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St. Andrew's cross refurbished, re-hung

The backlit, life-size cross in the sanctuary at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church gave a calm sense of presence to worshippers for more than 40 years.

Then, one day, the lights behind the cross no longer worked. When properties warden Paul Hirsh, sexton Willie Leach and congregant Bill McArdle took the cross down from its brackets to see what was wrong, they discovered that not only had the fluorescent bulbs burnt out, but the wiring was fried, too.

"I guess we were lucky that nothing bad happened," said Hirsch. After debating whether to leave the cross unlit, re-install fluorescent bulbs, or go with LED strip lighting, the three handymen decided on the LED system, and removed the large cross to a banquet table in the church's adult seminar room, where it rested while the LED stripping was installed and other improvements were made.

"This kind of work is another form of prayer," said Hirsch.

On Wednesday, Sept. 2, attendees of the 11 a.m. Eucharist and Healing service



COURTESY PHOTO

Bill McArdle, left, and Willie Leach re-attach the cross to its bracket.

were among the first to see the re-lit cross.

"I missed the cross while it was gone," said longtime parishioner Diana Ross. "It's

like having a friend return to church. I like the light from it even more now."

—Submitted by Georgia DuBose

Masons host ID Booth at Dunes City expo

DUNES CITY — The Florence Masons were invited to set up their Child ID booth at the annual Dunes City Expo on Saturday, Aug. 22.

Many people arrived to hear guest speakers and visit the booths and displays. The Child ID program provides parents with vital information to store in a safe place to use in the event of their child's disappearance. The information includes a photo of the child, thumbprints, DNA sample and their vital statistics — all on a single sheet of paper that makes the information immediately available to broadcast on an Amber Alert.

The Masons not only identi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Florence Mason member Bernie Christensen (left) with Senator Arnie Roblan at the Child ID booth.

fy children, they make ID papers for seniors as well. A third of the IDs made on Saturday were for seniors.

Senator Arnie Roblan

stopped by to check out the Child ID operation and submitted to having his picture and thumbprints printed out on a paper to take home.

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Lisa's Avant Gardener Tips for September

It's Time To Plant!
September is the best time to plant and landscape for years of enjoyment. Come see us for advice on how to add healthy year 'round color to your garden, how to renovate your lawn, and how we put the "Oh!" in Organic gardening.

- Apply fall fertilizer to lawns and shrubs.
- Plant daffodils and tulips for bright colors next spring
- Apply bark mulch to beds to prevent weeds next spring

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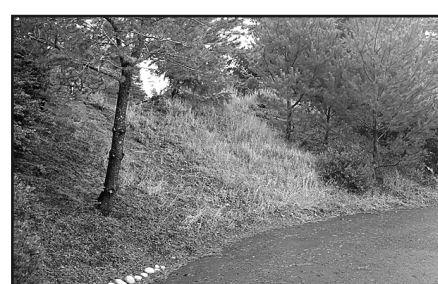
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