

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Volume 178, Number 50

(continued on page 2)

“Your kindness lifts a

High temperatures in the region generally were forecast to be in the 60s and 70s through Friday, with cooler weather expected Saturday and Sunday.

Lincoln Elementary is in Anna Community Consolidated School District No. 37.



This year's holiday season in Union County is set to include the return of Gumdrop Drive at the Anna City Park. The accompanying photo is from a past Gumdrop Drive display. The city has announced on social media that the Union County CEO program will be bringing back Gumdrop Drive for 2025. The announcement comes as the city prepares for its Christmas in Downtown Anna celebration, which is set for Saturday, Nov. 29. Gumdrop Drive participants will have a chance to decorate a tree or a pole at the park. A limited number of trees are available to decorate; they will be offered on a first come, first serve basis. Participation is free. Registration is available by visiting the City of Anna's Facebook page. File photo.

Illinois Veterans Home float

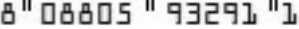
Cheer/flag/pom pom team:

Floats, veteran: Illinois Veterans Home in Anna. Marine Corps League Det. 812/Toys for Tots. 93-year-old Korean War veteran Bill Frick, driven by George Wil-

Horses: Dale A. Lipe on his horse Chance.

Simpson, who usually receives \$158 in SNAP benefits on the first of the month, said her first payment came in on Nov. 7 with only \$12.

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THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

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4-H Can Construction supports food pantries

University of Illinois Extension’s AJMPU Unit has announced the winners of a recent 4-H Can Construction event. The unit includes Alexander, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski and Union counties. 4-H Can Construction brought together creativity, teamwork and community service for a great cause. Participants designed and built structures entirely out of canned goods. Following the event, all canned goods were packaged by 4-H Teen Leaders and distributed to local food pantries to support families in area communities. The event was held at Shawnee Community College near Ullin. Can construction setup took place

Nov. 9-10. Public viewing and judging were Nov. 12. The AJMPU Unit announced on social media that the Vienna Eagles 4-H Club, in partnership with the Vienna Beta Club, took first place with the best display. Lick Creek Homegrown Leaders came in second, followed by Clark Foundation Services in third. Lick Creek also received the award for the most cans collected. Thanks were extended to the Union County Robotics and Reaching for the Stars 4-H club for their participation. Food pantries in Alexander, Johnson and Union counties received boxes of canned or boxed food to help restock their shelves.

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

Education Support Professionals Day was commemorated on Nov. 19. The day recognizes support staff at public schools throughout the United States.

Lots of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School royal blue was seen in the community last Friday in support A-J student Caden Gurley and his family.

Six members of Shawnee School District No. 84’s EdRising Club learned about educational opportunities outside of thee school when they made a recent trip to the City Museum in St. Louis. The Shawnee students were among 70 members of local EdRising Clubs to make the trip.

The Cobden Village Board has approved renewal of an agreement with the Union County animal control program.

Good luck to deer hunters who will be taking part in this weekend’s first firearm season in Illinois.

A building which housed the offices of the Union County Highway Department was razed early this

week. The building was located on the grounds of the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro. The highway department has moved into a building which is also utilized by the Union County Ambulance Service.

A Scholastic Book Fair is underway this week in Anna School District No. 37.

Shawnee Community College is joining in November’s observance of First Generation Month. The month recognizes students who are the first ones in their families to attend college or are “first-gen” graduates.

Shawnee Community College’s Saints Foundation is planning to participate in the GiveSI Giving Tuesday fundraiser, which is scheduled Dec. 1-2. Donations will support the Saints Cares fund.

The fall 2026 musical at Shawnee Community College is scheduled to be a stage presentation of “Frozen.”

Former Shawnee Community College student Braden Clark is in the film “Soul on Fire.” Clark attended the recent premiere of the film.

Camp Ground Church plans 175th anniversary celebration

The community is invited to join with the congregation of Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church as they celebrate their 175th year of ministry on Sunday, Nov. 23.

Services for the day will commence with coffee and fellowship at 9:15 a.m. with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:30. Morning Worship will be at 10:30 a.m. with a potluck meal to follow.

The church is located at 1,000 Camp Ground Road/50 Tunnel Lane east of Anna.

Before the region that is presently Union County was settled, the site of the church was already recognized as an excellent spot to camp and rest. The site was on the main trail from the Ohio River to the Mississippi River near the intersection of a trail running north from Ft. Massac.

The knoll was high enough to escape being flooded and offered easy access to five nearby springs. Families from the various directions would meet here for reunions lasting several days, travelers would “put up for the night” or longer, and brush arbor meetings were held.

In the early 1830's, George Hileman, and others, settled

in this section of Union County. During the winter of 1838-39, the land route utilized by the Cherokees on their "Trail of Tears" was the east/west trail passing by the Hilemans and the “camp ground.”

An unusually severe and early winter prohibited the Cherokees passage across the Mississippi River due to ice floes. Hence, the Cherokee were forced to spend the winter in three camps in Southern Illinois, one of which is the Camp Ground Church site where it is thought about 3,000 wintered over. Before the severe winter broke, many of them had joined George Hileman’s two deceased children buried in an adjacent field

After the "Trail of Tears,” brush harbor meetings continued under the auspices of various denominations. In 1850, Mr. Hileman and his wife deeded to the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination the site of the church. A growing congregation and a desire for more protection from the weather than a brush arbor provided led to the erection of a small shed which also served the nearby families as a schoolhouse.



Campground Church in Union County.

A larger, more comfortable structure, a single-story log structure complete with split log benches, was built and used for over 20 years before being replaced by a two-story frame building begun in 1876. This building remained in service until a fire in 1905. All that was salvaged was the pump organ.

The present sanctuary was completed and “dedicated debt free” on Aug. 11, 1906. Electric generators were installed in the 1930s; electricity arrived in 1942. In 1952, the basement was dug under the church by hand. The oak floors were laid in 1959; the first gas furnace was installed in 1967; "in-door" plumbing in 1972;

a classroom area added in 1980; central air-conditioning in 1981; a sound system in 1992. The 1980 addition was razed in 2001 and the fellowship hall/educational building was added in 2002 and dedicated debt free.

As pleasant as the physical facility is, perhaps the most impressive thing to be said about Camp Ground Church is that in it’s 175-year history, the doors [when there were doors] have never closed and a ministry has been maintained.

The church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places May 8, 2017 and the Illinois Sesquicentennial House of Worship Sept. 2, 2023.

Audubon Society birding hike set at Giant City

A birding hike is planned Sunday, Nov. 23, at Giant City State Park near Makanda. The hike is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Park volunteer and Southern Illinois Audubon Society member Vicki Lang-Mendenhall will lead the hike, which will be along the 1/3 mile accessible Post Oak Trail at the park.

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

River to River Trail Society hike planned

The River-to-River Trail Society has announced its seventh public hike of the 2025 fall hiking season for Saturday, Nov. 29 at Thacker Hollow/Initial Tree in Hardin County/Gallatin County.

The hike is free and open to the public. This will be thru hike of moderate difficulty, 5 miles in length, with 4 hours of hiking time.

The leader of the hike can be reached at 314-223-3061 for more information.

Hikers are asked to meet at 10 a.m. at Rim Rock parking area.

The trail society stated that the hike is intended for people in good health who have done some hiking.

Hiking sticks and boots or sturdy shoes are recommended. Hikers should bring their own water and snacks. Hikers are asked to not bring dogs.

More information, including driving instructions to the meeting area, can be found online at the River to River Trail Society’s website at www.rivertorivertrail.net



Kansas Craig signs

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School senior Kansas Craig has officially signed a letter of intent to play softball for Southern Illinois University Edwardsville at a signing ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

So far in her high school career, Craig has broken several A-J softball records, including home runs, runs, RBIs, hits, batting average and slugging percentage.

In her junior year, Craig led the state of Illinois in home runs (24), tied for 12th nationally, and set a new state record for runs scored with 84 (tied for 4th nationally).

She was named to the 1st Team All-Conference and the 1st Team Class 2A All-State roster. She also named the Southern Illinois Softball Player of the Year.

Weather High 77, low 19

Temperatures for the period of Nov. 11-17 in the Union County area ranged from a high of 77 degrees to a low of 19. No precipitation was recorded.

Following are highlights for the period as recorded by local weather observer Dana Cross near Jonesboro:

Tuesday, Nov. 11: high 51, low 19.

Wednesday, Nov. 12: high 67, low 37.

Thursday, Nov. 13: high 67, low 32.

Friday, Nov. 14: high 77, low 39.

Saturday, Nov. 15: high 73, low 56.

Sunday, Nov. 16: high 63, low 34.

Monday, Nov. 17: high 62, low 31.

Worship at Kornthal

The Alliance of Churches worship at Kornthal will be held 2:pm. Sunday, November 23. Kornthal is located 2 miles south of Jonesboro off Illinois 127. Coming up, Christmas at Kornthal, December 9th at 6:30 pm.

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Union County Alliance of Churches Recommendations

- 1 Thanksgiving Worship, Kornthal, Sun 11/23 - 2PM
Potluck later at Old Depot-Anna at 6PM
- 2 “The Closet” clothing for everyone at your price, next door to Dollar General – Anna.
- 3 “The Old Depot” 6 pm. Free dinner, live praise, fellowship, everyone welcome, come as you are.

Alliance of Churches (618)-614-2974



Grandmaster Coffman medals
Grandmaster Heather Coffman, owner and operator of Coffman’s Martial Arts Academy in Anna, recently earned a spot on the USA Team for the World Kickboxing and Karate Union. Coffman traveled to Trier, Germany to participate in the WKU tournament, which hosted 39 countries and 2,300 competitors. Grandmaster Coffman, through the training program set up by her coach, Grandmaster Robert Cutrell (founder of the art of ChunJiDo and the ChunJiDo International Organization), secured 2 gold medals and 2 silver medals at the tournament.
After the WKU Tournament, Grandmaster Cutrell and Grandmaster Coffman traveled Germany teaching seminars through ChunJiDo International. They visited Hanover, Oberhausen, and Odendorf, Germany, hosting grandmasters, masters, and students from Germany, Belgium, Finland and Netherlands.

SIU School of Music hosts students for Brass Day event

More than 100 middle school and high school students from throughout the region were expected to learn the intricacies of playing brass instruments and learn more about careers in music at the third Brass Day, hosted by Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s School of Music on Wednesday, Nov. 19.
Jessica Butler, an assistant professor of low brass and music history in the SIU School of Music, said nearly 90 junior

high and high schools within the Illinois Music Education Association’s District 6, comprising schools in Southern Illinois and the Metro East, along with schools in Paducah, Ky., were invited to send students.
Butler, along with School of Music brass faculty Ricky Spears and Brittainy Spears, planned to work with students through the day. All students began with breathing exercises in Shryock Auditorium before breaking into groups based on

their instrument type for technique classes.
The students also participated in master classes and discussions, performed for one another and attended live performances and rehearsals. At noon, SIU School of Music students were scheduled to perform a chamber music recital in Shryock Auditorium on the university’s campus.
In addition, visiting students learned about instrument maintenance and “Rhythm Wars,” a rhythm practice for middle school students.

Firearm deer season slated

The first firearm deer season of 2025 in Illinois is set for Nov. 21-23. The second firearm season is scheduled to follow on Dec. 4-7.
Muzzleloader-only deer season is set for Dec. 12-14. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources noted that hunters may also use a muzzleloader permit with a muzzleloading rifle during the second firearm season in December.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
ANNA JONESBORO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT 81
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Statement of Affairs for Anna Jonesboro Community High School District 81, located at 608 S Main Street, Anna, Illinois 62906, has been completed and is available for public inspection. The report has been posted on the District’s official website and published in accordance with Section 10-17 of the Illinois School Code.

Anna Jonesboro Community High School District 81, situated in Union County, is a high school district encompassing approximately 137 square miles and operating one center. The District employs 42 full-time and 14 part-time certified employees, as well as 23 full-time and 38 part-time non-certified employees.

The tax rates by fund for the fiscal year are as follows: Educational – 0.95135, Operations & Maintenance – 0.24775, Bonds & Interest – 0.24590, Transportation – 0.11892, Municipal Retirement – 0.05696, Social Security – 0.06510, Working Cash – 0.04955, Fire Prevention & Safety – 0.04955, Tort Immunity – 0.28207, Special Education – 0.01982, Capital Projects/Leasing/Other – 0.0000.

Members of the public may view the complete Annual Statement of Affairs on the District’s Website.

County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco) By Suzan Harvel



The Daniel Chapman Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution hosted a special Veterans Day service in Vienna.

Well, the northern lights were a bust for me this go-around. We have too many trees around us to see much of anything except traffic on the road, and I had too much going on to seek a better spot. The photos folks have posted were really nice though.

I did see those eerie lights once when I was a kid and visiting family up north. It’ll stick with you. Maybe next time they come around I can drive somewhere else and see them. It’s certainly worth multi viewings.
Special lunar and solar sighting have always been a wonder to me. Seeing a man walk on the moon (via tv) was the first and greatest, but I also saw Halley’s Comet in real time back in the 80’s, and the Hale-Bopp Comet in the 90’s. The new century has given me many solar and lunar eclipses, super moons, meteor showers, asteroid flybys, and other celestial events to see. Some I’ve seen with my own eyes, special glasses, telescopes, and the ever-popular television or social media. It’s all amazing.

I’m not sure how deer hunting is going. No one in the house has gone. However, I hear guns going off a lot and have certainly seen a lot of dead deer on hillsides, in ditches, and on roadways. I guess some might be the “one that got away”. I just hope everyone stays safe.

A Veterans Day Service was held in Vienna on last Tuesday, sponsored by the Daniel Chapman Chapter, NSDAR. There was excellent turnout and most of the service was held inside the library due to the cold and windchill.

The Beggs-Gurley VFW Post #5222 were present with the 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps. Music was provided by Mason Montgomery and Marcia Wells. Prayer services were led by Pastor Peter J. Slivenski of Burnside Community Church and Bro. Billy Thomas of Freedom Outreach Ministries and Reevesville Community Church. Welcomes were given by Mistress of Ceremonies, Tambria Cain, U.S. Army, Retired; Vienna Mayor Steve Penrod; and Daniel Chapman Regent Doda Starkey.

The program was given by Master Sergeant Edward L. Ellis, U.S. Air Force, Retired, originally from Mound City. The Vienna High School FFA were in charge of posting and retiring the colors; The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Julie Kolb; and the Placing of the Wreath by Carly Holtkamp.

The Commemorative Events Committee for the Daniel Chapman Chapter were instrumental in the planning of this annual event and are to be commended on their outstanding work, as are the Vienna High School Beta Club, Landon Webb, and all who assisted in the set up and break down of this event.

The Daniel Chapman Chapter held their monthly meeting afterwards, with the next meeting being a Christmas tea on Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. at the Vienna Library community room with museum outreach docents from Champaign-Urbana giving the program on the seven deadly sins.

The Veteran’s Day Parade in Anna was gearing up as I was headed to Vienna, and I had to do some creative detouring. I’ve heard many reports of how wonderful it was...if a bit chilly. A lot of folks I saw lining the streets had coats, hoodies or hats, gloves, and a LOT of blankets. At least it was dry! It’s so wonderful to live in small towns where parades, special services, commemorative flags, speeches, and all the rest are just what we do to honor and show our appreciation to our veterans. They deserve it.

I grew up in and around military bases until I married. My father was career Army and in numerous conflicts, as were a great many who lived in our neighborhoods. Military families are unique and tend to stick together. Why? Because they share a common pride and fear on deployments and a shared joy or sorrow on returns. Life for military spouses and children is hard. Not just on deployments and returns, but in the frequent moves, often with foreign elements thrown in; the ebb and flow of friendships; the stress of dealing with so much and the lack of extended family close by to help. Loneliness and trust become issues. Our veterans had all of that and the family left behind to consider and worry on while doing their job, all too often under fire. Yes, they deserve every bit of appreciation we can give them.

Part of a very busy weekend involved three trips to Cape Girardeau, two big social events, and a heavy round of Christmas shopping. I was also entertained by my granddaughter’s driving skills in a clothes basket in the hallway. Later, she used them as a row boat. The imagination of children is a wonderful thing.

I also spent a large part of the weekend on the phone. We called my mother-in-law’s sister, Sue, who lives in Poplar Bluff, Mo., so they could chat and we could all catch up on family news. Then, I was on the phone several times to my nephew, Skyler, in South Carolina, talking about the trip he and his dad are making up here for Thanksgiving week, with discussion on potential detours around construction.

I also chatted with my daughter, Allison, in Canada, multiple times. She’s feeling a bit homesick with the holidays close and they’re not going to be able to get back here for them. We will do a face-to-face video chat though, so she can talk and see some of them while they are here. She reported they’ve had their first snowfall and I joked about our snow “spit” event of earlier last week. I’m sure we’ll get more, as I know they will.

I also had social and business calls, which is usual. Then for the unusual, I received a call from a friend, Cheryl McKinney, out in California, who



Retired Master Sergeant Edward L. Ellis, U.S. Air Force, from Mound City gave the program.

wanted information on where her son, who lives here now, could borrow a ladder. You just never know what conversation awaits on the other end when you pick up the phone.

Brother Bobby Ricardson led the church Sunday morning from Daniel, the 6th chapter. Brother Bob spoke of Daniel’s dealings with satraps (watch dogs/spies) and how Daniel remained faithful to God, no matter what they pulled on him. We need be as faithful. I, personally, always equate Daniel in the Lion’s Den to politicians. There are always those that are jealous of the power or disagree with decisions. A lot of them are lying or creating issues to detract or damage the others mission.

While the satraps sought to destroy Daniel, he knew what they were up to, and stayed faithful in his worship. King Darius was upset at finding out the decree he’d issued was a trick designed to put Daniel, whom he admired and trusted, into harm’s way. King Darius reminded Daniel his God would protect him. God didn’t take Daniel out of the danger area, but saw him through it. He is with us in whatever mess we find ourselves. Our witness can be more powerful in those hard times too, just as Daniel’s was to King Darius, if we just keep the faith and trust God to see us through.

Those added to our prayer list are: Caden Gurley for healing; Kim Dillon for strength; Ron Gorst for healing from surgery; Kevin Smith who has brain cancer; Ann Pulliam for health issues; Jamie Duke for gestational diabetes; James Sullivan for unspoken; Ann Toler who is still in the hospital after surgery; Brenda Price who is in the hospital; Linda Starr who had her late husband’s truck vandalized; and the family of Don Merriman in his passing. Also, remember those who might be alone or shut in during the holidays.

Union County Fixin’s

Goopy Butter Cake by Barbara Baker of Poplar Bluff, Mo.

1 package butter cake mix
1 stick melted butter, cooled slightly
2 eggs, beaten
Beat above ingredients together and spread in a sprayed 9 X 13 pan.
Beat together:
1 8 oz block cream cheese, room temperature
1 box powdered sugar (1 pound)
2 eggs, beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Pour over first mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.
Sprinkle with powdered sugar while still warm.

Obituaries

Donald Merriman

Donald Merriman passed away Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025 at the age of 90. He went peacefully inside his longtime country estate with his family by his side.

Don was born March 19, 1935, in Johnson County Ill., the son of Jeff and Bertha (Anderson) Merriman.

He grew up on the family farm in the Cache bottoms with his trusty companion Rosco, the “hunting dog”. They would venture into the countryside in search of the most exclusive ponds, prominently Bozwell’s fishing hole.

On Oct. 29, 1960, Don married the love of his life Betty L. Tripp.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Betty L. Merriman; two children, son, Randall (Connie) Merriman and daughter, Tonya Merriman; grandchildren, Celisha (Jeff) Boner, Crista Merriman, Kacey (Todd) Hanson, Jordan Duty and significant other, Leighton Robbins; great-grandchildren, Everly Boner, Lane Boner, Lyndyn Heuring, Soryn Heuring, Brynleigh Robbins, Brylee Robbins and a great-grandchild, (Boy) on the way. Don leaves behind many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jeff and Bertha Merriman, brothers, Robert (Bob) Merriman, Leon Merriman, sisters, Lawanda Sadler and Logreta Hinkle and granddaughter, Elizabeth Annette Merriman.

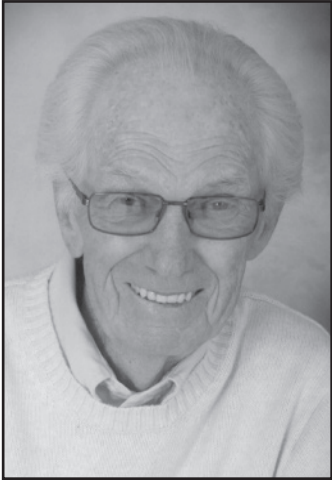
Don was a faith-filled member of the Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Jonesboro and remained such until his passing. He committed unconditionally to his church with love and faith and was always offering and welcoming a hearty handshake.

Don, throughout his professional career, was a hardworking man. He worked for the International Shoe Company, Sunbeam Bread, and Bunny Bread.

After retirement, Don made sure to keep in touch by spending quality time with his fellow co-workers discussing “Goings On” over a cup of coffee. Busy work was easy for Don as he offered

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His absolute passion was his lawn. He spent hours upon hours keeping his property looking immaculate and now his son Randy carries on this tradition. Don, though never idle, was a simple outdoorsman.

He was very detail oriented, having each day planned out to the letter. He would spend mornings and evenings in his Gazebo, admiring the sounds of nature along with the beauty of the wildlife surrounding him.

Don shared mutual past times with both of his children. Year after year, season permitting, he and his son enjoyed hunting and trapping together thusly becoming their bond.

He and his daughter, however, took part in the equestrian adventures. Don would get such a kick out of feeding carrots to “Tennessee” and slinging hay. He cherished these times as they were defining moments never to be forgotten.

Funeral services for Donald Merriman will be held on Friday, Nov. 14 at the Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Jonesboro, Ill. with Brother Mark Goins officiating.

Interment followed at Ebenezer Hall Cemetery.

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

Memorial contributions can be made to the Apostolic Faith Tabernacle Church. Envelopes are available at the church and at Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home.

To visit Don’s memorial page and leave online condolences for his family, please visit the Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home website at rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

Gail (Foster) Smith

Gail (Foster) Smith, age 65 of Tamms, Ill., passed away on Friday, Nov. 7, 2025 at Mercy Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Oct. 20, 1960 to Allen Ray and Juanita P. (Warren) Foster in Cairo. In June of 1994, she married Kenneth E. Smith.

Gail worked in insurance her whole life and retired from Taylor, Dodd, and Wood, where she was a licensed Insurance Producer.

She loved fishing and was a real Jack of All Trades when it came to household or vehicle repairs.

Survivors include her husband, Kenneth; her brother, Randy (Toni) Foster; and two nieces, Raelen Foster Rigdon and Erin Foster Aguila.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

Crain Funeral Home A Grave-side Service was



held on Friday, Nov. 14, with Rev. Mark Thrasher officiating at Olive Branch Cemetery in Olive Branch, Ill. Interment followed the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to the Olive Branch Cemetery Association, PO Box 162, Olive Branch, IL 62969.

Crain Funeral Home in Tamms is in charge of arrangements.

Kingsley V. Bennett

Kingsley V. Bennett, age 89 of Ewing, Ill. passed away at 9:40 p.m., Friday, Nov. 14, 2025 at the Nature Trail Nursing Home in Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Kingsley was born Nov. 12, 1936 in Benton, Ill. He attended the Benton High School and graduated high school from the Van-Nuys High School in Hollywood, Calif.

Kingsley enlisted in the United States Navy and served from 1955 to 1959. He then went on to the Vocational-Technical Institute (VTI) to earn a degree in accounting.

Kingsley and Cathy Whittier were united in marriage on May 25, 1961.

Kingsley had retired from the Internal Revenue Service of the United States Treasury on Jan. 1, 1993.

Kingsley loved his children and grandchildren. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed gardening and watching the NBA, he loved working with his cattle and just being in the outdoors.

He is survived by his loving wife, Cathy Bennett; two sons, Jeff (Lori) Bennett and Mitch (Taylor) Bennett of Ewing; two brothers, Jim Bennett of Benton and Rodney Bennett of Newburgh, Indiana; two sisters, Marlene Webb of Ewing, and Lynda Sanchez of Benton; seven grandchildren, Brandon, Lauren, Brock, Jordan, Alex, Kaitlyn and Josh Bennett; great-grandchildren, Isabella and Keagen Bennett.

Kingsley was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest James and Helen Vaughn



Bennett; his son, Bradley Whittier Bennett (2002).



Funeral services honoring the life of Kingsley V. Bennett were held on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025 at the Whittington Church in Whittington, Ill.. Rev. Mark Minor officiated.

Internment followed at the Liberty-Ridlin Cemetery in Macedonia, Ill. Full Military Honors were accorded by the American Legion Post #280 in Benton.

Pallbearers were Jeff Bennett, Mitch Bennett, Alex Bennett, Rodney Bennett, Doug Browning, Brock Bennett and Brandon Bennett.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Whittington Church, 200 West Main St, Whittington, Illinois 62897.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wilson Funeral Home in Karnak.

The family and staff of Wilson Funeral Home would like to offer our sincere condolences to the Kingsley Bennett family.

Monta Hymes

Monta Hymes, age 82 of Anna, passed away Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025 at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

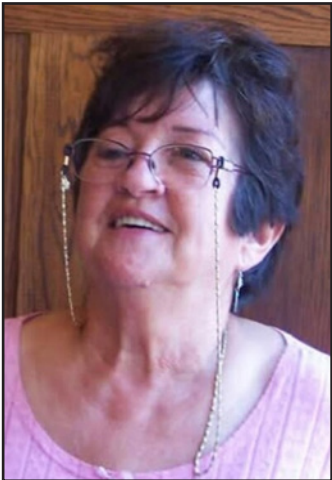
She was born on Nov. 4, 1943 in Honolulu, Hawaii to Karl “Curly” Oliver and Jean Julia Hopfe.

She married Michael Hymes. He preceded her in death in 2019.

Monta is survived by her children, Tina Riggs of Leesburg, Fla., Letha (Darren) Schluterbush of Redmond, Ore., Karl (Shannon) Basler of Anna and Melinda (JR) Gulley of Anna; grandchildren, Tabitha Sparkman, Sarah Williams, Jonathon Marks, Jessica Adams, Sam Harmon, Vicki Coles, Larry Basler, Daniela Basler, Jakob Basler, Amanda Basler, Jordan Basler, Skie Basler, Allison McCann and Ashley Hartsock; 31 great-grandchildren, 2 great great-grandchildren; other relatives and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Michael Hymes, son, Delaine Alan Basler, granddaughter, Alexis Hartsock, great-grandson, Jayce Webb and half-sister, Carla Kay.

For many years, Monta worked as the front desk clerk at Union County Hospital.

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN She was a drummer, performing



with many local bands. She enjoyed music, gardening and being outdoors.

Her favorite thing to do was let her ornery side show as she aggravated those she loved. As Monta would say, “you gotta have a hobby.”

Funeral services for Monta Hymes were held on Thursday, Nov. 13 at Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Anna with Bill Littrell officiating. Interment followed in St. Johns Cemetery, west of Dongola.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Carroll P. Foster Post 3455 VFW in Anna. Envelopes are available at Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home.

To visit Monta’s memorial page and leave online condolences for her family, please visit the Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home website at rendlemanhilemanfh.com

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Bro. Bradley Easton’s sermon was “Growing Together Through the Gifts of Christ.” His main scripture selection was Ephesians 4:7-13.

The selected scripture focuses on unity in the body of Christ. The only way to achieve

this unity is to grow as children of God so that we may be everything He desires us to be.

Sometimes we may feel like we are in the battle of life alone, but God is right there beside us, giving us everything that we need to succeed.

Jesus descended from Heaven to Earth, something nobody else could do. In doing so, He suffered the greatest humility; not only did He live on Earth in human likeness, but endured death on a cross like a common criminal.

When Jesus ascended back to Heaven after His resurrection, He blessed those who believed in Him with gifts of the spirit to prepare His

people for their ministry on Earth. That blessing continues today on all Christians if we will listen and obey.

We have nothing to boast about; it is all through and by Jesus. Without the grace of God, we would be bound to eternal damnation.

In closing, Bro. Easton asked “Do we sell ourselves short as servant of God?”

Vodra and Aldi Gerard took up the tithes and offerings.

Rachael Bonner is our lead elder for November.

Camp Ground Church will be celebrating our 175th year of ministry on Sunday, Nov. 23. We invite you to join us on this special Sunday. Our celebration with begin with coffee and fellowship at 9:15 a.m., Bible study classes at 9:30, Morning Worship 10:30 and potluck following worship.

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

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

This past Sunday, Nov 16, Pastor Perry Williams spoke in our morning service, and his message, "For Granted or Gratitude," addressed the true basis of thankfulness.

The text was the 9th chapter of 2 Corinthians, found in the New Testament.

Music Dee Rose led in worship accompanied by praise team members: Connor Benbrook, Joyce Hill, Marion Hill and Sharon Morgan. Dee York played the piano. Chris Rose sang “The Lord’s Prayer,” as a special.

Our service was sent via transmitter station 87.9 FM for those who want to listen via the radio. The service was also live streamed on Facebook, so if you missed it, you still have an opportunity to view it. Please check our Facebook page, Jonesboro FBC, for the videos and latest info on church events.

Jonesboro FBC is participating in the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box program this year. Shoe boxes are now available for anyone who would like to participate. Pick up your shoe box now and return by Nov. 23.

Our Chili / Soup Cook-off Youth Fundraiser for Camp

was a great success. Our chili champion was Regina Osman and Joyce Holshouser was our soup superstar.

This week’s activities include the Men’s Bible Study at 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 17; Dig In Children’s Program, Youth and Adult Bible Study on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 6-8 p.m., and a Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner on Friday, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. featuring special guest, Chris Everette.

Recent birthdays: Jean Hunter and David Wilkins, both born on Nov. 18; Wes Cripps, Nov. 19; and Valerie Pender Heins, born Nov. 23. Happy birthday to all!

Currently, our regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist includes Sunday School classes on Sundays at 9 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m.; both Youth for 6th-12th grades and Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m.

Our Children’s Dig-In Program meets on Wednesdays, from 6-8 p.m. Youth 7th-12th grades meet 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Our Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study also meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.

✝

"The Preaching Pen"

What does the Bible say about Witnesses?

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 4:1)

In this passage, Peter records how Christians are to speak and minister. What about witnessing? Aren’t Christians to be witnesses today? According to W.E. Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Bible Words, the word “witness” refers to one who has seen, heard, or observed an event (680). In Greek, the word meant ‘one who is a spectator of an event.’ With those thoughts in mind, let us uncover what the Bible has to say about the subject.

The word witness is found 33 times in the Bible, but in today’s world, people do not use the word in the same way as the Bible. Witnessing, in the world’s sense, is me retelling what happened to me from my perception or point of view. Bible witnessing, in the first century, was completely different. The apostles were told in Acts 1:8, “ye shall be witnesses unto me (Christ).” In Acts 5:20, Peter and John were witnesses of Christ. So, can we be witnesses today? The answer is no. We did not see the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We did not see the works of the Holy Spirit. In his book, Studies in the Book of Revelation, brother Robert Taylor says, “I have been preaching for over 63 years but have never been a witness (30). Remember, Christians are called to preach, teach, and share with others what those early apostles witnessed. All the knowledge we will ever need is found in the Bible. May we strive to show ourselves approved before our Heavenly Father.

✝

Ryan Thornsberry,
Anna Church of Christ

✝

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

Sunday, Nov. 16
The morning worship service was held at 10:35 a.m. on Nov. 16. Announcements were given by Jessica Elkins. The worship service was led by Pastor Wright and the worship team. The message “Only One True King” was brought by Pastor Wright from John 18:36, Philippians 2:6-8, Revelaion 19:16, Philippians 3:20, John 3:16, Luke 17:21, John 3 1-7, Romans 8:22-23, Matthew 6:9-13.
The were no evening ser-

vice on Nov. 16.
Sunday, Nov. 23
Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service at10:35 a.m
Missionary Poverty Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
No Wednesday services on Nov. 26
You may contact the church by calling the church office at 618-833-6702 and leaving a message if necessary or by calling Pastor Wright at 618-534-7103.

News from

Anna First Baptist Church

Anna First Baptist Church met for worship Sunday, Nov. 16, with our Call to Worship on Praise and Adoration taken from Psalm 96: “Sing to the Lord a new Song, sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.”
We then gave God honor and glory with the 100th

Psalm.
Our Worship Team led us in three songs, Wonderful Words of Life,” “In the Sweet By and By” and “When We All Get To Heaven.”
Pastor Perry Wright did our preaching while Pastor Lupe was out of town. His sermon title was, “The Church” His scripture for his sermon was taken from Matthew 16: 13 – 20. Jesus asked His disciples “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” His disciples gave Him different answers, but Simon Peter an-

swered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you Simon, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”
“And I also say to you that you are Peter and on this rock, I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”
“And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”
Our Sunday School starts at 9 a.m. and is for all ages. Our Worship services and Children’s Church begins at 10:15 a.m. Our bus runs for all of these services and programs.
Our church is located at 409 Morgan Street in Anna, Illinois. Our phone number is 618-833-5416.
Our facebook is AnnaFirst-BaptistChurch Our email is fbcanna409@gmail.com
We welcome you to any and all of our services. Please just come by to visit and talk a while, we would love to visit with you, tell you about Jesus and how He has changed our life.
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Psalm	Rev.	Rev.	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm
150	4.1-11	5.1-14	92	93	94	95

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK, a National Chartered Bank, Plaintiff,
vs
ANDREW H. SADLER, and MIKA L. SADLER, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TAX LIEN UNIT, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Case No.: 2025-FC-5
NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above captioned matter on 9th day of September, 2025, the Sheriff in Union County, will by public sale on December 17th, 2025, at 9:00 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:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF

THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 1

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PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS

BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION, THENCE N 84°32'19" W 21.19 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION TO A POINT IN THE CENTERLINE OF PETRAS LANE, THENCE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE THE FOLLOWING SIX (6) CALLS: THENCE N 59°19'43" W 147.24 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE N 50°26'25" W 173.45 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE N 82°07'18" W 515.70 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE N 83°38'45" W 197.73 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE N 87°17'07" W 207.38 FEET TO A

POINT, THENCE S 89°37'34" W 126.29 FEET TO A POINT IN THE WEST LINE OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION, THENCE N 00°16'12" E 330.52 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH 15 ACRES OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER, THENCE S 84°32'19" E 1331.29 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH 15 ACRES TO A POINT IN THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION, THENCE S 00°33'49" W 492.99 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID QUARTER-QUARTER SECTION TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 10.37 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

SAID PARCEL BEING SUBJECT TO THE EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY OF PETRAS LANE, AND ANY OTHER RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS, RECORDED OR OTHERWISE. ALL SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

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 certificate showing the amount of the bid, a particular description 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.

Keri Clark
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
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN PROBATE
ESTATE OF
MARTHA A. COLEMAN, DECEASED.
NO. 2025-PR-21
NOTICE OF DEATH
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION,
AND CLAIM DATE

erals and this release shall run with the land.

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AND
Lot Numbered Two (2) in W.R. Abernathy Addition to the Village of Alto Pass, Union County, Illinois.

Property Index Number 07-10-05-280-X5 & 14-00-11-015

On March 4, 2026 at 11:00

a.m. the Petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on February 5, 2025 for general taxes of the year 2023. The period of redemption will expire March 2, 2026.

Stuart E. Morgenstern, Attorney for Petitioner
(618) 357-5315
Cert. # 2023-00081 & 202300185
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REAL ESTATE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK, a National Chartered Bank, Plaintiff,
vs
ANDREW H. SADLER, and MIKA L. SADLER, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TAX LIEN UNIT, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
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Hospitals honored for use of best practices

Antibiotics awareness use focus of annual observance

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, is encouraging public awareness of appropriate use of antibiotics and antifungals during U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week. The annual observance is held Nov. 18-24.

As part of this year's observance, IDPH is recognizing nearly 90 Illinois hospitals which have taken extra measures to prevent antimicrobial resistance, where bacteria and other germs can develop a resistance to the drugs that were designed to fight them. Three of the hospitals are in the Southern Illinois area.

As part of the awareness effort, Gov. JB Pritzker has issued a proclamation and recorded a video to encourage Illinoisans to learn more about antimicrobial resistance and the steps they can take to protect themselves.

"Antibiotics are powerful medicines that fight infections, but they can stop working if we don't use them correctly," IDPH director Dr. Sameer Vohra said in a

news release.

"When we take antibiotics when they are not needed, germs can learn to fight back, making infections tougher to cure. This week, we're celebrating nearly 90 Illinois hospitals for leading the way in using antibiotics wisely. When doctors, patients, and families all work together, we can keep these life-saving medicines working for everyone – now and in the future."

Vohra noted that antibiotics do not treat viruses, such as those that cause colds, the flu, RSV or COVID-19. Use of antibiotics when not medically recommended can increase the likelihood of antimicrobial resistance. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, estimates that each year, more than 2.8 million antimicrobial-resistant infections occur in the United States, and more than 35,000 people die as a result.

IDPH has created the Acute Care Antimicrobial Stewardship Honor Roll to recognize hospitals that have taken extra steps to implement best

practices against antimicrobial resistance. While 98 percent of all Illinois hospitals have successfully implemented the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, the IDPH Honor Roll recognizes hospitals that have implemented specific, targeted strategies to improve and enhance those efforts. Those targeted strategies fall into six priority areas:

•Hospital Leadership Commitment, designating a staff physician and/or pharmacist with specific assigned antimicrobial stewardship responsibilities.

•Accountability, having a stewardship program that is co-led by a physician and pharmacist.

Stewardship Expertise, where the program is led by personnel that have completed specialized training in antimicrobial stewardship.

•Action, with facility-specific recommendations for treatment of common clinical condi-

day of September, 2025, the Sheriff in Union County, will by public sale on December 17th, 2025, at 9:00 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:

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tions, and prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization for specific antibiotic agents.

•Tracking, where the hospital submits antibiotic use data to the National Healthcare Safety Network, NHSN.

•Reporting, where antibiotic use reports are provided at least annually to provide feedback to prescribers.

Honor roll status is awarded in three categories: Bronze, for hospitals that have implemented at least two of the six priorities; Silver, for hospitals implementing at least four priorities; and Gold, for hospitals that have implemented all six priorities.

Nearly 90 Illinois hospitals are being honored this year. Deaconess Illinois Union County Hospital in Anna earned Gold recognition. Massac Memorial Hospital in Metropolis received Silver recognition. Pinckneyville Community Hospital earned Bronze recognition.

In addition, 24 hospitals received a Collaboration Distinction, which recognized hos-

pitals that demonstrate formal, documented and sustained partnerships beyond their own institution to strengthen antimicrobial stewardship and improve antibiotic use across health care settings. Massac Memorial Hospital and Pinckneyville Community Hospital received Collaboration Distinction.

The overall goal of U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week is to get everyone working together to improve the global prescribing and use of antimicrobials such as antibiotic and antifungal drugs. The CDC estimates that as many as 30 percent of prescriptions for antibiotics are not medically necessary, representing approximately 47 million prescriptions.

The CDC encourages practitioners to talk with patients about when antibiotics are, and are not, appropriate, what other steps they can take to feel better and when to seek additional care. The CDC has put together a reference chart to further explain when antibiotics should and should not be used.

Importance of seasonal immunizations highlighted

Dr. Sameer Vohra, director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, received his annual flu and COVID-19 immunizations this fall respiratory season during a recent visit to the DuPage County Health Department. The director also spoke about the importance of receiving the seasonal immunizations and the steps IDPH has taken to encourage Illinoisans to get their shots and to preserve access to them.

"I received my flu and COVID-19 vaccines to protect myself and those I love," Vohra said in a news release. "These vaccines are safe, effective and remain one of the best tools we have to prevent serious illness. With the cold weather arriving and the holidays approaching, now is the time to act, especially since it takes about two weeks for vaccines to reach full protection. IDPH has issued updated guidance to ensure that everyone knows who should get vaccinated and where to access these shots. I urge all Illinoisans to take this important step to protect their health and the health of their families."

In September, IDPH issued updated immunization guidance for the

fall respiratory season. Vohra also issued a standing order allowing Illinoisans who want those immunizations to be able to obtain them from pharmacies and other clinical settings. Under the guidance issued by IDPH:

Flu vaccination is recommended for all people ages 6 months and older.

RSV immunization is recommended for the following people: All pregnant women during weeks 32 through 36 of pregnancy. All infants under the age of 8 months without maternal RSV vaccine protection entering their first RSV season. Children ages 8 months through 19 months who are at increased risk for severe RSV disease. Adults ages 50 years through 74 years at increased risk of severe RSV disease. All adults ages 75 years and older.

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for: All children ages 6 months through 23 months. Children ages 2 years through 17 years who have at least one underlying risk factor, who have weakened immune systems, who have never been previously vaccinated for COVID-19, who live in congregate settings or live in households with those at risk for severe

COVID-19. Children ages 2 years through 17 years without underlying risk factors whose parents/guardians want them to get a COVID-19 vaccine. All pregnant women and those who are planning pregnancy, those who are postpartum (after pregnancy) or during lactation. All adults 18 years and older.

Last season, IDPH reported that flu vaccination reduced the risk of hospitalization by up to 78 percent for children. COVID-19 vaccines cut hospitalizations among seniors nearly in half. RSV protection prevented almost 90 percent of infant hospitalizations. These results underscore the life-saving importance of vaccination this fall, the department stated.

Vaccines can be found through health care provider clinics, pharmacies and local health departments. Publicly funded vaccines for children eligible for Medicaid or uninsured individuals can be found through IDPH's Vaccine Locator Dashboard. IDPH is also working with local health departments and community partners to bring mobile vaccine clinics through CIMPAR.

As of Nov. 14, accord-

ing to IDPH's Seasonal Respiratory Illness Dashboard, current respiratory illness activity statewide is "very low" overall, but RSV activity is increasing. Models from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, predict that COVID-19 hospitalizations this fall and winter could be similar to or higher than last year, while flu rates are expected to be lower and RSV rates are likely to be similar to last year.

The 2024-2025 flu season was a high-severity season and saw 280 pediatric flu deaths, the highest number reported in a non-pandemic flu season since child deaths became notifiable in 2004, highlighting the importance of vaccination.

The IDPH Influenza Vaccination Coverage Dashboard showed that as of Nov. 14, around 17 percent of Illinoisans had a reported flu shot by the end of October, as compared to around 18 percent the same time last season.

IDPH also reminds Illinois residents that one of the best ways to reduce transmission of viruses is to stay home when they are sick to reduce spread to others. Anyone with respiratory symp-

toms, such as coughing, a runny nose or fever, is advised to try to self-isolate from others, unless they need to seek medical care. Those who cannot self-isolate are advised to wear a well-fitted mask around others.

IDPH also recommends that for those who do get a viral illness, there are effective anti-viral treatments available for COVID-19 and the flu, but they must be started quickly.

For COVID-19, treatment must be started within five to seven days after symptoms appear. Treatment is strongly recommended for those who are 65 years old or older or at higher risk for severe illness. Some Illinoisans may be eligible to access free oral COVID-19 treatment through the Paxcess and MerckHelps programs.

Antiviral treatments for flu are most effective when given within 48 hours of starting to feel ill. Older adults, young children and those who are pregnant or have conditions like diabetes, asthma and heart disease are at increased risk for complications and should contact a healthcare provider to be assessed for the need for treatment as soon as possible.

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Shawnee Hill Arts council hosts annual Salute to Veterans event



The cutting of the cake is a tradition of the annual Salute to Veterans dinner.

Shawnee Hills Arts Council (SHAC) hosted their annual Salute to Veterans event on Nov. 10, with 87 people attending.

Boy Scout Troop 44 Mt. Moriah started the event with the presentation of the American Flag and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Hadassah Harvel sang the Star-Spangled Banner.

The POW MIA Remembrance Ceremony was performed, symbolizing the members of the military missing from our midst.

The table in the ceremony, set for one, is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against his oppressors. The Tablecloth is white, symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms. The single red rose displayed in a vase is in remembrance of the

families and loved ones who keep the faith awaiting their return. The red ribbon tied prominently on the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn by those who demand a proper accounting of the missing. The candle is lit, symbolizing the upward reach of their unconquerable spirit. A slice of lemon is on the bread plate symbolizes their bitter fate. The is salt upon the bread plate is symbolic of the tears of the families. The glass is inverted, as they cannot toast with those in attendance.

The Harvel Quartet of Bethany, Hadassah, Havilah, and Zipporah sang "A Tribute to the Armed Forces." The song recognizes each branch of the military: Army, Marines, Coast Guard, Navy, and Air Force, then ends with "America, the Beautiful."

As the song is sung, it is tradition for veterans to stand when their branch of the military is mentioned. The veterans were happy to stand for their service.

describe my writings as Christian faith-based Americana that may result in a praise/worship, rock and roll, or sometimes country music style of song," said Plott. "Regardless of the resulting genre, I pray my music will resonate with, and establish a positive and uplifting connection with others."

Ed has performed at Little Nashville Café in Marion many times, at Commodore Grill in Nashville, and recorded several songs with Steve Hornbeak.

Freedom Sings USA was discussed, with an event planned in Anna on April 16 to 18, 2026 was

Freedom Sings USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit based in Chattanooga, Tenn.. They pair professional songwriters with veterans, military personnel and their families to help them tell their stories through song. Heroes United Illinois, also a 501(c)(3) based in Marion, has partnered with Freedom Sings USA. Heroes United held an event in September in Marion, with five veterans working with songwriters from Nashville. To hear the songs go to heroesunitedil.org.

Five veterans from Union County will be selected for the April event in Anna to have their song written. Shawnee Hills Arts Council, a 501(c)(3), will organize the event and collect any donations for the event.

If you want to recommend a veteran please call or email Lee Hackney, cell 904-625-1109 or email vabchlee@gmail.com.

Donation can be made online at zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-for-freedom-sings-usa or send a check to Shawnee Hills Arts Center, 125 W Davie St, Anna, IL 62906. Estimated cost is \$15,000, so 750 people giving \$20 can fund the event.

Television Listings

THURSDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	College Football Countdown	Bang (HD) SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Alex Arod	★★★ "Barbie" (23) Margot Robbie.	"The Friend" (25)
7 PM :30	9-1-1: Nashville "Pilot"	Marriage Ghosts	Hell's Kitchen (HD)	Law & Order (HD)	College Football Louisiana vs Arkansas State	Bang (HD)	"Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" (07, Adventure) Johnny Depp. (HD)	Phineas	(:38) Alex Vs Arod "Part 2"	"Winter Spring Summer Fall"	
8 PM :30	9-1-1: Nashville	Elsbeth (HD)	(:02) Special Forces:	Law & Order: SVU		Bang (HD)		Phineas	Alex Vs Arod "Part 3"	"Away We Go" John Krasinski.	★★½ "She's Out of My League" Jay Baruchel.
9 PM :30	9-1-1: Nashville	Elsbeth "Yes, And..."	Local Programs Local info.	Organized Crime (HD)		Bang (HD)		Wizards	IT: Welcome to Derry "Our Planet"	Funny People: Behind The Comedy A film about comedy.	"Youth in Revolt" Michael Cera.
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Wipeout "Cirque Du"		Miraculous	IT: Welcome to Derry "Part 3"		
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Wipeout	Everything	Miraculous	Alex Vs Arod	"Captain"	
	Nightline	(:37) Local		Late Night			Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	Alex Arod		

FRIDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	College GameDay (HD)	Bang (HD)	"Cocaine Bear" (23)	Big City	IT: Derry	"Everything, Everything" (17)	★★½ "Just Go With It"
7 PM :30	Celebrity Wheel of	Sheriff Country	Wom. College Basketball (Live)	Place Stumble		"Christmas Vacation" (89) Chevy Chase.	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (Live) (HD)	★★★ "Elemental" (23) Leah Lewis.	"Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes" (24) Freya Allan.	"Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets" (17)	★★½ "Rocketman" (19) Taron Egerton. (HD)
8 PM :30	20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	Fire Country (HD)		(:01) Dateline NBC (HD)				Wizards			
9 PM :30		Boston Blue	Local Programs Local info.			★★★ "Elf" (03, Holiday) Will Ferrell. (PG) (HD)	Everything	Wizards	Real Time with (HD)		(:05) "American Made" (17) Tom Cruise. (HD)
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)		★★½ "Men in Black: International" (19) Chris	Vampirina	IT: Welcome to Derry	"Sucker Punch" Emily Browning.	"Fight or Flight" (25)
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	"Chocolate Factory"	Hemsworth.	Miraculous	(:04) Real Time with	"Love Lies"	
	Nightline	(:37) Local		Late Night				Big City			

SATURDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Scoreboard	Football	Coll. Ftbl	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	College Football (Live) (HD)	"Elf" (03) Will Ferrell.	★★★ "Shang-Chi" (21)	"Ralph Breaks the Internet" John C. Reilly.	IT: Welcome to Derry	"Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" (12)	★★½ "Big Daddy" (99)
7 PM :30	(:37) College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	NWSL	Extra (HD)	College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)		★★★ "Bruce Almighty" (03) Jim Carrey. (HD)	★★ "Red One" (24, Holiday) Dwayne Johnson. (PG-13) (HD)	Phineas	To Be Announced Info unavailable.	(:43) ★★★★★ "Inception" (10) Leonardo DiCaprio. (HD)	★★★ "21 Jump Street" (12) Jonah Hill. (R) (HD)
8 PM :30		NWSL Soccer "2025 Championship" (Live)						Phineas			
9 PM :30				(:15) College Football "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Formula 1 (Live)	★★★ "Evan Almighty" (07) Steve Carell. (HD)	★★ "Red One" (24) Dwayne Johnson. (HD)	Phineas	(:18) ★★★★★ "The Witch" (16) Anya Taylor-Joy.	(:12) ★★★★★ "Bullet Train" (22, Action) Brad Pitt.	★★★ "Daddy's Home 2" Will Ferrell.
10 PM :30	Local Programs	48 Hours		Formula 1 Racing "Las Vegas Grand Prix"				Miraculous			
11 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs Local info.	The Floor (HD)		SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	"Four Christmases"		Big City	"The Monster" (16)		
			Local					Big City			

SUNDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Home Videos	60 Minutes (HD)	NFL (Live)	Football America (HD)	Sports	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	★★★½ "Toy Story" (95) Tom Hanks.	IT: Derry	The Knick	"Crystal Skull" (08)
7 PM :30	Videos	Tracker "Angel" (HD)	Universal	(:15) Sun. Night Football Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Los Angeles Rams (Live) (HD)	Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	IT: Welcome to Derry "Our Planet"	The Knick "Whiplash"	(:15) "The Cut" (25, Thriller) Orlando Bloom.
8 PM :30	(:33) ★★★★★ "Zootopia" (16, Family) Idris Elba. (PG)	The Road	Krapopolis		SEC Storied (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	IT: Welcome to Derry	(:45) ★★ "A Haunted House" (13)	
9 PM :30		NCIS: Origins (HD)	Burgers			Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	Chair Comp	(:11) "A Haunted House 2" (14)	Mayor of Kingstown
10 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs		Local Programs Local info.	Sports	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	I Love LA	(:55) "The Score" (01) Robert De Niro. (HD)	
11 PM :30		Local Programs	Local Programs		SportsCenter with Scott (HD)	"Fred Claus" (07) Vince Vaughn.	Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	IT: Welcome to Derry	(:38) "A Hard Day's Night" (64)	
								Bluey	Chair Comp		

MONDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Monday Countdown	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	(5:25) Big City Greens	Chair Comp	"Sucker Punch" Emily Browning.	"Private Ryan" (98)
7 PM :30	Truth and Lies: Who Killed JFK?	Everybody Loves Raymond	Name That Tune	American Ninja Warrior Endurance course.	Monday Football Carolina Panthers at San Francisco 49ers (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	★★★½ "Zootopia" (16, Family) Idris Elba. (PG)	IT: Welcome to Derry	Funny People: Behind The Comedy A film about comedy.	Mayor of Kingstown
8 PM :30		DMV	(:02) Weakest Link			Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Elba. (PG)			(:55) ★★★★★ "The Godfather" (72, Crime) Marlon Brando. (R) (HD)
9 PM :30	9-1-1: Nashville	Watson "Giant Steps"	Local Programs Local info.	Yes, Chef! (HD)		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Wizards	Chair Comp		
10 PM :30	Local			Local	Monday	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Vampirina	I Love LA	(:13) "Sunshine Cleaning" (09)	
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	IT: Welcome to Derry		"Godfather II" (74)
	Nightline	(:37) Local		Late Night	Sports	Wipeout "Cirque Du"	Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	Chair Comp	"Look Into"	

TUESDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	CFB Playoff: Top 25	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"Toy Story 2" (99)	(:05) ★★½ "The Mummy" (17) Tom Cruise. (HD)	(:05) "Going the Distance" (10)	"Winter Spring" (25)
7 PM :30	Dancing with the Stars "Finale" (HD)	NCIS: Origins (HD)	Murder in a (HD)	NBA Basketball Orlando Magic at Philadelphia 76ers (Live)	College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"Toy Story 3" (10) Tom Hanks.	TBA	"Assassin's Creed" (16) Brendan Gleeson.	"When Harry Met Sally ..." (89)
8 PM :30		NCIS "Now and Then"	Doc "Kaddish"			Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	IT: Welcome to Derry		(:45) ★★½ "Rocketman" (19, Drama) Taron Egerton. (HD)
9 PM :30		NCIS: Origins (HD)	Local Programs Local info.		College Basketball California vs UCLA (Live)	Wipeout "In Queso"	Law & Order: SVU	(:50) Wizards Beyond		"The Kill Team" (19) Nat Wolff.	
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Family	Law & Order: SVU	Vampirina	To Be Announced		
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Family	Everything	Miraculous	I Love LA	"State of Play" (09)	(:55) "Sin City" (05)
	Nightline	(:37) Local		Late Night		Family	Everything	Bluey	IT: Derry		

WEDNESDAY	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA (Live)	Bang (HD)	"Ant-Man and the Wasp" (18, Action) Paul Rudd. (HD)	"The Incredibles 2"	"Eddington" (25) (R)	"Red Riding" (23) "A Hard Day's Night" (64)	★★½ "Geostorm" (17)
7 PM :30	Gears	Survivor "Bamboozle" (HD)	"Sidelined: The QB and Me" (24, Romance)	Countdown to Parade	NBA Basketball Minnesota vs Oklahoma City (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)		★★★ "The Little Mermaid" (23) Halle Bailey.	To Be Announced Info unavailable.	"A Haunted House"	"Total Recall" (90) Arnold Schwarzenegger.
8 PM :30	9-1-1: Nashville	The Amazing Race (HD)		Saturday Night Live "A Saturday" (HD)		Wipeout "In Queso"	★★½ "Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania" (23) Paul Rudd. (HD)	Vampirina: Teenage	IT: Welcome to Derry	(:17) "A Haunted House 2" (14)	★★★½ "The Terminator" (84) (HD)
9 PM :30	(:02) Shark Tank (HD)		Local Programs Local info.		(:05) NBA Basketball Houston vs Golden State (Live) (HD)	Wipeout "Cirque Du"		Miraculous	(:19) "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" (12)	"It Follows" (15) Maika Monroe.	★★★ "Terminator: Dark Fate" (19)
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Jokers		Bluey			
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	Sports	Jokers	Everything	Bluey			
	Nightline	(:37) Local		Late Night							



Boy Scout Troop 44 Mt. Moriah contributed to the evening's events with the presentation of the American Flag and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.



The Boy Scouts were assisted by the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School Beta club in serving the meals to the evening's guests.

An addendum to the Salute to Veterans section of the Nov. 6 issue of the Gazette Democrat



Jerry L. Boyd, Army, 3 years, 864th Engineer Battalion, E-5, Heavy Equipment Operator, Vietnam, Germany, U.S., NDSM, GCMDL, VNSM, VNS, 1 OS BAR, served in Vietnam from June 1966 to June 1967 and Germany from Jan. 1968 to Dec. 1968. Lifetime member VFW 3455.

Opinion and Commentary

Carbon monoxide safety highlighted during November

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal, OFSM, is raising awareness during National Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month in November. The OSFM urges everyone to recognize the silent and invisible danger of carbon monoxide, CO, poisoning, which claims hundreds of lives and sickens thousands each year across the United States.

In 2024, Illinois fire departments responded to 9,860 CO related calls across the state. According to the National Carbon Monoxide Awareness Association, emergency rooms across the U.S. see more than 100,000 visits each year due to CO exposure.

Tragically, over 14,000 people are hospitalized annually, and approximately 1,200 people die each year from carbon monoxide poisoning, a number that continues to rise. Each year, hundreds of people across Illinois are treated in emergency rooms due to carbon monoxide exposure, and over the past decade, an average of 20 people per year have died from accidental CO poisoning.

“Carbon monoxide is a silent and deadly threat that can strike without warning. This threat increases during the colder months as we turn on our furnaces to stay warm,” Illinois State Fire Marshal Michele Michele Pankow said in a news release. “Every home and business should have working CO alarms and ensure all fuel-burning appliances are properly maintained. Awareness, prevention and early detection save lives so don’t wait until it’s too late.”

Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas produced by fuel-burning devices such as furnaces, generators, fireplaces, grills and vehicles. Unlike fire, CO has no color, no odor and no taste, making it virtually undetectable without a working alarm.

Exposure to carbon monoxide can lead to both short-term and long-term health effects. High concentrations can be fatal within minutes, while prolonged exposure to lower levels can cause serious and lasting health problems. Many states still lack requirements for CO alarms in homes, hotels, schools and other buildings where people live, sleep or gather – leaving countless individuals unknowingly at risk.

Symptoms

Symptoms of CO poisoning can include: Headache, nausea, vomiting. Dizziness and confusion. Shortness of breath. Weakness, fatigue or blurred vision. Sleepiness, loss of muscle control and unconsciousness.

Safety Tips

The OFSM offered the following carbon monoxide safety tips:

Install CO alarms: in your home, garage, shop or man cave, especially near fuel-burning appliances and sleeping areas. Take a portable CO alarm when traveling: most hotels are not required to have them. Know the sound: CO alarms beep four times in a row; fire alarms beep three times. Test alarms monthly, replace batteries as needed, and follow the manufacturer’s replacement schedule.

Schedule annual inspections for furnaces, chimneys and fireplaces. Use generators safely: keep them at least 20 feet from any building, using extension cords if needed. Never use them inside. Never heat your home with a gas oven or range. Ventilate your garage: Don’t run vehicles inside, even with the door open. Back them out of the garage. Keep exhaust vents clear, including your home’s appliances and your car’s tailpipe.

To learn more about CO safety visit the OFSM website at sfm.illinois.gov.

The Cat's Meow

by Cobden Spay and Neuter Coalition

Tomorrow is our “Thank God It’s Trivia” night at Starview Vineyard in Cobden from 6 to 8 p.m. Donation for participants is \$25 each, or \$150 for a table/team of eight. Great fun, great competition, great conversation! Plus we have some great door prizes, a fantastic cat tree to raffle, and yummy treats to sell. Won’t you join us in a delightful evening of fundraising to continue our work? Come by after work or school, we’d love to have you! Message us on Facebook to sign up, or just come on in!

Please visit our website, cobdenspayneutercoalition.org, or our facebook page to see what we’re up to. You may drop off or send donations to our account at Meller-James & Associates, or mail them to CSNC, P.O. Box 542, Cobden, IL 62920. CSNC is a 501c3 nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible.

Please Spay/Neuter/Adopt companion animals. Meanwhile, if you see a companion animal in need, in trouble, or suffering, please, please call someone before it’s too late for them. Call your local animal control office, the police, or the Sheriff’s Dept. It IS your business if an innocent being who cannot speak for himself needs your help!

Vertical Dispensary plans turkey giveaway in Cairo

Vertical Dispensary has announced a Thanksgiving food drive and turkey giveaway to support families in need throughout Cairo.

This community event will take place on Nov. 23 starting at 2 p.m. at 300 Washington Ave. in Cairo.

Vertical Dispensary will be distributing 200 turkeys along with additional food items to help ensure families can enjoy a warm and plentiful Thanksgiving meal. Cairo residents with tickets will be served first.

The event will feature a large food distribution truck, volunteers and an organized

pickup system to ensure families receive their items quickly and safely.

“Giving back is one of our core values,” said a representative of Vertical Dispensary.

“We are committed to uplifting the Cairo community, especially during the holiday season. This event is about helping families, spreading love, and making sure no one goes without a Thanksgiving meal.”

Vertical Dispensary encourages families in need to arrive early. Food and turkey supplies will be available while supplies last.

Please read this...

Birds of a feather...flock together...have some fun, too...

Every once in a while, while I am motoring from place to place or going for a walk here in our little corner of the world, I will glance up and catch a glimpse of a vulture flying overhead. One evening during the past week, I could see a lone vulture soaring through a sky lit by the light of a setting sun.

Such moments in time, while not frequent, also are not uncommon. And they get me to wondering...if you happen to look up in the sky while you are out and about...is it a bad omen to see a vulture circling overhead? Is the bird trying to send you a message of some sort?

Vultures as feathered messengers came to mind late last Sunday afternoon. On a whim, yours truly decided to go for a short ride out in the country. I invited The Other Half to go along, but she had just conjured up a bit of a snack.

So...off I went on a solo adventure. Pretty much following the usual route I like to take on such journeys. I was wanting to watch the changing scene in the sky as the sun was setting in the midst of a cloudy sky. Such situations, when combined with bare trees along ridge lines not far from home, can create special photographic opportunities. I also was hoping see if some of our local wildlife would be out and about at the end of a nice autumn day.

One of the things I noticed while driving through the country was how the day’s final rays of sunlight were casting an almost golden glow on the landscape. This is the time of year when such things happen. The next time you might be out on a ride, or maybe a walk, late on an autumn afternoon...be sure to take notice.

The combination of sunlight and clouds appearing in what had been a bright blue sky continued to create some dramatic images. And, as often happens, photographs didn’t really do justice to the scenes that Mother Nature was creating on the canvas overhead.

I did see three white-tailed deer. One was in a recently harvested field of corn. And two were crossing the road in metropolitan Mountain Glen. One of the Critters crossed the road in front of me. I slowed, anticipating a companion. Yup. There it was...and there they went. (Looking ahead...I’m guessing the deer just might be a little bit skittish in the coming days, with the first firearm hunting season in Illinois on the calendar.)

Some other Critters also were spotted. Which brings us back to vultures. A whole bunch of what appeared to be vultures were seen hanging out in the bare branches of a few trees along a road west of Cobden. I say they appeared to be vultures, but it was a little hard to tell in the ever-fading light of day. For the sake of keeping this going, we’re going to go with vultures. I’m pretty sure there were about 16 of the creepy Critters in one tree...and just as many in a neighboring tree...along with a few hangers-on close by.

So...if seeing one vulture circling in the sky overhead is a possible ominous omen...what is it when you see a whole bunch of ‘em hanging around in trees along the road? I pondered that question for a moment or two while taking a couple of pictures...and then moved on...before they got any ideas...

Meanwhile...

A couple of less ominous feathered Critters brightened up a “routine” visit to the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds one morning last week. The morning was bright, sunny and a little bit on the cool side...but not bad...especially considering our recent experience with the Polar Vortex and snowflakes.

While strolling along a walking path at the picnic grounds, I noticed a couple of little black and white birds, probably members of the woodpecker family, flitting here and there...and just kind of staying close by. I stopped and attempted to take a photograph or two.

After watching them in action for a few minutes, it struck that the two birds just seemed to be having fun together. One would land on a branch. The other would follow. They did this a number of times. A couple of times, they would fly away...and then come right back. At one point, one of the birds even flew straight in my direction. All in all, it was a special moment...and a reminder that sometimes, it’s just a good thing to have a little bit of fun on The Journey Through Life...

Meanwhile...

Speaking of Critters...

Along with birds of a feather, recent Critter sighting included...

Another vulture...all by itself...which appeared to have found breakfast in a small parking lot along a sometimes busy Union

By Geof Skinner



A couple of birds...just having some fun...on a sunny November morning at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro.



Birds of a feather...appearing to be of the vulture variety...wereflocking together...in the bare branches of a tree along a road in rural Union County...

County highway. To be honest with you, I could not tell what kind of Critter the vulture was dining on...

A lone hawk, which was kind enough to land atop a utility pole not far from where I had seen the vultures last Sunday afternoon. The fading sunlight accented the colors of the hawk’s feathers. We exchanged greetings and I drove on.

Lots of birds, including robins, cardinals and even a red-winged blackbird, which visited the Gulf of Cobden in our back yard.

A teeny, teeny, tiny bug of some sort. Meandering across a countertop in our humble abode. The Critter was so small that it would be hard to give any kind of an accurate description. I think it might have had tiny wings.

It’s worth mentioning one of the Critters which was not sighted...a mosquito. Bob and I spent some time on a couple of late afternoons during the past week on our porch swing...and not a single mosquito was to be seen...



Clouds in autumn sky

Clouds were seen billowing into the sky over a tree line on a recent autumn afternoon in Union County. While the clouds may have hinted at the possibility of some precipitation, no rain fell at the time the picture was taken.



Clouds in autumn sky

Clouds were seen billowing into the sky over a tree line on a recent autumn afternoon in Union County. While the clouds may have hinted at the possibility of some precipitation, no rain fell at the time the picture was taken. The image was created by using the “solarize” tool in Photoshop.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Thanksgiving Letters

Section B



What I Am Thankful For

ANNA

**Lincoln
Elementary
School**

**First Grade
Mrs. Lannom's
class**

I'm thankful for playing with my friends. Camden

My cat. I'm thankful for my doggy. And my mom and dad. Avery

To make friends. My mom, dad and my sister. Morgan

My mom and dad and to help papa. Lily

My dad, my dog, my kitten. And, my mom. And, my brother and sister. My friends. Asher

I'm thankful for a pet and ice cream. My friend Keller. My family. Riggins

My family. My birthday because my family gets together. And, my two dogs, Samson and Sara. And, my cat, Oliver. Lauryn

I love my family and my pets. Olive



Thanksgiving Letters From Area Children

Anna • Cobden • Dongola • Jonesboro • Lick Creek • Shawnee
(The letters are printed as they were submitted)



How To Cook A Turkey

I love my grandma. I love my dad, my mom, my grandpa. I love my brother, my sister, and my uncle. I'm thankful for books. Layla

I am thankful for my family. Keller

Food, toys, my tablet. I love my dad and my mom. My Mawmaw and my Pawpaw, my Nana, my dogs. And, my sister. Bowman

I have friends, and my mom and my dad. Kaylynn

My parents, my whole family, and my school. And, I love my whole entire family and my sister and my brother. Isabella

I'm thankful for my mom, dad, and my older brothers. Memphis

My friend and we had fun together. My little brother, he's always right beside me. We play and share. I love my mom. Bryleigh

My family, my dog, my cat, and my church. Athena

My friends, and my family. Elisabeth



May all of you celebrate a very happy holiday with friends and family. BEST WISHES!



**Union County
Abstract
Office, Inc.**
833-6521

Susan T. Holderfield, President
304 West Market St.
Jonesboro, Illinois
(618) 833-6521



*Best wishes at
Thanksgiving*
from all of us at
Anna-Jonesboro
Community
High School
District 81

*"Giving thanks for all of
our wonderful patients."*

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TASTY TRADITIONS

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Thanksgiving

Dongola school is
thankful for our
community.

"Our Motto"
Respect yourself.
Respect others.
Respect property.

**Dongola
Unit School
District 66
Dongola, IL**



get done, you can save some. Abigail S.

On a grill, we cut the turkey wings on a grill to cook it. Then you let it cool off so it won't burn your mouth. Then eat it! Then you check if it's good or not. Then everyone can eat it. Harper E.

My mom puts it in the oven. Sometimes, my dad puts it in the oven for Nana. Then, I help my mom put the salt inside the chicken. Then, me and my brother help. Then , me and my brother put it in the microwave. And then we eat it! Rilynn J.

I cook it on the stove. I fry it. Then I season it and then I warm it up. Then I put pepper and salt on it and then I get a little bit of sour cream on it. Then I put cheese on it. Then I eat it. Caroline E.

They cook it with a pad. They put it on a grill, eat that. Dalton B.

Put it right where the fire is. Now you need to eat it. Adam K.

First Grade
Ms. Weatherford

I am thankful for the USA, mom and dad and my dog. Weston

I am thankful for my dog, family, food, thanksgiving. Logan

I am thankful for my nana and papa, my dog and mom, my dad and meesh, my food and home and for everything. Brycen

I am thankful for alrforcebrd mom fbl. Jesse

I am thankful for school dog cat my fed friends and mom and dad, family. Maggie

I am thankful for my pupit, my family and my pets and the rest. The end. Zeke

I am thankful for my dog! My food! My friends! My mom and dad! My school! Aaron

I am thankful for food, clothes, shelter, family. Valentino

I am thankful for food. I am thankful for school. Ashton

I am thankful for my family and my food. Kalum

I am thankful for Abby dad mom ellana Sofia Wesley and USA. Abigail

Second Grade
Ms. Ward

I'm thankful for my Mom ad Dad and Greyson and grandma and grandpa. Myles

I'm thankful for my dinner and my mom and dad and the house. Jayda

I'm thankful for my family and God and people. Ty

I am thankful for Santa Clause and my mom. Nate

I'm thankful for teachers teaching me and my dad and my mom and my friends too. Lucy

I am thankful for my whole family because my whole family loves me a whole bunch. Gabe

I'm thankful for

my dad and my mom. I love my mom and dad. Mason

I'm thankful for a dog and a house and a dad. Love Wesley. Love mom. Love sister

I'm thankful for my family and my grandparents to. Zander

I'm thankful for the army and my house and my family and my godparents. Waylon

I'm thankful for my dad and my mom and Addy Bryer. Bo

I am thankful for my mom. I am thankful for my dad too. Greyson

I am thankful for my mom and ddad and dog and little brother. Harlyn

I love my mom and Blase. I am thankful for them. Adrian

I'm thankful for my family. Bentley

Mom cat dad brother sister. I'm thankful for them Adley

I am thankful for my mom and dad.

I'm thankful for my family and friends and my pets. Jaden

I'm thankful for my dad and Will and my cat. Rosabella

Dear family, thank you for my stuff, for my home. I like breakfast lunch and stuff like that. Kayden

I'm thankful mom and my dad. Easton

JONESBORO
Jonesboro
Elementary School
Kindergarten

Mrs. Ellis

I am thankful for a turkey and family. Put bread on the turkey, and little bit of crumbs. Put in the oven for 3 minutes. Hazen

I am thankful for Santa, food, and my mommy & daddy.

Get a turkey from the farm. Put some salt on it. Then put it in the oven for 3 minutes. Michael

I am thankful for Disney world, and my mom & dad.

Buy a turkey from a grocery store. Put season on it if you want it. Cook it in the oven for 10 minutes. Ellie

I am thankful for having a mom & dad & brother. My cute dog.

Get a turkey from the farm. Put it in the oven for 50 minutes and eat it. Liam

I am thankful my dad is going to buy me a 4-wheeler.

Buy a turkey from Wal-Mart. Put some salt & ketchup on it. Cook in the oven for a couple of minutes. Henry

I am thankful for food.

Get a turkey from Wal-Mart. Put some salt on it, cook it on the stove for 10 minutes. Josie

I am thankful for my sister, mom, dad, pets & plants at my house.

Go to the store and get a turkey. I would put a little bit of salt on it. I would put it in my stove for 1 minute. Andersyn

I am thankful for hugs, my mom and everybody.

Get a turkey in the forest. Then

you put an apple on it. Put it in a pan on the stove and cook it for 10 minutes. Blake

I am thankful for turkey, chickens and my mom.

Go to Wal-Mart & get a turkey, put some ketchup on it. Then cook it in the grill for 40 minutes. Jack

I am thankful for Thanksgiving and my family.

Get at turkey from a farm. Then put some salt and butter on it. Cook it in the oven for 20 minutes. Brooklynn

I am thankful for mommy and my toy Tiana, and playing Roblox.

My daddy would hunt a turkey, then put some salt on it. Cook in the oven for 3 minutes. Caralyna

I am thankful for my Uncle staying the night, my mom & dad.

Get a turkey from the farm. Put some cheese on it and pepperonis. Cook it in the microwave for 20 minutes. Asher

You need oil. Put turkey in the oven. Leave in oven 3 minutes. Then you eat. Kimberly

Wash the turkey. Take off the feathers. Put oil in a pan. Put turkey in pan. Then take out after roasting. Then eat. Kenia

Ms. Miller

I am thankful for my parents because I like them. I'm thankful for my dog to play with.

How to cook

a turkey: In the stove. Put some lemons on it. Wait. Take it out and let it cool down. Wren B.

I am thankful for the world and my family. I don't like turkey anymore.

How to cook a turkey: I would use a volcano to burn it. Grant B.

I am thankful for playing toys. Happy Thanksgiving.

How to cook a turkey: In the oven then cook it for 30 minutes. Eat it. Dylan D.

I am thankful for turkey. I am thankful for pets. I love my whole family. I love everything that is in the world. I love all the food we get on Thanksgiving.

How to cook a turkey: Find a turkey from the farm then cook it. Put it in the oven for about 20 minutes. Take it out. Put it on a plate, pray, then eat it! Emma F.

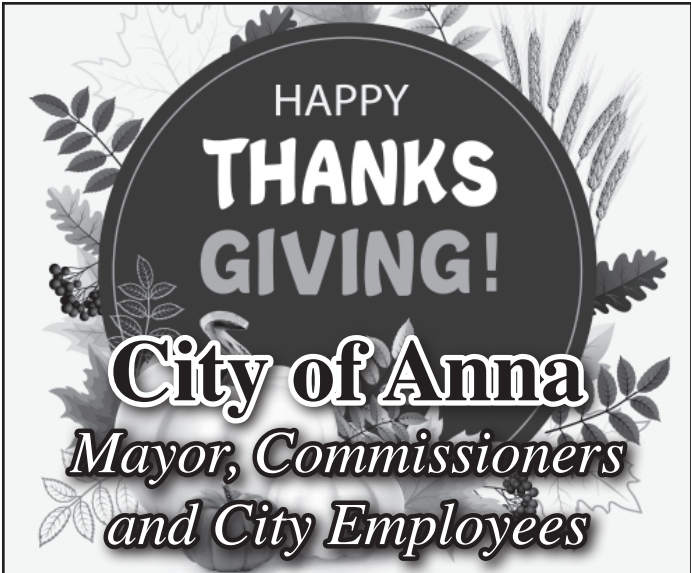
I am thankful for our teachers, my mom and dad. I am thankful for Thanksgiving.

How to cook a turkey: Put it in the oven then cook it. You squirt BBQ sauce on it then eat it. Lirikah G.

I am thankful for my family and my dog, Buddy. I am glad it is Thanksgiving. I want to have a Thanksgiving dinner.

How to cook a turkey: Get a turkey from the store then mom will make it. Rhett H.

I am thankful



for my family. I am thankful for my dogs Cocoa and Oscar. Happy Thanksgiving!

How to cook a turkey: Cook it for 100 minutes. Gobble it up. Isla H.

I am thankful for my family. Playing with my cousins and being nice to them.

How to cook a turkey: Buy it, cook it, eat it. Gunner J.

I am thankful for Easter, that's my favorite holiday. I like turkey day.

How to cook a turkey: I get a turkey at home. Put it in a pan, cook it, put cheese on it, cut the bones off then eat it. Mykel S.

I am thankful for my mom and food. Happy Thanksgiving!

How to cook a turkey: Get a pan. I like pepper on it. Put it on a plate and eat it. Kennady M.

I am thankful for Christmas. I can't wait for our Thanksgiving feast.

How to cook a turkey: Put it in the oven for 10 minutes. Put it on a plate, set it out for the feast. Sayler T.

I am thankful for my teachers, my friends, my mom and dad, and food. I can't wait for our Thanksgiving feast.

How to cook a turkey: Cook it for 5 minutes, that's what my mom does. Take it out, wait for it to cool off, and eat it. Timber W.

I am thankful for Daddy, Mommy, Sissy. Alijah G.

First Grade
Mrs. Kirby

I'm thankful for my grandpa because

he takes care of me. I'm also thankful for my family because we spend time together on rides. Aries D.

I'm thankful for my mom because she packs my lunch. I'm also thankful for my brother because he plays with me. Kolten G.

I'm thankful for my family because they snuggle me and help me do stuff. I'm also thankful for my mom because she feeds me. Rowan R.

I'm thankful for my family because they love me and take care of me. I'm also thankful for my friends because they like to play with me. Blair P.

I'm thankful for my dogs because they like me and snuggle with me. I'm also thankful for my sister, Alex, because she helps me and takes care of me. Annabelle S.

I'm thankful for my dog because she snuggles with me. I'm also thankful for my cat because he is nice to me. August W.

I'm thankful for my grandma Lou because she is kind to me. I'm also thankful for my brother because he takes care of me. Zariah C.

I'm thankful for my puppy because he is very soft. I'm also thankful for my dad because he buys me cookies. Drakelynn G.

I'm thankful for my mom because she takes care of me. I'm also thankful for my school because they help me learn. Lariah G.

I'm thankful for my family because they love me. I'm also thankful for the food I eat because it keeps me full and healthy. Hallie S.

I'm thankful for my family because they love me, take care of me, and spend time with me. I'm also thankful for my friends because they play with me. Aurora W.

Mrs. Dallas

My name is DJ and I am thankful for a lot of things. I am thankful for God, Santa, family, turkey, and so much more. DJ

I am thankful for Thanksgiving because you get to eat a lot of food, especially turkey. I am also thankful for Christmas because I get a lot of presents. Bailee

This Thanksgiving, I am thankful for my family. My family takes care of me and I love them very much. Macey

I am thankful for my family because they are all very grateful. Happy Thanksgiving to all! Ian

My name is Alexia and I am thankful for my family. I am thankful for them because I love them. They help me and take care of me. Alexai

This Thanksgiving, I am thankful for my

toy heart because Thanksgiving is all about how much you love things and being grateful for love. Scarlett

I am thankful for the army for saving our country. I am proud of our veterans. McKinlee

O n t h i s Thanksgiving, I am thankful for my family. They take good care of us kids. Caroline

This year I am thankful for my family. I am grateful for their love and how much they take care of me. Claira

My name is Clay and I am thankful for the world. I like it and it's a great place to live. Clay

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for my family. I love them. Keagan

I am thankful for deer hunting. It is fun and you get good food. Parker

My name is Rowan and on Thanksgiving I am thankful for my family. Rowan

Second Grade
Ms. McFadden

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful. The first thing I am thankful for is my dad because he makes me laugh all the time. Next, I am thankful for my sister, Sophia because she always plays with me. Lastly, I am thankful for my family because they are always there for me. Gobble Gobble, Happy Thanksgiving! Camden M.

Hip Hip Hooray! I t ' s a l m o s t Thanksgiving Day.

The first thing I am thankful for is my Papa Brad because he is just like me. We are both funny and weird and I steal his chair when he is out of the room. Next, I am thankful for my books because they are fun to read and I learn from them. Lastly, I am thankful for my cat because she is so sweet to me. She sleeps with me every single night. Gobble Gobble, Happy Thanksgiving Day! Lydia W.

I have so much to be thankful for this year. The first thing I am thankful for is my horse because she brings me joy and is so nice to me. The next thing I am thankful for is my family because they are sweet to me and we have fun going on hikes. Lastly, I am thankful for my friends because they are nice and play with me. Now bring on the yummy Thanksgiving meal. Charlee N.

Gobble, Gobble! It's Thanksgiving time. The first thing I am thankful for is my big bro Jimmy because he is fun to play with. Next, I am thankful for my family because they are all the best and we are funny. Lastly I am thankful for my PS5 because it is so fun to play with my brother. I hope you have a great Thanksgiving Day! Ethan K.

Gobble, Gobble, it's Thanksgiving time. First, I am thankful for school because it makes me smart when I do my homework. Next, I am thankful for my family because they love me and will always help

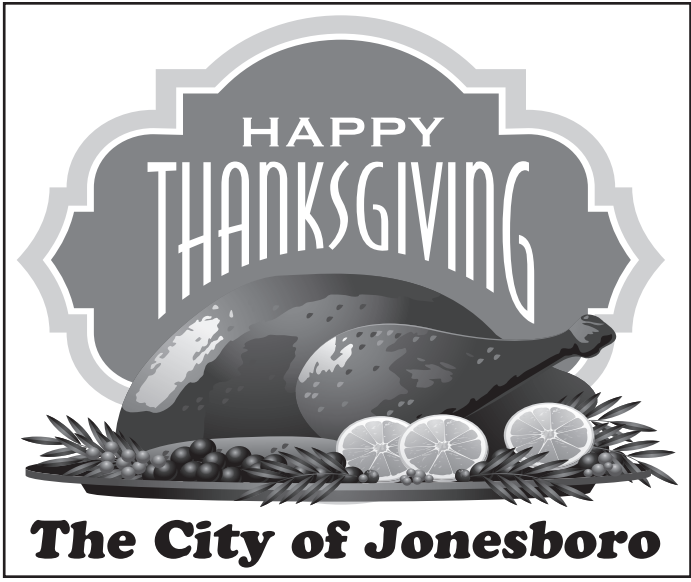
me. Lastly, I am thankful for food because it keeps me growing healthy. Now bring on the yummy Thanksgiving meal! Lincoln J.

I want to share all the things that make me feel happy and thankful. First, I am thankful for my mom, dad, and brother. They help me with the homework and play with me. Next, I am thankful for my home because it protects me. Lastly, I am thankful for my dog and cats because we play together and they jump on me when I get off my bed. I am so lucky to have so much to be thankful. Reed S.

I am thankful for so many things this year. First I am thankful for my family because we have fun swimming. Next, I am thankful for my friends because we have fun playing tag. Lastly, I am thankful for my soccer team because we win a lot of games and have fun together. Happy Thanks giving to you and your family. Kaecin H.

I want to share all the things that make me feel happy. First, I am thankful for my family because they take me to the park. Next, I am thankful for my mom because she takes me on hikes. Lastly, I am thankful for my bedroom because it gives me personal space. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. Carter M.

I have so much to be thankful for this year. First, I am thankful for my mom because



she helps me read. Next,Iamthankful for my cousin Alaina because when I go to her house she makes me happy. Lastly, I am thankful for my scooter because it brings me joy to ride it in my grandma's backyard. Gobble Gobble! Happy Thanksgiving Day! Lillian D.

I want to share all the things that make me feel happy and thankful. First, I am thankful for my family because they take me a lot of places. Next, I am thankful for my cousin Liam because he rides bikes with me. Lastly, I am thankful for my 4-wheeler because I love riding it at my house. I hope you have a great Thanksgiving. Eason D.

Hip Hip Hooray! I t ' s a l m o s t Thanksgiving Day. First, I am thankful for my family because I love them and they love me. Next, I am thankful for my Nana because she is always there for me. Lastly, I am thankful for my life because it is amazing and I get to do fun things. I sure am a lucky kid to have so much to be thankful for this year! Jessi H.

I want to share all the things that make me feel happy and thankful. The first thing I am thankful for is my mom, dad, brother and sister because they care for me. Next I am thankful for Ms. McFadden because she makes funny sayings in

math. Finally, I am thankful for my house because it protects me and keeps me safe. I am so lucky to have so many things to be thankful for this year. Miley M.

Hip Hip Hooray! I t ' s a l m o s t Thanksgiving Day. The first thing I am thankful for is my mom and dad because they make me feel good and play with me when I am sad. Next, I am thankful for sports because they keep me healthy and they are fun. Lastly, I'm thankful that I am learning how to play golf because I get to have fun with my dad and his friends. Now bring on the yummy Thanksgiving meal. Spencer P.

I have so much fun to be thankful for this year. The first thing I am thankful for is my mom because she always takes me places and I love her. Next, I am thankful for my cousins because I like playing with them and they are part of my family. Lastly, I am thankful for my dog Willow because I play with her every morning I hope you have a good Thanksgiving with your family. Gobble Gobble. Paris N.

I want to share she things that make me happy and thankful. The first thing I am thankful for are my sports because they are so much fun. Next, I am thankful for my mom, dad, sister, and brother because I get to have fun with them. Lastly,

I am thankful for my dogs because they protect me. I hope you have a good Thanksgiving. Axel B.

I want to share all the things that make me happy and thankful. The first thing I am thankful for is Papa Bob because he always gives me candy and lets me sneak YouTube. Next, I am thankful for my family because they always play with me. Jaden is the best brother I could ever have. Lastly, I am thankful for my grandma because she gets me ready for school and her house is always open for me. If grandpa is gone, grandma says home to take care of her cats. Happy Thanksgiving to you and everyone I know. Maverick B.

I am thankful for many things this year. The first thing I am thankful for is my home because it protects me from scary sounds and keeps me safe. Next, I am thankful for my family because they help me with my homework. Finally, I am thankful for my friends because when I am sad they always come over and talk about it. Gobble Gobble, Happy Thanksgiving Day! Andersyn K.

Hip Hip Hooray! I t ' s a l m o s t Thanksgiving Day. The first thing I am thankful for is my brothers. They make me happy and cheer me on at sports. Next I am thankful for my mom, dad, and sister. They like

top lay with me and don't yell at me when I mess up. They say everyone makes mistakes. Finally, I am thankful for my friends because we like to wrestle. Now bring on the yummy Thanksgiving meal. Wyatt H.

Ms. Mayfield

My name is Liam. I am thankful for my mom because she made me. Thanksgiving is special to me because I get to see and get family time. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Camdyn. I am thankful for my robots because they are fun to play games with. Thanks giving is special to me because thee is food, family, friends and games. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life

My name is Zander. I am thankful for my bike and my mom because I got it for Christmas and I love my mom. Thanksgiving is special to me because it is fun and the mashed potatoes are good. I I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Kooper. I am thankful for my dad because he takes me squirrel hunting and he gives me an xbox. Thanksgiving is special to me because I like to eat turkey and I like to eat ham and mashed potatoes. I

feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Easton. I am thankful for my teacher and my house because she helps me learn and my house keeps me safe. Thanksgiving is special to me because my family can visit me. I feel thankful every day for the good things in life.

My name is Clayton. I am thankful to be able to help my neighbor clean her backyard because she gives me candy. Thanksgiving is special to me because we eat turkey and ice cream for dessert. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Makynna. I am thankful for God because he will always be with me. Thanksgiving is special to me because I can spend time with my family. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Graeson. I am thankful for me because she lets me help clean out her house. Thanksgiving is special to me because I get to see a lot of people that I normally don't get to see. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Novah. I am thankful for my class because they are nice to me. Thanksgiving is special to me because I see

my family. I feel thankful everyday for the good things in my life.

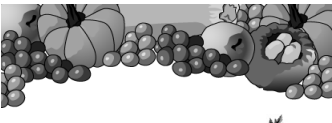
My name is Zalik. I'm thankful for my mom because she gets food for me and she makes sure I'm safe and good. Thanksgiving is special to me because I can spend time with my family and eat. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Rhett. I am thankful for my mom and dad because my mom helps me build with legos and my dad helps me fix my lego buildings. Thanksgiving is special to me because we say what we are thankful for and spend time with my family. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Summer. I am thankful for my family because they love me. Thanksgiving is special to me because it is the time when you can spend time with family. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Loni. I am thankful for my mom because she takes me riding and camping. Thanksgiving is special to me because it is fun and you get to play with family. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life

My name is Emmie. I am thankful for my little sister



Giving Thanks

Spanish Oaks Center
wishing you and yours a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

Kristie McAlister
Owner/Administrator
833-8013



Happy Thanksgiving


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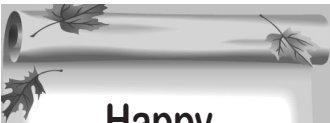




HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Here's hoping that Thanksgiving brings much happiness to all.

Shawnee School District #84



Happy Thanksgiving



Anna School District #37
Anna Jr. High,
Lincoln &
Davie Schools



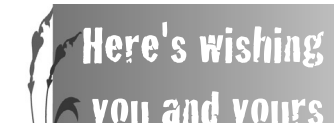


Best Wishes
On Thanksgiving

Have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving with your family!

from

Lick Creek School District & PTO



Here's wishing you and yours a happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving Greetings

Jonesboro Grade School



Ezmae because she is a great sister. Thanksgiving is special to me because we are going to eat turkey and egg. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

MynameisWillow. I am thankful for my grandma because we make gingerbread houses every Christmas. Thanksgiving is special to me because it is when family, friends, and cousins come over. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Alex. I am thankful for my mom because she gave me a rabbit for my birthday. Thanksgiving is special to me because some people are special there or people are good to me. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Asher. I am thankful for my cat Grayjoy because he's so cute and fluffy. Thanksgiving is special to me because I get to see my family. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Brooks. I am thankful for dogs because they are good. They might be bad sometimes. Thanksgiving is special to me because it is basically family day. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Logan. I am thankful for my mom and dad because they took me to a collective store. They are nice. Thanksgiving is special to me because I see family and eat turkey. I

feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Alaina. I am thankful for my family and my brother because I love them very much. Thanksgiving is special to me because we eat turkey and macaroni. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

My name is Calynn. I am thankful for my teachers, family and friends because they are special to me. Thanksgiving is special to me because I see my family and it's fun. I feel thankful every day for the good things in my life.

SHAWNEE

Shawnee Elementary School

Kindergarten

Ms. Dover

Cook the turkey with sauce and cheese. Hoyt C.

I would put sugar and salt on the turkey. Put the whole bottle of sugar and eggs. Make sure to crack the eggs. Phoebe J.

Cook it in the oven. Put fruit on the turkey. Put some sauce on and eat it. Braxten C.

Cook the turkey in the oven. Eat it after and that's all. Daxton S.

Put the turkey in a pan, put carrots and cheese on the turkey. Now put it in really hot water. Theo S.

You get a turkey. You cook it at your house. You have to eat it inside and you have to season it and cook it for 7 minutes. Put it on bread. Hays T.

You buy a turkey, put salt and pepper on it and water and mix it up. Then you eat it. Oaklyn W.

You get a turkey. Next take the bones out, head and feathers. Put cheese, salt and cook for 400 minutes and there you go. Kobe K.

Go to Grandma's house and get the turkey. You cut the turkey and it's hot! Luna A.

Get a turkey and eat it. Remmy M.

You go to the woods and get a turkey. Put seasonings, salt and pepper. Cook it for ten hours and that's it! Ryah W.

You get a turkey and cook it in the house and put honey on it. Lily S.

We get a turkey. You cut it up then you put it in the oven. Parker C.

First Grade

Mrs. Lomax

I am thankful for everybody because everybody is nice to me and I care about my family and my dogs. Willows C.

I am thankful for my dogs because they play with me and sleep with me. River C.

I am thankful for my house so I don't get wet when it rains and my mom because she takes me to the park and keeps me safe. Archer D.

I am thankful friends and getting

to help them. I am thankful for my cats and my family and for school. Remi H.

I am thankful for my friends because they are kind and they play with me. Also my family because they protect us and keep us safe. Kathlynn H.

I am thankful for my friends and pets but I'm really thankful for everybody in the world and we have to care about everyone and be helpful. Violet L.

I am thankful for the president helping people and soldiers keeping our country helpful and safe. I like helping my friends when hurt and I love my mom and dad. Quinn N.

I am thankful for my family because they care about you and do stuff to make me happy like rolling me up in a burrito and tickling me. Jasmine S.

I am thankful to be kind and saying "sorry" and helping people. Also my friends and my family because they play with me and make putty. Kinsley S.

I am thankful for my dogs because I love them and they are cute and fuzzy. Also my toys and my family because they help me and we can go on trips. Ella T.

I am thankful for my mom because she takes care of me and for school because it helps me

learn. Jentry T.

I am thankful for my four wheeler because I can ride it. I love doing stamp centers at school because I like to stamp and make pictures. Waylon T.

I am thankful for my house because I like watching TV in my room. I am thankful for my family because they keep me safe, too. Miles T.

I am thankful for my dogs because I get to run with them. I am thankful for my friends and for my whole family. Payson W.

I am thankful for my mom, my family, my dogs, and my school. Kaiden C.

I am thankful for my brother. Remmy, movies, my dad, fishing, and my school Elyjah M.

I am thankful for my family and friends and for trying new things and playing dinosaurs with my brother Luke. And gymnastics! Finley D.

I am thankful for being brave and for my family because they take care of me. Cayde S.

I am thankful for having fun because I like to play. I like to play hide & seek. I am thankful for my mom. Addlyn T.

I am thankful for my mom because she gives me candy. I am thankful for my friends because they play with me. Ayden H.

Second Grade

Mrs. McKinney

I am thankful for my mom and dad because they always give me cute things.

I am thankful for Chris for bringing his side by sides on the camping trip. Jacob S.

I am thankful for my mom. Gemma

I am thankful for family. Jacob S.

I am thankful for my mom, dad, step dad, step mom and brother. Bristol

I am thankful for family. Henry

I am thankful for family friends and teachers. Bryson

I am thankful for my mom and dad. Madisyn

I am thankful for my teacher. Lakelyn

I am thankful for family. Fletcher

I am thankful for mom and dad. My mom cooks food and my dad works. Esther

I am thankful for my mom, my dad, and my grandma. Emerson

I am thankful for my mom and dad.

I am thankful for my Papa Mike, my dad, my mom, and my Momo. Branson

I am thankful for my cats, my hamster and my family. Landon

Thanksgiving Greetings to All

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Thanksgiving Blessings

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Best Thanksgiving wishes to you and yours.

Equal Housing Lender

FARMERS

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Member FDIC

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