



NEWS | A4

## High court to review 2 cases involving border

STATE | A6

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# County sees 9th death from COVID

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Another increased number of new COVID-19 cases on Monday also brought with it the county's 9th death.

The Vermilion County Health Department on Monday reported 48 new cases (three residents in their 80s, four in their 70s, eight in their 60s, seven in their 50s, eight in their 40s, four in their 30s, five in their 20s, seven teens, one grade-school-aged child, and one toddler), bringing the county to a total of 1,314 positive cases —

222 of which are active. Some of the new cases are family-related to new or to previously reported positive cases.

The county's ninth death, a woman in her 70s who had been hospitalized, is the county's fourth death in the last two weeks, and the first female death related to COVID since the pandemic started.

"Our thoughts and prayers go to her family and friends," stated health department officials.

There are currently eight COVID-positive Vermilion County

residents hospitalized. The county also had 33,834 negative tests.

The Illinois Department of Public Health on Monday reported 3,113 new confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 22 additional deaths. The seven-day statewide positive rate from Oct. 12-18 was 5.4 percent. As of Sunday night, 2,096 people in Illinois were in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 485 patients were in the Intensive Care Unit and 179 patients with COVID-19 were on ventilators.

The recent spike in COVID-19 cases in Vermilion County has had

school and other officials continue to alter public gathering plans.

At last week's online Danville City Council's Public Works Committee meeting, Chairman and Alderman Mike Puhr said "as we see a rise in cases, please be safe; encourage others around you to be safe; stay healthy."

The Danville Public Library also temporarily canceled all in-person programming due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in Vermilion County.

One day last week, the Vermilion County Health Department

reported 59 new cases, with 79 one day earlier in October, with ages ranging from their 90s to a toddler. The county last week saw its eighth COVID-related death, a man in his 70s. This had been the county's third death in just a little over a week.

Health department officials' advice: eat healthy, exercise, hydrate, get enough rest, wash your hands, get a check up, continue to wear your mask and social distance.

"Two ways to support our local ser-

See COVID on A3

# Relentless Worship



Nicoshia Wynn was born in Danville, but grew up in Milwaukee. With her grandmother — Annie Mae Rivers Forde — still in Danville, she made frequent trips in the summer growing up.

## Danville native uses song for inspiration

MARVIN HOLMAN

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MINNEAPOLIS — "Never let circumstance outrun worship."

That is what Danville native Nicoshia Wynn wants people to know after listening to her single Relentless Worship and also the circumstance that provided the inspiration for the song.

Wynn was born in Danville, but grew up in Milwaukee. With her grandmother — Annie Mae Rivers

Forde — still in Danville, she made frequent trips in the summer growing up.

"My whole family is full of musicians, singers, educators and preachers," Wynn said. "My grandmother was an educator, minister, and singer. My mother was choir director and singer. My grandfather



Nicoshia Wynn

was a quartet singer. So rightfully so I would sing in choirs and on worship teams as well."

"I became saved at the age of 10 and I have been going to church and in choirs all of my life, but it wasn't until five years ago when I realized I could really pursue gospel music. I have my family to thank for the foundation of my spiritual journey but my mentor the late Rev. Arthur Foy, III was the person who cultivated the gifts that God has given me and I am grateful for his mentorship."

The catalyst for her career started with the birth of her youngest son seven years ago. He was born four months early and weighed 1 pound, 14 ounces, about the size of half a sheet of paper.

He was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital for more than 100 days. He was on a ventilator eight weeks, had heart surgery, infections and was

See WYNN on A4

## Council to consider sanitary sewer lines transfer

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DANVILLE — One alderman said he's "uncomfortable" with the city taking over sanitary sewer lines from the Danville Sanitary District without any further compensation.

The Danville City Council tonight will consider approving an inter-governmental agreement with the sanitary district for providing transfer of the district's assets to the city. The council's Public Works Committee last week voted 5-1 on the transfer, with alderman Mike O'Kane voting against it.

The council will meet at 6 p.m. via teleconference, with a link on the city's website at [www.cityofdanville.org](http://www.cityofdanville.org). Public comments are due to the city clerk at [cityclerk@cityofdanville.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofdanville.org) by 4:30 p.m. today.

Danville Public Works Director Carl Carpenter said "we will be taking over all the lines they own inside the city limits."

"We're inheriting stuff that is 100 years old," O'Kane said. "What income are we getting from this that's going to offset this?"

Carpenter said the sanitary district owns the collection system, including in Vermilion Heights and majority on the city's south side.

"We are still collecting the fees from that," he said.

Carpenter said the two options are to accept the transfer or have the sanitary district continue to own the lines and give revenue to them instead.

He also responded that those lines likely will need to be replaced in 10-20 years, in response to a question from O'Kane. However, he said the annual \$400,000 will maintain the lines.

"I almost feel they should pay us a little bit for taking it off their hands," O'Kane said.

City Engineer Sam Cole said in consideration of the transfer, the sanitary district and city are two government entities serving the same people. These assets are dealt with and funded by the same people whether owned by the district or city, he said.

Cole said the best way to serve the public is aligning all collection system assets with the city and having the sanitary district manage the interceptor sewers and treatment.

See COUNCIL on A4



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### Inside today

Local.....	A2	Sports.....	B1
Obituaries.....	A3	Scoreboard.....	B2
State.....	A3	Comics.....	B4
Opinion.....	A5	Classifieds.....	B5-6

### Weather



59

53

Today: Areas of low clouds.  
Full report, Page A2

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