raven	Beartown (HD)	★★★ “Hall Pass” Wife at-love affair.	“Hitsville: The Making of Motown” (19)
9 PM :30	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	All Rise “Safe to Fall”	Games (HD)	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Fam Guy		Raven	Beartown (HD)	★★★ “Hall Pass” Wife at-love affair.	“Hitsville: The Making of Motown” (19)
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Bull Trial consultant.	Local Programs	The Wall Apolo Ohno.	Dad (HD)		Big City	Investigat	“Ad Astra” (19) Brad Pitt. Astronaut mission.	★★★ “Whitney: Can I Be Me” (17)
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Steve	BUNCKD	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	“Forces of Nature” (99) Road trip romance.	“Pendergras”
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Chrisley	Jessie			

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

TUESDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Last Dance	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven	Beartown (HD)	★★★ “Jersey Girl” (04)	“Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn: Pt. 2” (12)
7 PM :30	To Be Announced Info unavailable. (HD)	NCIS (HD)	The Resident (HD)	Young Rock	Last Dance	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	“The Book of Eli” (10) A no-mad and a no-mad.	“Pearl Harbor” (01) Ben Affleck. WWII plots fight for a woman’s love.	Kobe Bryant’s Muse Life & career.
8 PM :30	To Be Announced Info unavailable. (HD)	FBI Active killer. (HD)	(01) Prodigal Son	This Is Us (HD)	30 for 30 (HD)	Bang (HD)	Temptation Island	Big City	Real Sports (HD)	“Ad Astra” (19) Brad Pitt. Astronaut mission.	★★★ “All” (01) The life and career of Muhammad Ali. (HD)
9 PM :30	To Be Announced Info unavailable. (HD)	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs	(01) Nurses (HD)	Boxing	Bang (HD)	Temptation Island	Big City	Real Sports (HD)	“Ad Astra” (19) Brad Pitt. Astronaut mission.	★★★ “All” (01) The life and career of Muhammad Ali. (HD)
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local	Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Law & Order: SVU	BUNCKD	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	“Forces of Nature” (99) Road trip romance.	“Burn Motherfucker, Burn!” (17) LA uprising.
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	30 for 30 (HD)	Seinfeld	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney	“Don’t Let Go” (19)		DESUS &
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Steve	Jessie			

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

WEDNESDAY

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Peyton’s	Bang (HD)	NCIS: Torres disappears.	Raven	“Drumline” (02) (HD)	(5:07) ★★½ “Shaft” (19)	(5:45) “Air Force One” (97) Plane hijacked.
7 PM :30	Goldbergs	Tough as Nails (HD)	Name That Tune “Episode 7, Episode 8” (HD)	Chicago Med (HD)	Monday Football (HD)	Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (Live) (HD)	Shook (HD)	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	“Dark Shadow” (13) Vampire’s family.	“16 Shots” Shooting examined.
8 PM :30	Conners	SEAL Team (HD)	Call Your	Chicago Fire (HD)	30 for 30 (HD)	Bang (HD)		Raven	“Grudge Match” (13) Retired boxers. (HD)	(55) “Crimson Peak” (15) Mysterious home.	“Burn Motherfucker, Burn!” (17) LA uprising.
9 PM :30	For Life “Andy Josiah”	S.W.A.T. “Stakeout”	Local Programs	Chicago P.D. (HD)		Bang (HD)	“San Andreas” (15) Rescue attempt after an earthquake.	Big City	BUNCKD	(55) Beartown (HD)	★★★ “The Score” (01)
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local	Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Law & Order: SVU	BUNCKD	Allen v. Farrow (HD)	“Forces of Nature” (99) Road trip romance.	DESUS &
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Seinfeld	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney	“Don’t Let Go” (19)		
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Steve	Jessie			

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General: Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.

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State posts record 95,000 vaccine doses administered in one day

By Grace Barbic
Capitol News Illinois
gbarbic@capitol-newsillinois.com
 SPRINGFIELD — The statewide seven-day rolling COVID-19 positivity rate dropped Friday to a low not seen since the summer, as the state reached a record 95,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine administered the day before.

The positivity rate was 3.1 percent Friday, a low last recorded July 21.

The 95,375 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine administered Thursday, Feb. 11, topped the previous record set Feb. 4 by more than 20,000.

A total of 1.6 million vaccines had been administered in the state, including

231,814 for long-term care facilities.

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, reported 10 percent of people in Illinois had received their first dose of vaccine as of Friday.

The seven-day rolling average of vaccines administered daily was 59,009 doses.

Gov. JB Pritzker and IDPH announced an expanded partnership with Federally Qualified Health Care Centers Friday as they toured Aunt Martha's Chicago Heights Community Health Center, one of the FQHCs in Cook County.

"Starting in March, when we expect increased vaccine supply, Illinois plans to provide a specific increased

set aside vaccine allocation for our Federally Qualified Health Centers as part of our continuing effort to reach those who may not have a primary care provider or who are most challenged when it comes to healthcare access," Pritzker said.

This partnership is building on a federal program developed to administer vaccines to underserved populations, including homeless people, migrant workers, public housing residents and those with limited English proficiency.

Prior to this program, local health departments would supply a share of their Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine doses from the state's allocation to FQHCs within their jurisdiction.

Now, the federal government will distribute a portion of vaccine directly to the state's FQHCs that will be separate from those allocated to the state.

"This is on top of what Illinois gets," IDPH director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said. "It's going to be rolled out slowly. Not every FQHC will get it immediately."

A select number of recently added Walgreens vaccination sites will also be receiving vaccine supply directly from the federal government in a newly launched program by President Joe Biden's administration.

As of late last week, Illinois had received a total of more than 2.3 million doses of the vaccine.

Approximately 1.9 million doses had been delivered to providers in the state, in addition to 445,200 doses that had been allocated to the Pharmacy

Partnership program for long-term care facilities.

Pritzker also said the state has seen a 30 percent increase in vaccine supply from the federal government over the last few weeks.

Providers across the state, outside of separate shipments to Chicago, could expect about 365,000 doses from the federal weekly shipment in the coming week, he said Friday.

Pritzker anticipates he supply to increase in weeks to come as the Biden administration secured an additional 200 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine and the Johnson & Johnson one-shot COVID-19 vaccine awaits approval for emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The additional 200 million doses are enough to vaccinate every American adult, but according to the New York Times, that goal may not be met by the end of the summer, as previously reported, due to logistical concerns.

IDPH reported 2,598 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 Friday of 103,009 test results, with an additional 32 deaths.

As of Thursday night, Feb. 11, 1,910 COVID-19 patients were reported to be in the hospital. Of those, 437 patients were in intensive care unit beds and 211 were on ventilators.

The state reported a total of 1.15 million cases of COVID-19 from 17 million total test results, and 19,873 total deaths since the pandemic started.

News from Anna Nazarene Church

A morning worship service was held Sunday, Feb. 14, at 10:35 a.m. on Zoom. Pastor Randy Wright and Jack and Nina Shepard opened the service with song.

Sunday's message was titled "True Love." Scripture was from 1st Corinthians and Galatians.

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

Birthdays: Casey Akers, Feb. 17.

Friday night Bible study is planned at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, on Zoom. Pastor Wright can be texted for the password prior to the meeting.

Illinois District Virtual Team Days are planned through March 31. Those who want to participate can choose to view sessions on their schedule.

The courses will be available in an easy format with simple links to each presentation through March 31 on the district website at <https://illinois-naz.org/event/team-day-south-2021/>.

Adult Sunday School is planned at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 21.

Sunday School for children is planned from 9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. on Feb. 21.

A morning worship service is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in

the sanctuary and on Zoom. The service will be available in the parking lot on the radio for those who do not feel comfortable coming inside the sanctuary. CDC guidelines will be followed by wearing masks, social distancing and families sitting together.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 24, with praise and worship in the sanctuary and on Zoom and Children's Bible quizzing in the fellowship hall, with CDC guidelines being followed by wearing masks and social distancing. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the password.

A free grocery giveaway is planned from 10 a.m. to noon on Feb. 27. Those who would like to receive groceries are asked to enter the church parking lot by way of Kirk Street and proceed to the fellowship hall.

Evangelism multiplication training is planned at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 21, Feb. 28, March 7 and March 14, at the church or virtually. Those who want to participate are asked to contact the pastor or respond to the event on the church's Facebook page.

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.

News from Camp Ground Church, Community

Due to the extreme cold and icy conditions, Camp Ground Church cancelled in-person services Sunday and worshipped on Zoom.

Rev. Thompson's sermon Sunday was titled "The Transfiguration of Christ," with scripture from Mark.

The sermon shared that "in the scripture, Christ was taking three of his closest friends on a hike to a 'high mountain.'

"On the mountaintop, Christ was transformed before His friends' eyes: from an ordinary Galilean carpenter to the Son of God, resplendent in glory. Peter, James and John were scared and bewildered.

"The presence of Moses (the greatest 'law giver') and Elijah (the greatest prophet) talking with Christ emphasized that Jesus was greater than the law or any prophet.

"Out of the encompass-

ing cloud, God spoke: 'This is My Son...listen to Him!' With this mountaintop experience, Peter, James and John truly understood that Jesus was the promised Messiah.

"This mountaintop story also explains the one to come during Holy Week. We have a king who is also a servant, willing to go so far as to carry our sins to a cross so that we might have Eternal Life.

"If you have been 'on the mountaintop,' you have had a glimpse of what Heaven will be like. We must share our 'eyewitness' account of a forgiving Savior so others will believe also."

Concerns and praises were shared, followed by the intercessory prayer. Before the benediction, the children's sermon was shared.

Those who feel comfortable with in-person study and worship are invited to come to Camp Ground Church for Bible study at 9:30 a.m., followed by worship at 10:30 a.m.

Services are also available by using Zoom. Any member of the congregation can be contacted to be connected to the link.

This week, birthday wishes go to Jonah Simons on Feb. 19 and Maudie Miller on Feb. 20.

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Blood drive set
 Anna-Jonesboro Community High School is planning to host an American Red Cross blood drive in February.

The blood drive is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 24.

Appointments to be a donor can be made online by visiting redcrossblood.org.

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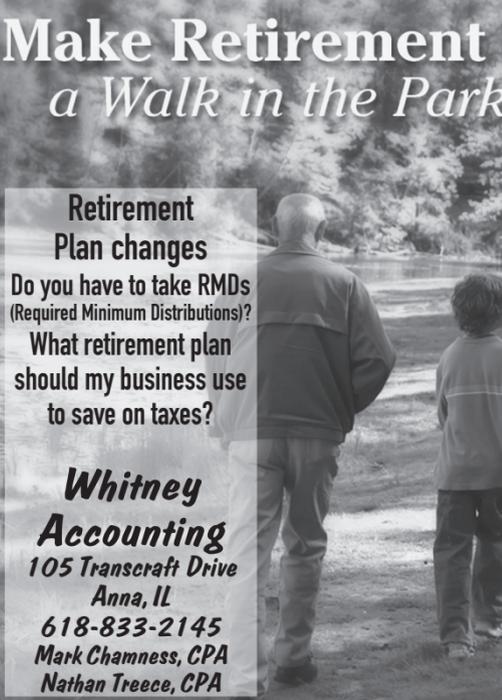
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9p-11g

HELP WANTED

CITY OF ANNA, GENERAL CLERK

The City of Anna, IL is accepting applications for the position of a General Clerk. Applicants must be 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. The position will be 40 hours a week, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Candidates must have a positive attitude, be able to multi-task and work well with the public and employees. Duties include but are not limited to: greeting customers, answering multi-line phone system, collecting and posting payments, entering data and creating customer bills. Must be able to operate basic office equipment, proficient computer skills (including Window Office), and basic accounting knowledge. Applications will be available for interested candidates at Anna City Hall or online at cityofanna.org. Please return resume and employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street Anna, IL 62906 or by email to aguin@cityofanna.org. Applications are due February 24, 2021. EOE.

9-10g

CITY OF ANNA, FULL-TIME/PART-TIME GENERAL LABORER

The City of Anna, IL is accepting applications for the position of a Full-Time/Part-Time General Laborer. This position will involve the ability to perform general maintenance tasks. Maintenance experience is preferred, a minimum age of 18, and a valid driver's license is required. Eligible candidates must pass a medical and criminal background check, as well as reside within 30 minutes of the corporate limits of Anna. An hourly rate of \$17.06 per hour, averaging approximately 25 to 30 hours of weekly work, with a limited benefit package are included. Applications will be available for interested candidates at Anna City Hall or online at cityofanna.org. Please return resume and employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street Anna, IL 62906 or by email to aguin@cityofanna.org. Position will remain open until filled. EOE.

9-10g

HELPWANTED: Full-time Outpatient Therapist position available with excellent benefit package. Duties include: provide mental health screenings, assessments, intervention, referral, and treatment to adults, families, and children experiencing problems (or at the risk of experiencing problems) due to mental illness and/or psychological distress. Provide direct clinical services, advocacy and referrals. Oversee the development and implementation of Individual Treatment Plans and Reviews. Participate in on call 24 hour crisis program. Must live within 45 miles of Anna, IL. Master's Degree in a social services field required. Send resume and 3 letters of recommendation to: Assistant Fiscal Manager, P.O. Box 548, Anna IL 62906 or send an email to info@uccsinc.org. EOE.

9p-11g

YARD SALE

***CLEARANCE SALE:* REPERT'S OFFICE SUPPLY, 112 LAFAYETTE STREET, ANNA. MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. File Folders, Cards, Stamps, Lots of Misc. Supplies. All Sales Final.**

tfn

BUSINESS

DUCKWORKS LAWN CARE: (618)-201-5712 MOWING IS WHAT WE DO! Free Estimates! Other Services: Landscaping, Power Washing www.duckworkslawn.com

gptfn

TREECE Backhoe & Hauling Skid Steer Gravel & Sand (618)-833-6197 or (618)-697-0453

gptfn

TINY MIGHTS CONSTRUCTION: Matthew Pearson, Owner (618)-201-5323 Licensed • Insured • NO Job TOO BIG or TOO SMALL • We Make Your Tiny Dreams Mighty!

tfn

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4p-47gpc

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois SS County of Union

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

certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 1st day of February, 2021, under the Assumed Name of Hair Heaven with the place of business located at 4681 State Route 3 N., Wolf Lake, Illinois 62998, and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Kelsey McMahan
5275 State Route 3 N.
Wolf Lake, IL 62998

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
8-10c

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois SS County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 3rd day of January, 2021, under the Assumed Name of The Cobden Cottage with the place of business located at 7555 Old Hwy. 51 N., Cobden, Illinois 62920, and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Shane Bruce
7555 Old Hwy. 51 N.
Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
9-11gc

NOTICE TO BID

The Dongola Unit School District #66 is accepting bids for lawn services (mowing) for the remainder of the 2021 school year and the 2021-2022 school year. For more information or bid specifications, please contact Dr. Paige Maginel at (618)-827-3841. Bids need to be submitted to Dr. Paige Maginel, Dongola Unit #66, 1000 High Street, Dongola, IL 62926. Sealed bids will be accepted until March 5, 2021.

10-11g

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

City of Anna will hold a closeout public hearing on March 2, 2021, at 4:45PM, in the City Hall Council Chamber to report outcomes and provide interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the program activities and performance of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Downstate Small Business Stabilization (DSBS) grants funded through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. This program is funded by Title 1 of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact Dori Bigler, 103 Market Street, Anna, IL 62906, 618-833-8528 no later than February 26, 2021. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.

The total amount of funds awarded to address the needs of the business(es) due to the COVID-19 emergency was \$70,050; and was used to assist the following businesses with working capital needs: Boswell's Lounge, KMS Enterprises DBA Sini-si's on Main, Martin Auction Company and Pink Squirrel DBA The Brick House Grill.

All interested citizens are invited to provide comments either at the public hearing or by prior written statement. Written comments should be submitted to Dori Bigler at dbigler@cityofanna.org no later than March 2, 2021 to ensure placement of such comments in the official record of the public hearing proceedings. This grant-funded project resulted in no

displacement of any persons or businesses.

10g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois SS County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 9th day of February, 2021, under the Assumed Name of Mosley Country Rentals with the place of business located at 8145 State Route 127 N., Alto Pass, Illinois 62905, and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Erich W. Mosley
Dana Mosley
8155 State Route 127 N.
Alto Pass, IL 62905

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
10-12gc

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

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CVI LCF MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST I, Plaintiff,
vs.
THOMAS E. BAUMAN and LESLIE M. BAUMAN, Defendants.

CASE NO. 20-CH-16 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 300 CAIN ROAD DONGOLA, IL 62926

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Thomas E. Bauman and Leslie M. Bauman, Defendants, this case has been commenced in this Court against you and others, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage held by the Plaintiff on the property located at 300 Cain Road, Dongola, IL 62926, more particularly described as:

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE, TO-WIT:

TRACT I: THAT PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 1 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 27, THENCE S 00 DEGREES-21 MINUTES-14 SECONDS E. ALONG THE SECTION LINE, A DISTANCE OF 146.45 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE DEPARTING FROM SAID SECTION LINE, S 89 DEGREES -46 MINUTES -45 SECONDS W, A DISTANCE OF 1080.97 FEET TO A POINT IN THE CENTERLINE OF CAIN ROAD: THENCE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE N 00 DEGREES -13 MINUTES -15 SECONDS W. A DISTANCE OF 299.49 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE N 00 DEGREES-13 MINUTES-15 SECONDS W. A DISTANCE OF 32.84 FEET TO A P.K.NAIL; THENCE N 09 DEGREES-42 MINUTES-19 SECONDS W. A DISTANCE OF 189.67 FEET TO A P.K. NAIL AT THE CENTERLINE INTERSECTION OF SAID CAIN ROAD WITH TIMBER ROAD; THENCE ALONG LAST SAID CENTERLINE; N 67 DEGREES-16 MINUTES-21 SECONDS E. A DISTANCE OF 205.18 FEET

TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE DEPARTING FROM SAID CENTERLINE, S 01 DEGREES-49 MINUTES-16 SECONDS E. A DISTANCE OF 298.57 FEET TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD, THENCE S 89 DEGREES-46 MINUTES -45 SECONDS W, A DISTANCE OF 166.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 1.066 ACRES, MORE OR LESS IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SUBJECT TO EXISTING EASEMENTS OF RECORD AND THOSE PORTIONS FALLING IN CAIN AND TIMBER ROADS, PER TRACT # 2 ON A PLAT OR SURVEY PREPARED BY SCOTT A. RICHARDS ILLINOIS LAND SURVEY NO. 2996, RECORDED ON MAY 23, 2005 IN RECORD BOOK 262 AT PAGE 753 IN THE RECORDS OFFICE OF UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

TRACT II: A PERPETUAL, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT FOR INGRESS, EGRESS AND UTILITY PURPOSES LOCATED UPON, ALONG, OVER AND ACROSS A PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 1 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, BEING 15 FEET ON EITHER SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 27; THENCE N 00°-21'-14" W, 782.26 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE OF TIMBER ROAD; THENCE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, S 78°-16'-37" W, 135.60 FEET; THENCE S 75°-41'-59" W, 227.60 FEET; THENCE S 67°-32'-27" W, 389.96 FEET; THENCE S 63°-42'-07" W, 229.25 FEET; THENCE S 67°-16'-21" W, 205.18 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE OF SAID 30 FOOT EASEMENT AND THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE DEPARTING TIMBER ROAD,

ALONG SAID EASEMENT CENTERLINE, WITH THE FOLLOWING COURSES: S 09°-42'-19" E, 189.67 FEET; S 00°-13'-15" E, 422.08 FEET; THENCE S 00°-41'-54" E, 1020.31 FEET TO THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ILLINOIS STATE ROUTE #146 AND THE TERMINUS OF SAID EASEMENT. PER REVISED PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY SCOTT A. RICHARDS, ILLINOIS LAND SURVEYOR NO. 2996, RECORDED ON OCTOBER 8, 1998, IN RECORD BOOK 161 AT PAGE 982 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Permanent Index Number: 02-27-01-098-B2A

Commonly known as: 300 Cain Road, Dongola, IL 62926

UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 West Market, Jonesboro, IL 62952 on or before March 22, 2021, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE.

Keri Clark
CLERK OF THE COURT

THIS COMMUNICATION IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT,

AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Julie Beyers (#6217185)
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 740
Decatur, IL 62525

Send Notice/Pleadings to:
Veronika J. Miles
(#6313161)

Email: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com
Telephone: (217) 422-1719
Facsimile: (217) 422-1754

10-12g

Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra planning to continue season with pair of performances

The Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra, SISO, plans to continue its season with a pair of performances later this month.

The performances will feature romantic works for wind ensembles written by composers Antonin Dvořák and Richard Strauss.

Performances are scheduled Feb. 22 at the Marion Cultural and Civic Center at 800 Tower Square Plaza in Marion and Feb. 23 at Shryock Auditorium on the SIU campus. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. both nights.

The orchestra will present Dvořák's "Wind Serenade in D Minor, Op. 44," a work for expanded wind octet plus cello and bass.

Following intermission, SISO members will perform Strauss's "Happy Workshop Symphony for Winds."

The performances will comply with the state's Restore Illinois plan and additional SIU Carbondale safety guidelines.

The Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra safety protocols include:

Concert attendance will be limited to 50 patrons each night, with advance reservations only.

All staff, artists and audience members must wear masks while in attendance.

Audience members who are not part of the same

household will be seated at least 6 feet apart.

All artists will perform at least 6 feet apart.

Patrons will be screened with a temperature check and a series of questions before attending the concerts.

Staggered entry times will be provided to patrons when reservations are confirmed, to ensure social distancing.

For tickets and information about the Feb. 22 performance at the Marion Cultural and Civic Center, call 618-997-4030.

General admission tickets for the SISO Feb. 23 performance at Shryock Auditorium are \$20 and \$10 for students of any age. Reservations must be made by email before Feb. 22. For tickets, email Edward Benyas at thebenyas@siu.edu, indicating the number of tickets needed.

Benyas also said that additional tentative performances by the Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra and the Southern Illinois Music Festival also are planned.

Performances by the chamber orchestra are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. March 29-30 at Shryock Auditorium.

A conducting recital by Jace Kim featuring works of Bohuslav Martinu, Reinhold Glière and Strauss is planned at 7:30 p.m. April 8 in Shryock Auditorium.

The Southern Illinois Music Festival is scheduled July 9-18 at Shryock Auditorium and at other locations in the region.

To Place Your Ad In
The Gazette-Democrat
Call (618) 833-2158

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.



Todd and Teresa Vincent celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary on Feb. 9.



Congratulations to Jeffrey Isbell, the new executive director of the Bald Knob Cross of Peace.

Congratulations

Luke Sadler participated in a lawn mower derby in Carlyle. He won third place and two trophies.

Jim, Cindy and Mae-lin Walker, along with his brother Tyler and mom Michelle Sadler and her partner Lance, all went to support him. It was 9 degrees there with a wind chill of 4.

Australia

Got pictures and an email from my cousin Gretchen, who lives in Australia. She and her husband went on a short four day vacation to The Sheraton Mirage Resort 15 minutes up the road from where they live. A staycation as the locals call it.

While we are all freezing here they are in a warm climate and had a most relaxing time being pampered, eating delicious food, etc.

Their son Adam and family dropped in one morning so the kids could play in pool and eat lunch with them. Their granddaughter Courtney came by two days and hung out as well.

They ate huge on their short vacation. They had buffet breakfast every morning and a huge seafood buffet at night with fresh lobster, fresh crab, prawns, then roast lamb,

beef, pork etc. As if that wasn't enough, the manager came by their room and brought them a bottle of Moët Champagne with a plate of chocolates and macaroons to thank them for supporting the local economy.

They also live within walking distance of the ocean. Since they live in a tourist city the mayor decided the seniors could have a free shuttle service to downtown and the stores so their cars wouldn't be there and that would leave parking for the tourists.

I believe they picked a great place to retire. I told Gretchen she was on vacation every day.

When Gretchen graduated college she went to Australia on a two year teaching program where she met David. He came back to the United States with her and they lived here for several years, but decided to move back to Australia. Now all their children have joined them.

If it wasn't for the 24 hours in a plane I would love to visit them.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the Elks Club for the fish dinner and to the A-J physical education department for their online auction for Tabi.

Sympathy

Terrie Rhymer and her families are sad to report the passing of their brother, Malcolm Scott Chamness, on Tuesday, Nov. 10, due to a short illness.

Scott was raised in Cobden, the son of the late James and Janie Chamness. He lived Anna for many years and recently lived in Goreville. His daughter Cindy passed away this past November.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Barbara Bauer for her help with finding the information

about Adolph Walter III and Tina Waller for the news from the Moose. This last year has really been hard finding news.

COVID

A lot of people were at Medicap Saturday getting their first round of the COVID shot.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

We still need several wreaths to be able to cover all our graves at our ceremony Dec. 18 at our Anna Cemetery.

If you have not bought your wreath for your loved one, please send your check made out to Honor Wreaths for Veterans to Martha Ann Webb, 118 W. Monroe St., Anna Ill. 62906, or you can bring it by Anna City Hall and ask them to put it in my mail box there.

If you want to pay online for Honor Wreaths for Veterans it is best to pay at one of these websites then scroll down to Anna Cemetery: www.wreathscrossamerica.org/IL0061P or WWW.HONORWREATHSFORVETERANS.ORG these are going to Jim Koonce Pres. of Honor Wreaths for Veterans. He will then send me your name so we can get you listed for our Anna Cemetery.

If you pay at Wreaths Across America and do not put that you want your wreath to be put at our Anna Cemetery it will go to a national cemetery.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans is a branch of Wreaths Across America. A special thanks to all who have donated to this wonderful cause to honor the memory of our veterans who have served our country.

Childhood Memories

On a childhood visit to Anna, Stephen Burns of St. Louis said his family had dinner at the Iron Kettle restaurant. He remembers it being out in the area of Subway in East Anna.

Presidents Day

Hope everyone remembered to honor all our presidents last Monday as we remembered Abraham Lincoln's birthday on Friday, Feb. 12, and George Washington's birthday on Monday, Feb. 22. A lot of history in our country. May God always bless and protect the USA.

District 25 Women's Club

Lillian Milam of GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club attended the GFWC Illinois District 25 Women's Club meeting at the home of Jackie Hancock in Marion.

There will be a convention this year on March 25 starting at 9 a.m. for four hours, but because of social distancing, only the state

and local presidents will attend.

The convention will be at the home of Jackie Hancock in Marion.

Vintage Letter

I would like to share a letter send to me by Shirley Ray.

Several years ago her mother Myra Davidson found a letter in her Bible and was from my mother Bessie Mae Davis written to Myra in the 1950s after they had worked in Bible School together at Anna First Baptist Church.

Dear Myra, I want to thank you for helping in Vacation Bible School. I know you did it because you love the Lord, and although we were worried, tired and even sick some days we did try to lead the little children to the Saviour's waiting arms. Isn't it wonderful that. "We are God's fellow worker's, working together with him" 1 Cor. 3:9 and in any task He ask us to do for Him, He comes with his great promise "Lo, I am with you always" I feel like Paul when he said I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course.

I feel we have fought a good fight and finished our course this year, rest up, for this comes again next year and we must answer gladly saying "Here am I, send me." Thank you again for helping. Bessie.

Back in those days children would go to Bible School for two weeks.

I have this letter, along with what Shirley wrote to me, in a scrapbook. I am so thankful for our wonderful Christian families and growing up at Anna First Baptist Church.

So many happy memories of being in church and doing our Lord's work. Back then we went to Sunday School and church on Sunday morning, Training Union and church on Sunday night. Wednesday night prayer meeting.

Through the week different groups met for small children Sunbeams, G.A.'s R.A.'s, choir practice and other groups. Church camp in the summer.

Church was put before any school sports. Schools didn't schedule anything on a church night.

My family every night before we went to bed had a daily Bible reading and each person prayed. God was always put first in our home. I wasn't asked if I wanted to go to church I just knew that was where we were going on those days.

I loved the story aunt Lena Keller would tell about her first date with my uncle Mark Keller.

Uncle Mark would say he saw aunt Lena playing at Lincoln School and he thought she was the prettiest girl he had ever seen in his life, so he asked her out.

Aunt Lena was not thinking about it being Wednesday night, so they went to ask grandmother Alzada Corbitt if she could go out with him.

Grandmother Corbitt looked him straight in the eyes and said young man it's church night and you can just come and go to church with us.

Aunt Lena said she thought she would die she was so embarrassed. Uncle Mark wasn't raised in a home where they went to church but he said I would love to go to church with you, so Aunt Lena was happy.

Uncle Mark was saved not long after, they married and worshiped our Lord and worked with the youth in the church for many years.



Anna's Adolph Walter III and his drawing for the Anna Sesquicentennial flag contest 2004

GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club on Feb. 23, 2004: an article was in The Gazette-Democrat about a flag contest the club was sponsoring. The contest was to design an Anna flag. The contest was held in conjunction with the City of Anna's 150th anniversary celebration. The contest was open to all Union County residents. The flag was to represent Anna's heritage.

The winning design was used to make flags for that year's 150th anniversary celebration and to fly at Anna City Hall. Anna's Adolph Walter III won the sesquicentennial flag contest.

Pictured behind is a drawing he did of A-J National Bank before it was taken down. Walter Hardware was on the left and right of the bank. Next store on the left was Fashion Land. On the right was Pages Appliance and Western Auto. Does anyone remember the other stores?

A.W. Walter Sr. established the Walter Brothers General Store in Waltersburg near Golconda in Pope County in 1900.

In 1916 Adolph William (known as A.W.) Walter Jr. and Mrs. Walter moved the business to Anna, where they established Walter Hardware Store. In time, the store came under the management of Adolph W. Walter III.

The business prospered from its long-time location at 207 S. Main St., next to the First National Bank, now known as Anna-Jonesboro National Bank. The bank was located on the corner of South Main and West Davie streets. Walter Hardware could be accessed from an entrance on South Main Street and an entrance on West Davie Street.

When Adolph W. Walter III won the Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club "Anna Flag" design contest in 2004, he was photographed with his award winning project. In the background of that photograph is a painting that artist Walter had painted of Anna's First National Bank, flanked by buildings housing the Walter Hardware Company store.

The Walter Hardware Store has a special place in Southern Illinois history. The community is enriched by these paintings, designs and legacy left by the Walter family.

Information is from the files of Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club and the PAST organization of Union County. A lot of people have moved to our community and do not know what our city used to look like so I wanted to share the picture of how the city looked when I was growing up.

My dad Claude A. Davis, uncle Mark, and grandpa J.A. Corbitt were all deacons in the church and my uncle John Corbitt my mother's brother was ordained to preach there.

My aunt Estalee Bauer also attended and they all taught Sunday School and worked for our Lord.

When I used to teach Sunday School and choir I could drive my car down the street and see kids out playing and asked them to come go to church and to go tell their parents where they were going. They would yell OK be there in a minute. Nowadays they would have to get a signed permission slip to do that.

I can't help but wonder if we all went to church like we did when we were kids if maybe our world wouldn't be in the shape it's in.

Anna Heights was built as a mission church from Anna First Baptist because there were over 1,000 members at Anna First. Not many in attendance at any church nowadays.

There used to be revivals and the church would be so full folding chairs had to be set up.

People were at the altar praying for sometimes an hour after the service. People went to church in all kinds of weather and it was very rare the churches were closed because of snow or ice. Someone would get up early and clear the parking lots off and put salt on the steps.

I even remember when on West Chestnut Street a tent was set up for tent revivals at the Pentecost Church.

I really miss the outside ice cream socials. United Methodist Church would

put tables and chairs in their parking lot and have those.

If you have a story about attending church when you were young please send it to me.

Sympathy

To the family of Lora Blackwell Kern, who went to be with our Lord last week.

Lora was a teacher and also was very active in her church work and mission work, and she volunteered at the Anna Arts Center.

One of my fondest memories was her teaching us to play the hand bells at Anna First Baptist Church. She had the patience of Job. Lora had a children's hand bell choir and an adult hand bell choir. She will be missed by her many friends.

A-JCHS Class of 1963

We were sad to learn another classmate Allen Mays went to be with our Lord. Allen will be missed by his many friends.

I think we had more fun planning for our class reunions than we did when we were in school. It was always fun being in our homecoming parades. Sympathy to Allen's family.

To the family of Pat Jackson. Pat and Bill had the printing press in Anna for many years. Bill was assistant fire chief for over 50 years and was very active in the chamber of commerce. They loved our city.

Bill went to be with our Lord a couple of years ago and now the love of his life Pat has joined him.

Sympathy

To the family of Halford Leon Dillow.

To the family of Don Choate. He had just celebrated his birthday.

Sympathy to all the families of the others who have passed this week.

(continued on next page)



Barbara Bauer said with the pandemic and the weather impacting our lives, we are not making a lot of news staying at home. She has been going through files of generational collections.

She thought readers might enjoy this picture of the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School basketball team from the years 1929-1930.

The team was coached by long-time and well-respected Proff. Russell D. Rendleman. Perhaps readers can help identify some of the players whose names escape us.

Standing in back: ___?___ Clark, ___?___?___, William "Bob" Sturm, Glenn Boyd, ___?___?___, Proff. Russell Rendleman.

Seated: Norvie Vaughn, Charles Neal Sr., Willie Peters, Jerome Lutz and Benny Goodman.

A 50th class reunion folder for the Class of 1930 noted that their motto was "Build for Character, Not for Fame."

Anna News

(continued from previous page)



The Ladies of the Moose Chapter 1181 chose Integrity Healthcare of Anna for a community service project by offering a pizza lunch, and a meat/cheese tray dinner for the hard-working employees, and hygiene and snack goodie bags for their residents. Becky Swink, senior regent, and Leslie Dirden, co-worker, made the delivery during the noon hour on Friday, Feb. 12. Happy Hearts Day. Also pictured is Jaycie Quertermous, activity director, and a member of the activity staff.

Red Hat Ladies

The Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies were saddened to hear H. Ray Bush had gone to be with our Lord.

Ray had sung for the ladies many times with Norm Bauer and the Little Egypt Barber Shop Quartet. Queen Mom Joan Graves Edwards had asked them to come sing as a surprise for the ladies several times on special occasions. They had also sung at the Anna Arts Center. He will be missed.

Anna-Jo Garden Club

Members were saddened their meeting had to be canceled last Tuesday due to all the ice everywhere. Looking forward to meeting soon.

Bald Knob Cross

Congratulations to Jeffrey Isbell, the new executive director of the Bald Knob Cross of Peace.

Jeffrey is a Southern Illinois native with deep ties to the region. He will be working with retiring executive director Teresa Gilbert, who will mentor Jeffrey through June.

You can meet Jeffrey at the annual 85th Easter sunrise service April 4 at Bald Knob Cross and at the visitors center, where he will be working with the many dedicated volunteers.

Enchanted Garden

Lisa is giving a flower away on the fourth Friday of each month to everyone who comes to her florist shop. The next giveaway will be Feb. 26.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon series on the book of Ruth. The Road to Redemption. This week Trusting God to Work Things Out.

Attendance for Sunday morning, Feb. 7: 8 a.m. worship 58. 10:30 a.m. worship 84. Small group Bible study 138.

Youth meet every Wednesday night at 6:30. Sunday mornings youth Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m.

Intercessory prayer group meets Monday through Friday at 8 a.m.

In person Bible study is at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Social distancing is practiced at all in-house services.

Be sure to look on the church's social platforms on Facebook and YouTube for up to date Bible studies, services and other announcements and on their website annaheights.com. and watch online worship services too on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Momma Lou's crafters plan to meet Thursday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Birthdays: Feb. 15 Bill Young, 16th Judy Halter and Joy Poole, 17th Isabella Gray, 18th Dustin Knop, 21st Cynthia Hall and Donna Mae Morse.

Anniversaries: Feb. 20 Relis and Diana Oliver, 27th Bill and Debbie Hess.

The Anna Heights families were saddened by three of their members who were called to their heavenly homes this past week: Billy Ray Keller, Allen Mays and Scott Chamness. Sympathy is extended to all their families

Valentine's Day

Martha Ann Webb enjoyed visiting with her family Bessie, Curt and Elijah Ellis and Molly Siebert. A special thanks to Curt for the BBQ.

Birthday Celebration

Myra Gossett was honored with a birthday dinner in Cape Girardeau by her husband, Rev. Tim.

Birthdays

Feb. 11 Kathy Thornburg, GiGi Hartline 6 years old, Connie Arnold, 12 Dianne Spiller, 13 Edith Hartsock, Aden Hoskins celebrated his 18th birthday, 14 Fred Pitts, Paula Hale, Gayle Fox.

Wedding Anniversaries

Feb. 14 Jim and Sue Bresett celebrated 24 years of marriage on Valentine's Day. Sue also made all her family boxes of chocolate covered strawberries since they couldn't have their annual Valentine's dinner at Giant City Lodge.

Michael and Cathy Freeman celebrated 22 years of marriage on Valentine's Day.

Jeff and Allison Holsouser celebrated 35 years of marriage on Valentine's Day.

Congratulations

Dinner Bell Too for being honored with business of the month by Country Financial.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sunday morning, Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was on Facebook and the church website again because of the extreme cold weather and snow and ice.

Rev. Tim's sermon was Unconditional Love, with scripture from 1st John.

Church is at 10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings for anyone who doesn't have a church to worship at you are welcome to come worship.

Wednesday the men meet at 7 a.m. for morning Bible study and the women have Bible study at 1 p.m. at the church.

Feb. 17 was Ash Wednesday. The service was postponed to Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. The Vienna church will meet in Anna for the service.

February mission emphasis is the Bethany Village food pantry.

I was asked to give the address of the church for anyone wanting to send money for Loaves and Fishes.

If you are wanting to do this please make your checks to the church but on the left of your check in

the memo put Loaves and Fishes. The address is 111 W. Monroe St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

Loaves and Fishes

Due to weather conditions, the grocery distribution scheduled to be held at the Anna United Methodist Church on Tuesday, Feb. 16, was postponed to Tuesday, Feb. 23, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Alliance of Churches

The Alliance of Churches helps people with rent, utilities, emergency lodging. Some is donated to Shawnee Development Council food pantry.

If you would like to make a donation your check can be made to Alliance of Churches and mailed to Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, 102 W. Jefferson St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

Church Food Give-aways

If you are wanting to make donations to other churches that give food away you can make your checks out to the church and in the memo on your check put for food give away or food pantry.

You can mail your checks to: Anna First Baptist Church, 409 Morgan St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

Harvest Church of Southern Illinois, 602 E. Davie St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 101 E. Market St., Jonesboro, Ill. 62952.

First Baptist Church, 201 W. Walton St., Jonesboro, Ill. 62952.

All churches will help people but these are the ones I have been given names that have food give-aways or food pantries.

Shawnee Development Council and Bethany Village are also places you can donate money.

Anna VFW

There was a great turnout



Willie and Terrie Rhymer and Bob and Betty Caraker traveled to Vienna to eat a Valentine's Day dinner at Wildfires Restaurant. Food and fellowship were enjoyed



Clarence (Bub) Tweedy celebrated his 95th birthday Feb. 9 with his granddaughter Sarah Clinton and her husband Jason and daughter Jada and grandson Brad Stamp. Grandson Tim York traveled from Tennessee. Clarence has several other grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren who couldn't attend.

for the Valentine's supper last Saturday night. Because of the extreme cold weather and snow the post is taking it day by day when they can be open.

Military Prayer List

Trace Faire, John Michael Brimm, Kaleb Meier, Nathaniel Moss, Derek Nelson, Nick Pearson,

Nate Frankell, Alex Gratz, 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.

Snowy Monday morning in Union County

Streets in the Union County area were covered with snow on Monday morning, Feb. 15. Heavy snow had been falling when the pictures that appear below were taken. The top picture was taken along East Davie Street in Anna. The bottom picture was taken along East Vienna Street in Anna.



Obituaries

Donald Ray Choate

Donald Ray Choate, 86, of Jonesboro, died Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021, at Herrin Hospital in Herrin.

He was born on Feb. 9, 1935, in Anna, the son of James Melvin and Ruth Lois Howell Choate.

He married Virginia Sue Frick on April 16, 1955, in Jonesboro. Don and Sue were married for more than 58 years.

Mr. Choate is survived by his sons, Jeffrey (Jill Winner) Choate of Marion, Wesley (Claudia) Choate of Pinckneyville, Gregory (Jodie) Choate of Jonesboro and Roger (Dawn) Choate of Paducah; 16 grandchildren, Christopher Choate, Andrew Choate, Matthew Choate, Meredith Choate, Olivia Choate, Craig Choate, Coleman Choate, Stephanie Plott, Joshua Choate, Jordan Choate, Maggie Choate, Hannah Choate, Isaac Choate, Jeremy Cotton, Kaleb Cotton and Jillian Cotton; 13 great-grandchildren; a brother, Robert Choate of Carbondale; a sister, Mary Ruth Casey of Jonesboro; a brother-in-law, Orval Vancil of Owensboro, Ky.; sisters-in-law Shirley Frick of Creve Coeur, Mo., Irma Frick of Jonesboro and Pat Farris of Morton; an aunt, Ethel Choate Marlow of Florida; a special friend, Billie Earl; many nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by his wife, Sue Choate.

Don had a life well lived and a smile for everyone he met. He was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Jonesboro for 42 years, serving as a deacon since 1967. He made a profession of faith as a young man in 1957.

He worked at Blankenship Auto Parts in Anna for 43 years.

Don was very proud to be the longest serving school board member in Illinois, serving on the board for Jonesboro Elementary School for 54 years. While serving on the school board, he was the board president for 24 years – never missing a meeting.

He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan, as well as a fan of high school and college basketball. He coached boys' summer league baseball for 21 years, mentoring many young men and building lifelong relationships.

He was the official scorekeeper for Anna-Jonesboro Community High School basketball for 16 years.

He also enjoyed fishing, eating fish and spending part of his retirement time at Crab Orchard Lake.

His family gave special thanks to all of the health care workers who helped to enhance the quality and length of his life.

Graveside funeral services will be held privately for the family. Friends will be invited to a celebration of his life at a later date.

Memorials can be made to the First Baptist Church of Jonesboro or to the Healing Projects, 475 Calvert Dr., Paducah, Ky. 42003. Envelopes also will be available at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral 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 is in charge of arrangements.

Cynthia M. Lewis

Cynthia M. Lewis, 82, of Anna, and formerly of Godfrey, died Monday, Feb. 8, 2021, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

She was born on May 1, 1938, in Chicago, the daughter of Rolla and Vivian Larson Medler.

She attended the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Anna and enjoyed attending Jim Harris' Sunday School class. She was also a MENSA member. She loved singing in the Bach Society in St. Louis, sewing and bird watching. She also enjoyed time spent with friends.

Survivors include her children, Susan E. (David) Dugan of Edwardsville and Robert (Tammy) Lewis, also of Edwardsville, and Julie Lewis of Anna; grandchildren Ben Lewis of Waukeo, Iowa, Sarah (Joe) Martin U.S. Air Force captain of Tucson, Ariz., and Paige (Adam) Murphy of Long Grove, Iowa; great-grandchild Luke Murphy; niece Kathy (Michael) Medler Kunitake of California; and nephew Rollie Medler of Japan.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Ron Medler.

Cremation will be accorded. A memorial gathering will take place at a later date.

Memorials can be made to the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Anna and can be mailed to 315 South St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

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

Crain
Funeral Home

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

Annabelle Claussen

Annabelle Claussen, 99, of Anna, died Monday, Feb. 15, at her home.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral 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 is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries online @ annanews.com

Allen Mays Sr.

Allen Mays Sr., 76, of Anna, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning, Feb. 9, 2021, within the comfort of his home.

He was born on May 4, 1944, in Evansville, Ind., the son of Ada Farris and Grover Mays, who preceded him in death.

He was the third of six children, Sherman Mays (Kathleen), Beverly Mays, Ginger Mays Newman (James), Grover Mays (Vickie) and Ronnie Mays (Debbie). Beverly and Ginger preceded him in death.

He married Sandra Sadler on March 23, 1963, in Anna, and she survives. Sandra and Allen were happily married 57 years.

He is survived by his children, Allen Mays Jr. (Janean Mays) of Jacksonville, Ill., and Brian Mays of Anna. His daughter Tabitha Mays preceded him in death.

His grandchildren include Michaelene Mays, Austin Mays, Luca Mays, Zachary Mays, Lia Mays, Isla Willis and Elly Mays. He also has many nieces and nephews.

He was a loving husband and father who always looked out for the well-being of his family.

He was a devoted Christian and a member of Anna Heights Baptist Church in Anna. He taught Sunday School for many years.

He served as a Mason at Anna Masonic Lodge No. 520 and was also a 32nd Degree Mason.

He graduated from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School in 1962. He worked for the State of Illinois for the Secretary of State in Springfield, Ill. He then worked for Caterpillar in Decatur, Ill. Following, he completed an apprenticeship to become an iron worker and studied construction technology at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. He was a member of the Iron Workers Local 782 for several years.

He was a classic car enthusiast and owned a 1979 Pontiac Trans-Am Bandit Edition and a 1995 Corvette.

Sundays were made for church, family and NASCAR. He loved attending races and cheering on his favorite driver.

They say a man's best friend is his dog and that is certainly true. He loved his dog Dakota dearly.

He enjoyed traveling all over the country with his wife and helping his sons with their home projects.

He passed on his passion for construction onto his sons. Despite his physical barriers, he always had a desire to work. Allen was the most kindhearted, loving, and hard-working husband, father and grandfather.

The family hosted a memorial service to celebrate his life. Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, at Anna Heights Baptist Church, with Pastor Darryl Williams and the Rev. Scott Harner officiating. Interment was in the Anna Cemetery. Masonic rites were said at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Memorials can be made to the Anna Heights Baptist Church.

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.

Bonnie Lou Duty White

Bonnie Lou Duty White, 85, of Cobden, died Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, at Nature Trail Nursing Home in Mt. Vernon.

She was born on Sept. 7, 1935, in Jackson County, the daughter of Alvie and Mildred Viola King Duty.

She married Amos O. White on Oct. 18, 1998. He preceded her in death on Aug. 15, 2004.

She is survived by her daughters, Aleta (Scott Sr.) Uhls of Dahlgren and Valery (Kevin) Burns of Mounds; her grandchildren, Scott (Samantha) Uhls Jr., Avery (Candy) Sprehe, Jason (Amber) Sprehe, Dezmen Biggs and Aaron (Jasmine) Coomes Uhls; great-grandchildren Eli Zane Sprehe, Jesse Manning, Kierston and Hailey Uhls; her brothers, Bud (Donna) Duty, Joe (Ellen) Duty, Francis Duty and Ronnie (Mildred) Duty; a sister-in-law, Ann Kleiboeker of Centralia; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; three brothers, Gerald, Wayland and Ivan Duty; and a sister, Lois Stacey.

She was a Christian and a devout member of the First Baptist Church in Cobden.

She retired from Illinois Bell Telephone after 24 years of service. She was an avid gardener. She had been a manager of the Carbondale farmer's market.

She also enjoyed bird watching, and she especially loved her finches. She also liked to collect angels.

Funeral services for Bonnie Lou Duty White will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden, with Pastor Ed Falgout officiating. Interment will follow in the Alto Pass Cemetery.

Friends may call after 1 p.m. until the service hour at 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 22, at the funeral home in Cobden.

Everyone attending will be required to wear face coverings and to observe social distancing guidelines. Maximum occupancy of the building will be limited to 50 persons at one time.

Memorials can be made to the First Baptist Church in Cobden or to SSM Health Hospice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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.



Billy Ray Keller

Billy Ray Keller, 89, of Anna, and formerly of Dongola, died Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

He was born on May 7, 1931, in Ullin, the son of Leo H. and Mary M. Staudacher Keller.

He married Doris Dunaway on June 1, 1951, in Carbondale.

Mr. Keller is survived by his wife, Doris Keller; children Steven (Gian) Keller, Larry Joe (Melody) Keller, and Ronald Lee (Suzanne) Keller; grandchildren Sarah Ann (Nick) Murray, Lenore (Randy) Ashby, Alison (Ricky) Tweedy, Shannon (Stacie) Keller, Nick Keller and Megan (Caleb) Crabtree; 16 great-grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by a great-granddaughter, Hadley Ashby.

He became a Christian on June 9, 1946. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dongola for over 60 years, serving as trustee and treasurer for 20-plus years.

He was a lifelong resident of Dongola and was very active in his community and also served as mayor. He was the manager of Associated Lumber until its closing.

Funeral services will be held privately for the family. Interment will be in the Meisenheimer-Mt. Olive Cemetery. Memorials can be made to Hadley's Haven.

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 Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.

Mack Hale

Mack Hale, 71, of Anna, died Sunday, Feb. 14, at his home.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral 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 is in charge of arrangements.

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Illinois to receive nearly \$20 million in opioid settlement

By Raymon Troncoso
Capitol News Illinois I
Report For America
rtroncoso@capitol-
newsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — The state will receive \$19.8 million from a settlement reached Thursday, Feb. 4, between a coalition of attorneys general, including Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, and the consulting firm McKinsey.

McKinsey has been investigated and sued by multiple states for its role in the opioid epidemic. The settlement, totaling \$573 million, will be the first multistate settlement related to the opioid crisis to result in substantial payment, according to a Feb. 4 release from Raoul's office.

According to Raoul's office, the settlement "will be used to abate and address the impact of the opioid epidemic throughout Illinois and the other participating states."

"The opioid epidemic has devastated communities and families throughout Illinois and across the country," Raoul said in that release.

The attorney general said the "settlement will hold McKinsey accountable for

its role in perpetuating the opioid epidemic, but, even more significantly, will provide much-needed assistance in combating the epidemic's effects."

McKinsey was sued due to its work for Purdue Pharma, the company behind the manufacture of OxyContin, an addictive opioid, which helped exacerbate the opioid crisis.

The states' investigation of Purdue found the company had implemented marketing schemes presented by McKinsey to target vulnerable populations and push physicians to prescribe more opioids for over a decade.

According to the settlement, when states sued Purdue Pharma in 2019, McKinsey partners attempted to destroy evidence of their work for Purdue.

Along with the monetary payments, the settlement also requires McKinsey to prepare tens of thousands of internal documents relating to its work for Purdue and other opioid companies, investigate the partners responsible for the attempted destruction of evidence, implement a strict ethics code and end its consulting work for companies involved in the sale and manufacture

of Schedule II and Schedule III narcotics.

Raoul reached the settlement alongside 52 other attorneys general for 46 states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

Raoul's office currently has two other ongoing lawsuits related to the opioid epidemic.

Raoul rejected a settlement from Purdue in 2019 and expanded his lawsuit against the company to include the Sackler family, which founded and owns Purdue Pharma.

He also filed another lawsuit that same year against 16 other opioid manufacturers and distributors.

"I will continue to investigate and hold accountable the companies that have contributed to and profited from this public health crisis," he said.

Illinois operates a 24-hour hotline for individuals suffering from opioid addiction which can be reached at helplineil.org or by calling 833-234-6343.

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.

Amy Pender on dean's list

Amy Pender of Cobden has been named to the fall semester dean's list at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Students named to the dean's list had a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

COVID-19 hospitalizations, positivity rate continue to decline

By Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois
jnowicki@capitol-
newsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — The state's COVID-19 case positivity rate is below 3 percent for the first time since July and hospitalizations for the disease continued on a steady decline Monday as confirmed deaths topped 20,000 since the pandemic began.

As of Sunday night, there were 1,789 people hospitalized for COVID-19 in Illinois, including 389 in

Blood level testing decreases

Southern Seven Health Department reports that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, has released findings which show significant decreases in testing of blood lead levels in young children the during COVID-19 pandemic.

Lead is a toxic metal that through exposure can result in severe effects in children including decreased ability to learn, permanent neurologic damage, organ failure and death.

Blood lead level, BLL, testing among children is recommended by the CDC and other health care organizations as part of well-child examinations to identify elevated BLL, eliminate the source of exposure and provide medical and other services.

To schedule a child's Blood Lead Level test, contact Southern Seven Health Department at 618-634-2297. For more BLL testing information, visit www.southern7.org or www.cdc.gov.

intensive care unit beds and 184 on ventilators.

Those numbers were all major decreases from second-wave peaks seen at the end of November.

On a seven-day rolling average from Monday to Sunday, there were 1,932 hospital beds used on average last week, a decrease of 382, or 16.5 percent, from the week prior.

Over the same period, there were 433 ICU beds used on average daily, a decrease of 69, or 13.8 percent, from the week prior.

Ventilator usage decrease by 44, or 17.3 percent, to 212 in use on average over the same period.

The 41 virus-related deaths reported over the previous 24 hours drove the death toll to 20,002 as the state reported 1,420 new cases amid 52,389 tests conducted.

The state has reported more than 17 million test results and 1.1 million confirmed or probable cases since the beginning of the pandemic.

The vaccination effort continues as well, with more than 1.8 million doses administered out of more than 2.4 million doses received from the federal government, which means 74 percent of doses received by the state or providers have been administered.

Approximately 56 percent, or 248,925, of the 445,200 distributed to Walgreens and CVS pharmacies as part of the federal Pharmacy Partnership program for long-term care residents have been distributed.

While 11 percent of the state's population has received a first dose of the vaccine, moving Illinois

into 24th on the New York Times' per-capita vaccine distribution database, the state announced Monday that second doses will become a larger share of those distributed in the coming days.

Thus far, just 3.3 percent of the state's residents have received both doses, a requirement for both the Pfizer-BioNtech and Moderna vaccines to be effective.

The second vaccine dose is scheduled three to four weeks after the first, depending on which vaccine is received.

"Beginning the week of February 15, local health departments and other COVID-19 vaccine providers will begin to receive a larger share of second doses to accommodate a greater number of second doses coming due," according to a news release from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

"With federal shipments of the vaccine to Illinois remaining limited, this will mean providers will receive a smaller share of first doses. Based on federal projections of vaccine shipments, (IDPH) anticipates these allocations will hold steady for the next several weeks, before allocations of first doses can once again increase in March."

Information on COVID-19 vaccines and how to make an appointment is available at coronavirus.illinois.gov.

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.

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Opinion and Commentary

Our Union County Roots

A monthly column by the Union County Historical and Genealogy Society

Our Union County Roots is a monthly column by the Union County Historical and Genealogy Society. The society owns and operates the Union County Museum in downtown Cobden. The museum is scheduled to reopen for the 2021 season at 1 p.m. on March 6.

Vaughan, or Vaughn, Seed Co.

Everett Hess was the foreman at the Vaughan Seed Company's 80-acre flower farm east of Anna and east of the Nimmo School on Dog Walk Road in 1938.

Among the flowers grown there were 30 acres of peonies, 13 acres of canna lilies, 12,000 dahlia plants and 200,000 gladiolus. The editor of the Gazette proclaimed the area a beautiful sight.

In October, the large contingency of workers dug and prepared bulbs for storage for future sale or to be replanted on the farm the following spring. The blooms of the various plants were sold to florists throughout the state.

John C. Vaughan got into the seed business in 1876, opening his first seed store in the Chicago Loop. In 1901 he incorporated his business as Vaughan's Seed Store of Chicago and New York. His greenhouses and nurseries were in Western Springs, Illinois. At one time his greenhouses reportedly covered 35,000 square feet.

He published as many as eight different catalogs each year, offering not only seeds, but greenhouse supplies and tips on growing and harvesting as well as relevant dissertations on botany and chemistry.

Vaughan was the first to establish a wholesale commission florist business in Chicago, where growers could sell their cut flowers rather than directly to the retail outlet ultimately garnering the grower a higher price for their flowers. He also assumed the role of watchdog over the industry.

Vaughan, who died in 1924, was considered a pioneer of floriculture in Illinois. Leonard Holden Vaughan, John's son, assumed the leadership of the company. In 1925, Leonard Holden Vaughan purchased land from W. Jasper Williams in Township 12S, 1W, Section 14 of Union County and transferred the ownership of that land two years later to the Vaughan Seed Store Corporation.

In 1926 Vaughan purchased property at 112-114 E. Vienna St. in Anna from William N. Corlis and transferred the ownership in 1935 to the Vaughan Seed Co.

Display advertisements ran in Union County newspapers beginning in 1928 for Vaughn's Seed Co. at the Vienna Street address.

J.W. Davidson managed the store, which offered seeds for both the wholesale and retail market. Locally, the final "a" was usually, but not always, left out of the Vaughn name.

Leonard died in 1943 and his brother, John C. Vaughan II, became the president of the company. The company continued to expand, buying other seed companies.

The Vaughan Seed Co. was listed in the Union County telephone directories through 1942.

William Jasper Williams purchased Vaughan's Seed Co. store on East Vienna Street in 1944 and Homer L. Hileman purchased the land east of Anna.

The Williams Seed Store at 112 E. Vienna St. was listed in the 1944 telephone directory but not after 1948.

Leonard's death, coupled with the lack of availability of men to work in the fields because of military commitments during World War II, no doubt factored into the Vaughan Seed Co. selling its interests in Union County.

Today, Novartis Seeds owns the company and is headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois.

The historical society is planning to publish a booklet on the history of growing flowers in Union County. If you have any information you would like to share, please call Judy Travelstead at 618-893-2567.

'Give Kids a Smile' day planned at SIU

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's dental hygiene program once again plans to host its popular annual "Give Kids a Smile Day" for children on March 12.

However, this year, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, a limited number of appointments will be available, so call early to reserve a spot, organizers said.

The event is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the SIU Carbondale Community Dental Center. The dental center is located west of the Banterra Center on the SIU campus.

The program provides a wide variety of free dental services to children, from infants to the age of 14. Included are dental examinations, X-rays, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings and simple extractions.

Dozens of students and faculty from SIU's dental hygiene program, along with volunteer dentists and hygienists from the region, provide the free care. The goal is to serve children who don't receive regular dental treatment or have regular access to dental care. The program, which is part of SIU's School of Health Sciences, is in its 18th year.

Safety protocols will be followed during the event to comply with the Restore Illinois plan and guidelines from local and state health departments.

Appointments are available on a first-come, first served basis, by calling 618-453-8826. For more information, contact Jennifer M. Meyer, clinical instructor and "Give Kids a Smile Day" coordinator, at jenn10@siu.edu or 618-453-8826.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner



A woodpecker of some sort, on the left, was having a chat with a pair of cardinals on one of our recent bitterly cold afternoons here on Planet Earth. Sorry your writer is not more of an "expert" when it comes to identifying birds.

It's cold everywhere...including the Red Planet...

At the time this column was being crafted late last Saturday morning, the temperature on the front porch of our humble abode was a nippy 14 degrees.

That, I suppose, would be very nice, if we happened to be at the North Pole. Or the South Pole. Or, maybe, on the planet Mars. And that thought got me to wondering: How cold was it last Saturday morning at the North Pole? The South Pole? On the planet Mars?

Once again, thanks to the wonders of the internet, I was able to determine temperatures at those faraway places.

The temperature at the North Pole, or at least North Pole, Alaska, was a cool 19 degrees below zero, according to weather.com. 19 degrees below zero made our front porch almost seem tropical.

It was even colder down south. AccuWeather reported that the temperature at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station was 35 degrees...below zero. Can't even imagine. Then again, The Other Half remembers being outdoors in the Montana winter when the temperature was 40 degrees below zero. Either way, it probably would not be a nice day to plan a picnic.

Meanwhile...

The most recent weather update for the planet Mars was from February 11, which happened to be the day those of us here in Union County on Planet Earth were digging ourselves out of the First Round of the February 2021 Wintergeddon, courtesy of our old friend, the Polar Vortex.

The high temperature on Mars on February 11 was zero. The low was 99 degrees. Below zero.

And how do we know such things? The Mars Curiosity rover is busy doing things like keeping track of the weather on the Red Planet, so we having something to talk about on Planet Earth.

All sorts of information about Curiosity can be found online at mars.nasa.gov. Did you know that as of January 12, 2021, Curiosity had spent 3,000 days on Mars? I didn't either. The rover arrived on Mars on August 6, 2012.

(At this point, the writer took a bit of a break...and a nap...and did not resume work to finish this masterpiece until Monday afternoon...The writer spent much of Saturday afternoon...and evening...and much of Sunday...paying attention to the weather forecast. Weather forecasts were suggesting that it might snow. A lot. And it would be cold, too. Really cold.)

And little did I know, but there would be a vague sort of connection between what Curiosity is doing on Mars and one of your writer's favorite pastimes.

While reading about Mars and the rover, I learned that Curiosity had taken a selfie picture at a place called "Mary Anning."

As explained on mars.nasa.gov, the location is named after "a 19th-century English paleontologist whose discovery of marine-reptile fossils were ignored for generations because of her gender and class." The rover was at the site to take and analyze drill samples.

Hmmmm. The Mars rover was looking for rocks at a place named after a paleontologist. Your writer likes to look for rocks, too. Generally, I don't have to travel millions of miles to pursue my hobby. I try to stay a little bit closer to home. Besides that, I'm guessing the cost of gasoline for a trip to Mars might be a little bit expensive.

I didn't get a chance to find out what kind of rocks the rover found and analyzed. When I go rock hunting, I often look for the fossil of a critter called a trilobite. Curiosity probably won't find any trilobites on Mars. If it does, now that will be big news.

Guess we'll finally finish up for this week. Just out of "curiosity," I decided to see what the temperature might be out on our front porch at 4:19 p.m. on Monday.

14 degrees. Same temperature that it was last Saturday morning when this started. Go figure. One last thing...wonder if there's a wind chill on Mars...



NASA's Curiosity Mars rover took this selfie at a location nicknamed "Mary Anning" after a 19th century English paleontologist. Curiosity snagged three samples of drilled rock at this site on its way out of the Glen Torridon region, which scientists believe preserves an ancient habitable environment. Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS. From the mars.nasa.gov website. By the way, if you look closely, I think you can see Bald Knob Mountain in the background.

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

Thursday, February 18, 1971

The Union County area finally received that long-awaited snowfall this past week. More than three and one-half inches of snow was recorded, although J. Bon Hartline, official weather observer for the area, said drifting and blowing made an official recording extremely difficult.

The Cobden Unit School Band has received a very unique invitation - an invitation to appear in the Sun Bowl Parade in El Paso, Texas, on New Year's Day, 1972.

The official census for Anna has been received in the City Clerk's office. The figure shows that Anna now has a population of 4,766 persons, a gain of 490 over the figure of 4,276 in 1960.

Nominating petitions for membership on the various seven-man unit school Boards of Education may be picked up at the office of the various superintendents at the present time. The first date to file these petitions is Wednesday, Feb. 24, in the office of the superintendents of the various schools.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the Open House at Capel's Pharmacy (in Anna) Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19 and 20.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Elam honored them with a reception for their Golden Wedding Anniversary Sunday, Feb. 7, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Blue Room of the First Baptist Church in Anna.

There were no Union County men inducted into the Armed Services during the month of February, according to the Clerk of the Selective Service Board in Anna.

PTA Founders Day 1971 was observed Monday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Jonesboro Grade School with the Union County PTA units as guests for the evening.

The Anna-Jonesboro High School Key Club is sponsoring the second Annual Powder Puff basketball Game this Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

The Union County Beagle Club will hold a field trial Saturday at the club house at the south end of East High Street in Anna.

From the Ware news: Ware community got four more inches of snow Friday morning, Feb. 12.

From the Alto Pass news: The electricity was out about one hour last Friday night after the big snow that day.

From the Shiloh news: We surely had slick roads this week end, didn't we? We missed services again, hope we can make it out next week. The snow-plow ran over the roads Sunday afternoon, and again tonight.

From the Mountain Glen news: Seems like most everyone around here was busy during the week end cleaning highways or digging out of snow drifts, as we finally received that big snow, which we thought was going to pass us by this winter and perhaps we will get several more before spring.

From the Oak Grove Church news: This cold weather has been bad for gas space heaters and furnaces. I have had a fan on the stove to go out and I hear of others.

Annual Maple Syrup Festival at Touch of Nature on hiatus

The Maple Syrup Festival, a popular Southern Illinois University Carbondale event held each February at Touch of Nature Environmental Center, is taking a hiatus in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

In recent years, the festival has expanded to include a vendor fair, demonstrations, music and numerous other activities, in addition to tapping trees to obtain the maple sap and showing how it's boiled to produce homemade maple syrup.

The event's popularity has skyrocketed in the last few years, according to JD Tanner, director of Touch of Nature, with last year's attendance hitting a record 1,300.

After much consideration, Tanner said, organizers concluded there was no way to continue the tradition this year while adhering to the Restore Illinois guidelines and state and university safety protocols. However, plans are already in the works for the 2022 festival.

Touch of Nature Environmental Center is an outdoor experiential learning center that serves as a field site for research, environmental education, recreation therapy, adventure education programs and a learning laboratory for SIU students, the region and beyond.