

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, December 1, 2022 Anna, Illinois ©2022 Reppert Publications \$1.00 Volume 173, Number 51

News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area, from social media and beyond...

December 7 is Pearl Harbor Day.

Union County officials who were elected in November are scheduled to take their oaths of office at 8 a.m. Thursday, today. Oaths will be administered at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Thank you to Union County commissioner Bobby Toler Jr. and Union County Ambulance Service director Grant Capel for their many years of service to the community.

“All I Want for Christmas is...to support local businesses” is the theme for this year’s Union County CEO Class of 2023 business: the sale of Christmas Boxes featuring local products.

More information about the Union County CEO Christmas Boxes, and an update about CEO alumni, can be found elsewhere in this week’s paper.

(continued on page 2)

St. Anne’s to host Carols at Candlelight

The PAST organization of Union County plans to present Carols at Candlelight at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at historic St. Anne’s Church in Anna.

Carols at Candlelight has been a holiday season tradition in Union County for 20 years.

Back Porch Company will be featured. The group features Warren and Carla Anderson, Stuart Anderson and Richard Johnson. Their performance will feature vocals, along with stringed and other instruments.

Refreshments will be served.

St. Anne’s Church is located in the 500 block of South Main Street in Anna.

It’s Christmas time in cities of Anna, Jonesboro

Two Union County communities hosted special events last Saturday to kick off the holiday season. Christmas in Downtown and Small Business Saturday were celebrated in Anna. Many activities were moved to the Anna City Park due to rainy weather which was anticipated on Saturday. Downtown Anna businesses were very busy last Saturday. Small Business Saturday and the arrival of the holiday season also were celebrated in Jonesboro.



Santa greeted Aubree Ellis of Anna at Jonesboro City Hall. Aubree was accompanied by her mom, Samantha Ellis.



Shealee Swisher and her friendly goat, Anna, from Campbell Hill, were in the holiday spirit as they greeted visitors to the Anna City Park.



Santa Claus (with some help from Tim Smith) and friends were on hand to greet visitors in Jonesboro. Those with Santa included Barb Casper, Cammy Hudson, Brandi Boyd, Natalie Toler, Jon Schaefer, the Christmas chicken (with some help from Max Toler) and Bev Schaefer (not in the picture).



Skating on a rink with an artificial surface was a popular activity at the Anna City Park.

Christmas in Village planned Saturday in Cobden

Christmas in the Village is planned Saturday, Dec. 3, in Cobden.

Holiday bazaars and other activities highlight a variety of events that climax with a presentation of Christmas lights in the village’s downtown park.

The resource center for the Union County Historical Society plans to host a hospitality table featuring Christmas goodies from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The resource center is located at 103 N. Appleknocker (the former medical clinic building).

The society also plans to sponsor an exhibit featuring Santa postcards, antique train sets and vintage space toys. The display is scheduled to last until 4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Union County Museum at 117 S. Appleknocker also is scheduled to be open.

An art display is planned from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cobden Presbyterian Church at 103 N. Jefferson. Local artists will be featured at the exhibit.

Bazaars featuring holiday decorations, gifts, crafts and homemade treats are planned at the Union County Museum’s Christmas Shop, at St. Joseph Catholic Church’s parish hall and at the Apostolic Lighthouse Church. St. Joseph Church will serve a selection of soups for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Several shops are planning to have open houses, including: Cobden Village Shops/Packrats Paradise,

Wine Trail Mercantile and Midwest Peculiar.

The Iron Whisk, Little House of Tacos and Colors N Spices plan to be open.

Organizers invite everyone to come to Cobden and stroll through the village’s unique downtown area while enjoying an old-fashioned Christmas celebration.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus plan to be at the downtown park shelter from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. In the event of bad weather, Santa and Mrs. Claus plan to be at Packrats.

Carolers plan to start singing in the afternoon and will tour the town.

The Cobden School band is scheduled to perform a Christmas concert near the downtown shelter starting at 4:15 p.m. Carolers will sing before the band performs.

The celebration will conclude after the band concert with the presentation of the Christmas lights at the shelter.

More information about

Christmas in the Village activities is available at www.cobdenil.com or by calling Cobden Village Hall at 893-2425.

A schedule of the events will be available at the Union County Museum and at all activities.

Free books to be offered...

Hal Trovillion and his wife, Violet, started the press in 1908.

The hardback books are signed and numbered and average about 50 pages. When the press closed in 1960, it was one of the last remaining private presses.

During the Trovillions’ ownership of the press, more than 50 volumes on subjects pertaining to history, gardening and literature were published.

Jonesboro Grade School students honor veterans

Students at Jonesboro Grade School raised over \$500 for the residents at the Illinois Veterans Home of Anna.

The students raised the funds while having fun with daily dress-up-themed activities. The activities included Camo Day, Western Day, Super Hero Day, Senior Citizen Day and Red, White and Blue Day, when the accompanying photograph was taken at the school. Staff member Debra Meyer sponsors the yearly fund-raiser at the Union County schools.

Meyer presented Illinois Veterans Home activity therapist Melissa Tripp with a check on behalf of the school. Photos provided.



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News Notes

(continued from page 1)

Last weekend's holiday season activities in Anna and Jonesboro looked to be a big success, with lots of folks in attendance.

A skating rink at the Anna City Park proved to be very popular during Anna's Christmas in Downtown Anna/Small Business Saturday celebration.

Be sure to attend Christmas in the Village on Saturday, Dec. 3, in Cobden.

PAST is planning to host holiday luncheons starting Dec. 1 at its Heritage House in Jonesboro.

Union County schools are planning to have holiday season programs during December. The paper will have information about the programs next week.

The Anna-Jo Garden Club plans to have a Christmas dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Giant City Lodge near Makanda.

A Shawnee Hills Opry Christmas special is set for 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at St. Anne's Church in Anna.

United Missionary Baptist Church near Lick Creek is planning to have a Christmas bazaar from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10.

A Christmas bazaar is planned from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at the First Christian Church in Anna.

A Christmas in the Village celebration is planned Dec. 10 in Olmsted.

Marsha Griffin has been appointed by the Union County Board of Commissioners to the Southern Seven Health Department board of health.

Illinois' second firearm deer season is set for Dec. 1-4.

The Alpha Lambda Epsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at Shawnee Community College has welcomed new members.

Some "high rise" work has been underway on the exterior at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna.



Repairing utility pole

Ameren Illinois worked to repair a utility pole along South Main Street in Anna last Friday morning. A holiday season decoration had been hanging on a wire which was connected to the pole. A passing vehicle may have snagged the overhanging wire and decoration. For several hours Friday morning, traffic was detoured away from the South Main Street area where the pole was located.

County board member Bobby Toler Jr. attends final meeting

Commissioners approve new budget

Approval of a Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget was on the agenda at a special meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners which was held Monday morning.

The meeting also was highlighted by one of the board member's last official act as a county commissioner.

Monday morning's meeting was held at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

The only item on the agenda for the meeting was under new business: a combined annual budget and appropriation ordinance for the county's fiscal year, which begins on Dec. 1 and ends on Nov. 30, 2023. Tentative approval and posting of the budget had already occurred.

The ordinance was unanimously approved by the commissioners who were in attendance at the meeting. The budget for the new fiscal year is balanced.

The ordinance included general fund appropriations in the amount of \$6,861,420.

Some of the other appropriations in the ordinance included \$1,210,595 for the county's ambulance service.

\$1,318,485 for county highway general. \$141,476 for county bridge. \$140,890 for federal aid matching. \$1,438,687 for county motor fuel tax.

\$434,186 for unit road district. \$219,558 for unit road district bridge. \$298,422 for township bridge program. \$1,496,560 for unit road district motor fuel tax.

\$773,666 for Project Re-deploy. \$350,000 for animal control building grant. \$267,155 for courthouse repair and maintenance. \$978,642 for capital improvements.

County board of commissioners chairman Max Miller noted that the budget had been finalized, on time and for the first time, for the start of a new fiscal year on Dec. 1.

Miller praised the budget work which had been done by county administrator Angie Johnson, officeholders, department heads and the commissioners.

The board chairman said the timely completion of the budget was an "outstanding" accomplishment.

Commissioner's Final Meeting

Monday morning's session was the last official meeting for commissioner Bobby Toler Jr.

In his last official act as a commissioner, Toler made a motion to adjourn Monday morning's special meeting.

Board chairman Miller offered his thanks and appreciation to Toler.

"You're definitely an asset to this county," Miller said. "I appreciate everything you've done."

Commissioners David Gould and Kent Pitts joined in thanking Toler, as did others who were present at the meeting.

Toler has served Union County in various roles for 40 years and seven months. He started work in the county assessor's office.

He was elected as county clerk and served in that office for 26 years. He served as a county commissioners for seven and a half years. He was elected as a commissioner and subsequently was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board.

As he left his final board meeting, Toler said he would miss the people he has worked with the most. He will continue to serve as a representative for the county on the Shawnee Development Council board.



County commissioners

From left are Union County commissioners David Gould, Bobby Toler Jr., Max Miller and Kent Pitts. Commissioner Darryl Harvell was not present. The photograph was taken at a special meeting of the county board of commissioners which was held Monday morning.

Weather

Severe storms were possible Tuesday

The National Weather Service office in Paducah was reporting that a few strong to severe thunderstorms were possible in the region late Tuesday afternoon through late in the evening.

Damaging winds, large hail and an isolated tornado were the main threats.

The weather service reported that the greatest risk was in portions of extreme Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and most of Western Kentucky.

The weather service also advised that wind gusts in the 30 to 40 miles per hour range were likely from midday Tuesday through the night time hours.

Recent weather conditions in the Union County area included temperatures that ranged from a high of 61 degrees to a low of 13.

Recent precipitation included .11 of an inch of rain on Nov. 15, .01 of an inch of rain on Nov. 16, .13 of an inch of rain on Nov. 24, .53 of an inch of rain on Nov. 26 and .21 of an inch of rain on Nov. 27.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Nov. 15	41	35
Wednesday, Nov. 16	40	22
Thursday, Nov. 17	41	18
Friday, Nov. 18	37	17
Saturday, Nov. 19	41	13
Sunday, Nov. 20	41	14
Monday, Nov. 21	52	15
Tuesday, Nov. 22	59	22
Wednesday, Nov. 23	61	25
Thursday, Nov. 24	50	35
Friday, Nov. 25	52	28
Saturday, Nov. 26	55	24
Sunday, Nov. 27	59	35
Monday, Nov. 28	48	34

Ceremony set

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is planning to host an annual Christmas Remembrance Ceremony for Illinois soldiers listed as prisoners of war or missing in action, POW/MIA, during the Vietnam War on Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. and is open to the public.

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Campaign

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Coats will be distributed to children through the Children's Medical & Mental Health Resource Network, Arrowleaf and all Southern 7 Head Start locations.

Your \$20 donation provides a coat for a child in need.

(Any monetary donation is appreciated)

Deadline to donate: December 10, 2022

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Donations can be made online at:

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47-52G

Anna School District No. 37 honor students announced for first quarter

Anna School District No. 37 announces first quarter high honor roll and honor roll students.

5th Grade, High Honor Roll

Katryna Borders, Sabryana Borders, Paxton Boreup, Kaitlyn Butler, Kaegan Craig, Meleigha Gomes, Christopher James, Matthew Lang, Landon Lee.

Brooke Meyer, Savannah Miller, Ahyah Potter-Casey, Emma Sanders, Kendrix Schuster, Nolan Thurston, Wyatt Vaughn, Violet Yates.

5th Grade, Honor Roll

Riley Barnhart, Riley Benefield, Raelynn Bigham, Liam Brazil, Michael Car-

aker, Layla Carney, Olivia Clark, Naomi Cook Taylor, Miley Grant, Kameron Hall.

Eliza Hutcheson, Nicholas James, Braxton Law, Benito Orea, Jacob Roberts, Riley Rowan, Lydia Thomas, Ben Thompson, Drew Werner.

6th Grade, High Honor Roll

Kaden Ames, Drake Bul-lard, Alison Carrilo, Abbey Del Rosario, Gwendelynn Eastman, David Frank-lin, Bowan Graves, Zakira Kerr, Taryn Koontz, Adalyn Landis-Plott, Ava McDow-ell.

Owen Pickel, Lola Pier-son, Elijah Revelle, Xavier

Richardson, Shaylee Sadler, Jersey Shepard, Leah Turn-er, Sailor Waters, Blake Williams, Zachary Won.

6th Grade, Honor Roll

Trystan Borders, Ruger Chick, Liberty Cook, Vivi-enne Gooden, RJ Gottschall, Addison Lingle, Alyssia Schexnider, Sophey Spur-lock, Joseph Thompson.

7th Grade, High Honor Roll

Shooter Belcher, Joshua Binversie, Ava Boreup, Julian Brust, Elina Chen, Briley Clay, Joshua Dalton, Liam Fowler, Ava Frazier, Kiera Hartline, Lera Hoeh-ner.

Hayden Keller, Cam-ryn Kelley, Jozilyn Kerr, Gabriel Morey, Madalyn Perez, Elliot Poulos, Rea-slyn Shepard, Jaida Smith, Emma Thurston.

7th Grade, Honor Roll

Landon Boyd, Chance Davis, Landon Grant, Ary-anna Ozment, Logan Quick, Sadie Randolph-Batteau, Jaysen Schnaare, Kai Va-naAlstine, Ella Whitaker, Allie Yana.

8th Grade, High Honor Roll

Courtney Brame, Lyra Casper, Revolution Chap-put, Faelyn Foss, Jasmine Garcia-Ledbetter, Liz Ham-mer, Tyler Haywood, Mil-la Hunter, Evan Inman, Daelan McNelly.

Dillon Moreland, Zane Plummer, Max Ruddick, Ja-ron Taliseo, Brian Thomp-son, Beckett Thorpe, Holly Yana, Lizbeth Zamora.

8th Grade, Honor Roll

Madelyn Ahlberg, Mack-enzie Beegle, Nicholas Cook, Taylor Crews, Jimena Flores, Bodhi Laws, Cami-ah Lowe-Betts, Zander Na-varro-Ballard, Charlie Pier-son, Reid Price, Kayleigh Shepard, Abbigail Shipley.

Activities with winter themes set at library

Project Next Genera-tion activities with winter themes are planned during December at Stinson Me-morial Public Library in Anna.

The activities include holiday card design on Thursday, today; “Winter Wonderland Scenes” on Dec. 8; and snow flake stickers on Dec. 15.

The events are for young people ages 10 to 18. Space is limited. Registration is available at the circulation desk at the library. The library is located at 409 S. Main St. More information is available by contacting the library at 833-2521.

Funding for Project Next Generation is provided by the U.S. Institute of Mu-seum and Library Services to the Illinois Secretary of State/Illinois State Library under the provisions of the Library Services and Tech-nology Act.



VFW Auxiliary hosts vendor/craft expo

The Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna hosted its annual vendor/craft expo on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26. The event was held in the lower gym and cafeteria at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. Nearly 40 vendors and crafters offered handmade crafts, shirts, cups, jewelry, candles, gnomes, wreaths, journals, embroidery, wood working, home decor, raffles and more.

Anna VFW has full slate of activities in December

A monthly fish fry, Taco Tuesdays and other special events are planned during December at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna. The post is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.

Fish Fry

A monthly fish fry will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2.

The menu will include fish, potato salad and baked beans for a donation of \$12.

The public is welcome.

Carry outs will be available.

Star Karaoke is sched-uled to be at the post from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Taco Tuesdays

Taco Tuesdays are planned on Dec. 6 and Dec. 20. Serving will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Hard shell and soft shell tacos and taco salads will be served. The public is welcome. Carry outs will be available.

Comedy Hour

The VFW plans to host the Tim Loss Comedy Hour on Saturday, Dec. 10. The event is scheduled from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The cost of admission will be a new toy for a hol-

iday season toy drive.

Mystify Music

Mystify Music is sched-uled to play from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 23. An ugly sweater contest also is planned.

Closed for Holiday

The Anna VFW is sched-uled to be closed on Dec. 24-25 so employees can spend time with their fami-

lies for Christmas.

Steak Dinner

A steak dinner will be served at the post on Satur-day, Dec. 31. Serving starts at 6 p.m.

The menu will included steak, a baked potato and salad for a \$15 donation.

Reservations for the din-ner can be made by calling the post at 833-5182 after 1 p.m.

Star Karaoke is sched-uled to be at the post from 7 p.m. until midnight.

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Union County artist’s works featured at event in Marion

Union Street Arts in Mar-ion is planning to host a holiday art show and sale Sunday, Dec. 4, with art work from Union County artist Tabitha Tripp’s studio.

The event is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Union Street Arts is located at 118 E. Union St. in Marion.

The one-day art show and sale is free and open to the public.

Tripp, a local artist, will have various sizes of col-orous abstract art at the holiday show.

The solo show is her final show of the year, and is the fourth show since August that Tripp has shared her artwork with the commu-nity.

She works with cold wax and oil paint, building mul-tiple layers, rich with tex-tures, and a full palette of

color to create interesting compositions.

“Cold wax medium and oil is such a joy to work with,” Tripp said in a news release.

“I literally can not wait to get into the studio to paint every day. I hope that people feel that joy in the paintings they see on Sunday.”

Tripp, a lifelong resident of Southern Illinois, is a graduate of Southern Illi-nois University at Carbon-dale. She received a bach-elor of fine arts in painting degree and now works full time in a studio at her home near Anna.

Tripp’s art work is sched-uled to hang in Union Street Arts after Sunday’s holiday show and will be available by appointment by calling Luke at 618-422-8868.

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Identity thieves often appear where you least expect them.

6°

5°

5°

4°

It's that time of year again. Family, shopping online and in your favorite local stores. Credit and debit card use dramatically increases and so does identity theft. So beware of where you use your cards. Stick to familiar and trusted places, don't click on links in e-mails with enticing gift offers that come from unknown sources.

If you think you've been hacked, call us and your other credit and debit card issuers and stop their use immediately. We're here to keep you safe and help you get through the holidays with only good cheer.

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Sports

Wildcats score win at Goreville Tournament

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team went 1-1 in recent action.

Anna-Jonesboro defeated Hardin County 65-42 in action at the Goreville Invitational Tournament Monday, Nov. 28.

The Wildcats took a big lead in the first quarter on their way to the win.

Dawson Trammel led three A-J players in double-digit scoring with 18 points. J.J. Gerardi scored 12 and Dylan Harvel had 11.

Payton Denny added 9 points, Taj Hodges and Noah Cravins 4 each, Drew Page and Greg Goins 3 apiece and Aiden McFadden 1.

A-J let a lead slip away in a 46-42 loss to host Chester in the season opener Tuesday, Nov. 22.

After Chester took a lead at the end of the first quarter, A-J rallied and was ahead at the end of the first half.

Chester went on a scoring run in the final quarter to pull out the win.

Dawson Trammel led A-J with 12 points. Dylan Harvel scored 9 points, Drew Page 6, Evan Hall 5 and Taj Hodges 3.

A-J, 1-1, continues play this week in the Goreville Invitational. The Wildcats are scheduled to play at home Friday, Dec. 9, against Nashville.

Cobden wins consolation title at Elverado tourney

The Cobden High School boys' basketball team defeated host Elverado to win the consolation championship at the Elverado Turkey Tournament, Saturday, Nov. 26.

Cobden 58, Elverado 51: Tyler Franklin led Cobden with 27 points.

Jeff Kuhn scored 8, Aron Funes 6, Kevin Webb and Mitchell Howell 4 each and Brady Bundren 3.

Cobden was ahead 26-25 at the end of the first half.

Cobden 72, Galatia 69: Cobden was behind at the end of the first half but rallied for the win on Wednesday, Nov. 23.

Franklin scored a school-record 57 points in the win.

Mitchell Howell scored 6 points, Kuhn 4, Bundren 3 and Matthew Howell and Thomas Coleman 1 each.

Sparta 77, Cobden 37: The Appleknockers were behind at the end of the first quarter and couldn't catch up in its season-opening tourney loss Monday, Nov. 21.

Franklin led the way with 22 points, Bundren and Matthew Howell 5 each, Coleman 3 and Kuhn 2.

Cobden is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at Massac County.

Hunters harvest 52,354 deer during first firearm season in Illinois

Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 52,354 deer during the first weekend of the state's firearm deer season. The first weekend was Nov. 18-20.

Illinois' seven-day firearm deer season is scheduled to conclude Dec. 1-4.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, reported that the harvest from the first weekend of the 2022 firearm deer season compared to 48,964 deer during the first firearm weekend in 2021.

IDPH reported that preliminary firearm deer harvest totals for the first weekend of the 2022 season, along with comparable numbers for 2021 and 2020, in Union County and surrounding counties, included:

Union County: 812 in 2022, 795 in 2021, 773 in 2020.

Alexander County: 239 in 2022, 264 in 2021, and 257 in 2020.

Jackson County: 1,484 in 2022, 1,290 in 2021, 1,230 in 2020.

Johnson County: 874 in 2022, 866 in 2021, 858 in 2020.

Massac County: 249 in 2022, 258 in 2021, 256 in 2020.

Pulaski County: 222 in 2022, 190 in 2021, 178 in 2020.

Williamson County: 1,287 in 2022, 1,109 in 2021, 950 in 2020.

IDNR noted that other deer hunting opportunities in the weeks ahead include:

Muzzleloader-only deer season Dec. 9-11

Late-winter antlerless-only and Chronic Wasting Disease deer seasons (in select counties only) Dec. 29-Jan. 1 and Jan. 13-15.

Archery deer season continues through Jan. 15. (Archery deer hunting is closed Dec. 1-4 in counties open for firearm deer season.)



Cobden Lions Club shares funds

The Cobden Lions Club has shared funds generated by the annual Cobden Peach Festival to help support activities at Cobden High School. The Cobden Peach Festival is presented each August by the Cobden Lions Club, with help from many in the community. Funds were shared with the high school in recognition of work done at the Peach Festival. From left are boys basketball coach Karl Sweitzer, band director Wendy Ronna, baseball coach Dana Pearson, softball coach Wally Britt and golf coach Brett Pinnon. Photo provided.

Lady Wildcats in action at Harrisburg

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team competed last week at the Harrisburg Tournament.

Carmi 45, A-J 33: The Lady Wildcats let a first quarter lead slip away in the loss Saturday, Nov. 26.

Jayci Needling led the Lady Wildcats with 10 points. Jayda Shepard scored 9, Macie George 4, Kansas Craig 3 and Raelynn Sadler 1.

Eldorado 63, A-J 30: The Lady Wildcats fell behind early in the loss on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Needling led A-J with 15 points. Savannah Smith scored 5, Sadler and Shepard 4 each, George 3 and Riley Cruse 2.

West Frankfort 49, A-J 38: The Lady Wildcats were behind after one quarter in the loss Monday, Nov. 21.

Needling led the Lady Wildcats with 10 points. Sadler and Shepard had 6 each, Cruse 5, Smith 4, Craig 3 and George 1.

A-J is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at Marion.

Shawnee opens season with two road games

The Shawnee High School boys' basketball team opened its season with two road games.

Joppa defeated visiting Shawnee 55-46 in high school boys' basketball Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Shawnee was ahead at the end of the first quarter but trailed at the half.

Ryan Libbert led Shawnee with 15 points and 4 rebounds.

Brody Wells had 10 points and 3 rebounds, Dryden Wills 9 points and 8 rebounds, Kayman Ford 6 points and 4 rebounds, Gabe Ellet 4 points and Noah Mayberry 2 points and 2 rebounds.

Visiting Shawnee fell behind after one quarter and couldn't catch up in a 61-26 loss to Century Monday, Nov. 21, in the season opener.

Dryden Wills led Shawnee with 11 points and a rebound.

Kayman Ford had 6 points and 6 rebounds. Brody Wills had 6 points and Ethan Smith 3.

The Shawnee High School boys' basketball team, 0-2, is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at Herrin Agape Christian.

A-J standout Denny signs in track and field, cross country at SIUC



A-J's Denny signs with SIUC

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School standout cross country and track runner Brodie Denny has officially signed her national letter of intent with Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Photo provided.

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School standout cross country and track runner Brodie Denny has officially signed her national letter of intent with Southern Illinois University Carbondale and will become a Saluki next fall.

Denny will compete for SIUC in both cross country and track and field.

"This wasn't an easy decision, but things just kind of all fell into place. I really like coach (Brian) Biekert and what he has done in a very short period of time at SIU," Denny said.

"Coach actually got to see me run and I just felt it was the right fit. I also am glad to stay close to my high school teammates so I will be able to watch them the next few years."

Denny started running in the 5th grade at Lick Creek School, and had a goal of running in college from the very beginning.

She was a part of three straight cross country team state championships at Lick Creek, as well as a team track title.

Denny has made all-state two times in track at A-J in the 800.

She also just made all-state in cross country in her senior season finishing 25th at the IHSA state championships Nov. 5.

"The cross country all-state award was a big goal of mine, I am glad to have finally reached it my senior year, but I am more proud of my teams success finishing sixth place as a team at state," she said.

"I think that is as high as anyone from Southern Illinois has finished in a really long time. This group of girls are going to place even higher very soon."

"I would not be where I am without my teammates, it's been a fun group to train with. They are going places. I will miss them but I am just up the road."

A-J coach and Brodie's dad Matt Denny said, "I am super proud of her and all the work she has put in."

"It's not just the running that has gotten her here. She is a tireless worker in the weight room and follows a pretty strict diet while in season."

"She does the little things that a lot aren't willing to, that has made a big difference."

"While I will definitely miss coaching her, I am super excited to watch her growth at SIU, it isn't always easy having dad as a coach. She knows she has a lot of work to do but is excited for the next chapter."

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News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

A “Hanging of the Greens” service was held Sunday at Camp Ground Church.

Brad Easton led the service. Following the responsive call to worship, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” was sung by the congregation

To begin the program, Gary Johnson gave the “Significance of the Bell,” after which the bell was rung by Vodra Gerard inviting all to worship.

Tithes and offerings were taken up by Tymber Roach and Kayton Crane.

Amber Easton shared the “Significance of the Star,” followed by Karen Vaughn reading the “Significance of the Advent

Wreath.”

LaDonna Miller shared the “Significance of the Advent Candles,” specifically the first candle representing Hope, which was lit by Tymber Roach. Kayton Crane carried the Hope poster.

Following the congregation singing “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus,” Vanda Gerard shared the “Significance of the Poinsettia.”

Rodney Miller gave the “Significance of the Christmas Tree.” Berna Gerard told of the “Significance of the Chrismos” decorating the tree.

Aldi Gerard then turned on the tree, and the congregation sang “O Christmas

Tree.”

Tony Gerard shared of the “Significance of Sharing Christ’s Love with Others” and recapped major ministries the congregation had participated in the past year, including supporting a Ukrainian church feeding refugees.

Guest Jon Musgrave, who had hand-carried our donation to Ukraine, then talked and shared Power Point photos from the city and church where our money went.

Closing out the service, Bro. Easton read the scripture selection from John 1:9-14 and gave the “Charge to those Gathered”: “Are we going to be merely observers of

the celebration of Christ’s birth? Or, are we going to be loving servants to the Christ who walks among us today?”

Karen Vaughn is Camp Ground church’s lead elder for December.

Birthday wishes this week go to Rodney Miller, whose birthday was Nov. 30.

Wayne and Maudie Miller’s wedding anniversary was Tuesday, Nov. 29.

All are welcome to services each Sunday at Camp Ground Church. A time of fellowship, with coffee and donuts for early arrivals, is followed by Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

The church is located at the intersection of Camp Ground Road and Tunnel Lane, just north of Route 146 east of Anna.

Hess News

By Glenn Heisner

Glenna and Allen Harris spent most of the week with us. They live in Quinlan, Texas. We all had a Thanksgiving meal with Judy and Billy Halter and other relatives.

Delores Pribble spent Thanksgiving in Marissa with her brother and sister-in-law.

Justin McClellan has been in Qatar helping get ready for the World Cup. He sent us a text when he was flying over Iceland on the way home.

Our son Danny has been working at home for a couple of months. His oldest son Jonathon’s birthday is Nov. 29 so they met in Birmingham for a meal as he is on his way back to Georgia.

Harriet Tubman program set

Local first-person heritage interpreter and storyteller Marlene Rivero will reenact the life of Harriet Tubman in a program which is planned Saturday, Dec. 3, at Giant City State Park near Mankanda. The program is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Tubman was a civil rights activist and abolitionist. Rivero’s presentation will tell about Tubman’s life, as well as how songs and signal quilts communicated information for runaway slaves during her time in the Underground Railroad.


The indoor program is free and open to the public but registration is required. Registration is available by calling 618-457-4836 to register.

The sponsors on this page urge you to attend the church of your choice.


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ADVANCING THROUGH ADVENT




Photo Credit: zwawol

In this season of Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas, we celebrate an old truth, the coming of Christ. As we light a new candle on the traditional Advent wreath each week, we are reminded anew to prepare for the arrival of something momentous. Reflecting on an event that happened so long ago can reveal to us a new understanding of how to live our lives today. Prepare for Christmas in advance this Advent; attend your house of worship weekly.


Daily Bible Reading						
Psalms	Isaiah	Isaiah	Jeremiah	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms
24	11:1-16	12:1-6	10:1-16	30	136	138

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

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Obituaries

Mary C. Casper

Mary C. Casper, 91, of Jonesboro, died Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at her home.

She was born on Feb. 22, 1931, in Dongola, the daughter of Clarence S. and Ellen C. Lingle McCommons.

She married Waconda W. “Walkie” Casper on Dec. 14, 1946, in Piggott, Ark. He preceded her in death on April 14, 2007.

She is survived by her daughters, Sandy Williams of Anna, Lisa (Rick) Hicks of Jonesboro and Pam Casper of Anna; seven grandchildren, Rik Hicks, Cortni Hicks, Jeremiah (Leigha) Kessner, Jimmy Kessner, Jesse (Amy) Shephard, Rick and Jason Shephard; four great-grandchildren, Taylor Brown, Nicholas Shephard, Connor and Clarity Shephard; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Walkie Casper; a sister, Eileen Ellis; two half-sisters, Erie Rosson and Clara Barnett; and a half-brother Roy McCommons.

She was a member of the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church.



Mary and her husband, Walkie served the community for 45 years providing fresh produce at Casper’s Produce Market in Jonesboro.

She was a sweet and loving lady who was a wonderful cook and loved cooking and baking for her family.

She was very proud of her grandchildren and loved spending time with all of them and especially loved spending hours putting puzzles together with her only granddaughter Cortni.

She proudly watched her grandson Rik play high school and college football and she enjoyed very much traveling to his away games. She also followed her granddaughter Cortni’s high school and college golf tournaments.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro, with Pastor Doug Bridgeman and Pastor Jason Randal officiating. Interment was in Jonesboro Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Alzheimer’s Association.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

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

Sheilda Wheaton

Sheilda Wheaton, 71, of Anna, died Monday, Nov. 28, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

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

Saundra Sanders

Saundra Sanders, 77, died Tuesday, Nov. 29, at Integrity Healthcare in Herrin.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

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

Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Hope everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Thanksgiving Day guests for breakfast at the home of Sue and Steve Eudy were Brian and Susan Eudy of Jackson, Mo., and Emma Eudy and Jonathan Bohnert of Cape Girardeau.

David and Kristy Miller of St. Charles, Mo., visited with Shirley Miller of McClure during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Shirley Miller had Thanksgiving dinner with Vivian Bennett and Jay Eudy of McClure.

Congratulations to our granddaughter, Megan Eudy Ross of Cape Girardeau who graduated from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau with her master’s degree in dietary sciences. She passed her state boards in November and is employed at Southeast Missouri Hospital as a registered dietitian. She married Devon Ross of Cape Girardeau on Sept. 10, 2022.

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

Terri Michelle Hunt

Terri Michelle Hunt, 40, of Anna, and formerly of Christopher, went to her Heavenly home Saturday, Nov. 26, 2022.

She was born on Aug. 18, 1982, in Murphysboro, the daughter of Mark and Brenda Robinson-Hunt.

She is survived by her children, Zachary Hunt and Haleigh Grizzell, both of Anna; her life partner, Anthony “Tony” Grizzell of Anna; her parents, Brenda Robinson-Hunt of Jonesboro and Mark (Pat) Hunt of Oskaloosa, Kan.; three sisters, Grace (Robert) Kimes of Jonesboro, Kendra (Mike) Taylor of Anna and Ashley (Deedi Reed) Hunt of Buckner; grandparents Nancy (Ray) Overturf of Du Quoin; three nieces, Breeanna Jones of Jonesboro and Annabelle and McKenna Taylor, both of Anna; and two nephews, Parker and Preston Kimes, both of Jonesboro.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, Kenneth L. Robinson; maternal step-grandfather Clyde E. Barton; and paternal grandmother Helen Jones.

She spent her adult career in the healthcare field and was devoted to the care and well being of her patients. She had a sharp and quick wit with a large and loving heart.

She was fiercely devoted to her children and family, placing them above all else. Terri leaves a void in our hearts that we can only attempt to fill by carrying her forward with us for the rest of our days.

Funeral services for Terri Hunt will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, today, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna, with Bill Littrell officiating. Interment will follow in the Mulkeytown Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the family to assist with final expenses.

To visit her memorial page and to leave online condolences for her family, visit the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home website at rendlemanhilemanfh.com.



RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

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

Larry Mooney

Larry Mooney, 75, of Carbondale, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2022.

He was born on March 16, 1947, in Jackson, Miss., the son of Thomas and Eva Elizabeth Eubanks Mooney.

He married Brenda Boyer on Nov. 10, 1970, in Marion.

He is survived by his loving wife, Brenda Mooney of Carbondale; a daughter, Jill (Brian) Hennessey of Carbondale; two granddaughters, Eve and Paige Hennessey; a brother-in-law, Ed Boyer of Sterling; three sisters-in-law, Judy (Deon) Boner of Creal Springs, Debbie Boyer of Marion and Janet McDowell of Florida; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and by numerous brothers and sisters.

He was of the Baptist faith and was a devoted man of God. He adored his family and always cherished spending time with them. He was well known for his generous spirit and was always willing to help others in need.

He retired from Maytag in Herrin after 34 years of service and enjoyed woodworking in his spare time.

A private family graveside service was held at the Cobden Cemetery on Saturday, Nov. 26.

Memorials can be made to the Alzheimer’s Association online at alz.org.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES

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



Mary Theresa Kern

Mary Theresa Kern, 68, of Makanda, died Monday, Nov. 28, at Manor Court in Carbondale.

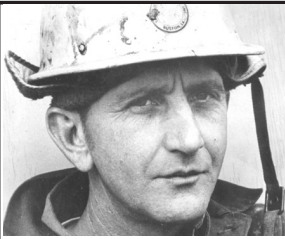
Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna.

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

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

In Memory Of Carroll R. McIntire

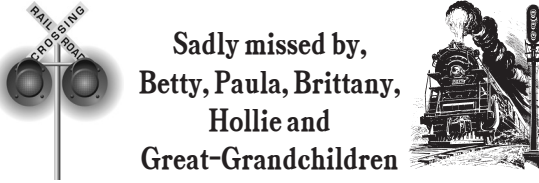


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*We thought of you with love today, But that is nothing new.
We thought of you yesterday, And days before that, too.*

*We think of you in silence, We often speak your name.
All we have are memories, And your picture in a frame.*

*Your memory is our keepsake, With which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping, We have you in our heart.*



Sue Clary

Sue Clary, 84, of Anna, died at 1:15 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at her residence.

She was born on Jan. 10, 1938, in Cypress, the daughter of Lester Samuel and Chloe Marie Wiggs Jones.

She married James Clary on Dec. 6, 1957. He preceded her in death on Jan. 20, 2019.

Mrs. Clary was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She attended the Lutheran Chapel United Methodist Church, Jonesboro Baptist Church and Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church.

She worked as an apprentice pharmacist technician at Anna State Hospital, was a homemaker for several years and then was a pharmacy technician at Walmart until her retirement.

She loved to play the piano at local nursing homes. Her son Todd, her grandkids and great-grandkids were her world.

Survivors include her sons, Mark (Carol) Clary and Todd Clary, both of Anna; daughter Melinda Clary of Jonesboro; granddaughters Megan (Miles) Coyle of Tampa, Fla., Kaci (Cory) Medley of Benton, Ky., and Samantha Clary of Jonesboro; great-grandchildren Keagan Hammer, Brentley Coyle, Lillian Coyle and Journee Coyle, all of Tampa, Fla., and Mason James Medley and Khloe Rian Medley, both of Benton, Ky.; a sister, Virginia (Ronald) Webb of Cypress; a nephew, Roger (Cindy) Webb of Cypress; and several other relatives and friends.

Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her grandson, Sgt. Brian Matthew Romines, and a niece, Jessica (Webb) Cooksey.

Funeral services were at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna, with the Rev. Doug Bridgeman and Perry Williams officiating. Interment followed the service at the Anna Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, St. Jude Children’s Resarch Hospital or to Autism Speaks.

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



Jon Elmer Jones

Jon Elmer Jones, of Fitchburg, Wis., and formerly of Jonesboro, died peacefully in his sleep on Nov. 22, 2022, at his home.

He was born on March 18, 1963, the son of Jack Jones and Martha Isaacs Garrett.

Mr. Jones is survived by a sister, Darlene (Jones) Os-teen and husband Bill of Florida; a sister, Debi (Jones) Barnett and husband Mike of Marion; a brother, Tyler Jones of Dongola; an uncle, James Jones of Dongola; an aunt, Adra Jones of Dongola; various cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Mr. Jones was preceded in death by his wife, Lori (Chauvin) Jones; his mother, Martha Garrett; his stepfather, Joe Garrett; his father, Jack Jones; his grandmother, Lucille Isaacs; and a brother, Brian Garrett.

A private family memorial is planned for the spring.

Obits Online at annanews.com

Carolyn Foltz

*Passed away
November 17, 2022*

*She will be missed
and loved by all.*

"The Preaching Pen"

Christian Kinsman: Romans 16:7

Chapter 16 of Romans is a chapter in which Paul sends greeting to the Roman church. His salutation sets the mood of his letter and establishes the attitude in which the church should receive his message. In verse 7, we read of one Andronicus. As we look at the verse, we can observe some important qualities of the man. “Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.”

First of all, Andronicus was a **Fellow Prisoner**. This means Andronicus shared some common characteristics and even character with Paul. It is that type of outward display which Jesus demanded and still demands from his followers. One of those demands was the willingness to “suffer” as a prisoner. Willingness demands preparation to make oneself ready for what lies ahead. Andronicus was a partner in Paul’s sufferings, Romans 8:17. From suffering, patience, experience, and hope are produced in the Christian. **2 Timothy 3:12** Have we felt this? Paul looked to use all his suffering/imprisonment to make partners in the faith.

Second, Andronicus was a **Worthy Disciple**. Andronicus was considered an outstanding example among the apostles. Andronicus was a man of great reputation of respect. Scriptures tell us that a good name is better than wealth Ecclesiastics 7:1; Proverbs 22:1. Part of that reputation was brought about by his “good report” (Philippians 4:8). Our character drives our reputation; however, many may try to do it the other way, but it will not work out. Andronicus was worthy because of his good report of obedience-**Romans 16:19**. Paul knew that if he was contentious, the gospel message would suffer; do we realize the same? Do we often put ourselves in front of the gospel message?

Finally, Andronicus was a **Reputed Believer**. Andronicus was among the earliest believers after the day of Pentecost. Andronicus was a Greek name which meant “Man of Victory.” This Gentile beliefs in and of the gospel was well known and led him to be a Christian. **1 Timothy 4:12** Just like Timothy would be later; Andronicus was an example. As Christians are to be examples OF the believers and TO the believers. The old saying goes, “Actions speak louder than words;” how loud are we speaking?

Ryan Thornsberry
Anna church of Christ

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50-1gp

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51gp

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50-1gp

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

51gp

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WANTED TO BUY: Used Subaru Outback or Forester. Will consider older models that are in excellent mechanical condition. Prefer low mileage, one owner. Leave message, 618-534-1558.

49p-51gp

HELP WANTED

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52p-1g tfn

YARD SALE

CHRISTMAS SHOP: 117 S. Appleknocker, Cobden. Weekends, November 5 through December 17. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Animated figurines, trees, wreaths. Historical Society, 618-893-2865.

46p-1gc

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4p-5g tfn

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44-3gp

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Date of Notice: November 17, 2022

You are hereby notified that there is a pending action in the Circuit Court for Union County, Illinois to foreclose on a certain real estate located at 337 S. Main Street, Anna, Union County, Illinois 62906. The title of the case is The Bank of Missouri v. Billy G. Graves, II, Tamara S. Graves, Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., City of Anna, Illinois, and Unknown Owners and Non-record Claimants, Case No. 2022-CH-005. The parties to be served by publication are Billy G. Graves, II, and Tamara S. Graves. If you fail to appear or plead, a default judgment may be entered against you.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, you should contact the following person:

Deanna L. Litzenburg Natalie T. Lorenz Mathis, Marifian & Richter, LTD. 23 Public Square Suite 300 P.O. Box 307 Belleville, Illinois 62220 Phone: (618) 234-9800 Fax: (618) 234-9876

51-1g

County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco)

A Lot of Travel

Too late for last week: This week has involved a lot of travel for me. I have literally made a trip to the St. Louis airport every week, either picking family up or dropping family off. My daughter and son-in-law had a great time on their honeymoon in New Orleans, and my nephew, Skyler Lott, came to spend Thanksgiving week with us from South Carolina.

Visitors

Bon Kohler had company a few times also. His stepson, Jeff Motter, from California passed through twice with his “big rig” and stopped to stay with Bon for a bit.

Tina and Darron Moore, Shirley Harvel’s daughter and son-in-law from Poplar

Bluff, Mo., met up with Shirley and her son Chuck Harvel to take care of some family business and they made a day of it.

Business Meeting

The Village of Mill Creek had a business meeting Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Items discussed were the need for appointments of new board members, updated security needs, equipment replacements, park repairs and budget items.

The next board meeting is planned at 6 p.m. Dec. 20. Meetings are open to community.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Mill Creek Baptist Church hosted a community Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 16.

A lot of folks attended

By Suzan Harvel

and there was an abundance of food, a lot of laughs, great fellowship with friends and family and we gave our thanks to God for it all.

The next morning, we lost one of those friends, Larry Keller, who passed away unexpectedly. Larry who just the evening before shared laughs and stories with all.

Larry was a character. He was fixture in not just Dongola but a lot of Union County as well. Please keep his family in your prayers.

I apologize for the lateness of last week’s news. I forgot it was a holiday week. Imagine that.

Thanksgiving

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving week. Our household was blessed with a lot of company.

On Thanksgiving Day we had a total of 11 for lunch. Then on Saturday we had a Thanksgiving get-together that required the use of the church fellowship hall. That’s because we had 30 in attendance. We were supposed to have around 50, but sickness hit several households at the last minute.

The one coming the farthest was my nephew, Skyler Lott, from South Carolina.

Illinois residents locally (Tamms) were my husband, Richard, myself and my mother-in-law, Shirley Harvel, and Chuck and Martha Harvel.

Those from Sparta were Vickie Jacobs; Wendy and Tristin Finch; Tami and Kaylee Sadler, plus her boyfriend Jordan (I never got his last name); Bethany Huffman; and John Doggett.

Sean, Rachel, Liam and Stella Henry came from Waterloo.

Missouri residents were Jordan, Nikki, Godfrey, Desmond and Allena Bates; Allison Austad; Scott Harvel and Heidi Pilsner all came from Cape Girardeau, then Darron and Tina Moore and Don and Sue Knowlton came from Poplar Bluff, Mo.

Naturally, there was way too much food, but it was good to see everyone together again. We’re hoping those that missed out are well soon. Christmas is coming.

Prayer List

Please remember the following families in prayer: Cathy Gibson; the Bud Briggs family; Melody Richardson; Brother Bobby Richardson; Donna D.; and Donna added her friend Christy’s uncle who had a stroke.

Also, please remember our troops and missionaries who are far from home and their family this holiday season.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, Nov. 27, Pastor Perry Williams’ morning message addressed winning over temptation. The message was based on scripture from 1 Corinthians and 1 Peter.

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

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

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

Music director Dee Rose led the worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Connor Benbrook sang the song “How Great is Our God.”

Men’s Bible study was planned Monday at 7 p.m.

The newsletter folding team planned to meet Wednesday morning.

Birthdays: Mark Mosby, Nov. 27; Lucas Tehandon, Nov. 28; Ashley Massey, Dec. 2; Rhonda Boyd, Dave Johnson, Dec. 4.

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

Youth are scheduled to meet from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The Dig-In Children’s program is planned from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Adult Bible study is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Worship at Kornthal

Kornthal Church is planning a worship service at 6:30 p.m. (time change) on December 8 with special music. Refreshments provided after the service. There will be no second Thursday worship in January or February. Kornthal is located 2.5 miles south of Jonesboro, Il. just off Illinois Rt. 127.

50&51GP

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46GTF

Christmas in the Village

Cobden, Illinois

Saturday, December 3rd

Bazaars • Shops

Vintage Santa Postcard Exhibit

Four Great Locations to Eat

Santa Claus in the afternoon

Activity lists at Union County Museum

117 S. Appleknocker

www.cobdenil.com

50P51G

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, Dec. 10th

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

at

United Missionary Baptist Church

Located on Lick Creek Road (1 mile west of I-57)

Lots of great gift ideas and stocking stuffers!

Handmade Crafts • Gift Baskets

Ornaments • Baked Goods

Wide variety of holiday decor

AND LOTS, LOTS MORE!

All proceeds go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering to support missions.

51&52G

First Christian Church of Anna presents

The 2nd Annual Christmas Bazaar

December 10, 2022

9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Enjoy the food, business vendors, and more as you finish up your Christmas shopping.

\$1 Admission • 12 & under Free

All proceeds donated to Shop With a Cop and the Alliance of Churches.

We hope to see you there!

200 Mallard Lane • Anna, IL

51GP52G

The Gazette-Democrat Serving Union County Since 1849

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National Bank
and other participating
merchants join in
sponsoring a
CASH GIVEAWAY
to encourage you to shop
locally for the holidays.*

*Enter at any
participating merchant.*

There will be a drawing each Friday afternoon, November 25th, December 2nd and December 9th at Anna-Jonesboro National Bank for a \$100.00 winner. **THE GRAND PRIZE DRAWING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, FOR A MINIMUM OF \$500.00.**

Prize winning check(s) will be written to the winners choice of participating merchants (excluding banks). Winners will be notified immediately following the drawings. Individuals and their families only allowed to win once. All entries, other than previous winners, will be entered in the grand prize drawing December 16th.



The winner of the Shop Local drawing on Friday, November 25th, was Phyllis Howell of Cobden. Phyllis chose to use her \$100.00 check at SI Builder Supply.

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

Feelin' Groovy

515 E. Vienna St.
Anna, IL • 618-614-7411
2627 HC Mathis Dr.
Paducah, KY • 270-933-1874
3049 Irvin Cobb Dr.
Paducah, KY • 270-415-5892
feelinggroovy420.com

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

FARMSTEAD MARKET

"Where Taste and Quality Meet"

5600 E. Vienna • Anna
618-833-0049
Open Mon.-Sat.
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

ANNA TIRE & AUTO CENTER

Anna Tire & Auto Center

90 Richview Drive • Anna • 833-2122

Now Doing Farm and Road Service

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

Taylor Dodd & Wood Insurance

INDEPENDENT RISK MANAGEMENT SINCE 1980

Shawn McMahan and Rodney Henry

521 E. Vienna St.
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-4721

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

COAD

CHEVROLET

Ford

Best place for car and truck accessories

Corner of Hwy. 51 & 146
Anna, Illinois
618-833-2166
800-583-3623

ENTRYFORM

Name

Address

CityDaytime Phone

DEPOSIT AT

106 LAFAYETTE ST

THE KITCHEN ON

618-833-9085

LAFAYETTE

ANNA, IL

* * * There's No Place Like Home * * *

for Holiday SHOPPING



The accompanying pictures were taken during the Christmas in Downtown Anna celebration in 2021.

Enter at any of the participating merchants for a chance to win a weekly prize of \$100.

All prizes awarded as certificates redeemable at participating businesses (excluding banks)



Do your holiday shopping right here at home and you could be a winner.


ENTRY FORM

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Address _____

City _____ Daytime Phone _____

DEPOSIT AT



SI Builder Supply, LLC

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Anna, IL 62906
618-833-2103

ENTRY FORM


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Address _____

City _____ Daytime Phone _____


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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Daytime Phone _____

DEPOSIT AT

Cardinal Corner



409 Grand Tower Road
Grand Tower, IL

618-565-1064
Your Hometown Store


ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Daytime Phone _____

DEPOSIT AT



angautomotive.com

109 Transcraft Dr. • Anna
833-8755

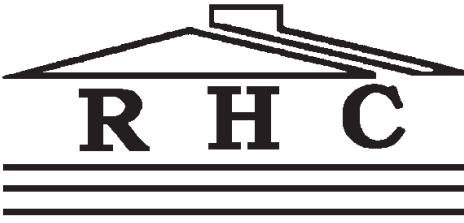
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City _____ Daytime Phone _____

DEPOSIT AT



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Where are they now? Union County CEO alumni stories



Aubrey Fisher



Braden Bennis



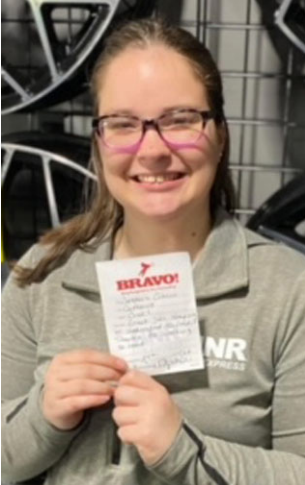
Bryce Osman



Emily White



Jackson Laster



Jessica Glasco



Joe Brumleve



John Russell



Julia Lasley



Lexie Lingle



Meghan Smith



Michelle Wolford

Editor’s note: The following article and the accompanying photographs are shared by the Union County CEO program. Photographs of Lauren Lyerla and Jaley Watkins were not available.

As long time Union County CEO supporters will remember, CEO is not just a program to teach students about business.

CEO is an economic development program that uses experiences with almost 100 local business people to teach life lessons, soft skills, communication and networking to Union County high school students. It is developing business and community leaders and a strong work force for the future.

The students also develop an appreciation for Union County, and many more will stay in our area than would have without CEO as shown by the pre and post surveys.

With Union County CEO now in its eighth year, having had 82 students, some of the program’s earlier alumni are having some major events and milestones in their lives.

Here is an update from alumni who participated in a CEO survey. More updates on other alumni will be shared after the next survey.

CEO Class of 2016

Samantha Smith
Samantha Smith, a Cobden High School alumna, is a 2020 graduate of Lindenwood University with a degree in marketing.

She studied abroad in London in 2019, whetting her appetite for more travel.

She is co-founder of On Brand Marketing, a female-founded digital marketing agency with a modern approach to digital strategy, web design, and product innovation.

The ability to work remotely has allowed her to continue to travel extensively including such places as Madrid, Stockholm, London, Hawaii and many places in the continental United States.

Samantha said, “I love the creative autonomy I have as an entrepreneur and owner of my business. Most of our clients inspire me, and I feel so lucky to collaborate with them. Something I am most proud of is that every client has said we are worth the investment and that they have seen growth from our services.”

Samantha has spoken to the classes on numerous occasions and serves as a student’s mentor.

Meghan Smith
Meghan Smith, a graduate of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School, shared that after high school she continued playing golf at the collegiate level. She played two years at John A. Logan College and then transferred to Bethel University in McKenzie, Tenn., to play for three more years.

During her time at Bethel University she also participated in many extracurricular activities on campus such as chaplain and secretary of the Lambda Sigma Sorority, student Ambassador and member of the Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society.

In May 2021, Meghan graduated from Bethel with a bachelor’s degree in communications and public relations. She is currently working on her master’s degree in business administration through Bethel and plans to graduate May 2023.

This past summer she interned with KFVS12 in Cape Girardeau, where she was offered a full-time position as a multimedia journalist.

Meghan explained, “Since my time with KFVS I have worked as a reporter covering stories for our newscasts, helped with sports on Friday night football, produced evening shows on the weekends, and now I am currently learning all the tricks of the trade to do weather for the weekends! Life has been very busy, but I’m so grateful for all these new opportunities and can’t wait for what’s next!”

CEO Class of 2017

Jessica Glasco
Jessica Glasco, an AJCHS graduate, has been promoted at RNR Tire Express-Midwest in Harrisburg from an account manager to sales manager. She says she loves the job and is learning so much.

CEO Class of 2018

John Russell
John Russell, a Cobden High School alumnus, is a 2022 graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a degree in management of information systems (MIS) and completed the ROTC program there.

He has been at Fort Benning in Georgia completing the infantry basic officer leadership course. He will

now have a four-year active-duty service obligation at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs with the 4th Infantry Division. Within the next few years, he will be a platoon leader in charge of 30-40 to soldiers.

John said, “I would love to talk with the CEO teams about the ROTC program. I feel it is not given enough thought by people who are looking for ways to get a scholarship/a degree/to serve.”

Zoe Fuhrhop Davis
Zoe Fuhrhop Davis, a Cobden High School alumna, is a 2022 graduate of SEMO with a major in family and consumer sciences education, having student taught in Murphysboro.

She was married in June and is currently teaching family and consumer sciences in Bernard Middle School in St. Louis.

Bryce Osman
Bryce Osman, an AJCHS graduate, has also completed his degree at Missouri Southern State University with a major in marketing. He had an internship and subsequently was employed by Northwestern Mutual as a financial representative.

He recently accepted a new position in medical sales with Titan Surgical/Arthrex in Springfield, Mo.

His CEO business, Schoolhouse Cheesecakes LLC, is now owned by his parents and has expanded from just individual sales to being sold in at least two local restaurants.

Class of 2019

Jackson Laster
Jackson Laster, an AJCHS graduate, is a senior at St. Louis University and spent his summer as a supervisor in the Cardinal Club Lounge at Busch Stadium.

He has recently completed a paid internship with Anheuser-Busch as a

supply chain trainee after an extensive seven week, six interview process.

He said, “The skills I learned and developed in CEO were super beneficial throughout the entire process.”

Jackson has already been offered a position as supply chain analyst at Anheuser-Busch upon graduation this spring.

Jackson has spoken to CEO classes about his experiences in school and his semester in Spain and gave Team 21 a behind the scenes tour at Busch Stadium last spring.

Class of 2020

Michelle Wolford
Michelle Wolford, a Dongola High School graduate, is a junior at Lipscomb University studying exercise science. She plans to earn her master of education degree in exercise and nutritional sciences with a goal of earning an advanced degree in occupational therapy.

She is in the National Society of Leadership and Success which is by recommendation only.

Julia Lasley
Julia Lasley, an AJCHS graduate, is attending Mississippi State University studying biological sciences with a pre-med concentration in pursuit of attending medical school.

She was accepted into the Oktibbeha County Hospital Shadowing program where she follows physicians around in all different specialties. She is also currently competing on the Mississippi State track and field team.

As a member of one of her medical clubs, Julia helped open a clinic in Peru last summer. She is also the president of the M-Club, a student athlete service organization.

Julia has spoken to a CEO class about her experiences

in college and as a student athlete.

Lauren Lyerla
Lauren Lyerla, a Cobden High School graduate, is attending Southern Illinois University in the elementary education program. She is hoping to be a teacher in grades 1-6 in Union County upon graduation.

Like many her age, Lauren struggled with future career plans. She wrote, “Teaching has always been close to my heart, and after acknowledging it, I could not be more thrilled! I am thriving here at SIU-C. All of my classes, professors and friends are helping me reach my future goal. Our world needs more teachers, great teachers at that. I plan to be the best version of myself and help young minds grow right here in Union County.”

Braden Bennis
Braden Bennis, an AJCHS graduate, is attending Texas A&M University pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. He hopes to eventually join the petroleum industry.

He completed a summer internship in Baytown, Texas, with Covestro, a chemical manufacturing company specializing in polycarbonates and polyurethanes.

Outside of classes, he continues to enjoy working on remodeling and handyman jobs while still being on the Dean’s Honor Roll.

Joe Brumleve
Joe Brumleve, a Cobden High School graduate, is a junior at SIUC with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. He hopes to be accepted into the SIU School of Medicine upon graduation. He has started EMT classes to gain experience in the medical field.

He is a member of Alpha Chi Sigma, a fraternity to further the advancement of chemistry, a member of the Barbell Club, SIU Powerlifting Club and the Knights of Columbus.

He has completed his

third year of Joe’s Produce, a weekly delivery of locally grown fruits and vegetables. Joe has continued to visit Union County CEO classes.

Class of 2121

Emily White
Emily White, a Cobden High School graduate, is pursuing a dual degree in economics and finance at SIUC. She is in the Saluki Entrepreneur Corps and on the Student Alumni Council. She plans to continue graduate school at SIUC.

Emily works in the Business Placement Center of the College of Business and Analytics.

She has been on the Dean’s List and has earned the Chung Scholarship for students in Economics and was featured in the College of Business and Analytics newsletter.

She wrote, “My experience in CEO has been the greatest contributing factor to all my success in college. I have been able to network with confidence in a way that allows me to build and sustain relationships. I often step out of my comfort zone in order to better myself, and I experience benefits as a result. I will be forever thankful as I reflect on my time in CEO; it truly transformed me as a person and my understanding of a community. I value the connections made and lessons learned, as I carry them with me.”

Will Halter
Will Halter, an AJCHS graduate, is taking business classes at John A. Logan College.

After acing a spring interview at Martin’s Auto Service and a summer of working on cars, Will knew that cars were in his future.

In fall 2023, Will plans to attend SEMO in business management. His long-range plans may include an associate degree in automotive technology or a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering.

(continued on next page)

CEO alumni

(continued from previous page)

Olivia Capel
Olivia Capel, an AJCHS graduate, is majoring in accounting at SIUC. Her goal was to get very involved in the university, and she has succeeded. She is in the Accounting Society, Beta Alpha Psi, Women’s Business Association and Student Alumni Council and is an Ambassador for the College of Business. She noted that these organizations have provided her with an excellent way to meet and make connections with other students and faculty/staff.

The Student Alumni Council required an individual interview before being accepted to the council. “While typically this would have made me nervous, I was actually extremely excited and eager to meet the individuals that work closely with the ambassadors. “In the interview, I found myself constantly referring to the CEO program and my involvement. After my second time mentioning it, three of the panelists pointed to a girl in the back of the room and told me that I needed to talk to her. She was the Vice President of the council and was also a CEO Alum and worked with the Jackson County CEO Facilitator.

“That day I not only made a connection to the VP and a CEO Alum, but was also invited to be a speaker at the Jackson County CEO Program. That day was extremely eye-opening as it goes to show that everything you do along the way follows you. “From the moment I was a part of the CEO Program, I have not been able to stop talking about the benefits, connections, and importance it served in my life. It was truly one of the best things I could have done and appreciate all the hard work and dedication from so many people.”

Olivia has presented to and stays involved with the local CEO program. She has been employed by Anna-Jonesboro National Bank and now is serving a paid internship there. She will be an Audit Intern for the Summer of 2023 with Kerber, Eck, and Brackel Public Accounting Firm.

Jaley Watkins
Jaley Watkins, an AJCHS graduate, is a sophomore at SIUE where she majors in business which may lead to a career in marketing. She received the Provost Scholarship and is in the Honors Program.

She is working as an RA (Residential Assistant) in a dorm and feels CEO helped her get the position. About being an RA, Jaley noted: “It’s a good job for anyone that is artistic or creative. I enjoy helping my residents with the homework and helping them work through stress and issues related to school or life in general. It is nice to know that they come to me when they need help!”

Aubrey Fisher
Aubrey Fisher, a Cobden High School graduate, attends Washington University in St. Louis where she is on the Dean’s List. She plans to go to medical school after graduation.

In addition to her coursework, she is involved in an anesthesiology/neurology research lab on the WashU Medical School campus. She is also involved in two other research initiatives with a WashU political science professor: one analyzes the correlation between effective international public health initiatives and historical border instability; the other examines the effect of higher education on the development and severity of Alzheimer’s disease. Aubrey shared, “I’ve been able to help with research and volunteer in a way that makes me feel like I’m doing good in the world. Also, I am getting PAID to play with DNA and dissect mouse brains, so I definitely am having fun with all the opportunities! “I landed my very first research opportunity while utilizing the CEO business cards we made (very thankful)! I can personally attest to the way CEO prepared me for being thrown into a sea of strangers and asked to start a conversation – especially with the various professors. I’ve had to be in many (many) meetings with individuals over double my age, and I definitely learned to be comfortable in such settings much quicker because of the skills CEO taught me. However, I will have to say the single best thing I learned from the class was the ability to ask good questions.”

Aubrey presented to the UCCEO class last year via Zoom.

Lexie Lingle
Lexie Lingle, an AJCHS graduate, is a junior at SIUC majoring in accounting. She has accepted an internship with Kemper CPA Group in the summer of 2023 followed by an internship with Kerber, Eck, and Brackel

in the spring of 2024. She hopes to study abroad in France the summer of 2024 which will earn her a minor in marketing.

Following graduation, she plans to pursue a master of accountancy degree and to become a CPA. She has been very involved in the Registered Student Organizations within the College of Business, these include the Business Leadership Council, and executive board positions in Beta Alpha Psi, and Accounting Society. Outside of her major, she is involved in the SIU Dawg Pound and Saluki Ambassadors, where she gives tours to prospective students and sits on student panels as well as being the secretary/treasurer for the executive board.

When asked on the survey to note her biggest challenges and/or successes, she wrote, “I want to start with how glad I am to be at SIU. The shift from high school to college is eye opening, but the opportunities I have found outweigh any fears I had. Getting involved in academic Registered Student Organizations and Saluki Ambassadors, filled me with confidence that I can achieve great things. “After being chosen for the Saluki Ambassadors Executive Board, I received the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., for the CIVSA Student Development Institute.

“Since my trip there, I also traveled to Orlando, Fla., with Beta Alpha Psi for the Beta Alpha Psi Annual Meeting. Most recently, I competed with a team of 5 students in the Deloitte FanTAXtic Competition where my teammates and I earned the opportunity to travel to Deloitte University in Texas for the National Competition in January. “I am proud of myself to have gotten out of my comfort zone and to have been involved with these RSO’s. So many doors of opportunity have opened up for me, and I cannot wait to continue to take part in these events, competitions, and trips. I am excited to continue to grow and learn about my career but also to grow in my confidence and success.”

Lexie has continued to be involved with UCCEO and has presented to the class. *To learn more about UC-CEO, go to unioncountyceo.org or their Facebook page Union County CEO. Financial and in-kind support is needed. This economic development program is paid for by businesses, individuals, and organizations. No state funds are available to this program.*

2023 CEO class continuing Christmas Boxes tradition



Team members
Every member of the Union County CEO team is happy to help you in any possible way with the Christmas Boxes. Marissa Simmons, CEO of the class business said, “We are all looking forward to meeting and seeing you on December 10th!” In the first row are, from left, Kaylee Hall, Sienna Morrison, Marissa Simmons and Oregon Dover. In the second row are Lia Mays, Reese Reynolds, Drake Campbell, Jaden Ebberts and Abigail Smith. Photo provided.

Editor’s note: the following article and the accompanying photograph were shared by the Union County CEO program.

“All I Want for Christmas is...to support local businesses” is the theme of this year’s CEO Class of 2023 business. The Union County CEO program is continuing the tradition of selling local sampler Christmas Boxes and making them even better than before.

The boxes contain new products such as four packs of delicious cheesecake bites from Schoolhouse Cheesecakes, a 16-ounce jar of apple butter from Rendleman Orchards, umbrellas from Anna-Jonesboro National Bank, as well as many of your favorites from past years. They will also include valuable coupons and discounts for many other Union County retailers. The value of the box exceeds \$80.

“All I Want for Christmas is...to support local businesses” gift boxes are pre-sold on the Union County CEO’s website, <https://www.unioncountyceo.org>, and on their Facebook page, Union County CEO.

You may also contact a UCCEO student or Union County CEO facilitator Melanie Smith at 618-697-8881 for additional information or to purchase a box. Christmas Boxes will be picked up on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., by driving through the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church parking lot at 346 S. Main St. in Downtown Anna. The parking lot is between Kenz Boutique and Southern Bank.

There will also be other local events you can attend that day while local merchants in Anna and Jonesboro will be kicking off their Business Bingo game, which runs Dec. 10 through Dec. 23.

The Union County CEO class wants to bring awareness of local businesses that have wonderful Christmas items and other goods and services to use year round. Susan Odum, community development specialist from the University of Illinois Extension Center, recently visited the CEO class.

CEO team member Orie Dover wrote in her journal about a most meaningful hands-on experience with a game Ms. Odum created. “For one part of the game we each got to choose a business from Union County and represent it. One person was handed a ten dollar bill and would then pick

a random card that would either say ‘Community’, ‘Shopping Mall’ or ‘Online Purchase.’

“If the person drew the ‘Community’ card, they would spend the money by giving it to a student representing one of the local businesses, but if they drew either the ‘Online’ or ‘Shopping Mall, then the money would be lost.

“This was such a fun and eye-opening experience. It really made it visually clear to me how important it is to spend your money locally where it circulates 7 times in the community before leaving.

“That is 7 times it paid a salary or helped a business support a sports team, etc., and it added to local sales tax for government services and more before leaving the area. If no one supports the local businesses then they won’t be able to stay open, and if they don’t stay open, our community won’t be able to survive.”

The 2023 CEO Class Business could not have been successful without our incredible community of business partners and community purchasers.

Check the Union County CEO Facebook page for more posts about our partnerships and products as well as sneak peeks of the items that are being put into the boxes this year.

This year’s box content suppliers to date include: Schoolhouse Cheesecake, Darci Morrison-Hair Stylist, Flamm Orchards, Hebrews CoffeeHouse, McDonald’s, Union County Hospital.

Kiki’s Coffeehouse, Southern Charm, Bald Knob Cross, Davis Pastry, Kenz Boutique, Dixie Barbecue, E.T. Simonds, Rendleman Orchards, Triple C Meats.

Quick’s Skating Rink, Wildflower Meadows All Natural, Beauty Boutique @ Annabelle Market, The Gazette-Democrat, Nails by Jamie.

Angi’s A-Doorables, Gurley and Son Heating & AC, Nalee Rae’s Boutique, Simply Haney Made, Wright Bros. Body Shop/Rod’s Towing.

Coffman’s Martial Arts, Anna Baking Company, C’s Bees, C’s Honey and Lace, Country Roads Flowers & Gifts.

Dairy Queen, The Enchanted Garden, Anna State Bank, AJ National Bank, and Salon Euphoria.

Those local businesses giving financial support to date include:

Rural Health, Massage by Cherry, Whitney Accounting, Fork and Vine, City of Jonesboro, Cobden



Lions Club, Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home. Taylor Dodd & Wood, Main Street Bar & Billiards, Brumleve Farms, Union County Women in Business, Walmart, Union County Hospital. Union County Chamber of Commerce, Farmstead Market, Jim & Dots, Trainor Ag, Karl Sweitzer Produce, Triple C Meats. Rise Performance 618, WIBH, Kiwanis Club of Anna, the Goddard Place, Anna State Bank, and AJ National Bank.

Kim Emery, owner of Anna Baking Company, shared why she continues to be such a supporter of the CEO Class Business each year. “I am proud to be a part of the class business as a way to feel more in touch with our community. Meeting the new students each year is a fun way to see passion and encouragement for new, local business opportunities. “Life is about connecting and learning to network is extremely valuable. I enjoy sharing and learning about experiences regarding business in a way to provide a better outreach and hopefully, continue to grow as a person and community member.”

Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities, CEO, is a 2-credit weighted high school class that educates students about life, leadership, and business skills.

This year there are eight seniors and one junior selected from 20 applicants from the Union County high schools.

The class always meets at a local business, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. every school day.

The class is facilitated by Melanie Smith and taught by business men and women, as well as community leaders who share their expertise and personal stories.

Union County CEO is a chapter of the Midland Institute of Entrepreneurship and is funded completely by local businesses, organizations, and individuals.

The money raised from this business is not to support the CEO program, but is deposited in the students’ account for upcoming personal businesses, scholarships, and the opportunity to give back to our community.

“All I Want for Christmas is...to support local businesses” is the theme of this year’s CEO Class of 2023 business...Christmas Boxes featuring Union County area products.

Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

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

Christmas in Anna/ Small Business Saturday

A special thanks to everyone who came to Anna for Christmas in Anna/ Small Business Saturday. Everyone had such a wonderful time.

Thanks to the vendors and stores. Skating was a big hit, thanks Brad Stamp for all your help, and so was the carriage rides by Beth and Doug Hileman.

Miss Rodeo Troy

Kaitlin McWhorter was

crowned Miss Troy Rodeo 2022 in August.

Miss Rodeo Troy is from a Missouri Rodeo Cowboys Association rodeo held in Troy, Mo., every year in August.

The rodeo raises money for Relay for Life and FFA Scholarships every year.

Kaitlin is a 24-year-old All-Around Cowgirl from Cobden.

Throughout high school she competed in the National Little Britches Rodeo



Kaitlin McWhorter was crowned Miss Troy Rodeo 2022 in August.



Lou Curdie from Cobden, Barbara Hash from Texas and Nancy Ragain of Anna enjoyed Christmas in Anna and a carriage ride with Doug Hileman in the Anna City Park.



A special thanks to Beth and Doug Hileman and their horses for the carriage rides in the Anna City Park Saturday at Christmas in Downtown Anna Small Business Saturday.



Joanne Dale with her latest children's books she wrote, **Robby Robin Learns To Sing** and **Robby Robin Finds the Missing Eighth Note**, illustrated by Norma "Lee" Hackney. Joanne was at the Anna Arts Center Crafts Saturday at Small Business Day.

Association, winning their coveted "Rookie of the Year" title in 2014, Alabama Little Britches Rodeo Association All-Around Cowgirl and Central Arkansas Little Britches Rodeo Association All-Around Cowgirl titles in 2016.

Also during her high school years, Kaitlin was the president of her FFA chapter and 4-H club, and a member of the Union County CEO Program where she started her business, RodeoKat's Riding Lessons & More.

She went on to compete in college rodeo representing the Murray State rodeo team in 2016-2018 and Southern Illinois University in 2018-2019.

She graduated from SIU in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture.

She is now helping her parents raise American Quarter Horses and she is the assistant manager at Buckle in Carbondale.

Thanksgiving

Willie and Terrie Rhymmer attended Thanksgiving dinner at their daughter Rebecca Yates and son-in-law Jamie's home.

Also attending were Jordan and Alexis Rhymmer, Junior, Hadley, Jaxson, Emmy and Rowan, Don and Joni Yates, Bethany Yates and her children, Eric, Katie, Damion, Shelby and baby Walker. And friends of Bethany's also, and the Yates children, Ruby, Ma-



Willie and Terrie Rhymmer attended a wrestling match where their grandson Miles Yates is part of the team.



Willie and Terrie Rhymmer attended Grandparents Day at the Dongola School with their grandchildren, Junior and Hadley Rhymmer. The children sang some songs and refreshments were served by the Dongola PTA.

son, Miles and Violet.

Royal's Cruise Ship The Mariner

David and Liz Wilkins and their children Jacqueline, Madi, their niece Kinley and daughter Kennedy. Kennedy's husband Jamie and Liz and David's two grandchildren Sophia and Benny went on a cruise.

They left from Port Canaveral, Fla., cruised to Cocoa Cay in the Bahamas then traveled to Cozumel, Mexico.

It was a much-needed vacation with building the flower shop Country Roads Flowers and Gifts and David's election this past year. Congratulations on being voted our new Sheriff David. They missed their family back home a ton, but enjoyed the time together.

Thanksgiving Guests

Thanksgiving guests of Lisa Spiess and family were her sister Mary Anne and husband Mike Finefield of Chicago.

They also enjoyed visiting many places in Union County, Christmas in Downtown Anna and eating at the new restaurant Don Sol that recently opened

Anna Heights Baptist Church

November birthdays: 27th, Zoe Chen. Susan Grisby, Angela Ralls. 28th, Jackie Poole. 30th Sue Patterson, Piper Stearns.

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

December anniversaries: 3rd, Michael and Debbie McLane. 4th, Corbon and Bryanna Barringer.

Attendance Nov. 20: 8 a.m. worship, 76. 10:30 a.m. worship, 102. Small group Bible study, 186. 6 p.m. worship, 25.

AHBC post office is open to bring your Christmas cards in for AHBC members. Just put the money in the attached box. All money donated will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Ministry meeting is Sunday, Dec 11. They will need a quorum to vote on the 2023 budget.



Congratulations to Blake Abernathy and Kinley Leek who were voted 2022 Jonesboro Fall Festival king and queen.



Lillian Milam's guest for Thanksgiving was her grandson Dana Smith from Oswego. It was a great time. They also visited with his brother and family Tyge and Ashley Smith. In the picture at Don Sol, right to left, Braylon Smith, Leann Sims, Ashley Smith, Tyge Smith, Aiden Smith, Lillian Milam, Kathy Jackson Milam, Milam Smith, Dana Smith, Teak Smith and Amiee Smith was not available when the picture was taken.

Pastor Darryl Williams sermon series: Giving Thanks for Renewal. This week: Putting on Thankfulness.

Anniversaries

Nov. 25, Tom and Angie Smith, 27 years. Derick and Tana Cummings, 33 years. Barbara Hash and Juan Garcia.

Birthday Celebration

Janet Harner was honored with a surprise birthday dinner party by her husband Scott and children at their daughter's new home.

"It's Greek to Me" was the theme of the food. Janna made her delicious cheesecake.

Also happy birthday to Gabe Herbst, Nov. 26.

Apostolic Lighthouse, Cobden

On Nov. 19, the folks at ALC gathered at the Giant City Lodge to surprise their Pastor Joe Jones for his birthday.

Rev. Joe thought just his family was going to be there, but his wife invited his church family also and it worked.

A large group of hunters came in and later joined them wishing their pastor a happy birthday. It was an enjoyable evening.

United Methodist Church, Anna

On Sunday, Nov. 20, special music was "Somebody Up There Loves Me" presented by Madelyn Sullivan.

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon title: Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing.

After the children's mes-

sage, the kids took up their special mission offering.

Loaves and Fishes disbursed 100 turkeys, along with 100 bags of Thanksgiving "fixins," 50 kid treat bags and 138 bags of extra food consisting of canned and nonperishable items.

The bags were made from food donated by the Union County Sheriff's Office and from staff with Rural Health.

Additionally, they gave out over 100 gift bags containing personal care items, other items and medical information donated by Rural Health.

On Sunday, Nov. 27, special music was by Carla Anderson on piano and Marcy Morris on flute.

Advent candle litany was by Sue Ann Zimmerman. Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was Be Prepared with scripture from Matthew.

Sunday, Dec. 4, will be the choir's Christmas cantata during morning worship.

Dec. 9 Greg Larson Memorial service 11 a.m. with visitation at 10 a.m. Greg was administrative assistant at the church several years ago. Sympathy to his family.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Jane Bauer enjoyed dinner with family and friends.

Anna First Baptist Church

Rev. Lupe Lopez's sermon was Perfume at His Feet with scripture from Luke and James. Rev. Lupe reminded everyone Jesus has done so much for us and we need to give back to him by attending church and being in prayer and

visiting people who do not know our Lord.

Rev. Lupe prayed for many people who are sick, those who have lost loved ones, a cure for cancer and peace in our world.

Rev. Lupe and his wife Yadi will be traveling to the city of Santiago Papasquiario, Durango, Mexico on a mission trip soon. Their mission on this trip will be to target one specific area in the state of Durango. Scouting possible locations for a possible planting of a mission church or partnering with a struggling church already on the ground will be focus of this trip. There is a desperate need for the gospel in all of Mexico.

Sunday Dec. 11, Pastor Lupe will be live streaming a report via Zoom to the congregation during the morning service. Please be in prayers for the safety of Rev. Lupe and Yadi as they travel.

Church starts at 10:15 a.m.

There is a new ladies Sunday school class that starts at 9 a.m. If you do not have a church you attend regularly you are invited to come worship. Sunday school teacher is Cissi Cuthbertson.

The Sunday school lesson was on being thankful. New Sunday school books were passed out for winter. Study 1 will be Putting Fear in its Place. Surrender your fear to God. Trust God and walk with him.

Special Thanks

Special Thanks to Kent Pitts county commissioner over animal control and

Ken was saddened to hear someone say they didn't have any food for the animals. He had told them not to buy food till they

We had two homeless cats in our neighbor and Kent took them to his home to raise. Every time I have gone to animal control the animals all looked healthy. The one cat they put in a nice crate with a new blanket gave it water and food. Ken picked the other one up.

Ken was saddened to hear someone say they didn't have any food for the animals. He had told them not to buy food till they



Ryan and Danyelle Dodd, Taylor, Dodd and Wood Insurance, served hot chocolate in the Anna City Park with 100 percent of donations going to help with Christmas for children through the Shop with a Police Officer and Fireman program.



Janet Harner was given a surprise birthday party by her family on Nov. 25.



Janelle Duty and Marcie Jones will be at Apostolic Lighthouse Church in Cobden with their baked goods from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Christmas in Village on Saturday, Dec. 3.

the staff there for their fast response in saving two dogs lives and preventing a possible wreck.

The first was when a Great Dane was running on the wrong side of the road coming up Jonesboro hill.

They found the owner and asked them to please be more protective of their pet because it could have gotten killed and caused a bad wreck. The little boy living there had opened the door and it ran out. They were told if it got out again they would get a ticket.

The second dog was running in the middle of the road just outside Anna headed to Cobden. Cars were having to stop to let it run by.

I called animal control and then Kent when I couldn't get them because it wasn't time for them to be at work. Kent said he would take care of it and he thought the dog was one they had been helping the owner look for it two days.

I got a call back saying they found the dog. I was scared they were going to tell me it had been hit by a car but I was so happy to learn they not only found the dog but had returned it to its owner in Cobden. The dog was smart at least it was headed home.

We had two homeless cats in our neighbor and Kent took them to his home to raise. Every time I have gone to animal control the animals all looked healthy. The one cat they put in a nice crate with a new blanket gave it water and food. Ken picked the other one up.

Ken was saddened to hear someone say they didn't have any food for the animals. He had told them not to buy food till they



Janet Harner was given a surprise birthday party by her family on Nov. 25.

needed it and someone was shopping for them then. Mice had been getting in their food supplies and that is why they waited till they needed it to buy it. They were not out of food.

Coming soon they will be building a nice big facility. Send donations to them if you would like to support animal control and the animals there.

Always remember to spay and neuter dogs and cats and there would be less work for animal control. Pray for the safety of all the dogs and cats who have no homes that someday they will have their forever home.

I am very thankful we have PAWS Place also on Dogwalk Road. A special thanks to all those who volunteer their time to take care of the animals at both of these wonderful caring

places we are blessed to have in our community. It's not an easy job taking care of animals you have no idea if they will bite you or not. Most of them just need loving homes and many have never had this.

Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club

The Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club will meet at Carla Anderson's Music Studio, 707 E. Heacock St., in Jonesboro on Thursday, today, at noon. Brian Thompson will present a piano concert.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

A special thanks to Teresa Holcomb and her husband for five wreaths to go to the Anna City Cemetery, Russell Leo Holcomb, Ronald L. Holcomb, James M. Holcomb, Lloyd J. Carstens, Steven W. McCloud. Three go to American Legion

Cemetery in Dongola, John T. Grear, Kelton K. Grear, Lloyd Earl Lentz. Ullin Cemetery, Morris Daniels, Roy R. Grear.

For American Legion Cemetery in Dongola from Diane Stewart for her father Carroll Eugene Douglas United States Navy. Diane's brother Michael Lee Douglas United States Army. Rhonda Shannon for her stepdad Louis Brown Anna Cemetery. Tina Bryant for her dad Lester S. Lazenby. Carole A. Baker for her husband Larry Joe Baker, father Frank Keistler, uncle George Gray, William Eddleman, Glen Eddleman, and for her sister Barbara Grace husband Charles Grace that Carol and family will place at the national cemetery.

Trip

Richard and Fawn Newman have returned from a

vacation to Myrtle Beach.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Martha Ann Webb enjoyed spending Thanksgiving day and having dinner with my daughter Bessie Mae, son-in-law Curt and grandson Elijah Glen and their babies Luna, Harley, Sookie and Oreo.

Thanksgiving

Geraldine M. Davis of Jackson, Mo., spent Thanksgiving with her family.

Guest

Guest of Lillah Williams and family was her son Kevin Williams of Benton.

Guest

Guest of Gaylon and Clara Cates was their son Gaylon of Chicago.

Anna VFW

Star Karaoke with Peggy Jerrell will be at the VFW Friday night, Dec. 2. Fish dinner 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Karaoke 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Television Listings

THURSDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Basketball <i>Creighton vs Texas</i> (Live)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	"Pitch Perf" "Pitch Perfect 2" (15) Anna Kendrick. A cappella group.	Good Luck Jessie	(5:55) Rel Howery	"Turning Point" (77)	(5:00) "Scream" (22)
7 PM :30	"Frozen 2" <i>Queen Elsa and Princess Anna.</i>	Young Ghosts	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	"Dolly Parton's Mountain" <i>Mountain Men.</i>		Bang (HD) Bang (HD)		Big City Big City	"See How They Run" (22) <i>Finding a killer.</i>	★★★ "Hunter Killer" (18) <i>Russian coup.</i> (HD)	"Dio: Dreamers Never Die" (22) (NR) (HD)
8 PM :30		(01) So Help Me Todd	Welcome to Call Me		College Basketball <i>Seton Hall vs Kansas</i> (HD)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)		Big City Big City			
9 PM :30	(01) Videos (HD)	CSI: Vegas (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	The Wall (HD)		Bang (HD)	★★★ "Pitch Perfect" (12) Anna Kendrick. A cappella group.	Big City	Branson	"Smokin' Aces" (07) <i>Hitmen seek witness.</i>	Let the Right One
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (Live)		"Ocean's Thirteen" (07) <i>Crew gets revenge.</i>	Big City	The White Lotus		The Best "Killer Mike"
11 PM :30	Nightline	Corden	W. Cup Tonight (HD)	(35) Tonight (HD) Late Night	SportsCenter (Live)		"Pitch 2"	Jessie	(05) Branson	(51) "Narc" (02) (HD)	"Wrong Turn" (21)

FRIDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	FOX Pregame (Live)	Local Programs	NBA (Live)	Young	(5:05) "Angel Has Fallen" (19)	Raven Home	(5:50) Branson	★★★ "The Purge" (14)	Gen. Q
7 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)	S.W.A.T. "Sequel"	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Lopez vs. Young Rock	NBA Basketball <i>Los Angeles vs Milwaukee</i> (Live) (HD)	Young		TBA (HD)		"The Forever Purge" (21) (HD)	★★★★ "Everywhere All at Once" (22) (R) (HD)
8 PM :30	(01) 20/20 <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	Fire Country (HD)		Dateline NBC		"Ocean's Thirteen" (07, Crime) <i>Crew gets revenge.</i> (HD)	(45) "Olympus Has Fallen" (13) <i>Missing president.</i> (HD)	BUNK'D	★★½ "Don't Worry Darling" (22) <i>A false reality.</i>	(44) "I, Robot" (04) <i>Robot may be killer.</i> (HD)	"Matt Rogers" (22)
9 PM :30		Blue Bloods "Heroes"			(05) NBA Basketball <i>Chicago vs Golden State</i> (Live) (HD)			BUNK'D			
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local	Local		(21) "Hitch" (05, Comedy) <i>Romance coach.</i>	"Angel Has Fallen" (19) <i>Assassination risk.</i>	Raven Home	(05) We're Here (HD)	(39) "12 Years a Slave" (13) (HD)	★★★ "A Time to Kill" (96) <i>Racial murder.</i> (HD)
11 PM :30	Nightline	Corden	W. Cup Tonight (HD)	Late Night	Sports	"Ray"		Jessie	(10) The White Lotus		

SATURDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Scoreboard	Coll. Ftbl	Coll. Ftbl	Local Programs	UFC Fight Night Prelims <i>"Thompson vs. Holland"</i> from <i>Amway Center, Orlando, FL, USA</i>	"A Christmas Story" (83) <i>A boy's life.</i> (HD)	9-1-1 "Fallout" (HD)	(5:00) "Movie"	"Man of Steel" (13)	★½ "10,000 B.C." (08)	"Logan Lucky" (17) <i>Car race robbery.</i> (HD)
7 PM :30	(07) College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Hooves	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Password (HD)			9-1-1 (HD)	(55) "Movie"	"Gone Girl" (14) <i>Man suspected of killing his wife.</i> (HD)	"Miami Vice" (06) <i>Undercover officers.</i> (HD)	★★★ "Bandit" (22, Crime) <i>Criminal spree.</i> (HD)
8 PM :30		Tribe Santa		Dateline NBC		"A Christmas Story" (83) <i>A boy's life.</i> (HD)	9-1-1 (HD)	Hamster &			
9 PM :30		(01) 48 Hours (HD)		Sat. Night Live (HD)			9-1-1 "Eddie Begins"	Miraculous	Miraculous	(13) "Phone Booth" (02, Thriller)	
10 PM :30	Local	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Local	Local	Thompson vs Holland <i>"Thompson vs Holland"</i>	★★★ "The Holiday" (06) <i>House swap.</i> (HD)	9-1-1 "Breaking Point"	Miraculous	The White Lotus (HD)	(35) We're Here (HD)	(05) "Confess, Fletch" (22) (HD)
11 PM :30	Local Programs		Local	Sat. Night Live <i>Sketch comedy.</i>			9-1-1 "Blindsided"	Miraculous	(14) The White Lotus	"The Drop" (14) <i>Brooklyn bars.</i>	"Boogie"

SUNDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Videos <i>Pony gift.</i> (HD)	NFL (Live)	Simpsons	Football America (HD)	SportsCenter (Live) (HD)	"Madison" (26) "Happy Gilmore" (96) <i>Tackling golf.</i> (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	TBA (HD)	(5:12) "Elvis" (22) <i>Austin Butler. Elvis Presley.</i>	"Let's Be Cops" (14)	★★ "The Circle" (17)
7 PM :30	Celebrity Wheel of		Simpsons	(15) Sunday Night Football <i>Indianapolis Colts at Dallas Cowboys</i> (Live) (HD)	Championship Drive "Bowl Breakdown" (Live) (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	TBA (HD)		"Arsenal" <i>Man rescues brother.</i>	Gen. Q "Quiz Show"
8 PM :30	The Rookie (HD)	"Fit For Christmas" (22) <i>Fitness instructor.</i>	HouseBrok.			"A Christmas Story" (83) <i>A boy's life.</i> (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Hamster &	The White Lotus (HD)		George & Tammy
9 PM :30	The Rookie (HD)		HouseBrok.				Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	Big City	(05) The White Lotus	Let the Right One
10 PM :30	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	East New York (HD)	Family Guy	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	SportsCenter (Live)	★★★ "Step Brothers" (08) <i>Sibling rivalry.</i> (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(10) The White Lotus	(17) ★★ "Haunting in Connecticut 2" (13) (R)	ZIWE
11 PM :30	(35) Local	Local	W. Cup Tonight (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	SportsCenter (Live)		Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(15) "Gone Girl" (14)		George & Tammy

MONDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Monday Countdown	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Chicago Fire (HD)	Hamster &	"The Maze Runner" (14) <i>Trapped in maze.</i>	★★★ "Haunting" (09)	(515) "Margaux" (22)
7 PM :30	The Great Christmas Light Fight (HD)	Neighbor. Bob Hearts	TMZ's Merry Elfie'	The Voice (HD)	(15) Monday Football <i>New Orleans vs Tampa Bay</i> (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	WWE Monday Night Raw (Live) (HD)	Big City	TBA (HD)	"Napoleon Dynamite" (04)	George & Tammy
8 PM :30		NCIS (HD)	The Cleaning Lady			Bang (HD)		Jessie	His Dark Materials		Let the Right One
9 PM :30	The Good Doctor	NCIS: Hawai'i (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	That's My Jam (HD)		Dad (HD) Dad (HD)		Big City	Big City	"What Happens in Vegas" (08)	Gen. Q "Quiz Show"
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	Monday	Dad (HD)	Barmageddon (HD)	Miraculous	(01) Shaq	(14) ★★ "We're the Millers" (13) <i>Fake family.</i>	George & Tammy
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	W. Cup Tonight (HD)	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (Live)	Dad (HD)	9-1-1 "Ocean's 9-1-1"	Miraculous	His Dark Materials		ZIWE
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	NFL Rewind	Dad (HD)		Raven Home	Raven Home		"Malcolm's"

TUESDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Basketball <i>Texas vs Illinois</i> (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	"See How They Run" (22) <i>Finding a killer.</i>	"3:10 to Yuma" (07)	(5:00) "Bandit" (22)
7 PM :30	Celebrity Wheel of	FBI "One Night Stand"	The Resident (HD)	The Voice (HD)		Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (Live) (HD)	Big City		"The Drop" (14) <i>Brooklyn bars.</i>	"Matt Rogers" (22)
8 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	FBI: International	Monarch "Last Dance"	2022 People's Choice <i>Fan-voted awards.</i>	GameDay	Bang (HD)		Jessie		(47) "Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet" (96)	George & Tammy
9 PM :30	Pyramid (HD)	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>		College Basketball <i>Duke vs Iowa</i> (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	(08) Barmageddon	Jessie	Luz del Mundo		
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Unsitatable	"Red Eye" (Onboard kidnapping.)	"Boogie Nights" (97) <i>Mark Wahlberg. An adult film star.</i>
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	W. Cup Tonight (HD)	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter with Scott (Live)	Young	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney	Raven Home	(47) ★★½ "Girl Most Likely" (13)	Gen. Q
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night		Young		Raven Home	We're Here		

WEDNESDAY											
	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA (Live)	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(20) ★★½ "Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard" (21)	★★★½ "Miami Vice" (06)	"Bridget Jones's Diary" <i>A woman's story.</i> (R)
7 PM :30	Conners	Survivor (HD)	The Masked Singer	Chicago Med (HD)	NBA Basketball <i>Atlanta Hawks at New York Knicks</i> (Live)	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite	Law & Order: SVU	BUNK'D		"Moon" (09) <i>Space work is a lie.</i>	George & Tammy
8 PM :30	Elementary	Amazing Race (HD)	(02) Lego Masters (HD)	Chicago Fire (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	Shaq	(38) "Breach" (07, Thriller) <i>Catching a traitor.</i>	"The Switch" (10) <i>Having a baby.</i>
9 PM :30	Big Sky (HD)	East New York (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Chicago P.D. (HD)	NBA Basketball <i>Boston Celtics at Phoenix Suns</i> (Live)	Young	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Unveiled: Surviving La Lu	(25) The White Lotus	George & Tammy
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Young	Law & Order: SVU	Unsitatable			
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)		Young	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney	Raven Home	(28) "The Forever Purge" (21)	Right One
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SC (Live)	Young		Raven Home	Lotus (HD)		

Opinion and Commentary

Holiday food prices remain high, but supplies remain strong

By Richard Guebert Jr.
Illinois Farm Bureau President

Americans look forward to celebrating the simplest of gifts and gathering with family and friends around the table during the holiday season. It is also often a time of giving thanks as Illinois farmers mark the end of another growing season.

The past few years have confronted all Americans to pivot, adapt, and learn as we navigate uncharted waters. In March 2018, American farmers were dealing with market destruction because of China’s trade wars. The May 2019 spring planting season reminded Midwest farmers that Mother Nature was in charge when many acres went unplanted. The pandemic that began in March 2020 forced all of us to pivot. Farmers continued to grow food to feed our neighbors in rural, urban, and global communities.

The curveballs continued in 2022 with high inflation, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and uncertainty for an already fragile economy.

Farmers vividly remember the role inflation played in the ‘80s farm crisis. That crisis is forever etched in farmers’ memories as historically high-interest rates reached 19 percent. Many farmers didn’t survive the crisis. Those who did spent many years paying off the debt created by the high-interest rates.

Despite the adversity many family farms have faced over the years, 96 percent of Illinois farms are still family-owned.

I understand firsthand the role inflation has had inside our home and farming operation. Inflation running at 7 percent to 9 percent in recent months is robbing consumers (and farmers) of their buying power.

Food price inflation is even higher. Other factors include supply chain disruptions and the war in Ukraine, with other countries pulling back on exports to protect domestic food supplies.

When I’ve been interviewed by news media over the past four years, the standard question is, “How will this impact consumers?” The truth is a farmer’s share of the food dollar is only 7.4 cents.

Illinois shoppers participating in the 37th annual American Farm Bureau Federation’s Thanksgiving Cost survey captured a statewide average price of \$65.53 for a classic Thanksgiving meal for 10 people, a 13 percent increase over the previous year’s state average of \$58.15. General price inflation is a big part of the increase in cost for the meal.

It is likely those high prices will continue through the remaining holidays and into the new year.

Food prices reflect many factors including transportation, distribution, and food company marketing costs. Rising costs for fuel, which have more than doubled, and fertilizer, which have tripled, are driving food prices up. As President Kennedy said many years ago, “Farmers are price takers and not price makers.”

The food we grow is shared with our family, friends and neighbors. Farmers understand the pain consumers are feeling at the checkout counter this holiday season. As we give thanks again this year for our many blessings, please know farmers will strive to provide affordable food sustainably to make sure our traditions continue.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.



Christmas luncheons planned
PAST’s Heritage House at 102 S. Main St. in Jonesboro is ready to celebrate Christmas. “Silver Bells” is the 2022 theme and the house is glittering with silver and white décor reflected in a collection of sparkling mirrors.
Heritage House Christmas luncheons are scheduled Dec. 1,2,3, 8, 9 and 10. The tables are set and the holiday meal plan is in place. There are still a few vacancies. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., with a meal to be served at noon.
A new accessible ramp is available at the rear of the house, from the alley. Reservations for the luncheons are \$20 and can be arranged by calling 618-697-1870 or by sending an email to hileman14@frontier.com. Photo provided.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Whipped cream even makes Monday better...

Thank goodness for whipped cream...the condiment that can even make Monday a little bit better...
...well, I think it was Monday...

November 21 was the Monday before November 24. November 24 was Thanksgiving Day, which happened to fall, once again, on a Thursday. And that’s the catalyst for this little adventure...which, by the way, we addressed one time in the distant, or maybe not so distant, past.

Thanksgiving Day was a holiday for those of us who toil at The Paragraph Factory. Since Thanksgiving Day was a holiday, we had to make a few changes to how we do things.

Due to the celebration of eating too much, the local newspaper, which appears on Thursday, had to move everything on our “normal” schedule up by one day.

A Library of Congress article dating all the way back to 2002 which I discovered offered some insight about the celebration of Thanksgiving on a Thursday...the fourth Thursday of November, more specifically:

“Today, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. But that was not always the case.

“When Abraham Lincoln was president in 1863, he proclaimed the last Thursday of November to be our national Thanksgiving Day.

“In 1865, Thanksgiving was celebrated the first Thursday of November, because of a proclamation by President Andrew Johnson, and, in 1869, President Ulysses S. Grant chose the third Thursday for Thanksgiving Day.

“In all other years, until 1939, Thanksgiving was celebrated as Lincoln had designated, the last Thursday in November.

“Then, in 1939, responding to pressure from the National Retail Dry Goods Association to extend the Christmas shopping season, President Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday back a week, to the next-to-last Thursday of the month.

“The association had made a similar request in 1933, but at that time, Roosevelt thought the change



Looking for whipped cream? This raccoon was spotted one afternoon last week...way, way up high in the mostly bare branches of a tree along a rural road in Union County.

might cause too much confusion. As it turns out, waiting to make the change in 1939 didn’t avoid any confusion.

“At the time, the president’s 1939 proclamation only directly applied to the District of Columbia and federal employees. While governors usually followed the president’s lead with state proclamations for the same day, on this year, 23 of the 48 states observed Thanksgiving Day on November 23, 23 states celebrated on November 30, and Texas and Colorado declared both Thursdays to be holidays.

“Football coaches scrambled to reschedule games set for November 30, families didn’t know when to have their holiday meals, calendars were inaccurate in half of the country, and people weren’t sure when to start their Christmas shopping.

“After two years of confusion and complaint, President Roosevelt signed legislation establishing Thanksgiving Day as the fourth Thursday in November. Roosevelt, recognizing the problems caused by his 1939 decree, had an-

nounced a plan to return to the traditional Thanksgiving date in 1942.”

As often happens, I have digressed...let’s see if we can get back on track...

Due to last week’s big holiday, Monday pretty much became Tuesday for those of us at The Paragraph Factory who engage in the task of generating the weekly newspaper.

Actually, Monday was more like a combination of Monday and Tuesday. Montuesday? Twosday? Doesn’t matter.

The implication of having Monday and Tuesday on the same day again offered a bit of a challenge. If Monday and Tuesday of last week were Tuesday, what was Tuesday? Why, it was Tuesday, of course.

Then there was Wednesday, which, at least for those of us at The Paragraph Factory, was Thursday. That’s because last Thursday was the aforementioned Thanksgiving Day holiday.

“Normally,” we produce our Monday newspaper, the Monday’s Pub., on Thursday, which might suggest that the publication should be called Thursday’s Pub., which might work...except

for the fact that the paper we produce on Thursday comes out on Monday, which, during most weeks, is plain old Monday. So, last Wednesday became Thursday. Last Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, became sort of a “none day.”

Thanksgiving Day was, naturally, followed by Friday. However, for some people, Friday seemed like a Monday, since that last day of the work week was followed by a day when many folks did not have to work.

Friday, which seemed like Monday, was followed by Saturday and Sunday, which seemed like, well, Saturday and Sunday.

And then, it was Monday. Again. Hooray. Yours truly spent another day toiling at The Paragraph Factory. At the end of the day, I drove home...in the dark...on full alert for deer along the highway.

Dinner on Monday night featured leftovers...from Saturday...or maybe they were from Sunday... Dessert included some whipped cream. Which, indeed, made Monday, or whatever day it was, a little bit better.

14,388 new COVID cases in Illinois

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, on Wednesday, Nov. 23, reported 14,388 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Illinois, and 59 deaths since Nov. 16.

The updated report came just ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

As of Nov. 23, Union County remained at a low community level for COVID-19.

Jackson, Williamson, Johnson, Alexander, Massac and Pulaski counties also were at a low community level.

As of last week’s update, IDPH was reporting a total of 3,858,155 cases, including 35,414 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the beginning of the pandemic.

Of Illinois’ total population, more than 78 percent had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more than 70 percent had completed their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines and of the eligible population, more than 14 percent have received the

bivalent booster dose, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All data are provisional and are subject to change.

Union County COVID Cases Update	
Nov. 28:	6,556 total cases. 67 deaths.
Nov. 23:	6,545 total cases. 67 deaths.
Nov. 1:	6,457 total cases. 67 deaths.
Oct. 31:	6,441 total cases. 67 deaths.
Oct. 3:	6,371 total cases. 67 deaths.
Sept. 26:	6,352 total cases. 67 deaths.
Sept. 2:	6,213 total cases. 66 deaths.
Aug. 31:	6,195 total cases. 66 deaths.
Aug. 1:	6,015 total cases. 66 deaths.
July 31:	6,001 total cases. 66 deaths.
July 7:	5,748 total cases. 66 deaths.
June 30:	5,691 total cases. 66 deaths.
June 1:	5,501 total cases. 65 deaths.
May 1:	5,384 total cases. 64 deaths.
Source: Illinois Department of Public Health website. Numbers represent statistics since the start of the pandemic.	

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