

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, December 29, 2016

Anna, Illinois

©2016 Reppert Publications

\$1.00

Volume 168, Number 2

News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area.

Happy New Year to all of our readers. ***

If you plan to celebrate the arrival of the New Year, please don't drink and drive. ***

Union County authorities reported that the Christmas holiday weekend was pretty quiet. ***

St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Anna has been selected as one of the top 10 architectural wonders of Southern Illinois by Baysinger Architects in Marion. ***

An American Red Cross blood drive is planned Jan. 19 at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.



After the downpours: water stood in a low-lying area near downtown Cobden on Monday afternoon following heavy rain which fell earlier in the day.

(continued on page 2)



Shawnee's Best

Copeland receives 2016-2017 honor



Sean Copeland

A graduate of a Union County high school has been recognized for special achievements which he has accomplished during a career in the broadcasting field.

Sean Copeland has been selected as the 2016-2017 Shawnee's Best recipient by the Shawnee Community Unit School District No. 84 Board of Education.

Recipients are chosen based on their accomplishments since high school graduation.

Copeland graduated from Shawnee High School in Wolf Lake in 2003.

The school board noted that since his graduation from the Union County school, Copeland has had numerous accomplishments as a radio personality.

Copeland is scheduled to be honored at Shawnee High School's homecoming festivities on Jan. 21.

The school board highlighted Copeland's many achievements:

Since high school, Copeland has pursued a career in broadcasting that initially led him to St. Louis where, at 18, he became the youngest cast member ever on a nationally syndicated radio show.

He also hosted a morning program for the largest

Christian music broadcaster in the world, with his show being heard on more than 200 stations in 38 states.

For the last seven years, Copeland has lived and worked in Indianapolis, Ind., where he hosts the number one morning show in the market.

In addition to his weekly radio audience of 400,000, he also hosts a lifestyle-centered web series called "Sean In The City."

Episodes of the series have included an award-winning feature on Indianapolis native David Letterman, upon his retirement.

Copeland is also the reigning Indiana Broadcasters Association "Personality of the Year."

Aside from radio responsibilities, his community involvement includes serving as a spokesperson for Indiana's largest food bank and for Western Governors University, a non-profit and fully accredited institution seeking to make higher education accessible and affordable to those in need.

Copeland has also developed an innovative fund-raising model used by several Indianapolis charities, including The Ronald McDonald House, which enables parents to be near their children who are receiving treatment at the city's children's hospital.

He is also a founding member and serves on the board of directors for an interfaith service organization that has seen a more than 900 percent growth since its inception.

Copeland's endeavors have also afforded him the opportunity to work alongside the mayor of Indianapolis and Vice President-elect Mike Pence, when he was Indiana's governor.

Jonesboro School makes special holiday season donations

Jonesboro Elementary School presented two local organizations with donations on Monday, Dec. 19. Students spent the time between Thanksgiving and Christmas break collecting canned goods, personal care items and money for two local organizations. The students collected 2,008 pounds of canned food items.



The Illinois Veterans Home in Anna was provided with many toothbrushes and razors, crossword puzzles, sweatshirts and other items, along with \$104 in cash donations. Meredith White, activities aide, and Debbie Newton, ward clerk, both from the Illinois Veterans Home, were on hand to receive the donations.



Paula Stairs, Union County coordinator for the Shawnee Development Council, received a donation of \$100 and canned goods for the council's food pantry. Olivia Bowen, the top donor from teacher Pam Turner's 8th grade class, presented Stairs with the donation.



The following students were the top donors from each class: Pre-kindergarten: Eva Meisenheimer. Kindergarten: William Taylor, Bowen Graves. 1st grade: Addilyn Asby. 2nd grade: Blake Abernathy, Ian Andrew. 3rd grade: Raegan Jones, Amelia Lingle. 4th grade: Zoe Jones, Logan Abernathy. 5th grade: Shaylee Moore, Miranda Bundren. 6th grade: Shawne Waddington, Abbi Curtis. 7th grade: Tabitha Smith, Marlee Smith. 8th grade: Olivia Bowen, Hannah Lincoln. Photos by Amber Skelton.

Appearance held in Southern Illinois

UN Secretary-General gives last public address



UN Secretary-General speaks at SIU
United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivered a public address Wednesday morning, Dec. 21, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

An international diplomat who has delivered some 3,000 to 4,000 speeches over the past 10 years made his last public appearance in Southern Illinois.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who leaves office at the end of December, delivered his last public lecture at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Ban addressed a capacity audience Wednesday morning, Dec. 21, in the ballrooms at the SIUC Student Center.

The event was free and open to the public. The address also was live-streamed online. A reception in Ban's honor was held in the International Lounge at the university following his address.

The secretary-general talked, in part, about "What I Have Learned and Would Like to Pass On."

SIU officials suggested the topic after learning that his visit to Southern Illinois would be his final public appearance after 10 years of

service as the UN secretary-general.

Cosponsors of Ban's visit were the Office of the Chancellor, the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and the United Nations Association-USA Southern Illinois Chapter. The university had twice invited Ban to speak on campus.

(The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute is named in honor of the late U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, who lived in Makanda.)

Interim SIU chancellor Brad Colwell said the university was happy to accommodate the secretary-general's schedule.

"We are honored that the secretary-general accepted our invitation," Colwell said.

"I believe he did so because of our strong reputation as a national research university, our rich history of embracing international education, and the important work of the Simon Institute and the United Nations Association-USA Southern Illinois Chapter."

Colwell introduced Ban to those who had gathered at SIU for the Dec. 21 address.

Ban, born in 1944 in the Republic of Korea, is the eighth secretary-general of the UN. He took office in 2007 and was unanimously re-elected by the General Assembly in 2011.

His priorities as leader of the 193-member international organization have been to mobilize world leaders around a set of new global challenges, from climate change and economic upheaval to pandemics and increasing pressures involving food, energy and water.

At the time of his election as secretary-general, Ban was his country's minister of foreign affairs and trade.

His 37 years of service within the ministry included postings in New Delhi, Washington, D.C., and Vienna.

Ban's ties to the UN date back to 1975, when he worked for the Foreign Ministry's United Nations Division.

(continued on page 2)



THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT
 THE TALK-AND-COBBEN REVIEW
 Serving Union County Since 1849
 (USPO 214-290)
 112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 529
 Anna, Illinois 62904-0529

Phone: 618-835-2158
 Fax: 618-833-9815
 Email: www@gazette.com

Permitted postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62904-0529

FUELNEED THURSDAY

Jerry L. Boppert Publisher
 Geoff Skinner Editor
 Louise J. Hinton Production Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Union County..... \$25.00	12 months out of state..... \$95.00
Elsewhere in 629 Zip Code..... \$27.00	Printed (non-sending)..... \$26.00
Out of state..... \$45.00	Announcements..... \$26.00
12 months in county..... \$23.00	Single copy..... \$1.00
12 months in 629 Zip Code..... \$23.00	Initial copy..... \$3.00
e-edition..... \$23.00	With print subscription..... \$7.00

1-800-833-2699

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
 The Gazette-Democrat, P.O. Box 529, Anna, Illinois 62904-0529
 Advertising rates given on application.
 Mail list open to inspection by subscribers.
 Offer Quality Titles from REPRESS PUBLICATIONS
 Monday's Post • Antique & Collectible News
 Senior Views • Free money offers
www.gazette.com
facebook.com/gazetteandcobben Twitter: @gazetteandcobben

UN Secretary-General

(continued from page 1)

Excerpts from Remarks Delivered at SIU

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's remarks, as prepared for delivery, at the Southern Illinois University Paul Simon Public Policy Institute in Carbondale, were posted on the UN website. Excerpts from his remarks follow:

Thank you for your warm welcome. I am grateful to Southern Illinois University for inviting me to be here.

Since I may not be back again any time soon, let me be the first to wish you a very happy 150th anniversary, which you will celebrate in 2019.

Let me also thank you for the gift that SIU bestowed on the United Nations this week: news of its decision to join the United Nations Academic Impact initiative. You now join thousands of schools across the world in an effort to use your research and scholarship to advance United Nations goals.

I would also like to congratulate the Paul Simon Institute on its twentieth birthday, to be marked next year.

The Institute's namesake was a renowned supporter of international education and of active United States engagement across the international agenda.

I am told he visited more than 100 countries. As someone who has visited more than 150 countries across a decade as Secretary-General, I can tell you, he sounds like my kind of guy.

But, of course, what is most important is not how many miles one travels, but the distance one goes to help people in need.

Senator Simon represented the United States at United Nations meetings on weapons control under two presidents, (Jimmy) Carter and (Ronald) Reagan.

In that same bipartisan spirit, he was the driving force behind two foreign assistance laws that have advanced global cooperation in addressing water challenges.

Let me also thank the United Nations Association of Southern Illinois. You and your fellow associations across the world are among the United Nations best allies, linking the global and the local and letting people know that the United Nations works for them.

So, I am very glad to be in a place where global citizenship is part of the school's identity and where diversity is in the campus DNA.

I am visiting at a time of transition and uncertainty. Here in the United States, you are preparing to inaugurate a new president.

At the United Nations, I will soon return to civilian life. There are just 10 days left in my term. My final countdown starts tomorrow.

The world is also undergoing a transition. We are becoming more urban as more people live in cities. We are becoming younger, with the largest generation of youth the world has ever known. And we are striving to make a crucial economic and environmental transition to a safer, more sustainable path of development in order to make peace with the planet and ensure prosperity for people.

I have served during a decade of turmoil. The world suffered the biggest financial collapse since the Great Depression.

There are more refugees and people in need of humanitarian aid today than at any time since the Second World War.

Inequality is on the rise, so is violent extremism. Conflicts are growing more protracted. Political polarization is growing more entrenched.

Shocking crimes have been carried out against civilians caught up in armed conflict, defying the rules of war. Even in peacetime, basic human decency often seems in short supply, as people look and talk past each other.

These challenges have been as numerous and as complicated as any we have seen in United Nations history. We have made important advances. But, of course, the work of the United Nations is never finished and my successor, Secretary-General António Guterres, will face many urgent demands from day one.

The conflict in Syria has defied the efforts of some of the world's most experienced United Nations mediators.

The divisions remain profound, between Syrians, among the country's neighbours and within the international community. I continue to stress that there is no military solution.

Military success in Aleppo today will not mean peace tomorrow without a political settlement and justice for the crimes this war has witnessed.

My successor will also face troubling situations in Yemen and Mali. In South Sudan, we are warning about the risk of genocide.

And almost everywhere, people are concerned about jobs, terrorism and the next extreme storm or outbreak of disease.

Yet, amid this insecurity, there are gains to report. Over the past decade, the United Nations successfully ended peacekeeping operations in Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste. We will soon do the same in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire. We helped ensure a peaceful political transition in Burkina Faso and peaceful elections in Guinea and supported the historic transition in Myanmar. Our diplomatic tools can work.

We have also seen, despite turbulence on many fronts, the world come together to adopt an inspiring new plan for the world's future – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Agenda is encapsulated in 17 Sustainable Development Goals – or SDGs – to guide us as we strive to end hunger, empower women, increase access to education and build effective institutions that serve the people. These goals apply to all countries; even the richest have yet to fully conquer discrimination or safeguard the environment.

We are nearing the end of the first year of implementing this 15-year plan. I have been encouraged to see Governments, businesses and people mobilizing behind the SDGs. This work will bring improve-



Addressing audience

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, left, addresses the audience on Dec. 21 at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. To the right is Jak Tichenor, the interim director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute in Carbondale.

ments in the daily lives of people across the world and help to address the factors that drive instability and violence.

I also draw hope from the inroads we are making in combating climate change, the defining threat of our time.

The people of Illinois already know the possible nightmare scenario for your state and the wider midwest region – even more scorching summers, even more extreme flooding, crop failures, worsening air quality and much, much else.

The landmark Paris Agreement on climate change can help us avoid or lessen these and other impacts. But, the Agreement is not just about avoiding doomsday. It points the way towards the jobs and markets of the future. Climate action is already part of the real economy. It is increasingly a major factor in the decisions of investors and businesses.

Climate change is real. The science is settled. As the world faces record warmth, the Paris Agreement has entered into force with rapid speed, embraced by all the world's leading emitters, including the United States, China, India and the European Union. It is a rare and precious achievement that we should nurture and guard.

In September 2014, I joined several hundred thousand people in New York City who took to the streets to call on world leaders to take climate action. A great portion of the marchers were young people, demanding that my generation do what is necessary to ensure a proper future for theirs.

I was deeply moved by their engagement on this challenge. But, of course, young people are passionate about a great many issues. I have tried to repay that activism with new steps at the United Nations to bring their voices into our deliberations.

I am proud to have appointed the first-ever United Nations Youth Envoy, as well as a Special Envoy for youth employment. The United Nations Security Council has also recognized the importance of youth by adopting one year ago this month its first ever resolution on youth, peace and security. We are determined to work not just for youth, but with youth.

I also draw hope from the spirit that resides right here in Southern Illinois. Later today, I will visit the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield. One can draw

a straight line from the principles that President (Abraham) Lincoln defended to those that animate the United Nations.

Lincoln was a heroic force for equality, integration and reconciliation. These ideals represent the best spirit of the United States and we desperately need that spirit today.

Another American president has also been a lifelong inspiration for me. I had the honour to meet President (John F.) Kennedy in 1962, when I was a teenager visiting the United States, an unforgettable privilege that helped inspire my diplomatic career. In his State of the Union address that year, he spoke of the United Nations in words that resound in our time, too.

And I quote: "Our instrument and our hope is the United Nations and I see little merit in the impatience of those who would abandon this imperfect world instrument because they dislike our imperfect world. For the troubles of a world organization merely reflect the troubles of the world itself. And if the Organization is weakened, these troubles can only increase."

Senator Simon, for his part, once said that the United Nations, and again, I quote, "has provided opportunities for nations to work together more, an opportunity too often ignored." At the end of a decade, I have a profound sense of the great achievements that are possible when nations work together more, but also what happens when nations ignore our common interests and shared values.

So many people are suffering. So much is at stake. But, so much is possible. This has been a decade in which collective action has changed hundreds of millions of lives for the better. Inclusive international cooperation solves problems, promotes peace and recognizes diversity as a strength.

I grew up in war-torn Korea. The United Nations brought food and medicine. More than that, it brought a message that we were not alone. The United Nations was our beacon of hope. For the past 10 years, I have tried to keep that beacon alight for others.

As I pass the baton to my successor, the United Nations will count on the United States and all countries to pull together at this consequential time for peace, prosperity and human rights for all. With passion and compassion, we can achieve our goals.

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

The A-JCHS District No. 81 Board of Education has approved funding for the purchase of new band uniforms.

"The Sound of Music" will be presented as the annual musical at A-JCHS.

Applications are being accepted from community members who may be interested in filling a vacancy on the Shawnee Community College Board of Trustees.

Improvements on Skyline Drive between Alto Pass and Cobden are reported to be about 98 percent complete.

A student government member has proposed the establishment of a School to Work program to the Shawnee School District No. 84 Board of Education. More research is planned regarding the proposal.

The Shawnee School Board has approved a student trip to Hawaii in

2018 and an overnight trip to Chicago in March 2017 for the Illinois Democracy School Civics Conference.

The Clear Creek Baptist Association plans to have a men's wild game supper Jan. 13 at the Immanuel Praise & Worship Center near Cobden.

The Union County Board of Commissioners discussed property tax levies, at length, at a special meeting held on Dec. 22.

Business related to the August 2017 solar eclipse will be the focus of a meeting which is planned Jan. 12 at Shawnee Community College near Ullin.

Common feeder birds will be the topic of a program planned Saturday afternoon, Jan. 14, at the Barkhausen Cache River Wetlands Center near Cypress.

GasBuddy.com reports that during the week prior to Dec. 27, retail gasoline prices in Illinois rose 4.2 cents per gallon. The average price was \$2.43 per gallon.

State police highlight efforts to promote safety, quality of life

During November, Illinois State Police District 22 personnel worked to promote public safety as a way to improve the quality of life in the state.

The officers in District 22 patrol and handle calls for service in the Southern Illinois counties of Union, Johnson, Pope, Massac, Hardin, Pulaski and Alexander.

During the month of November District 22 officers: Responded to 102 calls for service.

Issued 511 citations and 652 written warnings.

Arrested seven motorists for driving under the influence.

Handled 71 crashes, including one fatal accident.

Conducted 242 motor carrier safety inspections, of which 23 inspections led to either the driver or vehicle being placed out

of service for safety violations.

Assisted 103 motorists on the side of the road.

Made nine criminal arrests.

State police also noted the number of citations issued for what are termed as "Fatal Four" violations:

DUI: seven. Speeding 319. Occupant restraint 49. Distracted driving: nine.

District 22 officers want to remind the public while they are traveling on the roadways of Illinois to follow Scotts Law, "The Move Over Law," which requires motorists to:

Reduce the speed of your vehicle.

Yield the right of way by changing lanes away from the authorized emergency vehicle.

Proceed with due regard to safety and traffic conditions.

Free admission days planned

Thirty-one national wildlife refuges across the county which normally charge entrance fees will offer free admission on five days in 2017.

Free admission is planned on the following days:

Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Feb. 20: Presidents' Day.

Sept. 30: National Public Lands Day.

Oct. 8: First Sunday of

National Wildlife Refuge Week.

Nov. 11-12: Veterans Day weekend.

The 31 refuges charge admission ranging from \$3 to \$8 per vehicle to help fund their recreation-related projects.

The 2017 entrance fee waiver does not cover concessionaire or permit fees for some activities such as hunting, fishing or special tours.



Holiday reception

Shawnee Community College hosted an annual holiday reception on Wednesday, Dec. 7. The reception was held on the college's main campus near Ullin. The event featured a number of vendors who offered holiday shopping items for those who came to the reception. Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.



Story time
Children listened with their stuffed animals as Stinson Memorial Library staff member Ms. Beth read them a bedtime story. Photo by Amber Skelton.

Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover held at Stinson Memorial Library

By Amber Skelton

Stuffed animals got a taste of adventure at Stinson Memorial Library in Anna Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16-17, during the library's annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover. The event was part of the library's story time program.

On Friday, kids arrived in pajamas with their stuffed animals and listened as Ms. Beth, the children's librarian and her stuffed bear, Bernard the ornery li-bear-ian, read several bedtime books.

"Cornelius P. Mudd, Are You Ready for Bed?" helped the kids figure out what they needed to help their stuffed animals sleep. "Let's Sing a Lullaby with the Brave Cowboy" gave them a song to sing to their animals.

"Sleep Little Yoga" taught the kids how to stretch before bed. "Yawn" made everyone very sleepy.

The kids had snacks, made crafts and tucked their



Special delivery
The library voiced appreciation to Pizza Hut in Anna for the special delivery of pizzas for the Stuffed Animal Sleepover. The library staff noted that the delivery helped to make the Sleepover "a huge success." Photo provided.

stuffed animals in to sleep.

On Saturday morning, everyone returned to find out what the toys had done during the night.

A slideshow showed the toys making a mess, trap-

ping Bernard, ordering a pizza and watching a movie before cleaning up and going back to bed.

The kids and their toys had a light breakfast and worked on another craft.



Christmas caroling with Lick Creek 4-H Club

Monday night, Dec. 20, at 5:30 p.m., the Lick Creek 4-H Club met at Pizza Hut in Anna to Christmas carol at local nursing homes: the Illinois Veterans Home of Anna, Union County Nursing Home, Jonesboro Rehabilitation and Health Care Center and the Anna Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. The 4-H club then returned back to Pizza Hut for pizza, and December's meeting was adjourned.

The club's next meeting will be held on Jan. 9 at the Union County Extension office at 6:30 p.m. On Jan. 21 the annual yeast bread workshop will be at the Anna Nazarene Church fellowship hall at 8 a.m. Jonathan Mattheis, reporter.

Education advisory board offers funding level recommendations

The Illinois Education Funding Advisory Board, EFAB, has submitted its regular biennial education funding recommendations to the Illinois General Assembly, in accordance with the Illinois School Code.

In its report, EFAB recommends increasing the statutory per-pupil Foundation Level from the current amount of \$6,119 to \$9,204 for fiscal year 2018.

The Foundation Level establishes the mandated minimum per-pupil funding achieved through a mix of state and local funds.

Statute requires the state to provide school districts with the difference between the Foundation Level and a district's local wealth, as calculated by the equalization Formula Grant, in addition to providing the Supplemental Low-Income Grant, based on a district's percentage of low-income students.

As stated in the report, in 11 of the past 15 years, the state has not met its statutory obligation to fully fund the Foundation Level and the components of the low-income grant.

This has resulted in the state prorating or paying only a portion of the amount

owed to districts through their General State Aid claims, the board said in a news release.

EFAB's recommended increase to the Foundation Level would require \$4.6 billion in additional funding in fiscal year 2018, or almost double the current appropriation for public education.

In its report, EFAB acknowledges the efforts of

and Gov. Bruce Rauner to increase funding in both Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 and to revise how the state sends funding to districts.

EFAB also implored the General Assembly and the governor to work together to increase the resources available for public education in order to offer Illinois children the tools they deserve and need to compete in a global economy.

Weather

Christmas Day weather foggy, high of 64 degrees

Union County experienced another round of significant changes in weather conditions during the period from Dec. 20 through Dec. 26, which included Christmas Day.

The holiday was Sunday, Dec. 25.

Temperatures during the period ranged from a high of 68 degrees to a low of 9.

The high temperature was recorded on Monday, Dec. 26. After reaching a high of 68, the temperature dropped to 30 by Tuesday morning.

Christmas Day was mild, with a high of 64. Heavy fog also blanketed the Union County area during the holiday.

Along with unseasonably mild temperatures, the

day after Christmas also was highlighted by heavy downpours in the morning.

Precipitation in the area for the period included .01 of an inch of rain on Dec. 21, a trace of snow and .47 of an inch of total precipitation on Dec. 23, .03 of an inch of rain on Dec. 24, .02 of an inch of rain on Dec. 25 and 2.02 inches of rain on Dec. 26.

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

H L	Temperature
41 9	Tuesday, Dec. 20
43 21	Wednesday, Dec. 21
45 29	Thursday, Dec. 22
46 35	Friday, Dec. 23
49 38	Saturday, Dec. 24
64 44	Sunday, Dec. 25
68 48	Monday, Dec. 26

New Year's Day Weather

With New Year's Day coming up on Sunday, Jan. 1, the National Weather Service notes that high temperatures on the holiday in the region generally are in the 30s and 40s.

The warmest high on record in Cape Girardeau was 65 degrees, which occurred in 2006. The coldest high was 12 degrees in 1974.

At Paducah, the warmest New Year's Day on record was in 1965, when the high reached 69 degrees. The coldest high on record also came in 1974, with a reading of 15.

Snow has been fairly rare on New Year's Day in the region.

As of early this week, the weather service's outlook for New Year's Day called for a slight chance of showers and a high near 48.

IDNR terminates lease agreement with Rend Lake Resort Inc.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, reports that it has terminated a lease agreement with Rend Lake Resort Inc. and intends to seek a new operator for the Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center, which is located on Rend Lake at Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area in Southern Illinois.

IDNR reported in a news release that it has several concerns about the condition of the buildings at the Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center.

Mold, peeling paint, and other potential health and safety related discoveries led the department to have safety concerns for visitors to the resort.

"The health and safety of Illinoisans is paramount," IDNR director Wayne Rosenthal said in a news release. "The department must take these steps to protect families and valuable state assets."

The resort operator notified IDNR earlier in December that it planned to close the facility.

The lease termination follows a notice from IDNR to Rend Lake Resort Inc. in November that the firm was delinquent in rent and related lease payments totaling more than \$205,000.

IDNR is also of the understanding that the operator owes \$14,000 in real estate taxes, \$21,000 in utility payments and \$47,000 in hotel operator's taxes.

The Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center, which opened in 1990, has 104 hotel rooms, suites and cabins adjoining the lake, and a conference center including meeting rooms and banquet facilities.

The resort also has a restaurant and bar, boat docks and boat rentals, an outdoor swimming pool and tennis court.

Activities and outdoor recreation opportunities at the Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area and the 19,000-acre Rend Lake include boating, fishing, hunting, trail riding, wildlife watching, swimming and field dog trial grounds.

To all our acquaintances both old and new, go our gratitude and our best wishes, too!

Anna Quarries, Inc.
1000 Quarry Rd.
Anna, IL
833-5121

Thank You

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the beautiful cards, calls, visits and most of all, for your prayers. It has been a long, hard battle since January and I ask the Lord every day to give me patience and strength to handle this and with His help and your continued support, I will be just fine. Thank you and God bless you all.

With love,
Matt Page

AULD LANG SYNE

Thank you so much for letting us serve you.

L&P Carpet
4155 E. Vienna St.
833-8913
www.lpcarpet.com

Edward Jones INVESTMENTS

Phillip McGrath
Financial Advisor

311 South Main
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-6999

Straight talk from someone who knows you

Sound financial advice means only making recommendations that line up with your goals and risk tolerance.

Thoughtful guidance: It's how we make sense of investing.

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Happy NEW YEAR Everyone!

As we ring in the new year, we also celebrate your friendship and support. It's been a pleasure doing business with you.

AJ Anna-Jonesboro National Bank
Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community

201 South Main • Anna, IL 618-833-8506
512 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL 618-833-2922
1002 Public Square • Jonesboro 618-833-4547
151 Leigh Ave. • Anna, IL 618-833-4546
Visit Us On The Web At: www.ajnational.com

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
39GTF

SPORTS

Saluki Sports Update

By Fred Huff

It figures. I should have known. Rodney Watson, long-time basketball assistant coach at SIU and one of the finest, all-around persons I know, a top-tener in my book, has not been in touch with me for months. Of course, it goes both ways.

We usually spend a couple of hours during a summer session to renew, review and anticipate. Didn't happen this year.

Naturally I expected a reason, but blamed it on the fact that he and his family made the big move from long-time home in Carterville to someplace in the Evansville area where he for the past seven years has been head coach at the University of Southern Indiana. Simply busy.

When it stretched into the present time, I was concerned. Perhaps things were not going well on the court.

Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! USI is unbeaten, 11-0, and nationally ranked in its division.

I should have known. Rodney is not one to talk about himself, about his own achievements and he probably figured I'd wake up one of these days and make the call.

The Falcons have enjoyed seven winning seasons while under Watson's leadership. Several have been exceptionally successful. He's home now. He's happy. He's still a heckuva basketball coach.

And, this has nothing to do with the Salukis or their leadership. Well, perhaps a bit, but outside of not being able to understand why SIU passed over an established, long-time assistant coach, like Watson, when it hired Matt Painter to replace Bruce Weber, who had replaced Rich Herrin, or Chris Lowery when he replaced Painter. That, obviously was enough to convince Rodney he had to leave and hope some day, some year, he might be invited to return.

That probably will never happen and I know, one should never use the word "never." However, as we said earlier, Rodney is rolling outside of Evansville and SIU has a gradually improving program with its current coach Barry Hinson.

The Salukis get down to serious business this week. Play in the Missouri Valley Conference opens and we now can place more importance on the happenings on the court.

We like SIU's schedule, particularly the opening week when it launches Valley play at Bradley Thursday night before its home opener Sunday against Drake. Both are not only winnable games, but could be classified as early-season "must" wins as long as the Salukis have hopes of making any kind of a run in the Valley this season.

And, we know that's in the back of Hinson's mind even though he hasn't called to talk about it either.

A-J tops Union County in Eldorado Tourney play

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team led early and held on for a 56-41 win over Union County, Ky., in first-round action at the Eldorado Holiday Tournament Monday, Dec. 26.

Jake Parr led the way with 21 points and 4 rebounds for A-J. Logan Sawyer had 10 points and 7 rebounds.

Sheldon McGrath had 8 points and 3 rebounds. Izzy Markovic had 6 points and 10 rebounds. Jacob Zimmerman had 5 points and a

rebound. Ross Pinnon had 2 points and 2 rebounds. Carson Reynolds and Michel Hill had 2 points and a rebound apiece.

A-J was 13 of 30 in shot attempts from the floor, 5 of 9 from 3-point range and 15 of 19 from the free throw line.

Union County was 19 of 44 in shot attempts from the floor, 0 of 12 from 3-point range and 3 of 9 from the charity stripe.

A-J, which improved to 5-7, was set to play top-seeded Herrin on Tuesday.

Whitetails Unlimited chapter banquet planned in February

Whitetails Unlimited, WTU, plans to sponsor a Union County chapter banquet on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Great Boars of Fire Lodge, which is located at 920 Kratzinger Hollow Rd. between Anna and Cobden.

The event is scheduled at 5 p.m. and will feature a barbecue and catfish dinner, an auction and prizes with a wide array of products, such as firearms, outfitter packages, hunting and outdoor-related equipment, art work and collectibles only available at WTU events.

A grant from the event will go toward local projects

that help to support WTU's mission.

A social hour begins at 5 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40 each or \$20 for a spouse or child 15 and under. The ticket order deadline is Feb. 11, and tickets will not be sold at the door.

To order tickets or for more information, call Wes Burris at 833-1708 or WTU national headquarters at 800-274-5471, or go online to www.whitetailsunlimited.com. Tickets are also available by calling Heath Newman at 618-614-2862 or Marc Sheffer at 618-697-3352.

Pinckneyville, Chester score wins over 'Cats

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team lost a pair of games in recent action.

Pinckneyville 71, A-J 37: The host Wildcats fell behind early and couldn't catch up in the loss Friday, Dec. 23.

Sheldon McGrath had 8 points and 3 rebounds to lead A-J.

Izzy Markovic had 6 points and 5 rebounds. Logan Sawyer had 6 points and 3 rebounds. Jade Gillis had 6 points and 2 rebounds.

Carson Reynolds had 5 points and a rebound. Jake Parr had 4 points and 6 rebounds. Ross Pinnon had 3 points and Jacob Zimmerman had a point and 3 rebounds.

A-J was 8 of 25 from the floor, 3 of 8 from 3-point range and 12 of 19 from the free throw line.

The Panthers were 24 of 43 from the field, 6 of 18

from 3-point range and 7 of 8 from the charity stripe.

Chester 57, A-J 55: Parr scored 17 points and 5 rebounds to lead the host Wildcats in the non-conference loss Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Zimmerman had 15 points. McGrath added 9 points and 4 rebounds.

Sawyer had 8 points and 2 rebounds. Markovic had 2 points and 8 rebounds. Michael Hill had 2 points and 2 rebounds. Carson had 2 points.

A-J was 4 of 24 in shot attempts from the floor, 6 of 16 from 3-point range and 9 of 15 from the free throw line.

The Yellowjackets were 24 of 35 in shot attempts from the field, 2 of 14 from 3-point range and 3 of 4 from the charity stripe.

A-J, which fell to 4-7 overall and 0-3 in the conference, plays in the Eldorado Tournament this week.

A-J falls to Carterville, scores win over Cobden

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team split in recent action.

Carterville 45, A-J 37: The host Lady Wildcats fell behind early and couldn't catch up in the loss Thursday, Dec. 22.

"We played well," A-J coach Matt Denny said. "We just couldn't get over the hump."

Elle Basler had 14 points and 5 rebounds to lead A-J.

Angel Helm added 9 points and 3 rebounds. Connor Hadley had 5 points and 4 rebounds.

Jasmin Foster had 4 points and 2 rebounds. Lexa Sharp and Sydney Heath each had 2 points and a rebound apiece.

A-J 44, Cobden 27:

The host Lady Wildcats pulled ahead early in the county-rival win Wednesday, Dec. 21.

Basler had 9 points and 4 rebounds for A-J. Foster added 8 points and 6 rebounds. Helm had 8 points and a rebound.

Caitlin Sawyer and McKayla Bundren had 4 points and 2 rebounds apiece.

Sharp had 3 points and Morgan Wendling, Heath, Taylor Harvel and Sydnie Ralls had 2 apiece.

Meredith Flamm had 21 points to lead the Appleknockers. Alaina Hartline added 3 points and Jenna Hartline 2.

A-J, 8-5 overall and 3-3 in the conference, is scheduled to play Tuesday, Jan. 3, at home against Sparta.

Wildcat athletes compete at wrestling invitational

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School wrestling team ranked 10th place at the Mascoutah Invitational Tournament Dec. 16.

A-J finished 10th out of 27 teams and had six medalists.

Leading the way for A-J was Arie Hart in the 152-pound bracket with a second place finish.

Sixth place finishers for the Wildcats were Nick

Jimenez (285 pounds) and Nate Kisat (132 pounds).

Nick Harvel (195 pounds) finished in 7th place and Catie Mays (126 pounds) and Dylan Fox (138 pounds) each finished in 8th place.

A-J remained state ranked as an honorable mention squad for the second week in a row. Hart stayed in 9th place at 152 pounds and Jimenez is 11th ranked at 285 pounds.

Project will focus on impact of extreme climate change on communities

Climatologists from the Illinois State Water Survey, ISWS, in Champaign are partnering with the American Planning Association in a two-year project to assist five Illinois pilot communities in preparing for more frequent climate extremes using current weather and climate data.

The \$300,000 project, Incorporating Local Science to Help Communities Plan for Climate Extremes, is designed to better inform communities on how to use climate data in planning initiatives.

Those involved with the project said that they hope this knowledge helps to make communities more resilient to disasters, such as drought and flooding, and reduces the economic losses from these disasters.

Two of the five pilot communities in northeastern Illinois have been identified: the City of Berwyn and the Village of Richton Park.

Planners and climatologists will work with these cities to incorporate climate data into planning efforts and create guidelines that other communities can use.

Illinois state climatologist Jim Angel and Extension climatologist Molly Woloszyn will offer their expertise to the project.

They will provide technical and scientific information, and will co-chair a technical advisory committee.

Other organizations involved in the project include the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Consortium.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration sponsors the grant.

When the project is completed, free online resources will be provided for identifying trustworthy climate data sources and incorporating climate data when planning community initiatives.

The Midwestern Regional Climate Center is a cooperative program of the Illinois State Water Survey (Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois) and the National Climatic Data Center (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce).

GOOD FORTUNE

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Debby McKibben
Lisa Tomazzoli • Nancy Watkins
Debbie Lence • Laura Benson

www.southerngroup.net

Southern Real Estate Group

337 S. Main Street • Anna
833-1961

Good Cheer

BLUE FISH
New Owners
• Liquor & Cigars •

BEER/LIQUOR SPECIALS

Bud Light, Budweiser, Bud Select, Bud Select 55
24 Pk. Cans \$16.89

Miller Lite 12 Pk. Cans \$9.99

Captain Morgan 750ML \$15.89

Jack Daniel's 375ML \$12.49

Crystal Palace Vodka 750ML \$6.99

Mary Michelle Blueberry Wine \$6.99

Check out our great selection of champagne for your New Year's Eve celebration!

Verdi Spumante - Raspberry ... 750ML \$7.99

Prosecco Maschio Brut 750ML \$14.89

Open New Year's Eve 9 a.m. - 1 a.m.
Open New Year's Day 1 a.m. - 8 p.m.

FACEBOOK WITH US!
153 East Vienna St. • Anna, IL • 614-7251
STORE HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 A.M. to 11:00 P.M.
Fri. 8:30 A.M. to 1:00 A.M. • Sat. 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 A.M.
Sunday Noon to 10:00 P.M.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Stegle PLUMBING
618-833-0247
Anna, Illinois

Jeremy Stegle, Owner
Licensed & Insured • License # 058-193632
833-0247

As the old year winds down and the new year chimes in, we'd like to thank you for making 2016 a good memory. May the new year be the dawn of many good things to come.

T & I Office Equipment
Anna • 833-8004

Thinking Of You At Year's End

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunrise Preschool & Child Care
1000 N. Main • Anna
833-5031

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Stegle PLUMBING
618-833-0247
Anna, Illinois

Jeremy Stegle, Owner
Licensed & Insured • License # 058-193632
833-0247

Celebrate the NEW YEAR

AUTO • HOME • LIFE

Mary Gorst
125 Leigh Ave., Ste. B • Anna, IL
MGorst@ShelterInsurance.com
ShelterInsurance.com/MGorst
618-833-7674

News from

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna

Christmas Eve worship at both Mt. Moriah and Salem Lutheran Churches focused on scripture readings of Jesus' promised coming and the wonder of his birth.

The sanctuary was made beautiful with lights, greens and poinsettias. Worship was enhanced by carols, candlelight and communion.

Finally, the baby Jesus figure was placed in the familiar manger scene.

On Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25, one service was held at Salem in Jonesboro.

Pastor Mark told listeners that it is not so much the manger story itself, as it is the story's meaning. He said, "Christ came to call people back to their creator." He compared the "dark" days in Bible times to the chaotic world of today, and said that "No

matter how 'dark' the world is, the light of God's glory through Christ continues to call us, and cannot be overcome by any darkness."

Prayers were offered for those in need of healing: Glenna Tripp, Daniel Sedden, Ann Shaw, Jack Johnson, Shirley Earnhart, Hadley Ashby, Linda Clark, Urs Becker, Todd Breiner, Pat Martin, Mort Wright, Joe Frick, Carolyn Frick, Elizabeth Corbit, Pam Wheaton, Shawn Knupp, Silas Jones, Linda Mayo, John Snyder, Dave Kirley, Jackie Roach and Andrea Palmer.

The Share and Care Tree is still accepting donated hats, gloves, scarves and/or socks for families in need.

Appreciation was voiced to those who have brought food items to help meet the needs of local families, and the appeal to help with this mission goes on.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

At the Dec. 25 morning worship service, music was led by Randy Wright and accompanied by Johnathon Cauble.

The reading and lighting of the Advent candle were done by Pastor Jamie and

Tiffany McBride.

The offertory was provided by Johnathon Cauble.

Heath Brooks, Darrell Mowell, Phil Ray, and Terry Wiseman Sr. served as ushers.

A special song, "Mary Did You Know?" was provided by Jessica Elkins.

The morning message "The Miracle of the Manger," was brought by Pastor McBride from John.

The message shared that "when it comes to the merits of remembering, anticipating and living life we must remember yesterday is past, tomorrow is the future, all we have is today.

"The greatest present is living in the present moment and the greatest act in the present is receiving the greatest present ever given Jesus Christ."

The service was closed with the song "Jesus Messiah," led by Randy Wright and prayer by Pastor McBride.

Birthdays: 27th Evan Parks, 30th Nick Shepard, Barb Williams, 31st Curt Lyerla.

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

News from

First Christian Church, Anna

"If We Were in Charge," with scripture from Luke, was the title of the sermon preached on Sunday, Dec. 25, by Senior Minister Dee Armes.

The message shared that "if we would have been in charge, we would not have chosen Mary and Joseph to be the parents of the son of God, we would not have chosen the time of Caesar Augustus, we would not have selected Bethlehem, we would not have selected a manger, we would have had a bigger celebration."

Birthdays: Michele Oliver and Daisy Urban, Dec. 26; Meagan Carver, Dec. 27.

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. A worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Union County Farm Bureau receives awards at state event

The Union County Farm Bureau was recognized for its achievements during the 102nd annual meeting of the Illinois Farm Bureau, which was held Dec. 3-7 in Chicago.

In Membership Category II, Union County received the following program awards:

Bronze: Ag Literacy Commodities and Marketing. Bronze: Health and Safety Local Affairs. Bronze: Communication and Promotion. Bronze: Member Relations.

County Farm Bureaus in Membership Category II are those with 1,451 to 2,050 members.

As part of its annual meeting, the Illinois Farm Bureau presented program and committee awards in recognition of outstanding county Farm Bureau volunteer efforts throughout the year.

The Union County Farm Bureau also received Silver recognition for participation in multi-county programs.

The Illinois Farm Bureau, IFB, is a member of the American Farm Bureau

Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a nonprofit, membership organization controlled by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB represents two out of three Illinois farmers.

Most Outstanding Project

District 18 director Kenton Thomas presented an award for Union County Farm Bureau's Most Outstanding Project to board president Mark Eddleman at the Illinois Farm Bureau's annual meeting in Chicago during the district caucus meeting.

Farm-to-Fork Expo was named as the Most Outstanding Project in the Communications program area in Membership Category II.

The program was held in collaboration with Jackson County Farm Bureau in August. The Expo was held at Alto Vineyards in Alto Pass, with several educational booths, consumer-focused material, and local food samples.

Farmers, volunteers and ag educators were on hand

to meet 80 consumers, fielding questions about safe growing practices, GMOs, conservation methods, pollinators and other topics.

The project was fully

funded by Illinois Farm Bureau's Farm Families Consumer Education Grant. Plans are underway for the second annual Farm-to-Fork Expo to be held in the summer of 2017.



Outstanding project

District 18 director Kenton Thomas, left, presented an award for Union County Farm Bureau's Most Outstanding Project to board president Mark Eddleman at the Illinois Farm Bureau's annual meeting in Chicago during the district caucus meeting. The Farm-to-Fork Expo, which was held in August, was named as the Most Outstanding Project in the Communications program area in Membership Category II. Photo provided.



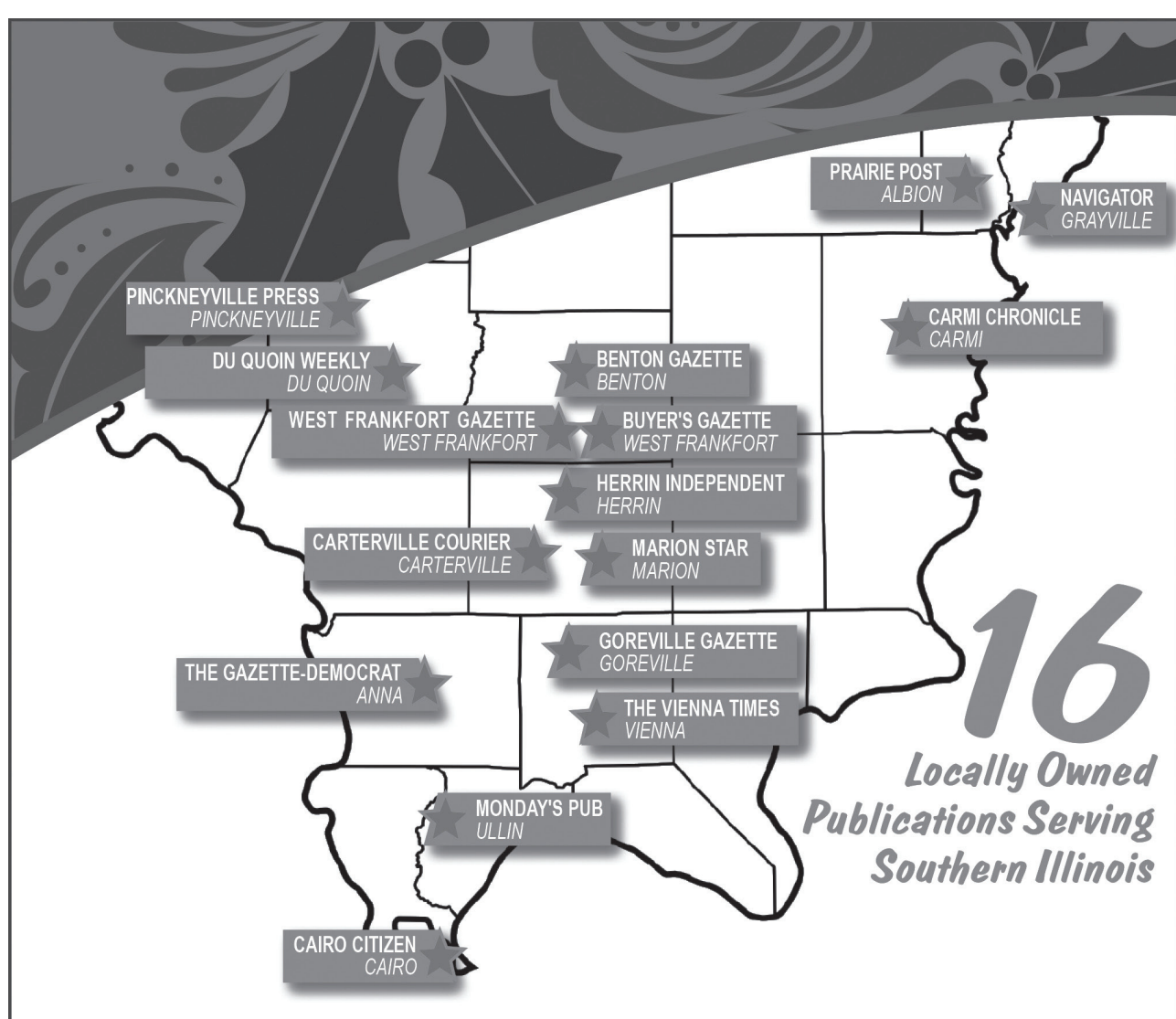
President recognized

Union County Farm Bureau president Mark Eddleman accepted a recognition plaque award which was presented to the bureau in recognition of its achievements during 2016. The award was presented during the Illinois Farm Bureau's annual meeting and called attention to the comprehensive nature of Farm Bureau programs. Photo provided.



County delegates

During the annual meeting Dec. 3-6, delegates from all over the state gathered to determine what position the Illinois Farm Bureau will take on critical issues in agriculture. In addition to setting policy, the delegates also made changes in the organization bylaws. Union County delegates were, from left, Jason Lingle, Mark Eddleman and Charlie Braden. Photo provided.



16

Locally Owned Publications Serving Southern Illinois

Weekly Circulation of over 90,000

Member:

Southern Illinois Editorial Association, Illinois Press Association and National Newspaper Association

Award Winning Newspapers



Our family of community newspapers wishes you and your family

A Happy New Year!

Thank you for trusting us as your local news source!

Whether you paint the town red this New Year's Eve, or spend some quality time with family and friends, we hope your holiday's a genuine masterpiece.

R & J Country Living
Ron & Janice Garner, Owners
Anna • 833-7418

With hope and gratitude in our hearts, we wish you a happy New Year and offer our thanks for your faithful support.

BEST WISHES
For A Happy New Year!

Member FDIC LENDER

THE FIRST STATE BANK OF DONGOLA
Old and Reliable, Established 1908
827-3541

HAPPY NEW YEAR Celebrate!

Happy New Year from all of us at

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

7420 U.S. Hwy. 51 South • P.O. Box 100 • Dongola, IL 62926
(800) 762-1400 or (618) 827-3555

HAPPY NEW YEAR TRIPLE MEATS

Custom Processing of Beef, Pork, Goat, Sheep
5565 St. Rt. 146 East • Anna, IL 62906
(618) 833-5986

The Gazette-Democrat

Classified Section

Phone: 618-833-2158 • Fax: 618-833-5813
E-mail: news@annanews.com

CLASSIFIED RATES

Classifieds 30¢ per word
\$6.00 minimum for each prepaid ad per week
\$3.00 additional if ad is charged
Bold Face 35¢ per word

AD DEADLINE IS 11:00 A.M. TUESDAY

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES

Per inch \$12.50

FOR SALE

AKC ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES:
Parents on site, daddy is a blue fawn, one year health guaranteed. Call (270)-335-3943 or (270)-994-3915.

FIBERGLASS FOR SALE:
Corrugated, 26" wide, 8/10/12 ft. long, 8 ft. equals \$6.50. 12 ft. equals \$10.00. Large supply, all colors. Call (618)-827-4737.

FOR SALE: Rat terrier pups, born November 22. 1 black male, 1 black female and 3 spotted females, wormed and 1st set of shots. \$65.00. Call (573)-275-2125. Jonesboro area.

FOR SALE: 1985 Chevrolet 1/2-ton pickup. 350 V-8, automatic, tilt, cruise, power windows & door locks. 2-wheel drive, fair tires. \$1,500 OBO. Some rust. Call (618)-231-0329 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
ADAM SCHROEDER, et al., Defendants.
Case No. 2016-CH-10

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause and pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c), the property hereinafter described will be sold to the highest bidder.

1. For information regarding the real estate, contact the undersigned attorney.

2. The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 940 Brown Section Road, Cobden, Illinois 62920.

3. The property is improved with a mobile home which is not included in the sale.

4. The real estate will not be open to inspection prior to sale.

5. The time and place of the sale will be January 11, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the front door of the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro, Illinois.

6. The real estate will be sold to the highest bidder with cash in hand.

7. Title will be conveyed subject to all delinquent real estate taxes, if any, and all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, and special assessments, if any, easements and restrictions of record.

Respectfully submitted,
Hanna & Volmert, LLC
By
Deborah J. Volmert,
#06216538
530 Fullerton Road,
Suite A
P.O. Box 464
Belleville, Illinois
62222-0464
(618) 277-7670
Attorneys for Citizens
Community Bank

52-2g

FOR RENT

NOTICE: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom, 1 bath, quiet country setting in Anna. Includes water, trash, oven, dishwasher, also, washer/dryer hook-up. Call (310)-489-9724.

FOR RENT: Homes, A-Frames and Mobile Homes For Rent in East Cape. Call (618)-661-1118.

HELP WANTED

GENERAL LABORERS:
Training Available.
Full-time with
Competitive Hourly Rate
and Benefits.

Pre-employment physical
and drug screen required.
Transportation to work
site required.

Apply in person at
333 N. Main Street,
Cape Girardeau,
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Monday-Friday,
online at:
www.olehickorypits.com

HELPWANTED: Immediate openings for full & part-time RNs/LPNs and CNAs. Apply in person at Cobden Rehab & Nursing, 430 S. Front Street, Cobden.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR:

Union County Housing Authority is seeking applicants for the position of Maintenance Supervisor.

This full-time position supervises all maintenance staff in the rehab and updating of Housing Authority apartments, buildings and infrastructure along with the development of rehabilitation and construction projects.

Minimum Qualifications:
High School Diploma or equivalent or a minimum of four years of experience in maintenance staff supervision is preferred.

Possession of a valid State of Illinois driver's license required.

Ability to be covered under the Housing Authority's vehicle insurance policy required.

The starting wage rate for this position will be determined based upon education and experience.

Applications may be obtained at the Union County Housing Authority Office at: 131 Hillside Terrace, Anna, IL 62906

or by emailing the Executive Director at kcarter@unioncountyha.org. A valid return email address is required.

The submission deadline is 2 p.m., January 11, 2017. Section 3 residents of the Housing Authority are encouraged to apply.

Union County Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED: Independent Living Services is hiring DSP's for evening, weekend and midnight shifts--full and part-time available. Prefer DSP certified, but will train. Apply in person at ILS, 170 Lick Creek Road, Anna, IL.

INSURANCE POSITION OPENING: Customer Service Representative. Insurance producer license preferred, not required. Full-time position. Please send resume to Taylor, Dodd & Wood Insurance, 521 E. Vienna Street, Anna, IL 62906.

WANTED

ALL MAINTENANCE & REMODELING: (Winter's Here)
Roofing, Carpentry, Ceramic Tile, Flooring, Painting, Siding, Pressure Washing, Tree Trimming & Removal, House & Window Cleaning, and Gutter Cleaning.
FREE ESTIMATES Cobden, IL. (618)-364-2870 "WE DO IT ALL"

WANTED TO BUY: Aluminum cans and other junk. Will pick up junk appliances. ALSO, APPLIANCES FOR SALE. Call (618)-833-3544.

BUSINESS

ANDERSON & SONS CONSTRUCTION: HOME REPAIR & REMODEL: Decks, Metal Roofs, Insulation, Painting, Room Additions. Get ready for Winter, we can winterize your home. Insured. Call (618)-202-9992. See us on Facebook at facebook.com/andersonandsonsconstruction

BOBCAT WORK - Trenching, Small Backhoe Work. Brush, Trash, Tree Clean-Up, etc. Insured, Reasonable Rates. Call (618)-614-3090.

COMPLETE GUTTER SERVICE: 5" & 6" SEAMLESS GUTTERS Gutter Guards 20 colors Clean & Repair old gutters "Best Bet - Hire a Vet" (618)-614-3090.

Duck Works Lawn Care LLC (618)-201-5712

Full Service Lawn Care:
Mowing, Landscaping
Cleaning Gutters,
Fall Clean Up,
Leaf removal,
Flower Bed Maintenance, Mulch,
Lawn Weed Control,
Bush Trimming,
Retaining Wall Construction,
Power Washing.
FREE ESTIMATE! duckworkslawncare@gmail.com www.duckworkslawncare.com (618)-201-5712 Serving Southern IL for over 15 years!

MILLER'S CONSTRUCTION:
Remodels, Repairs,
Doors, Windows & Siding, Decks,
Interior & Exterior Painting.
Fully Insured.
Jason Miller,
(618)-697-6373

PAINTING: Interior, Exterior. HOUSE WASHING, HOME MAINTENANCE & REPAIR. Insured. Call (618)-614-3090.

TREECE Backhoe & Hauling Skid Steer Trenching Gravel, Dirt & Sand (618)-833-6197 or (618)-697-0453

To Place Your Ad In The Gazette-Democrat Call (618) 833-2158

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

STATE BANK OF LINCOLN, an Illinois banking corporation, as assignee of First National Bank of Jonesboro, Plaintiff,

v.

LLOYD W. EDWARDS, JILL E. EDWARDS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. No.: 2016-CH-25

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Notice is given to defendants, JILL E. EDWARDS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following described real estate, that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now pending, and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said defendants is January 11, 2017.

The Plaintiff has certified that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on October 4, 2016, and is now pending.

(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.

(ii) The court in which said action was brought is identified above.

(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:

Lloyd W. Edwards and Jill E. Edwards

(iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

Lot Number Nine (9) in Lewis' Fourth (4th) Addition to the City of Anna, Illinois.

Situated in Union County, Illinois.

Tax Identification Number: 06-1-091-02 (14-00-09-478)

(v) Common address or location of mortgaged premises:

114 West Lewis Avenue, Anna, Illinois 62906

(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

(A) Nature of instrument: Mortgage.

(B) Date of mortgage: November 9, 1996.

(C) Name of mortgagors: Lloyd W. Edwards and Jill E. Edwards.

(D) Name of mortgagee: First National Bank of Jonesboro.

(E) Date and place of recording: November 12, 1996 in the Recorder's Office of Union County, Union County, Illinois.

(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 6443, Book 137, page 552.

Lorraine Moreland
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Timothy J. Rigby
Kristina B. Mucinkas
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com
kmucinkas@hswnet.com
52-2g

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANK, Plaintiff,
vs.
ADAM SCHROEDER, et al., Defendants. Case No. 2016-CH-10

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause and pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c), the property hereinafter described will be sold to the highest bidder.

1. For information regarding the real estate, contact the undersigned attorney.

2. The common address

and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 940 Brown Section Road, Cobden, Illinois 62920.

3. The legal description of the real estate is:

Parcel 1, Tract 1:

A parcel of land being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Quarter-Quarter Section; thence N 00°-57'-32" E, 672.42 feet along the West line of said Quarter-Quarter Section to an iron rod found; thence S 88°-56'-19" E, 410.41 feet to an iron rod set, this being the point of beginning; thence along new lines the following two (2) calls: thence N 01°-15'-16" E, 345.84 feet to an iron rod set; thence S 88°-55'-47" E, 251.92 feet to an iron rod set; thence S 01°-15'-16" W, 345.80 feet to an iron rod found; thence N 88°-56'-19" W, 251.92 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel to contain 2.00 acres, more or less. Said parcel being subject to all rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

(Legal descriptions for Tract 2 and Tract 3 easements prepared by Billy J. Abernathy, Illinois Land Surveyor No. 3536, of Shawnee Survey & Consulting, Inc., Vienna, IL.)

Parcel 2, Tract 1:

A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian; thence North 86°-07'-52" West along the North line of said Section 27 a distance of 665.80 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 4°-03'-11" West a distance of 672.31 feet; thence North 86°-08'-24" West a distance of 662.33 feet to the West line of the Northeast Quarter of the said Northwest Quarter; thence North 3°-45'-27" East along the said West line a distance of 672.42 feet to the Northwest corner of the said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence South 86°-07'-52" East along the North line of said Section 27 a distance of 665.80 feet to the point of beginning; the tract containing 10.25 acres, more or less, situated in Union County, Illinois. Per survey by Charles L. Garner, Illinois Land Surveyor No. 2316, dated April 20, 1982. Excepting however half of all oil and mineral rights, and being subject to a 20 feet wide easement across the Southeast corner of the herein described tract.

Parcel 2, Tract 2:

A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, all in Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Parcel 1, Tract 3:

A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Parcel 2, Tract 2:

A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, all in Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Parcel 1, Tract 3:

A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Parcel 1, Tract 3:

A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Said easement to contain 0.29 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

Parcel 2, Tract 3:
A perpetual, non-exclusive easement for roadway and all utilities, for the benefit of Tract 1 above described, being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, all in Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said easement being 10 feet each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence N 52°-48'-49" W, 81.21 feet to the intersection of the centerline of Brown Section Road and the centerline of an existing drive, this being the Southern terminus of said easement and the point of beginning; thence along the centerline of said existing drive the following six (6) calls: Thence along a curve to the left with chord bearing N 19°-11'-12" E 106.31 feet, a radius of 130.00 feet, and an arc length of 109.52 feet to a point; thence N 03°-36'-04" W, 96.08 feet to a point; thence N 13°-27'-19" E, 199.77 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the right with chord bearing N 39°-42'-37" E 172.28 feet, a radius of 230.00 feet, and an arc length of 176.59 feet to a point; thence N 61°-18'-33" E, 195.47 feet to a point; thence N 51°-43'-04" E, 1.70 feet to a point in the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, this being the Northern terminus of said easement. Said Easement to contain 0.35 acres, more or less. Said easement being subject to the existing right-of-way of Brown Section Road and all other rights-of-way and easements recorded or otherwise. All situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois.

(Legal descriptions for Tract 2 and Tract 3 easements prepared by Billy J. Abernathy, Illinois Land Surveyor No. 3536, of Shawnee Survey & Consulting, Inc., Vienna, IL.)
Excepting therefrom the following described tract:
A parcel of land being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 11 South, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Said parcel being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stone found at the Southwest corner of said Quarter-Quarter section; thence N 00°-57'-32" E, 672.42 feet along the West line of said Quarter-Quarter section to an iron rod found; thence S 88°-56'-19" E, 410.41 feet to an iron rod set, this being the point of beginning; thence along new lines the following two (2) calls: Thence N 01°-15'-16" E, 345.84 feet to an iron rod set; thence S 88°-55'-47" E, 251.92 feet to an iron rod set; thence S 01°-15'-16" W, 345.80 feet to an iron rod found; thence N 88°-56'-19" W, 251.92 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel to contain 2.00 acres, more or less. Said parcel being subject to all rights-of-way and easements, recorded or otherwise. Per plat of survey prepared by Billy J. Abernathy, Illinois Land Surveyor No. 3536, recorded June 9, 2006, in Record Book 277 at Page 118 in the Recorder's Office of Union County, Illinois.

The parcel numbers are: 07-27-05-591-B and 07-27-05-591-B1.
4. The property is improved with a mobile home which is not included in the sale.
5. The real estate will not be open to inspection prior to sale.
6. The time and place of the sale will be January 11, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the front door of the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro, Illinois.
7. The real estate will be sold to the highest bidder

with cash in hand.
8. Title will be conveyed subject to all delinquent real estate taxes, if any, and all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become due and payable, and special assessments, if any, easements and restrictions of record.

Respectfully submitted,
Hanna & Volmert, LLC
By Deborah J. Volmert,
#06216538
530 Fullerton Road,
Suite A
P.O. Box 464
Belleville, Illinois
62222-0464
(618) 277-7670
Attorneys for Citizens
Community Bank
52-2g

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

ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff, vs CHAD E. MOWERY, KATHRYN E. MOWERY, UNKNOWN OWNERS And NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. Case No.: 2016-CH-33

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Chad E. Mowery, Kathryn E. Mowery, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, by the said Plaintiff against you and other defendants to foreclose a certain Mortgage covering the following described premises, to-wit:

Lot Number Seven (7) in Rolling Hills Subdivision, pursuant to that certain plat filed for record at Book 7, page 43, in the Recorder's Office of Union County, Illinois, situated in Union County, Illinois.

TRACT II:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 29 AND PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 28, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. SAID PARCEL IS PART OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 122, PAGE 128 IN THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE NAME OF WILLIS L. BELCHER, MARIE E. BELCHER, JOHN W. BELCHER, AND SUSAN E. BELCHER, DATED JUNE 20, 1974. SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT AN IRON ROD SET AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE THE FOLLOWING TWO (2) CALLS; THENCE N 15°02'55" W, 559.87 FEET TO AN IRON ROD FOUND; THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT WITH CHORD BEARING N 15°31'41" W 43.35 FEET, A RADIUS OF 2764.82 FEET, AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 43.45 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET, THIS BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE ALONG NEW LINES THE FOLLOWING THREE (3) CALLS: THENCE N 88°45'48" W, 194.55 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 21°21'41" W, 152.32 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 32°12'46" W, 152.32 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 37°38'19" W, 36.82 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET AT

THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 11 IN ROLLING HILLS SUBDIVISION; THENCE 59°51'00", 226.94 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 11 TO AN IRON ROD SET IN SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE THE FOLLOWING TWO (2) CALLS: THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WITH CHORD BEARING S 25°04'31" E 41.50 FEET, A RADIUS OF 1809.86 FEET, AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 41.50 FEET TO AN IRON ROD FOUND; THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WITH CHORD BEARING S 20°10'52" E 405.37 FEET, A RADIUS OF 2764.82 FEET, AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 405.73 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID PARCEL TO CONTAIN 1.798 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PER SURVEY BY BILLY J. ABERNATHY, IL PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR NO. 3536, DATED 10/17/2005.

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

All in accordance with a Plat of Survey dated October 17, 2005 and recorded October 25, 2005 in Record Book 268, page 991, as Doc. No. 2787, and further indexed at Plat Book 11, page 327, made by Billy J. Abernathy-IL Professional Land Surveyor No. 3536, in the Union County Recorder's Office, situated in the County of Union and State of Illinois.

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

Now, therefore, unless you, the said Defendants Chad E. Mowery, Kathryn E. Mowery and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, file your answer to the Complaint in the suit, or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, in the County Courthouse in the City of Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before **January 15, 2017 (30 days after publication)**, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

Tiffany Busby
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER & FERRELL, L.L.C.
212 North Main Street
Capre Girardeau, MO 63701
Tel: (573)-335-3300
Fax: (573)-335-1978
52-2g

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF ORAN JACK LAMER, IN PROBATE DECEASED. NO. 2016-P-

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Oran Jack Lamer, of Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 15, 2016, to Kathy Ginther, 8113 Hwy 38, Caledonia, WI 62249, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois.

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

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

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

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before June 22, 2017, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois,

the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
Dated: December 15, 2016.

KATHY GINTHER

CAMERON LAW FIRM, LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
1-3g

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

IN RE THE MATTER OF: Keyera Jane Morse TO BE CHANGED TO: Keyera Jane Keck, A Minor. NO. 2016-MR-167

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME:

Notice is given to you, the public, that on Wednesday, December 21, 2016, Keyera Jane Morse, a minor, by Jennifer Jones, her mother and next friend, will request that this Court change her present name of Keyera Jane Morse to the name of Keyera Jane Keck. The hearing will take place on Wednesday, February 1, 2017, at 1 p.m. at the Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro, Illinois.

Keyera Morse, a minor, by Jennifer Jones, her mother, December 21, 2016
2-4gc

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

IN THE INTEREST OF: MEMPHIS MORSE, A Minor. NO. 2014-JA-3

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO 705 ILCS 405/3-18

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN FATHERS, and to ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

TAKE NOTICE that on Thursday, April 3, 2014, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Tyler R. Edmonds, Union County State's Attorney, by his Assistant State's Attorney, Heather Heaslett, in the Circuit Court of Union County entitled, "In the interest of MEMPHIS MORSE, a minor," and that in Judge Charles Cavanes' courtroom at Union County Courthouse, 309 West Market Street, Jonesboro, Illinois on Thursday, the 26th day of January, 2017, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a youth in care under that Act. The court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, (and if the petition prays for the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption) and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption of the minor.

NOW, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

Tiffany Busby
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Dated: December 21, 2016
2g

ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED NETWORK

New Year's Day Gun Auction January 1st 9:00am. 950 Firearms inc/ Colt, Win. S&W, Browning, Military, Antique to NIB. 2601 Lake Land Blvd. Mattoon, IL Bauer Auction Service, LLC. See complete sale bill & 6,000 photos at www.bauerauction.com

State of Illinois Surplus Property Online Auction Equipment, watches, boats, vehicles, knives, jewelry and much more iBid.illinois.gov

Diagnosed with Mesothelioma or Asbestos Lung Cancer? If so, you and your family may be entitled to a substantial financial award. We can help you get cash quick! Call 24/7: 844-577-2347

Support the advertisers in The Gazette-Democrat



SHOP LOCAL
and see the savings!

If You Celebrate: Drive Sober



Fellowship House offers travel safety tips for holiday season

During the observance of National Impaired Driving Prevention Month in December, the Fellowship House Prevention program offers travel safety tips for the holiday season.

Signs of Drunk Driving
Quick acceleration or deceleration. Tailgating. Weaving or zig-zagging across the road.

Driving anywhere other than on a road designated for vehicles. Almost striking an object, curb or vehicle.

Stopping without cause or erratic braking. Drifting in and out of traffic lanes.

Signaling that is inconsistent with driving actions. Slow response to traffic signals (such as a sudden stop or delayed start).

Straddling the center lane marker. Driving with headlights off at night.

Swerving. Driving slower than 10 mph below the speed limit. Turning abruptly or illegally. Driving into opposing traffic on the wrong side of the road.

What Do You Do If You See a Drunk Driver?

First, stay away from the other vehicle as possible.

Second, do not try to pass the vehicle or signal the driver to pull over. Doing so could result in a collision.

Third, take notice of the license plate number along

with the vehicle including make, model and color. Drivers are warned not to compromise their own safety trying to obtain this information.

Finally, pull over and call 911. Give the exact location of the vehicle, including the name of the road or cross streets and the direction the vehicle is traveling. Give a complete description of the vehicle and the manner in which the vehicle is being driven.

Tips to Prevent Someone from Driving Drunk

Be as non-confrontational as possible. Suggest alternate ways of getting to their destination.

Talk a bit more slowly and explain things more fully than if the person were a sober person.

Explain that you don't want them to drive because you care and you don't want them to hurt themselves or others.

Suggest that they sleep over. Enlist a friend to help or to act as moral support: it's more difficult to say no to two (or three or four) people than one.

If possible, get the person's keys. It is far easier to persuade the potential driver when holding this leverage.

If all else fails, call law enforcement. It's better to have a friend arrested than

injured or killed.

These tips come from <http://www.madd.org/drun-driving/how-you-can-help>.

Funding for the Fellowship House Prevention Program is provided in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), within the U.S. Department of Transportation, with the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration remind you to celebrate safely this holiday season. We stand with all those who have known the tragic consequences of drugged or drunk driving, and we rededicate ourselves to preventing it this December and throughout the year.

Authorities urge motorists to drive sober, buckled up

The Illinois Department of Transportation, IDOT, Illinois State Police, ISP, and local police throughout the state are teaming up to make sure driving sober and buckling up are a holiday tradition.

As part of the national Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, nearly 200 law enforcement agencies will be out in force across Illinois in an end-of-year push to drive down fatalities.

"The most important gift your friends and family want is you home safely," said Priscilla Tobias, director of IDOT's Office of Program Development.

"Driving zero fatalities to reality is an ambitious but achievable goal that requires the cooperation of every motorist on Illinois roads. Please, buckle up and drive sober this holiday season."

Enforcement will take place around the clock, but

heightened during the nighttime hours.

Motorists will see roadside safety checks, hundreds of seat belt-enforcement zones and extra patrols looking for impaired drivers and seat belt-law violators.

"DUI is one of the most preventable factors in holiday fatal traffic crashes," said ISP director Leo P. Schmitz.

"Throughout the holidays, the ISP will conduct extra patrols and roadside safety checks with an emphasis on removing impaired drivers. Help make this a better holiday for everyone by designating a driver before you celebrate. Remember, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over."

Crash data for the month of December from 2011 to 2015 show that fatalities occurring during late-night hours had a much higher percentage of impaired drivers.

The highest percentage

came between midnight and 3 a.m., when 64 percent of drivers in fatal crashes were at or above the legal limit.

December data also show the lowest use of seat belts by vehicle occupants killed in crashes occurred at night, with the 9 p.m.-to-11:50 p.m. time frame at just 24 percent of motorists properly restrained.

The holiday crackdown comes as traffic fatalities are up across the nation.

As of Dec. 19, 1,034 people had died this year on Illinois roads. A total of 998 people died in crashes in all of 2015.

The Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and Click It or Ticket programs are funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered by IDOT in Illinois, with the support of ISP and local law enforcement.

of illicit drugs during the past year.

Furthermore, rates of impaired driving differed dramatically by age.

While 11.8 percent of people aged 26 and older drove drunk, 19.5 percent of people aged 16 to 25 drove drunk.

And, 2.8 percent of the older group drove drugged, while 11.4 percent of younger drivers did so.

December seems particularly suited to this observation because traffic fatalities that involve impaired drivers increase significantly during the Christmas and New Year's holiday periods.

On average, 25 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes per day during December 2010.

Young adults are among those at greatest risk for driving impaired. During December 2010, drivers 21 to 34 years old were alcohol

impaired and involved in fatal crashes at a higher percentage than any other age group.

All 50 States and the District of Columbia enforce the minimum legal drinking age of 21 years. NHTSA asks minors to avoid alcohol, and encourages parents and other caregivers to make a new or renewed commitment to never cater a party to underage drinking.

If someone you know is drinking, do not let that person get behind the wheel. If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement. Your actions may save someone's life, and inaction could cost a life. Families play an essential part in stopping impaired driving. By talking about the risks and setting clear expectations, parents and other caregivers can help their children stay safe, sober, and focused on the road.

Please drive safely

Our Mission

We are committed to making your experience with our agency excellent. When visiting our agency, you will be greeted by our friendly receptionist and directed to the appropriate agent who will listen to your needs and then get to work finding the perfect coverage for you. But our service does not stop there.

If you have a question, a problem, or just need to talk to someone about your coverage, we are here to help.

Shawn McMahan

Agent specializing in Commercial Lines

and Rodney Henry

Agent specializing in Life and Health

at

Taylor, Dodd & Wood

INSURANCE

521 E. Vienna St.

Anna, IL 62906

618-833-4721



SO MUCH FOR
HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

IN DECEMBER 2015,
**DRUNK DRIVING
CRASHES RESULTED IN
840 DEATHS.**

SOURCE: NHTSA/DOT

Be Safe.
Buckle Up!
It's the Law.



Police Chief David Wilkins
Asst. Chief Brent Sims

Officers

Jeremy Raegan, Nathan Smith, Kyle McDaniel, Roy Walker, Tim Smith, Brad Watkins, Larry Clover, Josh Kelley, Shawn Knupp, Logan Miller

Jonesboro Police Dept.
City of Jonesboro 833-5174

and Don't Get Pulled Over

IN DECEMBER 2015, FATAL CRASHES INVOLVING DRUNK DRIVERS WERE ALMOST

4X

HIGHER AT NIGHT THAN DAY.

TUCK YOURSELF IN FOR A SAFE HOLIDAY. DON'T DRIVE DRUNK.

SOURCE: NHTSA, 2015

During holiday season...

State police encourage safe driving habits

The holidays will bring families and friends together for the final major celebrations of the year.

Christmas was celebrated last weekend. The start of a New Year will be celebrated this coming weekend.

The interim commander of Illinois State Police District 22/13 says that some people who celebrate the holiday seasons "will choose to make life-threatening driving decisions while behind the wheel." Union County is in District 22/13.

Lt. Michael Alvey stated in a news release that he "encourages everyone to enjoy the holidays, but to do so responsibly."

The state police noted that motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death among those ages 1 to 54 in the United States, and traffic crashes are largely preventable.

"If you are traveling during the holidays, please be accountable for your actions and do your part to prevent a traffic crash," Alvey stated.

"If you will be attending a holiday celebration where alcohol is involved, please make sure you use a designated driver or make necessary arrangements to ensure an intoxicated person does not get behind the wheel of the vehicle.

"Before you start your trip, make sure everyone in the vehicle is buckled up. It is estimated that the risk of fatal injuries is cut in half when seat belts are properly worn.

"Also, be sure to eliminate distractions. Taking your eyes off the road for any reason is not a good idea.

"Looking at a cell phone for five seconds at 55 miles per hour is comparable to driving blind for the length of a football field.

"Be sure to watch your speed. The faster you are going, the less time you have to react when trying to avoid a crash. Furthermore, the faster you are going, the greater the chance of a crash resulting in serious injury.

"While traveling this holiday season be alert and drive with care while on the roadways.

Obey the speed limit, use hands free electronic devices, don't drink and drive, and please slow down and move over when approaching emergency vehicles on the side of the roadway."

"Don't ruin anyone's festivities this holiday season. Be accountable for your actions behind the wheel and drive responsibly."

Mothers Against Drunk Driving note that:
Each day, people drive drunk more than 300,000 times, but only about 3,200 are arrested.
In 2013, 9.9 million people reported driving under the influence of illicit drugs during the past year.
Almost half of all drivers who were killed in crashes and tested positive for drugs also had alcohol in their system.
About one-third of all drivers arrested or convicted of drunk driving are repeat offenders.
More than 1.1 million drivers were arrested in 2014 for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics.

Presidential Proclamation National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, 2016

NATIONAL IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH, 2016 BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Driving drunk, drugged, or distracted poses a significant threat to drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and all who share our roads. During the holiday season, incidents of impaired driving occur more frequently, and every December, we observe National Impaired Driving Prevention Month to highlight steps we can take to improve safety on our streets and raise awareness of these preventable dangers.

Recently, the number of traffic crash fatalities caused by impaired driving has unfortunately increased -- last year, preventable alcohol-related driving fatalities accounted for nearly one-third of all traffic fatalities. Consumption of alcohol by drivers, even those who are of legal drinking age, is highly dangerous, and drug use, including prescription drug use, can also harm judgment, perception, and the motor skills used when driving. Distracted driving -- including eating, tending to passengers, and using a cell phone -- can also be dangerous and is equally preventable.

We can all do our part to keep our roads safe and prevent these tragedies. As passengers, we can reduce our interactions with drivers and lessen distractions. As friends and family members, we can look out for loved ones who may be drinking and help them get home safely. And as citizens, we can always call 911 to report any dangerous driving we observe.

My Administration has worked to help Americans who struggle with substance use disorders and substance misuse, which can lead to incidents of drunk or drugged driving. We are also striving to give law enforcement officers the resources and support they need to combat impaired driving, and we must encourage the development of technologies like ignition interlock devices, which can prevent impaired individuals from getting behind the wheel. Through the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, States and communities across our country are working to increase road patrols and sobriety checkpoints, in addition to raising awareness and improving education on the dangers of impaired driving. You can learn more about what we are doing to prevent impaired driving by visiting www.WhiteHouse.gov/OND/CP/DruggedDriving, www.NHTSA.gov/DriveSober, and www.Distracted.gov.

Whether encouraging parents to set a good example for their teen drivers or educating every driver on the dangers of unsafe driving, we must recommit to doing everything we can to prevent driving-related injuries and fatalities. This month, let us continue empowering drivers to make responsible decisions and educating the American people on ways they can help keep our roads safe and our futures bright.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim December 2016 as National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. I urge all Americans to make responsible decisions and take appropriate measures to prevent impaired driving.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.

BARACK OBAMA

STATE FARM
 State Farm Agent - Brad Donna
 102 W. Broad St. • Jonesboro
 833-6021
State Farm is there for life®
 State Farm™ Life Insurance Company Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

Please Don't Drink and Drive When You Celebrate

Phillips' Auto Wash
 164 E. Vienna St.
 Anna

WAL*MART 300 Leigh Dr.
 Anna
SUPERCENTER 833-8592

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank
 201 South Main • Anna, IL • 618-833-8506 • 512 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL • 618-833-2922
 151 Leigh Ave. • Anna, IL • 618-833-4546 • 1002 Public Square • Jonesboro • 618-833-4547

The Blue Boar Restaurant
 920 Kratzinger Hollow Rd.
 Cobden • (618) 833-7788
www.greatboarsoffire.com

Cardinal Corner
 409 Grand Tower Road, Grand Tower, IL
 618-565-1064

DQ Grill & Chill
 138 E. Vienna
 Anna
 833-2171

NAPA AUTO TIRE AND PARTS
 Anna 833-6272 Ullin 845-3838

BANKSMARTER. BANKCAPAHA.
 800-872-4944 CapahaBank.com CAPAHA BANK

Wright Bros. LLC d/b/a Rod's Towing
 24 Hour Roadside Service • Light and Heavy Duty Towing/Recovery
 "THE LEGACY CONTINUES" • Crystal Gurley, Owner
 2297 State Rt. 146 West
 Jonesboro • 833-5937

Cache River RV
 Ullin, Ill. • 618-845-3431
www.cacheriverchevrolet.com

A & G Automotive
 109 Transcraft Drive • Anna, IL
 (618) 833-8755

WIBH 1440 AM
 Listen to "Real Country"
 WIBH 1440 AM
 Anna

Cobden Auto Repair
 213 N. Appleknocker • Cobden, IL 62920
 893-2102

STATE BANK
 100 E. Vienna
 Anna, IL
 833-2151

Anna Tire & Auto Center
 Off Hwy. 51 • Anna, IL
 833-2122

PHASES
 109 S. Appleknocker
 Cobden
 Debbie Stroehlein
 Stylist-Owner
 893-4917

Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

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



Curt, Bessie and Elijah Ellis, Martha Ann Webb and Earl Miller enjoyed their annual Christmas dinner at Patty's in Grand Rivers, Ky.



Sherry Rix says thank you so much to Rick Reed and the Blue Knights of Illinois for the generous donation to The Haven and for their continued support of our veterans.



Terry and Billie Henderson hosted a Christmas Eve brunch Saturday morning. Attending the festivities were T.J., Tanette, Rage and Titan Henderson, Joe and Joyce Sullivan, Linda Cain, Jason, Amy and Ellie Penrod, Hannah and Mayci Hileman, John, Cathy, Eian, Easton and Arrianna Sullivan, Gene and Lisa Sullivan, Rusty, Rachel and Daisy Sullivan, Jake Sullivan and Kati McIntyre. Terry and Billie enjoyed a Christmas lunch at Billie's parents' home and later enjoyed a Christmas dinner at the home of their children and grandchildren. Pictured are Rage and Titan Henderson with their great-grandparents, Joe and Joyce Sullivan.

Happy New Year
Wishing everyone a very happy new year.

Wedding
Tanner and Halie Starling were married on Dec. 3.

Christmas Trip
Weldon and Judy Brown visited their son Bob's family for Christmas in Elgin.

Congratulations
Braden Rider graduated magna cum laude from Southeast Missouri State University.

Christmas
Johnny and Amie McLaughlin enjoyed a quiet Christmas at home. Then they went to John and Jamie Longmire's home and enjoyed even more Christmas.

Christmas Eve Supper
Darla Womick and Charles Althoff hosted a Christmas Eve dinner for their family members. They also visited Charles' mother

and sister, who flew from Indianapolis to their home in Cairo.

Christmas Trip
Curt, Bessie, Elijah Ellis, Earl Miller and Martha Ann Webb enjoyed their annual trip to Grand Rivers, Ky., to Patty's.

The Christmas lights were beautiful. They also shopped in Paducah on their way home.

Birthdays
Mia DeHarpert celebrated her 10th birthday with family and friends Dec. 12. Saydee Rose Ellis celebrated her 9th birthday with her family Dec. 21. Christmas Eve John Longmire celebrated his



The choir and children celebrated Jesus' birth at the United Methodist Church in Anna.



The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School chorus performed at the school's winter concert.



Anna-Jonesboro Community High School presented a winter band concert.



Christmas Eve with good ole friends from Texas, Anna, Cobden and Dongola at Bandana's BBQ in Carbondale: Barbara Hash, Nancy Ragain, Toni Livengood, Lou Curdie and Mary Light.

birthday.

Ninth Anniversary
Nathan and Dianne Smith celebrated their anniversary Christmas Eve.

Florida Trip
Bryon Kluesner enjoyed a trip to Florida to visit his family.

Red Hat Meeting
Thirty-two Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies met at Pizza Hut in Anna for their Christmas dinner.

Hostesses were Pat Fahlberg, Barbara McNeely and Joyce Bartruff.

Linda Clutts brought guests Natalie, Jodi and Kim her family members.

Mary Belle Morgan was honored for her 93rd December birthday.

The ladies enjoyed a gift exchange, singing Christmas songs and lots of good food.

United Methodist Church, Anna
At the Christmas Eve candlelight service, Barbara House led the singing. The Lord's Supper was taken. The Old Testament promise was read from Micah. Christmas carols were sung.

The Advent candles were lit by Rev. Carl Johnston. New Testament fulfillment was read from Luke.

Special music was a solo by Teri Goldsberry, Jesus, What a Wonderful Child. Music was also by Carla and Warren Anderson, Stuart Anderson, and Richard Johnson.

Rev. Carl's homily was it's all we have tonight, Jesus our Savior being born in a manger. Christmas thoughts and praises were shared.

The service ended with receiving and passing the light and singing Christmas songs.

Several guests attended. It was good to visit with Mike and Kathleen Isom of Robinson.

Christmas morning was the lighting of the Advent wreath by Angel Wiseman and Emily Belcher.

The ladies choir's special music was Rose of Bethlehem.

Rev. Carl Johnston's sermon was The Fullness of Time, with scripture from Galatians.

Rev. Carl told the children the meaning of the nativity set in the front of the church.

Barbara House led in the singing of Christmas songs. Prayers were said for those who are sick and have lost loved ones.

It was good to have Sarah Foster home for the Christmas holidays.

Jessica Anderson is home

from Brooklyn, N.Y. She and her mother Carla played a Christmas duet on the piano and for the church service. Jessica also played a special for the offering Sunday morning and the Christmas Eve service.

Jean Lamszus' grandson from Chicago visited with her, John and Elyse Lamszus and their son William.

Dr. Jerry and Jeni Goddard's son Matt and wife Anna from Asheville, N.C., visited with them.

Birthdays: Jan. 2 Rev. Carl Johnston, Troy Wiseman, 3 Guiola Moreland, 4 Mary Ada Parks, 5 Dale Johnson, Mason Musgrave, 6 Rev. Bill Minor, 8 Austin Wilde, 9 Melba Nork, 13 Denise Pippins, 15 Dr. Jerry Goddard, 16 Tyler Zachary, 17 Randy Hindman, 21 David Goldsberry, 28 Nick Nance, Jenna Watkins, 31 Andrew Crain, Al Dammann.

Wedding anniversary: Jan 24: Rev. Carl and Debbie Johnston.

Christmas Guests
Guests of Shirley West on Christmas Eve were 26 family members. Her daughter Lisa and son Brian, grandchildren and great-grandchildren attended Christmas Eve service with her at United Methodist Church in Anna.



Brenda Allen will celebrate her 54th birthday Jan. 1. She is pictured with her dog Roxie and a plant she received for Christmas.

Guests
Christmas guest of Ricky Borders and family was his mother Betsy from Kentucky. She attended the Christmas Eve service at United Methodist Church with them.

Shopping Trip
Bessie Mae and Elijah Glen Ellis and Martha Ann Webb enjoyed a Christmas shopping trip to Carbondale and eating out last Thursday.

Christmas Day
Christmas day guests of Betty Eagle were Valerie Murray, Josh, Layne and Matthew Murray and Jade Williams of Jonesboro and Robert, Emily, Ryan, Erin and Ethan Gaddis of Cartersville.

VFW
Thursday, today, barbeque and chips are served from noon until 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 31, there will be a steak dinner from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Stop by the Post and sign up if you plan to go. Peggy will be there starting at 7:30 p.m. with her Star Karaoke.

Lost Cat
Linda and Dennis Kall are still looking for their cat Sly. He is a large cat probably 16 pounds, orange and fluffy. He has green eyes and notches in his ears. Call 618-614-8470 or 618-697-6611 if you find Sly. Last seen at Kroger in Anna.

Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club
The Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club will meet Jan. 2 at 11:30 a.m. at (continued on next page)



HAPPY NEW YEAR

When the sun rises on the new year, may it bring peace and harmony for all with it.

Jonesboro Grade School

RING in the NEW YEAR!

Thank you for your loyal support this past year and we look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

DQ Grill & Chill

138 E. Vienna St. Anna, IL • 833-2171

Hope the coming year is filled with cause for celebration for our many good friends. Three cheers for your loyal support!

Bill Ballard
Attorney at Law and Staff
Anna
833-6432

HAPPY NEW YEAR

AUTO TIRE AND PARTS
THE PARTS PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1909

NAPA

88 Richview Dr. Anna, IL 62906 833-6272

101 Foster Ullin, IL 62992 (618) 845-3838

Wishing you the best of everything under the sun in 2017! Thank you for your patronage.

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER
Rt. 146 & 51 Anna, IL 833-8592

Jerry, Mary Ellen Meyer to celebrate 60th wedding anniversary in January

Jerry and Mary Ellen Meyer plan to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 5, 2017. Jerry Meyer, the son of Carl and Betty Meyer, wed Mary Ellen Seagraves, the daughter of Mike and Beradine Reiter, on Jan. 5, 1957, at the First Baptist Church in Bloomington.

Arline Pippen was maid of honor. Carol "Sonny" Meyer was best man. The couple lived in Normal until 1973, when they moved to Streator and then to Fort Atkinson, Wis., where they lived until the late 2000s, before moving to Anna, where they currently reside.

Their children include Mike and Julie Robinson of Normal, Carl and Theresa Meyer of Arlington, Tenn., David Meyer, Fort Atkinson, Wis., Jerald Meyer II (deceased), Tim and Dana Meyer of Oshkosh, Wis. and Kate and Tim Smillie of Fort Atkinson, Wis.

The couple has 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren with another on the way.

Jerry is retired from the Fort Atkinson School District.

The couple are active members of Harvest Church in Anna.

They are active helping with Awana and the

free meals that the church serves on Thursdays. They also help on many special projects and have both gone on many mission trips.

Mary Ellen is an avid reader. Jerry makes scale-size replicas of barns and doll houses.

Reppert Financial chartered

Reppert Financial has been recognized by the State of Illinois as a division of Reppert Leasing Corporation.

The company specializes in assisting individuals with personal injury and workers compensation claims.

Reppert Leasing Inc. is a well established business with more than 20 years of experience in commercial and municipal leasing.

Company president Jerry L. Reppert said: "it is a natural extension of service to the Southern Illinois and Southeast Missouri residents."

Anna News

(Continued from previous page)

Anna Pizza Hut.

The theme will be education with the program by Lillian Milam. Devotion by Barbara Bauer. Current events by Debbie Rossberg.

The ladies were saddened to hear of the passing of Mary Ida Jari Jackson, who served as past vice president for the Federated Woman's Club of Marion and the Southern Illinois District 25 Women's Clubs.

She was also a member of the Southern Illinois Writers Guild, the Marion Cultural and Civic Center Foundation Board, Suzanne Stuckey Mission Circle, Deborah Circle of Zion Church and Marion First Baptist Church.

Get Well List

Phillip Dillow, Rev. Ray Long, Ashlin Tweedy, a little boy named Dakota, Wayne Skoglund, Jon Pengress, Jack Lewellyn, Roger and Lana Kay Glasco, Billy Hutcheson, George Griffin, Anna Ferneti, Jackson Boyd, Turner family, Sara Russell Mann, Terry Jackson, Betty

Tutt, Connie Wills, Sheila Whittington, Sondra Bradford, Carrie Gibson, Elizabeth Corbit, Robert Andrews.

Military Prayer List

David Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C J Youngerman, Freddy Morse, Reagan Morrison,

Josh Steveson, Josh Williams, Lukas W. Davis, Faith Odom, Tommy Goff and family Janette, Jamison and Kaylynn, Creighton Laster, Brandon Eaker, Jim Bonner, Jacob Schaefer, Jerod Schaefer, Jennifer Ann Bishop, Robert Jr. McMeely, James McWhorter, Arin White-mountain.

Southeast names local fall dean's list students

Students from the Union County area have been named to the fall semester dean's list at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

Students who achieved the dean's list are named below by their hometown:

Anna: Matthew Meller, Dalaney Plott, William Rider.

Cobden: Austin Flamm, Andrew Walling, Bradley Windings.

Dongola: Janna Harner,

Autumn Smith, Miranda Hartline.

McClure: April Kutak.

Wolf Lake: Ashley Ballance.

Students named to the dean's list earned at least a 3.75 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, completed at least 12 hours of standard graded credit, achieved no grade below a B and received no failing grades in enrolled courses, including credit/no credit or pass/fail courses.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

J.W. Reynolds Monument Co.
The Company You Have Heard About All Your Life
Anna • 517 E. Vienna St., Ste. A
(618) 833-6014

New Year's Greetings

SES
Southern Environmental Services

2165 Boyd Road
Anna, IL
(618) 833-PUMP (7867)

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Celebrate!

WISHING YOU A TOP-NOTCH YEAR

P. PLOTT CONSTRUCTION
CHRIS PLOTT
(618) 697-2231 (CELL)
(618) 833-4195 (FAX)
csplott@hotmail.com

WITH BEST WISHES!



Historic St. Anne's Church in Anna

One of the reasons we are glad to be a part of the Union County community.

The Gazette-Democrat

The Talk and Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

P.O. Box 529, 112 Lafayette Street, Anna, Illinois 62906

Phone: 618-833-2158

Fax: 618-833-5813

email: news@annanews.com

annanews.com

facebook.com/gazettedemocrat

twitter@gazettedemocrat



Tree line coated in frozen frost

Fog froze on trees early on Wednesday morning, Dec. 21, which was the first day of winter. As the temperature warmed during the morning, some of the frost melted. Some of the frost remained on trees which could be seen from new U.S. Route 51 north of Anna. From a distance, the trees almost looked like a distant mountain range.

Illinois Executive Mansion set to close for renovations

The Governor's Office announced in October that the Illinois Executive Mansion in Springfield is scheduled to close to the public in January 2017 for renovations.

"The People's House will undergo an extensive transformation over the next year," First Lady Diana Rauner said in a news release.

"In order to properly preserve the building as quickly and efficiently as possible, we will close the building to the public during the renovations.

"When it reopens, the Illinois Executive Mansion will feature art exhibits that showcase Illinois artists and an educational visitor's center for school groups, along with some much needed updating."

While the building will be closed for tours, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency planned to start a walking tour of the grounds surrounding the Illinois Executive Mansion to explain the renovation and keep visitors updated on the progress.

The walking tour will also explore the historic neighborhood surrounding the mansion and discuss how it has changed over time.

"The Executive Mansion was neglected for years and left in disrepair. The renovations will restore the building to ensure our future generations can enjoy and learn from its rich history," Gov. Bruce Rauner said.

"Anyone who has done home renovations knows it's never easy, but by doing a short-term closure, we hope to minimize disruption to the public for the long term."

Rauner, the First Lady and their dog, Stella, will move out of the mansion during the renovation. They will move to the agriculture director's house on the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

"Carol and I are pleased to welcome the Rauners to the neighborhood," said agriculture director Raymond Poe.

"The state fairgrounds are utilized 365 days a year to host everything from horse shows to holiday markets. This move will allow the governor and his family the opportunity to meet and mingle with the men and women directly involved in Illinois agriculture. It is our sincere hope that the governor and his family enjoy their time on the state fairgrounds."

The renovation is expected to be completed in the

spring of 2018, with tours resuming to coincide with the Illinois Bicentennial.

The renovation project is being completed without any taxpayer funds, the governor's office noted.

Mansion History

Illinois' governors have called Springfield home since 1839, when the capital was moved from Vandalia to Springfield, and the General Assembly passed legislation requiring the governor to "reside at the seat of Government" during his term. The state provided the governor with housing, originally housing the first family in a state-owned building that also housed the Board of Public Works.

In 1855, newly elected Gov. Joel A. Matteson asked the legislature to build a new executive residence large enough to host his family and state events.

The General Assembly granted the governor's request, appropriating \$18,000 and hiring architect John M. Van Osdel, who had also designed Chicago's City Hall and the Cook County Courthouse.

Van Osdel designed the mansion to complement the Greco-Roman style of other government buildings. Despite the European influence, the mansion was distinctly Springfield due to the use of locally sourced red pressed brick for the exterior.

Matteson became the first governor to live in the home on Jan. 10, 1856. In 1871, Gov. Oglesby signed legislation that made use of the mansion part of the governor's compensation during his term.

The Executive Mansion became the center of the Springfield social scene, hosting weddings and holiday parties, and a variety of key figures in American history and culture, including President Ulysses S. Grant, President Rutherford B. Hayes, Gen. William Sherman, President Lincoln's son Robert, President William McKinley, President Herbert Hoover, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "Buffalo Bill" Cody and Annie Oakley.

Shortly before his nomination as the Republican candidate for president in 1860, Abraham Lincoln came to the mansion to visit and offer comfort to Gov. William H. Bissell, who was on his deathbed.

While the General Assembly appropriated funds for repairs, refurbishments and maintenance approximately every two years, by

1889 the building needed substantial updates.

Gov. Joseph Fifer approved a lump sum of \$13,500 and Springfield architect George Helmle oversaw the remodel of the Executive Mansion in the popular Victorian style, which included painting the exterior red brick a "light stone color" in an effort to emulate the White House.

Helmle was brought back to remodel the mansion in 1897, this time adding a portico to the front entrance and enclosing the cupola at the mansion's peak.

The next major renovation was completed in 1917, transitioning the mansion from the Victorian style to an Italianate style. In a break from previous practice, Gov. Lowden and his wife split the \$50,000 cost with the state.

Efforts to maintain the mansion struggled to keep up with time and weather. In 1961 a fire in New York State's executive residence launched intense scrutiny of the condition of Illinois' Executive Mansion. It was found to be severely lacking; the roof leaked and many of the floors were in danger of collapsing, leading the Chicago Sun-Times to call the mansion "a hazard, as well as a horror."

In response to public criticism, in 1961 the Illinois House of Representatives introduced a bill to build a new Executive Residence.

Preservationists across the state, including some former governors and first ladies, strongly objected, advocating for the restoration and protection of the mansion as an historic site.

The funds for such a restoration, however, were not readily available. Gov. Kerner vetoed a 1965 bill appropriating \$900,000 for mansion repairs due to a lack of funds.

In response to continued debate over whether the mansion should be renovated or rebuilt entirely, Gov. Ogilvie created the Illinois Executive Mansion Commission to study the feasibility and cost of renovations.

The commission's recommended renovations in-

cluded expanding the east and west wings to house administrative offices. Gov. Ogilvie and his wife, Dorothy, opposed this plan, arguing that it would ruin the historical appearance of the building. Instead, the Ogilvies charged James T. Hickey and Lowell Anderson of the Illinois State Historical Library with overseeing a \$3 million effort to restore the mansion to focus on features from the original 1855 construction.

The renovations, starting in 1971, included an addition to the south half of the mansion, to create private living quarters for the governor, while preserving as much of the original floor plan as possible.

The Ogilvies' efforts to preserve and protect the mansion came to fruition in 1976 when the mansion was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The renovation focused not only on restoring the mansion's architecture, but also its interiors by redecorating the mansion with antique period pieces.

In order to minimize the cost to taxpayers, the non-profit Illinois Executive Mansion Association was created to maintain and furnish the mansion using privately raised funds. Since the association's creation, Illinois' First Lady has served as honorary chairwoman, spearheading fundraising efforts.

Since the 1971 restoration, the Executive Mansion has once again fallen into disrepair, plagued by neglect and the financial crises of the state.

Gov. Bruce Rauner and First Lady Diana Rauner said they are committed to restoring the Executive Mansion, aiming to "make it the finest executive mansion in the country," using private funds.

"I want this to be a place of pride," Gov. Rauner said. "This belongs to the people of the state, and it should be taken care of."

(Note: the timeline for the events related to the Executive Mansion were posted on the website for the governor's office.)

Halter plans to retire from real estate business



William 'Bill' Halter/ photo provided

Steve Landreth, managing broker for Classic Properties Farm & Home Realtors, announces the retirement of William "Bill" Halter of Anna as of Dec. 31.

Halter began his real estate career in 1984 and successfully completed hundreds of transactions during

his time as a real estate professional.

During this time, Halter was an agent/broker for Union County Realty and Classic Properties Farm & Home Realtors, both of Anna.

Landreth said that Halter enjoyed a wide following of friends and clients in the Union County and surrounding areas.

"Bill has been a valuable addition to the sales team and his efforts and skills will be missed," Landreth said in a news release.

"He has been a real team player and I am truly grateful for all he has done. I ask that everyone who knows Bill wish him well in his retirement."

News from

Walnut Grove Church

The traditional candle lighting service at Walnut Grove United Methodist Church was held on Dec. 25, Christmas Day, this year, instead of Christmas Eve.

Loren and Keith Herold read the Advent liturgy and lit the five candles representing hope, peace, joy, love and Christ. Walnut Grove was joined by members of the Jonesboro United Methodist Church, as well as many family members. Brian Thompson played "O Little Town of Bethlehem" on the piano.

On Sunday, New Year's Day, there will be a combined worship service with both churches at the Jonesboro church at 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Robert Fear talked about scripture from Luke and "what it's like to bring a child into your home. Christmas represents the

birth of the child named Jesus who was born to Mary and Joseph, and who gave up his life for our everlasting salvation."

Prayers were requested for Barb Norton and her daughter's family, the Maurers; and for Doug Brown.

David Lamer passed out the church's traditional bags of treats for everyone.

Sunday services start at 9:30 a.m. at 3195 Mountain Glen Rd. near Cobden and near Route 127.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

In the Sunday morning service, Pastor Sinks' sermon was titled "Unlikely Messengers," with scripture from Luke.

The church wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

With Gratitude And Warm Wishes At The New Year

The Village of Dongola

IT'S ALWAYS OUR PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU!

SOUTHERN FS INC.

307 E. Davie Street
Anna, IL • 833-6916

DONGOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016

RECEIPTS:	
Real Estate Taxes	\$31,396
Donations	\$2,009
State Grants	\$1,470
Fines and Fees	\$300
Non-Resident Fees	\$80
E-Rate	\$2,330
Bank Interest	\$31
Miscellaneous/Other Income	\$281
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$37,869
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Salaries Under \$25,000	Alison Holderfield Katherine Rider
TOTAL SALARIES	\$16,152
EXPENSES:	
Library Materials	\$4,064
Library Supplies	\$600
Maintenance Expenses	\$1,263
Memberships/Dues	\$912
Miscellaneous	\$640
Postage	\$106
Utilities	\$3,756
Internet	\$2,100
Accounting	\$825
Insurance	\$1,762
U.S. Treasury	\$3,213
IDR	\$672
IDES	\$89
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$36,154

No Disbursements to vendors over \$2,500

Prepared and Certified by:

Carol Reeves
Carol Reeves, Treasurer
Dongola Public Library District

Subscribed and sworn to me this 22 day of December, A.D. 2016

Jamie Peterson Notary Public

RODS - REELS - TACKLE - FISHING BOATS - RESORTS

THE SHOW FOR FISHERMEN!

FRIDAY, JAN. 6, NOON - 8PM
SATURDAY, JAN. 7, 9AM - 7PM
SUNDAY, JAN. 8, 10AM - 4PM

ADULTS - \$7 Each Day
SENIORS AGE 60+ - \$5 ON FRIDAY ONLY
Ages 6-15 - \$3.50 Each Day
Ages 5 & Under FREE
Parking is FREE each day!
Gateway Center in Collinsville, IL

www.letsgoshow.com For More Info: 800-289-2388 or letsgoshow.com

ILLINOIS AUCTION CALENDAR

"Your Source for Local Auctions"

GET IT ON Google play

Or visit us online at:
www.IllinoisAuctionCalendar.com
www.facebook.com/AuctionCalendar

HAPPY NEW YEAR

From the moment we first opened our doors, we've had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful friends and neighbors. Wishing You and Yours a Very Happy New Year!

ASB Anna STATE BANK

100 E. Vienna St.
Anna, Illinois 62906
(618) 833-2151
www.annastate.com

Member FDIC EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

A look back at 2016...



Winter flood – January

People throughout the region coped with winter flood conditions in late December 2015 and into January 2016. Water was up along the Clear Creek levee and over the Old Cape Road near Reynoldsville when this picture was taken in January.



Stories of Dr. Seuss come to life on stage – March

The Cat in the Hat, Horton and other whimsical characters created by author Dr. Seuss came to life during a musical which was presented at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. "Seussical" was presented Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 18-20, in the auditorium at the Union County school.



Many attend Union County Business Expo – April

Many people attended the 2016 Union County Business Expo. The event was held in April in the lower gymnasium at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. The expo showcased a wide range of Union County area businesses, organizations and resources.



National Day of Prayer – May

Community members gathered Thursday evening, May 5, in Anna to be a part of a National Day of Prayer service. The service was held at the band shell at the Anna City Park. The service was hosted by the City of Anna and was coordinated by the Union County Alliance of Churches. The service opened with prayer, a presentation of the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. The colors were presented by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 in Anna. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by local Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and 4-Hers. Community members gathered to pray for Union County's children, communities and the nation. Participants in the service included local government officials, law enforcement and emergency services personnel and school personnel. Colors were presented by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 in Anna.



Firefighter training held at Anna Park – July

Area firefighters gathered for a training session in July at the Anna City Park in Anna. The Anna Fire Department's new ladder truck was utilized in the training. Water used during the training was pumped out of the pond at the park. The water then was sprayed back into the pond.



Helicopter landing training program held – June

Area firefighters and emergency services personnel attended a training program Monday evening, June 6, at the Cobden Community Park in Cobden. The training focused on ways to handle the landing of a helicopter during an emergency. The Cobden Fire Department hosted the training program. The training was presented by Air Evac Lifeteam program director Heather Morse. An estimated 30 to 40 people from the Cobden, Alto Pass, Anna, Dongola, Jonesboro and Makanda fire departments, the Union County Ambulance Service and the Union County Rescue Squad were among those who attended the event. An Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter and crew from Marion were on hand. Several emergency services personnel noted that training which brings together personnel from multiple agencies helps to promote a unified response to emergency situations.



Demolition derby action at Union County Fair – August

The second night of demolition derby action took place on Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Union County Fair in Anna. The evening was full of smashes, shredded tires and cars breaking the barriers. Another demolition derby was held Friday night, Aug. 26.



Alto Pass veterans memorial project – September

Major improvements were underway at the veterans monument in downtown Alto Pass. Members of the Alto Pass Area Veterans group were volunteering their time Saturday, Sept. 3, to do the work. The improvements included an expanded base, the installation of four flag poles for the display of U.S. and prisoner of war flags, lighting, and plaques focusing on the nation's wars. A veterans service was held at the monument on Saturday morning, Nov. 5.



Steam locomotive stops in Union County – October

Union Pacific steam locomotive No. 844 made a stop in Wolf Lake on Oct. 19. The locomotive stopped on the tracks at the State Forest Road crossing in the Union County community. More than 100 people came out to see the restored locomotive, which was on its way to Memphis, Tenn.



Veterans Day parade held in Anna – November

A Veterans Day parade was held Friday afternoon, Nov. 11, in Anna. The parade again was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of Anna. The main part of the parade route was through the downtown Anna area. Hundreds of people were on hand to watch the parade, which took place on a sunny and mild November afternoon. An honor guard from the Anna VFW post led the way in the parade. Many people applauded when the honor guard passed by.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, December 29, 2016

©2016 Reppert Publications

Section B

Barbershop choruses present holiday season programs in region

Barbershop choruses shared special holiday season presentations in the region.

Ambassadors of Harmony

Norm and Barb Bauer were in St. Louis recently to attend The Ambassadors of Harmony presentation of "A Christmas Remembered."

This "Sound of the Season" took place at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on the University of Missouri St. Louis campus.

The Ambassadors of Harmony chorus is made up of well over 100 barbershop singers from the greater St. Louis area.

The Ambassadors of Harmony chorus is led by professional directors and members are extremely dedicated to choreographing and perfecting their special a cappella harmony.

The 2016 event was extra special for the Southern Illinois residents who were in attendance, because one of their own was recently inducted into Ambassadors of Harmony.

Brian Black is from Carbondale and is a member of the Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus, as is Norm Bauer.

Brian Black recently went through rigorous auditioning and demanding rehearsals to earn his place on the stage of "A Christmas Remembered."

Traditionally the first part of the show has to do with entertaining secular Christmas music. This year the staging was as though the singers were "toys in the attic" remembering Christmases past.

The latter half of the program is based on the birth of Christ and faith-based traditions around the world. To experience this stage production is to feel as though you have been to Bethlehem.

Program notes state, "Every man in the Ambassadors of Harmony seeks to change the lives of the people for whom we sing through artistic and emotionally-driven performances."

The Bauers report that they surely were so moved.

Du Quoin Program

Music also was presented at a Christmas Celebration of Lights at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds in Du Quoin.



Little Egypt Chorus

The Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus sang at the Christmas Celebration of Lights at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds on Dec. 16. Union County participants in the front row are Norm Bauer, fourth, Neth Haas, fifth, and Gerry Boehne, seventh. The group invites men in Southern Illinois who like to sing to join them in rehearsals which are held on Tuesday evenings at the Carbondale Community High School. For more information email them at littleegyptchorus@yahoo.com or call Peter Gimse at 618-549-9389 or Norm Bauer at 833-3228. Photo provided.



Touch of Old Quartet

The Touch of Old Quartet of the Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus performed at the Du Quoin Christmas celebration. Quartet members are Steve Dinkens of Elkville, Gerry Boehne of Cobden, Jim Alvey of Ava and Lee Sanders of Carbondale. Photo provided.

New Year's closings noted

Illinois Secretary of State offices and driver services facilities open Monday to Friday are scheduled to be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, in observance of New Year's Day.

Facilities which are open Tuesday to Saturday are scheduled to be closed Saturday, Dec. 31, in observance of the holiday.

All office and facilities are scheduled to be open for business Tuesday, Jan. 3.



Christmas program

Norm Bauer of Anna was greeted by Brian Black a chorus cast member, following a presentation of the annual Christmas program of the Ambassadors of Harmony in St. Louis. Black is from Carbondale where he and Bauer sing with the Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus. Black played the part of a "local citizen" in a Bible times city as the story of the birth of Jesus was told and sung. Photo provided.

State picked for criminal justice reform project

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, ICJIA, executive director John Maki has announced Illinois' selection for participation in the National Criminal Justice Reform Project, NCJRP.

The NCJRP offers technical assistance to states in the planning and implementation of data-driven, evidence-based practices in the areas of pretrial reform, re-entry and offender recidivism, mental health and substance abuse, reducing incarceration and information sharing.

Selected by the National Criminal Justice Association Center for Justice Planning, NCJP, and the National Governors Association,

NGA Center, Illinois was one of just three states chosen for participation from more than 20 applicants across the country.

Through the project and with the assistance of an advisory board of national experts, the governor's office and ICJIA will lead teams of policymakers and key stakeholders on a strategic planning process for advancing reforms within the state's executive branch.

The process will enable the Illinois Executive Branch to address priorities, enhance decision-making, and achieve system-wide improvements in areas where governors can drive change.

Let the Countdown Begin.

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN
FUNERAL HOMES AND MONUMENTS
Anna • Jonesboro • Cobden • Alto Pass
(618) 833-2131 or (618) 833-8222

NEW YEAR'S Greetings

READY-MIX SOLUTIONS LLC
CARBONDALE, IL

**300 McKinley St.
Anna, IL • 833-7321**

New Year's GREETINGS From All Of Us

GUTHRIE CONSTRUCTION, INC.
(618) 833-7663

Happy New Year

Color It Happy!

Whether you paint the town red this New Year's Eve, or spend some quality time with family and friends, we hope your holiday's a genuine masterpiece.

Happy New Year and sincere thanks to all of our patrons.

Bright Wishes
AT THE NEW YEAR

FARMERS STATE BANK
Banking The Old Fashioned Way!
Alto Pass • 893-2464

Member FDIC

Celebrate!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Get ready to soar into an exciting new year!
Hope 2017 turns out to be a winner.

Cache River RV
Ullin, Ill. • 618-845-3431
www.cacheriverchevrolet.com

SAUTE TO A NEW YEAR

With heartfelt thanks to all of you who have brightened our year with your generosity and kindness.

Schaefer Enterprises

4535 State Route 3 N.
Wolf Lake • 833-5498
800-626-6046
www.sewlparts.com
parts@sewlparts.com

Lick Creek's annual Fall Fest, pedal tractor pull successful



Pedal tractor pull competitor
Luke Schlenker participated in the annual Lick Creek Fall Festival pedal tractor pull. The festival was held at Lick Creek Elementary School. Photo provided.

Lick Creek Elementary PTO hosted its annual Fall Festival and second annual pedal tractor pull on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Lick Creek Elementary PTO hosted its annual Fall Festival and second annual pedal tractor pull on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Organizers said that with the help of Dale and Dena Wood, the pedal tractor pull was a success.

Tractor pull winners included, by age categories: Ages 3-4: 1st, Remington

Parks; 2nd, Taylor Baker. Ages 5-6: 1st, Kaleb Stover; 2nd, Luke Schlenker.

Ages 7-8: 1st, Parker Benefield; 2nd, Jase Houshouser.

Ages 9-10: 1st, Clayton Smith; 2nd, Trevyn Cummins.

Ages 11-12: 1st, Kaylee Stover; 2nd, Timothy Plott.

A washers tournament was added this year. The winners were Josh Wright and Nick Wright.

Auctioneer Alex Belcher made the live pie auction a success once again.

The Fall Festival also included a bounce house, cow patty bingo and games.

The PTO hosted its annual basket raffles and the classes collected items for the baskets.

Mrs. Carter's pre-kindergarten class won a pizza party for collecting the most items for their basket.

The following students sold the most raffle tickets: 1st place, Luke Schlenker;

2nd place, Taylor Baker; and 3rd place, Molly Roach.

The silent auction boasted more than 200 items and more than 30 baked goods were auctioned, with the support of many donors.

The annual Fall Festival is the PTO's primary fundraiser.

Through the efforts of the Lick Creek family and the community, the Fall Festival helps PTO provide funding for reading nights, classroom supplies, field trips, technology and more.

The Lick Creek PTO is grateful for the community support and appreciate all who attended.

The PTO voiced appreciation to those who helped to support the event:

Lick Creek families and staff, pedal pull/washers participants, Massac Farm Bureau, U of I Extension Office, Anna Baking Co., Anna-Jonesboro National Bank.

Big Splash Adventure,

Broussard's, The Cake Lady-Joni Foster, Cape Air, Cape West Cine, Cardinals, Central Animal Inn, Chicago Bears, Chicago Cubs, Coad Dealership (Anna), 5 Star Car Wash, Coffman Martial Arts, Crain Funeral Homes.

Drury Hotels, El Jalapeno, Extreme Sports, From the Heart Flowers and Gifts, Giant City Lodge, Gurley & Son, Holiday World, IBEW Local 702, Isle Casino.

Kiki's Coffee Shop, Larry's House of Cakes, Lazy L Safari Park, Little Grassina Lake Campground, Magic House St. Louis,

Younique-Megan McClellan, Moreland Eye Care.

National Quilt Museum, Pepsi MidAmerica, Pirate Pete's, Pizza Hut, Real Fit, Redhawks Athletics Tickets Office, Rod's Towing, Rusty's Home Center.

Seafood Specialties, Shawnee Bluffs Zipline, Shawnee College, SI Bowl, Silkworm, SIU Athletics, Southern FS, Sunday Morning Creations, This & That Shop.

United Missionary Baptist Church, Union County Country Club, Venture River, Verizon, YaYa's Island and the many parents who donated items.

Shawnee College sponsors young writers competition

Shawnee Community College is hosting its annual young writers competition.

The competition is designed to encourage local high school students to submit their own nonfiction, fiction and poetry pieces for the chance to win monetary prizes.

The deadline to submit entries is Feb. 14, 2017.

The high school writing competition is divided into two divisions: the 9th/10th grades division and 11th/12th grades division.

Entry forms and writing contest guidelines are available online at <http://www.shawneec.edu/highschool-writingcontest.asp>.

Entry packets are to be directed to Dr. Ryan Thornberry, Shawnee Commu-

nity College, 8364 Shawnee College Rd., Ullin, Ill. 62992.

For more information, contact Dr. Ryan Thornberry at 618-634-3329 or ryant@shawneec.edu.

New Year's Greetings

Wright and Son Automotive
303 South Street • Anna, Illinois
618-833-2616
wrightandsonauto@yahoo.com

May your days be long,
but short on trouble,
May your health be strong
and your finances double,
May old friends abound
and new ones, too...

That's our New Year's wish for you!

Dycus, Bradley & Draves, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants
3401 Office Park Drive
Marion, IL
(618) 993-8724

Happy NEW YEAR Everyone!

Spanish Oaks Center

wishing you and yours a Happy New Year!

Kristie McAllister
Owner/Administrator
833-8013

The sponsors on this page urge you to attend the church of your choice.

BASLER EXCAVATING & TRUCKING
Demolition, Clearing,
Basements, Track Hoe Service
833-7831

Union County Abstract Office, Inc.
304 W. Market, Jonesboro
833-6521

We care about your total body health and wellness.

Ozborn Chiropractic Clinic, S.C.
Dr. Jason S. Ozborn
Chiropractic Physician
101 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-2179

FARMERS STATE BANK
55 N. Elm St. • Alto Pass, IL
(618) 893-2464
www.myfsb.com

from the heart

flowers and gifts
"For All Occasions"
202 Public Square
Jonesboro, IL
(618) 833-9222
www.fromtheheartflower.com

WHITNEY ACCOUNTING
(618) 833-2145
105 Transcraft Drive - Anna, IL

Anna Tire & Auto Center, Inc.
90 Richview Dr. • Anna, IL
833-2122

MIDWESTERN
MIDWESTERN PROPANE GAS CO.
Anna, IL
Mike Jones, Manager 833-6300

Don's Auto Body
Expert Repair
Insurance Work
511 E. Vienna • 833-3102

J.W. REYNOLDS MEMORIALS
We will not be undersold!
517 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL
(Across from old Bunny Bread Bakery)
(618) 833-6014 • www.nahsi.com
rwebb@nahsi.com • (618) 771-3861

Need a Tow? Call the Pro!
PRO 1 AUTO BODY
893-2252

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

WALK WITH GOD

Another New Year, another list of resolutions - exercise more, eat less, save money. Why not consider your spiritual fitness and walk with God? Worship regularly, spend time in prayer and fellowship - it's the best resolution. Spending time with God will fill your life with the peace and serenity that brings joy and prosperity. Have a healthy and faithful new year!

Daily Devotional Reading						
John	Luke	Titus	Titus	Titus	Revelation	Revelation
1:1-18	2:21-52	1:1-16	2:1-15	3:1-15	21:1-17	22:1-21

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

©2016, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kvnews.com

SOUTHERN FS
Bulk & Bag Feed
Pet & Horse Supplies • Home & Garden
307 E. Davie • Anna, IL 62906
Phone (618) 833-6916 • 833-6816
Fax (618) 833-5562

Mulberry Manor
Residential Services for Adults
with Developmental Disabilities
24-Hr. Licensed Nursing Facility
Individually Tailored Array of Services
(618) 833-6012

SAVE A LOT
Rt. 146 • Jonesboro, IL
Open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
833-1725

A & G Automotive
109 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
833-8755

RILEY'S APPLIANCE PARTS & SERVICE
Terry & Tina Riley • 833-9225
Anna, IL
Dishwashers • Refrigerators • Freezers • Washers
Dryers • Ranges • Microwaves • Disposals

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Community Integrated Living, Inc.
201 E. Chestnut St
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-2500
www.communityintegratedliving.com

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank
201 South Main • Anna, IL • 618-833-8506
512 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL • 618-833-2922
151 Leigh Ave. • Anna, IL • 618-833-4546
1002 Public Square • Jonesboro • 618-833-4547

Schaefers Enterprises
P.O. Box 136 • Wolf Lake, IL 62998
800-626-6046 • (618) 833-5498
www.sewlparts.com

Anna STATE BANK
P.O. Box 647
Anna, IL 62906

Wright Bros. LLC
d/b/a Rod's Towing
"The Legacy Continues"
Crystal Gurley, Owner
24 Hour Roadside Service
2271 Rt. 146 West • 833-5937

FITNESS FORUM
24 Hour Access
833-3234
Proud to be partnered with Silver Sneakers

COBDEN AUTO REPAIR
213 N. Appleknocker
Cobden, IL 62920
893-2102 BUSINESS HOURS
7:30-5:30 Mon. - Fri.

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Cache River RV
Ullin, Ill. • 618-845-3431
www.cacheriverchevrolet.com

Cardinal Corner
409 Grand Tower Road
Grand Tower, IL
618-565-1064
Your Hometown Store

Tyler R. Edmonds
Union County State's Attorney

JR Centre, Inc.
100 Florsheim Drive
P.O. Box 181 • Anna, IL
(618) 833-4956

STONE'S CONCRETE
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
(618) 893-1709

Walker Funeral Homes & Crematory
425 Main St. • Alto Pass, IL
(618) 893-2637

Pizza Hut
Dine-In • Carryout
Delivery
1835 E. Vienna St.
Anna, IL
(618) 833-2415
www.pizzahut.com

Southpass Beads & Fibers
Feed your crafting needs.
BEADS • YARN • SUPPLIES
Wed., Thurs., Fri. 12-6 • Sat. 10-5
southpassbeads.etsy.com • Find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/southpassbeads) • [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/southpassbeads) • [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/southpassbeads)
203 E. Ash St., Cobden, IL • (618) 893-6170

WALMART SUPERCENTER
300 Leigh Avenue • Anna IL 62906
(618) 833-8592

We're putting on the dog to say, hope your New Year is the cat's meow!

m VETERINARY SERVICE
Anna
833-7421
Vienna
658-4111

To support your community Church Page, contact Meta for more details at 1-800-293-4709.



Decorated door contest winner
River to River in Anna had a decorated door contest at the facility. Residents decorated their doors for Christmas. Officials from the corporate office came to judge the contest. The winner was Leota Loveless. Photo provided.

Tentative agreement reached in SIU talks

Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the SIUC Faculty Association (IEA/NEA), which represents approximately 500 tenured and tenure-track faculty on the SIU Carbondale campus, have reached a tentative agreement on a collective bargaining agreement that will be in place until June 30, 2018.

The tentative agreement was announced by the university on Dec. 15 in a news release.

The proposed new agreement will replace the collective bargaining agreement that expired on June 30, 2014.

The administration and faculty have been operating under the terms of the previous agreement since that time. Negotiations on the proposed new agreement began in May 2014.

Representatives of the administration and association said the agreement

was reached after collegial, respectful negotiations that focused on working to address the interests of both sides.

The new agreement will include improvements in a number of areas, including the following:

Revised procedures for development, review, and approval of program changes. Clarification in procedures for grievances, and for faculty promotion and tenure.

Revisions in procedures for faculty workload assignments. Clarification of faculty rights and responsibilities regarding the syllabi for university courses.

Definition of conditions under which furloughs can be implemented.

"Fair share" payments

by faculty if association membership tops 50 percent.

In recognition of the challenging fiscal environment, the tentative agreement includes no salary increases.

In the event the state produces a full fiscal-year budget for public universities, a "re-opener" clause gives the association the option to reopen negotiations with the administration to consider possible wage increases.

Negotiations continue between SIU Carbondale and Illinois Education Association unions representing non-tenure track faculty, graduate assistants and civil service employees.

The Faculty Association's membership voted

on Dec. 12 to approve the tentative agreement, which will go to the SIU Board of Trustees for final consideration and ratification.

The full text of the tentative agreement can be found online at <https://siucafa.wordpress.com/>.

Once ratified, the full text of the agreement will also be available at the following site: <http://labor-relations.siu.edu/index.php>.

Peace
Prosperity
Happiness
Success
Health
Wealth

All the best in
the New Year.

Phillips'
Auto Wash
164 E. Vienna St.
Anna

**Happy
New Year
To All
Of Our
Readers**

Wishing You Well

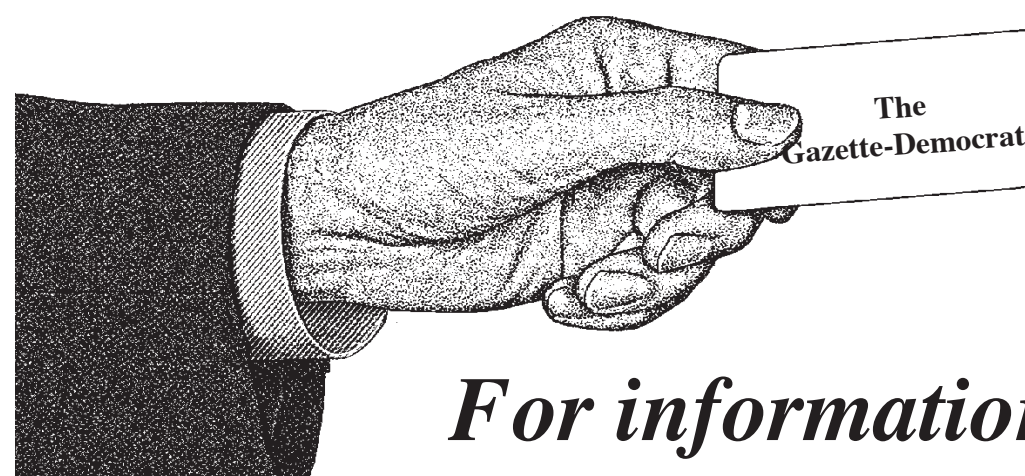
Jordo's
PIZZERIA

322 S. Main St. • Anna • 833-3674
www.jordospizzeria.com

**BEST
WISHES**

For A Happy New Year!

Cobden Auto Repair
213 N. Appleknocker
Cobden
893-2102



HERE'S MY CARD!

For information, call 833-2158

Stewart Appliance Repair
Roger L. Stewart
1155 E. Vienna St. • Box 163
Anna, Illinois 62906
Anna Phone (618) 697-7380
Vienna Phone (618) 771-7884

syngenta

M.W. Seed Solutions

Mark Willmann
Syngenta Seed Advisor
syngentaseeds.com Soybeans

GoldenHarvest
710 Sadler Road
Anna, IL 62906
Cell: 618-534-3157
mwseedsolutions@yahoo.com

JRS CENTRE SCREEN-PRINTING

We PRINT to please...
(618) 833-1883 ext. 24

pleasing our customers for the past 10 years!

t-shirts • sport bags
sweat-suit garments
team uniforms
school collectibles
sign products and more!

Call for information about YOUR project!

Southern FS Inc.

**Bulk & Bag Feed
Pet & Horse Supplies
Home & Garden**

307 E. Davie • Anna, IL 62906
Phone (618) 833-6916 • 833-6816
Fax (618) 833-5562

Bill Hartline
Sales Consultant

CHEVROLET BUICK Ford

Coad Chevrolet-Buick-Ford

2525 E. Vienna
Anna, IL 62906
coadchevy.com or coadford.com
billhartline@drivecoad.com

Office: (618) 833-2166
Cell: (618) 697-9044
Fax: (618) 833-3414
Fax: (618) 833-4741

FITNESS FORUM
GYM & FITNESS CENTER
ANNA, ILLINOIS
833-3234
www.fitnessforumGYM.com

Custom Processing and Retail Meats
Deer Processing October 1 through January 30

TRIPLE MEATS

Open:
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Jason Martin, Owner
5565 St. Rt. 146 East • Anna, IL 62906 • 833-5986

JRS CENTRE LAWN CARE SERVICES
(618) 833-4956

• Raking • Trimming • Mowing
Reasonable Rates • Free Estimates

Call between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. for further information.

GOREVILLE CONCRETE PRODUCTS INC.

P.O. Box 232 • Goreville, IL 62939
(618) 995-2670

NORWECO
NORWALK WASHINGTON EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Advertising pays...
Let us show you!
Call 833-2158

Dave's Heating, Cooling & Electric
24 Hour Service

Residential - Commercial
FREE Estimates - Licensed - Insured
2900 State Route 127 S. • Jonesboro, IL
(618) 833-6400
David Agne, Owner

GURLEY & SON
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Anna, IL 833-5211
Carbondale, IL 457-1922
Metropolis, IL 524-8511

Carlos Gurley **YORK** Bumper Gurley

ALEX N. BELCHER
Auctioneer & Real Estate Broker

JOE OLLIS
Real Estate & Auction LLC
www.ollisauction.com

Office: (618) 833-2227
Toll Free: (800) 272-9791
Fax: (618) 833-3377
Email: alex@ollisauction.com

400 New Hope Road
Buncombe, IL 62912

Phillips' Auto Wash

4 Hand Wash and 1 Automatic Bay
164 E. Vienna St. • Anna

Reynolds Service Co.
Mobile Home Transport

Terry Reynolds, Owner
2875 Rt. 146 West
Jonesboro, IL 62952
Phone: 618-833-2327
Fax: 618-833-5221
moveurhome50@yahoo.com

FULLY INSURED

More Letters to Santa

'Tis the season for Letters to Santa...

Last week's annual Christmas Greetings issue of The Gazette-Democrat featured Letters to Santa.

However, some of the letters were accidentally omitted from the paper.

When Santa learned that this had happened, he sent an email from the North Pole and asked that we still share the following letters from his young friends.

Santa said he hoped that everybody had a very Merry Christmas and wished everybody in the Union County area a Happy New Year.

**Shawnee
Mrs. Miller/
Mrs. Hammer
Pre-K**

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a chalk board, a play phone, and that's it.

Love, Tinley

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a motorcycle you ride without training wheels, and that's all.

Love, Westyn

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a tractor, combine, a red truck, and a purple truck.

Love, Reid

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a big truck with a flat bed, a trac Bob Cat, a bucket that goes with a Bob Cat, a Crane, a thing that hooks up to the Crane, and thats all.

Love, Izayah

Dear Santa,
I would like a scooter, roller skates with a helmet, ice skates with a helmet, movies for me to watch on t.v. in my room, Frozen dolls, a cooking play sets, a computer, a tool box with toys so I can build with my dad, a purple coat, a skateboard with a helmet and other toys.

Love, Carlie

Dear Santa,
I would like cowboy boots, snow boots, dinosaur toys, lights for Christmas, new crayons, new color pencils, a measuring tape, my own Christmas tree and thats all.

Love, Kenneth

Dear Santa,
I would like a train that goes around the Christmas tree, a Sophia puzzle, a computer like Lily has to play on, a turkey to eat, and that's all.

Love, Randi

Dear Santa,
I would like a toy bear, a toy telephone, a toy ball, and a t.v. to watch something on.

Love, Ariah

Dear Santa,
I would like a dirt bike with no training wheels, a new blue jacket, a bike with no training wheels, a train hauling a trailer with a truck and four wheeler, little hot wheel cars, and brick blocks. I want Gracelynn to have a dirt bike too. I also want a shirt with short sleeves, a blue bear, strawberries, and letters.

Love, Easton

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Doc McStuffins to check on my dinosaurs, an ATSD Lego's from Star Wars, and a Remote Control Monkey

Love, Cohen

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a brand new Yamaha four wheeler, a new light up high top shoes, a new movie called Transformers, a brand new bicycle and thats all.

Love, Kashton

Dear Santa,
Please bring me Tonka trucks, matchbox cars, lego's, and thats all.

Love, Rusty

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a choo choo train that is pulled by reindeer, a sled pulled by reindeer, a Christmas tree with Santa on it, and thats all.

Love, Clayton

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a toy race car, a toy helicopter, a turkey book, a wrestling book, a remote control car, a remote control truck, a Christmas book, and a snowman book.

Love, Chase T.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a rain bucket, candy, and thats all.

Love, Camden

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a big present and fish to eat.

Love, Christopher

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a big bike, a present and big toys.

Love, Evan

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a real Christmas tree for daddy, toy Christmas stuff, a little Christmas tree, a t.v. for me to watch at daddy's, a real tractor for my daddy to take me for rides, and thats all. P.S. Also a watch with a new battery my Froggy watch battery died.

Love, Cain

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a doggy with a bottle, a skateboard,

a zebra, a necklace, and that's all.

Love, Tally

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a green Paw Patroler and a cop car.

Love, Chase C.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Snow Cone machine, some race cars, big lego's (I have little ones my dog chews up).

Love, Bentley P.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a radio because it is my favorite thing to do is listening to music, two gloves with Elsa and Ana on it, an Elsa and Ana plate, a doll, Elsa and Ana doll, Elsa and Ana books, and new markers.

Love, Ellie M.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a stuffed pony, a gingerbread man stuffed animal, and that's all.

Love, Teliyah

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Baby Alive, a tablet, a Minnie Mouse toy and that's it.

Love, Tyliyah

Dear Santa,
Please bring me Stinky the Garbage Truck, a Drone, a car that turns into an airplane, and that's all.

Love, River

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a bike you ride on, a toy pillow to pad the seat, a real pillow to sit on, paint easel with paint, a toy bear, and thats it.

Love, Ryder

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a big present and fish to eat.

Love, Christopher

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a big bike, a present and big toys.

Love, Evan

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a real Christmas tree for daddy, toy Christmas stuff, a little Christmas tree, a t.v. for me to watch at daddy's, a real tractor for my daddy to take me for rides, and thats all. P.S. Also a watch with a new battery my Froggy watch battery died.

Love, Cain

Mondianna Unit Christmas party held at Heritage House luncheon

The Mondiana Unit of the Union County Home and Community Education Association had a Christmas party at a Heritage House luncheon in Jonesboro. Photos provided.



Seated in the dining room were Eunice Chilman, Judy Smith, Barbara Pitts, Nancy Lyerla, Pat Fahlerberg and Suzie Kessler.



Mondianna members at this Heritage House luncheon table were Sylvia Maske, Lois Benson and Alice Wendling.



Mondianna members seated near the Christmas tree and a Christmas village included Betty Bland, Charlene Potts, Brenda Garver and Ruby Hunter.



Mondianna members Barbara Bauer and Suzie Kessler admired a Christmas carol quilt exhibit. Barbara Bauer, who is a Heritage House hostess, pointed out special features of the Barbara Jahn creations.

Celebrate!

Happy New Year, everyone!

Law Office of H. Wesley Wilkins
602 S. Main
Anna • 833-7725

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Cardinal Corner
409 Grand Tower Rd.
Grand Tower, Ill.
(618) 565-1064
Your Hometown Store

Happy New Year!

Anna Tire & Auto Center
Off Hwy. 51 North • 833-2122

NEW YEAR'S Greetings

Have a safe and happy New Year!

Shawn McMahan and Rodney Henry at Taylor, Dodd & Wood INSURANCE

521 E. Vienna St.
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-4721

It's Been a Pleasure!

Serving You This Year!

Flamm's Heating & Air Conditioning
Cobden
893-2830 or 893-2861

ANNOUNCING OUR BEST WISHES!

We wish you a happy and prosperous new year from all of us at . . .

CAPAHA BANK
"A Better Brand of Banking!"SM

Member FDIC

Anna 833-8595 Cairo 734-4333 Tamms 747-2308
www.capahabank.com

Have a safe and happy holiday!

JOE OLLIS AUCTION SERVICE LLC

Alex Belcher, Auctioneer & Real Estate Broker
alex@ollisauction.com • www.ollisauction.com
(618) 833-2227 • (800) 272-9791

ANNOUNCING OUR BEST WISHES!

Wishing you the best of everything under the sun in 2017! Thanks for your support.

WIBH
"Real Country Radio"
330 South Main • Anna, IL



Christmas sweater contest

Employees at Rusty's Home Center in Anna participated in a Christmas sweater contest on Wednesday, Dec. 21. In the first row are, from left, Mike Baity, Tracie Moore, Jake Hess, Jordi Pitts and Ryan Hileman. In the second row are Lars Whiteside, Rusty Flamm, Jason Stegle, Richard Brimm and Eric Flamm. Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.

People in nation's rural areas more likely to own their homes

People who live in rural areas are more likely to own their own homes, live in their state of birth and have served in the military than their urban counterparts, according to the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

"I know, as both Secretary of Commerce and from my own private sector experience, that data is idle inventory on the shelf that has the power to create economic opportunity and change lives," said U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker in a news release.

"The American Community Survey is the only survey that provides statistics that tell the story of every community's current socio-economic state, from big cities to small towns. This information is vital to making decisions in business and government that enhance the lives of all of our citizens."

As the nation's largest household survey, the American Community Survey is the only annual dataset that produces this range of statistics for all of the nation's 3,142 counties.

For the three-fourths of all counties with populations too small to produce single-year statistics (2,323 counties), it is the only available dataset.

"Rural areas cover 97 percent of the nation's land area but contain 19.3 percent of the population

Coat drive underway

Union County Counseling Service in Anna is sponsoring its 10th annual Coat and Drive Giveaway until Jan. 31.

A donation box is located at the Union County Counseling Service's main building, which is located at 204 South St. in Anna.

The coat giveaway is also at Union County Counseling Services, in the building with a handicap accessibility ramp. All are welcome.

Coats are available Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Kyle Kutak receives award

Kyle Kutak of McClure has received the Midwest Achievement Award to attend Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau beginning in the spring of 2017.

Kutak is the son of Robert and Angie Kutak of McClure.

He is a 2015 graduate of Shawnee High School at Wolf Lake and will be a 2016 graduate of Shawnee Community College.

(about 60 million people)," Census Bureau director John H. Thompson said.

"By combining five years of survey responses, the American Community Survey provides unequaled insight into the state of every community, whether large or small, urban or rural."

The release features data collected between 2011 and 2015 on more than 40 demographic, housing, social and economic topics, including commuting, educational attainment and home value. These statistics are available to explore on the Census Bureau website.

There were about 47 million adults 18 years and older living in rural areas.

Most adults in both rural and urban areas owned their own homes but the percentage was higher in rural areas (81.1 percent compared with 59.8 percent).

Adults in rural areas were also more likely to live in single-family homes (78.3 percent compared with 64.6 percent) and live in their state of birth (65.4 percent compared with 48.3 percent).

Veterans comprised 10.4 percent of the population of adults in rural areas compared with 7.8 percent of adults in urban areas.

Adults in rural areas had a median age of 51, making them older compared with adults in urban areas with a median age of 45.

They had lower rates of poverty (11.7 percent compared with 14.0 percent) but were less likely to have obtained a bachelor's degree or higher (19.5 percent compared with 29.0).

Rural communities had fewer adults born in other countries compared with those in urban areas (4.0 percent compared with 19.0 percent).

Additional findings showed: About 13.4 million children under the age of 18 lived in the rural areas of the nation.

Children in rural areas had lower rates of poverty (18.9 percent compared with 22.3 percent) but more of them were uninsured (7.3 percent compared with 6.3 percent).

A higher percentage of own children in rural areas lived in married-couple households (76.3 percent compared with 67.4 percent).

("Own children" includes never-married biological, step and adopted children of the couple.)

Compared with households in urban areas, rural households had lower median household income (\$52,386 compared with \$54,296), lower median home values (\$151,300 compared with \$190,900),

and lower monthly housing costs for households paying a mortgage (\$1,271 compared with \$1,561).

A higher percentage owned their housing units "free and clear," with no mortgage or loan (44.0 percent compared with 32.3 percent).

States with the highest median household incomes in rural areas were Connecticut (\$93,382) and New Jersey (\$92,972) (not statistically different from each other).

The state with the lowest rural median household income was Mississippi (\$40,200).

Among rural areas, poverty rates varied from a low in Connecticut (4.6 percent) to a high in New Mexico (21.9 percent).

Researchers also compared rural residents in 704 completely rural counties, those whose entire populations lived in rural areas, with their rural counterparts in counties that were mostly rural, and those that were mostly urban.

Between 2011 and 2015, about 9.0 percent of the rural population in the United States (5.3 million) lived in these completely rural counties, compared with about 41.0 percent (24.6 million) in the 1,185 mostly rural counties and about 50.0 percent (30.1 million) in the 1,253 mostly urban counties.

The American Community Survey five-year statistics show that the characteristics of rural residents differed depending on the level of rurality of their county of residence.

Workforce initiative provides participants with job training skills

The Illinois Department of Human Services, DHS, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, DCEO, have announced that openings are still available for the Employment Opportunities, Personalized Services, Individualized Training, and Career Planning, EPIC, pilot program.

The new pilot program is designed to provide SNAP recipients with training and skills to help them gain meaningful employment.

The program's primary participants are adults without children who are currently able to work, and are currently SNAP recipients.

EPIC services include one-on-one career training, connections to employers in high-growth, high-demand career pathways, and an individualized comprehensive plan to help throughout the career navigation process.

The pilot program will evaluate the effects of specialized services for the participants.

Illinois was one of 10 states across the country

to receive a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services division. Illinois was awarded \$21 million to participate in the pilot program.

Counties participating in EPIC include Cook, Winnebago, Boone, Adams, Schuyler, Brown, Pike, St. Clair, Clinton, Washington, Perry, Franklin, Jackson, Williamson; voluntary: Stark, Marshall, Peoria, Woodford, McLean, Taze-

well, Mason, Fulton, DeWitt, Macon, Knox, Warren, Henderson, Hancock, McDonough, Monroe, Randolph and Stephenson.

EPIC is a partnership between DHS, DCEO, Illinois workNet and 23 community-based organizations.

Also working with the pilot program are the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board.

SIU trustees extend president's contract

The Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees on Dec. 8 extended the employment contract of president Randy Dunn through June 30, 2022.

Board approval came during a regular meeting on the Carbondale campus.

The extension does not change Dunn's annual salary or benefits, and the contract does not include incentives or bonuses.

The extension includes

a provision that would allow the board of trustees to sever its employment relationship with Dunn without cause prior to the end of the contract.

Dunn, 58, became the SIU system's eighth president on July 1, 2014.

He is no stranger to SIU, having served as a professor and administrator in the SIU College of Education and Human Services on the Carbondale campus from 1995 to 2004.

He left the university to become Illinois' state superintendent of education. Dunn served as president at two other universities before returning to SIU in 2014.

"I appreciate the board of trustees' confidence, as well as its leadership of our system," Dunn said. "I look forward to continuing our important work as we navigate this very challenging period in our university's history."

Legislation designed to reduce recidivism

Legislation has been signed which ensures that any person being released from the Illinois Department of Corrections, DOC, or Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, DJJ, has a valid state identification card upon release.

Senate Bill 3368 was signed Dec. 15 by Gov. Bruce Rauner.

SB 3368, which was approved by the Illinois General Assembly, requires the Illinois Secretary of State to issue a standard Illinois ID card, at the time of their release, to any person being released from the DOC or DJJ who present their birth certificate, Social Security card or other documents authorized by the secretary, and two proofs of address.

For individuals without these documents, the Secretary of State will issue a limited-term, 90-day ID to released individuals who present a verified document from DOC/DJJ with their name, birth date, Social Security number and proof of address. They then have 90 days to present this ID at the Secretary of State to receive a standard issue ID.

"In order to combat recidivism we need to remove some of the hurdles offenders face when they are released from a detention facility and begin to re-integrate into society," Gov. Bruce Rauner said.



Winter...in black and white

Winter began on Wednesday, Dec. 21. That morning, fog froze on much of the landscape, including trees next to a Union County pond. This image from the first day of winter was captured at the pond, which is located along old U.S. Route 51 between Cobden and Anna. The image was created by using a "solarize" tool in Adobe Photoshop.

SIU alumnus makes \$1 million gift for campus lake project

Ralph E. Becker wants to make sure that Southern Illinois University Carbondale continues to go "onward and upward."

A \$1 million gift by the SIU Carbondale alumnus will be used to renovate and expand the boat house and pavilion on campus lake.

The SIU Board of Trustees on Dec. 8 approved the project, which includes a classroom, new and additional site lighting, and creating a patio space for outdoor performances, lectures, dinners and community events.

The Ralph E. Becker Pavilion will include an 850-square-foot classroom named in honor of Becker's mentor and friend, the late Frank Stanton, who was president of CBS from 1946

to 1971, and the network's vice chairman from 1971 until his retirement in 1973.

The boat house and boat dock buildings were built in 1958-1959, and many of the existing materials, including structure and plumbing systems, are 54 to 55 years old.

The renovation and addition will bring the facilities up to date with building codes and standards. The work is expected to be completed by spring 2018.

Becker, a 1955 graduate in speech communications, is considered by many to be among the pioneers of the university's radio-television program.

In a broadcasting career that spanned more than six decades, Becker relied on hard work and his business acumen to own numerous television stations and be a media investor.

The Carbondale native maintains a strong affinity for SIU, the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts and the community.

"I would not have been successful had I not attended SIU and it is a place where I call home. It served

as the foundation for what I was able to accomplish in life," said Becker, whose broadcasting career started as an intern with KMOX radio in St. Louis in 1949 while he was still in high school.

He continued with numerous broadcasting jobs while at SIU from 1951 to 1955, including writing a radio-television column for the Daily Egyptian.

After graduating, Becker taught as a lecturer for a year before going into the U.S. Air Force to fulfill his ROTC commitment.

Becker returned to SIU in 1959 to continue his graduate studies and manage then WSRV-FM, now WSIU-FM radio.

After college, Becker later expanded his expertise into producing and directing radio and television programs in markets including Peoria and Washington, D.C., working on numerous advertising and marketing campaigns, and serving as president and CEO for a group of television stations.

He was later involved with media investing, where his group found poor-performing TV stations and

implemented changes to improve their operations.

Becker lives in Winston-Salem, N.C., and he has been a generous supporter of SIU Carbondale.

Becker's philosophy is once a goal is set, to work hard and set additional goals. He views the donation as a "form of a challenge" to others, and a desire to "leave a legacy of hard work and opportunity."

"I want to challenge everyone to give back to others and to what is important to them," Becker said. "It is extremely important to challenge others to do bigger and better than what I am able to accomplish. That is the only way progress will be made. Throughout my life, I challenged my employees and I challenged my children to do better."

Becker received the SIU Alumni Association's Alumni Achievement Award for the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts and was the radio and television department's "alumnus of the year" in 1985.

He endowed one of the college's largest scholarships, the Ralph E. Becker Scholarship, given annually to a radio-television student whose primary focus is in management and marketing research.

Becker was the then-College of Communications and Fine Arts commencement speaker in 1987, and in 1995, received a medallion and clock from

the college.

In 1997, Becker donated the Obelisk sculpture, which is the centerpiece of the college's courtyard.

"If we aren't generous, a lot of good things would never occur and a lot of creativity would not happen," he said. "There are things that can still be invented and risks that can still be taken. I just want to make sure SIU goes onward and

upward."

Stanton, Becker's mentor and friend, worked with CBS founder William S. Paley.

He was significantly involved in freedom of the press issues, ranging from the 1954 McCarthy hearings to the network's coverage of the Vietnam War and a 1971 investigative report on the Pentagon.

Young people winners in Illinois Emerging Writers Competition

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced that poets from St. Joseph, Harrisburg and Des Plaines are this year's winners of the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award in the 12th annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition.

Jeanne Genis of St. Joseph was awarded first place for her poem "Finch (For Brigit in Illinois)."

Whitney Jones of Harrisburg received second place for her poem "The Price of Coal."

Rochelle Zappia of Des Plaines is the third place winner for her poem "Don't Ever Let Them Sing."

The winners read their awards during a recent ceremony at the Illinois State Library in Springfield.

"I created the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition to promote creative

writing and provide an opportunity for recognizing new literary talent in the state," White said in a news release.

"Illinois has a long and rich literary heritage, and these poets are adding to the tradition established by legendary poet Gwendolyn Brooks. Great poems have the ability to enrich and enhance our lives, and I'm pleased to congratulate this year's talented winners."

The competition is named for the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, and is co-sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and Kevin Stein, Illinois Poet Laureate.

The winning poems are available to read at http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book/.

Also, the winning poems will be submitted for possible publication in Ninth Letter, RHINO and Quidity magazines and Poetic License Press publications.

BECOME A HOMEOWNER
Low & No Down \$\$
FHA/VA/USDA Grant & Manufactured Home Programs, Reverse Mortgages.
FREE CREDIT COUNSELING
Paula Wykoff
"A real person helping real people."
(217)522-5191
NMLS#137830
Flanagan State Bank
919 S. 8th St.
Springfield, IL 62703
NMLS#408461.
APPLY ONLINE:
www.pwykoffflanaganstatebank.mortgagewebcenter.com
Equal Housing Lender

COMPANY DRIVERS WANTED
\$2,500 SIGN ON BONUS!
XPOLogistics

Home Weekly | Class A CDL Required
CALL 888-409-6033 | www.Drive4Red.com

New Year's Sale
Saturday, December 31st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
and Monday, January 2nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday, January 1st
If you need new furniture or a new mattress set, DON'T MISS THIS SALE!
Cash & Carry Pricing! • Delivery and Financing Available!
FURNITURE DIRECT
Formerly Vernon's Furniture
342 S. Main Downtown Anna
833-7021
Locally owned and operated for over 62 years!
Find us on Facebook
MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

COOL DEALS FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Business Source Sm./Med Binder Clips
BSN65369
Reg. \$4.00 Pk.
SALE \$1.99 Pk.
50 SMALL/19 MEDIUM
ADULT COLORING!!!
At-A-Glance FloraDoodle Large Desk Calendar
AAGD189704
Reg. \$16.59 Ea.
SALE \$12.65 Ea.
LASTS UP TO 45 DAYS
Bright Air Scented Oil Air Freshener
BRI900022
Reg. \$7.21 Ea.
SALE \$4.99 Ea.
REPPERT'S
OFFICE SUPPLIES & FURNITURE
More than ink pens and paper clips
Home Office: 800-524-7911
Fax: 618-833-5813
Order Online at www.reppertsales.com

P PLOTT CONSTRUCTION
CHRIS PLOTT
Sidewalks ~ Patios
Decorative Concrete
Flatwork ~ Basements
Septic ~ Excavating
Hauling ~ Trenching
Safe Rooms ~ Walls
Storm Cellars
(618) 697-2231 (CELL)
(618) 833-4195 (FAX)
csplott@hotmail.com
23-22GBC/2017

Opinion and Commentary

The following article was written by Jeffrey Bittle of Cape Girardeau. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Brad Bittle and the grandson of Ron and Peggy Bittle of Anna. Jeffrey is 15 years old and a sophomore at Cape Central.

On the Worldwide Rise of Authoritarian Populism

For anyone who has studied history in detail, the rise of Donald Trump and similar leaders should be extremely concerning. When looking at World War I and World War II, it is important to note that both these conflicts were started by aggressive nationalism and "strong" authoritarian leaders in European nations.

After the wars, most countries adopted liberal social programs that benefited the majority of citizens, specifically the working class. These initiatives helped everyone, and they became very popular, and because the leaders pushing them were socially progressive, many people adopted their values.

Of course, people who held right-wing social values were still benefited by these social programs, and they voted for their economic benefit, as exemplified by Franklin Roosevelt's wins in the Deep South in each of his presidential bids.

Later in the 20th century, however, conservatism and libertarianism rose because of minds such as Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan. Their principles began to be adopted by many elite citizens, and many of them convinced the middle and working classes to vote against their own interests.

Instead of retaliating with a more progressive platform, the labor movements chose to become corporate and corrupt. Prime examples of this corporate corruption are former President Bill Clinton and Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan. It's worth noting that Bill Clinton's corporatist platform never won a majority of the popular vote, which isn't a surprise, considering that it didn't benefit the majority.

Ordinary working people have, unsurprisingly, become tired of the Democratic Party and other labor parties' corruption and corporatism. These groups of people that used to help them are screwing them over and taking them for granted, and it is amazingly easy to understand the frustration of these citizens. A drive through Southern Illinois or Southeast Missouri can show you in ten minutes the hardship and difficulty they're living with.

In 2016, authoritarian populism struck the United States. Some conservatives began to come to ease with social programs, and they realized how popular they are. This wouldn't be an issue if we didn't have a corporate Democratic Party, but it's a real problem when Republicans are looking out for the working class more than liberal Democrats.

This is why we saw counties and towns that voted for Barack Obama twice vote for Donald Trump this time. It's not so much that they share his social values. In fact, most of them don't. It's that Donald Trump was the candidate of change. It's that simple. The working class wanted someone to look out for them, and they needed EXTREME change. A corporate Democrat like Hillary Clinton wasn't inspiring and wasn't going to bring them out of their frustrating economic situation, so they settled for bigotry.

Though the most recent cases of this are Brexit and the election of Donald Trump, these aren't isolated incidents. Many important European nations, such as France, Germany, and Italy have elections in 2017, and nearly all of them have a far-right populist candidate, some even more extreme than Donald Trump. In a lot of these countries, the extremist is leading the race, or at least has monumental potential to be elected.

With nationalism rising in these countries, it is only common sense to see that history could very well repeat itself, and we could be heading for another bloody conflict. In essence, this is the purest reason why Donald Trump and other far-right populists are scary. It's not their racism or xenophobia, though that is bad. It's that they could easily have the planet headed for World War III, with historical precedent to prove it.

This movement in world politics is too late to stop completely. The question is what can be done to reverse the consequences. Luckily, there's a simple answer. Democrats and other labor parties must STOP BEING CORPORATE. If liberal parties don't go back to their progressive roots and start fighting for everyday working people again, a bad future is in store.

It's easy to see. Bernie Sanders was extremely popular among white, working class voters, a group that Donald Trump overwhelmingly won. So Democrats and labor parties had best start fighting for the majority again, returning to the social programs and ideas of the New Deal, and stop thinking for even a second that a catchy slogan like "Stronger Together" or just the fact that there is a woman on the ticket will be enough to win them elections. Return to progressivism, or spread more Trumpism. – Jeffrey Bittle

Page from the Past

From the files of The Gazette-Democrat

50 Years Ago, December 29, 1966

Union County woke Friday morning, Dec. 23, to a snow-covered ground with snow in the amount of 4.5 inches much to the delight of youngsters and those young enough to enjoy the fact that we would have a White Christmas this year, 1966.

After a snowfall of 4.5 inches which blanketed the Union County area on Friday, Dec. 23, the weather continued to be cold until Tuesday morning, Dec. 27, when rain turned to ice, causing hazardous driving, covered the sidewalks and streets.

Motorists are urged to drive wisely and sanely over the coming holiday of Friday, Dec. 30, to January 3.

Effective January 1, the Rodgers Theatre in Anna will be under the management of Kerasotes Theatres of Springfield.

The Lutz Marble Company employees, supervisory personnel and their wives enjoyed an excellent Christmas dinner at Miller's Restaurant on Friday evening, Dec. 16.

Please read this. . .

by Geof Skinner

Happy New Year

Sometimes...you feel like a nut, which, again, officially dates yours truly. Well, another year is rapidly coming to what may seem like a merciful conclusion. And, in keeping with a tradition which dates back, oh, maybe three years, I decided to once again share some of my favorite images of squirrels. The photos were taken during various meanderings, here and there, during the almost concluded Year of Our Lord 2016. Hope you enjoy them, or, at least will look at them. Have a great 2017...

