

# THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, February 24, 2022 Anna, Illinois ©2022 Reppert Publications \$1.00 Volume 173, Number 11

## News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

**Winter Storm Warning Issued:** As the paper was going to press Tuesday afternoon, the National Weather Service office in Paducah issued a winter storm warning for the region, including Union County.

The warning went into effect at 6 p.m. Wednesday and continues through 6 p.m. Thursday, today.

The forecast was calling for moderate to heavy mixed precipitation, mainly freezing rain and some sleet.

"Scattered power outages and some tree damage are likely due to the ice," the weather service advised.

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Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is March 2.

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Congratulations, once again, to the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' bowling team and members of the A-JCHS wrestling team on their fine seasons.

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Congratulations also go out to A-JCHS head football coach Brett Detering, who is going to be inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

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A-JCHS student Andrew Detering was named to the all-tournament Scholar Bowl team last week at the varsity conference at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

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Bright yellow crocuses were seen in bloom last week in the Union County area.

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## After heavy rain, wintry precipitation possible

Another round of heavy rain, and maybe even some more wintry weather, were in the forecast for the region this week.

### Flood Watch

The National Weather Service office in Paducah issued a flood watch early this week for the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky areas. Union County was included in the watch.

The flood watch was in effect from midnight Monday through Tuesday

## Weather

High 66, low 17;

4.64 inches of rain

Heavy rain and temperatures that fluctuated by nearly 50 degrees highlighted the Union County area's weather during the period of Feb. 15-21.

Precipitation during the period included 3.53 inches rain on Feb. 17, .03 of an inch of rain on Feb. 21, and 1.08 inches of rain which had fallen overnight Monday and early Tuesday morning of this week.

Temperatures ranged from a high of 66 degrees to a low of 17.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Feb. 15	65	22
Wednesday, Feb. 16	66	52
Thursday, Feb. 17	64	24
Friday, Feb. 18	39	17
Saturday, Feb. 19	39	25
Sunday, Feb. 20	61	25
Monday, Feb. 21	61	37

evening. (The flood watch for the area which included Union County had been lifted by Tuesday morning.)

"Flash flooding caused by excessive rainfall continues to be likely," the weather service advised Monday on its website.

The weather service said that heavy rain was forecast to fall on recently saturated ground.

Widespread amounts of 2 to 3 inches were in the forecast, and locally higher totals were possible especially across far Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

In addition to the flood watch, severe weather was possible in the region on Tuesday.

River flooding continued in the region this week.

Another round of heavy precipitation was expected, mainly Wednesday evening through Thursday evening.

This was expected to further heighten the flooding hazard, especially across Western Kentucky, where mainly heavy rain was in the forecast.

The weather service also was reporting that the potential existed "for an accumulation of wintry precipitation Wednesday night through Thursday night."

As of Monday afternoon, the weather service said that while some accumulations were possible, it was too early to forecast specific amounts.

The areas of greatest wintry impacts were likely to be north and west of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

### Heavy Rain on Feb. 17

On Thursday, Feb. 17, several rounds of heavy rain and thunderstorms moved across the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky region.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported on its website that

2 to 5 inches of rain fell "in just a few hours" on Feb. 17, "creating widespread flooding."

During the course of the day on Feb. 17, Union County was under a flood warning and a flash flood warning.

Early in the morning, the

weather service reported that between 1 and 2 inches of rain had fallen. An additional 1 to 2 inches of rain were possible.

Local weather observer Dana Cross recorded 3.53 inches of rain in Jonesboro on Feb. 17.

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### Rainy morning drive

Motorists faced heavy rain during their early morning drive on Thursday, Feb. 17. Cars were making their way through the intersection of new U.S. Route 51 and East Vienna Street when the photograph was taken. More heavy rain was expected early this week in the area, with wintry precipitation possible Wednesday and Thursday, today.



### Water at Anna City Park

A person was seen walking along the edge of a low-lying area at the Anna City Park which had filled with water during heavy rain which fell Thursday, Feb. 17. More heavy rain was possible in the region this week.

## Civil War Weekend planned in Anna, Jonesboro

Civil War history will come to life this weekend in Union County.

Civil War Weekend programs, presentations and exhibits are planned Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 25-27, in Anna and Jonesboro.

Activities are scheduled at the Anna Arts Center and at the Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro. Many of the activities are free. All are open to the public.

The arts center is located at 125 W. Davie St. in Anna. Heritage House Museum is located at 102 S. Main St. in Jonesboro.

Here's a look at the schedule of for the Civil War Weekend:

### Blue and Gray Dinner

A Civil War Weekend Blue and Gray Dinner is set for 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at the arts center.

Guest speaker is scheduled to be Dr. Edward F. Finch. Finch will portray Capt. Silas Wright Terry, who was an officer in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

He will talk about his experiences on the Red River Campaign, as well as escorting President Lincoln to Richmond at the end of the war.

The Kitchen at Lafayette in Anna will cater the dinner. Tickets are \$25. Those who would like to attend the dinner were asked to RSVP by no later than Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Finch holds a doctorate in history education. For six years, he was executive director of the Stephenson County Museum in Freeport.

Before that, he taught English, speech, debate, U.S. history and American studies at Freeport High School for over 25 years.

In 2010, the Naval Institute Press published his first book, a biography titled "Beneath the Waves: The Life and Navy of Capt. Edward L. Beach, Jr."

Since 2015 he has published five novels, including four in his Gabby Gordon Mystery Series.

### Anna Arts Center

Speakers and exhibits are planned from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Anna Arts Center. The events are free.

The schedule of speakers and topics includes:

9 a.m. Dr. Edward F. Finch, "The United States Navy in the Civil War."

10:15 a.m. Brian "Fox" Ellis, Illinois Road Scholar, "Walt Whitman's Lincoln."

Lincoln was a fan of Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," reading excerpts to clients in his Springfield law office; the one time he took the poetry home Mary Todd threatened to burn it.

Whitman's most famous poems, "Oh Captain, My Captain" and "When Lilacs Last Bloomed," were written as eulogies for this martyred hero.

After Lincoln's assassination Whitman gave regular lectures on Lincoln to rave reviews.

Fox recreates a program Whitman delivered on the Life of Lincoln woven with his Civil War poems, commentary on the war from the hospital tents and recollections of their misty morning encounter during the war.

11:30 a.m. Mike McNally, history instructor at Shawnee Community College, "Britain and the American Civil War."

McNally is originally from Liverpool, England, but has lived in Carbondale for almost three decades. He has taught at the college level for the past 20 years.

1 p.m. Dr. Nancy Kinsey Caldwell, musicologist, "A Soundtrack for Wartime: The Songs of the Civil War."

Caldwell shares recordings and live performance of a variety of Civil War songs, along with the sto-

ries behind their composition and reception by American listeners during and after the war.

2:15 p.m. Ed and Diane Annable, winners of the 2018 Delta Award for Southern Illinois Historians and Authors, will discuss a historical narrative of the soldiers from Johnson County.

The Annables will tell stories of the battles they fought, the "March to the Sea" with Gen. Sherman and the march in the Grand Review in Washington, D.C.

The Annables' book

"Some Come Marching Home Again: Johnson County Illinois Went to War 1861-1865," tells the story of 1,600 men who went to war.

### Heritage House Museum

PAST of Union County plans to host an open house at the Heritage House Museum from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

Local historian and author Darrel Dexter is scheduled to give a presentation at 2 p.m. Quilts from the Civil War era will be on display during the open house.



### Infantry volunteer

31st Illinois Volunteer Infantry Joe Kissel and Leonard Sadler (not pictured) will show and tell about the weapons used during the Civil War on Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Anna Arts Center. Photo provided.



### 'Capt. Silas Wright Terry'

Dr. Edward F. Finch will portray Capt. Silas Wright Terry at the Civil War Weekend Blue and Gray Dinner, which is planned Friday evening, Feb. 25. Terry was an officer in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War. Finch also is scheduled to speak Saturday morning, Feb. 26, at the Anna Arts Center. Photo provided.





# Appellate court declines to rule on mask mandates

**By Peter Hancock**  
**Capitol News Illinois**  
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SPRINGFIELD – Gov. JB Pritzker’s administration said Friday, Feb. 18, it will ask the Illinois Supreme Court for an “expedited review” of an appellate court’s decision not to rule on a lower court order that invalidated COVID-19 mitigation measures for roughly 170 school districts that were parties in a set of consolidated lawsuits.

Late Thursday night, Feb. 17, the 4th District Court of Appeals said it would not review the temporary restraining order issued Feb. 4 by a Sangamon County judge, calling the issue “moot” because the emergency rules issued earlier by the Illinois Department of Public Health have expired and a legislative panel in charge of reviewing such rules had declined to extend them.

But the court also said individual school districts remain free to adopt their own mitigation policies, independent of any executive orders or state emergency rules.

“The administration is working with the attorney general to request an expedited review of this decision from the Supreme Court,” Pritzker’s press secretary Jordan Abudayyeh said in a statement Friday morning. “In the meantime, the governor urges everyone to continue following the doctors’ advice to wear masks so students can remain safely learning in classrooms, and is encouraged that the court made it clear that school districts can continue to keep their own mitigations in place.”

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul also issued a statement saying he too was disappointed by the decision.

“The appellate court’s failure to address the important legal issues in question has added to the confusion resulting from the circuit court’s decision prioritizing a relatively small group of plaintiffs who refuse to acknowledge science or the need for public health measures to protect vulnerable Illinois residents,” Raoul said.

**Timeline of Cases**  
On Feb. 4, Sangamon County Circuit Judge Raylene Grischow issued a temporary restraining order blocking the enforcement of mask and vaccine mandates and the exclusion from school of people deemed close contacts with COVID-19 patients without giving those students and employees due process.

That order applied to the roughly 170 school districts who were named in the consolidated lawsuits. There are 852 public school districts in Illinois, plus numerous private school systems covered by the rules.

The cases were filed in various counties in September after the Illinois Department of Public Health issued emergency rules mandating that masks be worn in school settings, that unvaccinated school staff would have to submit to regular testing, and that students and staff deemed to be “close contacts” with people infected by COVID-19 be excluded from school buildings and events for a period of time.

Those emergency rules were issued in response to a series of Pritzker’s executive orders.

However, while the administration was appealing that decision to the 4th District, the emergency rules that IDPH had issued in September expired, and on Tuesday, Feb. 14, the legislative Joint Committee on Administrative Rules voted not to extend them, citing concerns about the restraining order and the pending appeal.

“We’re currently in a situation where the TRO says this rule is not enforceable,” Rep. Michael Halpin, D-Rock Island, a JCAR member, said in voting for the motion to suspend the rule. “It’s possible, if not probable, that this might

change on appeal, but as we now sit here, for that reason, I’ll vote yes.”

The 4th District panel, however, cited the JCAR action as its reason for not ruling in the appeal, saying the underlying rules covered by the restraining order were no longer in place.

“Because the emergency rules voided by the TRO are no longer in effect, a controversy regarding the application of those rules no longer exists. Thus, the matter is moot,” the court wrote.

The opinion was written by Justice John W. Turner. Justice Thomas M. Harris concurred in the opinion while Justice Lisa Holder White concurred in part, but said the issues concerning Pritzker’s executive orders were not moot and the court should have ruled on them.

“As it stands, the majority’s decision leaves open the question of whether the circuit court properly enjoined the enforcement of the executive orders,” Holder White wrote.

**Impact on Other Districts**  
It was unclear Friday exactly what, if any, state-issued mitigation mandates remain in place for schools in Illinois.

The 4th District court’s opinion indicated that the Sangamon County restraining order also applied to the governor’s executive orders. But both Pritzker and Raoul have said they believe the executive orders remain in place.

“While the Appellate Court’s ruling does not affect the enforceability of the governor’s executive orders, the decision does fundamentally misapply important principles of Illinois law related to the issuance of temporary restraining orders, such as the order issued by the trial court,” Raoul said in his statement Friday.

Meanwhile, the court’s opinion also said individual districts that are not parties in the underlying lawsuit still have authority to adopt their own mitigation policies, independent of the governor’s executive orders or state agency emergency rules.

“We note the language of the TRO in no way restrains school districts from acting independently from the executive orders or the IDPH in creating provisions addressing COVID-19,” the court said. “Thus, it does not appear the school districts are temporarily restrained from acting by the

court’s TRO.”

Many of those districts, however, have negotiated the details of their mitigation plans with local teachers unions, and the Illinois Federation of Teachers said Friday that they should continue abiding by those agreements.

“We continue to insist that school districts statewide abide by existing collective bargaining agreements that are in place to promote health and safety in schools and to follow our laws around safe schools and workplaces,” IFT president Dan Montgomery said in a statement. “As cases continue to decline, discussions about removing these mitigations must be based on good public health decisions. Medical science tells us that vaccinations, masking, and proper ventilation have been the best ways to maintain health in schools.”

**Mask Policies Elsewhere**  
The appellate court’s decision comes as the Pritzker administration is preparing to roll back the statewide indoor mask mandate on Feb. 28. Pritzker announced that plan on Feb. 9 but said he intended to keep the mandate in place for schools.

Meanwhile, the issue of mask mandates has become more contentious in the General Assembly where, on Thursday, Feb. 17, House Democrats voted to remove nine Republican lawmakers from the chamber for refusing to abide by the House’s own masking rule.

State Sen. Donald DeWitte, R-St. Charles, a member of JCAR, issued a statement saying there should be more legislative involvement in crafting pandemic mitigation policies.

“This appellate court decision is a clear indication that Gov. Pritzker’s unilateral decision-making relative to COVID-19 must end,” he said. “We are well beyond the point when the Governor should respect the authority and processes of the two other coequal branches of government. Rather than one-man-rule, the three branches should be working together to create clarity, not chaos.”

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## Two Union County students honored SIU Carbondale awards Chancellor’s Scholarships

Seven high achieving high school seniors from throughout the region are receiving Southern Illinois University Carbondale 2022 Chancellor’s Scholarships, which covers tuition, mandatory fees, room and board for four years.

Two of the students who are receiving the scholarships are from Union County.

“These high-achieving students are being named Chancellor’s Scholars because of their hard work and their ability to imagine a better future,” SIU chancellor Austin A. Lane said in a news release.

“I am excited to award our university’s highest honor to students in our own backyard and encourage them to get a first-class education close to home. I congratulate all Chancellor’s Scholars on this remarkable achievement and look forward to seeing them in the fall.”

Six recipients received surprise personal visits from university officials and Grey Dawg.

SIU will award 35 Chancellor’s Scholarships this year. All 35 winners were to have been recognized in a virtual meeting which was scheduled Tuesday afternoon with Lane, university officials and Grey Dawg.

More than 450 high school students competed this year in

a selection process that included a scholarship application and essay, with finalists participating in a personal interview.

Selected students demonstrate high academic achievement, a strong record of leadership in their communities and participate in numerous extracurricular activities.

As in prior years, scholarship recipients will come from throughout Illinois and the United States.

The award is renewable for three years, contingent upon the students maintaining a 3.0 or higher grade point average and completing 20 hours of community service and campus leadership activities per year.

Southern Illinois students who have received Chancellor’s Scholarships include, by hometown, name and high school:

- Anna: Alexandria Little, Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.
- Cobden: Leslie Morales, Cobden High School.
- Energy: Kaelin Rowland, Carterville High School.
- Herrin: Brenna Gusewelle, Herrin High School.
- Makanda: Elli Oploh, home school.
- Marion: Jake Bruce, Marion High School.
- Vienna: Ayden Rademaker, Vienna High School.



**Meeting with school officials**  
U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., met last week with Anna School District No. 37 officials. School safety issues were discussed. From left are principal Mark Laster, Rep. Bost, district superintendent Dr. Julie Bullard and Anna Police Department safety officer Jason Leek. The meeting was at Anna Junior High School/Davie School. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

## Congressman visits Anna School District; discusses safety matters

**By Benjamin Marxer**  
U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill. paid a visit to Anna School District No. 37 on Wednesday, Feb. 16, to discuss issues of student safety with school officials.

The visit comes in the wake of a school safety grant awarded to the district in the amount of \$401,588.

Bost championed the legislation, which provided 153 school districts nationwide with grants for safety improvement through the U.S. Department of Justice School Violence Prevention Program.

“This grant means a lot to us,” said Anna School District superintendent Dr. Julie Bullard.

“Continuing to sponsor things like this, where we do have control of the funding, and where it goes and what we can use it for. That’s so important, because there is so much we don’t have control over.”

The grants allow schools the ability to decide for themselves how the funding can best be spent on their students. This flexibility was a major plus for supporters of the legislation.

“What I appreciate the most about it is that we get to decide what to do with the money,” said Anna School District principal Mark Laster. “The most frustrating thing we deal with is all of these blanket mandates that treat everyone the same.”

“What happens in New York City, in their school districts, is completely different from what happens in Anna, Illinois,” said Bost.

Anna plans to use the grant to continue Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, PBIS, training for staff, as well as to install a number of security enhancements, including safety window film and fence wrap, road barriers, upgraded door locks and cameras and a night lock system.

District superintendent Bullard hopes that projects funded by the grants can be finished and implemented quickly.

“The grant is for three years,” said Bullard. “Because we have other projects going on, we can’t do it all at one time. But I’m hoping the window film, the fence covering, and some of the added fencing that we

are putting in will get done this summer for sure.”

“Moving forward, we are going to work as hard as we can to get everything done in a timely manner.”

### Anna VFW to serve chili dogs

Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna is planning to serve chili dogs, chili or hot dogs on Thursday, today.

Serving is planned from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public is welcome and carry outs will be available.

The meal will be served at the post, which is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.



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**Anna-Jonesboro National Bank**  
is sponsoring an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Course.




The course is free of charge and will be taught at the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church Main Street Center, 315 South St., Anna, IL from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18th and from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, March 19th. Participants must attend both classes and at completion will receive a hunter education certification card verifying they have passed the course of instruction. For information about the course, call LaRue Parr at 618-697-0286. The course includes instruction in wildlife management, firearms safety, hunter ethics, game identification, first aid, survival techniques and regulations.



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# Sports

## A-J’s Sadler takes third place at state wrestling tournament

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School’s Drew Sadler finished in third place in the Class 2A state wrestling tournament in Champaign Saturday, Feb. 19.

Sadler defeated Daneil Emer of Olympia 9-0 to claim third place.

His lone loss was to Hunter Robins of Illini West, with a 6-4 defeat in overtime. Sadler finished 4-1 in the state tournament series.

Sadler is a freshman who wrestled at 106 pounds. He finished the season with a 50-5 overall mark and became the first A-J wrestler in the school’s history to top the 50-win mark.

Until Sadler won his third place finish, it had been four years since A-J had placed at the state wrestling meet.

Here’s a look at other A-J wrestlers who advanced to

state and how they finished: T.J. Macy, 132 pounds, 1-2; Blake Mays, 138 pounds, 1-2; and Caleb Mays, 145 pounds, 0-2.

A-J wrestling team head coach Chase Hargrave said he was “extremely proud” of how well the Wildcats did.

The team returned home Sunday to a police escort through downtown Anna on their way to the school.

One more member of the A-J wrestling team is still scheduled to compete.

A-J’s Orië Dover, wrestling in the 125-pound class, advanced to the girls’ state tournament.

Dover is the first girl on the A-J wrestling squad to advance to state.

The girls’ tournament is scheduled Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25-26, at Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington.

## Appleknockers defeat Dongola in first-round action at 1A regional

The Cobden High School boys’ basketball team defeated Dongola 61-23 in first-round action at the Class 1A Egyptian regional at Carbondale High School Saturday, Feb. 19.

The Appleknockers led 16-3 after one quarter and 23-6 at the half.

Elliott Lowndes scored 31 points to lead the Appleknockers.

Tyler Franklin added 23 points. Brady Bundren, Drake Campbell and Edwin Funes added 2 each and Kevin Webb scored 1.

**Meridian 52, Cobden 41:** The visiting Appleknockers couldn’t hold a first quarter 11-9 lead in the loss in the South Egyptian Conference championship match up Thursday, Feb. 17.

Cobden led 25-19 at the half and 34-33 after three quarters, but was outscored 19-7 in the final period.

Franklin led Cobden with 27 points. Edwin Funes added 6, Brock Reynolds 4 and Campbell 2.

**Crab Orchard 56, Cobden 53:** The visiting Appleknockers held the lead again until the final quarter in the loss Tuesday, Feb. 15.

Cobden led 13-9 after one quarter and 28-14 at the half. Crab Orchard trailed 44-34 going into the final period. The home team outscored the Appleknockers 22-9 in the fourth quarter.

Franklin led Cobden with 38 points. Campbell added 6 points, Edwin Funes 5 and Reynolds 4.

**Cobden 69, Shawnee 42:** The Appleknockers held on to a first quarter 14-7 lead in the win at Carbondale High School Monday, Feb. 14.

Cobden took charge in the second quarter to build a 41-18 halftime lead.

Franklin led Cobden with 26 points. Reynolds added 15 points, Campbell 14, Bundren 6, Edwin Funes 5 and Aaron Funes 3.

Cobden, 21-7, was scheduled to play Cairo in the Class 1A Egyptian regional on Wednesday.

## Shawnee boys' team falls to Appleknockers

The Shawnee High School boys’ basketball team fell behind 14-7 after one quarter in a 69-42 loss to visiting Cobden Monday, Feb. 14.

Brody Wills had 16 points to lead Shawnee in scoring. Dryden Wills had 9 points, Ryan Libbert 5, Kayman Ford 4, Ethan Smith and Noah Mayberry 3 apiece and Koda Abraham 2.

The Shawnee junior varsity team nipped visiting Century 48-47 on Friday, Feb. 11.

Dryden Wills led the way with 19 points, followed by Brody Wills 12, Libbert 9, Abraham 7 and Ford 2.

The Shawnee junior varsity team finished the season with a 9-1 record.

## Vanderpool scores ace

Roger Vanderpool had a hole-in-one while playing golf Tuesday, Feb. 1, at the Union County Country Club course in Anna.

Vanderpool aced the 140-yard number 6 hole. He was using an 8 iron.

The shot was witnessed by Dennis Ames, Ron Hubbs and Walt Zeschke.

## A-J hoops season ends with loss at regional

Johnston City defeated host Anna-Jonesboro 52-48 in first round action of the Class 2A high school boys’ regional Saturday, Feb. 19.

The Wildcats were behind 14-11 at the end of one quarter and 24-15 at the half. A-J had a 17-7 scoring surge to pull ahead 32-31 going into the final period. The Indians came on to outscore the Wildcats 21-16 in the final period to pull out the win.

Dylan Harvel led A-J with 26 points and 6 rebounds.

Bryce Henry added 10 points and 4 rebounds. Landon Trammel had 5 points and 4 rebounds. Dawson Trammel had 4 points and a rebound. Ethan Carver had 3 points and a rebound. Evan Hall and Payton Denny each had a rebound.

A-J was 18 of 31 in shot attempts from the floor, 1 of 14 from 3-point range and 9 of 21 from the free throw line.

The Indians were 13 of 28 in shot attempts from the floor, 2 of 9 from 3-point range and 20 of 31 from the charity stripe.

## A-J head football coach

## Brett Detering to be inducted into IHSFCA Hall of Fame



**Leading Wildcats onto field**  
Anna-Jonesboro Community High School head football coach Brett Detering led the Wildcats onto the field during a home game last September. File photo.

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football coach Brett Detering will be inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Detering became the head coach at A-J in 1997. From the fall of 2000 to the present, Detering’s teams qualified for the Illinois High School Association, IHSA, postseason football playoffs 17 times – including 14 straight years from 2000 to 2014.

Overall, Detering has compiled a 196-94 record

as the head coach of the Wildcats.

His teams have won more than 10 games in five seasons. The Wildcats finished with 12-1 records in 2007 and 2018. A-J had a 4-5 record last fall.

Detering’s teams have won five Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference titles – three of them in undefeated regular seasons.

He’s had three teams which reached the IHA state semifinals in both Class 3A and 4A. A-J has had three final four appearances and seven trips to the quarter-finals.

Detering started the Whiteout game in 2013 as an opportunity to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, MDA.

To date, the game has

raised \$133,768 for the MDA; \$75,500 for Hadley’s Haven, an all-inclusive playground which is planned at the Anna City Park; and \$18,800 for A-JCHS student Tabi Smith, who sustained traumatic brain injury in the fall of 2020.

“It’s taken a lot of people to accomplish this,” Detering said about earning the hall of fame honor. “It’s truly a group effort...with a lot of people involved.”

The A-J coach said that those who have contributed to his success include assistant coaches, former and present players, fans and his family.

Detering will be inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame in Champaign on Tuesday, March 22.

## A-J girls take 10th at state bowling finals

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls’ bowling team earned a 10th place finish at the 2022 Illinois High School Association state finals.

Finals competition took place Friday and Saturday, Feb. 18-19, at The Cherry Bowl in Rockford.

The A-JCHS girls’ bowling team advanced to state for the first time in school history.

The A-J girls bowled 60 games and had a team score of 10,725.

Twelve teams competed at the finals. Lockport won the state title with a team score of 11,743.

Madi Hawk led A-J with a state final score of 2,413 pins. With that score, Hawk finished 18th at state among individual competitors.

The individual title at state went to Madison Ferguson of Vandalia, with a score of 2,842.

Scores tallied by Hawk’s A-J teammates at state included Whitley Quick with 2,190; Olivia Myers with 2,106; Jaden Ebberts with 2,076; Sara Sinisi with 1,798 ; and Ruby Duskey (who bowled in one game) with 142.

The team was coached by Cary Quick and Micah Cross.

## Farm Bureau welcomes scholarship applications

Union County Farm Bureau is accepting applications for scholarships.

The scholarships are designed to help ease the financial burden for students whose studies are in the agriculture field.

Scholarships are available to high school students who are planning to attend college and students who are already in college.

Scholarships are available to children of voting and associate members or young adults who are already Farm Bureau members, who are all studying agriculture or a coursework that will prepare them for a career in agriculture.

A link to the online application can be obtained by emailing unionfb@frontier.com or by contacting local school guidance offices.

The deadline for submitting a scholarship application is Friday, April 15, 2022.

More information about the scholarships is available by contacting the Union County Farm Bureau office at 833-2125.

## Backyard beekeeping program set

The basics of backyard beekeeping will be presented at a program which is planned Saturday afternoon, Feb. 26, at Giant City State Park near Makanda.

The free program is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the visitors center at the park.

Local bee enthusiasts Angie and Colin Kuehl will discuss getting started with beekeeping.

The program is open to the public. Registration is required. Registration is available by calling 618-457-4836.

Organizers noted that those who attend the program will be required to observe current guidance from the CDC and the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding face coverings and social distancing.



**Students of the quarter honored**  
Shawnee School District No. 84 has honored its most recent students of the quarter. Students were honored for the second quarter at a Feb. 15 Shawnee School District No. 84 Board of Education meeting. Students were selected for the honor based on academic excellence, citizenship and attendance. Each student received a certificate and \$25 from First Southern Bank of Grand Tower. From left are Leighton Ellet, kindergarten; board of education president Tim Qualls; and Sterling Livingston, 6th grade. Students who could not be present for the picture include Savannah Andrews, high school freshman; Gabriella Smith, high school senior; Landon Smith, 8th grade; and William Carlisle, 5th grade. Photo provided.

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News from

## Anna Nazarene Church

A Sunday morning worship service was held Feb. 20 in the church and on Zoom.

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

The message given by Pastor Wright was titled “Uniquely Created By Him for Him.” Scripture was from 1 Chronicles, James, Jeremiah, Genesis, Ephesians, the Psalms and Revelations.

The message can be found on the church’s website at [annanaz.com](http://annanaz.com) and on the church’s Facebook page.

Birthdays: Bryce Wright, Feb. 21; Sophia Wells, Feb. 22; Tonya Hammer, Feb. 26.

Anniversary: Richard and Brenda Keeley, Feb. 23.

Fellowship Connect is planned at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 25 in the fellowship hall.

A grocery giveaway is

planned from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Feb. 26.

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 27.

Adult and children’s Sunday School is planned at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 27.

A morning worship service is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 27. A baptismal service is planned following the morning worship service.

Quizzing is planned at 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on March 2 in the sanctuary and on Zoom, with the youth group meeting and children’s Bible quizzing in the fellowship hall. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the Zoom password.

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

Rev. Thompson’s message Sunday was titled “A Divine Task: Loving Our Enemies,” with scripture from Matthew.

The scripture selection was Jesus’ teaching a “re-vision” of the centuries old practice/laws of retaliation: such as an eye for an eye. Jesus taught that Godly love did not retaliate.

The message shared that “He taught that we must go ‘the extra mile’: if someone was in need, give them more than they asked for, if someone slapped you, to turn the other cheek.

“Jesus taught that in addition to loving our friends, who loved us in return, we must also love our enemies.”

Rev. Thompson reminded everyone that there is a bit of “evil” in the best of people and a bit of good in the worst of people.

The message continued with the question: “How can we love someone who attacks us day after day? Jesus told his audience, and us, to pray for our enemies. We must remember that our ‘enemy’ is a creation of God just as we are.

“Jesus even prayed for those who crucified Him; what an example of loving one’s enemy.”

Raelynn Bonner and Brooke Bates took up the offering.

Tony Gerard is Camp Ground Church’s head elder for February.

Happy birthday to Dwight Boaz, whose birthday is today, the 24th.

Rev. and Mrs. Phillip Brown had a wedding anniversary Tuesday, the 22nd.

Sympathy is extended to all those grieving the loss of loved ones.

All are welcome to services at Camp Ground Church each Sunday. Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

Worship also is available on Zoom. Those who would like to join in worship via Zoom can leave a message on the church phone (833-9000) with their email address or cell phone number and the link will be sent Sunday morning.

## Ebenezer Hall Cemetery meeting planned

The annual meeting of the Ebenezer Hall Cemetery board is scheduled Monday, Feb. 28.

The meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. at Lick Creek School.

In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be rescheduled for March 2, at the same time and place.

More information is available by calling 614-2091.



### Traffic on Anna street

Traffic was passing through the 500 block of East Vienna Street in Anna during heavy rain which was falling Thursday, Feb. 17. For many years, flooding had occurred at the location when heavy rain fell. A major project was done during 2021 to ease the flooding problem.

News from

## First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, Feb. 20, in the morning service, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about wishes, based on the story of King Saul and the witch of Endor, based on scripture from 1 Samuel in the Old Testament.

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

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

The church’s Facebook page, Jonesboro FBC, has videos and the latest information about possible closings.

Music director Dee Rose led worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Marion Hill

played the song “At Calvary” on his banjo.

Men’s Bible study was planned Monday night.

Birthdays: Kenmore Rowe, Feb. 20; James Dillow, Feb. 22; Edna Dallas, Jean Eudy, Feb. 23; Alma Osterholm, Feb. 24.

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

The Dig-In Children’s program and a youth group meeting are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Prayer and Bible study are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## Cobden church planning to serve Lenten fish dinners

Lenten season fish dinners once again are planned at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden. Lent begins on March 2, which is Ash Wednesday.

Fish dinners are planned at the Cobden church on Fridays during Lent.

The fish dinners will be served March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1 and April 8.

Serving will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Friday in the parish hall on the church grounds. The church

is located at 101 Centennial St. in Cobden.

The menu will feature fried fish, baked fish, baked beans, french fries, fried squash, cucumber salad, cole slaw, dessert and a drink.

Costs for a meal will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children ages 5-12. Children 4 and under will eat free. Carry outs will be available.

Organizers note that due to rising costs, dinners will not be all you can eat, but one trip through the food line.

## Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Happy belated birthday wishes to Penny Hill whose birthday was Monday, Feb. 21.

Penny Hill of McClure visited Tuesday with Shirley Miller of McClure.

Congratulations to Brock Reynolds who was named king at Cobden High School homecoming. His great-grandmother is Dolores Reynolds of Reynoldsville.

## Hess News

By Glenn Heisner

Danny and Sam Heisner spent last week with us. Sam’s school in Georgia has a winter break, as well as a spring break in April.

Electricity was out in our neighborhood Thursday evening, so Danny fixed burgers on the grill.

David Johnson visited friends and relatives in Alabama, Georgia and Florida recently.

Our usual Thursday group met at the Sunshine Inn last week.

February birthdays: Fred Pitts, Feb. 14; Judy Halter, Feb. 16; Cynthia Hall, Feb. 21; Bruce Williams, Feb. 22.

Tom Windchester, the minister who married us, will be 90 on Feb. 22. He was still pastoring a country church when we last spoke.

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Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion. Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him. From the Psalms

\*\*\*\*\*

Brothers and sisters: It is written, The first man, Adam, became a living being, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one. From 1 Corinthians

\*\*\*\*\*

Jesus said to his disciples: “To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.” From the Gospel of Luke

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Daily Bible Reading


Colossians 1:24-29	Colossians 2:1-19	Colossians 2:20-3:4	Colossians 3:5-17	Colossians 3:18-4:1	Colossians 4:2-18	Leviticus 19:1-18
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at [DailyBible.AmericanBible.org](http://DailyBible.AmericanBible.org)

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reported in Illinois

Feb. 18:	20,896
Feb. 10:	29,939
Feb. 4:	60,389
Jan. 28:	123,812
Jan. 21:	183,722
Jan. 14:	207,203
Jan. 7:	201,428
Dec. 30:	128,246
Dec. 23:	77,246
Dec. 17:	59,312
Dec. 10:	49,668
Dec. 3:	42,559
Nov. 24:	21,034
Nov. 19:	28,280
Nov. 12:	22,600
Nov. 5:	17,462
Oct. 29:	14,616
Oct. 22:	15,131
Oct. 15:	15,669
Oct. 8:	19,244
Oct. 1:	18,735
Sept. 24:	21,787
Sept. 17:	25,956
Sept. 10:	26,062
Sept. 3:	30,319
Aug. 27:	25,636
Aug. 20:	24,682
Aug. 13:	21,334
Aug. 6:	16,742
July 30:	11,682
July 23:	7,983
July 16:	4,449
July 9:	2,945
July 2:	2,120
June 25:	1,744
June 18:	928

Source: Illinois Department of  
Public Health

# 1.0000 tentative tax multiplier issued to Union County

Union County has been issued a tentative property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, the Illinois Department of Revenue, IDOR, has reported.

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the “multiplier,” is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law.

IDOR noted that the equalization is particularly important because some of the state’s 6,600 local taxing districts (such as school districts and community college districts) overlap into two or more counties.

If there were no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result, IDOR said.

State law requires property in Illinois to be assessed at one-third of its market value.

Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland and farm buildings assessed according to stan-

dards based on productivity.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the sales price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If the three-year average level of assessment is one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be 1.

If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than 1.

If the average level of assessment is less than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than 1.

IDOR reported that assessments in Union County are at 32.95 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2021 taxes, payable in 2022.

Last year’s equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The tentative factor is subject to change if the county board of review takes actions which significantly affect the county assessments or if local officials or others can present data showing that IDOR’s estimates of the average level of assessments in the county should be adjusted.

A public hearing on the tentative multiplier will be held between 20 and 30 days after the tentative factor is published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county.

IDOR explained that a change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease.

Tax bills are determined by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual’s portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.



## Underground Railroad

The Underground Railroad of the 1800s was not a train or railroad at all. It was a secret network of everyday folks who opposed slavery. Those “conductors” guided and helped people escape slavery in the south to freedom in the north.

Stories of the Underground Railroad Secret Quilt Code are legendary. Whether all true or not, many symbols used in quilt designs can be traced back to origins in Africa. Certainly some, if not all, “codes” carried meaning to those who recognized them “hidden” in everyday scenes.

Several “secret quilt code” samplers are on exhibit at the Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro. Among the most familiar are monkey wrench (pack your belongings ready to go), black square (safe house), star (travel at night and follow the north star). An open house is planned from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Heritage House Museum. Photo provided.

# Television Listings

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

## FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

## MONDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

## TUESDAY MARCH 1, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

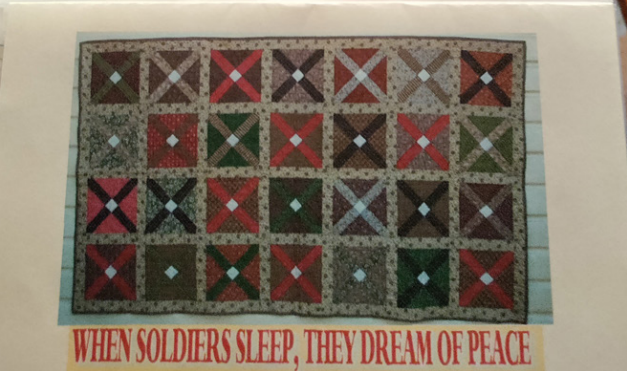
## WEDNESDAY MARCH 2, 2022

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	MLB Today PreGame on ESPN2 (10p)	Local 10	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
7 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
8 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
9 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
10 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
11 PM	Local 10 (10p)	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local



## U.S. Sanitary Commission exhibit

PAST’s Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro plans to be open Sunday, Feb. 27, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Exhibits will focus on activities of local groups and aid societies during the Civil War to help wherever they could. The U.S. Sanitary Commission was created in 1861 with the approval of President Abraham Lincoln to support sick and wounded soldiers of the U.S. Army. An exhibit by Susan Steck telling the Commission’s story appears in the Quilt Room at the Heritage House Museum, along with replica quilts of the Civil War period. Sunday’s event is being held as part of Civil War Weekend activities which are being held in Union County. The activities are scheduled Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Heritage House and at the Anna Arts Center. Photo provided.



## Civil War soldier’s cot quilt

A replica of a Civil War soldier’s cot quilt, with a theme of “When a soldier sleeps, he dreams of peace,” reminds Heritage House Museum visitors of the sacrifices made by many for the freedom of all. Made in recent years by Home of the Brave Quilters, this comfort quilt honors the life and sacrifice of a Southern Illinois Iraqi Freedom hero, Sgt. Brian Romines. Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro plans to have an open house from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27. Photo provided.



# Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

Please have news to me by Sunday night. Email me at marthaannwebb@gmail.com 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.

## Blessed Weekend

Hope everyone had a blessed weekend celebrating our presidents birthday's, Disney on Ice and first girls Anna-Jonesboro Community High School bowling team to make it to state and place in the top 10 in the state. Congratulations.

## 21st Birthday

Willie and Terrie Rhymer along with Jordan, Alexis, Junior, Hadley, Jaxson and Emmy celebrated Alexis's 21st birthday at Giant City Lodge.

## Guest

Emilee Chamness from Melber, Ky., stopped in and visited with Willie and Terrie Rhymer this week.

## Visiting

Willie and Terrie Rhymer have been visiting Willie's brother Kenny and family at their home in Creal Springs. Kenny is not doing well at this writing.

## Anna Heights Baptist Church

Anniversary: 27th Bill and Debbie Hess.

Birthdays: 25th James Houseman, Harold Hubbs, Myah Neal.

True Love Waits emphasis started Sunday, Feb 20, for the youth.

Attendance for Feb. 13: 8 a.m. worship 85. 10:30 a.m. service 134. Small group Bible study 226.

Grief Share Prayer and Bible study is every Tuesday at 1 p.m. The community is invited to attend.

Momma Lou's Crafters will meet Thursday, today, at 6:30 p.m. This month's project is making carrots.

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon series Genesis the Beginning. This week God's work from Noah to the Nations.

## United Methodist Church, Anna

On the seventh Sunday after the Epiphany, Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was

God's Plan for Your Life, with scripture from Genesis.

Rev. Tim's Children's message was if we love God we will have forgiveness in our hearts.

Rev. Tim asked Chris Foster to say a prayer before his sermon.

Prayers were said for those sick and who have lost loved ones.

Many praises were given. Special music was "Abide With Me" presented by Teri Goldsberry, Rev. Tim Gossett, Carla Anderson and Marcy Morris.

Wednesday at 7 a.m. the men meet for Bible study. The women meet for Bible study at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Tai chi is at 2 p.m.

The choir has begun rehearsing for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Thursday at 10 a.m., friendship and sewing plan to meet, weather permitting.

## Trip to England

Chris Foster returned from York, England, after spending the month of January there with daughter Sarah, who is pursuing a post-graduate degree at the University of York.

During the time Chris and Sarah spent together, they visited lots of tourist destinations.

Those included the York Minster Cathedral, the Shambles and Shambles Market, the York Castle Museum and the National Railway Museum.

They also took a tour across the Yorkshire Moors to the town of Whitney located on the North Sea.

During the tour, they visited several abbeys and other sites of interest. York is rich with Roman and Viking architecture and was full of historical places of interest.

Memorials to World War I and World War II veterans are seen in every corner of

the city. Most of those memorials were adorned with wreaths made of plastic poppies. Chris thought of Martha Ann every time she came across one of these memorials.

## Louisville Farm Show

Phillip Wayne Dillow took his mother and father Sharon and Philip Dillow to the Louisville Farm Show in Louisville, Ky., on Friday. They had an awesome time.

## Kentucky Trip

Steve and Bonnie Sullivan, their grandson Liam Welborn and Janet Boyd went to Louisville, Ky., to see their brother Mike Jackson of Bowling Green, Ky., with his 1970 1150 Massey Ferguson Tractor he rebuilt and entered in the National Farm Machinery Show.

## Anniversary

36 years Valentine's Day Jeff and Allison Holshouser.

## Birthdays

Valentine's Day, Jason Wece, Barbara House, Feb. 19 Bonnie Sullivan. Rich Elliott, Sheila Salyers, Laura Lang, Debbie Hileman, Mary Ellen Duskey.

## Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club

Will meet March 7, 1 p.m., at Extreme Performance for a tour and meeting.

## Sympathy

Rick Davis and family have been visiting in Anna for his brother-in-law's funeral Jack Yarbrough. Please keep Gayle and family in your prayers.

They also visited with his mother Audrey Davis and other family and friends.

## Anna City Flag

I got a call from Rich Elliot that he and Debra went to Vienna Town Square Mall.

He saw an Anna city flag rolled up in a bucket going down the basement stairs. It had something over it but Rich recognized it and pulled it out.

He ask the owner Jennifer Jacobsen how much the flag was and told her the story behind the flag.

She was so intrigued by his story she told him to take it she wanted to donate it back where it belonged to our city.

Several years ago at the sesquicentennial of our city in 2004 the GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club had a contest to design a flag for our city. Adolph Walter designed the flag and won the contest.

One day Barbara Bauer of the GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club realized the flag was no longer flying. She went on a quest to find the flag that no one seemed to know what happened to it.

Barb and Norm had recently moved on Lewis Street in Anna and she was driving around the alley to the back of their home when she noticed one of the Anna city flags hanging in a garage there.

When Barbara told me I knew who lived there and it just happened to be Rich and Debra's home so I contacted Rich who told me he found the flag in the waste can at the fire department and asked if he could have it. It was all tattered and torn by wind damage. Rich used to work for our fire department.

Since they were moving Rich gave the flag to me. He had put it in his garage because he had a band that practiced there and it gave the room a decoration and in honor of our city. The flag was in bad shape but we were happy to get it and really appreciated it.

I worked with Rich and Debra when they worked at Choate Mental Health. They live in Karnak now. It was so good to hear from Rich.

God works in mysteri-



**A special thanks to Rich Elliott for bringing Anna City Flag back to Anna and to Jennifer Jacobsen owner of Vienna Town Square Mall for donating it to Rich when he told her the story of this beautiful flag. GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Cub had a contest at the 150th celebration of Anna 2004 for someone to design a city flag. Adolph Walter designed this flag and won the contest. Left to right Rich Elliott, Martha Ann Webb, Danyelle Dodd, Ashley Guined, Dori Bigler.**

ous ways because both of us were thrilled he found two of our Anna flags now. This flag was in great shape and will be flying soon at its place at Anna City Hall hopefully.

We are wondering how many were sold at that time and if anyone else has one of the flags or remembers a story about them.

If you own one I would love to get your picture with it. Please let me know if you do.

There is one new one that had been kept at Anna City Hall for history that has never been flown.

When they tried to order another one the company they contacted said it had been to long and they didn't have any record of it.

When Walters had their online auction Kelly Carter called me and told me there were two flags that I was looking for on there. My daughter Bessie bid on the flags and won the bid and we were so happy to find these that were owend by the person that designed the flag.

Marsha Walters, Adolph's daughter, lives in Carbondale now and our plans are to get together and have a picture made with the flag and her. All the restrictions of COVID have kept us from getting together but we will soon when it warms up.

I messaged Barbara Bauer and told her of all the excitement of Rich Elliot bringing the flag he found in Vienna back to Anna and asked her what she remembered about the flag. Here is what Barbara sent me.

In 2004, Anna celebrated 150 years since its founding in 1854.

In recognition of that



**Brenda Lovelace and Judy Smith were honored for their February birthday. Queen Mom Joan Graves Edwards was given a special treat at their Red Hat meeting.**



**Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies met at El Jalepeno in Anna. Left to right Lila Williams, Kathy Jackson Milam, Marie Samuel, Cathy Ziegler, Queen Mom Joan Graves Edwards, Martha Schwegman, Judy Smith, Martha Ann Webb, Connie Harvel, Brenda Lovelace.**



**Chris Foster returned from York, England, after spending the month of January there with daughter Sarah, who is pursuing a post graduate degree at the University of York. Memorials to World War I and World War II veterans are seen in every corner of the city. Most of those memorials were adorned with wreaths made of plastic poppies, pictured here.**



**Andrea Dahmer celebrated her birthday Feb. 12 with her family.**



**Thanks to Kathy Jackson Milam for hosting the Little Egypt Red Hat meeting at El Jalepeno in Anna.**





# Anna News

(continued from previous page)

**Sympathy**  
Debra Elliot’s grandmother passed away three weeks ago. Please keep Debra and Rich in your prayers.

Tiffany Busby’s father Russell (Rusty) Johnson Sr. passed away. His birthday would have been Feb. 28 and he would have been 72. Please keep their family in your prayers.

**Kelly Cemetery**  
If you would like to donate a Honor Wreath for Veterans for Kelly Cemetery on Wing Hill Road the wreaths will be shipped to Anna and Homer Hawk board member will pick them up and they will lay the wreaths.

If you pay online you can scroll down and mark Anna Cemetery but be sure and let us know it is for Kelly Cemetery. You can send money to me or give to any board member of Kelly Cemetery but please make your checks to Honor Wreaths for Veterans. Art Pender is one of the board members and made white crosses for all the 45 veterans buried there.

If you have a small cemetery you would like to take over to help find people to donate wreaths, help lay them and then take the wreaths off at the appropriate time your help would be appreciated.

**Red Hat Ladies**  
Ten Little Egypt Red Hat

Ladies met at El Jalepeno in Anna hosted by Kathy Jackson Milam.

Kathy decorated the room following the Valentine’s theme. She brought cake and candy for everyone.

They were so happy Queen Mom Joan Edwards could be there. She has enjoyed our meetings at El Jalepeno so much she requested we meet there in March.

Two birthdays were celebrated: Judy Smith and Brenda Lovelace. “Happy Birthday” was sung to the ladies.

A special treat was given to our Queen Mom. There was a gift exchange.

Marie Samuel said the prayer before we ate. Everyone enjoyed a great meal.

Hostesses for the March meeting will be Kathy Jackson Milam, Brenda



David Ray at the Barbeque Barn in Harrisburg celebrating Valentine’s Day with Lori.

Lovelace and Martha Ann Webb. We will be celebrating St. Patrick’s Day and Mardi Gras so you can dress for this if you would like.

**Civil War Weekend Feb. 25-27**  
At Anna Arts Center and Sunday in Jonesboro at PAST House.

Friday, 6 p.m., Blue and Gray Dinner Anna Arts Center.

Saturday starting at 9 a.m. at Anna Arts Center.

Sunday open house, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at PAST Heritage House.



Marie Samuels work “In Honor of Nurses” exhibit at LEAA Little Egypt Art Association in Marion on the Square.



On Feb. 12, David and Lori Ray made a trip to Lawrenceville to visit Corrie and Brooke Ray and children Taytrum and Blake. They celebrated a belated Christmas, Valentine’s Day and Taytrum’s 8th birthday, which was Jan. 3. They celebrated with Valentine’s doughnuts from Kristine Kareem, and pizza for her birthday. Corrie and Brooke gifted David and Lori with a flowering bush to put in their yard. After the visit, on the way home, David treated Lori to a late supper in Harrisburg at the Barbeque Barn and enjoyed awesome pork ribs celebrating an early Valentine’s Day. They enjoyed the entire day. Pictured Corrie and Brooke Ray.



Another great weekend of Upward Basketball at Anna Heights Baptist Church. Only two more weeks of games left.



Kathy Wills, chief of staff for Sen. Terri Bryant, and Sen. Bryant display Valentine cards that were sent to local senior citizens facilities and nursing homes for Valentine’s Day of the 58th Senate District. Sen. Bryant asked students from public and private schools, church groups scouting organizations and other groups to create homemade cards. Sen. Bryant thanked all the groups and the individuals who donated so many beautiful cards that made many seniors very happy Valentine’s Day.



Willie and Terrie Rhymer, left, and Bob and Betty Caraker celebrated Valentine’s Day at Patti’s Settlement in Grand Rivers, Ky.



Union County Housing office employees were at Shawnee Community College: Randy Miller, occupancy specialist; Bonnie Williams, general manager, Robbin Mezo, occupancy coordinator. The new online portal is live. Anyone interested in applying can type in myucha.com and register for a free account and submit all their documentation online. Residents will soon be able to pay rent online and complete annual and interim certifications in the same portal.



Congratulations to Earl Miller who won the basket of books donated by Marilyn Keller of Main Street Market and Books located inside Annabelle Market at the Friends of Stinson book sale. Thanks to the board of Friends of Stinson Memorial Library and everyone who came out to buy books. Left to right standing Marilyn Keller, Allen Stanley, Carole Larson, Jan Hunter, Andrea Witthoft. Sitting Tammy Woodrum, Earl Miller.

## Foundation launches annual Together We Can soup drive

The Fowler Bonan Foundation has launched its second annual Together We Can soup drive.

The foundation is accepting canned good donations for senior centers and food pantries throughout Southern Illinois.

“Last year, we launched this donation initiative to help local organizations who were struggling due to the pandemic,” Fowler Bonan Foundation chairman Dale Fowler said in a news release.

“The overwhelming success and demonstration of support from last year’s drive was an amazing blessing, and we were so thankful for the opportunity to help so many.”

Cans are being collected through March 15. Only canned goods will be accepted at drop-off locations.

All donations will go toward food pantries and senior citizen centers throughout Southern Illinois.

The Fowler Bonan Foundation currently operates the Heaven’s Kitchen initiative in Marion and Harrisburg.

The program provides warm meals to those in need twice a week through its locations.

“We see firsthand through

our Heaven’s Kitchen mission the need to provide resources to communities throughout Southern Illinois, and given the turnout from 2021, we decided to bring back the donation drive for a second year,” Fowler said.

In 2021, the Fowler Bonan Foundation partnered with sponsors and local organizations throughout the region to collect over 55,000 cans.

The goal for 2022 is to match and exceed last year’s contributions.

“When you see such a small gesture make such a huge impact, we knew we

had to bring it back,” said Fowler. “Any donation can make a difference and is appreciated.”

The Together We Can initiative is a community effort, with drop-off locations being added daily.

Organizations or businesses which might want to host a drop-off location can reach out by email at fowlerbonanfoundation@gmail.com.

Those interested in donating can visit the Fowler Bonan Facebook page for locations, e-mail the foundation directly or drop off donations at 2 North Vine St. in Harrisburg.



### Anna city flag

Jessica Roberts from the Anna Fire Department and city employees David Frank and Austin Pender were at work last week placing a city flag on a pole in front of Anna City Hall. The fire department’s ladder truck was being used for the special project. Photo provided.



# Obituaries

## Homer U. Grimm

Homer U. Grimm, 92, of Villa Ridge, went peacefully to be with the Lord, his wife, mother, father and siblings on Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

He was born on Sept. 16, 1929, in Letart, W. Va., the son of George Alton and Virginia Roush Grimm.

He married Esther Bohannon Grimm in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. Grimm is survived by one son, Gary (Beverly) Grimm of Columbiana, Ohio; one daughter, Pam (Darin) Morris of Villa Ridge; grandchildren Gerard (Chelsea) Grimm, Stephen Grimm, Kacey (Colt) Garrett and Jared Morris; great-grandchildren Gibson Grimm, Sullivan Grimm and Charli Ray Garrett; several nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife; his parents; three brothers, Thomas Grimm, William Grimm and George (Lenoard) Grimm; and two sisters, Rebecca Talkington and Leota Folger.

Mr. Grimm attended the Anna Church of the Nazarene, where he served in many capacities, both at the district and local levels.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, woodworking and metal fabrication.

He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict.

Private graveside services will be held for the family. Interment will be in the Anna Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to American Legion Post No. 0344. Envelopes will be available at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit [www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com](http://www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com).

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



## Allen Davis Rudolph

Allen Davis Rudolph, of Jacksonville, Fla., passed away on Feb. 4, 2022, at the age of 95.

He was born in Anna, Illinois, the son of Roy Hubert and Laura Patrick Rudolph.

He graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he studied architecture.

Allen worked for most of his career at the firm Sverdrup & Parcel, first in St. Louis, but from 1966 onward in their Boston office. He helped design various large civic projects, such as Busch Memorial Stadium in St. Louis (1966), the northwest extension of the Boston subway system and Maine Medical Center in Portland Maine (1984).

Allen was a long-time resident of Melrose, Mass., before retiring to Lubec, Maine, where he lived for many years until moving permanently to Jacksonville, Fla., in 2018.

He was known as a gifted artist and as an outdoor enthusiast who led many walks of the Lubec Pathfinders club.

Allen served as a board member of the Regional Medical Center in Lubec and contributed to the design of the visitor's center at Quoddy Head State Park.

Early in his career, Allen worked for an American architectural firm in Tehran, Iran, where he met Ria van der Meulen, who worked at the Dutch Embassy there. They were married in 1956.

Allen was preceded in death by Ria, his wife of 41 years; as well as by his brother Roy Maurice Rudolph, and his sisters Lucinda Rudolph and Amy Dee Wiley.

He is survived and will be greatly missed by his three children, Roy Rudolph, Maria Rier and George Rudolph; by his second wife, Nancy (Lane Terry) Rudolph; by his nieces and nephew; and by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Allen will be buried in the Anna Cemetery.



## Shirley Malone Fritsche

Shirley Malone Fritsche, 90, of Cordova, Tenn., died on Jan. 21, 2022, at home, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on June 25, 1931, in McLeansboro, the daughter of Rudolph Rice Malone and Ella Louis Carothers.

She married Paul G. Fritsche on Jan. 12, 1952. Together, they shared 68 years of marriage.

She attended Cairo High School. She and her husband enjoyed attending reunions as long as they were able.

Mrs. Fritsche worked for J.C. Penney in Northfield, Ohio; as comptroller for Ratcliffe Pontiac in Eatontown, N.J.; and as comptroller for Brooks Buick in Towson, Md.

She was a long-time member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lutherville, Md., and of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Cordova, Tenn.

She was an avid bird watcher and a talented seamstress in her spare time.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Rudolph and Ella; her brothers, Gordon and Rudolph Jr.; her husband, Paul; and her grandson, Jonathan.

She is survived by her daughter, Patti, of Cordova, Tenn.; and her son, Carl, of Eatontown, N.J.; grandsons Joseph and David and granddaughter Elisabeth; and four great-grandchildren.



## Alan Lafoon

Alan Lafoon, 62, of Louisville, Ky., died Friday, Feb. 18, 2022, at his home.

He was born on Oct. 22, 1959, in Fort Wayne, Ind., the son of Carl and Mary Anna Busch Lafoon.

He is survived by his sister, Susan (Rick) Sherwood of Cobden; a special friend, Nancy Langford of Louisville; an aunt, Bobby Sue McCall of Silver City, N.M.; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He enjoyed the outdoors, camping, fishing, golf and photography. Living in Louisville, he loved the Kentucky Derby and the horses.

He served in the U.S. Air Force. For many years, he worked as an auto mechanic in both Carbondale and Louisville.

Graveside services for Alan Lafoon will be at the Cobden Cemetery at a later date.

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

To visit his memorial page and to leave online condolences for his family, visit the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home website at [rendlemanhilemanfh.com](http://rendlemanhilemanfh.com).



## Effie Mae Harrell

Effie Mae Harrell, 82, died with her family at her side on Monday, Feb. 14, 2022, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Oct. 23, 1939, in Tamms, the daughter of Howard and Lena Cox Wallace.

She graduated as salutatorian from Alexander County Central High School in 1957.

She attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale for a period before moving to Memphis, Tenn., marrying, and having her first daughter, Kim Kang Adams.

She returned to Tamms in 1960, where she married Bill Harrell and had her second daughter, Amy. She worked as a bookkeeper for over 40 years in Cairo before returning to school in 1983.

She obtained her bachelor and master of accounting degrees from SIU Carbondale and went on to have a 17-year career working in the bursar's office at SIUC.

She loved music and animals. She devoted much of her time caring for the many dogs and cats she rescued over the years. She also had a special love for the city of New Orleans after visiting the 9th Ward during rebuilding after Katrina.

Survivors include her husband, Bill; daughter and son-in-law Kim and Raymond Kang; daughter Amy; granddaughters Chelsea and Rachel Kang; stepfather, James Greenley; one nephew, Greg Bennett; and numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother and sister-in-law, Clifford and Betty Bennett; and one nephew, Howard Bennett.

According to her wishes, a celebration of life will be held by the family later this year.

Memorials can be made to St. Francis Community Animal Rescue & Education ([stfrancis-care.org](http://stfrancis-care.org)) in Murphysboro.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit [www.crainsonline.com](http://www.crainsonline.com).

**Crain Funeral Home** in Tamms is in charge of arrangements.



## Jerry Hornback

Jerry Hornback, 87, of Cobden, died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, at his residence.

He was born on Nov. 15, 1934, in Sikeston, Mo., the son of Sidney Frances and Virginia Lynch Hornback.

He married Joan Cornue on July 31, 1965. She preceded him in death on Aug. 7, 2005.

Mr. Hornback served in the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed spending time with his family, and was a great handyman.

Survivors include his daughters, Cheryl (John) Kasper of Fort Worth, Texas, Donna Sorensen of Humbolt, Tenn., Pam Glover Groh of Cobden, Kim (Pat) Labott of Buffalo Grove, Sheryl Scott of Galloway, N.J., Betty (Rod) Sorensen of Kansas City, Mo., and Laurie Yates of Cobden; sons Jerry (Rhonda) Hornback of Flippin, Ark., and Ron (Dawn) Hornback of McHenry; grandchildren Mike (Anna) Kasper, Mark (Ali) LaBott, Brian (Cortney) Glover, David Groh, Kerry Perez, Nicole Franklin, Jim (Stephanie) Ford, Gina (Robby) Davis, Joshua Hornback, Justin Hornback, Felicia Hornback, Lauren Hornback and Jocelyn Hornback; 17 great-grandchildren; sisters Shirley Birk, Betty Edwards and Rita (Wayne) Wright; a brother, Wayne (Penny) Hornback; and several other relatives and friends.

Besides his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Patsy Poucher; and five brothers, Gary, Harry, Joe, Rex and Marty Hornback.

A memorial gathering will be held Saturday, March 5, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

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



## David Graham

David Graham, 43, of Anna, died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

He was born on Aug. 8, 1978, in Spartanburg, S.C., the son of Timothy Wayne and Arlene Masterson Graham.

He married Melissa Cook on Oct. 29, 2005, in Eureka Springs, Ark.

Mr. Graham is survived by his wife, Melissa Graham; daughter Aniyah Graham; and his mother, Arlene Graham, all of Anna; a brother, Timothy Jr. (Lori) Graham of Poplar Bluff, Mo.; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father; and by grandparents, Johnny and Lucille Rouse Masterson.

He was an avid Houston Astros baseball and Chicago Black Hawks hockey fan.

In years past he volunteered his time to coach wrestling and took several young wrestlers to state competition.

He enjoyed comic books and attending Comic-Con events. He was always generous and would help anyone in need however he could.

Mr. Graham was a supervisor at Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna for the last 13 years.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro.

Friends can call after 11 a.m. and until the service hour at 1 p.m. at the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro.

Memorials can be made to the college fund for Aniyah. Checks are to be made payable to Melissa Graham. Envelopes will be available at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit [www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com](http://www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com).

**RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN** Funeral Home in Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.



## Jack C. Yarbrough

Jack C. Yarbrough, 64, of Anna, died Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at this home.

He was born on Feb. 4, 1958, in Centralia.

He married Wanda Gayle Davis on May 24, 2014, in Anna.

Mr. Yarbrough is survived by his loving wife, Gayle Davis of Anna; children Trisha (Mike) Yarbrough of Chaffee, Mo., Jacob Yarbrough of Cape Girardeau, Sarah Yarbrough of Anna, David Webb of Jonesboro and Jesse (Megan) Webb of Mahomet; grandchildren Matthew and Alaiyah Yarbrough, Kaden, Zander and Keira Webb; a brother, Gary (Karen) Yarbrough of Centralia; other relatives and friends.

Mr. Yarbrough worked for 25 years for the City of Cape Girardeau as the recycling center supervisor.

He was an avid Steelers football fan and St. Louis Cardinals fan. He loved listening to Pink Floyd while he was making bird houses, Indian jewelry, knives and sheaths.

Memorial visitation was from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit [www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com](http://www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com).

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



## Dawn Valentine

Dawn Valentine, 59, of Olmsted, died Friday, Feb. 18, 2022, at her residence.

Cremation rites will be accorded and no services will be held.

Crain Funeral Home in Cairo is in charge of arrangements.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit [www.crainsonline.com](http://www.crainsonline.com).



# Obituaries Online at annanews.com

### Card of Thanks

*The family of Verna Aden is sincerely grateful for the many prayers, kind words, memorials and expressions of sympathy and support at the time of her passing. We extend our sincere thanks to the staff at Crain Funeral Home in Dongola for their kindness, and to the staff at Voyage Assisted Living, who went above and beyond in caring for Verna.*

*Jeff, Randy, Shaun and Paul and Families*

10P11GC



The Gazette-Democrat

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HELP WANTED: Looking for full and part-time Custodians for Shawnee Community College in Ullin. Apply at Main Campus front desk. Phone (618)-634-3200, ext. 3436.

51gpc tfn

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Email: chris@longforestry.com

Or Call (618)-893-2307

9p-12g

VACANCY NOTICE:

Dongola Unit #66 is seeking the following positions:

Special Education Teacher

Applicants must submit a letter of interest, resume, transcript and three letters of reference to:

Dr. Paige Helm Maginel, Superintendent  
Dongola Unit #66  
1000 High Street  
Dongola, Illinois 62926  
DUSD # 66 is an equal opportunity employer.  
Position will be filled as soon as possible.

9p-11g

HELP WANTED:

Full-time Adult Outpatient Counselor/Therapist available at Community Mental Health Center. Must have a minimum of a Bachelor Degree in a social services field. Duties: provide mental health services such as assessment, counseling/therapy, case management, advocacy to adult clients and document services in the agency’s electronic health records system. The Adult Outpatient Counselor/Therapist will also participate in the agency’s crisis on-call rotation.

Pay: \$29,250-\$36,000 per year. (pay commensurate for licensed therapists). Send resume and 3 references letters to: Assistant Fiscal Manager, P.O.Box 548, Anna IL 62906 or send an email to [info@uccsinc.org](mailto:info@uccsinc.org) EOE.

10-11gp

HELP WANTED:

Full-time and Part-time Shifts Living Skills Technician available at Union County Counseling’s residential program. Must be 21 years of age, have a valid driver’s license and auto insurance. Must be able to pass multiple background checks and drug test. Duties include but are not limited to: some case management, teaching clients daily living skills, documenting services provided in an electronic health records system. This position also requires applicant to be able to climb stairs.

Pay: Hourly, starting at -\$13.00/hr. \$14.00 after 90 days. Send resume and 3 references letters to: Assis-

all in Township Eleven (11) South, Range One (1) East of the Third (3rd) Principal Meridian, described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a point on the North line of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) which is 14 rods East of the Northwest Corner thereof, thence West on said line 14 rods to the Northwest Corner thereof and continuing West on the North line of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35) a distance of 4 rods to a point; thence North parallel with the West line of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35) a distance of 19 rods to a point, thence Easterly 4 rods to the West right-of-way line of the County Road, thence following the South line of said road in an Easterly direction 14 rods to a point, thence South parallel with the East line of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) to the North line of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) which is the point of beginning, situated in Union County, Illinois.

and for other relief, that summons was duly issued out of the said Court against you as provided by law, and that said suit is still pending.

Now, therefore, unless you, the said Defendants, Michael J. Smith, Angela C. Smith, State of Illinois Department of Revenue Tax Lien, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, file your answer to the Complaint in the suit, or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, in the County Courthouse in the City of Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before the 27th Day of March, 2022, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

Keri E. Clark  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Prepared by:  
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER  
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER  
& FERRELL, L.L.C.  
212 North Main Street  
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9-11g

Public Notice

To: Customers of  
Illinois-American Water  
Company -  
Notice of Proposed  
Change in Rates

Illinois American Water hereby gives notice to the public that it has filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission a proposed change in water and wastewater rates for all operating areas served by the Company, effective approximately January 10, 2023.

The proposed rates would increase the overall water or wastewater service revenue for the Company’s districts below as follows. The increase shown is not an indication of the impact on an individual customer's bill, which may vary based on multiple factors.

**Central Water (including Alton/Cairo/Champaign/Chicago Metro/Hardin/Interurban/Lincoln\*/Peoria/Pontiac/South Beloit/Sterling/ Streator) 32.9%**

**Pekin Water 27.7%**

**Central Wastewater 19.4%**

**Chicago Metro Wastewater 21.1%**

\* The Lincoln District is proposed to be incorporated into Central Water.

The proposed changes, which include changes in design of the rates, affect charges for customers in all service classifications

(including metered water service, wastewater service, private fire service and public fire service) in the districts listed above. The estimated bill impact of the proposed changes may vary based on multiple factors, including, but not limited to, meter size, usage volume, service classification, fire protection district, and other factors.

Illinois Commerce Commission procedures for intervention are contained in its Rules of Practice, 83 Ill. Admin. Code Part 200. In addition, customers may request a public forum regarding this proposed increase by making a written request to the Illinois Commerce Commission in accordance with procedures specified in Section 8-306(n) of the Public Utilities Act (220 ILCS 5/8-306 (n)).

A copy of the proposed rate schedules may be inspected by any interested party at any of the Illinois American Water offices. Additionally, customers may contact Illinois American Water at (800) 422-2782 for an explanation regarding how the proposed changes might impact their monthly bill.

Customers should be advised that the Illinois Commerce Commission may alter or amend the rates or conditions of service after hearings held pursuant to 83 Ill. Admin Code Part 200, and may increase or decrease individual rates in amounts other than those requested by Illinois American Water.

You may obtain additional information either directly from Illinois American Water, 300 N. Water Works Drive, Belleville, Illinois 62223, tel: (800) 422-2782, or by addressing the Chief Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or via the Illinois Commerce Commission’s website at [www.icc.illinois.gov](http://www.icc.illinois.gov).

Information is also available at Illinois American Water’s web site, [www.illinoisamwater.com](http://www.illinoisamwater.com).

10-11g

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

In the Matter of the Estate of MARY DARLENE LIGHT, Deceased No. 2022-PR-2

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the

## County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco)

Mill Creek Village Board Meeting

The Mill Creek Village Board met Tuesday, Feb. 15, at village hall.

Discussion was held on the new budget and tax levy increases. The budget should be completed by the first of April at the latest.

Items tabled until next month were the tax levy until a new tax accountant is secured.

Repairs to the village hall and replacement of Mill Creek Post Office flooring were discussed; these, as well as road repairs, will have to wait until the cold weather has passed.

However, new insulation has been installed in the village hall and over the post office section of the building.

The contract with the USPS was reviewed and found to be up to date. It was determined that it is the Village of Mill Creek’s responsibility to clear the parking lot and walk of the post office during inclement conditions.

All matters reviewed for vote were approved. The next board meeting is planned at 6 p.m. on March 15.

**Trips, Visitors**  
Chuck and Martha Harvel made a trip to Destin, Fla., this past week with family. They reported the weather was nice and the grandkids

death of Mary Darlene Light of Dongola, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 28, 2022, to Robert Carlyn Light, 315 Light Lane, Dongola, IL 62926, whose attorney is Mark S. Johnson of Johnson, Schneider & Ferrell, L.L.C., 309 Division Street, P. O. Box 826, Cairo, IL 62914.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 West Market Street, Room 108, Jonesboro, IL 62952, or with the representative, or both, by August 10, 2022, or three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of a personal claim notice, whichever date is later, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

KERI E. CLARK  
Union County Circuit Clerk  
9-11g

PUBLIC NOTICE  
Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with Section 17-20 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/17-20), notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 15, 2022, in the Offices of the Department of Revenue, 101 West Jefferson Street, Springfield, Illinois, for the purpose of taking evidence which may be pertinent to the Department’s estimate of the percent to be added to or deducted from the aggregate assessment of locally assessed property in Union County for the assessment year 2021. This hearing is required by the Property Tax Code.

Based on the comparison of assessed valuations, the analysis of property transfers, and other available information, the estimated percentage to be applied to the aggregate assessment of locally assessed property other than property assessed under Sections 10-110 through 10-140 and 10-170 through 10-200 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/10-110 through 10-140 and 10-170 through 10-200) is 0.00%. Accordingly, the tentative equalization factor is 1.0000.

This meeting will be accessible to handicapped individuals in compliance with Executive Order #5 and pertinent state and federal laws upon notification of anticipated attendance. Hand-

icapped persons planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact Charles Hulett, either by telephone (217/785-6619), email at [charles.a.hulett@illinois.gov](mailto:charles.a.hulett@illinois.gov) or letter (Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division MC- 3-450, 101 West Jefferson Street, P. O. Box 19033, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9033), by Tuesday, March 08, 2022, to inform of their anticipated attendance.

David Harris  
Director of Revenue  
11g

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS - IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the Estate of: Susan M. Suttle Deceased 2022-P-08

NOTICE FOR CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Susan M. Suttle. Letters of Office were issued on February 14, 2022, to David A. Suttle, 35 Bluff Lane, Goreville, Illinois 62938, as Executor, and whose attorney is Thomas Downey at Selder Law LLC, 201 West Main, Marion, Illinois 62959.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk at the Union County Court House, Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before August 24, 2022, which date shall not be less than 6 months from the date of the first publication. Any claims not filed on or before that date are barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

11-13g

## ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED NETWORK

Use Seal N Heal® to seal wounds on dogs & cats with a bitter taste to prevent gnawing, allow healing. At Tractor Supply® ([www.happyjackinc.com](http://www.happyjackinc.com))

By Suzan Harvel

NSDAR Chapter Meeting

Members of the Daniel Chapman Chapter, NSDAR plan to meet Monday, Feb. 28, at the Anna Arts Center at 9:30 a.m., to sign cards for veterans.

The chapters February regular meeting was held on Valentine’s Day at the PAST Heritage House in Jonesboro.

The ladies of PAST decorated the house beautifully for the “Tea and Tour” meeting.

Sincere thanks are given to Linda Hileman, Marilyn Meisenheimer and Carolyn Tripp for creating a “love”ly luncheon.

Additional thanks to Carolyn Tripp for the beautiful, handcrafted heart-shaped sachets given to each lady and to Mindy Carter for the delicious petit fours she created.

The seed catalogs are starting to arrive. My husband is already plotting and planning. Of course, most of what the future garden will produce depends on the weather.

Speaking of which...the weather forecast for this coming week shows a lot of rain on its way. Four to five inches, then we may be graced with freezing rain. Take heart though...spring is only 25 days away.



# Opinion and Commentary

## Parents, guardians encouraged to be aware of children’s online activity

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul on Feb. 8 recognized 2022 Safer Internet Day by encouraging parents and guardians to focus on protecting children from online exploitation.

As part of this year’s Safer Internet Day theme, “Together for a Better Internet,” Raoul urged parents and educators to help children and teens be more aware of their online activity, who they interact with online and what information they share about themselves.

The attorney general’s office, together with the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, ICAC, hosted a free online panel discussion Feb. 8 to help adults and educators identify and prevent online child exploitation, or “sextortion.”

The goal of the panel discussion was to help adults talk to children and teens about why they should not send, request or share sexually-explicit images or videos, regardless of threats they may receive.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the amount of time children and teens are spending online, and it is more important than ever that parents and guardians have ongoing conversations with children that will help them develop responsible online habits. Just because a child is in the room with you, it does not guarantee their safety online,” Raoul said in a news release. “Safer Internet Day is an opportunity to talk to children about ways to protect themselves online and what to do if they end up in an unsafe situation.

The ICAC Task Force has seen an increase in reports of child exploitation, and Raoul is encouraging parents to talk to children about sextortion and how to handle a situation where someone is threatening them online.

Sextortion is a form of online exploitation in which an individual uses grooming and coercion to acquire sexual content from a child. They may offer money, gift cards or even drugs in exchange for explicit photos or videos.

Once initial explicit content is obtained from the child, the individual uses it as blackmail to acquire more sexual content from the child, to engage in sexual activity with the child, obtain money or make other demands.

Raoul warns that perpetrators of this crime often create fake accounts pretending to be younger or a member of the opposite sex. They may create multiple identities to approach children on social media or through online gaming, after learning of the child’s interests, friends, school or family.

Once an online friendship or bond is established, the individual may request that communication be moved to other online platforms with encryption or private video chat and messaging. The “sextorter” will threaten to expose the child if their demands are not met.

Raoul is urging parents and guardians to have regular conversations with their children regarding their children’s online activity and social media use, and discuss risks and safety.

During the panel discussion, experts from the attorney general’s office and representatives from the ICAC Task Force discussed sextortion itself and help parents and guardians set rules for their children’s internet use.

For example, parents should also educate themselves on the games and platforms their children utilize, check age restrictions, and use privacy settings and parental controls. Parents should discuss healthy relationships, how to maintain a positive online image (digital footprint) and what types of images are appropriate to share.

The attorney general offered additional tips for children to protect themselves and practice safe online habits:

Never accept friend or follower requests from people they do not know in-person.

Never share private information such as full name, date of birth, address, phone number, account passwords or even the school they attend.

If offered gifts, games or money in exchange for explicit photos, always say no, block the user and report to a trusted adult.

Know that it’s never too late to get help or report an incident, even if they made a mistake and supplied inappropriate images. Remember, the perpetrator is at fault.

In response to increasing reports of online child exploitation, the attorney general’s office hosts monthly webinars aimed at giving parents, guardians and educators tools to help children and teens foster healthy online interactions.

The free webinars, which began Oct. 7 and take place on the first Thursday of each month, will teach parents and guardians about the social media apps children and teens may be using, how to identify signs that a child may have been a victim of online child solicitation and more. Interested parties can email [Karilyn.orr@ilag.gov](mailto:Karilyn.orr@ilag.gov) to register.

Illinois’ ICAC Task Force is one of 61 ICAC Task Forces throughout the country and is comprised of a network of more than 285 local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and the task force covers 101 of Illinois’ 102 counties.

Since 2019, the Illinois Attorney General’s ICAC Task Force has received more than 20,700 CyberTips and been involved in more than 203 arrests of sexual predators.

Since 2006, the task force has been involved in more than 1,780 arrests of sexual predators. The task force also has provided internet safety training and education to more than 959,000 parents, teachers and students and more than 23,100 law enforcement professionals.

# Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

## Let's skip February...make today January 55th

Once again this week, we’ll just kind of wander around, with a little bit of this...and a little bit of that...

Guess I missed the announcement about the speed limit on new U.S. Route 51 changing to something like 125 miles per hour. Apparently, tailgating at a high rate of speed continues to be proper driving etiquette for some people, as well...

Speaking of roads...skunks did not appear to be doing well along Union County’s highways and byways during the past week... and, yes... once again, I did see a dead skunk in the middle of the road... and, yes... it was stinking to high heaven...

Speaking of dead things in the middle the road... is it a bad omen if a vulture happens to fly overhead while you are driving along, just minding your own business? Seems like it’s been happening a lot to me lately...

Moving right along...

Don’t know ‘bout you, but this writer is D-U-N with February...

I’ve whined about the month of February for many a year...to no avail. Something is just not right about a month with a major “holiday” that celebrates a rodent.

February, for the most part, for most of the time, just seems cold, gray, snowy, icy and otherwise the most forlorn of the 12 months of the year. February is the Eeyore of months. Why else would the person who invented the calendar only give it 28 days (and the occasional 29 days) to the second month of the year? Twenty-eight days means that we get to the end of the month faster... just doesn’t seem that way...

Many years ago, as I have often shared, I managed to ditch the cold and snow of February by leaving..as in leaving the Northern Hemisphere in the middle of the month. Went from the middle of winter in Southern Illinois to someplace where it was the middle of summer. At least it made February a little more bearable.

Once again, I will propose that we simply extend the length of the month of January...all the way until March... we’ll just do away with February...

We’ll celebrate Ground Hog Day on January 32nd. Valentine’s Day will be on January 45th. We can still get our sweethearts flowers and chocolates. Today, by the way, is January 55th...

Speaking of going places... one day last week, while out on a “beat” (that’s newspaper talk), I heard a couple of people talking about cruises... river cruises in particular.

If I were to go on a cruise, I would prefer to go on a river cruise. No worries about icebergs on a river cruise. Actually, my idea of a river cruise would probably involve



One of those things that might make a person stop and go hmmmmmm... I have seen this “rabbit” along the road before...just never stopped long enough to take a photograph. Can check that off my list now...

a jon boat and a cooler... Just not on the Mississippi River in the middle of a “flood of the century...” Been there, done that.

Speaking of not going places...seems like this winter, and especially this month, my mode of transportation to The Paragraph Factory has been frozen shut in the morning more times than I can remember, thanks to several rounds of rain followed by temperatures which seemingly allowed the nether world to freeze over.

Let’s end this with a thank you to the fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life who shared a wonderful little guide about Illinois fossils with yours truly. The guide was, well, maybe a little bit “old.” Then again, so am I... and so are fossils...

Stay safe...



Did not know that finches like sweet gum seed pods. Maybe the “gum balls” created by sweet gums actually are good for something...

## Illinois 4-Hers honored for career achievements

4-H youth across the state have been honored for their career achievements in the 4-H program. Some of those receiving recognition are from Union County, as well as other Southern Illinois counties.

The state 4-H Experience Award offers recognition for members who took part in activities and events in the categories of participation, community service, leadership and project mastery.

In order to qualify for the award, 4-H members must have expanded their 4-H experience beyond just the county level.

“4-H encourages and provides supports for youth to develop mastery in their chosen subject area, but we also encourage youth to use those skills in leadership roles,” Lisa Diaz, University of Illinois Extension assistant dean and 4-H director, said in a news release.

Diamond Level awards recognize youth who completed six or more experiences in one of the three dimensions, with at least four experiences beyond the county level. The Diamond Level awards are sponsored by David and Sue Randall and Dr. Janice Seitz.

Among the Diamond Level Award winners in leadership were Jillian Jones of Pope County.

The Emerald Level award recognizes youth who completed eight or more experiences in one of the three dimensions, with at least four of those experiences beyond the county level and at least two at the state, national or international level. The Emerald Level awards are sponsored by Patricia Clickener, Dr. Lloyd Shaw, Jim and Cheryl Wormley and Pete Haselhorst.

Among the Emerald Level Award winners in leadership were Trystan Borders from Union County, Jordyn Swinford from Pope County and Rachel Lands from Saline County.

Among the Emerald Level Award winners in project learning were Callysta Borders from Union County, Braden May from Massac County, Remington Curry from Pope-Hardin County, Abagayle Britton from Pulaski County and Kevin Britton from Pulaski County;

The career achievements will be celebrated at a ceremony which is planned April 9 in Champaign. The 2022 4-H scholarship winners will also be celebrated at this event.

## A Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, February 24, 1972

Approximately 40 firemen from Cobden, Anna and Jonesboro were unable to contain a fire which completely destroyed the Bald Knob Cafe in Alto Pass Thurday, Feb. 17.

The last day to register or transfer registration to vote in the Primary election March 21; however, inasmuch as Monday was a legal holiday and the County Clerk’s office was closed, the deadline was extended to Tuesday, Feb. 22.

The first day to file nominating petitions for a position on one of the seven-man Boards of Education in the various school districts of Union County was Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Anna Fire Chief H.E. Douglas reports a number of grass fire calls this past week.

Offices in the old Anna City Hall building adjacent to City Hall are being changed this week.

An organization meeting of the Cobden Junior Women’s Club was held recently in the Cobden Housing Recreation Room. The members made plans to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt April 1 at 2 p.m. at Bell Hill in Cobden.

“Fried Jam” will play at Anna-Jonesboro Teen Town Friday, Feb. 25. Teen Town will open and the band will play from 8 to 11 p.m.

The Anna-Jonesboro Regional Basketball Tournament got under way Monday night with Meridian pitted against Shawnee in the first game. Anna-Jonesboro played Cobden in the second.

The annual Wolf Lake Midget Basketball Tournament will get underway next Monday, Feb. 28, at 12:00.

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School Key Club is presently making plans to sponsor a wall tennis tournament involving several of the male faculty of A.J.C.H.S. Wall tennis, otherwise known as paddleball, is a relatively new but fast-moving and exciting sport.



REPERT

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## Heavy rain

(continued from page 1)

Rainfall amounts recorded in the region on Feb. 17 and posted on the weather service website included:

4.02 inches in Cobden. 4.05 inches at Bean Ridge in Alexander County. 2.94 inches near Makanda. 3.25 inches near Thebes.

In addition to flood warnings and flash flood warnings, a map of the region posted on the weather service website late on the afternoon of Feb. 17 showed information about a winter storm warning, a winter weather advisory, a flood advisory, a wind advisory, a flood watch, a special weather statement, a hazardous weather outlook and a hydrologic outlook.

As a result of the heavy rain, river levels were on the rise in the region.

**Big Muddy River Flooding**

The weather service issued a flood warning for

**Herstory event planned**

The NAACP's Alexander-Pulaski County branch is planning to host its second annual Celebration of Herstory.

The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 12, on Zoom.

March is Women's History Month.

Keynote speaker for the event is scheduled to be attorney Lenita Y. Sims Spears. She is co-chair of the NAACP Illinois state conference redress committee.

The Zoom meeting ID is 897 8722 4724. The password is 312791.

the Big Muddy River near Murphysboro. The flood warning remains in effect until further notice.

Union County is bordered on the northwest by the Big Muddy River.

The heavy rain which fell last week, combined with expected rain this week, will cause continued rises on the Big Muddy River. Minor flooding is in the forecast.

At 9:30 a.m. Monday, the river's stage near Murphysboro was 23.8 feet. Flood stage is 22.0 feet.

The river is expected to rise to a crest of 27.5 feet Saturday morning.

**Local Forecast**

Here's a look at the forecast for the Union County area which was posted online early this week by the weather service:

Wednesday night: Rain, freezing rain and sleet before 7 p.m., then freezing rain and sleet. Low around 29. North northeast wind 8 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 100 percent.

Thursday: A chance of freezing rain before noon, then rain or freezing rain between noon and 2 p.m., then freezing rain after 2 p.m. High near 34. North northeast wind 8 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

Thursday night: Freezing rain before midnight, then a slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 24. Northwest wind 9 to 11 mph, with gusts as high as 18 mph.

The forecast for Friday and Saturday is calling for partly sunny conditions and highs in the 30s. There's a slight chance of snow Saturday night.

## Anna's Tree City USA recognition expanded, includes Growth Award

Good news about a Union County community's Tree City USA designation was shared last week.

The news was reported at a regular meeting of the Anna City Council. The meeting was Tuesday evening, Feb. 15, at Anna City Hall.

The meeting also was highlighted with an update about plans for the 2022 Annabelle Festival in Anna.

**Tree City USA**

For the past two years, the City of Anna has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

This year, that honor has been expanded to include a Growth Award for efforts to "continuously improve the community's urban forestry program," according to the

## News Notes

(continued from page 1)

State Sen. Terri Bryant spoke to A-JCHS teacher Julie Lewis's civics class last week.

\*\*\*

Cobden High School basketball player Tyler Franklin was being saluted on social media for scoring 1,000 career points.

\*\*\*

Cobden High School's 2022 graduation ceremony has been set for May 13.

\*\*\*

Cobden High School's junior-senior prom is scheduled for April 23.

\*\*\*

Union County Clerk and Recorder Lance Meisenheimer spoke last week with seniors in the adult living class at Cobden High School. He talked about property taxes, elections and other services which his office provides.

\*\*\*

Child development students at Cobden High School took Real Care babies home last weekend. A social media posting noted that they were going to "experience the stressful schedule of a real newborn."

\*\*\*

An Anna Kiwanis Club Easter egg hunt is planned April 9. The egg hunt once again will be at the Anna City Park. The rain date is April 16.

\*\*\*

Anna city officials have been asked to consider establishing a snow route along Main Street.

\*\*\*

Local Boy Scout River Michael Doss earned Eagle Scout status by building and installing two privy structures at the Trail of Tears State Forest in Union County.

foundation and a news release from those involved with Anna's efforts.

The Growth Award is reserved for participating Tree City USA communities that demonstrate higher levels of tree care and community engagement beyond the Tree City requirements.

Projects leading to the award include the addition of many new native tree specimens to the Anna City Park, as well as special planting ceremonies in honor of Arbor Day, the 2021 graduating class of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School and Veterans Day.

Continuing projects include a tree identification trail to mirror the disc golf course in the city park and beautification efforts in the Anna City Cemetery.

"We have an enthusiastic tree commission made up of volunteers who develop great ideas and are able to adjust to the needs of the city as opportunities arise," city administrator Dori Bigler said.

City public works manager Gary Dahmer added that "it's important to remember the efforts of the city employees who make these accomplishments possible."

Members of the city's tree commission plan to distribute tree seedlings on Earth Day in April.

The City of Anna has also recently entered the Adopt-a-River stewardship program through Living Lands and Waters out of Moline.

The purpose is to protect the watershed and trees adjacent to the Cache River, which flows through the Union County community.

**Annabelle Festival**

The city acted to become a sponsor of the 2022 Annabelle Festival.

The eighth celebration of the Annabelle hydrangea is planned for Saturday, June 11.

Many of the festival activities will take place along Davie and Lafayette streets in the downtown Anna area.

New to the festival this year will be a pet parade, which is planned at the Anna Moose Lodge parking lot along South Main Street.

The festival schedule also includes a flower show, a pageant, vendors, children's activities, a birds of prey presentation, a magic show, music and food.

Also at last week's meeting, the city council approved a bid from Wiggs Excavating Inc. in Benton for a water distribution system improvement project.

Four bids were received. A low bid of \$305,450 was accepted. Work is planned during 2022.

## Accident claims life of off-duty Pulaski County Sheriff's Office deputy

An off-duty Pulaski County Sheriff's Office deputy sustained fatal injuries in a traffic accident which happened Saturday night, Feb. 19.

Pulaski County Deputy Jon David Utley, 26, succumbed to injuries sustained in the accident. The accident happened in Pulaski County.

Illinois State Police District 22 at Ullin reported that the single-vehicle traffic accident occurred at approximately 8:30 p.m. Saturday in the 2000 block of Shiloh Road in Villa Ridge.

State police reported that Deputy Utley was driving a 2008 black Dodge truck.

Preliminary investigation indicated that the truck was traveling west on Shiloh Road.

The truck left the roadway to the left and struck a tree. The driver was transported by ambulance to an area hospital, where he later was pronounced dead.

"This office grieves the loss of one of our own," Pulaski County Sheriff Randy G. Kern said in a message posted on social media.

Kern thanked those who provided their assistance, including:

Mounds Police, Mounds Fire, Mound City Fire, Ullin Police, Pulaski County Ambulance, Anna Police, Union County Sheriff, Union County Dispatch, 911 callers "and anyone else that we may have accidentally forgotten."

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office as they mourn the loss of one of their own," the Union County Sheriff's Office shared in a message posted on social media.

Deputy Utley was a graduate of the Southwestern Illinois Police Academy in Belleville.

He served his community as a police officer with several agencies in Franklin and Williamson counties, and currently was a corporal with the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office.

His greatest passion in life was being a police officer.

Visitation will be held Thursday, today, at 11 a.m., with a funeral service at 1 p.m. at Jones Funeral Home at 594 Olmsted Rd. in Villa Ridge.

He will then be escorted by law enforcement back to his hometown in Johnston City, where a visitation will be 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at Pyle Funeral Home in Johnston City (just east of Interstate 57, exit 59).

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Pyle Funeral Home in Johnston City, with Pastor Steve Shea officiating. Interment will follow in Herrin City Cemetery.

Abraham Lincoln, along with his family, moved to Macon County, Illinois, from Indiana in 1830.

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