

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

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Anna, Illinois

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News

Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

Ash Wednesday is Feb. 26.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported wind chill readings which dipped to as low as 5 degrees below zero in the region last Friday morning. The weather service noted the area experienced "one of the coldest mornings of the winter season" on Valentine's Day.

Shawnee Community College's Scholar Bowl team is heading to national competition. Some of the students on the team are from Union County.

Brooke Shaeffer from Jonesboro Elementary School has been named as the winner of a poster contest sponsored by Union County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Carlyn Light, Kent Treece and Larry Hale have been re-elected to the Union County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors.

Union County and Anna city officials continue to work together on plans for a new animal control shelter.

The City of Anna is accepting applications for pool manager, head life-guard and part-time life-guard positions. The application deadline is April 3.

Two hundred senior packages were made available during the most recent distribution at the Shawnee Development Council's food pantry in Anna.

The Union County Museum in downtown Cobden is scheduled to open for the season on Saturday afternoon, March 7.

Cast and crew are hard at work preparing for the upcoming production of the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" in mid-March at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

(continued on page 2)

President commutes Blagojevich's sentence

By Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois
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Illinois leaders reacted to news Tuesday that U.S. President Donald Trump commuted the prison sentence of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich which he received for corruption convictions.

ABC News confirmed the commutation had occurred Tuesday.

Blagojevich began serving a 14-year federal prison sentence in 2012. He was convicted on 11 criminal counts related to his effort to sell the former U.S. Senate seat vacated by Barack Obama when he became president.

Blagojevich was also convicted on six counts related to campaign contribution shakedowns, including one count which said he essentially tried to

trade \$8 million in added state funding to pediatric specialists for a \$25,000 campaign donation from a hospital CEO.

In 2015, five of those counts were thrown out in appellate courts, although his 14-year sentence was reimposed months later.

Illinois House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, said in an interview Tuesday he disagreed with the president

and called the decision "disappointing."

"Currently we have a massive federal investigation into corruption in the State of Illinois, and this action distracts and also dilutes what I think is the proper role of the Department of Justice to root out corruption," he said.

In a statement, Gov. JB Pritzker, who has on several occasions argued that Blagojevich should serve

his full sentence, echoed that sentiment.

"Illinoisans have endured far too much corruption, and we must send a message to politicians that corrupt practices will no longer be tolerated," he said in a statement.

"President Trump has abused his pardon power in inexplicable ways to reward his friends and condone corruption, and I deeply (continued on page 12)

Housing Authority receives grant funds

Federal grants totaling more than \$20 million have been awarded to Southern Illinois housing authorities.

The Union County Housing Authority is among the agencies receiving grant funds.

The awarding of the funds was announced Feb. 13 by U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, R-III.

The grants were awarded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Capital Fund Program.

Bost said in a news release that the grant funds will be used for management improvements and the development, financing, and modernization of Public Housing properties.

Housing authorities in the region which received grant funding included:

Housing Authority of the County of Union: \$904,569.

Alexander County Housing Authority: \$1,184,351.

Housing Authority of Pulaski County: \$273,671.

Housing Authority of the County of Williamson: \$1,741,425.

Randolph County Housing Authority: \$426,793.

Housing Authority of the County of Jackson: \$2,038,230.

Housing Authority of the City of Marion: \$828,621.

(continued on page 2)

Weather High 60, low 9; 1.10 inches of rain

Temperatures ranged from a high of 60 degrees to a low of 9 during the period of Feb. 11-17 in Union County.

The low of 9 was recorded on Friday, Feb. 14. The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported subzero wind chill readings on Friday morning.

Precipitation for the period totaled 1.10 inches, including .05 of an inch on Feb. 11, .76 of an inch on Feb. 12, .04 of an inch on Feb. 13 and .25 of an inch on Feb. 17.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Feb. 11	42	33
Wednesday, Feb. 12	38	34
Thursday, Feb. 13	37	14
Friday, Feb. 14	28	9
Saturday, Feb. 15	49	17
Sunday, Feb. 16	58	32
Monday, Feb. 17	60	35



Grant supports school project

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School teacher Amy Penninger has received a Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative's, SIEC, Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant for \$500. The photograph features Penninger and her third hour geography class at the Union County school, along with Chris Boyd from SIEC. Photo provided.

A-J teacher receives Touchstone Grant

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School teacher Amy Penninger is one of this year's seven recipients of a Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative's, SIEC, Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant for \$500.

Penninger was awarded the grant for a project which involves the development of a digital archive by her students.

The digital archive will include school historical records, including information about endowments, old yearbooks and photographs.

Through a digital archive, the school's historical records can be made available online for those who might want to have access to the information.

A digital archive will make information available which otherwise might be sitting in boxes in storage.

Penninger has access to resources which were kept by former school librarians.

She also has access to

materials which are available through contacts with a local historical society, which has provided old photographs and other documents.

Penninger and her students say they are excited

to be working on a project which is made possible, in part, with the grant.

This is the third year in a row that an A-JCHS faculty member has been awarded an SIEC Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant.

Wildcat wrestler headed to state

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School's Blake Mays has advanced to the Illinois High School Association Class 1A state wrestling tournament.

The tournament is scheduled Thursday, today, through Saturday at the State Farm Center in Champaign.

Mays, who wrestles in the 126-pound weight class, earned a spot at state by finishing in fourth place at

the Class 1A sectional at Vandalia Saturday, Feb. 14.

A-J wrestlers who advanced as alternates are Arojae Hart, 120 pounds, and Caleb Mays, 132 pounds.

Six wrestlers from A-J competed at the sectional in Vandalia.

A-J wrestling coach Chase Hargrave said the sectional featured very tough competition.



Blake Mays



An icy Valentine's Day in Union County

The weather on Valentine's Day - Friday, Feb. 14 - in Union County was icy cold...but the sun was shining in a bright blue sky. As has happened many times over the years, icicles formed on rocky formations at the Cobden Cemetery. The photograph was taken early last Friday afternoon from underneath one of the formations.



President commutes Blagojevich sentence

(continued from page 1)

believe this pardon sends the wrong message at the wrong time. I'm committed to continuing to take clear and decisive steps this spring to prevent politicians from using their offices for personal gain, and I will continue to

approach this work with that firm conviction."

Durkin was involved firsthand with Blagojevich's bipartisan impeachment effort in January 2009.

"I saw a governor who was rogue on steroids," he said. "He didn't care about the State of Illinois,

he cared about his own ambition and he abused the office, and the legislature did the appropriate thing, the federal courts did the right thing, not only at the district court level but also the appellate court and U.S. Supreme Court and they said his sentence was appropriate."

Durkin questioned why Blagojevich should get "special treatment" when others who are imprisoned for drug offenses receive decades in prison without relief from presidential pardons.

"It's just because of the celebrity of Rod Blagojevich," Durkin said. "I think it's wrong and it sends a bad message to people in this country that...you don't have to pay your debt to society."

"I'm never going to be able to figure out how the president messages, nor the decision making that he does," Durkin said. "That's something he's going to have to explain, but I think he needs to explain to the people of Illinois who saw a governor destroy the integrity of this office but also did some very, very terrible things to the finances of this state. I hope that he could make a plausible explanation of why this is appropriate."

ate, because I haven't seen anything yet."

Durkin added "I guess he's not concerned about the State of Illinois for next November."

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that Trump told reporters today before he departed on Air Force One, "Yes, we commuted the sentence of Rod Blagojevich. He served eight years in jail, a long time. He seems like a very nice person, don't know him."

State Sen. Cristina Castro, D-Elgin, who serves on the Joint Commission on Ethics and Lobbying Reform, issued the following statement:

"Rod Blagojevich's sentence was commuted because he is friends with the president and appeared on his reality show ('Celebrity Apprentice' on NBC), and no other reason. The misdeeds he committed while governor of our great state are disgraceful and embarrassing, and it's a shame that his friendship with the president affords him the luxury of not facing the full consequences of his actions."

On Twitter, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza said, "No surprise, birds of a feather flock together."

Illinois' Republican Congressmen 'disappointed' by commutation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressmen Mike Bost (Ill.-12), Darin LaHood (Ill.-18), John Shimkus (Ill.-15), Adam Kinzinger (Ill.-16) and Rodney Davis (Ill.-13) on Tuesday released the following statement after the resident commuted the sentence of former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich.

"We are disappointed by the President's commutation of Rod Blagojevich's federal sentence. We believe he received an appropriate and fair sentence, which was the low-end of the federal sentencing

guidelines for the gravity of his public corruption convictions.

"Blagojevich is the face of public corruption in Illinois, and not once has he shown any remorse for his clear and documented record of egregious crimes that undermined the trust placed in him by voters.

"As our state continues to grapple with political corruption, we shouldn't let those who breached the public trust off the hook. History will not judge Rod Blagojevich well."

Legislator introduces package of Second Amendment bills

A Southern Illinois legislator has introduced a legislative agenda which he said was aimed at protecting the Second Amendment rights of the people of the state.

State Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, said in a news release that the legislative package is made up of nine bills.

Windhorst said that the bills, if passed, "would eliminate onerous regulations and cut down the high cost of exercising Second Amendment Rights."

"The package of bills that I've introduced are aimed at cutting red tape and saving law-abiding citizens time and money," Windhorst said.

"Illinois is one of only four states that still requires a Firearm Owner's Identification Card (FOID).

"I do not believe the FOID card is constitutional, and that issue is pending in the Illinois court system. Prior to that ruling however, there are steps we can take as a legislature to return Constitutionally-guaranteed rights back to law-abiding Illinoisans."

At the beginning of 2019, Windhorst introduced legislation that would repeal Illinois' FOID card requirement (HB 913). Windhorst has repeatedly called for a vote on the bill in the House.

"My preference would be for the State of Illinois to join 46 other states in the nation in removing the unconstitutional requirement of the FOID card," Windhorst said.

"As I continue to push for the repeal of the FOID requirement, I believe we can pass some common sense legislation to ease the burden on law-abiding gun owners."

The legislator shared details about the rest of his

legislative package:

HB 4391 would ban local government units from imposing taxes or fees on firearms and ammunition.

HB 4392 would eliminate the 72-hour waiting period for individuals that have been granted a valid license to carry a concealed handgun under the Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

HB 4393 would lower the fee to obtain a concealed carry license from \$150 to \$100.

HB 4397 grants exclusive power to the State of Illinois in regard to the regulation of the ownership and possession of firearms and invalidates existing and future local ordinances or resolutions that require local registration, or local reporting of the sale or transfer of a firearm, and bans municipalities from maintaining any kind of firearm registry.

HB 4398 allows any individual that has received a permit to conceal carry a firearm to do so on public transportation.

HB 4447 states that any renewal application shall be accepted by the Illinois State Police if submitted within 180 days before the expiration of the applicant's FOID card or concealed carry license.

HB 4448 would require the Illinois State Police to automatically renew any concealed carry license holder's FOID card as long as their conceal carry license is in good standing until the time that the concealed carry license expires.

HB 4450 spells out the process by which any appeal of the denial of a FOID card or concealed carry license must be handled and provides specific guidelines for the state police in regard to the time it takes to process any such appeal.

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Tentative multiplier issued

Union County has been issued a tentative property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, the Illinois Department of Revenue, IDOR, reported Feb. 11.

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

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

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

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

Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland and farm buildings assessed according to standards based on productivity.

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

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

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

If the average level of

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

Assessments in Union County are at 33.14 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2019 taxes, payable in 2020.

Last year's equalization factor for the county was 0.9852.

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

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

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease.

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

If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments may have increased.

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

We invite you to join us
*A Holy Spirit filled church
seeking God's continuing direction*



Gospel Assembly Church
724 E. Davie St., Anna, IL 62906

*We welcome you to visit our church.
With over 100 years of history and the many blessings of
the Lord, we are a Holy Spirit filled people, diligently seeking
God's will and continuing direction for our church, and it
begins with each individual and their family.*

Please join us during any of our services:
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Sunday Afternoon: 1 p.m.
Sunday School: 12:15 p.m. Sunday Evening: 5 p.m.
Prayer Meeting Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Jeff Workman, Pastor
317-474-4223

**Join us for the first annual Anna District 37
Spring Fling!!**

**March 28, 2020
4:30 p.m - 7:30 p.m.**

**Watch your favorite teacher kiss a pig.
Pictures with the Easter Bunny.
Carnival Games • Hoop Shoot Contest
Raffle & Auction Items • Concessions**

Free Admission. Tickets for attractions sold at the door.

This event is being hosted by the Anna District 37 PTO.

Spring flood outlook issued

Flood potential this spring is above average or above normal for much of the Ohio and Mississippi river basins and their tributaries across Southern Illinois and Western Kentucky.

An average or normal chance exists for tributaries in Southeast Missouri.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah released a spring 2020 flood and water resources outlook last week.

The outlook covers a period which began in mid-February and continues through mid-May.

"Flooding in this region occurs mainly due to conditions of ground moisture, river flows and expected precipitation," the weather service noted on its website.

Precipitation since last fall in the region has been above normal.

Periodic rounds of heavy rain have fallen since Dec. 1, producing rivers that are running above normal across the region.

Minor to moderate flooding is currently occurring along the Ohio River and several of its tributaries.

Snow is confined to only the extreme northern parts of the Mississippi and Ohio river basins.

Soil moisture is much above normal and conditions are nearly saturated across the region.

Housing Authority

(continued from page 1)

The funds received by the Union County Housing Authority will be utilized for kitchen improvements at units in Anna and Dongola.

Kelly Carter, the executive director of the Union County Housing Authority, said the work is planned during 2020.

"These resources help ensure that Southern Illinoisans who need it have access to safe, stable public housing," Bost said in the news release which announced the funding.

"The heartbreaking circumstances of local residents subjected to substandard public housing are well-documented at this point. I am hopeful these additional resources will make those stories increasingly rare moving forward."

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

The A-JCHS Facebook page is reported to have 1,504 followers, 1,446 likes and has been averaging about 1,300 post engagements each day.

Anna Junior High School 8th grade students are planning to visit A-JCHS on Friday, Feb. 21.

Specialized Equine Services & Therapeutic Riding plans to have a volunteer training/orientation session at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at Giant City Stables near Makanda.

A program about the owls of Southern Illinois is set for 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28, at the Barkhausen Cache River Wetlands Center near Cypress.

A Spring Fling event is being planned for March 28 at Anna Junior High School.

The River-to-River Trail Society is planning a series of hikes from early March through early May in the Southern Illinois area.



Annual meeting

The annual meeting of Anna-Jonesboro National Bank stockholders was conducted last week. At the meeting, directors were elected for the coming year. Seated from left, are president Scott Wilson and chairman Phil Hileman. Standing are Larry Carter, Greg Wood, Dr. Steve Beatty, Dick Hodges and Rusty Flamm.

Maple Syrup Fest, pancake breakfast planned at Touch of Nature Center

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's annual Maple Syrup Festival and Pancake Breakfast event is planned Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 22-23, at the Touch of Nature Environmental Center near Carbondale.

The festival's hours are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The two-day event features activities for all ages, vendors, music, demonstrations and the popular breakfast with pancakes and homemade maple syrup.

While there is a cost for the breakfast, the festival is free.

A breakfast will feature homemade pancakes topped with maple syrup harvested at Touch of Nature and served with local sausage from Lick Creek Pork & Beef.

Serving is planned from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day and tickets are available.

Tickets can be purchased online in advance. The price is \$12 for ages 13 and older or \$6 for ages 6 to 12. At the

door, tickets are \$15 and \$8, respectively. Children ages 6 and younger eat free.

An assortment of interactive demonstrations and nature events are planned throughout the day at the Maple Syrup Festival.

There will be live "tapping" demonstrations at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. at the Lion's Pavilion, where the art of extracting the maple sap from trees and boiling it to produce the syrup will be on display.

Lumberjack games will

feature SIU forestry students demonstrating their prowess at traditional lumberjack events.

The SIU chapter of the Society of American Foresters will be leading tree identification hikes and there will be ongoing children's activities taking place at Morris Lodge courtesy of Graduate Student Assistants Supporting Science.

The short film "Maple Syrup Farmer" is scheduled to be shown at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the River Radio Retreat, where "Leave No Trace" techniques will be featured.

Weather permitting, visitors will be able to try your hand at Touch of Nature's portable climbing wall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Musical entertainment also is on tap for the 2020 Maple Syrup Festival. Live performances will feature the sounds of Danny Brown, Jeremy T. McConaughy, Jermaine Bollinger, Kali Lynn, Bill Passalacqua and Greg Klyma.

Numerous regional artisans and vendors will demonstrate how they create or harvest their special wares and visitors can purchase items as well.

Festival-goers will find alpaca yarn and goats milk products, silk embroidery, wood and pottery, nature jewelry, jellies and jams, rope-making, natural soaps and lotions, mushroom cultivation, beekeeping, hide tanning and primitive living skills.

Lunch and drinks will also be available from 1 to 4 p.m.

A complete, up-to-date schedule and additional information, as well as advance ticket registration, can be found online at <https://ton.siu.edu/events/maple-syrup-festival.php>, by calling 618-453-1121 or by emailing tonec@siu.edu for more details.

VFW to serve chicken, dumplings

The Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna plans to serve a chicken and dumplings dinner Friday, Feb. 21.

The dinner will be served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the post, which is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.

Chicken and dumplings, corn, green beans, rolls, deserts, tea and coffee will be served for a \$10 donation.

A Mardi Gras party featuring Star Karaoke is planned starting at 6 p.m.

Anna Kiwanis Club honors Willard Cunningham for 50 years of service



Anna Kiwanis Club president Randy Kinder and Willard Cunningham. Photo provided

The Anna Kiwanis Club has recognized Willard Cunningham for 50 years of service.

Willard said that during his time in Kiwanis he has had the opportunity "to work with many good hard-working fellows who have made Kiwanis what it is today."

The Anna Kiwanis is known for cooking barbeque shoulders dating back to the 1950s - before it was heard of in this area.

Since then, the Anna Kiwanis Club has cooked well over \$1 million worth of shoulders, with 100 percent of the proceeds going back into this community - especially for the children's needs.

"This has been a rewarding experience for me," Cunningham said.

Randy Kinder, the president of the Anna Kiwanis Club, said "Willard has been a huge asset to this club and is a good friend to all that know him."

"Willard is always there when we're cooking barbeque shoulders and he is known as our 'go to guy' for any repairs that may be needed to our Kiwanis building. We congratulate Willard for donating so many countless hours of his time during this past 50 years to help raise money for the children."

Two area men sentenced to time in federal prison for roles in meth conspiracy

Jonathan R. Moore, also known as "J-Mo," 34, of Carbondale, and Elijah S. Lacy, also known as "E," 35, of Murphysboro have been sentenced to serve time in federal prison for their roles in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

The sentences were announced Wednesday, Feb. 12, by the U.S. Department of Justice's U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois.

Both Moore and Lacy previously pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine and one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine.

The alleged offenses occurred in Jackson County between December 2018 and January 2019.

Evidence at the plea hearings established that Moore and Lacy were involved with others in the distribution of ice.

Ice is methamphetamine with a purity level of at least 80 percent.

Moore had multiple packages of ice mailed from California to Jackson County residences.

Moore, Lacy and others then distributed the ice in Southern Illinois.

In late January 2019, Moore arranged to have approximately 56 pounds of ice mailed from California to three Jackson County residences. Lacy received one of the shipments.

The district court found Lacy responsible for distrib-

Hernia screenings to be offered

Union County General Surgery plans to offer a free hernia screening on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

Screenings will be available from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 515 N. Main St., Suite C, in Anna.

Registration is required and is available by calling 855-930-1365.

uting approximately 12.6 kilograms of ice and sentenced him to 235 months in prison, to be followed by five years of supervised release. He was also ordered to pay \$700 in fines.

Moore, who was found responsible for distributing approximately 24 kilograms of ice, was sentenced to 210 months imprisonment, five years of supervised release and \$400 in fines.

A third man, co-defendant Kenton Murillo, also known as "Nephew," has also pleaded guilty to his role in the methamphetamine conspiracy but has not yet been sentenced.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, with assistance from the Carbondale Police Department, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, the Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police, the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group and the Jackson County state's attorney's office.

Sadie McMahan born on Jan. 16

Sadie Jane McMahan was born on Jan. 16, 2020, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

Sadie's parents are Renee Sauerbrunn and Lucas McMahan of Anna.

Sadie weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 18.5 inches long when she was born.

Maternal grandparents are Larry and Treesa Sauerbrunn of Olmsted.

Paternal grandparents are Shawn and Deneen McMahan of Grand Tower.

Worship service set at Kornthal

A worship service is planned Thursday, today, at Kornthal Church near Jonesboro. The service is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Kornthal Church is 2 1/2 miles south of Jonesboro, just off Illinois Route 127.

Make your financial future a priority.



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We would like to welcome Rusty Flamm to our bank family.



Rusty, a lifelong Union County resident and local business owner, has been named as the newest member of the Board of Directors for Anna-Jonesboro National Bank and Union County Bancshares. Congratulations!

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank
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Sports

Cobden earns 20th win of season

The Cobden High School boys' basketball team earned its 20th win of the season last week.

Cobden has posted two straight 20-win seasons. The last time the Appleknockers had two consecutive 20-game winning seasons was the 1964 team, which finished second in the state tournament.

Cobden 51, Thompsonville 23: The host Appleknockers pulled ahead early for the non-conference Purple Out game win Saturday, Feb. 15.

The game, which was played in a packed gymnasium, was a benefit game to help support a scholarship in honor of former Cobden standout athlete Taylor Tomazzoli, who passed away in a traffic accident last month.

Alex Ramsey opened the game for the Appleknockers with a 3-pointer.

With Noah Franklin add-

ing another 3-pointer and Joe Brumleve having a slam dunk, Cobden built a 17-11 first quarter lead.

Jose Lopez and Dylan Lewey had a 3-pointer apiece in the second quarter to help build a 31-16 lead at the halftime.

Alex Ramsey added another 3-pointer in the third quarter as Cobden had a 42-18 lead after three quarters.

Remsey added another 3-pointer in the final quarter to close out the scoring.

Brumleve led the way for Cobden with 20 points.

Remsey added 9 points, Lewey 8, Noah Franklin and Lopez 5 apiece and Tyler Franklin 4.

Cobden 78, Dongola 45: The visiting Appleknockers took an early lead on their way to their final South Egyptian Conference win of the season Friday, Feb. 14.

The win gave Cobden its

first undefeated conference winning season since 1979. The Appleknockers have shared the conference title previously.

The Appleknockers led 24-16 after one quarter and 46-31 at the half. Cobden led 51-39 after three quarters.

Brumleve led the Appleknockers with 21 points.

Tyler Franklin added 17 points, Noah Franklin 14, Lewey 12, Lopez 7, Remsey 4 and Brady Bundren 3.

Evan Treat scored 13 points to lead Dongola.

Joey Thomas added 10 points, Colin Hall 9, Andrew Tarpley 8, Carmen Hogue 3 and Hunter Freeman 2.

Cobden, 20-8, is scheduled to play its final regular season home game on Senior Night this Saturday against Patoka. The Appleknockers are scheduled to host a Class 1A regional Feb. 24-28.

Pena had 2 points and 2 rebounds.

A-J was 7 of 17 in shot attempts from the field, 3 of 10 from 3-point range and 8 of 12 from the free throw line.

The Panthers were 16 of 22 in shot attempts from the floor, 8 of 17 from 3-point range and 15 of 22 from the charity stripe.

A-J, 11-18 overall and 3-5 in the conference, is scheduled to play Friday at home against Sparta on Senior Night to close out regular season play.

The Wildcats are scheduled to play in the Vienna Class 2A regional, which is scheduled from Monday, Feb. 24, through Friday, Feb. 28.

A-J tops Du Quoin; to play in regional

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team split last week.

A-J 45, Du Quoin 42: The visiting Wildcats came on in the third quarter on their way to the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division win Saturday, Feb. 15.

Damareon Faust had 14 points and 7 rebounds to lead A-J.

Ta'Kevon Williford had 10 points and 6 rebounds. Zach Overstreet had 7 points and 6 rebounds.

Noah McFarland had 5 points and 5 rebounds. Blake Pena had 4 points. Juan Valencia had 3 points and 3 rebounds. Maddox Thorpe had 2 points.

Cobden girls' season ends at regional

Cobden let a first quarter lead slip away in a 51-24 loss to Gallatin County in second-round action at the Class 1A high school girls' basketball regional at Shawnee High School in Wolf Lake Tuesday, Feb. 11.

The Appleknockers led 13-11 after one quarter but were outscored by the Lady Hawks 13-2 in the second quarter to trail 24-15 at the half. Gallatin County led 42-19 after three quarters.

Jenna Hartline had 15 points to lead Cobden.

Abby Ramsey added 5 points and Aubrey Fisher and Katelyn Shadowens 2 apiece.

The Appleknockers finished the season at 9-21 overall.

Cobden, Vienna to host boys' basketball regionals

Union County boys' high school basketball teams are scheduled to compete in Illinois High School Association regional play Feb. 24-28.

Anna-Jonesboro is scheduled to play in a Class 2A regional at Vienna.

Cobden is scheduled to host a Class 1A regional. Dongola and Shawnee will be playing in the Cobden regional.

Vienna Class 2A Regional

The schedule for the Vienna Class 2A regional follows:

Monday, Feb. 24: 6 p.m. A-J vs. Johnston City. 7:30 p.m. Carterville vs. Vienna.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: 7 p.m. Massac County vs. the win-

ner of A-J/Johnston City.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: 7 p.m. Mt. Carmel vs. Carterville/Vienna winner.

Friday, Feb. 28: 7 p.m. championship.

Cobden Class 1A Regional

The schedule for the Class 1A regional follows:

Monday, Feb. 24: 7 p.m. Century vs. Dongola.

Tuesday, Feb. 25: 6 p.m. Cairo vs. Shawnee. 7:30 p.m. Egyptian vs. Joppa/Maple Grove.

Wednesday, Feb. 26: 6 p.m. Cobden vs. Century/Dongola winner. 7:30 p.m. Cairo/Shawnee winner vs. Egyptian/Maple Grove winner.

Friday, Feb. 28: 7 p.m. championship.

Harrisburg edges A-J in OT for championship

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team lost 54-52 in overtime to Harrisburg in the championship game at the Vienna Class 2A regional Thursday, Feb. 13.

A-J head coach Matt Denny said the loss was frustrating after the Lady Wildcats got so close to claiming a title at a tough regional.

The Lady Wildcats trailed 11-9 after one quarter, but came back to pull ahead 20-16 at the half.

A-J led 34-33 after three quarters before the Lady Bulldogs came back for a 47-47 tie in regulation play.

Kristin Edmonds had 13 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists and a block to lead the Lady Wildcats.

Mikayla Bundren had 11 points, a rebound and 2 assists. Anna Hess had 6

points and 5 rebounds.

Sydnie Ralls had 6 points, 2 rebounds and an assist. Raegan Cruse had 5 points and 2 assists.

Jaylee Watkins had 5 points and a steal. Addison Denny had 4 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals and 2 assists.

The Wildcats had 24 fouls to the Lady Bulldogs' 15. A-J had 18 turnovers compared to 12 for Harrisburg.

Denny said it felt good knowing that A-J could compete with a Harrisburg squad that was ranked No. 6 in the Class 2A poll.

A-J 38, Eldorado 37: The Lady Wildcats raced to a big first quarter lead on their way to the first round regional win Tuesday, Feb. 11.

A-J led 10-0 after one quarter and 23-6 at the half. The Lady Eagles fought back to pull to 28-17 after three quarters.

Eldorado outscored the Lady Wildcats 20-10 in the final quarter before falling short in the come-from-behind bid.

Hess had 11 points, 3 rebounds and 2 assists to lead A-J.

Cruse had 9 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals, an assist and a block. Bundren had 7 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists and a steal.

Edmonds had 5 points, 2 assists, a steal and a rebound. Addison Denny had 4 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals.

Watkins had 2 points, a rebound and a block. Ralls had a steal.

"It was a tough road," Denny said. "We played two of the top teams."

A-J finished the season with a 23-11 overall record. The Lady Wildcats have had two consecutive seasons with at least 20 wins.

Inaugural Purple Out! game played Saturday at Cobden

Purple was the color of the day last weekend at a Cobden High School boys' basketball game. The inaugural Purple Out! game was played Saturday afternoon, with Cobden hosting Thompsonville.

The game was played in honor of Taylor Tomazzoli, a Cobden High School graduate and standout student athlete. Taylor sustained fatal injuries in a traffic accident which occurred in January in Union County.

Cobden High School's gymnasium was packed for the first Purple Out! game, which organizers hope to make an annual event. The Cobden High School Appleknockers hosted Thompsonville in the matchup. The home team scored a 51-23 victory.

Many of those in attendance at Saturday's game were wearing special 2020 Inaugural Purple Out! t-shirts, which were created in Taylor's honor. Purple was her favorite color. The t-shirts carried a message which read: "Play Like Tay." Purple ribbons also were available. Cookbooks were sold and a raffle also was held. Proceeds generated through the special activities will help to support a scholarship fund which has been established in Taylor's honor. The scholarship fund has generated more than \$20,000 in donations.

Memorials also were given in Taylor's honor for the Camp Little Giant program at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Touch of Nature Environmental Center. Camp Little Giant is a program which offers outdoor and nature experience opportunities for people with mental, physical and cognitive disabilities.



Members of the Cobden cheerleading squad, wearing Purple Out! t-shirts, presented a routine Saturday afternoon.



Cobden's Joe Brumleve, number 32 in white uniform, goes high over the Thompsonville defense to score 2 points. Brumleve led Cobden with 20 points in the game.



Richard Howell, right, presented a check for \$3,000 to Tom Brummer, assistant director of facilities and operations at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Touch of Nature Environmental Center. Howell presented the check to Brummer on behalf of the Tomazzoli family...and extended family.

Dark web 'Drug Llama' sentenced to 160 months in federal prison

Melissa Scanlan, also known as "The Drug Llama," has been sentenced to 160 months in federal prison.

The sentence was announced Wednesday, Feb. 12, by the U.S. Department of Justice's U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois.

Scanlan was sentenced in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois for trafficking fentanyl throughout the United States via the dark web, engaging in an international money laundering conspiracy and distributing fentanyl that results in death.

The crimes for which Scanlan was sentenced are as follows: one count of conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, five counts of distributing fentanyl, one count of selling counterfeit drugs, one count of misbranding drugs, one count of conspiracy to commit international money laundering and one count of distribution of fentanyl resulting in death.

The 32-year old San Diego native pleaded guilty to those charges in October 2019.

Scanlan's co-conspirator, Brandon Arias, 34, previously was sentenced to nine years in federal prison for his role in the conspiracy.

Facts disclosed in open court revealed that Scanlan and Arias created an account on "Dream Market," a dark web marketplace

where users buy and sell illegal substances and services, and used that account to sell substantial quantities of narcotics while operating under the moniker, "The Drug Llama."

The dark web is an underground computer network that is unreachable by traditional search engines and web browsers.

Authorities said this false cloak has led to a proliferation of criminal marketplaces, like the one used by Scanlan and Arias.

The fentanyl distribution conspiracy for which charges were filed was reported to have lasted from October 2016 to August 2018. During that time, Scanlan sold approximately 52,000 fentanyl pills throughout the United States.

According to court records, Scanlan and Arias made over \$100,000 from their dark web drug trafficking and split the money evenly.

Court records also demonstrated Scanlan's participation in an international money laundering conspiracy with Mexican cartel members, as well as her role in aiding and abetting the distribution of fentanyl pills to a woman identified as A.W., who later died.

Commenting on the case, U.S. Attorney Steven D. Weinhoeft assailed the culture of criminality that exists on the dark web.

"Criminals like Melissa Scanlan who recklessly flood our communities with opioids may think they can evade detection in the shadowy corners and back alleys of the internet," Weinhoeft said in a news release.

"But they will find no quarter there. Where they go, we will follow. With the collaboration of outstanding investigators at our partner agencies, we will use every tool and method available to find these people and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law."

Weinhoeft also noted that this prosecution further underscores the critical need for Congress to permanently criminalize fentanyl analogues.

This case was part of a months-long, coordinated national operation involving the Food and Drug Administration-Office of Criminal Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Department of Homeland Security, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California, and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Derek J. Wiseman is the prosecuting attorney on the case.

Presidential library's oral history program records 1,000th interview

SPRINGFIELD – The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Oral History Program has recorded its 1,000th interview, reaching a milestone that few oral history programs anywhere in America have achieved.

The interviews, totaling more than 2,900 hours of conversation, include veterans telling war stories, farmers talking about rural life, activists recalling civil rights battles and athletes sharing moments of victory and defeat.

Among the treasure trove of memories are 275 interviews with Illinois veterans, 268 about education, 215 on Illinois government and politics and 88 related to agriculture.

Audio from every interview is available online at www.OralHistory.Illinois.gov, and many are accompanied by video, photos and full transcripts.

"Personal memories add powerful information to our understanding of history. It's vital that we capture them for future generations," said Dr. Mark DePue, director of the Oral

History Program.

"Our goal has always been to collect and preserve high-quality, in-depth interviews and to maximize their accessibility."

New material is added to the program's website almost every day. An addition is a section featuring the many interview excerpts about President Barack Obama's time in Illinois.

The program also offers resources to help teachers use oral histories in the classroom: for instance, in discussions about Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb or how Title IX expanded opportunities for female athletes.

The newest lesson plans help teachers conduct their own oral history project in the classroom.

"The Oral History Program at the Lincoln Presidential Library is a truly extraordinary resource for anyone interested in Illinois and its rich, diverse history," said Dr. Holly Kent, who teaches oral history at the University of Illinois Springfield.

"Centering voices which

all too often go unheard in larger historical narratives, the oral histories invaluable help us to better understand the full complexity of the state and the many fascinating people who have shaped it."

The Oral History Program launched in September 2006 and has grown to be an unmatched resource for Illinois history.

DePue himself has collected nearly 60 percent of all the hours of interviews, but he is quick to share credit with the many interns and volunteers who have participated over the past decade and a half.

"I have so many interviews that I loved doing. The best part of the job is definitely getting to know these amazing people and hearing their stories," DePue said.

Among his favorites: Vince Speranza, who served as a paratrooper in World War II.

John Borling, a POW in the Vietnam War.

James R. Thompson, the colorful governor of Illinois for 14 years.

Jim Edgar, another of Illinois' respected senior statesmen.

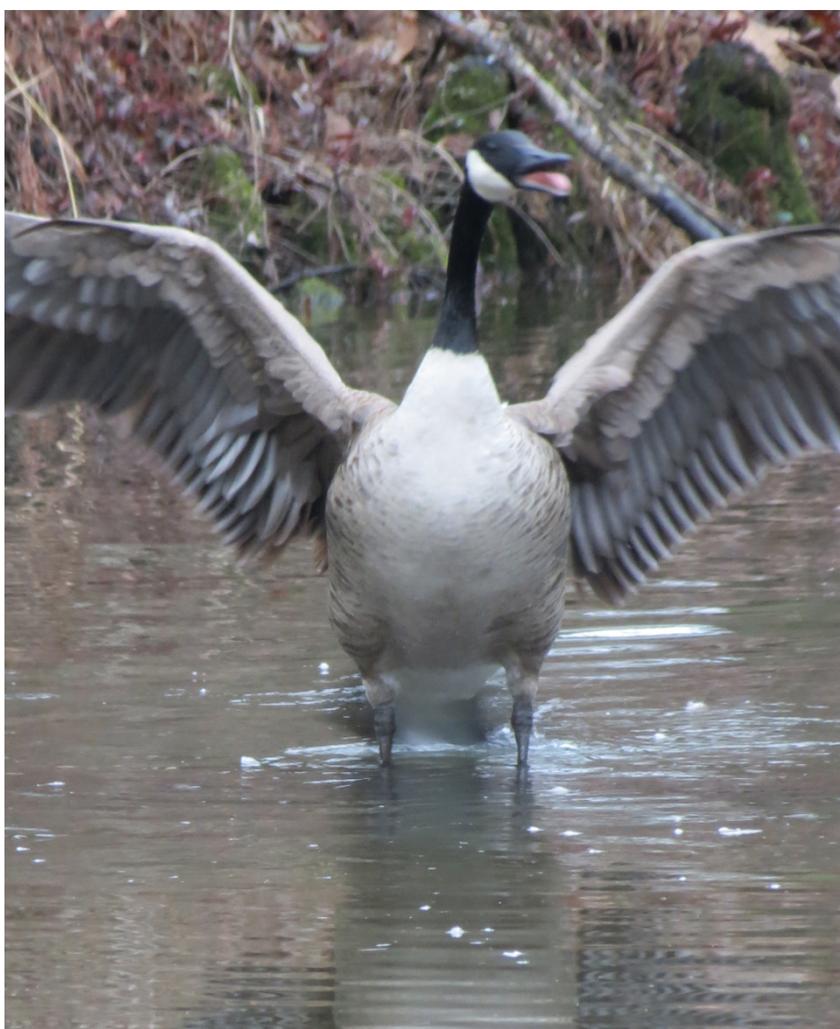
Maija Devine, who endured the Korean War as a young girl and later emigrated to the United States.

Maybelle Blair, a pitcher in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

Orion Samuelson, WGN's legendary voice of agriculture for over 50 years.

Ron Thunman, who commanded an attack submarine trailing Soviet subs during the Cold War.

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The Gazette-
Democrat online at
annanews.com



Making its presence known

A Canada goose put on a bit of a show for a photograph which was taken on a recent winter afternoon at a pond in Union County.

'American Symphony' earns national honor for music festival

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Edward Benyas turned a surprisingly refreshing phone call he received about six years ago into a conductor's dream.

The award was a significant award for himself and the Southern Illinois Music Festival.

Benyas, the festival's founder and artistic director, recently learned that "American Symphony" received third prize in the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of Music.

The award recognizes and rewards the best performances of American music by ensembles and individ-

Local artist's passion for art began when she was in grade school

Local artist Mary Pachikara's passion for art began in grade school.

Now 80, Pachikara recalls drawing in her notebooks instead of listening to her teachers in class.

Her love of art never stopped for Pachikara, including over the 35 years of living in Southern Illinois and capturing what she saw in vivid watercolors.

Pachikara is hosting her second solo exhibit, "Fields and Figures," at the University Museum's Mitchell Gallery.

An opening reception is planned Feb. 21 from 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Pachikara will discuss her watercolor works at 5:30 p.m. The exhibit is scheduled to be on display through June 20.

"My inspirations are the beautiful Southern Illinois landscapes and people around me," Pachikara said.

The exhibit includes 65 paintings that range from vibrant, to monochromatic and contemplative.

"What's striking is Mary's ability to convey such strong emotions and such a profound sense of place," Wes Stoerger, the museum's curator of exhibits, said. "I feel it will stir similar emotions in the audience."

When Pachikara was a young girl, her father gave her watercolor paints with two brushes.

This only deepened her curiosity and enjoyment in art. In her adult years, she

posed much of the score while on World War II battlefields.

The award, announced recently, recognizes the musical festival for promoting Semiatin's music in 2014 and 2015, including the "American Symphony" world premiere in June 2015, Benyas said.

Benyas said Semiatin, who was from White Plains, N.Y., first contacted him in 2014.

Benyas believes Semiatin's work is likely the only chamber orchestra piece written on the battlefield by an American World War II veteran.

Benyas is a military history buff and said he was immediately moved by Semiatin's initial phone call.

He noted that like many conductors, he regularly receives calls from composers wanting to get their work performed.

Semiatin created his compositions between 1944 and 1975, in time for the nation's bicentennial.

Semiatin's work stood out for being "jazzy" and Gershwin-like, Benyas said. Semiatin was born in Ireland and moved to the United States when he was 3 years old.

He landed in Normandy about a week after D-Day, according to reports, and eventually was assigned to the chaplain's office overseas in part because of his musical abilities.

Semiatin, who was retired from a 30-year role as executive director of the Temple Israel Center in White Plains, visited Carbondale in 2014 to hear three of his pieces performed during the 2014 music festival during a D-Day 70th anniversary concert.

He died in 2015 at the age of 98, two months after his entire "American Symphony" premiered in June.

Benyas said he received an email from one of Semiatin's daughters recently, praising Benyas for "capturing the essence of what he had in mind when he wrote it – the expansiveness, potential and huge energy of our nation."

It was special enough to earn a special judges' citation for championing Semiatin's music.

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of Tears State Forest. The
address is 1290 Clear Creek
Levee Road (hard road),
Jonesboro. Watch for sign
which is located 2 miles east
of Ware on hwy. 146. Call or
text (618)697-1934. I will get
back with you as soon as I can.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 1ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY - JONESBORO, ILLINOIS

**Nationstar Mortgage
LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
PLAINTIFF**

Vs.

**Hugh Deneal; et. al.
DEFENDANTS
2019CH17**

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

**PUBLIC NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN** that pur-
suant to a Judgment of Fore-
closure and Sale entered in the
above cause on 10/15/2019,
the Sheriff of Union County,
Illinois will on April 1, 2020
at the hour of 9:00 AM at
Union County Courthouse
309 West Market Jonesboro,
IL 62952, or in a place oth-
erwise designated at the time
of sale, County of Union and
State of Illinois, sell at public
auction to the highest bidder
for cash, as set forth below,
the following described real
estate:

PIN 14-00-07-574

Improved with Residential
COMMONLY KNOWN
AS:

503 East Market Street
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Sale terms: 10% down of
the highest bid by certified
funds at the close of the
auction; The balance, in-
cluding the Judicial sale fee
for Abandoned Residential
Property Municipality Relief
Fund, which is calculated
at the rate of \$1 for each
\$1,000 or fraction thereof of
the amount paid by the pur-
chaser not to exceed \$300, in
certified funds, is due within
twenty-four (24) hours. The
subject property is subject to
general real estate taxes, spe-
cial assessments, or special
taxes levied against said real
estate and is offered for sale
without any representation as
to quality or quantity of title
and without recourse to Plain-
tiff and in "AS IS" condition.
The sale is further subject to
confirmation by the court.

If the property is a con-
dominium and the foreclosure
takes place after 1/1/2007,
purchasers other than the

mortgagees will be required
to pay any assessment and
legal fees due under The Con-
dominium Property Act, 765
ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located
in a common interest com-
munity, purchasers other than
mortgagees will be required
to pay any assessment and
legal fees due under the Con-
dominium Property Act, 765
ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for
any reason, the Purchaser at
the sale shall be entitled only
to a return of the deposit paid.
The Purchaser shall have no
further recourse against the
Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or
the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of
the amount bid, the purchaser
shall receive a Certificate of
Sale, which will entitle the
purchaser to a Deed to the real
estate after Confirmation of
the sale. The successful pur-
chaser has the sole responsi-
bility/expense of evicting any
tenants or other individuals
presently in possession of the
subject premises.

The property will NOT
be open for inspection and
Plaintiff makes no repre-
sentation as to the condition
of the property. Prospective
bidders are admonished to
check the Court file to verify
all information.

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GAGOR (HOMEOWNER),
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO REMAIN IN POSSES-
SION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER
ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF
POSSESSION, IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH SECTION
15-1701(C) OF THE ILLI-
NOIS MORTGAGE FORE-
CLOSURE LAW.**

For information: Exam-
ine the court file or contact
Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis
& Associates, P.C., 15W030
North Frontage Road, Suite
100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527,
(630) 794-9876. Please refer
to file number 14-19-04738.
I3145374

10-12g

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9p-11gc

HELP WANTED

City of Anna, Lifeguard

The City of Anna is ac-
cepting applications for part-
time pool lifeguard positions.
American Red Cross Life-
guard Certification is highly
desirable, candidates must
pass pre-employment back-
ground check. Applications
will be available for interested
candidates at Anna City Hall
or online at cityofanna.org.
Please return employment
application to the Human Re-
sources Department at Anna
City Hall, 103 Market Street
Anna, IL 62906 or by email
to aguined@cityofanna.org.
Application deadline is April
3, 2020. EOE.

10-11gp

City of Anna, Pool Manager & Head Lifeguard

The City of Anna is accept-
ing applications for pool man-
ager and head lifeguard po-
sition. American Red Cross
Lifeguard Certification, prior
management experience and
W.S.I. training is highly de-
sirable. Candidates must pass
pre-employment background
check. Applications will be
available for interested
candidates at Anna City Hall
or online at cityofanna.org.
Please return employment
application to the Human Re-
sources Department at Anna
City Hall, 103 Market Street
Anna, IL 62906 or by email
to aguined@cityofanna.org.
Application deadline is April
3, 2020. EOE.

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NOTICE

FISH FRIES: Beginning
Friday, February 28, 4 p.m.
to 7 p.m. St. Joseph Church,
Cobden. Fried & baked fish,
numerous sides, drinks, des-
serts. All-U-Can-Eat, \$12.00.

10-11gpc

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNA-JONESBORO WATER COMMISSION

NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-
76-4 of the Illinois Municipal
Code, the Anna-Jonesboro
Water Commission has de-
clared the following as sur-
plus personal property and
offers the same for sale:

- One (1) 2006 White
Ford F-150 truck, bearing
Illinois Vehicle Identification
#1FTRX14W06NA36595,

with 125,716 original miles.

Said property may be in-
spected at the Water Commis-
sion Plant, 495 Water Plant
Road, Jonesboro, Illinois.
Said property is being sold
"AS IS" condition, without
any implied or expressed
warranties as to its condition
or need of repair.

Sealed written bids, iden-
tifying the above-described
items, in the minimum sum
of Two Thousand Dollars
(\$2,000), shall be received by
the Water Commission during
normal business hours, Mon-
day through Friday, at the
Water Commission Office,
495 Water Plant Road, Jones-
boro, Illinois, through the
close of business on FRIDAY,
MARCH 6, 2020. All bids
shall be accompanied by a
check or money order for not
less than 10% of the bid and all
successful bidders must make
full payment and arrange for
vehicle pick-up by not later
than MARCH 11, 2020.

All bids will be opened,
read and any accepted and
approved high bids will be
awarded at the regular meet-
ing of the Anna Jonesboro
Water Commission on TUES-
DAY, MARCH 10, 2020, at
5 p.m. at the Jonesboro City
Hall. The Anna-Jonesboro
Water Commission reserves
the right to reject any and
all bids.

JAMIE BAUER

Water Commission
Secretary
10gp

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pulaski-Alexander
Soil and Water Conservation
District will be hosting its
72nd Annual Meeting. The
District cordially invites
you to attend on February
27, 2020 at 6 pm at Shawnee
Community College. This
year's annual meeting allows
the District to recognize a
Conservation Farm Family,
elect three (3) board member
positions, and reward area
students for their agriculture
related academic achieve-
ments. We will be providing
a meal, hosting a silent auc-
tion and handing out door
prizes. Registration begins at
5:30 p.m., with dinner being
served at 6 p.m. followed
by the business meeting at
7:00 p.m.

Please contact Amanda
Lilly at the Pulaski-Alexan-
der SWCD with any ques-
tions, comments or RSVPs.
618-747-2305 ext 104, aman-
da.lilly@il.nacdnet.net

8g, 10g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

**State of Illinois
SS
County of Union**

Notice is hereby given
pursuant to "An Act in rela-
tion to the use of an Assumed
Name in the conduct or
Transaction of Business in
the State," as Amended that a
certification was filed by the
undersigned with the County
Clerk of Union County. Filed
this 31st day of January, 2020,
under the Assumed Name of
Timber, Trail, and Stone with
the place of business located
at 3500 Wing Hill Road,
Cobden, Illinois 62920 and
that the True Name(s) and
Residence Address of the sole
owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of
said Business is:

Anthony Longbucco
3500 Wing Hill Road
Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
8-10gc

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

**State of Illinois
SS
County of Union**

Notice is hereby given
pursuant to "An Act in rela-
tion to the use of an Assumed
Name in the conduct or
Transaction of Business in
the State," as Amended that a
certification was filed by the
undersigned with the County
Clerk of Union County. Filed
this 29th day of January, 2020,
under the Assumed Name of
Robertson Marine Service

Wanted: Advertising Sales Rep



Reppert Publications has an immediate
opening for a sales representative.
Candidate must be self motivated, present
good appearance, be well organized and
have excellent people skills. No sales
experience necessary. To apply, please send resume
to jlreppert@annanews.com, mail to P.O. Box 529,
Anna, IL 62906 or come by the office at 112 Lafayette
Street, Anna, IL 62906. A family friendly, teamwork
atmosphere.

1GPTF

with the place of business
located at 840 Barringer
School Road, Anna, IL 62906
and that the True Name(s) and
Residence Address of the sole
owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of
said Business is:

Troy Lee Turner
840 Barringer School Road
Anna, IL 62906

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
8-10gc

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

**ANNA-JONESBORO
NATIONAL BANK,
A NATIONAL
CHARTERED BANK,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**SHAWN H. KNUPP
and KIRSTEN KNUPP,
UNKNOWN OWNERS
and NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.**

Case No: 2019-CH-13

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that
pursuant to a Judgment of
Foreclosure and Sale entered
in the above captioned matter
on November 26, 2019, the
Sheriff in Union County, will
by public sale on **4th day of
March, 2020, at 9 a.m.** in the
Union County Courthouse,
in Jonesboro, Illinois, sell at
public venue to the highest
and best bidder, for cash, or
cashier's check drawn on a
federally or state chartered
bank or savings and loan,
the following described real
estate:

EXHIBIT A

PART OF THE SOUTH-
EAST QUARTER OF
SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP
12 SOUTH, RANGE 2
WEST OF THE 3RD P.M.
IN UNION COUNTY, IL-
LINOIS, MORE PARTIC-
ULARLY DESCRIBED AS
FOLLOWS. COMMENC-
ING AT A 1" IRON PIPE
AT THE NORTHEAST
CORNER OF THE NORTH-
EAST QUARTER OF THE
SOUTHEAST QUARTER
OF SAID SECTION 10,
THENCE SOUTH 01 DE-
GREES 36 MINUTES 08
SECONDS WEST, ALONG
THE EAST LINE OF SAID
SECTION 10, A DISTANCE
OF 1530.61 FEET TO A
POINT; THENCE DEPART-
ING FROM SAID SEC-
TION LINE, SOUTH 75
DEGREES 30 MINUTES,
12 SECONDS WEST, A DIS-
TANCE OF 130.46 FEET TO
A 1/2" REBAR WITH CAP,
SAID POINT BEING THE
POINT OF BEGINNING
OF THIS DESCRIPTION,
THENCE CONTINUING
SOUTH 75 DEGREES 30
MINUTES 12 SECONDS
WEST, A DISTANCE OF
501.94 FEET TO A 1/2" RE-
BAR WITH CAP, THENCE
NORTH 25 DEGREES 57
MINUTES 06 SECONDS
WEST, A DISTANCE OF
563.06 FEET TO A 1/2"
REBAR WITH CAP IN THE
CENTERLINE OF STATE
POND ROAD, THENCE
NORTH 66 DEGREES 52
MINUTES 07 SECONDS
EAST, ALONG SAID CEN-
TERLINE, A DISTANCE OF
202.34 FEET TO A 1/2" RE-
BAR, THENCE NORTH 63
DEGREES 43 MINUTES 31
SECONDS EAST, ALONG
SAID CENTERLINE, A
DISTANCE OF 212.40 FEET
TO A 1/2" REBAR, THENCE
NORTH 61 DEGREES 36
MINUTES 15 SECONDS
EAST, ALONG SAID CEN-
TERLINE, A DISTANCE
OF 94.02 FEET TO A SET
1/2" REBAR WITH CAP,
THENCE SOUTH 24 DE-
GREES 17 MINUTES 15
SECONDS EAST, A DIS-
TANCE OF 656.04 FEET
TO THE POINT OF BEGIN-

NING, CONTAINING 6.965
ACRES, MORE OR LESS,
SUBJECT TO EXISTING
EASEMENTS.

ALL IN ACCORDANCE
WITH A PLAT OF SURVEY
DATED FEBRUARY, 2004,
AND RECORDED FEBRU-
ARY 25, 2004 IN RECORD
BOOK 243, PAGES 206-207,
AS DOC. NO. 486, MADE
BY JAMES A THOMPSON,
ILLINOIS PROFESSIONAL
LAND SURVEYOR NO.
3195, IN THE UNION
COUNTY RECORDER'S
OFFICE, UNION COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

Parcel# 08-10-05-760-D2
2265 State Pond Road
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Potential buyers may
contact John R. Schneider
of the law firm of Johnson,
Schneider & Ferrell, L.L.C.,
212 North Main Street, Cape
Girardeau, MO 63701, Phone
Number (573)-335-3300, for
information regarding this
real estate.

At said sale, the Court will
give the purchaser a certifi-
cate showing the amount of
the bid, a particular descrip-
tion of the property sold, and
the time when the purchaser
will be entitled to a deed for
such property unless same
shall have been redeemed
according to law.

Tiffany Busby
Circuit Clerk

Document prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER
& FERRELL, L.L.C.

212 North Main Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Telephone: (573)-335-3300
Facsimile: (573)-335-1978
www.johnsonschneider.com

8-10gm

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

**ANNA-JONESBORO
NATIONAL BANK,
a National Chartered
Bank,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**ROBERTA
PINKERTON-BYRD
A/K/A ROBERTA
PINKERTON-BIRD,
UNKNOWN OWNERS
And NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.**

Case No: 2020-CH-1

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for
publication having been filed,
notice is hereby given to you,
Roberta Pinkerton-Byrd a/k/a
Roberta Pinkerton-Bird, Un-
known Owners and Non-
Record Claimants, Defendants
in the above entitled suit, that
the said suit has been com-
menced in the Circuit Court of
Union County, Illinois, by the
said Plaintiff against you and
other defendants to foreclose
a certain Mortgage covering
the following described
premises, to-wit:

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description
Lot 3, Block G, in Rend-
leman Subdivision, being a
Subdivision of part of the
Northeast Quarter of Section
4, Township 12 South, Range
3 West of the Third Principal
Meridian, according to the
Plat thereof recorded No-
vember 3, 1966, in Plat Book
5, page 159, Union County,
Illinois.

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

Now, therefore, unless
you, the said Defendants,
Roberta Pinkerton-Byrd a/k/a
Roberta Pinkerton-Bird, Un-
known Owners and Non-
Record Claimants, file your
answer to the Complaint in
the suit, or otherwise make

your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, in the County Courthouse in the City of Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before the **6th day of March, 2020**, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

Tiffany Busby
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER
& FERRELL, L.L.C.
212 North Main Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Telephone: (573)-335-3300
Facsimile: (573)-335-1978
www.johnsonschneider.com
8-10g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 7th day of February, 2020, under the Assumed Name of Adam Kelley Electric L.L.C. with the place of business located at 424B Cook Avenue, Jonesboro, Illinois 62952 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Adam Kelley
424B Cook Avenue
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
9-11gc

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 7th day of February, 2020, under the Assumed Name of Premier American Mortgage with the place of business located at 2932 Cuesta Lane, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Pamela Deimund Christ
2932 Cuesta Lane
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
9-11gc

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 1ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY - JONESBORO, ILLINOIS

Nationstar Mortgage
LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
PLAINTIFF
Vs.
Hugh Deneal; et. al.
DEFENDANTS
2019CH17

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS

HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 10/15/2019, the Sheriff of Union County, Illinois will on April 1, 2020 at the hour of 9:00 AM at Union County Courthouse 309 West Market Jonesboro, IL 62952, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Union and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

FIFTY NINE FEET OFF OF THE EAST END OF LOT 22 IN JAMES AND DANIEL CRAVER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, SITUATED IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN 14-00-07-574
Improved with Residential COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

503 East Market Street
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527,

(630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-19-04738. I3145374

10-12g

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

ESTATE OF
ANN E. SELIGER,
IN PROBATE
DECEASED.
NO. 2020-P-8

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Ann E. Seliger of Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 14, 2020, to Dale E. Seliger, 5653 West Timber Lane, Monee, Illinois 60449, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of admission, you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses in open Court or other evidence, as provided by Section 5/6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21.)

You also have the right, under Section 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1), to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the Court within six (6) months after admission of the Will to probate.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, Par. 5/28-4), any interested person terminates Independent Administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk of this Court.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before August 20, 2020, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: February 18, 2020.

DALE E. SELIGER

CAMERON LAW
FIRM, LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR
INDEPENDENT
EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS
62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394

10-12g

ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED NETWORK

Freon Wanted: We pay CASH for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-598-1758 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

SIU receives funds to enhance Illinois food, entrepreneurship, research, manufacturing effort

An effort at Southern Illinois University Carbon-dale that seeks to enhance research and innovation in Illinois food, entrepreneurship, research and manufacturing is among those that will benefit from a state funding proposal announced by Gov. JB Pritzker Wednesday, Feb. 12.

SIU's "iFERM" hub is part of a statewide group created to boost the state's economy through research and innovation.

It will receive an initial funding of \$2.5 million through the program, SIU officials said.

Pritzker announced the state will move forward with \$500 million in capital funding for the project.

The project is part of University of Illinois System's Illinois Innovation Network, IIN, and Discovery Partners Institute, DPI.

The institute is a network of research and innovation hubs that will serve as a magnet for technology and talent.

IIN and DPI are expected to create or fill 48,000 new-economy jobs over the next decade, according to the latest economic impact study conducted by the Boston Consulting Group.

For its part, SIU will address the challenges the region faces related to food, nutrition, agriculture and health.

The hub will also provide the infrastructure to develop agricultural value-added products, which in turn will promote and support successful entrepreneurial activities.

One of the hub's primary goals will be to find new and different ways to utilize Illinois agricultural products and market them successfully.

The hub will provide new economic and entrepreneurial opportunities and facil-

itate the development of value-added food, beverage and medicinal products, as well as research consumer descriptive and discrimination.

It also will find ways to increase educational, research and outreach activities in SIU's fermentation science program.

Gary Kinsel, interim vice chancellor of research at SIU, said the announcement marked the actual release of funds allocated last year.

He said the initial funding is targeted for further development of research facilities at the McLafferty Annex, a research center

housing SIU's Fermentation Science Institute and other programs.

Funding will especially target food and beverage research at the FSI, as well as agricultural programs for specialty crop development and science and engineering efforts for a planned centralized analytics facility in the building.

"It particularly advances our research components at SIU, but also our partnerships with the regional economy," Kinsel said. "We're very excited the funds are being released and we're eager to move forward."

State reports 1099G forms available for tax filing

The Illinois Department of Employment Security, IDES, reports that 1099G tax forms are available to include when filing taxes for those who received unemployment insurance benefits for the 2019 calendar year.

Over 220,000 individuals opted to receive the 1099G form electronically, which were made available on Jan. 10, while just more than 115,000 individuals opted to receive paper versions of the form, which were mailed Jan. 30.

IDES paid \$1.73 billion in unemployment insurance benefits to 338,462 individuals in 2019.

That number is lower than the 2018 calendar year, when more than 345,000 people filed for and received unemployment insurance benefits.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is the mechanism by which unemployment insurance benefits are paid to workers who lost employment through no fault of their

own. Employer contributions flow into the trust fund and are distributed to displaced workers through IDES as claims are processed.

Employer contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund are projected to generate \$1.5 billion for the 2020 calendar year.

For information about the 1099G tax form, contact the IDES Claimant Services Center at 800-244-5631 or visit IDES.Illinois.gov.

Bingo game coming to VFW

Xtreme Bar Bingo is coming to Anna for the first time.

Starting March 2, Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of the VFW plans to host Xtreme Bar Bingo on Mondays at 7 p.m.

The event will be open to the public. Food will be available to purchase.

There is no cost to play. Various prizes will be awarded.

Pol. Adv.



A VOICE FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

JOHN HOWARD

115TH DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Republican grain and beef cattle farmer-Pro-life, pro 2nd amendment, against progressive tax, looking to bring fiscal responsibility to state government.

Endorsed by Former Legislators John O. Jones & John Cavaletto

Paid for by Committee to Elect John Howard.

UNION COUNTY POLLING PLACES

Union Co. Precincts	Polling Places	Location
Anna 1 & 2	Main Street Center	400 S. Main St., Anna
Anna 3 & 4	Anna City Hall Com. Room	103 Market St., Anna
Anna 5 & 6	Nazarene Church	100 Kirk St., Anna
Anna 7	Jo-Co Pools	1009 Enterprise Dr., Anna
Jonesboro 1 & 2	First Baptist Church	201 W. Walnut St., Jonesboro
Jonesboro 3	Jonesboro Fire Station	102 W. Market St., Jonesboro
Cobden 1 & 2	First Baptist Church	200 S. Walker St., Cobden
Dongola 1 & 2	Community Center	105 Oak St., Dongola
Alto Pass	New Alto Pass Civic Center	19 Elm St., Alto Pass
Mill Creek	Mill Creek Baptist Church	8525 St. Rt. 127 South, Mill Creek
Balcom	Big Creek Baptist Church	485 Big Creek Church Rd., Anna
Lick Creek	Lick Creek School	7355 Lick Creek Rd., Buncombe
Stokes	Camp Ground Church	50 Tunnel Lane, Anna
Union	Wolf Lake Community Center	4720 St. Rt. 3N, Wolf Lake

The polling places will be open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Dated January 27, 2020

Lance Meisenheimer

Lance Meisenheimer, Union County Clerk

Need some extra cash? Sell what you don't need in the classifieds. To Place Your Ad

In The Gazette-Democrat

Call (618) 833-2158

Obituaries

Dianna Lynn Holcomb

Dianna Lynn Holcomb, 65, of Anna, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2020, at her home.

She was born on Sept. 6, 1954, in Anna, the daughter of Beckford and Alma Louise Gregory Garris.

She is survived by her daughters, Rebecca (Kelly) Patrick and Candace (Cecil) Salyers of Anna; grandchildren TJ Kell, Carsten Christy, Paisley Kerr, Madelyn Patrick, Connor Patrick, Kaylee Patrick, Cassidy Salyers and Haley Salyers; three great-grandchildren; a brother, Mark Garris; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by a sister, Sondra Heckes.

She was a long-time employee of Addus Healthcare for 28 years. She especially loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 24, at the Jonesboro Cemetery.

There will be a memorial dinner at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Duck Inn. Friends and family are invited to attend and everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share.

Memorials may be made to Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home. Envelopes will be available at the Duck Inn and the cemetery.

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

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



Terry Griffin

Terry Griffin, 58, of Anna, died at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020, at his home.

He was born on Sept. 2, 1961, in Kansas City, Mo., the son of Golburn and Lula Hill Griffin.

He is survived by his son, Brandon Griffin; a daughter, Fawn Griffin; four grandchildren, Ayden, Aubrey, Karissa and Bianca; brothers Harold Griffin and Jesse Griffin; sisters Tammy Bracken and Lowanda Musgrave; and a half-brother, Lee Dickerson.

Mr. Griffin was preceded in death by his parents and by two brothers, George Griffin and Jimmy Griffin.

Funeral services were at 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with the Rev. David Fisher officiating. Private interment was in Friendship Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to Crain Funeral Home to help the family with funeral expenses.

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

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



Jaime Leigh Blaney-Mullins

Jaime Leigh Blaney-Mullins, 39, of Pensacola, Fla., and formerly of Anna, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020, at West Florida Hospital in Pensacola, Fla.

She was born on Oct. 14, 1980, in Carbondale, the daughter of Michael and Janet Blaney Peeler.

She married Robert B. "Bob" Mullins.

She graduated from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School in 1999. She was a true animal lover, had a great sense of humor and was very artistic. She was a jack of all trades and could do anything she set out to do, even laid all the flooring in her and Bob's home.

She had worked as a CNA, managed a Buffalo Wild Wings and then attended cosmetology school in Florida, where she worked as a licensed cosmetologist.

Jaime was a true prankster. Halloween was always one of her favorite times of the year.

She is survived by her husband, Bob; her parents, Mike and Janet Peeler; a brother, Tim (Beth) Peeler; her father-in-law, Robert B. Mullins Sr.; a brother-in-law, Greg Mullins; uncle to Matthew Mullins, Claire and Camden Peeler; grandmother Margaret Peeler; many aunts, uncles and cousins.

She also leaves her animals, Dookie, The Gooch, Flashy G and B.B.

She was preceded in death by her mother-in-law, Marilyn Mullins; and by grandparents Pauline and Edgar "Monk" Blaney and Allan Peeler.

Funeral services for Jaime Leigh Blaney-Mullins were at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with the Rev. Clint Nale officiating. Interment will take place at a later date at the Jonesboro Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to PAWS. Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.



Clora Robertson

Clora Robertson, 94, of Anna, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2020, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

She was born on Feb. 9, 1926, in Cobden, the daughter of Roscoe and Katheryn Fox Smith.

She married Earl Robertson on Jan. 29, 1946, in Blytheville, Ark. He preceded her in death on July 5, 1985.

Mrs. Robertson is survived by several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Earl Robertson; three sisters and two brothers.

She was a member of the Apostolic Pentecostal Church for many years.

Graveside funeral services for Clora Robertson were at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Jonesboro Cemetery, with the Rev. Danny Jones officiating.

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

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



Public Record

from the files at the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro

Realty Transactions

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

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Jackie L. Dillow, James W. Dillow. Grantee: Joella Basler, John A. Basler. Tract Section 36 Township 11S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Darlene Sronce. Grantee: Tiffany Bowles. Tract Section 31 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Bethany Lynn Fitzgerald,

Donald Jay Fitzgerald. Grantee: Dawn Latham, Tim Latham. Subdivision Name: Original Plan of Dongola. Lots 38, 39, 40.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Janice Eddleman, Mark Eddleman. Grantee: Ja-Mar Land Company LLC. Tract Section 22 Township 12S Range 1E. Tract Section 15 Township 12S Range 1E. Tract Section 14 Township 12S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Curtis L. Moore, Sarah B. Moore. Grantee: Brian P. Latham, Nicholette M. Latham. Tract Section 31 Township 13S Range 1W.

Traffic Citations

The following people were cited for speeding and were assessed \$164 in fines and court costs as recorded at the Union County circuit clerk's office in Jonesboro:

Shanice Antoninetta Robinson, Cordova, Tenn. Jalesa Marie Jones, Cape Girardeau. Donna K. Bennett, Carbondale. David Andrew Davis, Carbondale.

Stuart McSpaden Haw, Des Peres, Mo. Saul Ibarra, Lansing. Natalie Nicole Barnes, Harrisburg. Alexander J. Kochis, Carol Stream.

Shanette L. Jones, Smyrna, Ga. Jaime Rodriguez Melecio, Mundelein. Basim A. Matyuri, Carbondale. Justus G. Carter, Benton. Christian Cole Perry, Herrin. Jayden Gavril Ross, Marion. Bobbie J. Lipe, Dongola.

The following people were cited for the indicated violations and were assessed \$164 in fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Meagan C. Perez, Wickliffe, Ky., electronic communication device. Michelle L. Weidner, Ingraham, seat belt required/driver. Charles E. Tripp, Buncombe, disregard traffic control device.

Marriage Licenses

The county clerk's office in Jonesboro issued a marriage license to:

Brandon Scott Harvel, 31, of Jonesboro, and Ashley Danielle Burris, 36, of Jonesboro.

Cobden Board discusses

2020 Census

The 2020 Census was on the agenda at a regular meeting of the Cobden Village Board of Trustees which was held on Feb. 3.

A Census Complete Count Committee was appointed at the meeting.

Committee members include Patrick Brumleve, Todd Dieterle, Miguel Sarmiento, B.J. Hale, Edwin Shoemate, Alma Gomez and Gabriela Diaz.

Hispanic outreach worker Carmen Suarez informed village officials about the great effort which is being made to reach all households for the Census.

Suarez said she will be working with Hispanic communities in Southern Illinois to ensure that everyone participates.

In other business at the Feb. 3 meeting:

The board approved renewal of 911 call handling agreements between the Union/Alexander County Joint Emergency Telephone System Board and the village's police and fire departments.

The board approved a \$250 donation to the Taylor Tomazzoli Scholarship fund.

Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Happy belated birthday wishes to Ernie Rhodes of Jonesboro whose birthday was Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Kevin and Emma Eudy were dinner guests of Sue and Steve Eudy of Anna on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Recent visitors of Maxine and Fred Pender of Fair City were Russ and Patsy Pender of Olive Branch, Brad and Lori Pender and Gary Gibbs, all of Jonesboro.

Our prayers are with all the people who are being quarantined by the coronavirus in China and in the United States. Shirley Miller, and

Penny and Kerry Hill of McClure visited Saturday with Julie, Eric and Tessa Burtin in St. Peters, Mo.

Shirley Miller, Penny and Kerry Hill and Rev. Jamie Bridgeman ate at Seis Amigos in Cape Girardeau after church on Sunday, Feb. 16.

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.

Obituaries Online at annanews.com

Cemetery Notice

Just a friendly reminder, City of Anna Cemetery will start spring clean-up on March 1, 2020. All arrangements left after this date will be taken up and disposed of by the cemetery staff. If you have any questions, please contact Anna City Garage at 833-7813.

10GP

Pastor's Corner by Pastor Don Cox

There's no place like home. Think of this when you choose your eternal destiny . . . a home in heaven . . . or NOT! TRUE!

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

10G

"The Preaching Pen"

From the Mouth of Babes . . .

Some years ago, when my son was 5, we were driving to Wednesday Night Bible Study, and Jason says out of the blue, "Daddy, the next time we take a vacation, I'm going to bring my Bible, because it has maps in it." He didn't realize the depth of his statement!

Within the pages of the Bible we find the "map" that leads to a lifestyle without worrying, if we'll only follow the path: "... if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek;) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Mt. 6:30-33).

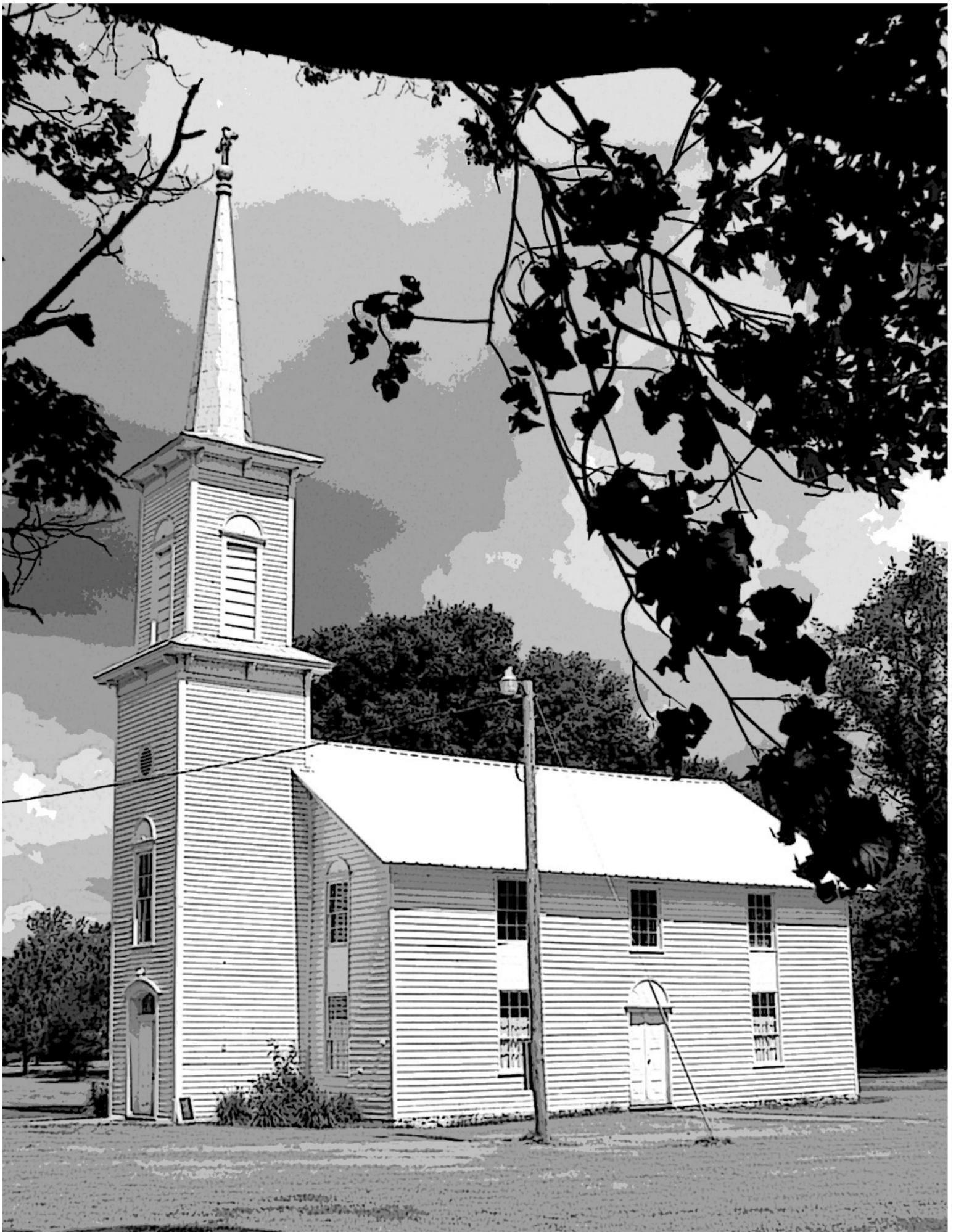
There's also the "map" that leads us out of a life of sin and into a saving, sanctified relationship with God: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38).

Within the pages of the Bible, we find the "map" that shows us the way to clean thinking and living a righteous life: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:1-2). "... whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8).

The Bible contains everything we need - "all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (II Peter 1:3). Study it with us any time at the Anna church of Christ, 104 Nile St. We hope to see you soon!

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

10G



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Dongola High School celebrates homecoming

Dongola High School's 2020 homecoming queen and king were named Saturday, Feb. 8, during ceremonies at the Union County school. Megan Theis was crowned as homecoming queen. Cameron Hogue was crowned as homecoming king. The 2020 homecoming court included Ben Smith, Cameron Halphen, Evan Treat, Andrew Tarpley, Colin Hall, Hunter Freeman, Killian Hudgins, Thorne Wright, Charlie Aden, Levi Eddleman, Cameron Hogue, Megan Theis, Ellie Lewis, Hailey Wright, Jamie Anderson, Addyson Zeschke, Ryleigh Laminack, Shaylee Lingle, Ashley Sullens, Dailee Cummins, Alyssa Flores and Madison Boner. Photos provided.

Illinois bail, sentencing reform conversation begins to take shape

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois
phancock@capitol-newsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – Criminal justice reform is high on Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker's agenda this year, but a legislative committee hearing Thursday, Feb. 13, in Chicago showed that reform advocates and the law enforcement community have widely differing views on the issue.

In January, Pritzker said ending cash bail and mandatory minimum sentences would be among his top priorities during the 2020 session, and those two subjects were the focus of Thursday's hearings.

"For years, there has been a narrative that our cash bail system and sentencing laws are necessary for public safety, and we support this narrative with billions of dollars each year," Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton said as the hearing began.

"But the stories we've heard call this narrative into question, and we must ask ourselves whether our current policies and practices are the best way to protect public safety."

There are more than 38,000 people being held in Illinois state prisons, according to Department of Corrections data. Of those, more than half are black, even though African-Americans make up only about 13 percent of the state's population. Many thousands more people are held in local jails while they await trial, often because they can't afford to post their bail.

"We know that over-incarceration based on pov-

erty means that thousands remain in jail because of the lack of access to money, not because a judge has made a determination they are ineligible for release," said Sharone Mitchell of the Illinois Justice Project.

"We know that there's a massive transfer of dollars from communities that can barely take the hit. And we know the vast majority of people who are paying these bonds are not the folks that have been accused of crimes, but women. In Cook County it's very much black women, mothers, sisters, and partners that are taking the financial hit of paying these bonds."

One of those women, Brittany Williams, a 29-year-old mother of three from Chicago, said her life was turned upside down in October 2017 when her husband was arrested on a traffic charge. His bail was set at \$100,000, meaning he needed to pay 10 percent, or \$10,000, to be released.

"This experience was traumatic because it took time away from my newborn and it caused me to get back to work before I was even ready," Williams said.

"We lost our condo in Glendale Heights, and we had to move into the city of Chicago with a family member, my sister-in-law. That was hard on us because her living arrangements were not the best. Myself and my children had to sleep on the floor. And that alone made me feel like I had failed as a parent."

The Feb. 13 hearing, however, came on the same day the Chicago Tribune published a story calling into question the city of

Chicago's own bail reform initiative that began in 2017.

Under that program, which was ordered by Cook County Chief Judge Timothy Evans, judges in that circuit are not allowed to set bail amounts so high that a defendant can't afford to pay it.

Evans released a report in May suggesting there had been no increase in violent crime since that order went into effect and that only a "very small fraction" of people charged with violent crimes committed new crimes after they were released.

But an analysis by the Tribune uncovered flaws in both the data and the analysis used in that report, and the article said there was evidence that many more crimes were committed by defendants while out on bail.

Also in 2017, the General Assembly passed a state-wide bail reform law that provides for a presumption that most people charged with nonviolent crimes, known as "Category B" offenses, could be released on conditions that do not require cash bonds. It also provides that cash bonds can be required for more serious charges, "Category A" offenses, but that a person could not be held solely for an inability to pay that bond.

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin testified that since that law went into effect, his county has seen an overall increase of 53 percent in defendants failing to appear for their court dates.

"Many of these cases



Protecting crime victims

Republican State Reps. Terri Bryant, of Murphysboro, and Patrick Windhorst, of Metropolis, argue that cash bail and mandatory sentences help protect crime victims and the general public during a legislative committee hearing Thursday, Feb. 13, in Chicago. Photo:blueroomstream.com.

are people charged with robbery, aggravated battery, aggravated DUI – serious crimes, where defendants are failing to show up in court. That is the sign of a broken system," Berlin said.

He also noted that under the Illinois Constitution, victims of crimes have a right to be compensated for their injuries or losses and that in many jurisdictions, bail money is used to help pay for that restitution. Without cash bail, he said, many victims could go uncompensated.

The committees also heard testimony on the subject of mandatory minimum sentences, which many people argue have led to a dramatic increase in prison populations throughout the United States.

"The issue of crime has been weaponized in elec-

toral politics, with members of both parties more than willing to attack opponents as being soft on crime and engage in fear-mongering in order to justify creating new offenses, increasing penalties for existing ones, and taking away opportunities for sentence reduction or parole," said Ben Ruddell, director of criminal justice policy for the ACLU of Illinois.

"Predictably, the result has been that prison populations have exploded in every state, including Illinois."

Ruddell argued for doing away with mandatory minimum sentences entirely. But Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, a former state's attorney in Massac County, argued that "truth in sentencing" has value for both the public and crime victims.

"I know that there's a lot of disagreement about truth in sentencing, and there are some stories that perhaps don't always paint it in the best light," Windhorst said.

"But I think for the public to understand what the person's sentence is, is important. And also, I think it's important for victims and families of victims that when a sentence is given, they can, in violent crime situations, understand that is what the person who's harmed my loved one or myself is going to receive."

The Feb. 13 hearing included members of two Senate committees and one House committee that will deal with criminal justice reform issues this session. Sen. Elgie Sims, a Chicago Democrat who chairs the Criminal Law Committee, said it was the first in a series of hearings that will be held throughout the state.



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Section B

Lawmakers want constitutional amendment on November ballot

State redistricting reform receives bipartisan support

By Rebecca Anzel and Ben Orner
Capitol News Illinois
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SPRINGFIELD – A bipartisan coalition of state lawmakers and advocacy groups announced an effort in both chambers Thursday, Feb. 13, to overhaul the way Illinois' legislative districts are drawn.

Legislators from Chicago, its suburbs and downstate are backing a state constitutional amendment, twin measures in the Senate and House, shifting district mapmaking power from politicians to a 17-person commission whose members would be representative of state demographics.

In three news events across Illinois on Feb. 13, backers of the plan said the measure they call the "Fair Maps Amendment," more than any of the other redistricting reform proposals, is "comprehensive," "equitable, transparent, representative, and provides meaningful participation."

The amendment is backed by the same group that attempted to reform the redistricting process in the past three elections, CHANGE Illinois, the Coalition for Honest and New Government Ethics.

"As a sprawling fed-

eral corruption investigation continues, we should start to end corruption by ending gerrymandering where it begins when maps are drawn," Madeleine Doubek, the group's executive director, said. "Politicians picking their voters clearly is the epitome of a conflict of interest."

Hawthorn Woods Republican Sen. Dan McConchie, who spoke at a news conference in Chicago, said "this is the place we need to start" to "root out corruption" in Illinois.

The current process favors the General Assembly's majority party, said Sen. Melinda Bush, a majority party Grayslake Democrat and lead sponsor in her chamber.

Currently, the legislature is responsible for drawing Illinois' legislative and congressional maps, with a party holding both chambers, like the Democrats currently do, having outsized control.

Maps are drawn after the U.S. Census every decade, and the Illinois Constitution requires districts to be "compact, contiguous and substantially equal in population."

If lawmakers do not agree on maps, a group is formed with four legislators from each party and a ninth that is chosen randomly by the secretary of state from

two candidates put forward by the state Supreme Court. That backup scenario is unlikely with the current makeup of the legislature, however, as Democrats have supermajorities in both chambers.

Under the coalition's proposal, 17 commission members would be appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court: seven registered Democrats, seven registered Republicans and three with different or no party affiliation. Each congressional district can have only one commissioner.

Members of the public would be able to comment on any commission proposal, and could submit their own district maps. The commission would have to look at all submissions.

Doubek said this proposal is a revised version of an amendment submitted by CHANGE Illinois over the past two years, and "does a lot to improve equity, transparency and accountability."

The current amendment includes prisoners in population counts and redefines the requirements about who can serve on the commission.

People ineligible for the commission include: lobbyists; persons appointed, running for or elected to a position with the state, federal, or local govern-

ment; a paid consultant or campaign representative of a political candidate or political action committee; an individual with an ownership interest in an entity with a state, local or federal contract; and appointed or elected officials of a political party.

Persons must not have held those positions in the past five years, and people working for them and their immediate families are ineligible as well.

The resolutions also attempt to ensure minority communities are able to elect a candidate of their choosing.

"If there is a neighborhood or community that has a strong minority base but maybe not enough to control the outcome of the election," Doubek said, "they need to be kept together so they can have as much influence as possible on choosing who represents them."

Both chambers of the legislature need to approve a constitutional amendment by a three-fifths majority before it can go to voters. That effectively sets the deadline as Sunday, May 3, because six months must pass before an amendment can appear on the general election ballot.

"Our chances are better than they have ever been," Doubek said.

A poll last year by Southern Illinois University found 67 percent of Illi-

noisians want district maps created by an independent commission rather than the legislature.

A spokesperson for Senate President Don Harmon, a Democrat, said, "The Senate president has a history of working for redistricting reform and looks forward to reviewing this proposal."

Doubek said Terra Costa Howard, D-Glen Ellyn, who is the House sponsor of the amendment, had "a healthy exchange of ideas" with Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan.

And when Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker was running for office, he pledged to veto any "unfair" map sent to him by the General Assembly.

Republican Rep. Ryan Spain, from Peoria, said he has supported former versions of CHANGE Illinois' redistricting amendments in the past two years.

"With everything that's happening in the General Assembly, with federal investigators swirling around us, with confidence in our government at an all-time low and corruption at an all-time high, a Fair Maps initiative is an essential ingredient to fixing those issues," he said.

The Fair Maps Amendment shares many similarities with California's 14-member citizen commission that drew the state's current maps after the 2010 census.

Michigan voters passed

a constitutional amendment in 2018 to create an independent commission of 13 citizens to draw political maps.

Iowa has a similar citizen-run commission, while Missouri's system consists of a commission from each legislative chamber made up of equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans.

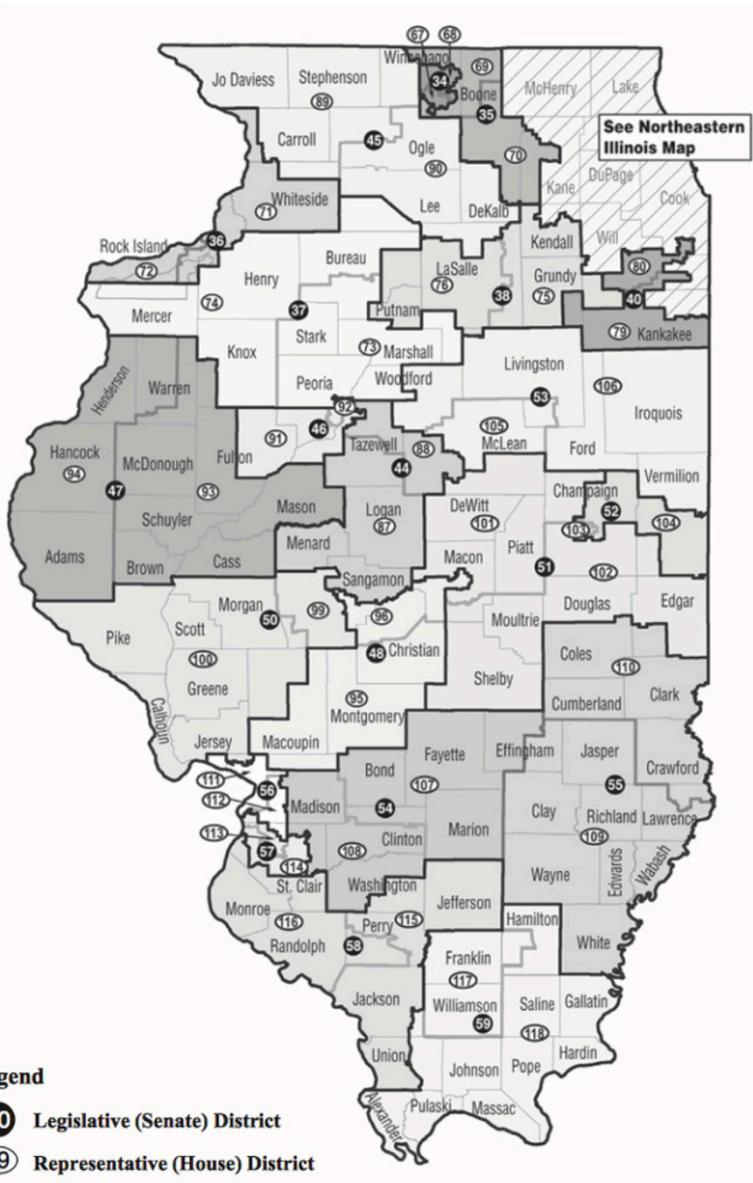
"While Illinois is behind on this topic, we are not operating in isolation and I think it's important to look at other states," Spain said. "It would be really disappointing with everything else that's going on in Illinois if we can't do the same."

A 2014 analysis by the Washington Post named Illinois' 4th Congressional District, consisting of western Chicago suburbs such as Cicero and Brookfield, among the 10 most gerrymandered in the country.

The district, which elected Democratic U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García in 2018 by a 73-point margin, resembles a pair of earmuffs. The two sides of the district are connected by a narrow patch of grass under Interstate 290.

The proposals are House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 41 and, when it was officially scheduled to be introduced Tuesday, Feb. 18, Senate Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 18.

Legislative Districts of Illinois



Source: Illinois Blue Book, 2019-2020

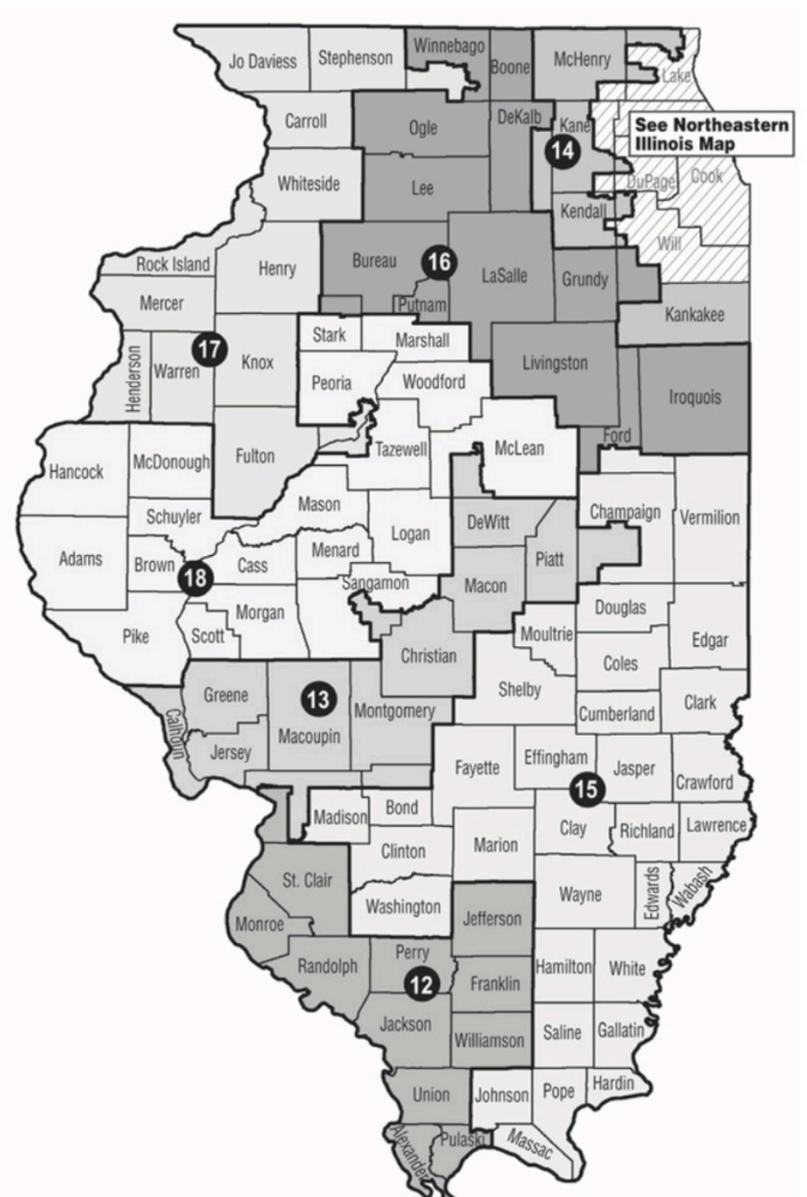
Illinois legislative districts

Union County is in two Illinois State Senate districts and two Illinois State Representative districts.

The county is in the 58th and 59th State Senate districts. In the 58th District, the county is represented by State Sen. Paul Schimpf, R-Waterloo. In the 59th District, the county is represented by State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg.

The county is in the 115th and 118th State Representative districts. In the 115th District, the county is represented by State Rep. Terri Bryant, R-Murphysboro. In the 118th District, the county is represented by State Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis.

Illinois Congressional Districts



Source: Illinois Blue Book, 2019-2020

Congressional districts

Union County is in the 12th Congressional District. The district stretches from Alexander and Pulaski counties in the south to Madison County in the north. The district is represented in Congress by U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, a Republican from Murphysboro.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

During Sunday morning's worship service, Terry and Melissa Wright from the Dan Bohi Ministry Team led the congregation in worship.

Ushers for the morning worship service were Curly Ralls, Mark Smith, Noah Wiseman and Robert Smith.

The morning message, "Overwhelming Conquers," was brought by the Rev. Dan Bohi from Romans.

At 6 p.m., Melissa Wright from the Dan Bohi Ministry Team spoke about intercession or deliverance.

The Sunday evening worship service was opened by Pastor Randy Wright.

Terry and Melissa Wright from the Dan Bohi Ministry Team led the congregation in worship.

Ushers for the evening worship service were Mark Smith, Robert Smith, Noah Wiseman and Terry Wiseman Sr.

The evening message

was brought by the Rev. Dan Bohi. Revival with the Dan Bohi Ministry Team was scheduled to continue through Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Birthdays: Casey Akers, Feb. 17; Bryce Wright, Feb. 21.

The Alabaster Offering will be collected during the morning worship service on Feb. 23.

A missionary service is planned Sunday evening, Feb. 23.

A work day is planned March 14 at the church.

A Memorial Roll certificate presentation for the family of Judy Theis is planned March 15.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. Worship services are Sunday at 10:35 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Quizzing is at 5 p.m. on Sunday for children in grades 1 through 6. Youth services and quizzing are at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Rev. Dee Ann Thompson's sermon Sunday was "Forgive Just as the Lord has Forgiven You," with scripture from Matthew, the parable of the unforgiving servant.

The message shared that "this is one of the most important scriptures. Grudges, anger and not forgiving will take its toll on our health and affects our relationship with God.

"Sometimes the perpetrator doesn't ask to be forgiven. It can take years to mature to the point of forgiving a certain wrong, but God will give us the grace to do it.

"Often, we want to forgive others with stipulations, we fail to forgive totally.

"In this passage, Jesus was not talking about a literal number of times to forgive, but unlimited, total forgiveness as God has forgiven us; forgiving with grace rather than because it

was required by law."

Addi and Raelynn Bonner received the offering.

Sandra Boaz is the lead elder for February.

Joan Blakely from Heartland Mission Alliance is scheduled to speak at Camp Ground on Sunday, Feb. 23. Camp Ground Church has supported their efforts of sending books to a mission point in Kenya.

Happy birthday to Jonah Simmons in Greenfield, Tenn. His birthday was Feb. 19.

Everyone at Camp Ground is happy that Norma Edwards is home and doing well after spending a few days in a Cape Girardeau hospital.

Camp Ground invites everyone to join them in Bible study and worship. Coffee and fellowship begin at 9:30 a.m. Bible study is at 10 a.m. Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 50 Tunnel Ln., east of Anna.

News from

Walnut Grove Church

On the sixth Sunday after Epiphany at Walnut Grove United Methodist Church, Layleigh and Alivia lit the altar candles while Johnathan played the musical prelude on the piano. Layleigh also collected the offering.

The men's choir sang a special, "The Church in the Wildwood."

Pastor Bobbi read scripture from Ecclesiastes and Corinthians I and asked the question about whether or not animals go to heaven.

She shared that "although we love our pets and grieve when they die we don't know whether or not we will ever meet them again."

Prayers were requested for Danny Clover, and Sandy and Gary Hartline.

David reported that he received a good health report.

Emma passed out homemade Valentines with a message inside.

Barb taught Bible studies to all of the children during Sunday School.

Carol Harwood sent a "thank you" to the church for the sympathy card for the loss of her husband.

The next ladies' lunch will be Friday, March 6, at 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Hut in Anna.

Thought for the weak: Hatred stirs up conflicts, but love covers all offenses. Proverbs 10:13

The Sunday service, which includes Sunday School for children, starts at 9:30 a.m.

The church is located at 3195 Mountain Glen Rd. near Cobden, and near Illinois Route 127.



Dongola School students of the month

Dongola School has recognized students of the month for January. The students were honored based on their empathy. The students of the month are, in the first row, from left, Mika Duty, pre-kindergarten; Sophie Hancock, kindergarten; Huntley Hilliard, 1st grade, Parr; Mariaunna Mensch, 1st grade, Ward; Miley Sturgeon, 3rd grade; Mason Kissiar, 4th grade; and Shelby Stanley, 5th grade. In the second row are Dusti Bracken, 6th grade; Kiara Aden, 7th grade; Joseph Reynolds, 8th grade; Katlyn Smith, freshman; Autumn Dixon, sophomore; Natasha Cosenza, junior; and Jayden Westbrook, senior. Photo provided.

A-JCHS students selected as all-conference band members

Nine Anna-Jonesboro Community High School band members have been honored as members of this year's all-conference band.

The students were recognized at a Feb. 10 regular meeting of the A-JCHS District No. 81 Board of Education.

Students selected for all-conference band honors included Abby Startin, Alleigh Curtis, Jessi Riley, Ethan Palmer, Tyler Sutton, Elijah Ellis, Zach Dudley, Kiersten Wright and Selena Rodgers.

The students are scheduled to spend Feb. 25 at a practice with other all-conference band members.

The all-conference band is scheduled to present a free public concert at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Shryock Auditorium on the campus of Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

In other news shared by teachers at the Feb. 10 meeting:

Thirty-six students from the A-JCHS Music Department are scheduled to compete March 7 at the IHSA state solo and ensemble contest at Carbondale High School. A-JCHS has 21 entries

in this year's contest, with students performing in both vocal and instrumental ensembles.

The A-JCHS Beta Club is planning to have its annual Trivia Night fund-raiser on Saturday, Feb. 22, in the school's cafeteria. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. Trivia starts at 6 p.m. Proceeds will help with state convention expenses and, the club hopes, a scholarship.

Incoming freshmen are scheduled to visit A-JCHS on Friday, Feb. 21.

The school's ACES (Academic Challenge in Engineering and Sciences) team, formerly known as WYSE, placed second at regional competition on Feb. 6.

The following A-JCHS students earned individual awards at the ACES event:

Connor Hallam, first in physics. Jenna Watkins, second in English. Soren Keller, first in English. Lily Yana, third in math. Abby Sartin and Soren Keller, second in math. Braden Benns, first in math.

The ACES team is scheduled to compete at sectionals in March at SIU.

Thomas Corbit's home room coordinated a food drive to support the comfort closet. The food drive was reported to be a huge success.

Spanish 4 students recorded a 10-second promo for Locura de Marzo, or March Madness, which is an event in which students around the world vote on their favorite songs in Spanish during the month of March.

A-JCHS was just one of dozens of other schools which participated in the promo video. Last year, more than 50,000 students voted in the competition.

The interior design class was getting ready to construct five doll houses to decorate which will be purchased with money from Wildcat T's. The doll houses will be donated to a toy drive next Christmas.

The National Honor Society recently completed acts of kindness after school.

Some of the acts of kindness included delivering roses to secretaries at local elementary school, leaving quarters on vending machines in the community, leaving popcorn on movie rental

boxes, helping customers with their groceries and carts, donating dog and cat food to a local animal shelter, and many others.

The National Honor Society also is planning to host a Spring Fling dance on Feb. 29.

A report about A-JCHS Student Council activities was shared at the meeting.

The student council was finalizing plans for an American Red Cross blood drive which was scheduled Feb. 19 at the school.

A Dude Be Nice campaign was reported to be going well.

The students planned to take Valentines to local nursing homes on Valentine's Day.

In other business at the February meeting, the board approved a bid from Kehrer Brothers for replacement of the roof over the lower gymnasium. Repairs also are needed on the upper gym roof.

The following spring assistant and volunteer coaches were approved, pending background checks:

Elle Basler, assistant girls soccer. Hunter Englehart, volunteer, baseball.

Nominations being sought for volunteer service awards

The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Serve Illinois) is accepting nominations for the annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards.

The awards recognize individual volunteers and businesses and highlight the importance of community service in Illinois. "Each year, millions of Illinoisans take time out of their busy lives to help their neighbors," said Scott McFarland, executive director of Serve Illinois.

"These volunteers are helping keep children safe, keeping our environment pristine, helping people find jobs and so much more. They improve and save lives each

and every day, and with these awards, we recognize the best of Illinois."

Serve Illinois plans to present individual awards to one young person (18 years and younger), one adult (19-54 years old) and one senior (55 years and older) in each of Serve Illinois' five volunteer network regions across the state (Northeast, Northwest, East Central, West Central and Southern).

Serve Illinois plans to present National Service Awards to one AmeriCorps member, one Senior Corps member and one for-profit business in each of the five service regions.

Nominations are due to Serve Illinois by Feb. 21. Nomination forms

and more information can be found online at www.serve.illinois.gov.

Serve Illinois plans to host a ceremony on April 21 at the Old State Capitol in Springfield to honor recipients.

The Serve Illinois Commission is a 40 member (25 voting and 15 non-voting), bi-partisan board appointed by the governor and administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

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When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands. (For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?" He responded, "Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts. You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." He went on to say, "How well you have set aside the commandment of God in order to uphold your tradition! For Moses said, Honor your father and your mother, and Whoever curses father or mother shall die. Yet you say, 'If someone says to father or mother, "Any support you might have had from me is qorban"' (meaning, dedicated to God), you allow him to do nothing more for his father or mother. You nullify the word of God in favor of your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many such things." From the Gospel of Mark

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WHAT IT'S WORTH



People hold different values; one may prize honor above all other virtues, another may think loyalty is more important. Values are strongly conditioned by upbringing and your house of worship plays a vital role in shaping these values. Just as an education about art can help one appreciate art, so can a religious education prepare one to make moral choices. Provide your children with a religious education. Attend the house of worship of your choice this and every week.

Daily Bible Reading

1 Cor.	Colossians	Colossians	Colossians	Colossians	Colossians	Jude
13:1-13	1:1-23	1:24-2:5	2:6-3:4	3:5-4:1	4:2-18	1-25

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

By Martha Ann Webb

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

Birthdays

Janice Lewellyn was honored by her family Sunday, Feb. 16, to celebrate her birthday with her son Tim and Susan's.

Those present were Bub, Martha, Carol, Cheryl, Ginny, George, Ashlynn, Daven, Sean, Jason, Sean's son, Ethan, Jack and Gail, Jack and friend.

They had great food as usual and even better company. Such a blessed day.

Another blessing was Andrea Burnett and dad Don stopping by with birthday wishes.

Janice received many texts and calls of well wishes.

Trip

Donna Pitts of California, and formerly of Anna, visited her daughter at her Vaca home in La Quinta.

The weather was wonderful. They enjoyed the pool and Jacuzzi, dined out, took long walks with their fur babies too.

A friend of theirs is renting her home to Serena Williams for a month while she is playing tennis in the area.

Donna went to Shields Date Gardens and bought chocolate walnut filled dates. Delish. Also some fantastic Coachella pink grapefruits. Best in the world.

Drove back on Saturday to see her grandson's baseball game in Murietta, Calif. Donna's grandson came home with her for the weekend. They had a great time together.

Donna said she had to brag a little here but he got a 4.0 in his report card, So proud of him. Seth Medeiros, son of Angelique and Julio, grandson of Donna Pitts.

17th Birthday

Aden Hopkins celebrated his 17th birthday Feb. 13.

Texas Trip

Barbara and Allen James were guests of Dr. John Stroehlein and his wife, Miwa Sakashita, in Houston, Texas, at the beginning of the month.

John looks forward to receiving The Gazette-Democrat each week to keep up with everything going on back home in Union County.

Trip

Bonnie Sullivan and her sister Janet Boyd have returned from a wonderful East Caribbean trip.

Get-well wishes to their brother Mark who gave them a scare when they got home. Mark had a heart attack and had some stents put in and is doing good now. Please keep him in your prayers.

Daffodils

When I was growing up there used to be a large field of daffodils where Rural Health is now, their parking lot and Union County Hospital parking lot.

If anyone has any information about the Norris family who years ago picked and shipped the daffodils please send it to me.

A big thanks to Joni Yates for helping me find the last name from her dad Johnny Jo Ligon.

John Harvey Ligon, founder of Ligon Lumber Co., is who bought the land from the Norrises. Jean Ligon Hall's grandfather and also Joni Yates great-grandfather.

If anyone has any information about the daffodils or any other daffodils that were picked and shipped in Anna or Union County please send it to me.

I loved to play in that field and the Lignons let me pick all the beautiful daffodils I wanted. I would pick them for all our neighbors.

Sometimes they would give me a nickel, dime or even a quarter. Back then that was a lot of money for a kid and Fites Grocery store was just down the street.

I sure miss those beautiful Easter flowers. When I would see them coming up it always made me happy because I knew spring was coming.

I still look to see if I can see any maybe coming up but no luck the last couple years.

Shawnee Community College

Congratulations to Shawnee's Scholastic Bowl team qualifying for the community college national championship tournament.

This is the first time in the college's history that the Scholastic Bowl team has made it to nationals, and they are thrilled to be going.

Charleston Trip

Brenda Allen visited her dad John Allen in Charleston over the weekend.

Valentine Dinner

Curt and Bessie Ellis and Martha Ann Webb were treated to a Valentine's dinner by Earl Miller.

Get-Well Wishes

To a dear friend Nancy Skoglund who was walking her dog and tripped on a small rock, fell and broke her arm in two places.

Please keep Nancy in your prayers. Nancy is an asset to our community and is always ready to help someone or some animal in need.

97th Birthday

Jewell Turnbow celebrated his 97th birthday Feb. 18. He is the father of Rosemary Dillow. Rosemary visited him in St. Louis on his birthday.

Birthdays

Feb. 13 Edith Hartssock, Roy Younger, Gayle Fox. 15 Paula England, Nicholas and Christopher 8 years old, 16 Janice Lewellyn, 22 Jean Few, 24 Alma Osterholm 24 Opal Ulrich.

Baby Congratulations

Congratulations to Eric and Natalie Bittle on the birthday of their baby girl Kaylee Brooke, who was born Feb. 11. Kaylee has a brother Bentley.

Valentine Dinner

Willie and Terrie Rhymmer, along with Bob and Betty Caraker, traveled to Marion on Valentine's Day and ate at the Hideout. They enjoyed the food there and the live piano music.

Anna Heights News

A baby sprinkle honoring Megan Houseman was held Sunday, Feb. 16, at the church.

Sunday, March 1, there will be a youth trip spaghetti dinner after Sunday School and the 10:30 a.m. worship service. All donations are welcome.

The youth will be going to Passion Camp in Florida in June.

A Love Package mission trip is planned April 3-4.

Upward Basketball and Cheerleading picture day is Saturday, Feb. 22.

Thanks to Terrie Rhymmer for the church news.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sunday School is at 9 a.m. Church is at 10 a.m. Women's Bible study is Tuesday at 1 p.m. Men's Bible study is Wednesday at 7 a.m. Choir practice is at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Sunday morning Rev.



Valentine's Day Anna Vista 2020 king was Jeffrey Crutchfield and queen was Roberta Middleton.

Richard Sullins sermon was The Light with scripture from John.

Special music by the ladies choir was Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.

Terry Riley welcomed everyone and read the scripture from 1 John.

Bringing in the light were Ava and Paxton Boreup. Playing the organ was music director Carla Anderson. Leading the singing were Marilyn Sullivan and Nancy Hooks.

The children took up their mission offering. Prayers were said for many people who are sick.

A special thanks to everyone who helped with Loaves and Fishes.

Ash Wednesday service Feb. 26 will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. You are welcome to come and go as you like.

Red Hat Ladies

The Little Egypt Red Hat ladies met in Anna at El Jalapeno for a Valentine's Day dinner and party.

Anna VFW

Beginning March 2, the post will be sponsoring extreme bar bingo on Monday night at 7 p.m. It doesn't cost anything to play and prizes will be awarded for each game played. There will be a 50/50 raffle and food will be available for purchase.

Friday, Feb. 21, is the monthly chicken and dumpling dinner for \$10 starting at 5 p.m.

Peggy will be at the post with her annual Mardi Gras party and Star Karaoke from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. This is open to the public and carry outs are available.

Bingo will be at the Illinois Veterans Home on Feb. 28 at 1 p.m.

Spaghetti dinner will be served at the post Feb. 28 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Unchained Ministries

Clyde, Vanessa and Travis Sims with Unchained Ministries worship times are 10 a.m. Wednesday for Bible study, Sunday at 6 p.m., and a gospel music night on the first Saturday night of each month at 6 o'clock. Their church is next to the Anna Dollar Store.

Spark Ministries

The Spark Ministries meets Sunday, with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Church service is at 11 a.m. in the former Shawnee Elementary South school in McClure.

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 4, Overcomers started early meetings, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. On the first night of this transition guest speaker Kenneth Verble gave his testimony. Kenny Swink says come join them for the Overcomers recovery support group.

Military Prayer List

I am starting a new military prayer list because I am not sure if the names on my list are still serving in the military. Please let me know if you have a name to add to my list. May God bless and protect our military.

Lukas W. Davis is in the Marine Corps, Reagan Morrison, Garrett Goins, James McWhorter, Jennifer Ann Bishop, Arin Whittemountain, Katelynn



Guest speaker at the Anna-Jo Garden Club meeting Feb. 11 was Tom Caldwell, Farm Bureau agriculture coordinator, who talked about Arbor Day ideas.

Williams, Lucas W. Davis, Lindsey Keene, Jacob Schaefer, Jerod Schaefer, Creighton Laster, Josh Steveson, Josh Williams, Jim Bonner, Nick Harvel, Nona Elizabeth Luke, Lucas J. Strickland, William Nathaniel Frankell, Ethan Maze, Tanner Anderson, Hayden Young, Kiefer Stull, Davis Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C.J. Youngerman, Freddy Morse.

Art Exhibit

"Inspired by Art and Nature" is a series by artist Marie Samuel currently at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg through March 27.

The display features 21 wall hanging tributes to artists such as Van Gogh, Monet, Georgia O'Keefe and several other famous painters, as well as a sculptor and stained glass artist.

The art quilt exhibit is located in the Performing Arts Center VPAC Gallery, with a reception Feb. 23 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend this free event and refreshments will be served. They will meet first in the Ella Hise Museum.

The exhibit is open on days the college is in session, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Census

The first week in March in our area we will receive a paper survey for the 10 year Census and an invitation for the online survey.

The paper survey has a unique identifier on it, on line you can fill it out anywhere using your physical address.

Census day is April 1. If you have not filled out your survey and sent it back a census worker will contact you at least four times between April and August.

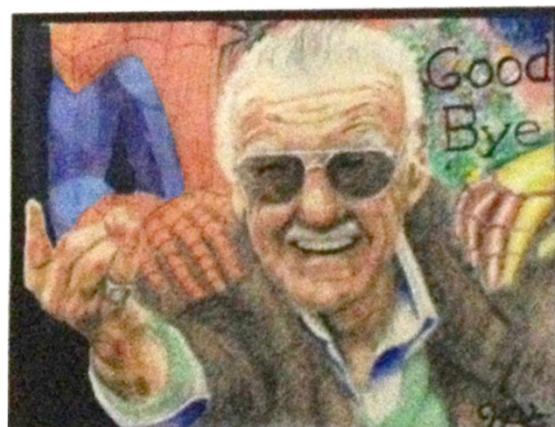
It is very important you fill this survey out so our area will be counted for benefits we can receive.

If you would like to work in the Census call 1-855 JOB-2020 or census.gov/job 2020 Census.

Bye Bye Birdie

Students at A-JCHS are working hard on the musical Bye Bye Birdie they will perform Friday, March 13, and Saturday, March 14, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 15 at 2 p.m.

A-J Band, Chorus Fish



Katie Jo Kirk of Anna-Jonesboro won best of show at the Little Egypt Art Association's 14th annual High School Art Competition in Marion.



Little Egypt Art Association in Marion had a closing reception for the 14th annual High School Art Competition on Feb. 16 in Marion. Nine area schools participated. Katie Jo Kirk of Anna-Jonesboro won best of show and a third place award. Tina Vancil is her art instructor. Shown here with Eldorado High School art teacher Ashley Priddy, on the right, is president of Southern Illinois Stitchers center Kristine McGuire and Marie Samuel, left, member of SIS, with embroidered work "Sunset" by Donielle Roberts of Eldorado, whose special award was given by SIS.

Fry

The Anna Kiwanis fish fry to benefit the A-JCHS band and chorus will be Saturday, March 14, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Kiwanis building at the Anna City Park.

The meal is \$10. There will be baked goods also to buy.

After the dinner go to A-JCHS for the musical Bye Bye Birdie at 7 p.m.

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 90

The retirees will meet at Anna Heights Baptist Church Feb. 25 at 1 p.m. All retirees are welcome.

Apple Rockers

The Cobden Band Boosters will be holding the

fourth annual Apple Rockers fundraiser at the Anna VFW post Feb. 29 from 6 pm to 8:30 pm.

Live music from the junior high/high school Appleknocker Band.

Lasagna dinner with salad and dessert. Tickets \$10, two for \$15, three meals \$20 and four meals \$25.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction.

Women of Choice

Performances at the Anna Arts Center are Friday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, March 1, at 2 p.m.

This production is for high school and above because of mature themes.

State ag officials promoting grain bin safety awareness

The Illinois Department of Agriculture, IDOA, reminds all farm workers to stay safe when working in and around grain bins as part of Grain Bin Safety Week, which began Feb. 16 and continues through Feb. 22.

With 2019 crop conditions drawing comparisons to 2009 when crops were stored in relatively wet conditions, this year's safety week takes great importance, IDOA noted.

The 2009 crop led to a dangerous environment surrounding grain bins in 2010.

According to Purdue University, 2010 was the most hazardous year on record for grain bin accidents, with 59 entrapments and 26 deaths nationwide.

"It's easy to become complacent when workers have been in and out of bins for years and never had any problems," said Joe Small, the Illinois Department of Agriculture's bureau chief of warehouses, in a news release.

"People often think they are big enough, strong enough, or fast enough to get out of flowing grain. All too often, problems can snowball out of control quickly. It's important for everyone to be vigilant and keep personal safety front of mind."

"We tend to see a correlation between grain quality

and grain bin entrapments or engulfments," said Jeff Adkisson, executive vice president of the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois.

"It's extremely important to turn off all unloading equipment and secure it with a lock or zip-tie (called lock-out) so someone else cannot turn equipment back on before going into a grain bin."

"Even one accident, is one too many," adds Illinois Farm Bureau president Richard Guebert Jr.

"We want to remind farmers to never enter a grain bin or grain storage facility alone. Our target is zero entry, but unfortunately, with last year's harvest challenges, a lot of wet grain was put into storage, leading to more grain bin entries. If entry is unavoidable, please have an observer stationed outside to get help immediately if needed."

IDOA said that several training resources are available and can be found online:

The Grain and Feed Association of Illinois at www.gfai.org.

The Grain Handling and Safety Council at www.grainsafety.org.

University of Illinois Extension at https://web.extension.illinois.edu/ag-safety/equipment/grainbin-safety.cfm.

Southeast students prospect for dinosaur fossils in Montana

There was a time when Southeast Missouri State University senior Rachel Bell questioned the authenticity of dinosaurs.

But after fossil prospecting last summer in the Badlands of Montana, the prehistoric reptiles became very real to this wildlife/conservation biology major. "It was a once in a lifetime opportunity," she said as she cleaned what is believed to be a leg bone collected from the summer experience. "When you touch it, find it...holding something 66 million years old...it's pretty cool."

Bell was among eight Southeast students who recently spent a Saturday in the Rhodes Hall Geoscience Lab on the university's campus in Cape Girardeau, cleaning, gluing and preserving dinosaur fossils they collected in the Hell Creek Formation of the Mesozoic Era near Jordan, Montana, last July.

The group reunited with the Adventure 360-Paleo X Adventure Team of Fenton, Mo., who teamed up last summer to prospect for dinosaur fossils.

The room buzzed as they worked with triceratops and other dinosaur fossils they pedastaled and casted in eastern Montana.

It's a puzzle of sorts with many tiny broken pieces needing to be correctly reassembled.

"It is very neat that the students can work in the lab on the same fossils they found in the field back in July," said Pamela Mills, geoscience instructor in the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Eight Southeast students, their instructor Pam Mills and the Adventure 360-Paleo X Adventure Team prospected for dinosaur fossils in the Badlands of Montana.

From July 13-20, the group experienced and was instructed on paleontology field techniques. Their summer days included instruction and application of techniques in prospecting, fossil excavation and collection of fossils.

"We traveled to a region of Montana famous for its paleontology history and where the majority of Tyrannosaurus rex specimens have been found," Mills said. "We found lots of dinosaur bones," mainly triceratops.

Southeast students participating in the trip were Tanner Stadelbacher, an environmental science major from Anna; David Escamilla, a wildlife/conservation biology major from Ballwin, Mo.; Taylor Beggs, an environmental science major from Sikeston, Mo.; Bell, a wildlife/conservation biology major from Columbia; Libby Adams, an environmental science major from Rolla, Mo.; Anthony Mitchell, a December 2019 Southeast graduate from Jackson, Mo.; Becky Tamborski, a biology major, pre-physician assistant option, from High Ridge, Mo.; and Aleigha Blagg, an English education major from Bell City, Mo.

The students conducted field work about an hour from Jordan, where they hiked and prospected the entire day. While students said it was an exhausting week, it is one they will not soon forget.

"I loved it," said Stadelbacher. "It's hard to describe the feeling. The possibility of (finding a fossil) and it being an actual bone is so exciting."

Sometimes, only a very tiny piece of a fossil was visible from the ground, but after some excavation,

something much more defined might emerge.

Thanks to the instruction from the Paleo X team, the students learned the area was a treasure-trove of fossils.

The Paleo X team comprises dedicated volunteer experts who provide students with a hands-on educational field school to investigate the region's geology, paleontology, stratigraphy and erosion, while learning about fossil identification, mapping and GPS use, geologic time, regional history, fossilization processes, career opportunities and more.

"They have so much hands-on knowledge," Stadelbacher said. "They showed us the ropes and what we were looking for."

That team also offered the students evening programming provided by Ron Giesler, a 1982 Southeast graduate, director of Adventure 360 and Paleo X team coordinator; and Gary Schaefer and Gene Woodford, who also volunteer in the St. Louis Science Center Fossil Prep Lab.

Others offering their expertise were Alan Westfall, a Southeast alumnus and successful St. Louis business owner who has done anthropology and archaeology graduate work; and

Dr. Michael Morales of Emporia State University in Kansas.

The students then applied that knowledge to their field work. When they found exposed bones last summer, they recorded their location with GPS coordinates, then used field glue to help preserve them, digging completely around and under them to excavate them, when possible. Next, they were finished on a pedestal.

"We would then coat the fossils with burlap and foil before forming a plaster cast over the top of the fossilized bone. After the plaster hardened, the students were able to transport the fossil more safely from the field in the plaster jacket created in the field," Mills said.

Strata where the fossils were collected were over 65 million years old, Mills said.

Prospecting was restricted to areas where prior permits through the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, were obtained.

Fossils collected are "on loan" for educational purposes to Mills so the geoscience students can continue to work on the fossils.

While the students were not permitted to keep the bones they found, they could collect limited



Working with a fossil
Southeast Missouri State University student Tanner Stadelbacher said a juvenile triceratops nose was the most fascinating fossil the group collected during a trip to Montana. Photo from news.semo.edu.

amounts of petrified wood, rocks and minerals.

"Several of them came back with beautiful metamorphic rock pieces: rocks that are not common to Missouri," Mills said.

The bones the students unearthed were delivered to Mills in August by the Paleo X Adventure 360 team. She plans to display the bones collected and use them in future classes and workshops for K-12 students.

Since August, the group has continued cleaning the bones, and this semester they will get independent study credit to get them "display ready" so they can be exhibited in cases in Magill and Rhodes halls and in the Geoscience Lab.

"I can't really put into words what you see and how you feel" when you discover these fossils, Stadelbacher said. "We left early, hiked all day and got in late. But when you find a

dinosaur bone, that all goes out the window."

Mills is planning to take another group of students to Montana the week of July 19.

"As long as there is interest, I will continue to try to provide this unique opportunity to students at Southeast," she said.

(Editor's note: this story, along with accompanying photographs, have been posted online at news.semo.edu.)

Television Listings

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Seinfeld	Law & Order: SVU	Raven BUNK'D	(:05) The New Pope	(4:50) "Deja Vu" ('06)	Kidding
7 PM	Station 19 (HD)	Young Unicorn	Man (HD)	Brooklyn		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"Zombies 2" ('20) Attend prom.	"The Conjuring 2" ('16) Enfield poltergeist.	"Mr. & Mrs. Smith" ('05) Married assassins.	Homeland
8 PM	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	(:01) Mom Carol's	Deputy "10-8 Selfless"	Will (HD)	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	The Sinner "Part III"				(4:5) "The Best of Enemies" ('19) Joining forces. (HD)
9 PM	A Million Little Things	Tommy (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Law & Order: SVU		Bang (HD)	(:01) Briarpatch (HD)	Raven	Sydney	(:15) Curb Enthusiasm	
10 PM	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan	(:04) Chicago P.D.	Unsitatable	McMillion\$ (HD)		DESIUS &
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Brooklyn	The Sinner "Part III"	Just Roll	Avenue 5	(:50) Strike Back (HD)	Cartoon
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night		Conan		Jessie	"Ma" ('19)	"Hills-Eyes"	DESIUS & The Circus

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA Countdown (HD)	"San Andreas" ('15) Rescue attempt after an earthquake.	Family	"Zombies 2" ('20)	"John Wick"	"Die Hard"	"The Parts You" ('19)
7 PM	Boat (HD)	MacGyver (HD)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	Lincoln Crime cases.	NBA Basketball Denver vs Oklahoma City (Live) (HD)	"Guardians of the Galaxy" ('14) Team of misfits. (HD)	Family	BUNK'D	"Godzilla: King of the Monsters" ('19) Monsters fight.	"Times at the El Royale" ('18) Hotel strangers.	*** "Trumbo" ('15) Drama. Trumbo fights. (R)
8 PM	20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	Hawaii Five-0 (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC Investigative news. (HD)			Family	BUNK'D			
9 PM	Local	Local		Local	NBA Basketball New Orleans vs Portland (Live) (HD)	ELEAGUE (HD)	Family	Unsitatable	Real Time (HD)	Strike	(:05) "The Upside" ('19) Unlikely chemistry.
10 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live (HD)	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)			Family	Sydney	High Maint	(:50) Strike Back (HD)	
11 PM	Nightline	Corden		Late Night			Family	Owl House	Outsider	"Dragged Across Concrete" (R)	Homeland An old ally.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	XFL Football (Live)	Local Programs	College Basketball	"Guardians of the Galaxy" Team of misfits.	*** "King Arthur: Legend of the Sword" ('17)	"Zombies 2" ('20)	"Alita: Battle Angel"	Strike	"Five Feet Apart" ('19) Teen patients. (HD)
7 PM	NBA: Jump	NCIS "No Vacancy"	Almost Family "Permanent AF; Expectant AF"	To Be Announced	College Basketball Louisville vs TBD" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	*** "Storm chasers pursue killer tornadoes."	Big City	(:10) "Annabelle Comes Home" ('19, Horror)	"Cast Away" ('00) A man is stranded on a remote island.	"On the Basis of Sex" Discrimination case.
8 PM	Philadelphia vs Milwaukee (Live) (HD)	48 Hours (HD)	Local Programs	Dateline NBC (HD)		Bang (HD)		Big City	Whitmer (HD)		
9 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Sat. Night Live (HD)	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	The Sinner "Part III"	BUNK'D	(:05) The Outsider	(:15) *** "The Hate U Give" ('18, Drama) Two worlds. (HD)	Kidding
10 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Sat. Night Live Sketch comedy.		Frontal	Briarpatch (HD)	Unsitatable	Whitmer (HD)		Kidding
11 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs		SportsCenter (HD)	"Ted" ('12, Comedy)		Owl House	Whitmer (HD)	Strike	Homeland An old ally.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Lego Masters (Live)	America's Got Talent: The (HD)	(5:30) To Be Announced Info unavailable.	*** "Ted" ('12, Comedy) Living teddy bear. (R)	Law & Order: SVU	"Zombies 2" ('20)	(5:30) "Casino Royale" ('06) High stakes. (HD)	"Night School" ('18)	Homeland An old ally.
7 PM	American Idol "302 (Auditions) Singing talent."	God Friended Me	Simpsons	Zoe's Extraordinary	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	*** "We're the Millers" ('13, Comedy) Fake family. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Raven	(:10) "Annabelle Comes Home" ('19, Horror)	"Deadpool 2" ('18) Cyborg from future. (HD)	The Circus
8 PM	The Bachelor (HD)	NCIS: L. A. (HD)	Fam Guy	Good Girls (HD)		*** "American Reunion" ('12) (R)	Law & Order: SVU	Just Roll	(:11) Shook (HD)	"The Hate U Give" ('18, Drama) Two worlds. (HD)	Homeland (HD)
9 PM	The Rookie (HD)	NCIS: New Orleans	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)		Dare Me (HD)	Disney Fam	Avenue 5	*** "I, Robot" ('04) Robot may be killer. (HD)	Kidding
10 PM	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs			Family	Raven	Curb Your		Kidding
11 PM	(:35) Local	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Sports		Family	Just Roll	Oliver	"Death Sentence"	Homeland (HD)

MONDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	College Basketball Louisville vs Florida State	Fam Guy	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Raven	"Quantum of Solace" ('08) Market corruption.	"The Nice Guys" (R)	"The Parts"
7 PM	The Bachelor (HD)	Neighbor.	9-1-1: Lone Star (HD)	The Voice Singing competition. (HD)		Fam Guy	WWE Monday Night Raw (HD)	BUNK'D	Strike		The Circus
8 PM	Bob Hearts	All Rise "Fool for Liv"	Prodigal Son		College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Fam Guy		Disney Fam	The New Pope (HD)	(:50) "The Marine" ('06) Marine chases thief.	Kidding
9 PM	The Good Doctor	Bull "Rectify" (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	(:01) Manifest (HD)		Dad (HD)		Disney Fam	Coop & Cam	McMillion\$ (HD)	Homeland (HD)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	Dad (HD)	Family	Just Roll	Unsitatable	The New Pope (HD)	DESIUS &
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)		Conan	Law & Order: SVU	Disney Fam	Just Roll	McMillion\$ (HD)	The Circus
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	Brooklyn	The Biggest Loser	Jessie	Avenue 5	"Signs" ('02)	DESIUS & Cartoon

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	"Harry Potter & Chamber" School of magic.	Raven	McMillion\$ (HD)	"White Oleander"	(5:55) "Real Steel" ('11) Robot boxing. (HD)
7 PM	Conners	Democratic Primary Debate	Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours (HD)	The Voice (HD)		Bang (HD)		BUNK'D	(:05) "Shaft" ('19, Horror) Best friend's death.	"The Hills Have Eyes" ('06) (HD)	Homeland (HD)
8 PM	Bless Mess mixed-ish	All Rise "Fool for Liv"	Prodigal Son	This Is Us "Clouds"	College Basketball "Teams TBD" (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	The Biggest Loser	Coop & Cam		(:50) "Turistas" ('06, Horror) Stranded tourists.	"Rambo" ('08) Thai missionaries.
9 PM	For Life (HD)	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs Local info.	(:01) New Amsterdam		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Sydney	Real Sports (HD)		
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	Miracle	Law & Order: SVU	BUNK'D	Unsitatable	The Outsider (HD)	Strike
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)		Conan	The Biggest Loser	Disney Fam	Just Roll	Avenue 5	(:10) *** "Signs" ('02)
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)	New Girl		Jessie	McMillion\$ (HD)	"Royale"	"Kalifornia"

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2020

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Stephen A	Bang (HD)	NCIS Young re-union.	Raven	"Curse Llorona" ('19)	"The Dilemma" ('11)	(:15) *** "Shaft" ('00, Action) NYPD detective.
7 PM	Goldbergs	Survivor (HD)	The Masked Singer	Chicago Med (HD)	NBA Basketball Dallas vs San Antonio (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (HD)	BUNK'D	The Outsider (HD)	"BlackKlansman" ('18) Detective mission.	*** "House Party 2" ('90, Comedy)
8 PM	Family	(:01) SEAL Team (HD)	(:01) Lego Masters	Chicago Fire (HD)		Bang (HD)		Sydney	"Annabelle Comes Home" ('19)		
9 PM	Shark Tank	SEAL Team (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Utah Jazz (Live) (HD)	Hoggart	Miz & Mrs	Coop & Cam	Sydney	(:15) "Bad Times at the El Royale" ('18) Hotel strangers.	(4:5) *** "House Party 2" ('91) (HD)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local Programs		Conan	Family	Unsitatable	Avenue 5		
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)		Conan	Family	Just Roll	(:15) McMillion\$ (HD)		(:20) DESUS & MERO
	Nightline	Corden		Late Night	SC (HD)	Conan	Family	Jessie		"Old Man"	

Opinion and Commentary

Commentary

Stop hand-wringing over newspapers' decline

By Jim Nowlan

According to a late 2019 piece in the New York Times, one in five newspapers in America has been shuttered over the past 15 years, and journalist numbers cut in half. This bodes ill for the vibrancy of communities, for which newspapers have been the essential glue, prod and town crier.

We must stop wringing our hands and instead devise alternatives, just as news in paper form in the 18th century replaced the news shouted out earlier by the town criers.

My dad ran the Stark County News in Toulon post-World War II. As a teen in the 1950s, I sat at the huge keyboard of a Model 14 Linotype, a balky iron and steel beast that spit out lines of type from molten lead. It was high tech!

On Wednesday afternoons, townsfolk crowded, literally, the corridor of the post office, waiting impatiently for Billy Humphrey to stuff the new edition into their mailboxes. The paper included one or two pages of "personals," of "Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jackson spending the weekend in Mahomet with Mrs. Jackson's parents. They all enjoyed dinner in Champaign Saturday evening." Personals were the Facebook of 70 years ago.

News-on-paper operations are struggling mightily to hang onto enough advertisers, stolen by Facebook and Google, to keep printing.

For towns that have lost their newspaper, here are several models, already in place here and there, that might in coming years provide that "glue, prod, and town crier" role for your community.

The free, 100 percent coverage newspaper: Veteran journalist Jeff Lampe has had success with his printed Weekly Post and Prairie News publications in rural territory between Peoria and Galesburg. Each covers several communities, not one as in the past.

His publications go by mail to all 16,000 households in his coverage area. He pays reporters a small amount per each city council and school board meeting. It's an expensive model, as Jeff's only revenue is from advertising, and he has to produce, print and pay postage to reach each household.

But advertisers in the small-town area love it, as they can't afford television from the big cities nearby. Readers page through the news and see the ads.

Alternative newspapers: These have been around for a century or more. The decades-old Illinois Times in Springfield is free to all who pick the paper up weekly at drop boxes and stores throughout the state capital region. And it is a must for many, who want to know what is happening at the music spots and new restaurants. They also read the latest investigative reporting of the one reporter who does such, and does it well, as well as the letters to the editor about various controversies. Not so comprehensive as the once-robust subscription newspapers, the paper still serves a valuable function.

Nonprofit newspapers, somewhat along the NPR model: Economists say it is irrational for an individual to contribute to keep an otherwise free service going. But folks do.

Podcasts: I have a local farmer friend with a podcast called the Shark Farmer. Rob Sharkey reaches scores of thousands of farmers in the U.S. and Canada each week, with provocative interviews about the challenging world of farm life.

Rob makes more money from the podcast than he does from his farming and outfitting businesses. Maybe a podcast of community news and interviews could generate enough listeners to spark interest from advertisers, and make doing such worthwhile.

In effect, podcasters would be the new town criers.

Facebook: I know several dailies that use their Facebook pages to link readers to limited numbers of stories on their websites. The papers then pitch inexpensive online subscriptions.

There are Facebook pages about one's community. It would take an unpaid administrator-editor and volunteer reporter-contributors to transform such pages into effective news outlets.

And, of course, this newspaper you are reading may figure out a profitable combination of print and online news distribution that will keep the community informed and energized.

This brings me to my final point (about time, Jim). Volunteer (or slave wage) reporters will probably be necessary for many news outlets. Fortunately, there are now more of us with some time on our hands, who might be induced into covering one, maybe two, government meetings a month.

Minimal training would be needed in how to cover and write up a meeting. There are reporting basics, which could be taught in several evenings. Maybe the state press association could organize such around the state, ditto for college journalism programs.

Solid news, about what is going on and what needs to be done in a community, is a key underpinning for community vitality. Let's keep the news coming, whatever the format.

For many years, Jim Nowlan was a senior fellow and political science professor at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. He has worked for three unindicted governors and published a weekly newspaper in Central Illinois.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Squirrels...and toasters...and other stuff



Prelude: this photograph has absolutely nothing to do with appliances. With that in mind...a pair of squirrels appeared to be working on breakfast last Saturday morning at a feeder which is on top of some shelves which are on our front porch. Not a slice of toast was to be seen. Do squirrels even like toast? A moment after the photograph was taken, the squirrel on the top shoved the other critter out of the feeder. The banished squirrel fell about three or feet, went to the edge of the porch, appeared to sulk for a moment or two and then scampered away.

Isn't there some sort of rule that says if things are going to break, there will actually be three things that break?

One morning last week, yours truly began the day by stumbling through the usual morning routine, which included making a pot of coffee and a couple of slices of toast for breakfast.

Half awake, which is always a good thing when one is getting ready to drive, I put two slices of wheat bread in the toaster and pushed down on the handle, or whatever the thing is called.

Instead of doing what the toast usually does, and had successfully done, for lo, these many months, the two slices of bread popped back up.

So, I tried again. And again. And one more time. The two slices of bread popped right back up. Again. And Again. And one more time.

Even in my groggy, early morning state of semi-consciousness, it became pretty obvious that the toaster was not going to function in the usual manner. Was my breakfast going to be toast?

Turned out that if I pushed down whatever the thing is called on the toaster which allowed the toaster to toast, then the bread would actually toast. Breakfast was saved. The toaster, not so much.

The toast, as it turned out, would be one of three appliances in our humble abode which more or less bit the dust last week. Our clothes dryer pretty much bid us a fond farewell. The dryer was accompanied, to a lesser degree, by the clothes washer.

We've had some concerns about the dryer for about a month or so. Mostly, the dryer didn't dry things. The Other Half checked and determined that we could get the dryer repaired. For approximately the cost of purchasing a new dryer.

The clothes washer was still functioning. However, The Other Half said she determined something needed to

be done after she heard the sound of "shrapnel" coming from the machine.

(During the course of the many years The Other Half and yours truly have spent together, there was a time when we had neither a clothes washer nor a clothes dryer. In some cases, the Good Old Days might have actually been good. We do not count the absence of a washer and dryer to be the Good Old Days.)

Bottom line: we needed a new toaster, a new clothes dryer and a new clothes washer. No problem. It's just money.

Finding a new toaster was pretty easy. On the day that the soon-to-be toasted toaster toasted its last piece of toast, I was able to find a replacement at a local retailer. Shopped local.

To be honest with you, I'd never really paid much attention to the many features of the toaster I use. Early in the morning, I don't pay attention to much of anything. Apparently, the toaster has something called "toast boost" and even "coordinates well with any type of kitchen decor," which, in our case, would be "old."

Acquiring a new clothes washer and clothes dryer took a little bit more work than just heading to the store and picking the appliances off the shelf. Fortunately for us, The Other Half is very good at such challenges. She eventually found a washer and dryer which I believe were made in Wisconsin. I did not check to see where the new toaster was made. I'm guessing that it was not in Wisconsin.

The new major appliances were to have been delivered to our abode on Monday. At the time that this was being written, I did not know if they had arrived.

I am going to check and see if the new dryer has a setting for toast. Never know when you might need a backup plan...

(A bit of a follow-up...the clothes washer and clothes dryer did not arrive as scheduled on Monday, which was a bit disappointing. All I could do was hope that the toaster kept on working for another day.)



Another prelude, or, maybe...an afterthought: this photograph also has nothing to do with major appliances...or even toast. A fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life who also happens to toil at The Paragraph Factory took the photo one day recently in Union County.

A Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, February 19, 1970

The worst weather of the winter occurred this past week end, when 2.3 inches of new snowfall was recorded, covered by a crust of ice, making walking and driving extremely hazardous.

Bon Hartline, official weather observer for the area, reported one variety of peaches in his orchard, received major damage from the ice storm, and he had to prune them back; his brother, Frank, reported a late variety of peaches in his orchard also received damage.

Thunder, occurring during the storm, caused some consternation, as many residents reported they had never heard thunder during an ice storm.

Residents in the rural areas, particularly, were presented with other problems than the ice, when power failures were reported due to ice forming on telephone and electricity lines.

Hardest hit were the areas in Southern Union County and along Route 146. The electrically operated heat and water facilities were heavily taxed, as electricity came on and off, and in some instances, remained off for several hours at a time.

Due to the prevalence of influenza in the Union County area, it has become necessary to curtail the number of visitors to the Union County Hospital.

It seems as though the current influenza outbreak is affecting the elderly and younger residents more than other groups, at the present time.

Funeral services for Ernest P. Owen, 87, were held Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Crain Funeral Home. "E.P." as he was fondly known to his many friends and associates, was active in all phases of civic and community affairs.

Plans for the renovation of the American Legion Community Center are continuing to be made, according to a spokesman for the Legion.

The first quarterly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce in this new year will be Monday, March 2, at 6:30 p.m. at the Whitehouse Coffee Shop, 133 West Vienna, Anna.

Once again, the Shawnee High School was forced to

re-schedule its Homecoming activities. The homecoming was scheduled for last Saturday, Feb. 14, but due to the ice storm, the activities were cancelled. The homecoming will be held Saturday, Feb. 28. Last year, the school was forced to cancel the festivities due to a fire at the school.

From the Alto Pass Happenings: A big snow came Friday night and sleet and rain followed on Saturday. The sun never shone any on Saturday. Winter has come again, it seems.

From the Bethel news: There were no Church Services Sunday, Feb. 15. The electricity was off our way until around noon. Too, the snow and ice made the side roads very slippery. We hope the snow and ice will be gone by next Sunday and we can all get out to church again.

From the Camp Ground news: Old man winter is still with us at the time of this writing. Due to the snow and ice Saturday and Sunday our church services (were) called off and no school was held Monday.

From the Shiloh news: Well, how do you all like this ice? All you people who have lived here are missing a beautiful sight this morning, with the sun shining. It's a slick sight, too, but a kind of heat wave, 14 degrees above zero. It's been real amusing to see the dogs trying to go up the slopes. Many children have never seen so much ice and snow in one winter, or at such long periods.

Political letters to the editor

All letters to the editor endorsing, opposing or pertaining to political candidates must be published as paid election letters. They will be subject to a publication fee of \$50.

A paid election letter must be paid for by the writer. If the letter is paid for by another individual or organization, that information must be stated, according to election laws.

A letter must be signed and must contain the name of the person who wrote the letter, the writer's address and the writer's telephone number. The telephone number will not be published, but must be included for verification purposes.

The deadline to submit a paid election letter, and payment for the letter, is noon on the Thursday prior to publication of the letter. The newspaper reserves the right to edit a letter for clarity, brevity and legal purposes.