

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Anna, Illinois

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News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

Congratulations to the Cobden High School boys' basketball team, which finished the season with an 18-0 record.

Good luck to the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football team, which is set to open its 2021 spring season this Saturday at Carterville.

The Shawnee Community College baseball team's players and coaches are receiving recognition. On Saturday, while traveling to Olney for a game, they stopped to assist a motorist in Johnson County whose vehicle had overturned.

The Anna Kiwanis Club is making plans for a community Easter egg hunt on Saturday morning, March 27. The event will be at the Anna City Park. An April 3 rain date has been set.

Southern Seven Health Department planned to have a clinic Tuesday, March 16, at Shawnee Community College to offer the single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.

In conjunction with the observance of National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week, which is March 22-28, Southern Seven Health Department is encouraging families to be diligent in recognizing the behavioral warning signs of drug or alcohol abuse in teens.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah was calling for the possibility of isolated severe thunderstorms, locally heavy rain and localized flooding on Wednesday.

The City of Anna is accepting applications for a manager, assistant manager and lifeguards in anticipation of the 2021 season at the Anna Pool.

The Cobden Fire Department was extremely busy last week responding to multiple calls.

(continued on page 2)

Union County Chamber, Economic Development annual gala planned

Union County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development's sixth annual gala is planned Friday, April 2.

The event will be at Havisham House in Alto Pass. Social time begins at 5:45 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

The chamber will present four awards at the gala: the business of the year, the new business of the year, the business improvement of the year honor and the citizen of the year.

Entertainment will be presented by Steve & Eric Dueling Pianos. Basket raffles are planned.

Ticket prices are \$25 per person for chamber members, \$30 per person for those who are not chamber members, \$45 for couples who are chamber members, \$50 for couples who are

not chamber members and \$190 for a table of eight.

Sponsorships are available. Sponsorship prices and benefits include:

\$500 Gold: Full page program ad, primary mention in all advertising of the gala in newspaper, web and event materials.

\$300 Silver: Half page program ad, secondary mention in all advertising of the gala in newspaper, web and event materials.

\$100 Bronze: Quarter page program ad, mention in all advertising of the gala in newspaper, web and event materials.

Those who plan to attend are ask to RSVP by March 23.

To RSVP, or for more information about the gala and sponsorships, contact the chamber by calling 833-6311.

Electronics recycling event planned in county

Southern Seven Health Department notes that it is illegal in Illinois to throw a specific set of electronic devices into the trash.

Electronics contain hazardous materials that can contaminate land and water resources, and must be disposed of properly, the department advises.

Southern Seven Health Department plans to have a free community electronics recycling event in April in Union County.

The event is scheduled from 8 a.m. to noon on April 10 at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

This manufacturer-supported e-waste program is administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, EPA.

The health department says that devices which will be accepted at the recycling event include:

Computers and small-scale servers, computer monitors, electronic key-

boards and mice, printers, fax machines and scanners, televisions (all sizes), DVD players, DVD recorders and VCRs.

No kitchen appliances of any size will be accepted.

Community members will not need an appointment to attend the event.

Volunteers will be on hand to remove items from vehicles.

COVID-19 safety measures, including mask wearing and social distancing, will be observed by recycling staff and volunteers, and are recommended for those bringing items for disposal.

More information about the event is available by contacting Southern Seven Health Department environmental health director Miranda Adams by phone at 618-634-2297, extension 9114, or by visiting Southern Seven Health Department on Facebook.

Civil War Weekend events held in Union County

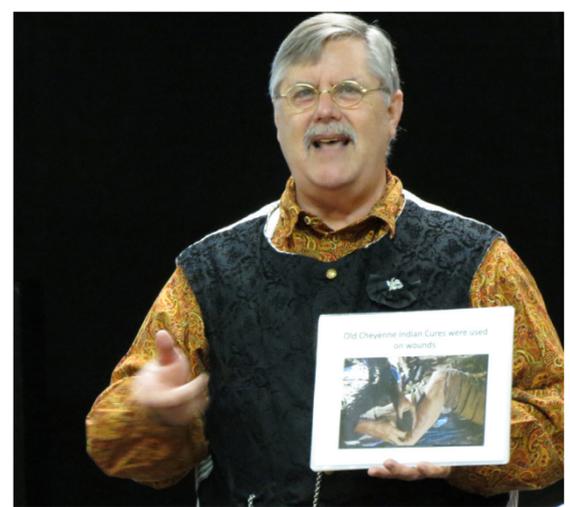


Civil War Weekend activities were presented Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 12-14, at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center and at the Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro.

On Saturday, March 13, visitors to the Anna Arts Center could see The Illinois Freedom Project traveling exhibit, which is a traveling exhibit that features a total of 12 panels that told the story of the struggle for freedom.

In the photo above, Barbara Bauer talked about the exhibit with visitor Ethan Dillman of Anna.

The exhibit was sponsored by the National Park Service, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources,



Looking for Lincoln, the Shawnee Hills Arts Council and the PAST organization of Union County.

On Saturday, guest speakers presented a series of presentations at the Anna Arts Center

which were about the Civil War.

"Bite the Bullet: Civil War technology and Technical Change in Medicine" was presented by Dr. Trevor Steinbach, in the other photo, of Batavia.

2,166 COVID-19 cases in county

Union County had two new confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Monday, March 15.

The cases involved one person in the 20s and one person in the 60s.

The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Union County since the start of the pandemic totalled 2,166 as of March 15, Southern Seven Health Department reported.

Total COVID-19 statis-

tics for Union County since the start of the pandemic a year ago, as of March 15, follow:

2,166 cases. 2,122 recovered. 13 active cases. 31 deaths had been reported.

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

As of March 15, the health department reported the following statistics for

the seven counties it serves:

Eight newly confirmed cases. Seven newly recovered cases. 54 total active cases. 95 total deaths. 6,588 cumulative total cases.

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported there were 782 new individuals with COVID-19 identified on March 15. That brought the confirmed total in the state to 1,210,113 individuals.

State announces launch of rural vaccination pilot program this week

In an effort to further expand vaccine accessibility in rural communities, the State of Illinois is launching a rural vaccination pilot program.

Starting this week, additional National Guard mobile operations will begin visiting rural communities with the capability to deliver upwards of 1,000 doses of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine per day.

The program was scheduled to begin with events in Fayette and Shelby counties, where a combined 2,600 doses could be administered before expanding to additional sites in Moultrie and Clay County later this week.

Addressing travel distances to providers is a key step in expanding access to healthcare in rural communities, state officials said.

The rural vaccination pilot program, which will run local vaccination clinics

supported by local health departments as a one-stop shop, is designed to get people vaccinated quicker, without the logistics and time commitment associated with coordinating a second trip.

The mobile teams will be operated by members of the Illinois National Guard in partnership with local health departments. Appointments will be limited to county residents only.

As the spring planting season approaches, state officials said the rural vaccination clinics serve as an opportunity for farmers.

"Before the busy planting season gets underway, we urge eligible farmers and producers to find a vaccination center near them. In many cases, farmers are self-employed. As a reminder, there is no charge to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Insurance is not

(continued on page 2)



Nice day for turtles...and people, too

The high temperature climbed to 70 degrees on Thursday, March 11, in Union County, making it a nice day for a group of turtles...and people, too. These turtles were gathered at the pond at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds.



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Penrod honored as Gold Award Girl Scout



Alyssa Penrod
 GLEN CARBON – Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois congratulates Alyssa Diane Penrod of Cobden for becoming a Gold Award Girl Scout.

Alyssa earned the honor by creating a music library storage system for her school.

“I have been a member of the Cobden band since I was in fifth grade. I have witnessed and experienced the benefits that come from being a part of band/music programs, and I knew I wanted to highlight it in some way,” said Alyssa when discussing how she developed the idea for her project.

Alyssa formed a team and created an entire functional music library storage system along with online records for each category of music.

She then coordinated instrumental selection night, along with a Zoom meeting prior to that event, for beginning band students in order to promote the music program at Cobden High School.

Alyssa’s love for music was reaffirmed by the work

she did for her Girl Scout Gold Award project.

“I have not only discovered strong leadership and speaking skills, but have experienced how deep my passion for music runs,” she said.

“Music helps one connect with their own inner self, and music programs help to further this action, as it has done with me during my project,” she said.

Gold Award Girl Scouts change the world for the better, and they change it for good.

The Gold Award is earned by girls in grades 9 through 12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in developing sustainable solutions to local, national and global challenges.

Since the highest award was established in 1916,

Girl Scouts have answered the call to drive change that is lasting and has an impact.

Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois noted that earning the Gold Award is the mark of a “truly remarkable” accomplishment.

Alyssa is the daughter of Kevin and Debra Penrod and a member of the class of 2021 at Cobden High School.

Upon graduation, she plans to attend Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., where she plans to major in public relations, with a minor in music business.

Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois serves approximately 9,000 girls and engages 3,500 adult volunteers in 40 counties in Southern Illinois, including Union County.

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

A new floral shop is coming to Union County. Country Road is the name of the business and it will be located in Jonesboro across the street from Dixie Barbecue. Much remodeling is underway and an opening date is not set.

Hail fell, very briefly, early Monday morning in Anna.

Social media postings shared that SIBSA summer baseball, softball and t-ball registration was planned March 6 and March 9 at Jonesboro School.

SIBSA also announced that it has joined the Route 13 Baseball & Softball League in Southern Illinois.

The Southern Illinois Miners baseball team is gearing up for a 2021 Comeback season at Rent One Park in Marion. The team is conducting job fairs on March 18 and March 23.

The Illinois Freedom Project traveling exhibit is on display at Shawnee Community College’s Cairo Extension Center.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to hold in-person commence-

ment ceremonies at Saluki Stadium to celebrate graduation, May 7-9. Ceremonies will honor 2020 and 2021 SIU graduates.

The Carbondale Farmers Market is scheduled to open Saturday, March 27.

The Shawnee Community College women’s basketball team had posted a six-game winning streak as of last week.

The 2021 Superman Celebration is planned July 30, 31 and Aug. 1 in Metropolis.

The U.S. Forest Service/Shawnee National Forest, in cooperation with U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Wildlife Services, was planning operations this week to eradicate feral swine (wild pigs) in the Lusk Creek Wilderness and surrounding areas in Pope County.

The SIU Press has published a new book titled “Snake Road: A Field Guide to the Snakes of LaRue-Pine Hills.” The book is written by Joshua J. Vossler, who is an associate professor and academic librarian at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

SI Now focuses on regional development

A reimagined and reinvigorated economic development initiative is designed to create a regional hub and serve as a unified voice for the 17 southernmost counties in Illinois.

SI Now, a Southern Illinois Success Initiative, involves collaboration among leaders in business and industry, healthcare, higher education, workforce development, transportation, government, non-profit economic development and community coalitions.

SI Now’s vision is to create a thriving, economically diverse environment with a growing population, labor force, per capita income and expanding tax base, while elevating an already high quality of life.

“We will have a greater impact on advancing our region’s economy by pooling our resources together towards common goals,” said SIH president and CEO Rex Budde, a member of SI Now’s steering committee, in a news release.

“Regional wins create a ripple effect, be it in Vienna, Anna, Jonesboro, Carbondale, Harrisburg, Mt. Vernon, Benton or Chester.

“Now is the time for Southern Illinois leaders to come together and capitalize on available opportunities.”

SI Now’s current efforts are focused on supporting existing businesses, attracting and expanding businesses, developing workforce education through training and employment

growth in high wage sectors.

Coming together and taking a collaborative approach to development is seen as a key for the initiative.

“SI Now not only understands this approach in reaching across 17 counties in order to ensure this region continues to grow in success, but also has put real action to the task,” said Vienna High School superintendent and SI Now steering committee member Joshua Stafford.

“At times we fret about what we might see as a threat or competition, but as we adjust our vision and bring the region together, it becomes clear that a business startup or the success of a church, school or other organization in Murphysboro or Metropolis can truly be used as a catalyst for success in Vienna, Mt. Vernon, Cave-In-Rock, Cairo and all destinations in between.”

“It’s rewarding to see meaningful collaboration across all of Southern Illinois from individuals who are passionately vested in our future,” said First Southern Bank president and CEO John Dosier, a co-chair of SI Now’s Business Growth and Development Task Force.

“Attracting new businesses could mean new jobs and opportunities for upward economic mobility or could simply provide new leisure or recreation opportunities – all of which

would improve overall well-being and quality of life.”

Stafford concurs, adding SI Now supports his love for the region and is a driving force to making “a great thing even better.”

“Being a native of Southern Illinois – born and raised with roots back to the founder of Johnson County being my great, great, great, great grandfather – I have been able to experience much of what it has to offer.

“From world class vistas such as Garden of Gods to geological treasures such as Heron Pond and Jackson Falls, the Tunnel Hill State Trail and unlimited hiking, biking and walking trails, the recreational and scenic wonders are not only unlimited, but awe-inspiring and majestic,” Stafford added.

As part of its effort to elevate perceptions of Southern Illinois, SI Now is launching a website and social media platforms:

“SI Now’s website (www.southernillinoisnow.org) serves as a first stop for those interested in locating

a business in Southern Illinois or moving here as a resident.

The website includes key information featuring assets, incentives and resources and will showcase the best of Southern Illinois, including geographic benefits, educational and workforce development opportunities, transportation assets, healthcare services and quality of life.

SI Now’s social media platforms will serve as a place to share the good in Southern Illinois with positive news stories and testimonials.

The public is encouraged to include the hashtag #SouthernIllinoisNow on their own positive posts highlighting businesses, community events and life in Southern Illinois.

Those who are interested are invited to join the conversation and stay connected with SI Now on its social media platforms:

Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn: @SouthernIllinoisNow, Twitter: @SouthernILNow.

Vaccines in rural areas

(continued from page 1)

required, and the vaccine will be administered regardless of your immigration status,” said Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton, who is chairperson of the Governor’s Rural Affairs Council.

As of early this week, there were more than 900 vaccination locations in Illinois open to the public.

For those having difficulty navigating online services to make vaccination appointments, the Vaccine Appointment Call Center may be able to assist.

The hotline is available seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to midnight.

Call agents’ primary role is to help individuals navigate the various online registration sites.

However, if the individual does not have access to online services or is unable to navigate the site, the call agent will make an appointment on the caller’s behalf. The phone number is 1-833-621-1284.

For more information on how to make an appointment to receive the vaccine, updates on the state’s plan and eligibility, and answers to frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, go to coronavirus.illinois.gov.

County board meets Friday

The Union County Board of Commissioners has approved a resolution which proclaims April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the county.

The resolution was approved at a regular meeting of the county board. The meeting was held last Friday morning at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

In other business at Friday’s meeting:

The board approved the appointment of Bobby Toller Jr. to the Union County Hospital Board.

An allocation of \$3,000 to the Union County senior citizens program was approved.

The commissioners approved an amendment to ordinances regarding the Union County Sheriff’s Merit Commission.

The action included taking steps which are designed to fill vacancies in the sheriff’s office.

Weather

High of 70 degrees, 2.49 inches of rain

A high temperature of 70 degrees and 2.49 inches of rain highlighted the Union County area’s weather during the period of March 9-15.

Hail also was seen very briefly at about 8 a.m. Monday in Anna and Jonesboro.

Precipitation for the period included .92 of an inch of rain on March 11, .73 of an inch of rain on March 12, .11 of an inch of rain on March 13, .03 of an inch of rain on March 14 and .70 of an inch of rain on March 15.

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

Tuesday, March 9	70-34
Wednesday, March 10	69-53
Thursday, March 11	70-51
Friday, March 12	61-47
Saturday, March 13	59-47
Sunday, March 14	56-50
Monday, March 15	65-46

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Big Muddy River flooding

A flood warning remained in effect early this week for the Big Muddy River near Murphysboro. The river borders Union County north of Wolf Lake.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported Monday morning on its website that the flood warning remained in effect until further notice.

Augustus C. French was inaugurated for a second term as governor of Illinois on Jan. 8, 1849.

Runoff from recent heavy rain, combined with some backwater flooding from the Mississippi River, has caused flooding along the Big Muddy River near Murphysboro.

At 9:30 a.m. Monday, the river’s stage was 22.7 feet. Flood stage is 22.0 feet.

Minor flooding was occurring. Minor flooding was in the forecast.

The river was expected to rise to a crest of 26.1 feet late Tuesday night, then slowly fall.

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Colonoscopy remains important even in midst of pandemic

Union County Hospital in Anna says that COVID-19's reach continues to affect just about every aspect of our lives – including colorectal health.

During the early days of the pandemic, many health care providers had to cancel elective procedures and screenings.

Since then, stringent protocols and safeguards have been put in place to protect patients against the virus, but fear has caused many people to put off colonosco-

Jobless rate 7.7 percent in January

The Illinois Department of Employment Security, IDES, reports that the state's unemployment rate decreased 0.3 of a percentage point to 7.7 percent in January.

Nonfarm payrolls were up 9,700 jobs in January, based on preliminary data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and released by IDES.

The state's unemployment rate was 1.4 percentage point higher than the national unemployment rate reported for January, which was 6.3 percent, down 0.4 of a percentage point from the previous month.

pies, leading to delayed colorectal cancer diagnoses.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and there is no better time to schedule an appointment to be screened than today, the hospital advises.

Colon cancer is highly preventable and if detected early, it is one of the most treatable cancers.

As preventable as colorectal cancer is, the disease is still the third-leading cause of cancer-related deaths for both men and women in the nation, according to the American Cancer Society.

The pandemic has led many people to forego routine screenings and wellness exams.

With this alarming trend, experts fear missed or delayed screenings will result in more later-stage diagnoses and less treatable cancers.

A nationwide study found that colonoscopies and other types of cancer screenings fell by more than a third last year.

The odds of being diagnosed with late-stage colon cancer increased at 16 months by approximately 33 percent.

For people over age 50 with private health insur-

ance or Medicare, the costs of colorectal screenings are covered with no out-of-pocket costs to patients.

The hospitals says that colonoscopies are one of the most effective tests, but there are also home test kits that require less preparation and may be appropriate depending on your risk factors.

Some of the symptoms of colon cancer include persistent changes in your bathroom habits (diarrhea or constipation), blood in stool, unexplained weight loss, abdominal pain or bloating, and fatigue.

Often, colon cancer can progress without any symptoms, which is why it's so important to speak with your doctor about scheduling the right test for you.

The American Cancer Society recently updated its screening guidelines to recommend that people at average risk begin colonoscopy screening at age 45 and continues every 10 years, but recommendations are based on each person's individual and family history.

Union County Hospital is closely following strict safety guidelines to protect patients from getting or spreading COVID-19.

Every physician, staff member and volunteer wears masks at all times, and patients are required to do the same.

Visits are limited to further reduce the risk, and everyone who comes into the hospital is asked screening questions.

Additionally, the hospital continues to monitor new guidance to ensure it is taking the highest precautions.

There is no need to wait until you have symptoms. Early detection can prevent more invasive treatment and help you live a healthy life.

Screenings can be scheduled by calling 833-2872 or visiting UCGeneralSurgery.com online. Dr. Tamer Aiti is a general surgeon at Union County Hospital.



Kiwanis Club makes donation to library

The Anna Kiwanis Club has made a donation to support the Jonesboro Library's children's programs. Kiwanis Club vice president Gene Hammer, left, and club board member Brad Donna presented a \$500 donation to Jonesboro Library director Karen Hallam. Photo provided.

PAST's Heritage House Museum hosts well-attended open house

An open house was held Sunday, March 14, at the PAST organization of Union County's Heritage House Museum in Jonesboro. The event was well attended by folks who are interested in the past. The open house was part of the Civil War Weekend sponsored last Friday, Saturday and Sunday by the Shawnee Hills Arts Council and PAST. Photos by Melodie Penrod.



Representing her African American heritage was Sarita Sawyer, right, of Mounds. Sawyer used a basket of items that might have been gathered by people as they fled slavery to gain freedom. She explained how they might use code pictures or symbols in quilts to guide their travel. She used a model wagon with a secret compartment to show how some people escaped. PAST's Barb Bauer, left, and Lee Hackney, center, helped to display an Underground Secret Code Sampler Quilt.



PAST's Barbara Bauer, center, welcomed presenter Sarita Sawyer, left, of Mounds, who talked about the Underground Railroad Secret Quilt Code. She told how symbols stitched in cloth helped fleeing slaves escape to freedom. On the right is Derek Eurales of Cairo who invited everyone to visit The Illinois Freedom Project exhibit. The exhibit is on display at Shawnee Community College's extension center in Cairo. The exhibit was on display for the Civil War Weekend activities at the Anna Arts Center.



Gary Meyer of Jonesboro displayed a collection of Civil War artifacts and told stories about their application and history. Items for display were contributed by Meyer, Tom Tripp, Elaine Crain and Diana Scherer.



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Sports

A-J girls score win over Carterville



Anna-Jonesboro's Brodie Denny, number 5, defends against Carterville's Alecia Doyle, number 24. Photo provided.



Anna-Jonesboro's Anna Hess, number 40, defends against Carterville's Kasha Ward, number 10. Photo provided.

Anna Hess had a rebound and a stick back basket in the waning seconds to lift the host Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team to a 45-43 win over Carterville to close its season Thursday, March 11.

A-J head coach Matt Denny said the win was a good way for the team to end the season.

The win knocked Carterville out of first place in the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division. They will share the title with Nashville, which also lost to A-J earlier this season.

"We kind of played the spoiler," Denny said about winning both games against the conference co-champions.

The Lady Lions pulled ahead 5-0 before Addison Denny scored a basket to get the Lady Wildcats offense going. Hess scored the final basket of the quarter to pull A-J to 11-8 after the opening period.

Jaylee Watkins made a 3-pointer to boost A-J to a 14-11 lead early in the quarter.

Brodie Denny and Hess scored back-to-back baskets to close out the quarter as the Lady Wildcats led 25-22 at the half.

Brodie Denny opened the third quarter with a 3-pointer and teammate Marlee Smith added another as A-J held a 31-28 lead going into the final period.

Before Hess's game winning basket, Watkins scored 7 straight unanswered points to hold the Lady Lions off.

Hess led the way for A-J

with 17 points, 9 rebounds and a steal.

Watkins had 11 points, 6 assists and a rebound and a blocked shot. Olivia Capel had 6 points, 3 rebounds and a block. Addison Denny had 4 points, 9 rebounds and a steal. Brodie Denny had 3 points, 2 rebounds, steals and assists. Smith had 3 points and an assist. Jenna Sadler had 2 points and an assist.

A-J was 12 of 31 in shot attempts from the floor, 4 of 10 from 3-point range and 10 of 20 from the free throw line.

Carterville was 13 of 34 in shot attempts from the floor, 4 of 6 from 3-point range and 5 of 9 from the charity stripe.

A-J closed the season with a 7-5 record.

A-J football team won't face Pinckneyville

The Pinckneyville High School football team will not compete during the spring season in the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division.

The Panthers did not have enough varsity football players and cancelled their season.

Mt. Carmel will replace Pinckneyville this spring on the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football team's schedule.

The Wildcats are scheduled to face the Golden Aches at home on Senior Night at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 26.

Mt. Carmel is in the North Egypt Conference.

Cobden ends season with 18-0 record



Cobden faces Century

Cobden, in white uniforms, hosted Century in boys' high school basketball action Thursday, March 11. Cobden won the game and continued on its way to an unbeaten season. The image was captured from a video of the game which was posted online.

The Cobden High School boys' basketball team finished the season undefeated with a 58-41 win over Trico Saturday, March 13.

Cobden became one of 14 schools in the state that finished undefeated with an 18-0 record.

Coach Wendell Wheeler's Appleknocker squad competed in 16 games in 23 days during a season which was impacted by the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

The season was shortened because of the pandemic. No postseason tournaments will be played.

Cobden 58, Trico 43: The visiting Appleknockers

built at early lead and held on to go undefeated with the season-ending win Saturday, March 13.

Cobden led 17-6 after one quarter and 23-12 at the half.

Noah Franklin had 28 points, 18 rebounds and 7 assists to lead the way for Cobden.

Tyler Franklin had 19 points, 7 rebounds and 6 assists. Sippy Zamora had 5 points and 4 assists. Elliott Lowndes had 4 points, 6 rebounds and 5 blocked shots. John Eck had 2 points.

Cobden 62, Century 27: The host Appleknockers pulled ahead 14-3 after one quarter on their way to the

win Thursday, March 11. Cobden was ahead 30-10 at the half.

Noah Franklin had 35 points, 14 rebounds and 8 assists for Cobden.

Lowndes had 13 points and 8 rebounds. Tyler Franklin had 8 points and 7 rebounds. Nolan Hand and Zamora had 3 points apiece.

Cobden 86, Shawnee 14: The visiting Appleknockers pulled head 27-2 after one quarter on their way to the win Wednesday, March 10.

Lowndes had 30 points and 7 rebounds to lead the way for Cobden.

Noah Franklin had 25 points, 10 rebounds and 7

assists. Eck had 8 points. Tyler Franklin had 6 points, 6 rebounds and 7 assists. Drake Campbell had 6 points. Zamora had 4 points and 6 assists. Edwin Funes had 4 points and Brock Reynolds had 9 assists.

Cobden 68, Century 26: Noah Franklin had 30 points, 9 points and 9 assists to lead the visiting Appleknockers to the win Tuesday, March 9.

Tyler Franklin added 18 points and 6 rebounds. Lowndes had 11 points and 19 rebounds. Zamora had 6 assists. Reynolds had 3 points and 4 assists. Eck and Hand had 3 points apiece.

Du Quoin edges A-J in three overtimes

Du Quoin topped the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team in three overtimes 61-60 to close out the season Tuesday, March 9.

Ethan Carver scored a 3-point basket and teammate Dylan Harvel followed with a basket as A-J pulled ahead 5-0 before the Indians came back to take the lead.

A-J was down 14-9 at the end of the first quarter and 22-21 at the half. A-J trailed 34-29 going into the final quarter.

Landon Trammel made a 3-pointer to begin the scoring for the Wildcats and Juan Valencia's free throw gave them a 43-40 lead with seconds remaining.

However, the Indians made a 3-pointer in the waning seconds to send the game into overtime.

The game was tied 49-

49 in the first overtime and 55-55 in the second overtime before the Indians outscored the Wildcats 6-5 in the final overtime session to pull out the win.

Maddox Thorpe led A-J with 16 points and 4 rebounds.

Valencia had 15 points and 4 rebounds for A-J. Harvel had 8 points and 2 rebounds. Trammel had 8 points and a rebound. Bryce Henry had 8 points and 11 rebounds. Payton Denny had 2 points and 2 rebounds.

A-J was 13 of 35 in shot attempts from the floor, 7 of 19 from 3-point range and 10 of 14 from the free throw line.

The Indians were 15 of 36 in shot attempts from the floor, 6 of 15 from 3-point range and 7 of 9 from the charity stripe.

A-J finished the season 2-11 overall.

Illinois spring trout fishing season slated

The 2021 Illinois spring trout fishing season is scheduled to open Saturday, April 3, at 57 ponds, lakes and streams throughout the state.

The Illinois catchable trout program is funded by those who use the program through the sale of inland trout stamps.

Among the locations in Southern Illinois which are scheduled to be open for the spring trout fishing season are the following sites, as provided by IDNR:

Jefferson County: Mount Vernon Game Farm Pond. Johnson County: Ferne Clyffe State Park Lake.

Massac County: Fairgrounds Pond, Fort Massac State Park. Randolph County: Derby Lake, Sparta (World Shooting and Recreational Complex).

The Illinois Department

of Natural Resources, IDNR, stocks more than 80,000 rainbow trout each year in bodies of water where trout fishing is permitted during the spring season.

An additional 80,000 trout will be stocked for the fall trout fishing season, which is scheduled to begin in October.

For the 2021 spring trout season, no trout may be taken from any of the stocked sites for a period which began March 15 and continues until the season opens at 5 a.m. April 3.

Anyone attempting to harvest trout before the legal harvest season opening will be issued citations, IDNR noted.

All anglers must have a fishing license and an inland trout stamp, unless they are under the age of 16, blind or disabled, or are an Illinois resident on leave from active duty in the armed forces. The daily catch limit for each angler is five trout.

More information about trout seasons and other Illinois fishing opportunities can be found online at www.ifishillinois.org.

Illinois 2021 fishing licenses and inland trout stamps are available at IDNR license and permit locations, including many bait shops, sporting goods stores and other retail outlets. For a list of locations, check the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, website at www.dnr.illinois.gov.

Fishing licenses and trout stamps also can be purchased online. A link can be found on the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov.

IDNR advised that for information about all site regulations, anglers should contact individual sites that will be stocked with catchable-size trout.

Not all sites open at 5 a.m. on opening day. Anglers are reminded to check the opening time of their favorite sites prior to the open date.



Are you ready for some spring football?

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football team head coach Brett Detering knows the Wildcats will open the season Saturday against a veteran Carterville squad.

"A lot of their guys had a lot of playing time," Detering said, looking back to the fall 2019 season – the last time Illinois school football teams played. The 2020 fall season was postponed because of the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

Now, football will be played in the spring. A-J's game at Carterville is set to kick off at 1 p.m. Saturday. The Wildcats started practicing last week for the spring 2021 season.

Quarterbacking the Lions will be senior, Eli Downen, 6-4, 220 pounds. Top receivers he'll be looking for are seniors Bryce Anderson, 5-9, 160 pounds, and Ben Haake, 6-2, 170 pounds. The top running back threats are seniors Pearson Sumner, 6-2, 210 pounds, and Rave Puttle, 6-4, 220 pounds. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

A-J/Cobden boys' soccer season opens

The Anna-Jonesboro/Cobden high school co-op boys' soccer team will enter the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division race for the first time this season.

"The boys are looking forward to it," A-J head coach Mark Boomer said.

There are seven seniors, seven juniors, three sophomores and 10 freshmen on the squad this season.

Returning starters from the 2019 team include the following seniors: midfielder Maddox Thorpe, forward Juan Valencia, midfielder Nick McGrath and Hayden Webb on defense; along with junior midfielder Romeo Godinez.

Other seniors in the mix include midfielder Will Halter; midfielder Trent Mason; midfielder and forward/midfield Angel Olvera.

Junior hopefuls are defense Tristan Brummer; midfield/defense Kyle Hall; midfield/forward Beto Vaca Diez; midfield Ethan Carver; goalkeeper Bryce Henry; midfielder Noah Treece; and defense Joey Sullivan.

Sophomores are defense Will Keller; defense Mato Vaca Diez and midfielder Kaden Lincoln.

The team is loaded with freshmen in midfield/defense Daniel Dover; midfielder/forward Zack Henry; goalkeeper Carter Lannom; midfielder/forward Adriel Delrosario; defense Bon Keller; defense Moises Lara; defense Kyle Kern; midfield/defense Eric Guignon and midfielder Jason Swink.

A-J/Cobden was scheduled to open its season earlier this week against Marion and Carterville and plays again Thursday, today, at Harrisburg.

SIU football team beats another Top-5 opponent

CARBONDALE – For the first time in school history, Southern Illinois has beaten two Top-5 opponents in the same season.

Two weeks after Southern took down No. 1 North Dakota State, SIU validated that win with a 17-16 victory over No. 4 Northern Iowa in a thriller at Saluki Stadium on Saturday.

Trailing, 13-0 at halftime, and without its top two quarterbacks, the Salukis (4-1, 3-1) battled back in the second half to take the lead, 17-16, on a 3-yard touchdown pass from third-string QB Stone Labanowitz to Jerron Rollins with 9:43 remaining.

That touchdown held up, in dramatic fashion, as first Southern missed a 31-yard field goal with 6:40 remaining, and then UNI missed a 30 yarder wide left with seven seconds

to go, setting off a wild celebration on the Saluki sideline.

With yet another likely Top 10 opponent coming to Carbondale this week in South Dakota State, Southern is thick in the hunt for its first playoff appearance since 2009.

SIU ranked No. 5 in nation

The Southern Illinois University Carbondale football team moved up five spots to No. 5 in the national rankings this week and is preparing to host No. 6 South Dakota State on Saturday at noon.

The last time SIU was ranked in the Top 5 was on Sept. 13, 2010.

SIU has defeated No. 1 North Dakota State and No. 4 Northern Iowa this season.



Shawnee High School homecoming coronation ceremony

Shawnee High School at Wolf Lake hosted a homecoming coronation ceremony on Friday, Feb. 26. Members of the homecoming court included Cassidy Baber, Angela Dodson, Mariah Faire, retiring queen Olivia Jackson, new queen Ashlin Tweedy, Courtney Smith and Hannah Sichling. Newly crowned homecoming queen Ashlin Tweedy was escorted by her grandfather, Richard Tweedy. Photos provided.

Southern Seven Health Department announces closing of vaccine waiting list

Southern Seven Health Department on March 9 announced that it would be closing the department's current COVID-19 vaccine waiting list.

The health department said in a news release that the vaccine waiting list would be closed at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 12.

A link to the online contact list has been posted on the health department's Facebook page and on its website since late December at www.southern7.org.

As of Friday evening, March 12, residents in the seven county region could begin scheduling themselves for COVID-19 vaccine appointments by using the Illinois Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Vaccine Registration system online at <https://covid-vaccination.dph.illinois.gov>.

Once Southern Seven Health Department closed its own vaccine wait list on Friday, individuals who had already registered their name and information will still be called in order of their registration date to get scheduled for an appointment if they are unable to book themselves using the new online system.

"We are blessed with the extra personnel from the Illinois National Guard and an increase in vaccine shipments headed to Southern Illinois," said Nathan Ryder, outreach coordinator for Southern Seven's contact tracing team.

"This means we can vaccinate a larger number of people each day at a much quicker pace. Utilizing the state's online scheduling system while working

through our current wait list will greatly help us out."

Those who visit the online scheduling system will have to answer a short questionnaire that will let them know if they are eligible to continue scheduling an appointment.

If approved for an appointment, they will then be able to select a nearby vaccine clinic location to see what appointment dates and times might be available for them to schedule.

While people don't have to be a resident of the Southern Seven Health Department region to schedule a vaccine at one of the department's mass vaccination sites, they do have to provide proof that they live or work in Illinois to get a vaccine.

At this time, out-of-state residents are not eligible to be vaccinated in Illinois.

With the opening of the state's online scheduling system, Southern Seven Health Department will also begin scheduling individuals who qualify under Phase 1B-plus in the Illinois COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Individuals in Phase 1B-plus include people 18 to 64 years of age with specific health-complicating conditions.

These health conditions include obesity, diabetes, pulmonary diseases, smoking, heart conditions, chronic kidney disease, cancer, solid organ transplant, sickle cell disease, pregnancy and persons with a disability (not otherwise covered in previous categories).

Southern Seven Health

High school art exhibit underway

"Exhibiting Excellence," the 43rd annual High School Art Exhibition, is on display through March 28 at the Rosemary Berkel and Harry L. Crisp II Museum at Southeast Missouri State University's River Campus in Cape Girardeau.

"Exhibiting Excellence" is an invitational juried art exhibit for 11th and 12th grade students in Southeast Missouri and Southern Illinois.

Admission to the exhibit is free. Face coverings will be required, and social distancing guidelines will be in place.

The Crisp Museum is located in the Cultural Arts Center at Southeast Missouri State University's River Campus, which is located at 518 S. Fountain St. in Cape Girardeau.

Museum hours are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the first Friday of the month.

Department is operating two mass vaccination locations in the region each day, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There is no charge for receiving a COVID-19 vaccine from the health department.

However, some other providers may charge an administrative fee for the injection.

For those who have health insurance, the vaccine provider will bill their insurance company for the administrative fee.

Those who are uninsured will not be charged for the administrative fee.

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

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

Area legislator, local organizations partners in dress distribution program

A Southern Illinois state legislator is teaming up with local organizations to facilitate a dress distribution program.

More than 600 youth-sized girl dresses will be made available to families in need throughout Southern Illinois.

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, said the dresses were received courtesy of Joy Casino, a 97-year-old Florida resident.

Casino has sewn over 10,000 dresses over the past decade to provide clothing to children all over the world.

Fowler is partnering together with the following area organizations to help distribute dresses over the coming month:

Caritas Family Solutions, 10286 Fleming Rd., Carterville, phone 618-985-2000.

Foster Family Resource Center, 695 N. Giant City Rd., Suite 1, Carbondale, 618-529-5558.

Lutheran Social Services,

1616 W. Main St., No. 1146, Marion, 618-997-9196.

The Night's Shield Children Center, 301 E. Garland St., West Frankfort, 618-932-6400.

United Way of Southern Illinois, 1800 W. Boulevard St., Suite D, Marion, 618-997-7744.

Fowler said that each partner in the program will have over 100 dresses available at their facility.

Distribution of the dresses will be dependent on each organization's preferences and procedures.

Those who may be interested in receiving a free dress are asked to call the nearest facility for more information.

Fowler also credits the Arise Veterans Foundation for helping coordinate the delivery of the dresses to his district.

Dress sizes range from 6 months to girl size 12. For more information about the ongoing program, e-mail senatorfowler59@gmail.com.

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Sons of Norway

A new lodge of the Sons of Norway fraternal benefit society has been formed in Southern Illinois. The new lodge is looking for new members who are Norwegian, or have Scandinavian heritage or have an interest in Scandinavia. Photo provided.

Sons of Norway Shawnee Skogen lodge welcomes new members

Sons of Norway was organized as a fraternal benefit society by 18 Norwegian immigrants in Minneapolis, Minn., on Jan. 16, 1895.

A new lodge has now been formed in Southern Illinois with the name, "Shawnee Skogen."

Shawnee Skogen means Shawnee Forest in Norwegian. The purposes and goals

of the founders were to protect members of Sons of Norway and their families from the financial hardships experienced during times of sickness or death in the family.

Over time, the mission of Sons of Norway has expanded to include the preservation of Norwegian heritage and culture in today's society.

The Sons of Norway have grown since their beginning. The society now is the largest Norwegian organization outside Norway.

Shawnee Skogen is looking for new members who are Norwegian, or have Scandinavian heritage or have an interest in Scandinavia.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Shawnee Skogen was meeting each month at the Peach Barn Winery in Alto Pass.

Currently, members are meeting over Zoom. Members planned to celebrate Norway's National Day on March 17 in person with a Scandinavian potluck.

To learn how to join the society, or for more information about the Sons of Norway, they can be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/southillinois>.

Information also is available by emailing wendyathadeland@yahoo.com or visiting Sons of Norway website at www.sofn.com.

Area students do well in SIU Accounting Challenge

High school and community college students from around the region, including the Union County area, competed virtually for scholarships, trophies and bragging rights at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's 23rd annual Accounting Challenge recently.

The School of Accountancy in SIU's College of Business and Analytics sponsored the Feb. 26 event for about 140 participants, who tested their skills in both an individual and team competition.

Typically, the event takes place on campus and includes a written accounting skills test followed by a creative team challenge that involves imaginative problem-solving contests that vary from year to year.

This year's goal was to make the online event special and incorporate a fun, team element.

SIU chancellor Austin Lane spoke to all of the participants as they gathered at schools and homes across the region, via computers, cellphones and tablets.

Participants answered accounting questions such as "What is the cost of goods sold equation?" Then, they took part in a pop culture quiz. They had 30 seconds to respond to questions like "Put these apps in order from newest to oldest: Reddit, Roblox, Facetime, Kik Messenger."

In case you're wondering, the beginning inventory plus purchase minus ending inventory equals the cost of goods sold, and the apps, from newest to oldest, are Kik, FaceTime, Roblox and Reddit.

When the competition wrapped up, the scores were all tallied. The individuals with the highest scores in each of three divisions were announced as the winners of certificates and scholarships worth up to \$500 if they attend SIU and major in accounting.

Meanwhile, the winning teams will receive trophies.

Since the winners weren't able to pick up their awards in person, representatives of the SIU College of Business and Analytics hope to travel to the school and present the prizes to the recipients in the near future, according to Marcus Odom, professor of accountancy and Deloitte

& Touche Faculty Fellow. In addition, all participants will receive special event t-shirts via mail.

Top Individual Honors
Among the individual winners, listed by event, school and potential scholarship earnings, were:

Accounting I, High School

Third place: (tie) Elle Moore, Anna-Jonesboro Community High School, and Connor Sorgea, O'Fallon Township High School, \$200.

Community College
First place: Kaitlyn May, Shawnee Community College, \$500.

Second place: Jaiden Sanders, Shawnee Community College, \$300.

Team Honors
Among the team winners, listed by event, along with team members, were:

Accounting I, High School Team

Third place: Anna-Jonesboro Community High School, Breckstin Schaefer, Keri Rendleman, Carson Pengress, Nate Baggott.

Wises married 50 years



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wise will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

Robert Wise and Jean Koelling were married on March 20, 1971, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Anna. Pastor Robert Otto led the service.

Robert Wise retired from Marion High School Unit 2 in 2002 after 32 years of teaching. Jean Wise retired from Anna School District No. 37 after 34 years of teaching.

They have a son, Paul Wise, and a daughter, the late Jill Wise Childers, and a son-in-law, Dale Childers. Mr. and Mrs. Wise have two granddaughters, Katelynn Wise and Audrey Childers.

Jonesboro Grade School names honor roll students

Jonesboro Grade School announces third quarter honor roll students.

8th Grade, High Honors

Logan Abernathy, Sierra Beggs, Thomas Coleman, Benjamin Hauser, Zoe Jones, Lucas Salazar.

8th Grade, Honors

Chesnee Marks, Grace Mowell, Scotti Murray, Mackenzie Pearson, Olivia Schaefer, Aaron Sheffer, Kyle Stanley.

7th Grade, High Honors

Isabella Hawk, Raegan Jones, Reese Jones, Grant Lingle, Aidan McFadden, Kenzie Miller, Lucas Tehandon, Kayleigh Wheaton.

7th Grade, Honors

Travis Burgher, Miles

Delashmutt, Graydon Edmonds, Elias Knight, Amelia Lingle, Heidi Miller, Jayci Needling.

6th Grade, High Honors

Blake Abernathy, Mackenzie Barnhart, Hannah Hale, Elizabeth Hill.

6th Grade, Honors

Norah Kelley, Kinley Leek, Connor Stanley.

5th Grade, High Honors

Melaina Bundren, Seth Cochran, Rage Henderon, Elly Mays, Hayden Staples, Kaitlyn Sullivan, Sophia Wells.

5th Grade, Honors

Valeria Ambrocio, Sophia Hill, Elijah Laminack, Macayla Nance, Addison Pinnon, Lillian Schumacher, Kysten Toedte.

Hunter safety education course scheduled in Anna

An Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, hunter safety education course is planned Friday and Saturday, April 9-10, at the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Main Street Center in Anna. The church is located at 315 South St.

Hours for the course are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on April 9 and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 10. Students must attend both classes.

Masks will be mandatory for those who attend the course.

A 1996 state law requires all hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1980, to successfully complete a hunter educa-

tion course before they can receive their first hunting license.

Those who complete the course will receive a hunter education certification card. The card verifies that they have passed the course of instruction.

Participants will be asked to provide their Social Security number at the time of the class.

The course will include instruction in wildlife management, firearms safety, hunter ethics, game identification, first aid, survival techniques and regulations.

For more information about the course, call 618-697-0286.

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"The Preaching Pen"
Is God an "Indian Giver?"

Since obedience to God is man's responsibility (Acts 2:40; Phil. 2:12), it logically follows that if he fails to continue to submit to God's will, then by his own will he has rejected God and forfeited the hope he once had (Titus 1:2). This is true because salvation is only extended to those who obey God (Heb. 5:8,9), hence those who fail to obey God are lost. Despite this truth, there is a strong denominational teaching known as *Perseverance of the Saints*, otherwise called *Once Saved Always Saved*. This Calvinistic teaching says that the saved can never be lost because God is immutable (unchanging). One writer has even said that the church of Christ teaches God to be an "Indian Giver." The definition of that, of course, is someone who gives you something, then asks for or takes it back.

Dear Reader, God is not an "Indian Giver" (as that term has been used in the past to mean given, then taken back). *Man* is the one who forfeits his agreement with God. Consider: if you finance a car through the bank, then you're in a contract with the bank to pay the bank a certain amount each month in order to possess, and to continue to possess, the car. Now, the ownership of the car is, in reality, the bank's, not the person buying it. Thus, the person's ownership is only his "in hope," until the final payment is made. Now, should he break his contract by defaulting on his payments, the car will be taken by the bank (the rightful owner). Is the bank an "Indian Giver?" Of course not, the person purchasing the car has forfeited his right to the car when he abrogated his agreement. So it is with salvation.

The Bible teaches that man is saved "by grace through faith" (Eph. 2:8), when he complies with God's terms of salvation (Heb. 5:9). This includes *believing* Jesus to be the Son of God (John 8:24), *repenting* of past sins (Acts 17:30), *confessing faith* in Christ (Rom. 10:10) and being *baptized* in water (Acts 2:38). Once these things are done, the person who has complied has entered into a covenant relationship with God, a covenant that has conditions (I Cor. 15:58). Thus, the Bible says that man has the "hope of eternal life" (Titus 1:2). Romans 8:24 explains that "*hope that is seen is not hope; for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?*" In other words: If I actually have something in my hand, then I do not need to hope I have it, for I see it -- I have it. Salvation is in hope -- not reality. The reality will be the day in which the kingdom is handed to the Father (I Cor. 15:24). Have you done what's needed to lay hold of salvation? Learn more at the Anna church of Christ at 104 Nile St. and have a great day.

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place.

But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!" From the second Book of Chronicles

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. From the Gospel of John

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It's A Jungle Out There...



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Life can get a little wild and crazy, with responsibilities coming at us from all directions. Wouldn't it be nice to find a refuge? A safe place we can share with our close ones? We can trust our faith in God to protect us. "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him..." (Nahum 1.14) Find tranquility from the world's troubles at your house of worship this week. Go and give thanks to God!

Daily Scripture Readings						
Lam.	Lam.	Lam.	Lam.	Luke	Luke	Luke
1:1-22	3:1-33	3:34-66	5:1-22	11:1-13	18:1-14	19:28-48

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at [DailyBible.AmericanBible.org](#)
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News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Due to the critical illness of her father, Rev. Dee Ann Thompson was given Sunday off. Rev. Rob Betts filled the pulpit in her absence.

Rev. Betts' sermon was titled "Discovering God's Blueprint for Your Life," with several scripture selections from the New Testament.

The message shared that "society seems to be 'eaten up' with excesses: we have to achieve more, do more, travel more, acquire more.

"These excesses lead to extreme debt, crime, abuse, and "pleasure" at the expense of everything else.

"This constant yearning for 'something' is the result of a lack of seeking to find

God's blueprint for life.

"God knew us and had a plan for us before we were born. God wants us to seek and find our life's blueprint so that we may fulfill what He wants us to do."

Rev. Betts concluded with the challenge: "Don't lay His blueprint aside but continue to let it guide your life."

At the close of the service, Rev. and Mrs. Betts sang a duet "Give Myself Away."

Before the sermon, announcements were made, prayer concerns shared and intercessory prayer was offered.

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

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

This week, belated happy birthday wishes go to Mark Boaz, whose birthday was Sunday, March 14; and to Joshua Simmons, whose birthday was March 17.

Those with upcoming birthdays include Jeff Roach on March 19 and Travis Rogers on March 22.

Wishes for a happy wedding anniversary go to Mark and Michaela Boaz. Their 16th anniversary is March 19.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

The church's adult Sunday School class meets at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings for Bible study.

John Turner led the worship music for services on Sunday, March 14.

Pastor Nick DiMauro's sermon was titled "Size Matters Not." Scripture was from Matthew.

As the worship service was being held for adults, children's worship also was being held.

The church's worship service starts at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday morning for both adults and children.

Wednesday night Bible study is planned at 6 p.m. Pastor Nick is leading a study about the Book of Revelation.

The church is located at 409 Morgan St. in Anna. For more information, call the church office at 833-5416, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Those who would like to ride the church bus are asked to call the office by Thursday.

The church's next food giveaway is planned on April 8.



Bishop visits Union County

The Most Rev. Michael McGovern, the bishop of the Diocese of Belleville in Southern Illinois, visited Union County on Sunday, March 14. The bishop celebrated Masses on Sunday morning at St. Mary Catholic Church in Anna and at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden.

Shawnee Schools name third quarter honor roll students

Shawnee School District No. 84 announces third quarter honor roll students.

Shawnee High School Freshmen

High honor roll: Olivia Clover, Karsynne Livingston, Allie Myers.

Honor roll: Kayman Ford, Jaci Harris, Kiersten Holloway, Ryan Libbert, CJ Schaefer, Jace Williams, Elaine Willmore, Brody Wills.

Sophomores

High honor roll: Abbagell Davis, Abigail Smith.

Juniors

High honor roll: Autumn Derossett, Alexis Miller, Gabriella Smith.

Seniors

High honor roll: Brinna Coomer, Kyliegh Harris, Courtney Smith.

Shawnee Junior High School 6th Grade

High honor roll: Zoe Myers, Aniston Nicholson.

Honor roll: Addilyn Clark, Peyton Clymore, Nick Dallas, Brock Ellet, Shelby Pender.

7th Grade

Honor roll: Landon Smith.

8th Grade

High honor roll: Mallory Follis, Noah Mayberry.

Honor roll: Gracie Davison, Jaslyn Phelps, Jaeda Qualls, Avery Stegle.

Shawnee Elementary School 1st Grade

Damion Barnes, Emmy Bendick, Annabelle Davis, Jenna Davis, Aydon Elder, Mavis Ford, Ashlynn Golliher.

Brady Mayberry, Aubree McMahan, Luke Nax, Randall Neilson, Connor Patrick, Jarett Pickel, Cameron Qualls.

Molly Reed, Reed Sissom, Cooper Sullivan, Mason Taylor, Zoey Welker, Alexander Wise.

2nd Grade

Kylee Bade, Easton Bigham, Drake Chapman, Hunter Clark, Chase Clymer, Titan Cobin, Bailee Duran.

Kenzie Duran, Randi Ellet, Kamedyn Gregory, Adyen Griffin, Kolsyn Kaufman, Jacklynn Kennedy, Camden Keppner.

Joselyn Matlock, Charles Moore, Tally Myers, Ryland Rhymer, Dakoda Ross, Jackson Weber.

3rd Grade

Charlie Chapman, Aubree Davison, Ella Faulkner,

Adalyn Follis, Mia Griffin, Jonathan Hubbs, Journey Hubbs.

Liam McDonald, Kash Mikel, Lilly Park, Bentley Parker, Madelyn Patrick, Carter Phillips, Tinley Qualls.

Katie Randles, Chase Temke, Madison Ticer, Murphy Wilson, Chet Warren.

4th Grade

Gabby Barnes, Gracelynn Bigham, Georgia Crane, Nolan Ellet, Spencer Griffin, Nolan Hubbs, Tristan Knupp, Jacob Pickel, Hunter Ross, Avery Sissom, Joseph Willmore.

5th Grade

Eliza Ford, Eva Ford, Lillie Griffin, Tucker Hale, Sterling Livingston, Brody Maeser, Emma Neilson, Taylor Sargent, Kyle Shirley, Connor Wilson.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, March 14, Pastor Perry Williams spoke at both the morning and evening worship services.

The morning message was based on the scripture from Hebrews and addressed "how faith affects our lives."

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

The messages also were live streamed on Facebook, where they can be viewed.

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

During the morning service, music director Dee Rose led worship. Debbie York was pianist. Connor Benbrook sang a special, "In

Christ Alone."

The church plans to host an Easter egg hunt at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 3. The egg hunt will be held outdoors. In case of inclement weather, the egg hunt will be moved to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 10.

Birthday: Richard Tucker, March 15.

Anniversary: Rob and Suzi Wright, March 19, 16 years.

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

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

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

A morning worship service was held Sunday, March 14, at 10:35 a.m. in the church and on Zoom. Pastor Randy Wright and the worship team led the singing.

Jessica Elkins and Abby Barlow provided special music.

The pastor's message on Sunday was titled "The Church - The Ecclesia." Scripture was from Matthew and Ephesians.

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

Birthdays: Beryl Clayton, Herman Wells, March 14; Ronnie Crutchfield, March 15; Jayda Benefield, March 17.

Anniversary: Terry and Wendy Wiseman, March 14.

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

Illinois District Virtual Team Days are planned through March 31. The courses are available on the district's website at <https://illinoisnaz.org/event/team-day-south-2021/>.

A free grocery giveaway is planned from 10 a.m. to noon on March 20. Those

who would like to receive groceries are asked to enter the church parking lot by way of Kirk Street and proceed to the fellowship hall.

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

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

A morning worship service is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, March 21, in the sanctuary and on Zoom. The service will be available in the parking lot on the radio for those who do not feel comfortable coming inside the sanctuary. CDC guidelines will be followed by wearing masks, social distancing and families sitting together.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on March 31, with praise and worship in the sanctuary and on Zoom and Children's Bible quizzing in the fellowship hall, with CDC guidelines being followed by wearing masks and social distancing. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the password.

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

Fish dinners being served during Lent by Cobden church

Lenten Friday night fish dinners are being served by St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden. Dates for the dinners are March 19 and 26.

Dinners will be available, by pick up only, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For a \$10 donation, you will be served your choice of fried fish, baked fish, or a combo of both, along with baked beans, cole slaw, cucumber salad and a cookie.

Dinners will be by reservation only. Contact Sherry at 618-559-4347 before 8 p.m. on Thursday to place an order and to select your

pick up time of 4:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 5:45 p.m., 6 p.m. or 6:15 p.m.

For your safety, workers will all be masked and gloved. Workers ask everyone to please wear a mask when you pick up your order.

Drive up to the front doors of the parish hall on the church grounds and someone will bring your order to you. The church is located at 101 N. Centennial in Cobden.

Make checks out to St. Ann's Sodality or have correct change.

Anna VFW planning to have drive-thru, dine in fish dinner

A drive-thru or dine in fish dinner is planned at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455. The post is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.

The VFW plans to serve the fish dinner on Friday, March 19. Serving is scheduled from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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

Church plans food giveaway

Anna Church of the Nazarene is planning to have a free grocery giveaway on Saturday, March 20. The giveaway is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon.

The church is located at 100 Kirk St. in Anna. Those who would like to receive groceries are asked to enter the church parking lot by way of Kirk Street and proceed to the fellowship hall.

Those who would like to order a meal are asked to call 833-7737 any day, but no later than noon Friday, March 19, to make reservations for pick up or dining in so the VFW can make sure there are not too many people in the back hall and social distancing can be set up.

Those who order dinners are asked to have correct change; no credit or debit cards can be accepted.

Star Karaoke will be at the post starting at 6 p.m. with a St. Patrick's Day party. Everyone is invited to wear green.

Bingo

Xtreme Bar Bingo is scheduled to return to the Anna VFW post on Monday, March 22.

The kitchen is scheduled to open at 6 p.m. Bingo will start at 7 p.m.

A maximum of 50 people will be allowed at this time. There is no charge to play bingo.

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Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

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

Anna Nazarene Church

Free food bag giveaway Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. to noon or until food is gone. 100 Kirk St. Come in the parking lot on Kirk Street and exit out the parking lot on Highway 51.

Birthday Celebration

David Hartline was honored on his birthday by his wife Karen and family taking him to one of his

favorite places to eat Red Lobster.

Anniversary

Phil and Sharon Dillow will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary March 27.

Outing

Alfred and Carolyn Dammann and Rev. Tim and Myra Gossett recently went to Giant City Lodge for their chicken dinner. Then

they enjoyed a drive in the warmer weather.

Trip

Jerome and Tasha Faire have returned from a trip to Mexico and visiting their son Trace in North Dakota.

Enjoying the Past

I got an email from Judy Gafner who said "I loved your story about "The Iron Kettle."

I lived in Anna back in the 70's and I remember going there a lot.

One day, four of us went and their initials for a free meal were "jg." Amazingly, three of the four of us had those initials. I'm sure they weren't pleased, but they sure honored it and three of us ate free."

It was so good to get this email and hear people have really enjoyed reading about things from the history of Anna.

Honor Wreaths For Veterans

A special thanks to Shirley Page for her donation for two Honor Wreaths for Veterans in memory of her husband Paul Page and for a veteran who doesn't have anyone to buy for them. Edna Eastwood for her donation of one Honor Wreath for Veterans in memory of her husband Carl Dover. These will be laid at our ceremony Dec. 18.

Lou Boswell name added with Tom and Karen Betts in memory of Stanley Boswell Jr. and Edward E. (Gene) Taylor for the wreaths they bought.

VFW

Peggy Jerrell will be

singing her Star Karaoke at the VFW Friday night, March 19. Call to reserve your fish dinner.

Adult Easter Egg Hunt

Buffalo Bluffs Hemp Farm will join at Starview Vineyards April 3 at 11 a.m. for their fourth adult Easter

egg hunt. Everyone gets a prize.

Special Thanks

To Bessie and Curt Ellis for giving me credit when they renewed their subscription to the Gazette Democrat.

Anna Heights Baptist

Church

Pastor Darryl Williams started a new sermon series: Who is this Man? This week: He is the dividing line, with scripture from Mark.

Look on Anna Heights social platform on Face-

The Anna Moose Lodge 1346 has a valuable resource in its members, but they are also honored to have their Valued Veterans. The Valued Veteran program is a new initiative by Moose International.

The focus of the program is on the recognition and support of Moose veterans, with an emphasis on their ongoing service to their fraternal units and communities through the Moose.

The program's tag phrase captures this well: "Moose Members Serving Then and Now!" This approach simultaneously honors our veterans while also highlighting the Fraternity's commitment to community service.

To further promote their commitment to community service, join us alongside with our Women of the Moose Chapter 1181, as they collect items for our Illinois Veterans Home here in Anna.

Receptacles are in the foyer of the Lodge and donations will be accepted through mid-April.



A few of the Anna Moose Lodge's Valued Veterans include Jim Fuller and Raymond Theis.



Edgar Dangbar and Raymond Theis stand with the receptacle boxes at the Anna Moose Lodge.



Anna Moose Lodge Valued Veterans Jack Hankla, Jerry Richardson and JD Davis. Thank you for your service.



Lee Hackney hosted Civil War Days at the Anna Arts Center. Lee is also a member of the GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club.



Congratulations to Macayla Palmer and Abe Godinez on the birth of their son Ezekiel Francisco, who was born March 10 at 12:30 p.m.



Max Jones, owner of Plantscape Nursery and Landscape Service from Herrin, was guest speaker at the Anna-Jo Garden Club meeting March 9. The program was about plants for the landscape.



Barbara Bauer, Susie Kessler and Jane Bauer of the General Federal of Women's Clubs Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club hosted The Illinois Freedom Project traveling exhibit for the Civil War Days at the Anna Arts Center.



Pam Baker at the Anna Arts Center with the The Illinois Freedom Project exhibit.



Five generations of beautiful Hight women. They are blessed. From left are Elizabeth and Gabrielle Stewart, Kimberly and Elsie Hawk and Karen Hight.



Kay Johnson, Judy Francis, Illinois State Sen. Terry Bryant and Lillian Milam all had lunch at O'Charley's in Marion. A good time was had by all.



The Anna-Jo Garden Club met Tuesday, March 9, in the United Methodist Church fellowship hall in Anna. They are very happy to be able to have a meeting again.

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book or YouTube for up to date Bible studies and announcements and to watch Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. online worship services and Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. for Bible study and at annaheights.com

An intercessory prayer group meets Monday through Friday in the church foyer at 8 a.m.

Momma Lous's craft class will meet Thursday, March 25, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel.

March birthdays: 19 Diadra McEnelly and Klayton Taylor, 21 Erica Hunter, Paula Stover, 22 Terrie Rhymer 23 Bradley Glasco and Russell Hileman 24 Brock Goforth and Willie Rhymer, 25 Shirley Fuller. March anniversaries: 20 Phil and Connie Goodman, 23 Mike and Venita Maples, March 7 Attendance 8 a.m. worship 72. 10:30 a.m. worship 116. Bible study/Sunday School 192.

The Chapel & Company Sunday School class celebrated March birthdays during Bible study with breakfast foods and desserts. Teachers Jeff and

Lydia Williams gave each couple a St. Patrick's Day mug filled with trail mix.

The Schlenker Sunday School class enjoyed lunch after church at the Dinner Bell in Anna.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sunday morning was the fourth week of Lent. Lenten candle litany was by Dr. Charles Halterman.

Carla Anderson's prelude was It's Me Oh Lord Standing In The Need of Prayer.

Everyone gave praises to be able to sing again in church, the first time in a year. Songs were It is Well with My Soul and Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed.

Dean Corbit said a prayer for Rev. Tim before his sermon.

Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was Jesus Betrayed by Judas for 30 pieces of silver, with scripture from Luke. Rev. Tim's children's moment was on making mistakes.

Carla Anderson played the organ and Marcy Morris played the piano.

A special thanks to Dean Corbit for bringing every-

one eggs.

Church is at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Leaves and Fishes food giveaway is usually on the third Tuesday of the month, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the men meet at 7 a.m. for Bible study. The women meet at 1 p.m. for Bible study. Thursday, today, prayer group meets at 4 p.m.

Passover Seder Meal: Darryl Parks and his team will be hosting a Passover Seder Meal on Palm Sunday, March 28, at 5 p.m. Please let Darryl know you are planning to attend no later than March 21.

Good Friday Service: 7 p.m. on Good Friday at the United Methodist Church Anna. Everyone welcome.

Annabelle Trail
Annabelle Fest will be June 11-12. It will be here before we know it.

Thanks to everyone who bought a sign for your yard so the trail will be easy to follow.

There will be maps that can be picked up those days with streets listed where Annabelles will be so people will be able to drive by

and look at the beautiful Annabelles in our city.

If you have Annabelles and would like a sign to put in your yard to be added to the trail they are \$15 and need to be ordered so please give me a call at 833-5717 and leave your name, phone number and address on my answering machine.

Bald Knob Cross of Peace

Palm Sunday or alternative date churches are ask for everyone to contribute \$1 to Bald Knob Cross. You can also send donations to Bald Knob Cross of Peace, P. O. Box 35, Alto Pass, Ill. 62905.

Did you know the vision of the cross began in 1937 by Wayman Presley and Bill Lirley?

The first sunrise service was held atop Bald Knob Mountain on Easter Sunday of 1937. These two wonderful men have gone to heaven but I am sure there are many people out there that remember that day. If you are one of them please send me a message of what you remember about that first Easter morning.

In 1959 after much

prayer and fundraising the groundbreaking was held to construct a 111 foot steel paneled cross. On that Easter sunrise service if I am remembering the right year our 4-H group or our Girl Scouts led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a very large ceremony. It was a beautiful day with the Sun rising and shining so beautiful. Who remembers this day? Three small wooden crosses stood for many years.

Bald Knob Cross was completed in 1963, the year I graduated from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. Please email what you remember about this year or that sunrise service. There may be a lot of memories out there no one has heard about or remembers that you might like to share.

Then for some sad reason over the years the care of the cross seemed to be forgotten about but thanks to all the wonderful people who came together to restore the cross. A lot of hard work and fund raisers.

Today the Cross stands more beautiful than ever

as a beacon in Southern Illinois. Attracting countless visitors from all over the world.

If everyone in Union County would give just \$1 think how much money that would be. It takes a lot of donations for the care of the cross. Please pray for the cross that is never forgotten about again.

Military Prayer List

Trace Faire, John Michael Brimm, Caleb Meier, Nathaniel Moss, Derek Nelson, Nick Pearson, Nate Frankell, Alex Gratz, Reagan Morrison, Garrett Goins, James McWhorter, Jennifer Ann Bishop, Arin Whitemountain, Katelynn Williams, Lindsey Keene, Jerod Schaefer, Creighton Laster, Josh Steveson, Josh Williams, Jim Bonner, Nick Harvel, Nona Elizabeth Luke, Lucas J. Strickland, William Nathaniel Frankell, Ethan Maze, Tanner Anderson, Hayden Young, Kiefer Stull, Davis Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C.J. Youngerman, Freddy Morse and wife Megan in Alaska.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	2021 NIT Basketball Tournament (Live)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven Raven	"Underwater" (20)	"John Wick" (19) (R)	"Lethal Weapon" (87) Two cops partner up.
7 PM	Station 19 <i>Cult leader.</i>	Young B Positive	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	Superstore Superstore	2021 NIT Basketball Tournament (Live)	Bang (HD) Chrisley Chrisley	Chrisley Chrisley	Jessie Jessie	"Safe House" (12) CIA in South Africa. (HD)	★★★ "The Recruit" (03) CIA recruit spies. (HD)	★★★ "Lethal Weapon 2" Diplomats and drugs.
8 PM	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	(01) Mom Unicorn	Call Me Man (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	2021 NIT Basketball Tournament (Live)	Go-Big Show	Chrisley Chrisley	BUNKD BUNKD			
9 PM	A Million Little Things	Clarice <i>FBI</i> siege.	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)		Wipeout (HD)	Chrisley She's Boss	Big City BUNKD	"Man on a Ledge" <i>Suicidal man.</i>	"Precious" <i>Teen suffers abuse.</i>	
10 PM	Local	Local		Local (35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Chrisley	BUNKD			DESUS &
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	Go-Big Show	Chrisley Chrisley	Sydney Jessie	(45) Allen v. Farrow (HD)	(49) "In the Bedroom" (02) (HD)	VICE (HD) DESUS & "Weapon 3"

MARCH 18, 2021

FRIDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "First Round" (Live)	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	"Movie"	Chicago P.D. (HD)	"Movie"	"27 Dresses" (20)	(4:45) "Blackhat" (15)	"Rambo III" (88) (HD)
7 PM	Shark Tank (HD)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	The Blacklist (HD)	Dateline NBC (HD)	2021 NCAA Wrestling Championship (Live)	"Movie"	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Secrets Unsitatable	"Adventureland" (09) <i>Student works park.</i> (R)	"Proof of Life" (00) <i>Hostage negotiator.</i> (HD)	★★★ "Limitless" <i>Brain capabilities.</i>
8 PM	(01) 20/20 <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "First Round" (Live)	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)		"Movie"	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Unsitatable			"Dallas Buyers Club" (13) <i>Man with HIV.</i> (R)
9 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Chicago P.D. (HD)	BUNKD BUNKD	Real Time Maher (HD)	(17) "The Transporter" (02) (HD)	
10 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local	Local Programs	Local (35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	ELEAGUE (HD)	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Secrets Unsitatable	Real Time Maher (HD)	(50) "The Punisher" (04, Action)	(45) Shameless (HD)
11 PM	Nightline	Late Show	Local Programs	Late Night				Jessie Jessie	★★½ "13 Going on 30"		DESUS &

MARCH 19, 2021

SATURDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "First Round" (Live)	Local	Local Programs	2021 NCAA Wrestling Championship (Live)	(4:45) "Movie"	(4:06) "Movie"	Raven Jessie	★★½ "Bowfinger" (99)	"I Think I Love" (07)	(5:45) ★★★ "Hereditary" (18) <i>Sinister ancestry.</i>
7 PM	Shark Tank (HD)	The Masked Singer	The Masked Singer	Dateline NBC <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)				Jessie Jessie	★★★ "Beverly Hills Cop" (84) (HD)	★★ "Deck the Halls" (06) (HD)	
8 PM	American Idol <i>405 (Auditions)</i> (HD)	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "First Round" (Live)	Game of Talents (HD)	Sat. Night Live (HD)	UFC Fight Night "Brunson vs Holand" (Live)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	"Harry Potter & Hallows 2" (11)	Big City Big City Big City	★★½ "Beverly Hills Cop II" (19) (HD)	(35) "Last Christmas" (19) (HD)	★★½ "Relic" (20) <i>An evil presence.</i>
9 PM	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	Local		Foodies Frontal	(06) "Movie"	Secrets Secrets	Real Time Maher (HD)	(50) "The Punisher" (04, Action)	"The Last House on the Left" (09, Horror)
10 PM	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	Sat. Night Live <i>Sketch comedy.</i>		Wipeout (HD)		Secrets Jessie	"Beverly Hills Cop III" (94) (HD)		★★★ "Horrible Bosses" <i>Murdering employers.</i>
11 PM	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs				She's Boss	Jessie			Shameless

MARCH 20, 2021

SUNDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Videos <i>Wild Turkey.</i>	60 Minutes (HD)	Cherries The Harts	The Voice "The Blind Auditions, Part 5" (HD)	2021 NCAA (Live)	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Second Round"	Law & Order: SVU	Raven Sydney	"Birds of Prey: And the" (20) <i>Harley Quinn.</i>	"The Kingdom" (07)	Shameless (HD)
7 PM	American Idol <i>Genre Challenge.</i> (HD)	The Equalizer (HD)	Simpsons North (HD)	Dateline NBC <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	2021 NCAA Women's Bask. "First Round"	2021 NCAA Wrestling Championship "Second Round"	Law & Order: SVU	Just Roll Big City		★★½ "The Devil Inside" <i>Exorcisms.</i>	VICE (HD) VICE (HD) Shameless (HD)
8 PM	Local Programs	NCIS: L. A. (HD)	Burgers Fam Guy	Games <i>Game contest.</i>		2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Second Round"	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie Jessie	Q: Into the Storm (HD)	"Doctor Sleep" (19) <i>A young girl with psychic powers.</i> (R)	City on a Hill (HD)
9 PM	Who Wants to Be a	NCIS: New Orleans	Local Programs Local info.	Good Girls "Fall Guy"	2021 NCAA Women's Bask. "First Round"	Local Programs Local info.	Law & Order: SVU	Big City Big City	Q: Into the Storm (HD)		DESUS & Shameless (HD)
10 PM	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (HD)	NCAA Post	Law & Order: SVU	Big City Big City	Q: Into the Storm (HD)	★★½ "Lucy in the Sky"	DESUS &
11 PM	(35) Local	Local	Local Programs			Go-Big Show		Big City Big City	Q: Into the Storm		

MARCH 21, 2021

MONDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Second Round"	Local	Local Programs	2021 NCAA (Live)	Tournament	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Raven	"Live By Night" (17) <i>Becoming bootlegger.</i>	"The Gallows" (15)	"Limitless" (18)
7 PM	American Idol (HD)	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Second Round"	9-1-1 (HD)	The Voice <i>Top moments.</i> (HD)	2021 NCAA Women's Bask. "First Round"	2021 NCAA Wrestling Championship "Second Round"	WWE Monday Night Raw (Live) (HD)	Unsitatable Secrets		★★★ "Rambo" (08) <i>Thai missionaries.</i>	Shameless (HD)
8 PM	Local Programs	2021 NCAA Basketball Tournament	(01) America's (HD)	Debris "In Universe"	2021 NCAA Women's Bask. "First Round"	Foodies		Raven	Beartown (HD)	(32) "The Punisher" (04) <i>Avenging vigilante.</i>	"Summerland" <i>A reclusive writer.</i>
9 PM	The Good Doctor	Local Programs	Local Programs Local info.	Local		Foodies Dad (HD)	Queen of the South	Big City BUNKD	(05) Q: Into the Storm	"Ouija: Origin of Evil" <i>Evil spirit.</i>	(45) Mamma Mia. On the Road
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local (35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Queen of the South	Big City Sydney	(05) Q: Into the Storm		Shameless
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Queen of the South	Jessie Jessie	(05) Q: Into the Storm		

MARCH 22, 2021

TUESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Last Dance Boxing	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven Raven	Real Time Maher (HD)	(5:13) "Hackers" (95)	"Green Book" (18)
7 PM	To Tell the Truth (HD)	NCIS "Sunburn" (HD)	Holmes Family Effect	Young Rock Kenan	Last Dance Boxing	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney Sydney	"Rocky" (76. Drama) <i>A boxer trains.</i> (PG) (HD)	"Ad Astra" (19) <i>Brad Pitt. Astronaut mission.</i>	"xXx" (02) <i>Vin Diesel. Outlaw secret agent.</i>
8 PM	black-ish mixed-ish	FBI "Liar's Poker" (HD)	Holmes Family Effect	This Is Us (HD)	30 for 30 (HD)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU <i>Sex crimes.</i> (HD)	BUNKD BUNKD			
9 PM	Soul of a Nation (HD)	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs Local info.	(01) New Amsterdam	Boxing Boxing	Bang (HD) The Misery		Big City BUNKD	Real Sports (HD)	"Event Horizon" <i>Search for truth.</i>	(05) Shameless (HD)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local (35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	Law & Order: SVU	Big City Sydney	Beartown (HD)	"The Fighter" <i>Boxing brothers.</i>	(05) "xXx: State of the Union" (05, Action)
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Seinfeld Conan	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie Jessie	(05) Q: Into the Storm		

MARCH 23, 2021

WEDNESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Stephen A NBA Basketball	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	NCIS "Pyramid" (HD)	Raven Raven	"Battleship" (12) <i>Taylor Kitsch. Alien battle.</i>	(4:13) "Gangs" (02)	(15) ★★★ "Home Again" (17) <i>New roommates.</i>
7 PM	Goldbergs Housewife	Tough as Nails (HD)	The Masked Singer	Chicago Med (HD)	Boston Celtics at Milwaukee Bucks (Live)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (Live) (HD)	Liv Maddie Liv Maddie		"In Secret" <i>Young wife's affair.</i> (R)	★★★ "Legally Blonde" (01) (HD)
8 PM	Conners Call Your	SEAL Team (HD)	(02) Game of Talents	Chicago Fire (HD)		Bang (HD) Bang (HD)		Raven Raven	Day Sports Stood Still (HD)	"Dead Silence" <i>Seeking a killer.</i>	
9 PM	The Con (HD)	S.W.A.T. "U-Turn"	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)	NBA Basketball Brooklyn vs Utah (Live) (HD)	Frontal	(-08) "Cold Pursuit" (19) <i>Man hunts down son's killer.</i> (R)	Big City BUNKD	(35) "27 Dresses" (08) <i>Always a bridesmaid.</i>		(35) ★★★ "Legally Blonde 2" (03)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local (35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan		BUNKD Sydney		"The Transporter" (02) <i>Smuggling exposed.</i>	(15) ★★★ "Becky" (20)
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Seinfeld Conan	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie Jessie	(05) Q: Into the Storm		

MARCH 24, 2021

THURSDAY

7:00pm
ABC Station 19 "Learning to Fly" The crew encounters a cult when they are called to address a situation involving their leader, who claims he can fly; Travis spends time with his father. TV14 (HD)

7:29pm
USA Chrisley Knows Best "Ride or Die" Julie's stress continues to rise and approaches a breaking point, so Todd comes up with a plan to alleviate it; Chase helps Nanny learn to ride a bike. TV14 (HD)

FRIDAY

7:00pm
DISN Secrets of Sulphur Springs A 12-year-old boy and his family move to the town of Sulphur Springs, La., to take over an abandoned hotel property that is rumored to be haunted. TVPG

7:05pm
HBO Adventureland ★★★ (2009, Comedy) Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart. In 1987, a college student is forced to get a job at a decrepit amusement park, where he discovers new meaning in life from a group of colorful co-workers. R (HD)

SATURDAY

7:00pm
FOX The Masked Singer "Season 5 Premiere: Return of the Masks" Host Niecy Nash takes over as the Group A contestants perform. TVPG (HD)

8:37pm
USA Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 ★★★½ (2011, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. As Harry, Ron and Hermione continue their search for the three remaining Horcruxes that make Lord Voldemort immortal, the Dark Lord plans an attack on Hogwarts. PG-13 TVPG (HD)

SUNDAY

7:00pm
CBS The Equalizer "Judgment Day" An escaped prisoner struggles to take help from McCauley due to their distrust in the justice system; Delilah stops spending time with one of her closest friends. TV14 (HD)

8:25pm
MAX Doctor Sleep ★★★½ (2019, Horror) Ewan McGregor, Rebecca Ferguson. Years after the events of his past, a now-adult man must protect a young girl who has similar psychic powers as him, and he must save her from a cult. R (HD)

MONDAY

7:30pm
DISN Secrets of Sulphur Springs A 12-year-old boy and his family move to the town of Sulphur Springs, La., to take over an abandoned hotel property that is rumored to be haunted. TVPG

8:00pm
HBO Beartown Peter's future in the program is threatened when the hockey community holds an emergency meeting; Maya faces hostility from those in town and school. TVMA (HD)

TUESDAY

7:00pm
FOX Holmes Family Effect "One Step at a Time" The Holmes family helps overhaul a non-profit organization, which helps people with their fresh start at employment, by providing them with work boots. (HD)

NBC Young Rock "Don't Go Breaking my Heart" Set in 1987 Pennsylvania, Ata's relationship with Dwayne is challenged after Ata makes a heartbreaking discovery regarding her son. TVPG (HD)

WEDNESDAY

8:00pm
SHOW Legally Blonde ★★★½ (2001, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson. A fashion major applies to Harvard Law School to impress her ex-boyfriend and soon becomes involved in defending a murder suspect. PG-13 (HD)

9:30pm
TBS Full Frontal with Samantha Bee Host Samantha Bee shares her satirical point of view on current political topics and relevant cultural issues in an innovative newsmagazine-type format. TVMA (HD)

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14gpc

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Part-time. Disabled woman is looking for a female personal assistant to provide direct care in my home. Background check will be performed. Will fill in full-time when needed. Must have own transportation. 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call (618)-845-3858.

11gp tfn

City of Anna, Lifeguard

The City of Anna is accepting applications for part-time pool lifeguard positions. American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification is highly desirable, candidates must pass pre-employment background check. Applications can be picked up at City Hall between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. or on our website cityofanna.org/jobs. Please return employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, IL 62906 or by email to aguined@cityofanna.org. Application deadline is April 2, 2021. EOE.

13gp-14g

City of Anna, Pool Manager & Head Lifeguard

The City of Anna is accepting applications for pool manager and head lifeguard position. American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification, prior management experience and W.S.I. training is highly desirable. Candidates must pass pre-employment background check. Applications can be picked up at City Hall between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or on our website cityofanna.org/jobs. Please return employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, IL 62906 or by email to aguined@cityofanna.org. Application deadline is April 2, 2021. EOE.

13gp-14g

HELPWANTED: JR's Centre is hiring for the position of full-time LPN. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. No evening, weekend, or holiday shifts required. Call (618)-833-4956, speak to Debbie for further information.

13-14gp

City of Anna, Part-Time General Laborer

The City of Anna, IL is accepting applications for the position of a Temporary Part-Time General Laborer for summer help. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, position pays \$11.75 per hour. Applications will be available for interested

HELP WANTED: Looking for part-time Custodian for Shawnee Community College in Ullin. Apply at Main Campus front desk. Phone (618)-634-3200, ext. 3436. 13p-16gc

Come Join Our Team at Union County Hospital! Positions are now posted online for the following:
Long Term Care— Evening/Night shift
C.N.A.s— Sign-on bonus
ES Worker Evening Shift
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For more information, contact us at 618-833-4511 ext. 4297.

See all our job postings and apply online at www.unioncountyhospital.com
(We are an Equal Opportunity Employer)
Union County Hospital
517 N. Main St.
Anna, IL 62906

14gp

YARD SALE

ATTENTION HUNTERS & OUTDOORSMEN: Assorted military surplus. Miles Flea Market, Rt. 146 & Rt. 3 Intersection, East Cape Girardeau, IL. Saturday, & Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 13g-20p

CLEARANCE SALE:
REPPERT'S OFFICE SUPPLY,
112 LAFAYETTE STREET, ANNA. MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. File Folders, Cards,

13p-14gp

Stamps, Lots of Misc. Supplies. All Sales Final. tfn

GARAGESALE: Location: 142 Turner Avenue, Anna. Thursday, March 18, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, March 19, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, March 20, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Rain or shine, everything will be indoors). Baby & girls clothing galore! Baby girl clothing birth-24 months, girls 2T, 3T, 4T & 5T, (all seasons and styles). Bottle warmer, green Pack N' Play, colorful mobile, baby & toddler toys, Diaper Genie (only used a couple of months), new toilet training seat within a regular toilet seat (white, oblong), bibs, wash clothes, nursing bras & cover, maternity clothing (size large, mostly summer), shelving unit, various music CDs, some tools, light fixtures, various home decor, men's & women's clothing, full-size bed frame, bike cart for two children. 14gc

14gc

BUSINESS

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

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

Loan Process Specialist

One of the largest agricultural lenders in Illinois seeks to fill a full-time position responsible for timely and accurate processing of loans. Strong listening, problem-solving and organization skills are essential. Must demonstrate a high level of initiative and attention to detail. General knowledge of accounting principles and credit processing required, as well as a high school diploma and 5 years of related work experience required. Position is in Marion, IL. Competitive compensation based on experience and qualifications and an excellent benefits package provided.

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www.FarmCreditIL.com
EOE/AA 148156

Clerk of Union County. Filed this 24th day of February, 2021, under the Assumed Name of J.O. Power Wash with the place of business located at 405 Duty Lane, Cobden, Illinois 62920, and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Christopher Jones
405 Duty Lane
Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk

12-14gc



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6



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Obituaries

Oscar H. Sanders Jr.

Oscar H. Sanders Jr., 74, of Anna, died Monday, March 8, 2021, at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

He was born on Aug. 12, 1946, in Anna, the son of Oscar H. and Leona Taylor Sanders.

He married Joyce Hartline on May 9, 1969.

Mr. Sanders is survived by his wife, Joyce Sanders; sons Brian (Brenda) Sanders and Scott Sanders; grandchildren Amber (Brandon) Jones, Michael (Liz) Sanders and Jason Sanders; siblings, Marty Swafford Ford, Patty Swafford Lence and Roy Swafford Jr.; other relatives and other friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Rose Parker, Arthur, William, Norman and Gene Sanders and Pam Moore.

Oscar H. Sanders Jr. served in the U.S. Navy and then the U.S. Air Force. He is a Vietnam Veteran and was Honorably Discharged.

He also went on to serve the State of Illinois as a State Police Trooper, Union County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriff and as Union County 911 Coordinator.

He believed in serving his fellow man. He was also a state bicentennial 200 honoree. He was an Illinois State Master Sharp Shooter, a member of NENA and a Clarion Software developer. He completed a North American Master Conservation Course and earned a bachelor in ministry from the Sure Foundation.

A quote from the State, as well as the Governor of Illinois, takes this time of celebration as an opportunity to showcase the value of community service, as demonstrated by our Illinois Veterans:

"The Honor 200 award nominations were evaluated on the achievements and the contributions made by each Honoree that have aided, benefited and provided inspiration in your local communities and your fellow veterans. Through your past experiences, both on and off the battlefield, you embodied these virtues to the greatest extent and exemplified the meaning of selfless service, courage, and compassion."

His faith was tested several times in life by hardship and he still kept his faith in God. He was never ashamed to say how much he loved the word of God.

As this is being written our hearts for our Husband and Father are hurting but we know that he is going home to be with his family. If you know of Oscar H Sanders Jr., he would not want you to hurt for him but rejoice that he did love life and what it gave him.

Graveside services will be held privately for the family at Mound City National Cemetery.

A celebration of life was held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 13, at the Harvest Church in Anna, with the Rev. Tony Foeller officiating.

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

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



J.E. Jones

J.E. Jones, 85, of Dongola, died at 11:10 a.m. Monday, March 15, 2021, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

J.E. Jones was born in Dongola on June 16, 1935, the son of John E. and Mae Adams Jones.

On June 30, 1961, he and Adra Wilson began their 59 year marriage.

He graduated from Anna-Jonesboro Community High school in 1954. He was drafted into the U.S. Army directly after graduation.

He was well-known for his dedicated membership in the Cross Road United Methodist Church. He retired as a bookkeeper from the Columbia Quarry.

He is survived by his wife, Adra Jones and brother, Jim Jones, both of Dongola. He is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John E. and Mae (Adams) Jones; an infant brother Jon Jones; a brother, Jack Jones; and a sister Joy Bostian.

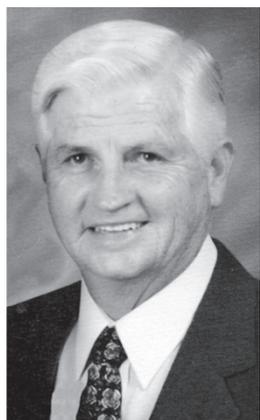
Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday, today, at Cross Road United Methodist Church in Ullin. Funeral services for Mr. Jones will be held at 11 a.m. at the church, with Pastor Pete Vinson officiating.

Interment, with full military honors by VFW Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 and the Illinois honor guard, will follow at Big Creek Cemetery in rural Anna.

Memorials can be made to Cross Road United Methodist Church. Envelopes will be provided at the church.

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

Crain Funeral Home Crain Funeral Home in Ullin is in charge of the arrangements.



Fred Clutts

Fred Clutts, 83, of Makanda, died Monday, March 15, 2021, at Manor Court in Carbondale.

He was born on Dec. 23, 1937, in Cobden, the son of Mart and Myrta Beggs Clutts.

He married Linda Eaves on Aug. 7, 1959, in Makanda. She preceded him in death on April 21, 2020.

Mr. Clutts is survived by his sons, Kenneth, Ben and Tom; grandchildren Chris, Jon, Amber and Kasey; and great-grandchildren Skyler, Athena and Trudy.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Linda Clutts; a son, Arthur; a brother, Mart; and by two sisters, Lorene and Evelene.

Mr. Clutts worked for many years as a construction laborer for E.T. Simonds. He built rental houses as a carpenter and he also worked as a farmer.

Funeral services will be held at noon Saturday, March 20, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden. Pastor Gary Darnell will officiate. Interment will be in Casper Cemetery near Anna.

Friends can call from 10 a.m. and until the service hour at noon on Saturday, March 20, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden.

All those attending will be required to wear coverings and to observe social distancing guidelines. Maximum occupancy of the building will be kept to 50 persons.

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

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



Anita Davis

Anita Davis, 88, of Anna, died Monday, March 8, 2021, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Oct. 14, 1932, the daughter of Henry Doyle and Eva Myrtle Hinkle Hileman.

She married the love of her life, Charles F. "Chuck" Davis, on Sept. 2, 1951, in Anna. He preceded her in death on Aug. 10, 1991.

She loved going out to eat and spending time with her friends. She attended Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna. She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary at the VFW's Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455. She worked for many years at G.C. Murphy in downtown Anna, then she worked at Anna City Hall until she retired.

She is survived by her godchildren, Michelle (Ronnie) Barnhart and Natalie (David) Stanley; a special niece, who was like a daughter to her, Teresa (Todd) Vincent of Anna; brothers Robert (Doris) Hileman of Anna and Terry (Mary Beth) Hileman of Jonesboro; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles F. "Chuck" Davis; her parents; a sister, Shirley M. Mueller; and brother, Henry L. Hileman.

Graveside funeral services were at 2 p.m. Monday, March 15, at the Anna City Cemetery, with Pastor Mark Hasty officiating. Interment immediately followed the service.

Memorials can be made to Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church.

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

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



Loretta Aldridge

Loretta Aldridge, 80, of Johnston City, died Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale.

She was born on Jan. 28, 1941, in Cobden, the daughter of Herman Lee and Ruth Furlow Aldridge.

She is survived by her sisters, Marie Qualls and Mary Aldridge, both of Johnston City, and Betty Marlow of West Frankfort; many nieces and nephews; numerous great-nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Carl Lee Aldridge; and a sister, Geraldine Aldridge.

She was a member of the Harmony Freewill Baptist Church for many years. She loved animals and especially adored her cats.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Friday, March 12, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden, with Pastor Bruce Thurman officiating. Interment was in the Cobden Cemetery.

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

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

Robert Vaughn 'RV' Lamer

Robert Vaughn "RV" Lamer, 79, of Cobden, died Monday, March 8, 2021, at his home.

He was born on Nov. 5, 1941, in Anna, the son of R.E. "Babe" and A. Catherine "Kitty" Mann Lamer.

He married Linda Blankenship on Dec. 30, 1967, in Morganfield, Ky.

He was a true outdoorsman. He loved it all, fishing, camping, horseback riding and generally being outside. He loved to pick the strings on his guitar and enjoyed his family immensely. He worked for many years as an administrator in the Job Corps.

Mr. Lamer is survived by his wife, Linda; children Julie (Kelly) O'Nan of Henderson, Ky., Angela Lamer of Bowling Green, Ky., and Katherine (Ryan) Smith of Goldsboro, N.C.; grandchildren Reece (Elizabeth) O'Nan, Myles Lamer and fiancée Abby Blackwell, Patrick Smith and Tanner Smith; one great-grandchild, Oliver O'Nan; a sister, Sue Ella Rich of Cookeville, Tenn.; many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by a sister, Barbara Lee Pearson.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden, with the Rev. Kerry Bean officiating. Interment was in the Cobden City Cemetery in Cobden.

Memorials can be made to either the First Presbyterian Church in Cobden or the American Heart Association.

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

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



Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Congratulations to Maxine and Fred Pender of Fair City who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on Sunday, March 7. They were furnished lunch by their son Brad and Lori Pender of Jonesboro. Sunday evening they were guests of their son, Russ and Patsy Pender of Olive Branch. Other guests were Heather, Josh, Chesleigh and Slayton Miller of Tamms, Leslie Grace of Olive Branch and Shelton, Kayden and Ridge Pender of Olive Branch. Social distancing was observed.

First day of spring is Saturday, March 20.

Those gathering at the home of Deanie and Jerry Hinkle of Jonesboro on Sunday night, March 7, for a family get together were Naomi and Mike Clark of Michigan, Peggy St. Cin and Cara Jansen of Jackson, Mo., Regan, Tyler and Alexa Hinkle, Bill and Tammy Davis and Jady Samuels, all of Anna, Shirley Miller and Penny and Kerry Hill, all of McClure.

Enjoying lunch together on Monday were Naomi and Mike Clark, Deanie and Jerry Hinkle, Peggy St. Cin and Shirley Miller.

Visiting on Saturday with Maxine and Fred Pender were Brad Pender of Jonesboro and Austin Pender of Tamms.

Jackie and Jay Jennings, Dolores Reynolds and Gracie Wilson all of Reynoldsville enjoyed eating at a Chinese restaurant in Cape Girardeau on Sunday. Amber, River and Taylor joined them.

Rodney and Vicki Reynolds of Wolf Lake visited Sunday afternoon with Dolores Reynolds.

River Kelley of McClure visited Saturday with Dolores Reynolds.

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

The Gazette-Democrat Serving Union County Since 1849

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Don Cox

Let's be HONEST; there really is climate change as has been true through eons of history. The difference now is that it has become a political tool.

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

THANK YOU

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone for the calls, cards, food, flowers, memorial contributions, love and support extended to our family at the loss of Halford. A special thank you to Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home, the pallbearers and to Immanuel Praise and Worship for the meal after the funeral service. We were deeply touched by those who braved the inclement weather to pay their respects and to support the family at the graveside service. Your love and kindness will never be forgotten.

The family of Halford Dillow

Obituaries Online
annanews.com

Opinion and Commentary

What's in a name?

Retired pastor remembers some special folks and their nicknames

The following article was written by retired Pastor Christine Erdman. She is a former pastor at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna.

As I started to settle into life in Union County, Illinois, in 1984, I began to realize that many people here, mostly guys it seemed to me, had nicknames.

As a city gal, and a Yankee, that took me a while to get used to.

Well, Uncle Wayne West did tell me that we had more characters per square inch in Union County than anywhere else in the Free World and the longer I stayed the more I believed him.

But I was slow on the uptake on this kind of thing. It took me six months to realize that Moon Pickett and Carl Pickett were the same person. He was even one of my parishioners and I still didn't pick up on it.

I still don't know why "moon," unless it had something to do with the famous liquid refreshment, or with comic strip "Moon Mullins and Gasoline Alley." I have even been told Carl's son was referred to as "half moon," although I have never verified that statement.

Of course, Anna folks hold Gasoline Alley and Moon Mullins rather dear. He was the creation of Frank Willard, the cartoonist who was born here in Anna and considered himself an Anna boy for most of his life, even when he roamed.

The cartoon was hugely popular in its day, seen in 250 newspapers across the land.

Willard was the artist of the strip, with his professional partner providing the story lines with Willard's input. He mentioned Anna, Illinois, in several strips.

Frank Willard died in Los Angeles in 1958 and is buried in Anna Cemetery under a stone with the face of Moon Mullins himself on it provided by local artist Maurice Metzger.

Research suggests that "Moon Mullins" the cartoon character, got his name after the popular adult beverage.

But there were others. Icky Wright, whose real name was Herman, added local color to whatever he did.

Icky was working for Ryland Pearl in 1984 and I bought my first new car from him: a Chevrolet.

He decided that I would be a great addition to the Union County Industrial Commission, main thrust at that time was bringing the new Saturn car plant to the area. They even had the local Catholic priest, Father Tom Miller and I do a speech at Cobden High School explaining the plan and how it would bring jobs to the area.

The end of the story, you may already know, is Saturn chose Spring Hill, Tennessee. It didn't last long. The whole thing went bust after a few years.

The plant, still owned overall by General Motors, is retooling to begin work on the frames of Chevy SUV's.

When you drive through the Anna City Park/Union County Fair Grounds, you may be driving on Herman Wright Drive.

Now how did Herman get the nickname Icky? I have no idea. If anyone else knows, let someone at The Gazette-Democrat know. I really am curious.

I guess when you and your dad sell mules and horses for a living, the nickname of Donkey makes some sense.

Nobel Bishop, aka Donkey, was almost larger than life. I met him pretty much at the end of his trail. No longer selling mules but used furniture.

I bought two living room cocktail tables from him. I still have one. It has a split down the center of it. The movers thought it was broken and was preparing to take it out to the trash when I, in a commanding voice, shouted "Put that down! That is a sacred table. That is a Donkey Bishop table!"

The rather frightened young man said: "You have a bishop named Donkey?" I wisely chose not to comment on that.

Donkey was working with Dick Hodges almost directly across the road from the horse and mule barns where the old Walmart used to be, next to Bunny Bread out of Highway 146.

Donkey and his father Hal Bishop Jr. used to go on a sales route with some of their animals in the fall of the year throughout Missouri and Arkansas. They even met former President Bill Clinton's mother in southern Arkansas, according to Clinton's biography.

Another nickname was given to Codge Boyd: real name Colmar. Old Codge's claim to fame was his great fish fries.

I remember him as a sweet and gentle man who helped out Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in a variety of ways, including being involved in the building of the parsonage. Codge gave his last great fish fry the year before he died in 1987. Everybody was right. It was worth the wait.

Cotton Lewis of the Lewis Brothers Bakery Bunny Bread fame. I was his pastor but I never asked him how he got the name Cotton.

His given name was, I believe, Arman. He was rich in Anna history and personal stories. He did tell me that his area for the bakery was to keep the trucks rolling, even if he had to drive himself.

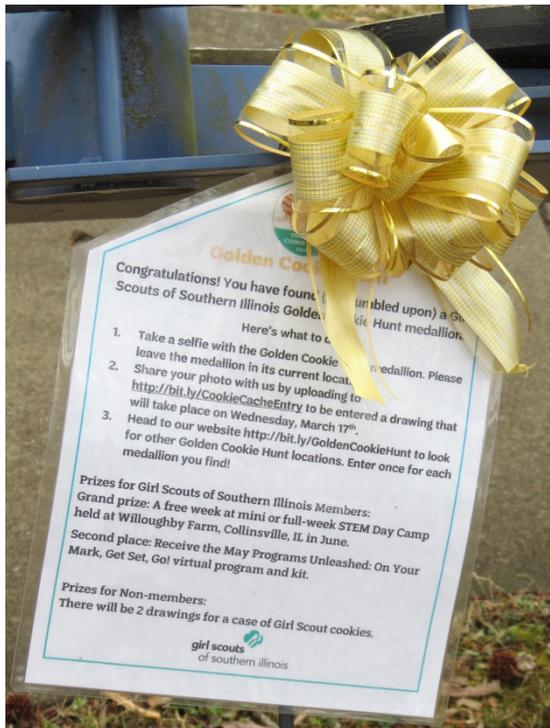
He had a little John Wayne in him. He did give me a great piece of advice. He said "Pastor, if you ever build a new church, make sure it's a straight in church. No steps! These churches around here have too many steps!" The older I get the more I realize how right he was.

This is just a few of the names I have heard through the years I'm sure many of you have lists of your own. Jot 'em down and let the newspaper know. I suspect there are many more lurking around the area.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Would Mr. Lincoln have liked Girl Scout Cookies?



A bright yellow ribbon happened to catch the writer's attention during a visit to the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds one day last week.

Abraham Lincoln just might have liked Girl Scout Cookies. He apparently enjoyed nibbling on gingerbread men, so Girl Scout Cookies might not be all that far-fetched. Bear with me, folks...we'll get Mr. Lincoln, Girl Scout Cookies and gingerbread men connected. Promise.

As you may recall, your writer enjoys taking a weekly stroll at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro.

Generally, the site is pretty peaceful and quiet. Last week, though, during my visit, a half dozen or so Canada geese were making quite a ruckus. Saw lots of turtles, too, but they were not making much noise. (Do turtles even make noise? They're pretty quiet when they slip into the water to make sure that a photographer can't take any more pictures.)

After walking around the pond at the picnic grounds, I got in the car to head back to The Paragraph Factory. As I was leaving the park, I caught a glimpse of what appeared to be a yellow ribbon.

That seemed odd. Depending on the season, I've seen turtles, Canada geese, dragon flies, frogs, pileated woodpeckers, hawks, squirrels, chipmunks and vultures (apparently waiting for all of the other critters to reach the stage of past tense) at the picnic grounds.

However, I did not recall seeing a yellow ribbon during any previous visits. With my curiosity piqued (pronounced "pee cued"), I stopped to check it out.

While I'm pretty sure there are old oak trees on the picnic grounds, the yellow ribbon was not tied around one of them. Instead, the ribbon was attached to a Looking for Lincoln information display which can be seen by those who visit the picnic grounds.

Seems that I had stumbled upon some information about an event called the Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois Golden Cookie Hunt.

Subsequent research on the Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois website revealed that what I had discovered was part of a treasure hunt being held in celebration of Girl Scout Cookie Season.

Golden Cookies have been hidden in a public location in each Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois Service Unit. Union

County (along with Pulaski and Alexander counties) are in Service Unit 72.

Five clues about the Golden Cookie I had discovered also were posted on the website: Clue 1: Two men, one short and one tall, if you think back in history I'm sure their names you will recall. Clue 2: You may get wet if you veer off the path, when you'd get home it would be time for a bath. Clue 3: Follow in their footprints and start at the square, this adventure is awesome so show us you care. Clue 4: Don't worry you will be out of danger, nearby is a Shawnee National Forest Ranger. Clue 5: Let's step back in time to September 15, 1858, this is the location of a great debate. (Just so you know, there also was a Golden Cookie somewhere in Anna.)

Information attached with the yellow ribbon indicated that I should take a selfie with the ribbon and then share said selfie online. If I had done that, I would have been entered into a drawing which was scheduled to take place on St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

Several nifty prizes were going to be awarded in the drawing. Once upon a time, your writer was an official Girl Scout. No longer. Therefore, I would have been in the "non-members" category for the prize drawing. Two drawings for a case of Girl Scout Cookies were planned. Wow. Two cases. I would have been happy with a couple of Girl Scout Shortbread Cookies.

Sadly, I do not do selfies. Well, that's not completely true. One time I had a selfie with Smokey Bear. Ironically, the picture was taken at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds. I do not remember seeing any yellow ribbons, or Girl Scout cookies, at the event.

With all of this being said, we'll head back to the beginning, where it was suggested that Abraham Lincoln just might have liked to munch on a Girl Scout Cookie.

While doing a little bit more treasure hunting on the internet, I stumbled across an archived National Public Radio story about how Mr. Lincoln cooked. The story, from February 2014, was about a book written by author Rae Katherine Eighmey titled "Abraham Lincoln in the Kitchen: A Culinary View of Lincoln's Life and Times."

The NPR story shared: "One culinary moment that Eighmey says particularly captures Lincoln's personality involved Sen. Stephen Douglas and some gingerbread man cookies.

"During one of their famous debates – which helped catapult Lincoln into the national spotlight and eventually, the presidency – Lincoln grew tired of the constant false praises from Douglas. So, to make him stop, Lincoln told a story from his childhood.

"He talked about how he once shared gingerbread cookies his mother made with a neighboring boy, who then told him that 'there's nobody who likes gingerbread as much as I do, and nobody who gets as little as I do.'

"So Lincoln was contrasting that to how he doesn't get much flattery, and here Douglas was heaping it on him, you know, falsely'," Eighmey says.

"But the story doesn't just end there. In a way, Eighmey is also a detective, analyzing the stories to unravel recipes that Lincoln and his family likely used back in the 1800s.

"For the gingerbread story, Eighmey says, the clues were Lincoln's description of the cookies: that they were made from sorghum flour and ginger, and that he could stuff them in his pocket, which meant that the cookies were sturdy in texture. Using that as the starting point, she sifted through old cookbooks to find the closest recipe that fit those elements."

I don't think there are any Girl Scout Cookies made from sorghum and ginger. I'm guessing that Mr. Lincoln and I could enjoy a few of those Shortbreads together, with a cup of coffee, which I think he liked, too. (P.S. Sorry we're a bit windy this week.)

Commentary

Open government key to honest government

By Ken Paulson

When government fails, it's the rare public official who says, "Oops. My fault."

That's human nature, particularly for officials in the public eye who may have to run for office again. No one wants to be held directly responsible for letting the public down.

Case in point is the recent catastrophe in Texas, when unexpected winter storms left 4 million homes without power, ruptured pipes and tainted the water supply for many.

Texas' energy grid essentially collapsed. While Texas Gov. Greg Abbott was quick to blame frozen wind turbines, the cause was much more complex than that. To truly understand how things went so terribly wrong will require time, study and research.

So, too, with the coronavirus vaccine distribution. In this state and others, residents are frustrated with the slow rollout of vaccines. Is it poor distribution? Politics? A flawed strategy? These are literally matters of life and death.

But how do you get to the truth when public officials so rarely step up to take direct responsibility for failures?

The answer is public records. And public meetings. And access to the information that taxpayers deserve.

States throughout the country have laws that guarantee access to government records and meetings. But the details vary widely and there are many statutory exceptions. New challenges to access emerge every year in virtually every state.

The need to fight for government transparency is reaffirmed each year during Sunshine Week, a national awareness event overseen by the News Leaders Association and keyed to the March 16 birthday of James Madison. The fourth president of the United States drafted the Bill of Rights – including the guarantee of a free press – in 1791.

That journalism connection reflects the role news media

play in the free flow of information, but it unfortunately can also leave the public with a sense that Sunshine Week reflects the concerns of a single industry.

To the contrary, access to government information is critical to every American who cares about the quality of his or her community, state and nation.

It's important to see government employees – including elected officials – as the people we hire through our tax dollars to do a good job for all of us. If you run a business or hire a contractor, you wouldn't hesitate to demand a full understanding of how something went wrong. That should be exactly our relationship with government.

Getting that information, though, requires public meetings where residents can ask questions. It also means access to the documents that led to a poor decision. Words on paper can be much more forthright than the dissembling of politicians.

It's critical that we hold government accountable, for better or worse. (It's also important to acknowledge when government leaders are doing a good job.)

How can you help? I have two suggestions.

First, keep doing exactly what you're doing at this moment. Read and support your local newspaper. Local journalists, more than anyone else, will stand up for your right to information. Facebook will not be going toe-to-toe with your mayor.

Second, when you believe government isn't doing its job, demand an explanation. Ask to see the documents. Attend public meetings. And above all, support legislative efforts to make government more transparent.

It's too easy for officials who have failed us to point fingers, blame the media and wait for their side of the partisan fence to rally to their defense. We deserve better. We all pay taxes to support the work of government. We should get our money's worth.

Ken Paulson is the director of the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University, a lawyer and a former editor-in-chief of USA TODAY.