

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, August 27, 2020

Anna, Illinois

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News

Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

The Union County CEO program is voicing appreciation to Collin Cain at Grassy Lake Hunting Club near Ware for being the program's first home base for the class of 2021.

The Cobden Village Board has voted to establish two, \$250 scholarships in honor of the memory of Homer Forby. The scholarships will be presented to students who are studying in the field of science. Mr. Forby served as the village's mayor, as a trustee, as treasurer and as a cemetery board member.

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, has partnered with the Friends of Taiwan Foundation, State Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, and State Rep. Dave Severin, R-Benton, to distribute face masks to nursing homes and assisted living facilities throughout the 59th Senate District. Part of Union County is in the district.

In a time-honored tradition, Illinois National Guard soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment, based in Marion, with units in West Frankfort, Mount Vernon, Litchfield and Effingham, have received combat patches for their overseas deployment.

Power washing work was being done last week at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

The Village of Cobden is reviewing preliminary cost estimates for relocation and replacement of sewer mains. Funding will be sought to pursue the projects.

The former First Christian Church in Grand Chain is the new home of that community's library.

Make Southern Illinois **COUNT** #2020 Census GET COUNTED NOW! Visit: www.2020census.gov Call: 844-330-2020 Questions? Call Southern Health Dept.: (618) 694-2297

County remains at COVID-19 warning level

Union County remained at a warning level for the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, reported on Friday, Aug. 21.

IDPH reported on Friday that 20 counties in Illinois were considered to be at a warning level for COVID-19. The report was based on metrics for the period of Aug. 9-15.

A county enters a warning level when two or more COVID-19 risk indicators that measure the amount of COVID-19 increase.

As of Friday, the 20 counties which were reported to be at a warning level were Union, Bureau, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Franklin, Greene, Grundy, Hancock, Henderson, Jefferson, Logan, Madison, Monroe, Moultrie, Randolph, St. Clair, White, Will and Williamson. Williamson County borders Union County.

Union County also was reported to have been at a warning level on Aug. 7 and Aug. 14.

IDPH said the 20 counties had cases or outbreaks associated with weddings, businesses, neighborhood gatherings, parties, long-term care facilities and other congregate settings, travel to neighboring states, bars, sports camps, and spread among members of the same household who are not isolating at home.

Cases connected to schools were also beginning to be reported.

Public health officials said they are observing people who are not social distancing or using face coverings.

Additionally, there are reports of individuals who are ill attributing their symptoms to allergies or other illnesses, or not being forthcoming about their symptoms or close contacts.

Several counties are tak-

ing swift action and implementing mitigation measures to help slow spread of the virus, including working to increase testing in their communities and launching mask campaigns such as "Masks on Faces Keeps Places Open."

IDPH uses numerous indicators when determining if a county is experiencing stable COVID-19 activity, or if there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county.

The indicators, including numbers for Union County which posted on the IDPH website, follow:

New cases per 100,000 people. If there are more than 50 new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning.

For the period of Aug. 9-15, Union County recorded a rate of 238 new cases per 100,000 people, a warning level.

In comparison, some of the rates for other Illinois counties were 290 in Logan County, 258 in Moultrie County, 219 in Hancock County, 218 in Bureau County, 201 in Williamson County, 96 in Jackson County, 88 in Johnson County and 91 in Cook County, as well as 84 in the City of Chicago.

Weekly test positivity. This metric indicates a warning when the seven-day test positivity rate rises above 8 percent. Union County had a rate of 12.0 percent, a warning level.

Tests performed. This metric is used to provide context and indicate if more testing is needed in the county. Union County had 316, a warning level.

Number of deaths. This metric indicates a warning when the weekly number of deaths increases more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks. Union County had no deaths.

(continued on page 2)



Message for a time of the pandemic

A message for the time of a pandemic was shared on a sign at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna.

Hurricane's remnants may impact area

After several days of dry, hot and humid weather, heavy rain may be on the way for the Union County area.

High temperatures in the region were forecast to climb into the 90s on Tuesday in the region.

The heat was accompanied by high humidity, which meant that heat index readings in the upper 90s to around 100 were in the forecast for Tuesday afternoon.

Thunderstorm chances were expected to return to the region on Wednesday and again on Thursday, today.

Widespread showers and thunderstorms in association with the remnants of Hurricane Laura may produce heavy rainfall and flooding issues Thursday night through Friday night in the region.

A daily chance of thunderstorms is expected to continue Saturday through Monday.

The period of Aug. 18-24 in Union County was dry. No rainfall was recorded. High temperatures generally were in the 80s.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Aug. 18	80	64
Wednesday, Aug. 19	80	60
Thursday, Aug. 20	83	58
Friday, Aug. 21	85	61
Saturday, Aug. 22	87	63
Sunday, Aug. 23	89	62
Monday, Aug. 24	91	66



Forecast track

The National Weather Service office in Paducah posted the accompanying map on its website early this week. The map showed a possible forecast track for Hurricane Laura.

City of Anna presented with \$10,000 donation

The City of Anna received a special donation during its regular meeting last week.

A donation in the amount of \$10,000 was presented to city officials by representatives of the Thrive Dispensary in Anna, which sells medical and recreational cannabis products.

The donation was presented during the city council's regular meeting on Tuesday evening, Aug. 18. The meeting was at Anna City Hall.

Thrive representative Greg Lambert announced the donation to the city. Lambert is director of security at the Thrive Dispensary in Anna. The dispensary is located at 87 Richview in east Anna.

Lambert said the dispensary is grateful for the support which the dispensary has received from the city. The donation to the city is designed to help support traffic and public safety measures.

On behalf of the city, Mayor Steve Hartline voiced gratitude and thanks for the generous donation.

In other business at last week's meeting:

Mayor Hartline made note of the passing of Jim

Miles, who had served on the city's police and fire pension board. Mr. Miles died Saturday, Aug. 15.

The mayor said that Mr. Miles was very dedicated to the city. "He was a good man," the mayor said.

City administrator Dori Bigler noted that the Village of Cobden had made a \$250 donation to support local efforts to promote participation in the 2020 nationwide census.

A Union County Census Day event is planned Sept. 17 on the grounds of Stinson Memorial Library in Anna.

Mayor Hartline emphasized the importance of participating in the census, for the city and for all of Southern Illinois.

The council accepted bids for two pieces of city surplus equipment.

A bid in the amount of \$55,000 was accepted

from J3 Co. LLC for a Cat D3KXL dozer.

A bid in the amount of \$8,500 was accepted from D&B Construction Equip. Inc. for a 1989 Case W14B wheel loader.

The council authorized two capital equipment expenditures: \$2,500 for a paint striper and \$6,000 for a used Falcon asphalt recycler and hot box.

The city's current paint striper is 22 years old. Ac-

quisition of the asphalt recycler and hot box will allow for work to be done during colder weather.

A request to use the Anna City Park for an upcoming pickleball tournament was approved.

The tournament is scheduled for Sept. 25-27 at the park. The rain dates are Oct. 2-4. Organizers have told city officials that they expect around 80 to 100 participants.



Donation presented at Anna City Council meeting

Thrive Dispensary has made a \$10,000 donation to the City of Anna. The donation was presented by Thrive Dispensary representatives at last week's regular meeting of the Anna City Council. Those present for a photograph included Anna Mayor Steve Hartline; Anna City Council members Michael Bigler, Kathy Bryan, Martha Ann Webb and Bryan Miller; and Thrive Dispensary representatives Ken Mansur, agent in charge; Stacey Plott, agent in charge; Greg Lambert, director of security; and Eric Ralls, security supervisor.



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Clouds on a summer evening
Clouds filled much of the sky over Union County on a recent summer evening. The image was captured along Kaolin Road, between Anna and Cobden.

Warning level

(continued from page 1)

ICU availability. If there are fewer than 20 percent of intensive care units available in the region, this triggers a warning. Union County's rate was 57.3 percent.

Weekly emergency department visits. This metric indicates a warning

when the weekly percent of COVID-19-like-illness emergency department visits increase by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks. Union County's rate was 4.5 percent

Weekly hospital admissions. A warning is triggered when the weekly number of hospital admissions for COVID-19-like-

illness increases by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks. Union County had fewer than five.

Clusters. This metric looks at the percent of COVID-19 cases associated with clusters or outbreaks and is used to understand large increase in cases. Union County had no clusters.

IDPH said that the metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness to help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions about personal and family gatherings, as well as what activities they choose to do. The metrics are updated weekly.

Southern Seven update, as of Aug. 24

Total of 387 COVID-19 cases in Union County

The number of COVID-19 cases in Union County climbed to 387 as of Monday, Aug. 24.

Southern Seven Health Department on Monday confirmed a total of 41 new cases of COVID-19 in the region it serves in Southern Illinois. The cases were for the period which included Aug. 22-24.

Sixteen of the new cases were in Union County.

The health department reported that the newly confirmed cases, by county, gender and age, included:

Union County: one male in his 10s, three females in their 20s, one male in his 20s, one female in her 30s, two females in their 50s, two males in their 50s, three females in their 60s, one male in his 60s and two females in their 70s.

Alexander County: one female in her 10s.

Johnson County: one female in her 10s, one female in her 30s, two males in their 30s, one female in her 40s, one female in her 50s, one male in his 50s, two males in their 60s, one female in her 70s, two males in their 70s.

Massac County: one male in his 20s, one female in her 30s, one male in his 30s, one female in her 50s, one male in his 50s, one female in her 60s, one female in her 70s, one male in his 80s.

Pulaski County: two males in their 20s, one female in her 60s, one male in his 60s.

All of those with active cases of COVID-19 are being isolated.

The health department reported 17 new recovered cases of COVID-19 in its service area as of Aug. 24.

As of Aug. 24, there were 588 people in the health department's service area who had recovered since the start of the pandemic in the United States.

Also as of Aug. 24, the health department was reporting a cumulative total of 720 cases of COVID-19 in its service area.

The health department confirmed that a total of 11,286 negative COVID-19 tests had been reported in the region as of Aug. 21.

The number of individuals confirmed to have COVID-19 in the area counties

served by the Southern Seven Health Department as of Aug. 24 follows:

Union County: 387 cases. 306 had recovered. 20 deaths had been reported in the county. (The department noted that three deaths had been retracted in the county.)

Alexander County: 40 cases. 37 had recovered.

Hardin County: 18 cases. 18 had recovered.

Johnson County: 101 cases. 76 had recovered.

Massac County: 57 cases. 43 had recovered.

Pope County: 11 cases. 10 had recovered. One death has been reported in the county.

Pulaski County: 106 cases. 98 had recovered. One death has been reported in the county.

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, in Illinois there were 1,612 new individuals with COVID-19 identified on Aug. 24, bringing the confirmed total in the state to 221,790 individuals, with 7,888 deaths.



Forty years of service

David Gregge was honored during a recent meeting of the Anna-Jonesboro Water Commission, marking his retirement after over 40 years of service. "It's not been a job for me, it's been a pleasure," said Gregge, who began his career with the water commission on May 29, 1980. Gregge was presented with two plaques, commemorating both his retirement and his 40 years of service. Gregge, left, was congratulated by Anna-Jonesboro Water Commission superintendent Casey Johnson, right. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

State police plan NITE patrols in Union County

Illinois State Police District 22 is planning to conduct nighttime enforcement, NITE, patrols during September in Union County.

Plans for the patrols were announced by Capt. Michael Alvey. He is the commander of the district, which has its headquarters at Ullin.

NITE patrols allow the Illinois State Police to focus on preventing, detecting and taking enforcement action in response to impaired driving and occupant restraint violations, especially between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The state police note that the number of unrestrained drivers killed in traffic crashes is significantly higher at nighttime and, combined with impaired driving, means even more

traffic deaths during these critical hours.

Officers will strictly enforce violations, including driving under the influence, safety belt and child restraint use, speeding, distracted driving and all Illinois Vehicle Code and Criminal Violations.

The state police reported that alcohol and drug impairment is a factor in more than 30 percent of all fatal motor vehicle crashes in Illinois.

Over half of all fatal crashes in Illinois occur at night.

The NITE program allows officers to work even harder at removing dangerous impaired drivers from the road and making sure everyone is buckled up.

The project is funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Coronavirus travel map launched

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, launched a new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) travel map to help inform residents of potential risks associated with traveling during the pandemic.

The map indicates countries and U.S. states with increased risk of COVID-19 based on case rates.

"Travel may increase the chance of becoming infected and spreading COVID-19," said IDPH director Dr. Ngozi Ezike in a news release.

"To help inform residents where they might be at greater risk of being exposed to COVID-19 when they travel, IDPH

has launched a map that clearly shows states and other countries where case rates are elevated.

"While staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, we know that it may not be possible to avoid all travel.

"We encourage people who are traveling, whether for work or otherwise, to check out the map before making plans."

Locations that have an average daily case rate of 15 cases per 100,000 or greater are designated as "higher risk" on the map, which can be found online at <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/travel>.

Museum plans to host book signing

Mike Estel has now written his 17th book, titled "Civil War Journalist," published by Chaplain Publishing of Lubbock, Texas.

The author plans to have a book signing from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Union County Museum in Cobden.

The book, a work of fiction, is about Nathan Graham, a newspaper reporter from Maryland during the Civil War.

When he is drafted in the Civil War, he gets the approval from his commanding officer to continue reporting to the Washington Star newspaper that he had previously worked for.

The book is about his reporting what he was involved in throughout the war.

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Misty hills in Southern Illinois

Distant hills in the Southern Illinois landscape appeared to be fading in the mist on a recent summer afternoon. The photograph was taken at the Cliff View Park in Alto Pass.

A-JCHS announces update to schedule

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School has shared an update on the start of the 2020-2021 academic year.

The update was announced in a press release which was posted Aug. 21 on the school's website:

Good afternoon, We have nearly completed our first week of the 2020-21 school year. Certainly there have been unique challenges to the start of this year, and although it's unlike any we've ever known, it has been a true joy to see many of our students in person and be in contact with others remotely.

All of us – administration, faculty, staff, students, parents, and the community – are learning as we go, and doing so on a daily, if not hourly, basis. As we indicated in our Return to School Plan and Return to School FAQ document, aspects of the plan are subject to change.

As the week has progressed and we've determined that we have about 20% of our student population participating in remote learning only, one of the things that we've learned is that we anticipate that an hour and a half each day will not be an adequate amount of time for teachers to effectively handle the duties associated with teaching their remote only learners.

Collaboratively, teachers and administration put much thought and careful consideration into what would be the most prudent way to address this issue.

The solution at which we arrived is that we will not have our blended learning students attend in-person every other Monday. This change in the Return to School Plan will promote the equity of the education process for all of our students and allow teachers to more effectively engage our remote learners in particular.

The original school calendar had Group 1 (A-K) of our blended learners attending in person class on this upcoming Monday (August 24) and Group 2 (L-Z) attending in person class on Monday, August 31, and subsequently attending on an alternating basis.

This change will mean that all of our students will be participating in remote learning on all Mondays, and none of our students will be attending in-person classes on Mondays (except in special circumstances).

Additionally, this change will put our schedule in line with Jonesboro and Anna elementary schools, and will create a more consistent calendar for our families with children in multiple schools. We hope this consistency helps our families in those situations.

To reiterate, A-JCHS will not have in person attendance on Mondays. This change is effective immediately, meaning the next day of in-person attendance for our Group 1 students will be Tuesday, August 25.

Blended learning students will attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Group 2 will

attend on Wednesdays and Fridays. All students will participate in remote learning on all Mondays.

Lunch will still be available to students on Mondays, and will be so from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students will need to come to the

Family practice provider joins Convenient Care Clinic

Registered nurse Cassy Coleman has joined the Convenient Care Clinic at Union County Hospital in Anna as a family practice provider.

Coleman has seven years of experience in orthopedics/general surgery, labor and delivery/antepartum/postpartum/nursery, and family practice, including pediatrics.

She is a family nurse practitioner graduate of Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

Legislator backs additional funds for U.S. Postal Service

U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., said he voted to fund the U.S. Postal Service with an additional \$25 billion to manage challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the anticipated surge in votes by mail in the upcoming presidential election.

"I've consistently supported the U.S. Postal Service and worked to ensure that it has the resources necessary to fulfill its constitutional mission," Bost said in a news release.

"While Congress ap-

proved additional funding today with my support, I still share President Trump's concerns over the process in place for counting an unprecedented number of votes by mail.

"We've already seen ballots go uncounted in primary races this year due to poor planning by local election officials and it would be a disaster for this country if it happened during a competitive presidential election."

Bost has opposed planned service cuts, proposals to end Saturday delivery and the closure of rural postal facilities.

In May, Bost joined 20 other House Republicans in urging the party's leadership to include \$25 billion in emergency funding for the U.S. Postal Service in future COVID-19 legislation

school to get a lunch. We appreciate your patience and cooperation in working with us as we balance the need of keeping our students and staff safe and the need to provide a quality education for our students.

Coleman will provide primary care, ranging from preventative services to the management of chronic conditions.

She is accepting new patients. Primary care will be provided by appointment only.

The Convenient Care Clinic is located at 517 N. Main St. in Anna.

To learn how to schedule an appointment, call 833-2295 or visit unionconvenientcare.com.

Union County Hospital offering new program for Parkinson's patients

The therapy services department at Union County Hospital in Anna is offering a new therapy program for Parkinson's patients and those suffering from other neurological conditions.

The hospital shared in a news release that the intensive therapy program consists of four training sessions per week for four weeks.

The program includes speech therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy.

Specialty trained therapists from Union County Hospital recently completed training and certification in the Lee Silverman Voice Treatment, LSVT, Big and Loud Therapy program.

The program consists of targeted therapy exercises that focus on improving speech and mobility in Parkinson's patients.

"We are excited to offer the LSVT Big and Loud program at Union County Hospital," said Amanda Hall, Hall is therapy services director at the Anna hospital.

"Our therapists will follow an intensive treatment protocol customized to meet individual needs with the overall goal of improving function."

Parkinson's disease is a neurodegenerative brain disorder that affects the portion of the brain that controls movement.

Symptoms can include tremor, rigidity, difficulty walking and cognitive decline.

Those with the disease often have speech and movement difficulties. As the disease progresses, these difficulties become more evident.

According to the Parkinson's Foundation, there are nearly 1 million people living with Parkinson's disease, with more than 10 million people worldwide living with the disease.

For more information about the program, contact Union County Hospital Therapy Services at 833-9694.

Anna Arts Center schedules auditions for upcoming play

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center plans to have auditions for an upcoming theatrical production.

The arts center is planning to present "The Decade That Roared" Oct. 2-4.

The play will focus on the music of the period of the 1920s (known as the "Roaring '20s"), the history of Prohibition and women winning the vote with the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Cody Acklin will direct the play. Dr. Lynn Steveson, who wrote the script, will be the production coordinator.

Auditions were planned Wednesday, Aug. 26, and are also scheduled from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, today, at the arts center's main theatre building at 125 W. Davie St. in Anna.

Those who want to audition are asked to be prepared to sing 16 bars of a song and/or perform a short monologue.

There are lots of speaking parts. They need folks of all ages, from junior and senior high school through adults. A first read through is scheduled Sept. 3. A good "tap dancing soloist" also is being sought.

For information about "The Decade that Roared," contact Cody Acklin at 618-697-8399 or Lynn Steveson at 618-697-2334.

Soil, water district plans fall fish sale

The Union County Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for its fall season fish sale.

The delivery date is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Union County USDA Service Center, which is located at 201 Springfield Ave. in Anna.

The following species of fish will be available:

Channel catfish, 4 to 6 inches, 6 to 8 inches. Large-mouth bass, 3 inch. Bluegill, 2 to 3 inches, 3 to 5 inches.

Red ear, 3 to 4 inches. Fat head minnows, 150/pound. Triploid grass carp, 8 inch to 11 inches.

Orders are to be placed with the Union County Soil and Water Conservation District by Friday, Sept. 18.

For more information, or to place an order, call the district office at 833-5666, extension 3.

Stocking information is available by contacting Andry's Fish Farm LLC at 812-389-2448.

We are excited to welcome Brent Goforth to the Anna-Jonesboro National Bank family!



Brent will serve as an Assistant Vice President and Loan Officer. He is a lifelong resident of Anna where he and his wife, AliceAnn, reside. Brent has 6 years of experience in the Financial Services Industry.

We are confident that Brent will be a great asset to our team!



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Sports

A-J girls', boys' golf teams open seasons

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' and boys' golf teams were scheduled to open their seasons this week.

Girls' Golf Team

Head coach Brandon Bierstedt said the Lady Wildcats team will be built around junior Marlee Smith.

Others expected to contribute are seniors Mary Jane Cavaness, Victoria Bittle and Kiersten Wright; junior Madi Hawk and sophomores Reese Reynolds and Addi Hadley.

Freshmen hopefuls are Alyson Hasty, Riley Cruse and Tori Ralls.

Bierstedt thinks the team should average scoring in the 180 to 190 range.

"The girls are excited to get going," Bierstedt said.

The Lady Wildcats opened their season Tuesday against West Frankfort and are at home Thursday, today, against Goreville.

Boys' Golf team

The boys' golf team returns all players from last season, with the exception of graduate Peter Hauser, who advanced to the Class 1A state tournament last year.

Leading the way among

the returners is junior Luke Lasley, two-time defending Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division champion.

Other players the team will be built around are juniors Gavin Osman, Camden Richardson and Ayden Bailey and sophomores Jayden Ralls, Timothy Plott and Nash Ford.

Senior Andrew Odum, who is out for golf for the first time, will also be trying to make the team.

Freshmen hopefuls are Nick Hannon, Stewart Busby, Carter Lannom, Gunnar Myers, Tysen Tripp and Edward Dahmer.

"We should average around 165-170 or more as a team," Anna golf coach Brandon Bierstedt said.

The pandemic has caused several changes

"There's a lot of changes for the Union County Country Club," Bierstedt said. "Fans will be allowed, but they must wear a mask."

Bierstedt said players will wear masks as well.

The Wildcats opened their season Tuesday at West Frankfort and are home Thursday, today, against Goreville.

Seasons open for A-J cross country teams

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' and boys' cross country teams were scheduled to open their seasons early this week with events slated in Pinckneyville.

Girls' Cross Country

A-J cross country coach Matt Denny said the girls' team will build around sophomore Brodie Denny, who advanced to the Class 1A state cross country meet last season. She was also a Southern Illinois River-to-River Mississippi Division and all-sectional performer last season.

Denny looks to senior Julia Hall as the emotional team leader on the squad.

Other team members are senior Olivia Bowen, junior Marisol Gamora, sophomores Kayle Stover and Lily Baker and freshmen Shannah Webb, Lakelyn Carter and Bree Hazelrigg.

"The kids have been working really hard in practice," Denny said. "Our depth should be okay this season."

After opening at Pinckneyville earlier this week, the A-J girls are scheduled to run again Tuesday, Sept. 1, at the pre-conference meet at Benton.

Boys' Cross Country

Denny said the A-J boys' cross country squad could surprise some people this season.

A pair of juniors in Jayden Perez and Blake Mays lead the Wildcats. Both return as Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division selections.

Other runners on the squad are seniors Nick McGrath and Colby Bowman, juniors Yovani Garrillo and Beto Vaca Diaz, sophomores T.J. Macy and Matteo Vaca Diaz and freshmen Zach Henry, Josh Williams, Jason Swink, Daniel Dover and Eric Chen.

Denny said Beto Vaca Diaz could surprise some opponents this season with his improvement and the freshmen could also add depth as well.

"Our freshmen are good and can really help us develop at the varsity level," Denny said.

Along with the girls' squad, the A-J boys are slated to run again Tuesday, Sept. 1, at a pre-conference meet at Benton.

School sports action

High school baseball, as well as junior high school softball and junior high school baseball, were played in recent days at Union County schools.



Jonesboro hosted Century in a junior high school softball game which was played Thursday, Aug. 20. Photo by Tiffiny Dillow for The Gazette-Democrat.



Jonesboro's Aidan McFadden beats the throw to first in a junior high school baseball game which was played Wednesday, Aug. 19. Jonesboro hosted Cobden in the game. Photo by Tiffiny Dillow for The Gazette-Democrat.



The Cobden High School baseball team hosted Wayne City in a game which was played Friday evening, Aug. 21. Prior to the game, the Union County school announced on social media that anyone who was planning to attend the game would need to bring their own chair. The school district encouraged all fans to maintain social distance and reminded them to stay home if they feel sick or have any of the symptoms of COVID-19. The district added: "When present at the game fans are expected to wear a mask at all times. During baseball games home fans will be asked to sit behind the right field and center field fence. The visiting teams fans will be asked to sit along the left field line. The grand stand behind home plate will be used as extended dugouts for the players and will be off limits to all fans."

Sports Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, August 27, 1970

A-J Football Team Begins Practice

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School football practice for the 1970-71 season began Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Football practice is being held before and after school. Practice sessions are being held for all high school students interested in playing football this year.

This year there are five seniors and 12 juniors returning to the varsity squad.

An interview with Coach Ron Gray concerning his hopes and aspirations for the football season will be published. The names of the returning seniors and juniors will also be published.

The Wildcat football season opens September 18, with a home game against Carterville.

A soap game will be held Friday, Sept. 11.

This past week was one full of action and surprises in Union County Softball League action.

State Farm, who had a better than average opportunity to gain a game on the merchants, stayed a game and a half ahead by losing one of three contests.

In (the) Tri-County Midget League, age 11-13, Wolf Lake Cyanamid won first place with a record of 10-2 in softball play last week.

Danny Tellor's All Stars beat Zimmerman's Wildcats Friday, Aug. 21, by a score of 15 to 14. This is a younger group of baseball players.

Coach Ron book signing set in Anna

Coach Ron Fulenwider will be having a "Book Signing" Aug. 29 at the First Christian Church off Mallard Lane in Anna. The book signing will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The book signing will be in conjunction with a fund raising event for a church family member in need of assistance due to a major health issue. The funds raised will help with incidental costs associated with the disease.

The book title is "Memory Lane." All the proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the family mentioned.

Those who have been invited to sign books are those athletes who have gone on to earn All-State High School, All-South and All-American, All-Conference, All-Academic honors at the collegiate level.

Others will be featured who have made an impact in society. Their accomplishments will be featured in the book.

What's going to happen on Friday nights this fall?

By Mike Estel

The high school football season normally gets started about now each season with practice beginning preparing for those Friday night campaigns.

However, because of the pandemic during early 2020, the high school football season has been postponed until early spring of 2021.

What's going to happen now on Friday nights with players, fans and coaches as the IHSA officials have put their cherished game on hold?

Fans, athletes, as well as coaches, will just have to find something else to occupy their time on those Friday nights this fall. This could be anything from watching television, enjoying a good novel or beginning a new hobby.

Besides high school football being postponed, several colleges throughout the country (including Southern Illinois University Carbondale and Southeast Missouri State University at Cape Girardeau, Mo.) seasons have also been postponed. So, it's not just the high school level that's being affected.

I know it's not going to

be easy for some of those diehard fans, including yours truly, but remember high school and college football is not gone forever.

The sport will return in just several months and will be played during a different time of the year. People will just have to adjust to those changes and hope there is a cure for this spreading pandemic by then.



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Runners at the park

Traditionally, the Anna City Park would have been a very busy place as the month of August came to an end. The park is the home of the annual Union County Fair. The fair was scheduled to take place this week. However, due to the impact of the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 fair was canceled. Activities could be seen during a visit last Friday evening, including baseball on Kiwanis Field and young runners passing in front of the Henry Dillow Grandstand as they made their way around the track at the park. The track is used for harness racing during the fair.

Historic preservation tax credit recipients announced

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, recently announced the third round of recipients of the Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program.

The program is a state-wide historic preservation incentive that encourages private investment in historic properties across Illinois.

The state tax credit program gives priority to buildings that are in low-income census tracts, federally declared disaster areas, and counties that border a state with a competitive state-wide historic tax credit.

Buildings that were once owned by a governmental entity and whose development partnership includes a Community Development Entity, a low-profit organization, or a not-for-profit organization also are given priority for an allocation.

Four building rehabilitation projects received allocations for state income tax credits in the first of this year's two application rounds.

The projects are in Bloomington, Moline, Mt. Carroll and Chicago.

The Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program is administered by the IDNR State Historic Preservation Office.

The program is available to owners of historic structures who undertake certified rehabilitations making them eligible for a tax credit of 25 percent of their qualified rehabilitation costs up to \$3 million per project.

Credits are limited to a total of \$15 million in allocations per year, with a total of \$75 million in tax credits available over the five years that the program is to be in effect.

Area students receive degrees at Southeast

Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau has announced spring 2020 graduates.

Students from the Union County area were among the spring graduates.

The graduates, as provided by the university, included:

Balyie Denny, Anna, bachelor of science degree, with a major in biology/biomedical sciences option.

Jada Hudson, Anna, bachelor of science degree in education, with a major in elementary education.

Kelsie Jansen, Anna, bachelor of science degree

in nursing, with a major in nursing.

Noah Prater, Anna, graduated magna cum laude, bachelor of science degree in education, with a major in physical education K-12.

Lydia Kaufman, Buncombe, graduated cum laude, bachelor of science degree in business administration, with a major in business administration.

Clare Bunyan, Cobden, graduated cum laude, bachelor of science degree in family and sciences education, with a major in family and consumer science education.

Jessica Elkins, Dongola, bachelor of science degree in education, with a major in early childhood education.

Drew McLane, Jonesboro, graduated summa cum laude, bachelor of science degree, with a major in agribusiness/plant and soil science option.

Tara Morgan, Jonesboro, graduated cum laude, bachelor of general studies degree, with a major in general studies.

Rhonda Schmidt, Jonesboro, graduated magna cum laude, bachelor of science degree in nursing, with a major in nursing.

Grant will boost understanding of rural policy issues for students studying social work at SIU

Social work students at Southern Illinois University Carbondale will learn more about the importance of policies, legislation and regulations thanks to a grant that will help them better understand rural policy issues.

Sarah Buila, associate professor of social work and graduate program director, and Paul Brinker, graduate field coordinator, recently received a grant from the Council on Social Work Education, CSWE, for training workshops for both undergraduate and graduate students.

The nearly \$10,000 grant

will also go toward a speaker series and allow students to participate in Illinois Advocacy Day.

"This grant helps our programs prepare our students to be true to the profession of social work and engage in policy practice - that is social work practice that aims to improve policies that impact our most vulnerable clients," Buila said.

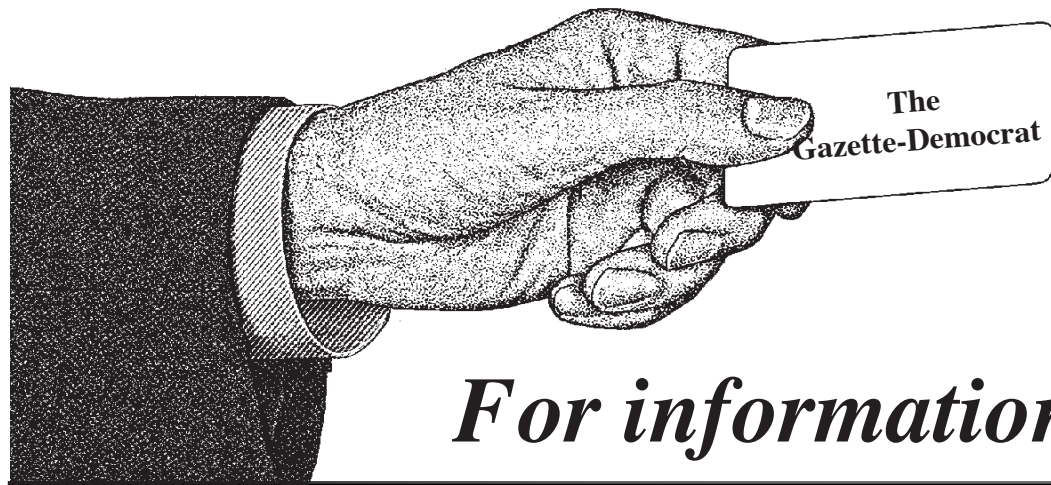
"Our hope is that some students will be inspired to choose careers in policy development and advocacy."

The funding originated from the New York Community Trust as part of the organization's Policy

Practice in Field Education Initiative.

The initiative's goal is providing support for social work programs in developing policy-focused field education and community engagement projects to give undergraduate and graduate social work students opportunities to increase their policy skill sets.

Brinker said the CSWE Policy grant is a collaborative endeavor between social work and the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute "that will serve to increase our ability to strengthen students' knowledge and understanding of public policy."



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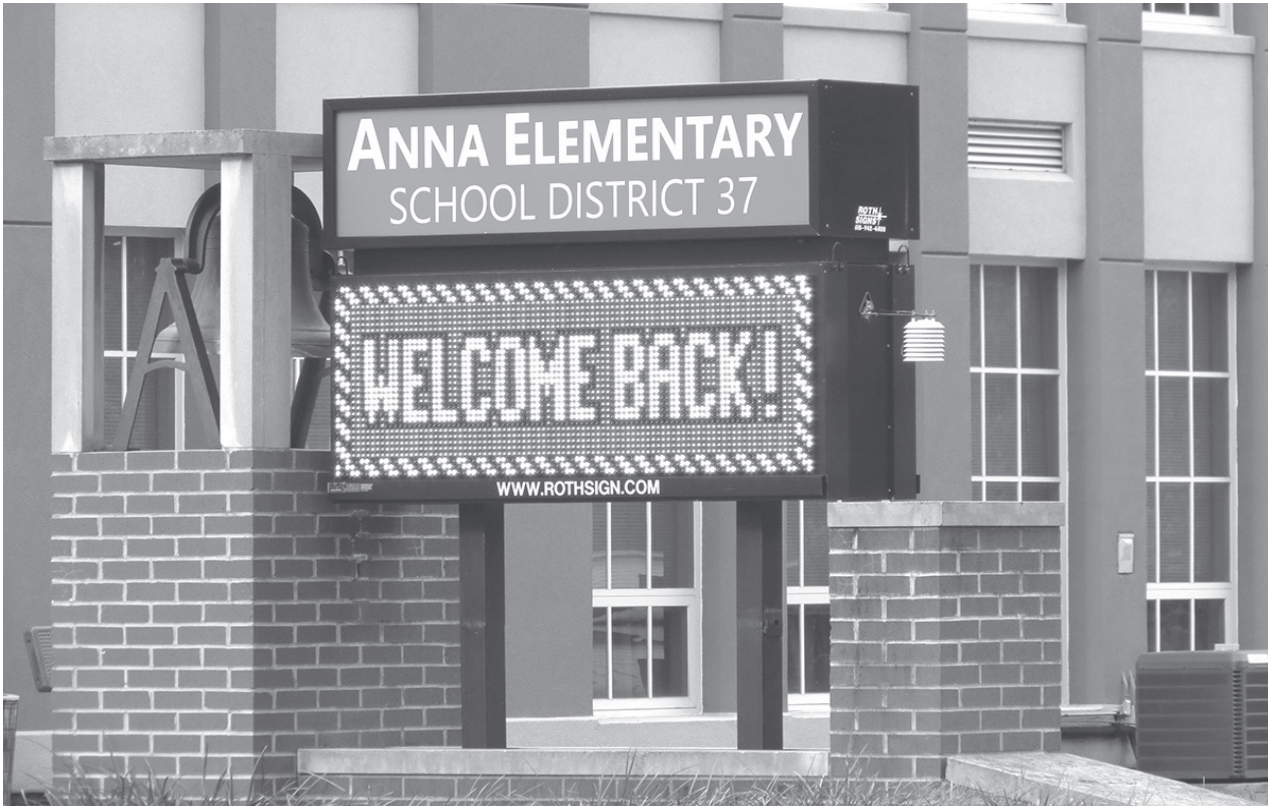
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IT'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL TIME



Stop for school buses

You may need to add more time to your commute, because when buses stop to pick up students, other drivers need to stop, too.

Yellow flashing lights mean slow down...don't speed up...because the bus is preparing to stop. There are likely students waiting to get on the bus or parents waiting nearby to pick up children.

Red flashing lights mean stop...and wait at least 20 feet behind the bus...because children

are getting on or off the school bus. Stay stopped until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving.

Even when lights aren't flashing, watch for children, particularly in the morning or mid-afternoon, around school arrival and dismissal times. Be alert as you back out of a driveway, or drive through a neighborhood, school zone or bus stop.



Crosswalks and parking spaces were re-lined Monday, Aug. 17, on South Green Street, across from Anna Junior High School/Davie School. Anna city employee Lonnie Lewis was operating the stripe machine. Bill Sharp was using a blower to keep the pavement clear.

If you are dropping off

Schools often have very specific drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids. The following apply to all school zones:

Don't double park;

it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.

Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.

Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.



Sharing the road with young pedestrians

According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking.

They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus.

A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic.

In a school zone when flashers are blink-

ing, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.

Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign.

Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.

Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way.

Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.

Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way.

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SCHOOL'S BACK... Pay Attention to Safety!



Cars can be seen in the parking lot at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School as the 2020-2021 academic year begins.

Free cloth face coverings distributed to schools

The Illinois State Board of Education, ISBE, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, IEMA, are distributing 2.5 million free cloth face coverings to public schools around the state.

The free masks ensure every child may access the learning opportunities provided by their school, regardless of their ability to purchase a face covering or make one at home.

The state has procured 2.5 million cloth masks to equip every student and staff member in all Illinois public schools.

ISBE and IEMA have shipped 2.3 million to schools to date. ISBE and IEMA also are distributing face shields that school personnel and students may wear in addition to the cloth masks for increased protection.

Wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, PPE, in-

cluding face coverings, is a requirement for all individuals when learning or working in-person in Illinois schools this fall.

"Medical experts have determined that wearing face coverings is essential to safely reopen our schools for in-person instruction," said Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala.

"We encourage schools to communicate with students

and families about the importance of wearing their face covering to protect themselves, their neighbors, their grandparents and their teachers."

"A face covering is a key tool to reintroducing our normal everyday activities in a COVID environment," said IEMA director Alicia Tate-Nadeau.

"By distributing these cloth face masks to each public-school student, teacher, and staff, we are provid-

ing the tools each district needs to foster a healthy and safe educational setting."

Providing the free cloth masks reduces the burden on individual school districts to procure PPE and frees up local resources for other expenses, state officials said.

Public schools can request additional PPE following the process outlined at www.isbe.net/Documents/PPE-Info.pdf PDF Document.

Talk bus safety with children

School buses are the safest way for children to travel to and from school. Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Teach them to play it SAFE:

Stay five steps away from the curb.

Always wait until the bus comes to a complete stop and the bus driver tells you to board.

Face forward after finding a seat on the bus.

Exit the bus when it stops and look left-right-left for cars before crossing a street.



Sharing road with bicyclists

On most roads, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles, but bikes can be hard to see.

Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions.

The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

When passing a bicyclist, proceed in the same direction slowly, and leave 3 feet between your car and the

cyclist.

When turning left and a bicyclist is approaching in the opposite direction, wait for the rider to pass.

If you're turning right and a bicyclist is approaching from behind on the right, let the rider go through the intersection first, and always use your turn signals.

Watch for bike riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling; children especially have a tendency to do this.

Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods.

Watch for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars.

Check side mirrors before opening your door.

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.



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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.

Visiting Anna

It was good to see Chris Yana while she and Bob and children were here in Anna from Iowa visiting family and helping them move.

Birthday Celebration

Lynn Wright Heisner celebrated her birthday with a dinner at Red Lobster with her family. Roses from Fawn and another dinner with her niece, gifts, cards and many birthday wishes.

Murphysboro Trip

Linda Starr took her aunt Edna Eastwood and friend Carol Gordon to Murphysboro to see Edna's sister Pat Clutts and Carol's friend she hadn't seen since they were 16. They enjoyed reminiscing over years passed.

Texas Trip

Melissa McCord, Bryan and Isaac Edwards made a trip to Texas to pick up their mother and grandmother Kay Phillips who has been visiting her son and family.

Sympathy

So sad to hear of the passing of Jan Winn of Jan's House of Flowers. She was a blessing to everyone who knew her, an asset to our city.

I will never forget how beautiful her shop was and especially when the florists used to have the open houses the day after Thanksgiving. Sympathy to her family.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sympathy to the family of Elizabeth Corbit. Eliz-

abeth touched so many lives teaching her school children, at church, in plays at the Anna Art Center and many other places.

She was a blessing to all those who knew her. She will be missed. The family appreciated the meal prepared for them. A special thanks to Dean for bringing everyone eggs Sunday morning.

Sunday morning Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was from the book of Matthew 16: 13-20. Who do you say that Jesus is? Jesus is the Messiah, The Son of the Living God, and from Romans, chapter 10.

Dr. Charles Halterman said a prayer for Rev. Tim before his sermon and our Lord's Prayer was said.

Beautiful songs were by Carla and Marcy, Something Good is Going to Happen to You!, My Hope Is Built, Here I am Lord.

Rev. Tim said there are many ways to give to our Lord: money, funeral meals, Loaves and Fishes free food drive by and helping other people in need.

Friday Friendship and Sewing will meet. Wednesday the men's prayer group meets of a morning. The women's prayer group meets at 1 p.m.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

Birthdays: Aug. 24 Doug Hileman, Aug. 26 Robert Poole, Aug. 28 Willard Blevins Jr., Lauren Jackson and Lydia Jerrell, Aug. 29 Charles Goforth and Sharon Marquis.

There will be a Love Packages Mission Trip Sept. 18-19. The bus will leave at 5:45 p.m. Cost is \$10. Sign up sheet and more information in the Missions Corner.

Momma Lou's Crafters will meet Thursday, at 6:30 p.m., in FLC room 151. This month's project is a tall jar candle featuring burlap flowers.

Operation Christmas Child collection for August is head and hair accessories.

The CCBA annual men's fish fry is planned Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Barn Event Center on Lick Creek Road. 3 p.m. fellowship (corn hole, horseshoes games) 5 p.m. meal. Cost is \$10 and CDC guidelines will be observed and please wear a mask.

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon se-

ries: Set Apart, Pursuing Personal Holiness. How God Makes Us Holy from John, chapter 3, verses 1-16.

Anna Heights is still continuing to have online prayer and Bible study Wednesday at 7 p.m. In house worship Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and online service on Facebook and YouTube at 10:30 a.m.

News from Texas

I received a nice email from Louise Pitts, formerly from Anna, who wrote about Tessie Clemens, who used to write the Anna news.

Louise's sister Ada Ann Dillow was married to Tessie's son Rev. Dale Clemens.

Louise received a writing from her niece Kim Clemens Martin that her dad wrote 30 years ago. Dale passed away in 2009 and his daughter Kim is going through some of his writings, and sent this to Louise.

Louise wanted me to share it. She was so impressed with it because it speaks of what our country is going through today.

Louise says she thinks what our country needs today is respect. She says every time she turns on her TV there is disrespect going on everywhere about everything.

Dale Clemens grew up in Grand Tower when his parents lived there. His parents lived in Anna during their older years and attended Anna First Baptist Church.

Rev. Dale Clemens says make this the year of respect. So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the prophets. Matthew 7:12.

Last year leaves us with many needs worldwide. World hunger, poverty, war, hatred, bloodshed and eternal damnation seem to have found an endless source of supply.

If I could have one wish for this next year, it would be to make it the year of respect. Many needs in our world come because of a basic lack of respect. If our Master taught us anything about relationships, it is that we are to respect each other.

The need to exercise power and control over each other is possible because of lack of basic respect. We do not want to control the people for whom we have respect. Proper respect allows us to accept each other. It will even give way to differences.

Respect of one's mate for the other maintains faithfulness in attitude as well as action.

Respect for others eliminates the desire to rob, steal and murder. Respect is the bridle that holds the tongue in line and eliminates gossip and backbiting.

Respect carries with it an atmosphere of awe and esteem. Respect can easily be called the frame on which God has hinged the Ten Commandments.

Respect is the musical score on which the Master has composed His symphony for the two greatest commandments of loving God and each other.

When Jesus Christ is given the Lordship of a life, He opens the spiritual eyes to see others as persons. When we have proper respect for God, we do not want to take His place in the lives of others by exercising false power over them.

When respect is allowed to permeate our lives, we gladly take on the servant role to which we have been called.

If I had the ability to ask God to remove any one thing from our world, I would ask to remove our basic disrespect to somehow remove prejudice,



Lisa Haney, Gina Loughridge and Patty Kelly organized a peaceful rally to bring awareness in support of Stopping Human Trafficking and SaveOurChildren in the parking lot in front of Shawnee Community College Friday night.

hatred, envy, strife, indifference and the need to control each other.

Come to think of it, that is exactly what the Holy Spirit has entered our lives to do. He is attempting to make us like our Savior. That is what it means to be born again.

If we make this year the year of respect, we will make it the year of being Spirit-filled and God used.

Written by Rev. Dale Clemens 30 years ago.

Thanks for sending this to me Louise. It sure does fit our lives and our world today.

Louise says she is doing OK and staying in until the virus goes away or at least gets better. She says everyone's lives are changed now, but we just need to keep praying that life will get back to normal soon.

Anna VFW

Xtreme bar bingo is planned on Mondays starting at 7 p.m. The kitchen opens at 5:30 p.m. Only 50 people allowed at this time and social distancing is set up.

If you know a family or teacher who needs school supplies please have them contact Linda at 833-7737 and she will meet them at the post. They still have several items left.

The hall can be rented for reunions, meetings, holiday parties and other special events. Stop by and see the freshly painted room.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

Program will be at our Anna Cemetery Dec. 19 at 11 a.m. If you haven't sent money yet for your loved one a wreath they are \$15.

We have a lot of veterans buried in our Anna cemetery who have no living family if you would like to sponsor one of them.

The check can be made



Carol Gordon and Edna Eastwood visited Pat Clutts in Murphysboro. It had been 66 years since Carol and Pat had seen each other.



Tara Heinzmann celebrated her birthday with her parents Terri and Rick Bryant and family Aug. 21.

out to Honor Wreaths for Veterans and mailed to Martha Ann Webb, 118 W. Monroe St., Anna, Ill. 62906. You can also drop your check off at Anna City Hall.

2020 Census

Census Day at Stinson Memorial Library on the front lawn will be Sept. 17 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thanks to everyone who has filled out your census but if you haven't you can come to Stinson and fill them out there.

Military Prayer List

John Michael Brimm, Kaleb Meier, Nathaniel Moss, Derek Nelson, Nick Pearson, Nate Frankell,

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



Maddox Miller from Lick Creek School received his 2019 baseball all conference award and was in the 5th grade. He received his award late because of the COVID. He is in 6th grade now.

Anna, Illinois
HOME OF THE
Annabelle

Taking orders for the new Annabelle sign for your yard that will be used for the Annabelle trail next year at the Annabelle Fest. If you would want to be on the trail and want a sign please send me an email at marthanews@frontier.com with your address and phone number. The 10-inch by 14-inch aluminum sign has a printed vinyl overlay. Signs are \$15 each.

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Need a Ride?
We're everywhere you want to be!

It's yard sale season!

Check out the Yard Sale in this week's paper and Yard Sale Safely To place yours call 618-833-2158.

The Fair...

and what it means to Union County

In the spring of 1954, The Gazette-Democrat reported that the Anna Fair, now the Union County Fair, would be interrupted for the first time. The news was announced in the May 13, 1954, edition of The Gazette-Democrat. In 2020, a pandemic has led to an interruption of the fair for a second time.

The Anna Fair would go on as scheduled in 1955. "Let's Keep The Anna Fair - And Always!" "The Fair - What It Means To Union County?" appeared in The Gazette-Democrat during, and after, the 1955 fair.

This week's paper features a Union County Fair section. The section offers a scrapbook...a look back at recent fairs. We look forward to next year's fair.

Let's Keep The Anna Fair-And Always!

The writer just came back in from viewing the Fair... this Tuesday afternoon, the grounds are clean, the shows are adequate, the exhibits are excellent—only to be regretted that not more space may be given and better displays of the prize-winning and runner-ups in the local contests of Domestic Arts, Horticultural and Gardening Exhibits. The Cattle we have saved to view on tomorrow! The racing program does well and would entertain those who hold genuine feelings for amateur level of horsemanship competitions.

Let those decry the Fair who know it not, let those continue to knock this exposition of home-talented arts who fail to appreciate those things before their faces, let those who would compare our feeble efforts of local co-operations with the professional touch of million dollar expositions close by, continue to loose their wailings and bemoanings.

All honor to the local gentry who carry on the tradition of the Anna Fair... all honor to the men who have founded and struggled to maintain it thru-out the years! In a changing times, in a day when the public is founded upon entertainment of sorts, let's keep the Fair for what it is—a local enterprise based upon the competition in fields of school, home and agricultural developments.

Our hats-off to the men and women who carry the torch for the Anna Fair... may it continue to grow and to prosper "Bigger and Better than Ever" year by year!

Contributed.

THE FAIR—WHAT IT MEANS TO UNION COUNTY?

The Fair and what it means to Union County? As we have walked up and down the streets in Anna this year, we have constantly heard this comment "Boy, they had better make the fair this year a good one or there will never be another one." And we would think to our selves, "who is it that makes a fair good or bad?" We realize that a lot of it depends upon the kind of entertainment offered to the people by the fair board. People want something for their money—they always have and undoubtedly, always will. In our estimation they get a pretty good deal for their money at The Anna Fair. There are two prices for tickets into the grand stand—fifty cents and seventy-five cents. Tuesday night there will be a Pet Parade and a stage show. Where else could you go and see your own children or those of your neighbors in a parade of this sort besides a live show? Wednesday night will be the Horse Show and after seeing the one in Cobden this summer we know darned well that it will be worth the money and this is true of each night's entertainment.

No, the Anna Fair does not have acts like the Du-Quoin Fair but neither do you have to pay up to \$3.00 for a seat. Don't get me wrong. There is nothing wrong with paying \$3.00 but a lot of us don't have it and we like to attend fairs too.

It is necessary to have the cooperation of all the residents of Union County and the surrounding area to have a good fair. If you don't have plenty of entries in the racing program, the stock show, the Domestic Science division, the flower show, etc., well, then they are no good.

Where else can the farmers, the fruit growers, the vegetable growers in Union County display their prize-winning products of the year for the other residents to see? Where else can our children enter their school exhibits? What better place is there for Union County livestock to be displayed?

Remember, if the fair is not a good fair this year, you, unless you help, have made it that way. Attend the fair—a meeting place for old friends.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT AND THE ANNA TALK. ANNA, UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1954. 20 PAGES THIS WEEK. Three Sections. NUMBER 16.

Anna Fair Must Be Interrupted For First Time

Howard Lam Praises All Out Co-operation

Everyone Working Together To Make Celebration A Success. Less than seven weeks until the opening of Anna's "Big Show", the Centennial Celebration, July 2, 3, 4, and 5, all committees, clubs and organizations are working hard and continuously to make this the biggest event ever to have been staged in Anna.

Union County Fair Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Fuller of 204 1/2 South Main, Anna, Illinois observed their 65th year of wedded life this past Sunday, May 2. Both are life long residents of Union County where they spent their childhood years on the farm. They were united in marriage on May 2, 1889 near Balem, Illinois.

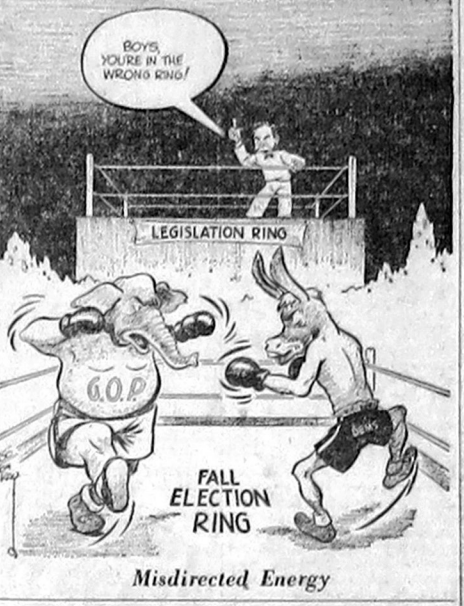
V. F. W. Buddy Poppy Sale This Saturday

Observed Throughout Nation In Conjunction With Armed Forces Day. Armed Forces Day will be observed throughout the Nation, Saturday, May 15, according to Gilbert Knapp, Commander of the Carrol P. Foster Post, No. 3455, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Union County.

Books Ready June 15

Several persons from out of town have written in asking when the Centennial Book "100 Years of Progress" would be mailed to them. Dorey West, Centennial Book chairman, announces that the printers have promised to have the book in his hands by June 15 after which date they will be mailed.

THE AMERICAN WAY



Misdirected Energy

Casting Preview Friday May 21

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the Casting Preview of the centennial pageant, "Centuriana" to be held at the Community Center Friday, May 21, at 7:30. As special treat for all those who attend, four films of colored movies taken of the Burial of the Bazar ceremonies will be shown. These pictures were taken by Bob Neely, Leonard Stearns and Dr. John Keith.

Business Men Show Faith In Cities' Growth

Karraker, Lewis Buy Miller Farm—Will Be Made Into Town Lots. Two civic minded business men, confident of the continued expansion of the cities of Anna and Jonesboro, have purchased a two hundred acre tract of land within the limits of the two cities and plan to eventually convert the acreage into city lots.

No Anna Fair To Be Held This Year

Unable To Obtain Experienced Help And Financial Backing. In a recent action by the Directors of the Anna Fair, it was voted to postpone the 1954 fair until 1955, according to an announcement made by the officers. Causes leading to the decision were given as being inability to obtain experienced help, no volunteer basis, lack of financial backing, and declining gate receipts and interest in general.

The Millises Receive Further Information About Their Son

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mills, 602 North Green Street, Anna, have received a telegram from the government stating that the body of their son, Airman 2/c Kenneth E. Mills, will arrive in New York May 19 and that they will receive a message upon the arrival of the body at the point and as to the approximate time of arrival in Anna.

Howard Lam



Howard Lam, E. C. Garley, John Davis, Leon Whitney, Tom Hagan, Martha Pengrove, Paul Clark, Mrs. Lester W. Best, R. Carlin, Arno F. Sanford, W. Simpson, Sam Duty, Bill Ferrell, Adolph Walter, Lewida Epperly Hoyle, Glenn Mathews, Ed Gellon, Betty Garret, Esther Gellon, Roy Smith, Ryland Sherman, Mrs. Bolla Bird, Clyde Steves, Howard Lam, George Stein Parks, Guy Gamber, Gilbert Knapp, John Rayburn, Fred Wink, Frank Coe, Hal McCarty, Bert Lencey, Dale Denny, John Epp, Lloyd Fuller, C. O. Boyd, Sylvia Davis, C. Earl Hughes, Myrtle Lee, Norman Wahl, Paul Gellon, Roy Smith, Ryland Sherman, Kate Coffman, Rev. Hugh Smith, Walter Herrick, Carl Orr, Mrs. West, Everett Conyer and other Chammans.

Science Club Takes Four Firsts At Science State Fair

Seven of A.J.'s Science Club students, accompanied by their sponsors, Mr. Carl Blood and Mr. Otto Ohmart, attended the State Academy Science Fair at Monmouth College on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8. The group was very successful in their exhibition of six projects. They won four firsts, two seconds, and 1 Honorable Mention. There was a total of 498 projects in competition at the state meet.

Salvation Army Helps Many Needy

Rev. Hugh Paton, Salvation Army Chairman in Union County, reports that between the period of January 1 and May 3 that groceries for 11 families, amounting to \$185.50; new and used clothing amounting to \$98.50; medical aid to two families; and aid to transients has been supplied by the Salvation Army. Ruth Englehart is chairman of our determination to honor the dead by helping the living, said Commander Knapp.

Books Ready June 15

The National Convention opens Sunday, May 23, with a Vesper Service at St. Paul's Methodist Church, and closes Wednesday, May 26, with a banquet in the large convention hall on the Boardwalk.

Mrs. Melvin Lockard To Attend National P.T.A. Convention

Mrs. Melvin C. Lockard of Cobden, president of the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers, will leave May 19 for Atlantic City, New Jersey, where she will attend the convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Mrs. Lockard, a president of the Illinois Congress, will represent her state on the National Congress Board of Managers, which meets prior to the Convention.

Clayton Walsler Dies Suddenly Friday Morning

Funeral Services Held Sunday At Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church. Clayton K. Walsler, 49, member of a prominent family of Anna, died at 2 a.m., Friday, May 7, at the Anna City Hospital. Mr. Walsler died from a heart attack, only a few minutes after reaching the hospital.

Sharon Fowler Chosen For Girls State

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fowler; Active In Many Organizations. Miss Sharon Fowler has been selected by the Township E. Dodd Unit No. 244, American Legion Auxiliary, to attend the fourteenth session of the Illinois Girls State to be held at MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois, June 22 through June 30.

Personalized Checks Presented By Anna State Bank

As a specialized feature of "Know Your Bank Week," Anna State Bank is presenting personalized checks to their customers. Imprinting of the checks with the customer's name and address is being done in the lobby while you wait.

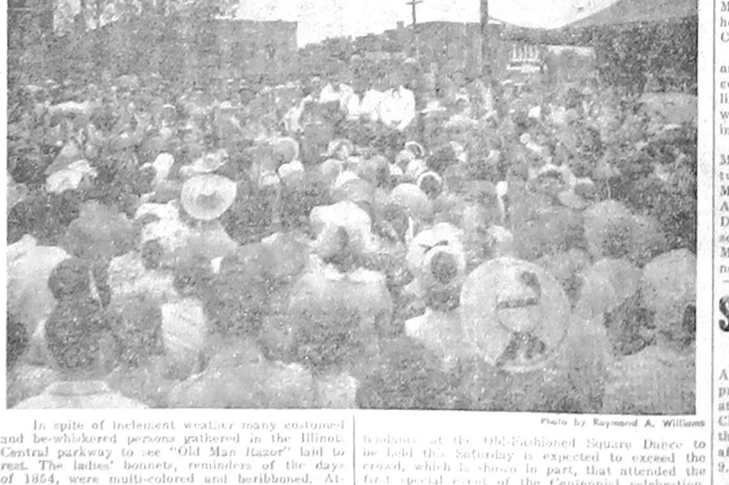
Hospital Board Re-Elects Officers

George Rippelein was re-elected president at a meeting of Anna City Hospital at a meeting of the group Monday night at the hospital. Other officers re-elected for the coming year were Jeff Garret, vice-president; and Kendall Willis, secretary.

Old Fashioned Square Dance Saturday Night

An old fashioned square dance, an annual major event in Anna's seasonal program, will be held Saturday night, May 15, beginning at eight o'clock, on the parking lot near the Illinois Central Station. Everyone is invited to participate in the event. There will be no charge for admission. Dance music will be provided by Helmut Peters, America's greatest bandoneon, concertina player, and his Tyrolean orchestra of Belleville. A preview and judging of winners of the Brothers of the Brush contest of the Sisters of the Square Dance will add to the merriment of the evening. A refreshment stand, located at the north end of the dance grounds, will offer sandwiches, soft drinks, and coffee. For more information, contact Robert Rich, co-chairman of the event, at the square dance and the preliminary judging of bands.

Huge Crowd Gathers At Recent Burial Of The Razor Ceremonies



In spite of inclement weather many continued to hold the Saturday Square Dance to rest. The ladies' bonnets, reminders of the days of 1854, were multi-colored and embellished. At

Springfield Bishop Delivers Sermon

W. J. Harris, Vicar of St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Anna, presented a class for Confirmation to The Rt. Reverend Charles Ann Clough, Bishop of the Springfield Diocese, Sunday afternoon at five o'clock, May 9. Bishop Clough delivered the sermon, following the Confirmation service. He was the honored guest at a reception, held in the Ladies following the service. Sacrifices of the auxiliary were bestowed.

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Obituaries

Joseph 'Joe' Girtman

Joseph "Joe" Girtman, 69, of Cobden, died Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

He was born on July 9, 1951, in Cobden, the son of Coy and Dorothy Mae Little Girtman.

He married JoAnn Jerdon on Sept. 29, 1972, in Cobden.

Mr. Girtman led quite a remarkable, yet ordinary life. Raised in Cobden, he was the very last person to be drafted into the U.S. Army from Union County during the Vietnam War. He received many awards there.

Upon his return, he attended college and became a police officer for Cobden. Eventually, he became chief of police in Cobden.

Later, he spent a long time working for Lutz & Rendleman Funeral Home, then the Village of Cobden, where he served as sexton over the cemetery.

Throughout his life, he met thousands of people. If you were fortunate enough, he would call you a friend. He was a fierce and loyal friend.

He would also spend his free time helping many of the elderly in Cobden. He was also a comedian in his own right. His quick wit served him well. It was hard to be around him and not end up laughing at some point.

He was a member of Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of the VFW in Anna.

Later in life, he devoted most of his time to his wife, children and grandchildren, who he would do just about anything for. He will be greatly missed, especially by his grandchildren.

Mr. Girtman is survived by his wife, JoAnn Girtman of Cobden; children Chris (Brandy) Girtman of Jonesboro, Coy John (Laurie) Girtman of Grand Tower, and Curtis Joe (Ramona) Girtman of De Soto; grandchildren Anthony Joe, Colyn Trent, Allison Michelle, Kyra Noel and Riley Thomas Girtman, and Beau Denver and John Walker Williams; siblings Charles (Sue) Girtman of Willisville, Donna (Wayland) Duty of Cobden and Judy (Charles) Bolinger of Lansing, Mich., and Coy Eugene (Kay) Girtman of Pulleys Mill; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by a brother and sister-in-law, Howard (Marion) Girtman.

Graveside funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at the Cobden Cemetery, with the Rev. Kent Bolinger and the Rev. Rex Goforth officiating.

Interment will immediately follow, with military rites conducted by Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of the VFW in Anna and Illinois Army National Guard funeral honor team of Marion.

Friends can call from 1 p.m. until the time of the service at 2 p.m. on Friday.

Everyone who attends will be required to wear face coverings and to follow social distance guidelines. Face masks will be provided if you do not have one.

Memorials can be made to Autism Society of America. Envelopes will be available at the cemetery and at the funeral home.

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

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

Howard Powles

Howard Powles, 93, of Dongola, and formerly of Tamms, died Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2020, at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

Mr. Powles was born on June 30, 1927, the son of Roy and Lorene Powles of Mill Creek. His passion in life was baseball.

Mr. Powles signed with the St. Louis Cardinals and later the Brooklyn Dodgers. He was a lifelong Cardinals fan.

He was a World War II veteran, having served in Japan.

He was a longtime hardware salesman and worked for both Belknap Hardware and Witte Hardware. He was also a volunteer firefighter with the Tamms Fire Department.

Mr. Powles is survived by sons Stan (Alison) Powles of Golconda and Jeff Powles of Anna; daughter Betty Powles of Anna; stepchildren Kerry Hunter, Lisa (Wayne) Downs and Kyle (Laura) Hunter; grandchildren Hilary Powles, Emily Powles, Fred (April) Terbrak, Martina Terbrak, Justin Hunter, Kendra Miller, Kayla Hunter, Dereck Hunter, Melissa Lowry and Emily Downs; sisters Louise "Tyne" (Bob) Thompson of Mill Creek, Fern Thompson of Dongola and Imogene Lynn of Marion; several great- and great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Ella Albright and his second wife, Charlene Hunter Powles; daughters Treva Powles and Sandra Terbrak; his parents, Roy and Lorene Powles; a sister, Delores "Toots" Wilson; a brother, Frank Powles; brothers-in-law Don Lynn and Jack Wilson; a granddaughter, Crystal Terbrak, and a grandson, Nicholas Downs.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at Crain Funeral Home in Tamms, with the Rev. Brent Gordon officiating. Interment was in Beechwood Cemetery in Mounds, with full military honors by the Illinois Honor Guard and local veterans.

Memorials can be made to the Veterans Honor Flight of Southern Illinois and can be mailed to 10400 Terminal Dr., Suite 200, Marion, Ill. 62959.

Crain Funeral Home Tamms was in charge of arrangements.



Janet 'Jan' E. Winn

Janet "Jan" E. Winn, 72, of Anna, suddenly left this world mid-morning Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

She was born on Feb. 16, 1948, the daughter of Herbert and Ann Cassel Winn at the Hale Williard Hospital in Anna.

She graduated from Dongola High School in 1966 and from there went to work for Russell and Virginia Davis at Ginny's Florist in Anna. There, Jan found her calling in floral design and in a few short years she purchased Ginny's Florist and renamed the business Jan's House of Flowers.

She spent timeless hours at the flower shop, sometimes day after day and weekend after weekend.

Whatever the need, she was there for her people. She befriended them to no end. She comforted them in times of sorrow and shed tears right along with them, as she handled their situation.

Occasionally she serviced as many as 30 or more funerals a month.

Recently, she was asked to again design flowers for a couple's special 50th anniversary; she had done the floral pieces for the couple's wedding 50 years prior to the special anniversary.

She was self-taught in floristry: it was her business, her know. She loved it. She was an excellent floral designer; she had an eye for art and was an artist with her flowers, with paintings and in stitchery.

She loved her family and reading. She loved nature in all of its abundance and when time allowed she relaxed in a quiet country woodsy setting with her dear Homer Airdoodle and Sugar Cookie Blue. She was a member of Big Creek Baptist Church for many years.

She will be dearly missed, leaving behind her sister Brenda (Mervyn) Tripp of Anna; nephew Eric (Tabitha) Tripp of Anna; niece Autumn (Shawn Ward) Funkhouser of Metropolis; three special great-nephews, Gavin Tripp, Wyatt Funkhouser and Ridge Funkhouser; special grandniece Mikaya Kosie Tripp; an aunt and uncle, cousins, a special friend Bob, and an abundance of friends, as she never knew a stranger.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her grandparents and great-grandparents, aunts and uncles, and many friends.

Graveside funeral services were at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Anna City Cemetery, with the Rev. LaRue Parr officiating. Interment in the Anna City Cemetery immediately followed the funeral services.

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.



Larry D. Clover Sr.

Larry D. Clover Sr., 81, of Jonesboro, died at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21, 2020, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

He was born on June 18, 1939, in McClure, the son of Lyman and Pauline Coplin Clover.

He married Linda Darlene Pierce on July 6, 1992.

For years, Mr. Clover worked as a heavy equipment operator for Leonard Bittle Construction.

He was a proud U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Valley Mission Pentecostal Church. He loved to hunt, fish and find interesting things on eBay and Amazon.

He is survived by his sons, Larry (Sarah Qualls) Clover of Wolf Lake and Wade (Christy) Clover of Cape Girardeau; daughters Robbin (Scott Mezo) Park of Jonesboro, Debra Clover of Anna, Dena (Donnie) Messamore of Anna and Lori Tanner of Missouri; grandkids Deja Rohlfing, Koda Abraham, Cameron Clover, Ryleigh Clover, Jacob Clover, Haylie Clover, Kayden Barry, Kayla Barry, Shaine Barry, Tara Clover, Angela Clover, Amber Williams, Donna Messamore, Brandy Patterson, Jennifer Tanner, Larry Tanner, Justin Conner, Dougie Park and Tyler Park; 25 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; a brother, Delbert (Alice) Clover of Balcom; nieces and nephews. He had a beloved fur buddy, Blue Eyed Devil-Willie Nelson.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene; parents and siblings, Donald Clover, Lee Gibson, Owleen Cook and Charlotte Burton.

Graveside services were at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, at Valley Mission Cemetery, with the Rev. Paul Mayberry officiating. A flag presentation followed by the Illinois National Guard.

Memorials can be made to Valley Mission Pentecostal Church and will be accepted at the funeral home.

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

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



Elizabeth Corbit

Elizabeth Corbit, 68, of Lick Creek, died Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2020, at her home.

She was born on April 13, 1952, the daughter of Stanley and Barbara Bridgeman Fears.

She married Dean Corbit on June 9, 1973, in Cobden.

She taught elementary school for 34 years. She was a member of the Anna United Methodist Church. She loved performing and all things associated with music and theatre. Her greatest love was her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Dean of Lick Creek; three children, Nelly (Brian) Bolender of Bartlett, Tenn., Thomas (Rebecca) Corbit of Lick Creek and Nathan (Melissa) Corbit of Vienna; nine grandchildren, Samuel Smith, Brinley, Natilyn, Easton, Ayla, Owen, Aubrey, Logan and Laney Corbit; her twin sister, Sharon Jackson of Troy; her aunt and uncle, Tish (Meredith) Tanner; other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services for Elizabeth Corbit were at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at the United Missionary Baptist Church in Lick Creek, with Pastor Tim Gossett officiating. Interment followed in Ebenezer Hall Cemetery in Lick Creek. The services were outdoors in the pavilion at the church.

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

Memorials can be made to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation or to the Music Ministry at Anna United Methodist 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.

Russel Lloyd Healey

Russel Lloyd Healey, 92, of Olive Branch, died at 6:07 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17, 2020, at East Bay Rehab in Clearwater, Fla.

He was born on Jan. 22, 1928, in Livingston, the son of Susan and William Healey.

He married Betty Jo Farris on April 3, 1951, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf in St. Louis.

Betty and Russel were very involved with the Lutheran Church for the Deaf and the Missouri Synod. They enjoyed living in such places as St. Louis, Chicago, Canada, Texas and Florida.

He is survived by his sister, June Healey Kreuter of Palm Harbor, Fla., and by many loving nieces, nephews and very good friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Jo; his parents; a sister, Evelyn Burniski; and brothers William and Donald.

Visitation will be from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. at the funeral home, with Pastor Mark Willig of Friends in Christ Lutheran Church in Morris officiating. Interment will follow in the Olive Branch Cemetery.

Groups of 50 people at a time will be allowed in to pay their respects. Those attending the visitation and funeral service are requested to observe customarily accepted social distancing procedures. All who attend are reminded that, in accordance with recently announced State of Illinois guidelines, masks or face coverings are required in public spaces.

The family extends a very special thank you to the employees of East Bay Rehab in Clearwater, Fla.

Memorials can be made to the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society, P.O. Box 434038, St. Louis, Mo. 63143.

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



Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Don Cox

Do you think "one" day set apart for worship of God came out of NOWHERE? Try this: there IS a Living God and you better acknowledge Him one day out of seven!

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



Brad E. Donna, Agent
102 West Broad Street
Jonesboro, IL 62952
Bus: 618-833-6021
brad.donna.ggvf@statefarm.com

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Shirley High Morrison

Shirley High Morrison, 86, of Anna, and formerly of Cobden, died Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020, at Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marion.

She was born on Oct. 18, 1933, in Cobden, the daughter of Albert and Ethel G. Hall High.

She married J.D. Morrison on Sept. 29, 1950, in Piggott, Ark. He preceded her in death on Aug. 28, 2009.

She loved her family. She was a great cook and always had a smile on her face.

She is survived by three sons, Jeff (April Long) Morrison of Anna, Kenneth Morrison of Jonesboro and Bryan (Ginger) Morrison of Cobden; nine grandchildren, Cristi Payne, Shannon Cunningham, Todd, Carrie Trey, Darci, Jamieson, Johnny and Sienna Morrison, 12 great-grandchildren; one sister, Alberta Gearhart of Manteno; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

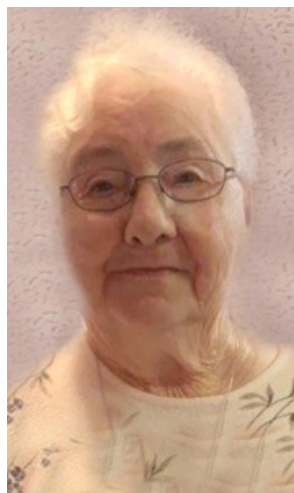
She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one grandson, Seth Morrison; a daughter-in-law, Nancee Morrison; as well as 10 siblings.

Funeral services for Shirley Morrison were at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden, with the Rev. Bryan Morrison officiating. Interment followed in the Cobden Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Voyage Senior Living Community at Anna.

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

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



State officials making final push to increase census participation

Illinois has strong response rate compared to national average, plenty of room to improve

By Raymon Troncoso
Capitol News Illinois
rtroncoso@capitol-newsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Human Services, IDHS, said the state is poised to have one of the top census response rates in the country despite two tumultuous months of changing deadlines as determined by the Trump administration.

Illinois sat at a 69.1 percent self-response rate as of Thursday, Aug. 20, which was up 2 points from its 67 percent self-response rate on July 19. The national response rate was 64.2 percent.

The state's 2010 census response rate was 70.5 percent, giving organizers hope of passing that mark by the Sept. 30 deadline: a date recently moved forward one month by the Trump administration.

Illinois had the seventh-highest self-response rate of any state in the United States and was the only state in the top 10 that

has a population exceeding 10 million.

Chicago also had the highest response rate for any city with a population over 2 million, according to the Illinois 2020 Census Office.

Maximizing the census count is important, because the population count helps determine federal funding and the number of representatives the state sends to the U.S. House of Representatives.

The positive trend comes despite challenges posed by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and changing federal deadlines.

The Illinois 2020 Census Advisory Panel discussed obstacles to self-reporting and shifting standards from the federal government at a regularly scheduled meeting Friday, Aug. 21.

"This past month, as you all know, has been a month of many surprises for us at the census office," Oswaldo Alvarez, co-director of the Illinois Census Office at the IDHS, said.

Aug. 19 declared day of remembrance in honor of Gov. James Thompson



Gov. James Thompson
Wednesday, Aug. 19, was declared as a state-wide day of mourning and remembrance in Illinois in honor of the passing of former Gov. James "Big Jim" Thompson. The former governor died Aug. 14.

Gov. JB Pritzker issued a proclamation which declared the day of mourning and remembrance.

In the proclamation, Pritzker urged "all Illinoisans to reflect upon the many contributions of Gov. Thompson and to keep his family in their prayers."

Pritzker also announced the launch of a virtual guestbook for Illinois residents to electronically sign and share their favorite memory of Illinois longest serving governor.

The virtual guestbook can be found online at <http://illinois.gov/govthompson>.

"As a state, we mourn the passing of former Governor Jim Thompson and I invite residents across the state to sign the virtual guestbook with their favorite memory of Governor Thompson," Pritzker said.

"Big Jim" lived a big life and got big things done for Illinois. But perhaps most

importantly, he was a kind and decent man who set the standard for what public service can and should look like in our state. May his memory be for a blessing."

Pritzker also ordered all persons or entities governed by the Illinois Flag Display Act to lower flags in honor and remembrance of Gov. James R. Thompson.

James R. Thompson served as the state's governor from January 1977 to January 1991, a total 14 years. He often visited Union County.

Thompson first came to prominence when he was U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, and especially when he successfully prosecuted former governor Otto Kerner on corruption charges.

During his long tenure as governor, he developed a reputation as a moderate Republican who was a fiscal conservative, but also a friend of labor and a builder, with Build Illinois being his administration's signature achievement.

He traveled the world promoting Illinois and its products.

He also had a passion for history and antiques, and thus created the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in support of those passions.

Following his many years in office, he worked in the private sector, serving as the chair of the important Chicago law firm, Winston and Strawn for many years.

He also found time to serve on the 9/11 Commission.



Picture perfect pole percher
A wren made a stop atop a pole in a garden in Union County on a recent summer afternoon.

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"The Preaching Pen"

What is the Church of Christ

People often ask if the church of Christ is one of the "Pentecostal" denominations; they ask if the church of Christ is the same as the "Church of God," etc.

The Bible teaches on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ, the church of Christ was established in the city of Jerusalem upon the first day of the week (Acts 2). Jesus had said He would build His church (Mt. 16:18). Jesus purchased the church with His blood; He paid the price for it on the cross (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:23-25). The church we read about in the Bible is God's family, or house (I Tim. 3:15). In the days when inspired men lived, people became members of the church of Christ by hearing the gospel, by believing the gospel, by repenting of their sins, and by being baptized upon a confession of their faith in Christ. They were thus baptized into Christ for the remission of sins; for in Christ there is remission of sins through His blood (Eph. 1:7; Acts 2:36-37; Rom. 6:3-4). In the days of the apostles, the obedience that saved one from sin at the same time made him a member of the church of Christ, the family of God.

The inspired men instructed the early church how to worship God in spirit and in truth (Acts 2:42; Jn. 4:24). The same inspired men predicted that men would not always endure sound teaching, but would forsake the Lord's way and turn to human doctrines, and a perverted gospel (Acts 20:28-32; I Tim. 4:1-6; II Tim. 4:1-6; II Thess. 2:1-12). These departures were gradual and subtle, and religious denominationalism resulted. About 1800 A.D., men sought for and pled for a return to the New Testament order of things, and the doctrine and unity of the one church that we read about in the New Testament was restored. Since that time, the church of Christ has been pleading for a return to God's way and order. The church of Christ is not a denomination; it is not a "Pentecostal group," or sect of any kind. We are the church Jesus died to establish; a body of believers who oppose religious division (I Cor. 1:10), and who plead for religious unity (Jn. 17), and we hope you'll visit us soon at 104 Nile St. Have a great day!

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

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PEWS FOR SALE: 18 with burgundy upholstered padded seats, 11 1/2' long. Can be seen at 724 E. Davie Street, Anna. Contact (317)-474-4223. 36p-37gp

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Very nice, partially furnished, 2 bedroom apartment located in Anna. Close to town. Call (618)-833-5858 or (618)-697-1893. 33gp tfn

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HELP WANTED: Outside sales representative needed for Southern Illinois. Must have sales experience, valid driver's license. Email resume to: jwilkins@reppertsales.com. No phone calls.

HELP WANTED: Lick Creek School is currently seeking a bus driver. Anyone interested needs to contact the school at (618)-833-2545. 37-38gp

HELP WANTED: Hiring air-brush painters to paint religious statues. Experience preferred, but will train. Attention to detail a must. Artistic abilities desirable. Apply at RAVE, Inc., 214 W. Davie Street, Anna, IL 62906. EOE. 37-39gp

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WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Golden seal roots. Greenville. John Turley, (618)-604-2855. 26p-37gp

YARD SALE

UNION COUNTY GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO YARD/GARAGE SALES: 1. Social Distancing must be exercised. 2. Please wear a mask and/or other protective clothing.

3. No more than 10 people at one time permitted. tfn

YARD SALE: Friday & Saturday, August 28 & 29. 118 W. Monroe Street, Anna. If raining, will be held the following weekend. 37g n/c

YARD & CRAFT SALE: Craft tools, clothing & household items. Friday & Saturday, August 28 & 29, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rain or shine. 108 Cherry Street, Anna. 37gc

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PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of VERNA BRIDWELL, Deceased. No. 20-P-26

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Verna Bridwell of Cobden, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on July 28, 2020, to U.S. Bank, N.A., Independent Administrator with the Will Annexed, Trust Department, 205 5th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, whose attorney is Eugenia C. Hunter, Attorney at Law, 905 West Cherry, Carbondale, IL 62901.

Claims may be filed within six months from the date of first publication of this notice and that any claim not filed within that period is barred as to the estate which is inventoried within that period. Claims must be filed in the office of the Clerk of this

Court at the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro, Illinois and copies mailed or delivered to the executor or administrator and to his attorney. Dated August 10, 2020

Tiffany Busby, Clerk of the Circuit Court 35-37g

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School District #81 Board of Education has rescheduled the Regular September Board Meeting for Monday, September 28, 2021 in the District Office at 6:00 p.m., located at 608 S. Main St., Anna, IL 62906. The meeting is open to the public. 37g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois SS County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 25th day of June, 2020, under the Assumed Name of Wichmann Vineyard with the place of business located at 2655 Water Valley Road, Cobden, Illinois 62920 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of

said Business is:

Johanna Wichmann Donald Moberly 2655 Water Valley Road Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer Union County Clerk 36-38gc

CITY OF ANNA, ILLINOIS NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4 of the Illinois Municipal Code, the City of Anna has declared the following Exhibit A Surplus Property List, as surplus personal property and offers the same for sale. Said property may be inspected at the Anna City Garage located at 105 Market Street in the City of Anna and is sold in "AS IS" condition, without any implied or expressed warranties.

EXHIBIT A

Surplus Property 1996 Ford F350SD, 7.3 Diesel motor, VIN 1FTJW-35F6TEA70949, 265,273.3 miles, runs poorly, starting minimum starting bid \$500.00

1991 Ford LGT CONV-TL, VIN 2FDLF47G6M-CA25419, 51, 089.4 miles, does not currently run, starting minimum bid \$500.00

Sealed bids, identifying the above-described item(s), shall be received by the City Clerk during normal business hours, Monday through Friday at the Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, Illinois through September 15, 2020. The minimum

bid has been established for each surplus item. Please see Surplus Property List for the Minimum bid, as no bid for less than that amount will be accepted. A check or money order shall accompany all bids for not less than 10% of the bid.

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

Dori Bigler City Clerk 36-37g

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2020-2021 BUDGET

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Anna-Jonesboro CHSD #81 in the State of Illinois that the tentative budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, is on file and conveniently available for inspection at the District Office, 608 S. Main St., Anna, Illinois, after 8:00 a.m. on the 27th day of August, 2020. Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 5:45 p.m. on the 28th day of September, 2020, at the District Office at the address listed above. 37g

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of the School District No. 66 in the

County of Union, State of Illinois, that the proposed initial budget for the said school year beginning July 1, 2020, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Superintendent's office, Dongola Unit School, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois, in this school district from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:15 p.m. on September 24, 2020, at Dongola Unit School.

Board of Education of the School District No. 66, in the County of Union, State of Illinois 37gp

STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT UNION COUNTY

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

Request of: Kristie Marie Deroe-Jones 2020-MR-72

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from: Kristie Marie Deroe-Jones to the new name of: Kristie Marie McHughes.

The court date will be held on October 6, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., at 309 W. Market Street, Jonesboro, IL, Union County, in Courtroom #1.

Kristie Deroe-Jones

37-39g

Television Listings

THURSDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

AUGUST 27, 2020

FRIDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

AUGUST 28, 2020

SATURDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

AUGUST 29, 2020

SUNDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

AUGUST 30, 2020

MONDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

AUGUST 31, 2020

TUESDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

WEDNESDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists program titles and descriptions.

SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

Jesus said to his disciples: "Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

"Who, then, is the faithful and prudent servant, whom the master has put in charge of his household to distribute to them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so. Amen, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property. But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is long delayed,' and begins to beat his fellow servants, and eat and drink with drunkards, the servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." From the Gospel of Matthew



A cross atop St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden was behind a pair of doves that were perched on nearby utility wires.

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As the end of summer approaches, we might feel an occasional cool breeze some evenings or notice a lone leaf letting go as it drifts to the still warm ground. Change is on the way. Soon the trees will be ablaze with glory. The landscape will transform from solid green to bursts of red, orange, and gold. Our lives have seasons, too. From youth to old age, our change in seasons can be both exhilarating and formidable...an adventure into the unknown. We don't have to experience it alone. When we trust God in all circumstances, He will help us through every transition. You can learn more about God's unfailing companionship as you worship Him this week. Let Him help you prepare for the changing seasons of your life.

Daily Bible Reading						
Haggai	Haggai	Zech.	Zech.	Zech.	Zech.	Zech.
1:1-15	2:1-23	1:1-17	1:18 - 2:13	8:1-23	9:9-17	10:1-12

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

Anna Nazarene Church

A drive-in service was held on the church parking lot Sunday, Aug. 23, at 9:30 a.m. and by Zoom inside the sanctuary for those who cannot tolerate the heat.

Singing was led by Pastor Wright and the worship team.

The pastor's message on Sunday was titled "Made Alive in Christ." Scripture was from Ephesians.

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

Special recognition was given to the children's Bible quizzers for the past church year.

The quizzers are Aaron Wiseman, Nicholas Cook, Jaida Smith, Sophie Wells, Liberty Cook, Blake Wells and Madilyn Smith.

Quizzing is scheduled to begin Sept. 9 in the fellowship hall. CDC guidelines will be followed by wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

The church extends sympathy and prayers to the Morrison family in the loss of their loved one, Shirley Morrison, and to the Corbit family in the loss of their loved one, Elizabeth Corbit.

Bible study was planned

at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, at the church, with CDC guidelines being followed by wearing masks and social distancing, and on Zoom.

Aug. 30 is Promotion Sunday. Children will be promoted into new classes as usual, even though Sunday School classes are not being attended as in the past. Promotion Sunday will make it possible to maintain church records correctly.

On Aug. 30 at 9 a.m., a combined Sunday School class for all ages of children is planned. The location will either be the main room in the fellowship hall, where masks will be required and social distancing will be practiced, or on the parking lot.

There will be a drive-in service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30. Seniors who are less tolerant of the heat will be able to come into the sanctuary, following CDC guidelines by wearing masks and social distancing.

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

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Sunday's sermon was based on scripture from Job, Ephesians and Mark.

Rev. Thompson began by asking "if we realized that Satan goes to church?"

"Satan never misses an opportunity to 'go to church'; he comes to prey, rather than pray. His goal is to destroy the witness of the church universal.

"Unfortunately, many people don't take Satan serious.

Possibly our greatest risks in 'listening' to Satan are: allowing ourselves to be distracted when we attend worship, preventing the message from sinking into our hearts; listening to Satan's suggestion that we don't need to humble ourselves before God; allowing Satan to involve us in conflict in the church; and, allowing ourselves to become complacent in our walk with God.

"Satan highlights the bad and blinds us to the good going on in the church. If Satan can't stop us, he tries to wear us out. Causing us burn-out leads to discouragement and giving up."

In closing, Rev. Thompson challenged the congregation "to put on the full armor of God and fight Satan every day."

The bell ringer for Sunday was Brooke Bates, who was assisted by her grandfather, Kenneth Thompson.

All are welcome to Camp Ground Church for in-per-

son worship on Sunday, beginning at 10:30 a.m., with CDC guidelines observed.

For those who don't feel comfortable returning to in-person worship, services are live on Zoom, and recorded and available on YouTube and posted on the church's Facebook page: "Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church."

Lindsey Patterson Adams celebrates a birthday on Aug. 28.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

MaryBeth Knight led the music for the Sunday worship service last week.

The Rev. Dennis Mohr from Marion was guest speaker. His sermon topic was "Living the Victory," with scripture from 1 John.

Last Wednesday, Bible study about the Book of Revelation continued. The study is being taught by Pastor Nick.

The church is located at 409 Morgan St. The church's Sunday worship service is at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday Bible study starts at 6 p.m.

The church continues to have a food giveaway, which is scheduled from 11 a.m. to noon on Thursday (today).

The food giveaway is in the parking lot at the church and is free and available to anyone in the community.

Illinois announces ninth consecutive year of record tourism growth in 2019

Prior to the impact of COVID-19 and record losses in the industry, Illinois achieved its ninth consecutive year of record tourism growth in 2019.

According to new data released Friday, Aug. 21, by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, DCEO, and the Illinois Office of Tourism, Illinois welcomed a record 120 million visitors last year,

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, Aug. 23, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about deception in end times, based on scripture from Job, the Psalms and 2nd Timothy.

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

The message was also live streamed and can be found on the church's Facebook page: @jonesborofbc. Other messages also can be found there under the video tab.

During the service, Dee Rose led worship. Debbie York was pianist.

Sharon Morgan and Raymond Beasley provided special music. They sang "If Jesus Comes Tomorrow" and "I Need You Lord, Every Single Day."

Pastor Perry has live streamed a series of devotionals on Facebook which are focused on the end times.

The pastor's devotionals and messages also can be found on YouTube; do a

and a record economic boost for the state.

In 2019, visitors spent nearly \$43.1 billion, a \$1.3 billion increase over the prior year, according to the U.S. Travel Association.

These visitor expenditures directly supported more than 344,100 jobs in the Illinois travel and tourism industry, an increase of 1,800 jobs from 2018.

Travel also generated

nearly \$2.5 billion in state tax revenue, an increase of 7.7 percent.

Last year's record-breaking tourism levels will prepare the state to make a healthy comeback once the tourism industry resumes normal activity.

"The 2019 tourism numbers demonstrate what we already know: that pre-COVID-19, Illinois offered one of the top destinations for travel in the country, supporting thousands of jobs and economic growth for our communities," DCEO acting director Michael Negron said in a news release.

"Unfortunately, like many industries, tourism looks much different today than it did last year," he said.

The State of Illinois is committed to a data-driven plan allowing a gradual re-opening of key segments of this economy.

"This public health approach, matched with our strong tourism performance in 2019, offers a strong foundation that will allow Illinois to bring visitors back as soon as it is safe to do so," Negron said.

According to DK Shiftlet, domestic visitation to Illinois in 2019 increased by 5.1 percent, reaching 120.4 million visitors, well above the national growth rate of 2 percent.

Visits to the City of Chicago increased by 4.5 percent and downstate travel increased by 5.6 percent, fueled by a strong leisure tourism increase of 6 percent.

DCEO, which operates the Office of Illinois Tourism, has played a key role in working with public health officials to develop safety

guidelines permitting some businesses and industries to reopen by implementing strategies to help reduce risk and protect the public as well as their employees.

While tourism has seen a marked impact in Illinois and across the country, state officials are taking steps to help residents who choose to travel to do so safely.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has released new guidance to help residents take proper precautions when traveling.

The new COVID-19 travel map helps to inform residents of potential risks associated with traveling during the pandemic.

The map indicates countries and U.S. states with increased risk of COVID-19 based on case rates.

"Last year's numbers illustrate just how impactful tourism is for boosting the state's economy," said Karla Flannery, deputy director of the Illinois Office of Tourism.

"While it's unrealistic to expect the same results in 2020, we are looking forward to safely welcoming travelers back to Illinois and rebuilding our industry... while encouraging Illinois residents to use public health precautions in resuming local travel to any one of our iconic attractions found right here at home."

The Illinois Office of Tourism continues to work with health officials to provide guidance for residents as well as local tourism partners, including museums, amusement parks and other tourist destinations.

As of Aug. 21, Illinois remained under Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois guidelines.



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Look up in the sky: you may see a plane with 'SIU' on wings

Instead of wondering now whether the sound you hear is a bird or a plane, a quick glance to the skies might reveal a sight with an indelible Saluki imprint.

Members of the Southern Illinois University Carbondale aviation shop recently painted "SIU" on the underside wings of two planes used by the program's Flying Salukis.

The goal will be to affix the same maroon lettering in wind-resistant vinyl to more than 20 additional planes used by flight students in the program in the coming weeks.

The unmistakable lettering should be highly visible to anyone in the Carbondale area up to about 1,000 feet, since flight students are usually flying around that altitude locally.

Ken Bro, the aviation program's chief flight instructor, said the lettering also reminds residents in the region of the nationally recognized aviation program.

"I'm a big fan of promoting the school locally," Bro said. "Everyone will be aware of where we are and who we are, and SIU has a large fleet of aircraft."

Bro also praised the aviation shops' work in making custom foggles for each of the 360 aviation flight students who will be attending classes later this month.

Foggles are eye protection used in flight training exercises for pilots who are learning to fly in simulated foggy or cloudy conditions. The glasses require pilots to learn to fly by instruments.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, aviation flight students and instructors will each use individual foggles in training exercises.

The program purchased clear safety glasses and aviation shop personnel, using a sandblasting machine, were able to cover most of the glasses so students can only view the plane's instruments when flying.

The revamped glasses are much less expensive than if individually ordered, Bro said.

A sandblasting machine is converting clear safety glasses into foggles for each of the 360 flight students who will be part of the SIU aviation program this fall.



Colors of summer

Summer flowers could be seen in full bloom during a recent visit to Alto Pass. The flowers were in the downtown area of the Union County village.

Drones being used to help in fight against invasive species

SIMPSON – The forests of Southern Illinois have a new friend in the fight against invasive species.

The University of Illinois Extension forestry program has taken to the skies to see if drones can be used to survey for evidence of the invasive shrub amur bush honeysuckle.

"This is an exciting time for technological advances in natural resource conservation," says Kevin Rohling, an Extension forestry research technician.

"Drone technology is a game changer. It has the potential to drastically increase our ability to quickly detect and assess issues in Illinois forests without allocating a lot of resources."

Invasive insect, animal, plant and aquatic species threaten native populations, disrupt ecosystems, and cost the United States billions of dollars to manage.

The most effective way to control invasive species is through a strategy of early detection and rapid response, says Nick Seaton who collaborated with the drone research in his role as project coordinator for the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area.

But manual surveys to find plants are time consuming and expensive, and

invasives move fast.

The forestry team is determining if images captured by drones can quickly identify invasive infested areas.

Extension foresters can then deliver advice and training to private landowners, managers, businesses, and non-profits on how to treat and efficiently control further spread.

The research project took place in Southern Illinois, a unique and biodiverse area.

The region's patchwork of protected state and federal natural areas is home to 107 state threatened and endangered species that are jeopardized by invasive species.

"Invasive plants do not recognize political boundaries," Rohling says. "So private areas near the Shawnee National Forest managed with the aid of this technology will reduce seed sources that would otherwise contribute to the spread of bush honeysuckle."

Starting in 2018, the team organized more than 40 flights during spring and fall when the forest canopy was clear of leaves, but when the greenery of bush honeysuckle was still visible in the understory.

The forestry team collaborated with the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area on the re-

search, and funding was provided by the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry.

The forestry team identifies its target site and sets up automated flights to take high-resolution photos.

The images are combined into a mosaic of the forest canopy that is loaded into the mapping program ESRI ArcGIS for analysis.

Early results show that the drone surveys provide access to remote areas while saving time and resources, but there are limitations.

The foresters were able to identify mature plants, but small or fire-damaged plants escaped detection, Rohling says.

Aerial surveys took less time than walking surveys, only two hours compared to more than 11; however, there is a narrow window of time to get photos.

"Timing is absolutely critical," Rohling says. "We're still working on improving that component."

Early fall flights photographed canopies still full of leaves, but invasive species had browned out in later flights.

In the spring, early buds and leaves blocked the understory. And, the drones can only fly when the weather cooperates.

Looking ahead, the team expects they can use drones to survey for other invasive plant species, but the potential for maintaining forest health doesn't stop there.

They plan to find blooming chestnut trees and propagate them in other areas for agroforestry purposes.

A student is also using the aerial images to identify new habitats for rare plant species.

"We're only now scratching the surface with drone technology," Rohling says.

Retired Southeast professor issues book of collected poems

Dr. Robert Hamblin, a retired professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, has issued a volume of his collected poems.

The volume, titled "Epiphanies, Large and Small," includes all of Hamblin's previous eight books of poems (1986-2019), plus several additional poems.

Subjects treated include growing up in Mississippi, participating in sports, living in London, reflecting on God and religion, aging, and caring for a spouse stricken with Alzheimer's.

In the preface, Hamblin describes the book as "a type of autobiography,"

"For example, future projects could include very targeted herbicide applications that would save money as well as reduce environmental impacts."

Resources about invasive species in Illinois, including the guidebook Management of Invasive Plants and Pests of Illinois, information about Illinois' exotic weed act and species identification guides, are available on the Illinois Extension Forestry website at extension.illinois.edu/forestry/resources.

reflecting "the innumerable convergences that constitute a life – with family and friends, colleagues, strangers, nature, God, places, events, ideas, memories, dreams."

This is the fifth book Hamblin has self-published since his retirement in 2015.

In explaining his decision to self-publish, Hamblin jokes, "At my age, I'm no longer interested in long-range projects, and now that I'm retired from academia, I don't have to worry about peer reviews."

The collected poems may be purchased online from amazon.com or directly from the author.



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Opinion and Commentary

Make mental health priority during these unprecedented times

Many students in Illinois are venturing back to the classroom. For some, that classroom looks dramatically different in a COVID-19 environment.

The challenges of remote learning, social distancing, and new classroom restrictions can cause emotional stress for both our students and teachers.

That's why the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, IEMA, and local emergency managers are highlighting various resources to help the public make mental health a priority during these unprecedented times.

"When we think of school safety, we often think of violence or storm preparedness, but the mitigation measures associated with COVID-19 underscores the importance of mental health awareness," IEMA director Alicia Tate-Nadeau said in a news release.

"Behavioral threat assessment teams are great resources to identify behavior and trends that can lead to early intervention, but when students are not in class more tools are needed to check on the wellbeing of our students."

The Illinois Terrorism Task Force, ITTF, School Safety Working Group was created in 2018 to help improve safety in Illinois schools.

This group of subject matter experts has focused their efforts on providing practical and helpful recommendations for schools to adopt. These recommendations range from physical school improvements, policy suggestions, increasing mental health services, information sharing and more.

Now, more than ever, parents and educators need reliable information to help protect students. Everybody experiences mental health issues in different ways.

Students who are contemplating hurting themselves or others frequently give warning signs of their distress. Some common signs of distress include not acting like they normally do, a loss of interest in things they used to enjoy, talking about feelings of hopelessness, being more reckless or isolating from family and friends.

The Illinois State Board of Education, ISBE, recognizes that the well-being of students extends beyond learning and nutrition. To that end, the ISBE website features additional tools that can help provide care for mental/emotional wellbeing of our educators and our students.

The Illinois Department of Human Services has a helpline for residents who need emotional support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Illinoisans can text "TALK" to 55-2020 (or "HABLAR" for Spanish) for the Call4Calm service. The text line is free of charge and is designed to support residents who are experiencing stress.

To learn more about how to help a friend, student, parent or coworker, visit ready.illinois.gov.

A Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, August 27, 1970

Fairgoers will have an opportunity to attend the 90th annual Union County Fair for two more days.

The two days will consist of harness racing, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The King Brothers Rodeo, tonight, Aug. 27, beginning at 8:00 p.m. and the Queen Pageant beginning at 8:00 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28.

Anna stores will close this afternoon, Thursday, Aug. 27, at 4:00 p.m. in order that employees may attend the Fair. They will close tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. rather than the usual closing time of 8:00 p.m. in order that the employees may attend the coronation ceremonies of the new Miss Union County Fair, beginning at 8 p.m.

A short at the fairgrounds Monday evening caused consternation among fairgoers.

The short was in a tree behind the Moose Stand, sending sparks high in the sky.

Thanks to Bob Hill, the transformer was shut off until CIPS workmen could arrive and repair the service to several small stands.

A spot check of Union County schools reveals no great change in enrollment in the majority of the schools, which opened for the first full day of school Wednesday morning, Aug. 26.

The Anna-Jonesboro Teen Town will hold an Open House Saturday, Sept. 5, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The peach harvest will end with this month. Peaches have been good and the price excellent, some growers report.

Shippers report they are presently shipping the last peaches, some peppers, late cucumbers, with the tomato harvest also winding up.

The Union County area experienced a rather abrupt change in temperature recordings the last week, when the differential was 32 degrees.

The high of 90 was recorded Thursday, Aug. 20, and the low of 58 Monday, Aug. 24.

Sunday night, Aug. 16, the First Baptist Church of Anna honored Dr. George Casper for 18 years of service in the field of Church Music.

The World War I Barracks No. 344 and their Auxiliary of Anna met August 2 at 2:00 p.m. in the American Legion Home, each conducting their regular monthly meeting in separate rooms.

The Miller School Reunion will be held Saturday, Aug. 30, at 1 p.m. at the Jonesboro Park. Former teachers, students, friends and "friends of friends" are invited.

From the Big Creek news: There were no services here Sunday night, as the road to the church is graded and ready for gravel, and the rain Saturday made it rough to travel. Hope we have gravel on by Sunday.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

This week...an appetizer...then the main course...



This week, we're going to start with an appetizer before the main course...a pair of cucumbers that grew together and a potato that resembles a mouse... Cheri Beegle of Cobden grew the unusual cucumber/s. Her niece, Bekkah Schemonia of Pomona, grew the potato... with ears...and a tail...in her garden.

At the time I started writing this Sunday night, the weather forecast was suggesting that we might get to experience the tail end of a hurricane this week...

...well, now, I suppose that figures. After all, we haven't had a hurricane yet. Guess we'll just have to wait and see what happens...

...not only do we have the possibility of a hurricane, but there might be an asteroid coming close to earth in early November...the day before the election, I think. You might want to make plans to go ahead and vote early...not that it will matter...think about what happened to the dinosaurs when something from outer space landed on our planet right before election day 60-some-odd million years ago...

...and speaking of odd things...ice hockey is being played in August, which has nothing to do with an asteroid...ice hockey in August is just not right...which is why I have not paid much attention to the games. I believe the defending Stanley Cup champions, the St. Louis Blues, my favorite team, are out of whatever is being called the playoffs...oh, well...

...thinking about such things convinces me even more that 2020 is, well, just a really strange year...and it also convinces me that the Angel Gabriel is tuning up his trumpet to some apocalyptic tunes around December 31...

...meanwhile...

...wanted to share an item with you folks which arrived by way of email a few weeks ago...

The item was a guest opinion titled "Libraries live on with community support," which was written by Erin Schoenberg, project associate with the Center for Rural Affairs.

The Center for Rural Affairs, which is located in Lyons, Neb., was established in 1973 and is "a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues."

In the guest opinion piece, Schoenberg wrote: "Recently, rural Americans have missed out on many services usually offered in their communities."

"However, library employees have worked even harder to provide for their patrons. For example, in Wayne, Nebraska, library staff have stepped up to show their community how resilient small-town libraries can be."

"A week after closing to the public, the library initiated curbside book pickup. They are also offering virtual assis-

tance to patrons through online resources like Ebooks and audiobooks, online databases, learning games, language learning apps, and more.

"Libraries across rural America, large and small, are facing similar challenges and are responding in like ways. Though obstacles have been thrown at them, libraries continue to be a refuge. Libraries are solid, neutral spaces where all people can feel welcome. They're a place where age, income, religion, and other socioeconomic factors don't present barriers that might be found elsewhere."

"That sense of belonging and welcome, combined with the staff's adaptability and willingness to work to meet the needs of their community are what make these institutions so revered."

"Rural libraries across the U.S. have faced adversity before, but they face it head on, ready for whatever is thrown at them."

"Libraries are part of the core of rural communities. They're always evolving to provide the best services to everyone in town, and those who make the trek from more remote farms and ranches. In addition, libraries have embraced technology and, in doing so, have helped students and seniors access the most current information, tools, and services."

"We're encouraged to see rural public libraries get creative as they expand their virtual outreach, explore new services and technology, all the while not letting go of their traditional paper bound books."

I'm sharing this item with the understanding that you folks know that I am a big fan of books...and a big fan of one of the gems of our community...Stinson Memorial Library in Anna.

During these very challenging times, the folks at Stinson also have stepped up to serve the Union County community. Patrons, for the most part, are not allowed in the library, which is located along South Main Street in Anna. Stinson is offering curbside delivery, home delivery and computer use by appointment, with a mask required, and other services.

The library even presented a "virtual" Summer Reading program for the young people in our community. In recent years, the program has been extremely popular... and came to an end with a big celebration.

Stinson Library director Lisa Livesay shared in an email that "the board, staff and I are trying so hard to provide service safely and figure our road forward." However, as she noted, "this has truly been the hardest thing I have ever dealt with as a librarian."

"I hate the library being 'closed' to the public," she wrote. "I want new books to be displayed and touched and patrons to find that one perfect book. I never thought I would say this, but I missed all of the yelling and running during Summer Reading and grilling what felt like a million burgers and hot dogs for all those smiling faces. I miss knowing we are a truly safe place for kids after school, or on their way home from the pool, I miss everything this library (or any library) is."

Work continues on varied plans for phased reopenings that reduce the risk of everyone who is involved. In the meantime, Stinson's director has the support of "the most amazing library staff ever, they have been with me through this from day one (our board too)."

Sorry I'm being a little bit "windy" this week. Just wanted to share a few thoughts about some of the many folks who are working to somehow try to keep life a little bit "normal" here in rural America. If you want to know more about what's happening at the library, give 'em a call at 833-2521 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. You can check out the library's Facebook page, too.

Stay safe.



In closing for this week... four turtles on a log, basking in the summer sunshine...just long enough for a photo...now you see them...



...now you don't...with hardly a sound...all four turtles slipped into the water of a pond in Union County... and that's all for this week.

Nominations accepted for Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame Awards

The Illinois Department on Aging is announcing its last call in accepting nominations for the 2020 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame Awards.

The awards recognize adults, 65 years of age and older, and highlight the meaningful contributions they have made in Illinois. Award nominations are

being accepted in four categories.

The categories include community service, education, labor force and performance/graphic arts.

The deadline for nominations is Monday, Aug. 31.

For more information on how to nominate someone, visit the website at www.illinois.gov/aging.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, August 27, 2020

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2020 Union County Fair Section

Picture This...

A Union County Fair Scrapbook

*Featuring photographs from recent
Union County Fairs*

*Kids • The Midway • The Exhibition Building
Harness Racing • Demolition Derbies • Power Wheels*



Looking forward to next year...

"With all memories of past fairs, of home-comings, and meetings of old friends, family reunions, and plain, simple, down-to-earth folks, it is no wonder that the stock farewell at each Fair is, 'See you next Fair.'" From "100 Years of Progress," a centennial history of the City of Anna.



Queens of the 2019 Union County Fair

Grace Pitts was crowned as 2109 Miss Union County Fair queen. Allison McGee was crowned as Little Miss Union County Fair. Brooklyn Eastman was crowned as Junior Miss Union County Fair. Photo by Tiffany Dillow for The Gazette-Democrat.

About This Section

For the first time since 1954, a Union County Fair is not being held in Anna. The 2020 fair, which would have taken place this week, was cancelled as a result of the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. This section takes a look back at recent Union County Fairs. As we look back, we also look forward to next year...when we'll see you at the fair.

Harness racing...

A race track was constructed early in the history of the Union County. Many fine horses were produced and trained in Union County. These photographs were taken during harness racing action at the fair.



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The midway...

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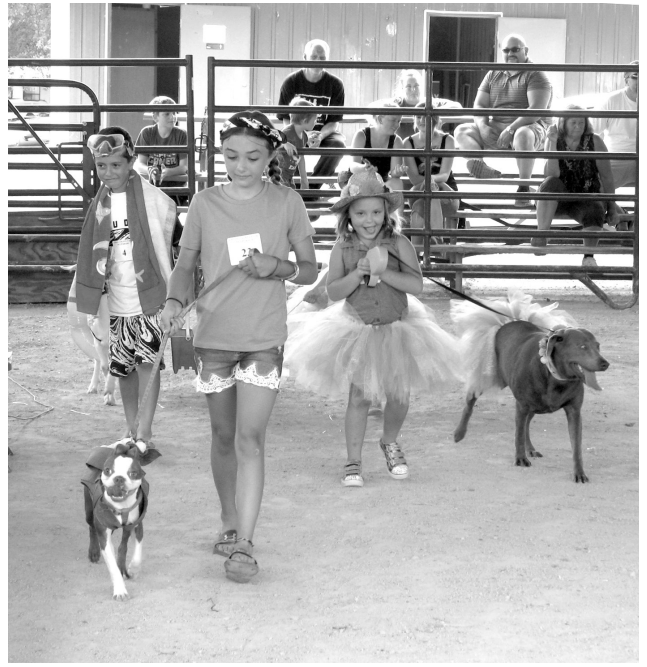
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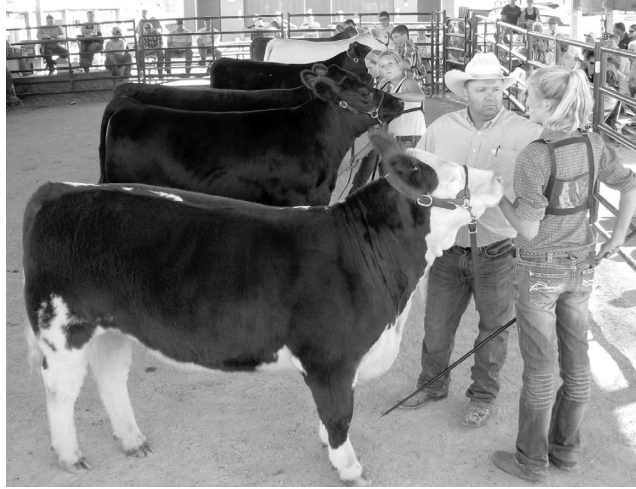
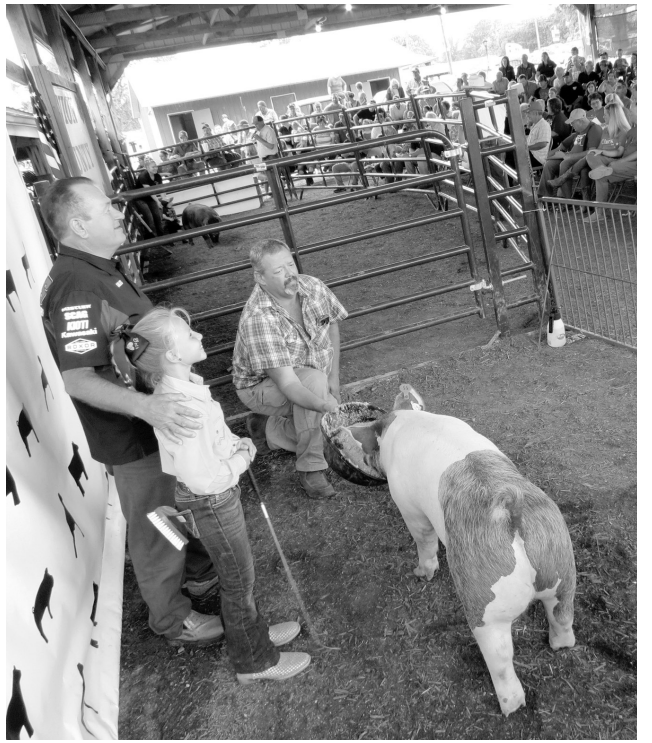
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With apologies to John Mellencamp... "They come from the cities, And they come from the smaller towns, Beat up cars with guitars and drummers, Goin' crash boom bam..." Demolition derby action is a big part of the Union County Fair each year. Crowds pack the grandstand at the fair for the derbies.



"Have fun at the 2021 Union County Fair next year"

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We appreciate and salute the Union County Fair Board.

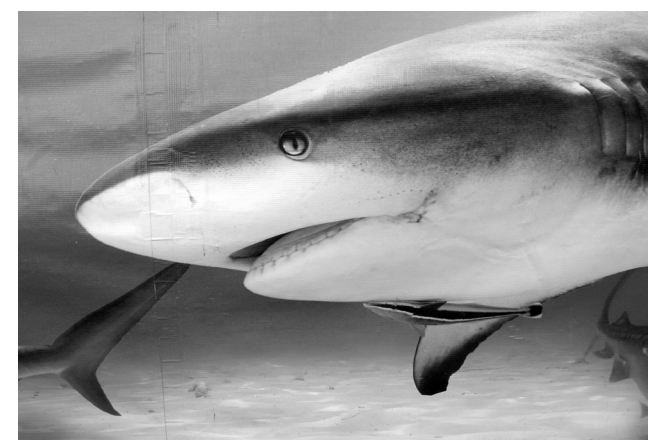
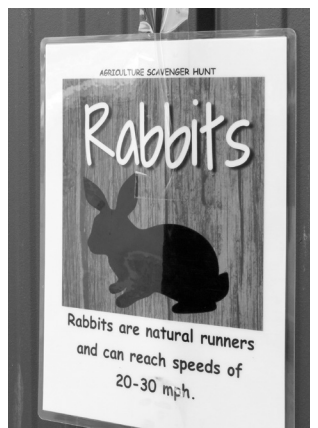
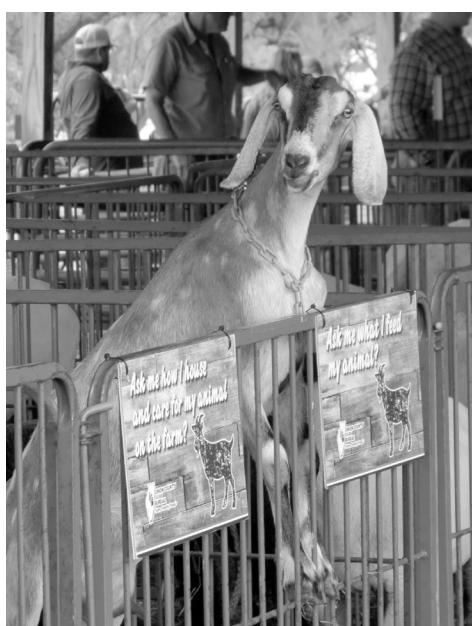
Max Miller
Union County Commissioner





Critters...

Critters of all kinds can be seen each year at the Union County Fair. You might see a bull, or a pig, and maybe even a make believe critter or two...



We look forward to seeing everyone at the Union County Fair in 2021.



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The Union County Fair was cancelled this year for the safety of all but mark your calendar for next year.

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Looking forward to the 2021 Union County Fair!

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We salute the Union County Fair and the Union County Fair Board for everything they do.

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MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2021 UNION COUNTY FAIR



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Images from Anna centennial celebration held in 1954

The Anna Fair, now the Union County Fair, was not held in 1954. Until this year, 1954 was the first year that the fair had not been held. This year's fair has been cancelled as a result of the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. In 1954, the City of Anna celebrated its centennial. The pictures on this page are from 1954. The pictures were featured in "A Pictorial History of Anna-Jonesboro, Illinois," a book which was published in 1992 by The Gazette-Democrat.



Centennial committee

Members of the Anna centennial committee included, from left, Robert Rich, Howard Lam, Percy West and George E. Parks.



Souvenir stand

Standing in front of an Anna centennial souvenir stand were, from left, A.W. Walter Jr., Fred Brooks, Everett Alden, Joe Sweitzer and Carl Miller.



Mr. and Mrs. Centennial

Mr. and Mrs. Centennial: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Chamness and daughters Mara and Marilyn were officially designated as the Anna Centennial Couple.



Aerial view

An aerial view of the cities of Anna and Jonesboro in 1954.

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Huge parade

A huge parade was part of the city's centennial celebration. The picture was taken as the parade moved south on Main Street through the four-way stop in downtown Anna.

Everyone looks forward to the Union County Fair!

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Union County Fair!
 Where memories are made

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We look forward to seeing everyone next year at the Union County Fair.

Leigh Burns
 Union County Treasurer



Former home of a fair

A tree-lined walking path at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro. A fair was held at one time at what is now the site of the picnic grounds.

Union County well supplied with ag fair associations

From "100 Years of Progress," a centennial history of Anna, published in 1954.

FAIRS
Union County has been well supplied with agricultural fair associations, having had two excellent organizations during this 100 year period.

The oldest of them was the Union County Agricultural and Mechanical Society, which dates back to 1855. It was organized and held under the auspices of the citizens of Jonesboro and the county with Jacob Hunsaker as its first president. It was later known

as the Union County Agricultural Board, reorganized under the State laws governing agricultural societies.

Fair were held annually on 10 acres of ground in Jonesboro and it was here the famous Lincoln and Douglas Debate was held September 15, 1858. The

association was discontinued many years ago.

The Southern Illinois Fair Association of Anna was organized under a special act of the Legislature on December 13, 1879, with M.V. Ussery as first president; C.M. Willard, treasurer; and E.R. Jinette, secretary, elected in 1880.

The association at that time was under the supervision of 21 directors elected for three years, seven of whom were elected each year.

They bought 51 acres of land on the present site of the Anna Fairgrounds. Since its purchase, a portion was sold to the City of Anna for a cemetery.

The Southern Illinois Fair Association and Fairgrounds at Anna were a private enterprise and owned by a joint stock company.

Last year the outstanding stock holders relinquished their shares and the City of Anna acquired the property. The City of Anna is creating a city park and building a swimming pool on the site. Fairs will continue to be held here in the future.

1954

'Anna Fair Must Be Interrupted For First Time'

"Anna Fair Must Be Interrupted For First Time"

Those were the words in a headline which appeared in the Thursday, May 13, 1954, edition of The Gazette-Democrat.

In 2020, the fair, now called the Union County Fair, will be interrupted for the second time.

This year's fair has been cancelled due to the ongoing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

However, in 1954, the fair was cancelled for a much different reason.

That was the year of the City of Anna's big centennial celebration, which took place in early July.

The headline in the May 13, 1954, issue of the paper was accompanied by subheadlines which read:

No Anna Fair To Be Held

This Year Unable To Obtain Experienced Help And Financial Backing

The article which accompanied the headlines follows:

In a recent action by the Directors of the Anna Fair, it was voted to postpone the 1954 fair until 1955, according to an announcement made by the officers.

Causes leading to the decision were given as being inability to obtain experienced help, on volunteer basis, lack of financial backing, and declining gate receipts and interest in general.

E.P. Owen, president of the Fair Association, announced that a Declaration of Intention to hold a fair had been filed, but that under present conditions and the previously stated obstacles, coupled with the fact that the Centennial celebration will be held only a few weeks prior to the tentative Fair dates, it would seem impossible to conduct a successful Fair this year.

The 1953 Fair, generally conceded to have been the best in recent years, produced lower gate receipts than any Fair for a long number of years.

Even so, the Fair paid all premiums and expenses in full and will have a small balance when all State Aid Funds are received.

Mr. Owen stated that the Fair Association would continue as an organization and that if sufficient interest is evident and assistance can be had next year, the Fair will come back again.

Had the 1954 Anna Fair been held, it would have been Anna's 75th consecutive fair, one of the oldest records in the state of Illinois.

Many fairs were interrupted during the war years but this will be the first one that Anna has missed.

Officers for 1954 are E.P. Owen, president; August Bruchhauser, vice president; and Robert W. Brown, secretary-treasurer.

Union County early farmers produced great quantities of fruits, vegetables

From "A New Geography of Illinois: Union County," Outdoor Illinois magazine, June-July 1974.

The earliest settlers had discovered that the terrain and climate of Union County were conducive for the production of high quality fruit trees.

Results were particularly good on the ridges so that by 1858, many fruit trees were bearing profusely in the hill country around Cobden and the present day community of Alto Pass.

The new railroad provided fast shipment of produce to the big city markets.

In 1860, the first express package of fruit was shipped from Union County to Chicago.

Because of the mild climate in Union County (temperatures rarely fall below zero), fruits and vegetables have a long growing season.

As a result, Union County farmers began growing great quantities of apples, peaches, cherries, pears, blackberries, raspberries, gooseberries, strawberries, rhubarb, asparagus, radishes, onions, peas, beans, potatoes, and sweet potatoes.

And when one of Union County's most ingenious orchard growers, Parker Earle, invented the first refrigerated crates in

1877, the county was in for a tremendous boom.

By 1880, refrigerated railroad cars lined up at Cobden, Anna, and Balcom, along the Illinois Central, and at Alto Pass, along the Cairo to St. Louis Railroad, to load hundreds of bushels of fruits and thousands of pounds of vegetables daily for rapid transport to metropolitan markets in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, and other cities.

Cooling houses adjacent to the railroads were constructed in Anna and Cobden in 1881. Union County had become the fruit and vegetable capital of the midwest.

In 1881, twenty-five to thirty-five train carloads of peaches left Cobden daily for Chicago markets.

During that year,

10,650 bushels of peaches were shipped from Union County. Fifteen to twenty carloads of strawberries left the county daily for Chicago.

Two hundred twenty-five thousand one-third-bushel boxes of tomatoes were shipped from Cobden in 1882, as were one hundred seventy tons of rhubarb.

The need for packing fruits and vegetables in crates gave rise to several factories for making such containers.

Farm and orchard products contributed to bring prosperity and, in 1934, Anna and Cobden built large municipal markets.

Thank you to the members of the Union County Fair Board

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Paul Jacobs, OD
Trevor Crabtree, OD
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Laborers' International Union of North America is looking forward to next year's Union County Fair.