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The Advocate Messenger

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GAYLE WADDELL

Audience members gather at First Christian Church as Danville Sings choirs present a December concert featuring performers of all ages from across central Kentucky.

Community discusses 'Iron Baby Angel' adaptation

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

DANVILLE, Ky. — A large crowd gathered this week at the Boyle County Public Library for a community discussion of *Iron Baby Angel*, the 1954 novel by Charles R. McDowell that is set in 1909

See **COMMUNITY**, 2A

Danville Sings sets December concerts

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

DANVILLE, Ky. — Three community ensembles under the Danville Sings umbrella will present two free concerts in early December at First Christian Church, featuring singers from across central Kentucky and a diverse repertoire that spans centuries.

The Danville Children's Choir will open the week with its program, "Seasons of Song," on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m.

A second event will follow on Friday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m., when the Sounding Joy Women's Choir and the Resonance Men's Choir present their joint concert, "Tell Me a Story," at First Christian Church on Lexington Road in Danville. According to organizers, singers range in age from high school students to adults in their 80s, traveling from Danville, Harrodsburg, Stanford, Waynesburg, Somerset and Lexington to participate.

Concert organizers said the Dec. 12 program explores how

singers convey meaning to listeners through musical structure and text. The performance will include unison works, call-and-response patterns common in African and African American traditions, imitative forms such as canons, medieval chant and chant-inspired pieces from the 20th century. The program also features nativity-themed selections, well-known holiday songs and newly composed works.

Texts play a central role in the concert's theme. One piece sets a poem by William Yeats in

which every line is posed as a question, paired with music described as "unsettled and misty." Another selection, Z. Randall Stroope's "Magnificat," moves from the biblical words of Mary to reflections on mercy, judgment and praise. Additional works include two direct holiday toasts and "Sing, My Child," which urges listeners to "sing, dance and laugh" through life's joys and challenges. Several lullabies—some incorporating traditional nonsense

See **DANVILLE**, 2A

Danville rallies support for magazine contest

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

DANVILLE, Ky. — Danville is calling on residents and supporters to help boost the city's profile nationwide as it launches a campaign encouraging people to vote in Parade magazine's "America's Favorite Small Towns" contest. Voting is now open at

See **CONTEST**, 2A

Board of Adjustments tables variance, OKs short-term rental

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

DANVILLE, Ky. — The Danville-Boyle County Board of Adjustments handled four public hearings during its recent meeting, ultimately postponing one variance request, approving a conditional use permit for a short-term rental, and denying another.

Board members first agreed to table a variance request filed by Alfred Kokwaro, who is

seeking to reduce a required side-yard setback for an accessory structure at 1037 Green View Drive. Staff reported a mistake in the advertisement describing the setback location, prompting board members to delay the hearing to December to ensure proper public notice. Kokwaro said he hoped to build a carport before winter but understood the board's concerns.

The board then considered a conditional use permit request

from Michael Digman, who plans to operate a short-term rental at 217 Waveland Ave. in Danville. Staff described the location as a secluded property at the end of Hensen Ave., with a long driveway and ample parking. The area contains mostly multifamily housing and a few existing short-term rentals.

Digman told the board the home contains three bedrooms and would typically host six guests. Board members dis-

cussed requirements for on-site parking, screening, compliance with noise rules, and the need for a local contact. After adding conditions—including a six-person occupancy limit, a 10 p.m. quiet hour, and a requirement that parking be screened from neighboring properties—the board unanimously approved the permit.

A request from Rusty Leskiv to amend a previously approved conditional use permit received more debate. Leskiv sought

approval to expand the number of bedrooms from four to five at a short-term rental property on North Third Street. Staff expressed concern about traffic and visibility on the steep, heavily traveled road, especially after observing difficulty backing out of driveways in the area. A nearby property owner also voiced concerns about parking overflow and the impact on long-term tenants.

Leskiv said he widened the

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