

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Anna, Illinois

©2018 Reppert Publications

\$1.00

Volume 169, Number 12

News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area.

Remember to turn your time pieces ahead one hour this Saturday night, when Daylight Saving Time begins.

Wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour were possible last Tuesday afternoon in the region.

The City of Jonesboro plans to start cleaning up the Jonesboro Cemetery on March 19. Arrangements, grave blankets and other items left on the ground after March 18 will be picked up by the cemetery department.

Illinois Department of Transportation crews were busy last Friday doing maintenance and sign installation work along old U.S. Route 51 between Cobden and Anna.

The Village of Cobden is welcoming support as it plans to reinstate the display of flags in the downtown area on holidays, special occasions and to honor deceased veterans on the day of their funeral.

Union County government is looking for a new auditor.

Downtown Alto Pass was a busy place last Saturday morning. License plates from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Missouri were spotted. Something about a "Dirty South Roubaix" long-distance bicycle excursion was spotted online.



Feb. 20 through March 5

Nearly 10 inches of rain measured in area

Nearly 10 inches of rain was recorded during the period from Feb. 20 through March 5 in the Union County area.

Local weather observer Dana Cross recorded a total of 9.88 inches of precipitation over 14 days, including:

Feb. 20, .86 of an inch. Feb. 21, 2.36 inches. Feb. 22, 1.27 inches. Feb. 23, .31 of an inch. Feb. 24, 3.15 inches. Feb. 28, .58

of an inch. March 1, .21 of an inch. March 5, .58 of an inch.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Feb. 20	74	50
Wednesday, Feb. 21	45	34
Thursday, Feb. 22	49	37
Friday, Feb. 23	58	49
Saturday, Feb. 24	64	48
Sunday, Feb. 25	59	34
Monday, Feb. 26	61	29

Tuesday, Feb. 27	66	29
Wednesday, Feb. 28	60	51
Thursday, March 1	59	45
Friday, March 2	55	32
Saturday, March 3	58	27
Sunday, March 4	63	30
Monday, March 5	52	41

February Weather
Weather observer Dana Cross recorded the following statistics for February in Jonesboro:
The high temperature for the month was 74 degrees, which was recorded on

Feb. 20. The average high was 51.

The low for the month was 9, which was recorded on Feb. 5. The average low was 31.

During the month, precipitation totalled 10.98 inches.

The most rain in a 24-hour period was recorded on Feb. 24, with 3.15 inches.

Snowfall during the month totalled 2.75 inches.

The most snow in a 24-hour period was recorded on Feb. 17, with 2 inches.

Precipitation for 2018 through the end of February totalled 13.13 inches.

Abnormally Wet

The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported that February in the region was "abnormally wet."

Reports of 7 to 11 inches of precipitation common in (continued on page 2)

Special patrols planned

Illinois State Police District 22 plans to conduct alcohol countermeasure enforcement patrols during March in Union County.

Plans for the patrols were announced by Capt. Michael Alvey, who is the commander of District 22.

Alvey said the patrols will allow the state police "to focus on preventing, detecting and taking enforcement action in response to violations associated with impaired driving and illegal transportation or consumption of alcohol or drugs."

Officers who are working the alcohol countermeasure patrols detail will be watchful for drivers who are operating in an unsafe manner, driving with a suspended or revoked driver's license and transporting open alcoholic beverages.

Alvey said that officers especially will be watchful for driving under the influence violations, safety belt and child restraint use violations, speeding, distracted driving and all Illinois Vehicle Code and criminal violations.

Alcohol and drug impairment is a factor in more than 30 percent of all fatal motor vehicle crashes in Illinois, Alvey noted.

One alcohol-related traffic fatality occurs every 53 minutes in the United States.

The project is funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.



A-JCHS hosts successful blood drive

A very good turnout was reported at an American Red Cross blood drive which was hosted last week by Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. The blood drive was sponsored by the student council at the Union County school. A-JCHS students, and student council members, volunteered to help with the blood drive. Among the student volunteers were, in the first row, from left, Brylee Oxford and Sydnie Ralls. In the second row are Jenna Watkins, Ashley Detering, Julia Lasley, Emma Ray, Lexie Lingle, Jasmin Foster and Taylor Harvel.

Tentative multiplier of 1.0000 for county

Union County has been issued a tentative property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, the Illinois Department of Revenue, IDOR, reports.

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier," is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law.

IDOR noted that this equalization is particularly important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts, such as school districts, junior college districts and fire protection districts, overlap into two or more counties.

If there were no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result, the department stated in a news release announcing the county's tentative multiplier.

State law requires property in Illinois to be assessed at one-third of its market value.

Farm property is assessed differently, with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures, but with farmland and farm buildings assessed according to standards based on productivity.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the sales price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If the three-year average level of assessment is one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be 1.

If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than 1.

And if the average level of assessment is less than

one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than 1.

Assessments in Union County are at 33.32 percent of market value, based on sales of properties in 2014, 2015, and 2016.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2017 taxes, payable in 2018.

Last year's equalization factor for the county was 1.0287.

The tentative factor is subject to change if the county board of review takes actions which significantly affect the county (continued on page 2)



A-JCHS math team earns second at regional

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School math team earned second-place honors at the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics, ICTM, regional contest Feb. 24 in Herrin. The A-JCHS geometry team, Algebra 2 team, pre-calculus team, freshman/sophomore two-person team, junior/senior eight-person team, calculator team and oral competition team all received second place. The junior/senior two-person team received first place. The freshman/sophomore eight-person team tied for first place. Ender Schmidt received second place in the pre-calculus competition. Photo provided.

Museum adds exhibit about Davie

The Union County Museum in Cobden has reopened for 2018. The museum opened last Saturday.

The museum is operated by the Union County Historical and Genealogy Society.

The museum is featuring an exhibit which celebrates Union County's bicentennial, which is being commemorated in 2018. The State of Illinois also is observing its bicentennial this year.

In addition to previously announced items which are on display, the museum has added an exhibit about Winstead Davie which features the following items:

•An 1818 store ledger from Dover, Tenn., that has Davie's name in it.

•Davie's day book from his store in Jonesboro dated 1847.

(continued on page 2)



THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT
 THE TALK AND COEDEN REVIEW
 Serving Union County Since 1849
 (USPS 215-280)
 112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 589
 Anna, Illinois 62904-0529

Phone: 618-835-2158
 Fax: 618-833-2615
 Email: www@gazette.com

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62904-0529

FULFILLED THURSDAY

Jerry L. Boppert..... Publisher
 Greg Skinner..... Editor
 Leanne J. Hinton..... Production Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Union County..... \$35.00 Six months out of area..... \$70.00
 Elsewhere in 629 Zip Code..... \$37.00 Outside (airmail)..... \$36.00
 Out of area..... \$45.00 Annual..... \$36.00
 Six months in county..... \$20.00 Single copy..... \$1.00
 Six months in 629 Zip Code..... \$25.00 Initial copy..... \$5.00
 e-edition..... \$33.00 With print subscription..... \$7.00

1-800-833-2699

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
 The Gazette-Democrat, P.O. Box 589, Anna, Illinois 62904-0529
 Addressing notes given on application.
 Mail list open to inspection by subscribers.
 Other Quality Titles from REEBERT PUBLICATIONS
 Monday's Pub. • Antique & Collectible News
 Senior Views • Five many others
www.gazette.com
facebook.com/gazette.com Twitter: @gazette.com



Meet the candidates event

Local voters had an opportunity to meet and learn about candidates who are running for office in the March 20 primary election during an event which was held Monday evening in Union County. Union County Women in Business hosted a meet the county candidates event in the auditorium at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School. Candidates for Union County commissioner, treasurer and clerk were among those in attendance at the event. Candidates were given an opportunity to share their goals and visions for the county.

Tax multiplier

(continued from page 1)

assessments or if local officials or others can present data showing that the Department of Revenue's estimates of the average level of assessments in the county should be adjusted.

A public hearing on the tentative multiplier will be held between 20 and 30 days after the tentative factor is published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county.

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease.

Tax bills are determined

by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens.

If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments may have increased.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual's portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.

Weather

(continued from page 1)

Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

Cape Girardeau had its second wettest February on record. Paducah recorded its fourth wettest February on record.

Much of the precipitation came during a five-day stretch from Feb. 20 through Feb. 24, when much of the region picked up 5 to 8 inches of rain.

Illinois furnished six regiments and several independent companies for the Mexican War, which was fought from 1846 to 1848.

On Feb. 24, Cape Girardeau had 3.45 inches of rain, which set a record for the wettest February calendar day.

Temperatures in the region ranged from 3 to 5 degrees above normal.

Paducah had the eighth warmest February on record.

The region experienced a cold start to the month, with 10 of the first 12 days in February averaging below normal.

Then, "unseasonably warm to record warm temperatures took over."

Paducah had four days when the high temperature climbed into the 70s.

University Museum at SIU to reopen; reception planned

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to host a reopening reception on March 8 (today) at the University Museum's north gallery in Faner Hall.

SIU chancellor Carlo Montemagno and the museum staff are scheduled to be at the reception, which is planned from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. today to celebrate the reopening of the museum.

Exhibits which will be

featured in the museum's north gallery include works from local artists Aldon Addington and Larry Bernstein.

Visitors also will be able to see "Afghan Treasures," which features artifacts from Afghanistan that are part of the museum's permanent collection.

The reception is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Museum exhibit

(continued from page 1)

•An 1830 coverlet that belonged to Nancy Atkins Willard, mother of Anna Willard Davie (Winstead's wife) which was passed through the family and donated to the museum.

Davie was a prominent early settler in Union County. The City of Anna is named in honor of his wife.

Other items which are featured in the exhibit include:

Copies of the 1818 census of Union County. A plat map showing the location of those owning property in Union County and the City of Jonesboro in 1818.

An 1819 Jonesboro Township poll book. A list

of the 1807 and 1813 squatters in Union County, and where they were living.

Maps showing the progression of the development of the State of Illinois. Other artifacts from the early 1800s.

The exhibit is scheduled to be on display through the end of April.

The historical society plans to present several events for bicentennials of the county and the state.

The museum is located on South Appleknocker in the downtown Cobden area.

Regular hours are scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and on Friday afternoons by chance. The museum's phone number is 893-2865.

Movie night features black bear

The American black bear will be featured at a nature movie night which is planned Thursday, today, at the Barkhausen Cache River Wetlands Center near Cypress.

The program is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The wetlands center is located at 8885 State Route 37 South. For more information, call 618-657-2064.

Book festival set in Du Quoin

A Southern Illinois Reads Book Festival is planned from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 10 at Du Quoin High School in Du Quoin.

The free event is being sponsored by the Southern Illinois Reading Council, SIRC.

Anna School District No. 37 is participating in and helping to promote the festival. The district is providing a bus for families

who may need transportation to the festival.

This is the fifth year for the festival – and the first year that the event has not been held in Northern Illinois.

A number of authors have committed to attend the festival.

Illinois Reads is an annual statewide project. The project is designed to promote reading for all Illinois citizens.

NOTICE OF COLOR OF PRIMARY BALLOTS

Announcement is hereby made that the colors of the official primary ballots to be used by the respective political parties

in **Union County, Illinois**
 at the **General Primary**
 to be held on **March 20, 2018.**

Will be as follows:

POLITICAL PARTY	COLOR OF BALLOT
Democratic	Green
Republican	Yellow
Green	Salmon

Dated March 1, 2018

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff
 Union County Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ELECTION

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a **GENERAL PRIMARY** will be held at all polling places in **Union County, Illinois** on **March 20, 2018.**

Candidates will be nominated to the following offices:

- Governor And Lieutenant Governor - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Attorney General - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Secretary Of State - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Comptroller - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Treasurer - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Representative In Congress in the 12th Congressional District - Democratic, Republican and GREEN Parties
- State Senator in the 59th Legislative District - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Representative In The General Assembly in the 115th Representative District - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Representative In The General Assembly in the 118th Representative District - Democratic and Republican Parties
- County Clerk - Democratic and Republican Parties
- County Treasurer - Democratic and Republican Parties
- County Sheriff - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Regional Superintendent Of Schools in Alexander, Jackson, Perry, Pulaski and Union Counties - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Regional Superintendent Of Schools in Franklin, Johnson, Massac and Williamson Counties) - Democratic and Republican Parties
- County Commissioner Seat A(6-Year Term) - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Commissioner Seat D(6-Year Term) - Republican Party
- County Commissioner Seat D(6-Year Term) - Democratic Party
- County Commissioner (To Serve an Unexpired 4yr Term) - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Judge Of The Appellate Court(To fill the vacancy of the Hon. Richard P. Goldenhersh) in the 5th Judicial District - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Judge Of The Circuit Court(To Fill The Vacancy Of The Hon. Ronald R. Eckiss) in the 1st Judicial Circuit - Democratic and Republican Parties
- Judge Of The Circuit Court in the 1st Judicial Circuit - Democratic and Republican Parties

Candidates will be elected to the following offices:

- State Central Committeewoman in the 12th Congressional District (Central Committee) - Democratic Party
- State Central Committeeman in the 12th Congressional District (Central Committee) - Democratic Party
- Precinct Committeemen - Democratic and Republican Parties

Order of the ballot:

- State, Congressional, Legislative, Representative, County, Educational Service Region, Judicial District, Judicial Circuit, Precinct Committeemen

THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 6:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

Dated: March 1, 2018

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff
 Union County Clerk



Early & Grace Period Voting Schedule

2018 General Primary
March 20, 2018

Early Voting Schedule

Starting Thursday, February 8, 2018, through Monday, March 19, 2018, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Excluding weekends except dates listed below.

- Saturday, March 17, 2018 - 8 a.m. to Noon
- Sunday, March 18, 2018 - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday, March 19, 2018 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Grace Period Voting Schedule

Starting Wednesday, February 21, 2018, through Monday, March 19, 2018, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Excluding weekends except dates listed below and Tuesday, March 20, 2018, General Primary Election Day.

- Saturday, March 17, 2018 - 8 a.m. to Noon
- Sunday, March 18, 2018 - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

General Primary Election Day is Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 Anna City Hall Election Day is Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The office will be closed on the following holidays and voting will not take place.

- Monday, February 12, 2018, for Lincoln's Birthday
- Monday, February 19, 2018, for Presidents' Day

Early and Grace voting will be held at the Union County Clerk's Office, located at
 309 W. Market Street, Room 116
 Jonesboro, IL 62952

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff
 Union County Clerk

Union County Chamber welcomes Shawnee president

By Benjamin Marxer
The Union County Chamber of Commerce's regular monthly meeting featured a presentation by guest speaker Dr. Peggy Bradford, the president of Shawnee Community College.

The chamber meeting was held at noon March 1 at the college's extension center in Anna.

Bradford grew up in the Southern Illinois region and received her associate of arts degree from Shawnee Community College.

During her presentation, Bradford stressed the importance of the partnership between Shawnee College and the Union County area. She reports that Union County residents account for 1,341 out of 4,600 (nearly 28 percent) of the Shawnee College student population.

"These students represent the future in our workforce and our leadership in Union County and in Southern Illinois overall," Bradford said.

Bradford said there is

still a lot of work to be done. "The rate of (the area's) students graduating high school, according to census data, is 85 percent. However, the number that we see in higher education is 21 percent."

Shawnee Community College offers 55 different education programs to students.

Bradford stressed the importance of putting students into a field of study they can be passionate about, but also one that will make them valuable to the job market.

"We are looking to go through the list of programs that we have to see if we are in sync with what employment opportunities there are."

Courses for all 55 programs that Shawnee Community College offer are available at the Anna extension center.

Bradford said that local businesses can play an important role in the education of area college students by partnering with the college to set up internships and

other career experience programs.

"One of the ways that we find that students stay engaged is if they have an opportunity for applied learning in the community."

Local business owners who may be interested in setting up an internship with the Shawnee Community College Anna Extension center can contact Lindsay Johnson at 618-634-3451.

Other Business
In other business at last week's meeting:

The chamber of commerce reported on upcoming events.

The first Business After Hours meeting of 2018 is scheduled at Re/Max Southern in Anna on March 14 at 5 p.m.

The Annabelle Street Fest is scheduled June 9-10.

Movie in the Park events are set to begin this summer.

A Taste of Union County street fair is being scheduled for the fall in Cobden.

Brett Whitnel of Shawnee College discussed plans for the ELITE Youth Entrepreneurship Camp. The program offered by the college is open to students in grades 7 through 9 and is scheduled July 16-19.

Union County CEO program representative Alejandra Lopez discussed the success of their recent Battle of the Businesses trivia night.

Carol Hoffman from the Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau discussed her trip to the state tourism conference. She emphasized the importance of quality video and photography when promoting business or tourism. The Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau is accepting submissions of videos and photos promoting local business and upcoming events. She said that media should be high resolution and vertical format and videos should be under a minute in length.

Hoffman also discussed the Illinois Made program. The program promotes opportunities for products made and used in Illinois.

Teresa Gilbert of Bald Knob Cross of Peace discussed the 2018 sunrise Easter service. This year's service is planned at 6:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

2018 Illinois primary election

Rauner, Pritzker lead poll

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Paul Simon Public Policy Institute has released its first poll for 2018.

The most recent version of the Simon Poll shows Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democrat businessman JB Pritzker leading their respective party's primaries.

Rauner leads challenger Jeanne Ives, a state representative from Wheaton, by 20 points, 51 percent to 31 percent.

Pritzker leads State Sen. Daniel Biss of Evanston in the crowded Democratic primary by 10 points, 31 percent to 21 percent.

Former University of Illinois Board of Trustees Chairman Chris Kennedy trails in third place at 17 percent.

In hypothetical general election matchups, Rauner trails both leading Democratic candidates by similar margins: Pritzker leads Rauner 50 percent to 35 percent; Biss leads Rauner 48 percent to 34 percent.

"It's interesting that Pritzker's and Biss's margins over Rauner are essentially the same in the Simon Poll," Charlie Leonard, an institute visiting professor involved in the polling, said.

"One explanation may be that in the minds of voters, who may know little about either Biss or Pritzker, the decision may come down to 'Rauner versus not-Rauner.' If the election

were held today, I'd rather be 'not-Rauner.'"

Both Pritzker and Biss lead the governor by wide margins in the City of Chicago and the Chicago suburbs, while downstate, Rauner leads Pritzker by 3 points and leads Biss by 8 points, keeping in mind the smaller sample sizes and wider margins for error in the geographic subgroups.

"It is three weeks to go until the March 20 primary and major events could still move these numbers," said John S. Jackson, another designer of the poll.

In the Republican primary for attorney general, Harvard Law graduate and

Champaign-Urbana attorney Erika Harold, who is well known in Republican political circles, leads the lesser-known Gary Grasso, a DuPage County board member, 18 percent to 14 percent, with almost two-thirds undecided.

Eight candidates are vying for the Democratic party nomination for attorney general. State Sen. Kwame Raoul of Chicago leads the pack with 22 percent of those responding, with former Gov. Pat Quinn with 18 percent.

None of the other candidates register double-digit support and 39 percent are undecided.

Trump, Rauner, Madigan all earn low ratings in poll

The top three political leaders in the state and nation all got low job ratings from Illinois voters in a poll recently released by Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

The Simon Poll shows Illinois voters disapprove of the respective job performances of President Donald Trump, Gov. Bruce Rauner, and Illinois Speaker of the House Michael Madigan, D-Chicago.

Trump, Rauner and Madigan each received more negative than positive evaluations.

President Trump's job approval was 26 percent "underwater," with 36 per-

cent positive and 62 percent negative.

These totals included 54 percent who strongly disapproved; 8 percent who somewhat disapproved, 18 percent who strongly approved and 18 percent who somewhat approved of his performance in office.

Rauner's job approval was 32 percent underwater.

His total positive rate included 31 percent who either somewhat approved (23 percent) or strongly approved (7 percent). His total negative rating was 63 percent, with 39 percent who strongly disapproved and 24 percent who disapproved.

Speaker Madigan had a 21 percent approval rate with 18 percent who somewhat approve and 3 percent who strongly approve.

Madigan is 68 percent total disapprove with 49 percent who strongly disapprove and 19 percent who somewhat disapprove.

"It is notable that Gov. Rauner's job approval in Illinois is somewhat more negative than President Trump's. This is the opposite of the more usual finding of other polls in other states," John Jackson of the Paul Simon Institute, one of the directors of the poll, said.

Because of Trump's record in office, poll respondents were less likely, by a 55-27 percentage margin, to vote for a Republican for Illinois executive offices including governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, and attorney general. In the poll, 11 percent said they were neither more nor less likely to vote Republican.

A similar question on whether they would vote for a Republican for U.S. Congress this year met the same results, with 57 percent saying they were less likely to vote Republican and 30 percent saying more likely. In the poll, 9 percent said neither.

As for the Illinois General Assembly, poll respondents said they were less likely to vote for a Republican by a 56-29 percent margin, with 10 percent choosing neither.

State police responded to 90 calls for service

Illinois State Police District 22 has released a review of activities for January.

The district includes Union, Johnson, Pope, Massac, Hardin, Pulaski and Alexander counties.

The following statistics were included in the report for the month:

District 22 officers responded to 90 calls for service.

Officers issued 446 citations and 786 written warnings.

Two motorists were arrested for driving under the influence, DUI.

Officers handled 28 crashes, including two fatal crashes with four fatalities.

A total of 255 motor carrier safety inspections were conducted; 27 inspections led to either the driver or the vehicle being placed out of service for safety violations.

A total of 249 motorists were assisted on the side of the road.

Officers made nine criminal arrests.

The following citations were issued for what are termed as "Fatal Four" violations:

DUI, two. Speeding, 189. Occupant restraint, 64. Distracted driving, 44.

The District 22 safety education officer made 28 presentations to area students, school staff members, parents and residents.

Reminder About Scott's Law

District 22 continues to remind motorists who travel on area highways about Scott's Law, "The Move Over Law."

The law requires motorists to reduce the speed of their vehicle, to yield the right of way by changing lanes away from an authorized emergency vehicle and to proceed with due regard to safety and traffic conditions.

2018 election, issues focus of event at SIU

With the Illinois primary election only a few weeks away, an open discussion March 8 (today) will examine the 2018 statewide political campaigns and recent social issues polls by Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

The Simon Poll presentation is set for 6 p.m. in the SIU Student Center auditorium. Admission is free and the public is invited. There will also be an audience Q-and-A session.

Institute staff members John T. Shaw, director; John Jackson, visiting professor; and Linda Baker, university professor, plan to outline the main findings from polls on the Illinois primary and November general elections in what Shaw said defines as "in the midst of a contentious and consequential election year."

The discussion will also look at the findings from other statewide Simon

Polls, including:

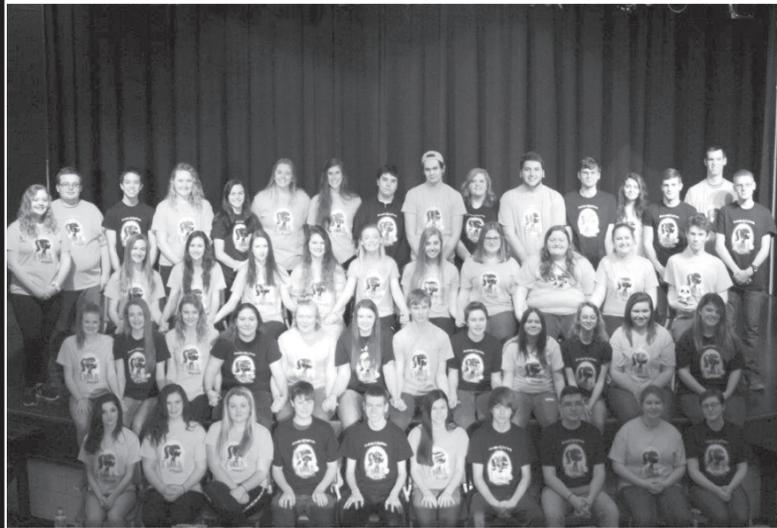
Public perception of the direction of the nation and Illinois. Illinois' budget and taxes. Government reform and social issues, including legalizing marijuana.

"The Simon Institute has measured and analyzed public opinion in Illinois for a decade. The institute's polls have offered provocative and rigorous snapshots of the mood of the state since 2008," Shaw said.

The polls have also "served as an important resource for scholars who are seeking to understand important longer-term trends that shape our public policy debates," Shaw said.

The staff plans to outline the main findings in this year's polls and looks forward to discussing with the public and university community the "hopes and concerns of the people of Illinois that are evident from this most recent Simon Institute poll," Shaw said.

DON'T MISS IT!



Don't miss the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School presentation of EMMA, a pop musical, March 16th and 17th at 7:00 p.m. and March 18th at 2:00 p.m.



Anna-Jonesboro National Bank

Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community
Visit Us On The Web At: www.ajnabank.com

Serving you from four locations

201 S. Main Street Anna • 618-833-8506 1002 Public Square Jonesboro • 618-833-4547 512 E. Vienna Street Anna • 618-833-2922 151 Leigh Avenue Anna • 618-833-4546

For bookkeeping and account information, please call 618-833-4546

VOTE TINA WALLER
Union County Commissioner

- Honest Leadership = Listening to Taxpayers
- Working Together = No Party Lines
- Listening to People = County Growth
- Economic Challenge = Set Infrastructure Goals

Your vote for me will be the vital part in growing the future of this county.

12GNC

P.A.S.T. Annual Soup and Chili Supper and Dessert Auction

at **Historic St. Anne's Church**

Friday, March 16 • 5:30 P.M.
507 S. Main, Anna
\$5.00 per person

12GP

BECOME A HOMEOWNER

Low & No Down \$\$
FHA/VA/USDA Grant & Manufactured Home Programs, Reverse Mortgages.

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



Junior Wildcat wrestlers

Rage Henderson, Titan Henderson and Jase Holshouser represented the A-J Junior Wildcats wrestling team at the Chicago Bantam Championship in Chicago on Sunday, March 3. Rage and Jase both placed in the championship competition and brought home medals. Titan is 6 years old and wrestles in the Tots division for the Junior Wildcats. In order to compete in the Bantam championship, he had to wrestle in the older age Bantam Division. Even though 6 year old Titan didn't place he represented his team well. Titan wrestled against 8-year-old competitors and won two out of four matches. All three boys had a great weekend of wrestling. Jarrid Braunagel, and the boys' fathers, T. J. Henderson and Blayne Holshouser, coached the boys at the championship. Photo provided.

Trenton Wesclin outscores Wildcats in sectional action

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team lost 67-50 to host Trenton Wesclin in the Class 2A sectional semifinals Tuesday, Feb. 27.

The Warriors led 16-10 after one quarter and scored the first 5 points of the second quarter to take a 36-21 lead at the half.

A-J cut the lead to 10 points in the third quarter, but could get no closer.

"We made a little run then," A-J coach Mike Chamness said. "I thought we did a good job of coming back in the second half."

The Wildcats trailed 55-40 going into the final period.

"Playing them on their home court was tough," Chamness said. "They came out and shot the ball well. But there were a lot

A-J's Helm honored

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School basketball player Angel Helm received two postseason honors.

She was named to the first team on the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division squad.

From the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association, the A-J student athlete earned special mention honors for the Class 1A/2A All-State team.

Sports

Commentary

A-J boys' basketball had outstanding season

By Mike Estel

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team finished an outstanding season in 2018.

Winning a Class 2A regional for the first time since 2004 and setting a new school record with an amazing 23-9 record were no small feats.

The Class 2A regional title was also especially impressive because head A-J coach Mike Chamness was a member of that 2004 season.

The loss to Trenton Wesclin in the semifinals of the Class 2A sectional was somewhat disappointing, but didn't put a damper on the remainder of the season.

It was very enjoyable watching the Wildcats play this season. There were only a few games where they were not in and in close games they usually came out on top.

With Jake Parr leading the way, the Wildcats were impressive with their rebounding and shooting abilities.

Parr led A-J in both categories averaging 22.3 points and 9.1 rebounds per game despite being double-teamed in a lot of games.

Senior Sheldon McGrath also came through

and made a lot of noise as well.

Other seniors who made contributions during the season were Ross Pinnon, Jacob Zimmerman, Noah Smith and Logan Sawyer. The six seniors have been in the program for the last four years.

Several of the Wildcats had honed in on shooting those 3-pointers and were very impressive hitting that shot in many contests.

The cupboard is not bare for next season with underclassmen Blake Pena, Tyler Smith, Carson Reynolds and Noah McFarland all returning with valuable playing experience.

Cameron Tweedy, Conner Jerolds, Noah Craig and Kyle McMahan saw action as well and will also return.

The coach substituted a lot this year with those underclassmen and it will no doubt pay huge dividends for next year's A-J team.

This year's 2017-2018 team will never be forgotten and it will now be interesting to see which players will be selected for the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division squad as well as the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association All-State team.

Hunter education course slated March 23-24 in Anna

An Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, hunter safety education course is planned March 23-24 at the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Anna. The church is located at 315 South St.

Hours for the course are from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. March 23 and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 24. Students must attend both classes.

A 1996 state law requires all hunters born or after Jan. 1, 1980, to successfully complete a hunter education course before they can receive their first hunting license.

The state requests that participants in the class be at least 9 years old.

Those who complete the course receive a hunter education certification card. The card verifies that they have passed the course of instruction.

The course will include instruction in wildlife management, firearms safety,

hunter ethics, game identification, first aid, survival techniques and regulations.

For more information about the course, or to preregister, call 618-697-0286.

Self-represented litigants addressed with new program

Hundreds of thousands of litigants appear in the Illinois courts without an attorney every year.

The growing number of self-represented litigants in court is not unique to any one circuit, county or case type.

The vast majority of self-represented litigants are not self-represented by choice: most would prefer legal representation, but are unable to find or afford an attorney.

Self-represented litigants, many who have little or no prior experience with the judicial system, pose a number of challenges for circuit clerks, judges, court staff, and other litigants, as well as for themselves.

To address these challenges, the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice, the ATJ Commission, and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, AOIC, Civil Justice Division recognize, given the size and diversity of Illinois, that local partners are critical to fully understand and address the needs of the self-represented litigant population.

The ATJ Commission and AOIC have established

Saluki Sports Update

By Fred Huff

In some ways it was like a relief. No, not really as losing is never, ever, a good feeling.

Yet it was difficult to convince yourself Barry Hinson's 2018 SIU team was going to challenge for a spot in the NCAA's March Madness game.

Yes, the Salukis fooled us once late in the season when they put together back-to-back impressive wins and had won nine of their last 11 outings.

Then came back-to-back convincing losses to Loyola and Evansville and the writing was on the scoreboard. SIU would have needed divine assistance to have won the Valley tournament. Not necessarily so to advance to the final game, but to have upset Loyola...yes, a major upset.

So what's hot now? The NCAA selections Sunday. Four weeks of fun, although tiring basketball on TV and observing the never-ending game of musical chairs in the college basketball coaching game.

My SIU radio friends, Mike Reis and Greg Starick, both told me two weeks ago that Paul Lusk was out at Missouri State. It simply would not be announced until the Bears' season ended.

Of course they were correct and we hate it as Paul is one of the finest. Note we did not say "best" coaches, as records speak for themselves.

But Lusk, who transferred to SIU after spending time at Iowa, is a gentleman and, in our opinion, will still contribute somewhere as a college coach.

There will be dozens and dozens of coaching moves, however, as it's simply part of the college game. Win or else...as long as schools can afford to pay the ever-growing size of salaries.

Some coaches will be

able to hang on to present positions by receiving bids to the NIT and there's even a third post-season tournament now that may save others.

Put them all together and there's possibly 100 teams that will have their seasons extended in the next week.

Which, of course, reminds us once again of the 1967 season when the Salukis became the toast of the town in New York City where they won the NIT by defeating St. Peter's, Duke, Rutgers and Marquette over a 10-day period.

The college game was different back then. Only 36 teams were involved in postseason tournaments...13 in the NIT and 23 in the NCAA.

It almost seems like a mirage now that SIU accomplished what it did. Beating Duke, Rutgers and Marquette.

Of course there was a guy named Walt Frazier around to set the pace and he proved later just how special a basketball player he actually was.

His honors are staggering, included being a member of the NBA's 50th Anniversary All-Time Team or NBA's Top 50.

And, like most champions and standouts, he has never forgotten his roots. He's returned to SIU for many special occasions and remains a Saluki fan.

Incidentally, SIU "fans" are a current concern right now as attendance at both football and basketball games is down.

However, we're hoping and expecting better times are ahead in both basketball and football.

To Place Your
Ad Call
(618) 833-2158



Good works honored

Shawnee Junior High School at Wolf Lake and Southern Seven Health Department's CATCH program partnered to begin a Do-Gooder-Anti-Bullying Campaign. Students are asked to do things throughout their day that go above and beyond what is asked of them. When a staff member witnesses the do gooder act, the student is awarded a coin. The winners for January were 8th grade student Jordan Robinson, 7th grade student Austin Gore and 6th grade student Karsynne Livingston. The January winners are featured in the accompanying pictures with Union County program sponsor Amber Toler and physical education assistant Chris Rose. Photos provided.

Have you tried our new ...
E-EDITION?



Get The Gazette-Democrat's e-edition for \$35, no matter where you live. Print subscribers get a discounted price of \$7. Print subscribers must call 618-833-2158 to receive their code. You will see a space to enter your code in your shopping cart.

Register online for your e-edition at www.annanews.com

Reduce the clutter of traditional newspapers • Download the paper wherever you are. • Have access to past issues • Thursday guarantee



Traffic accident in Anna

No injuries were reported at the scene of a single-vehicle traffic accident which occurred last week along Freeman Street in Anna. The accident happened at about 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, along Freeman Street. A passenger car appeared to have run off the street and struck a utility pole. The Anna Police Department, Anna Fire Department, Union County Ambulance Service, Ameren and Rod's Towing responded to the scene.

State Supreme Court plans to hear oral arguments at University of Illinois

The Illinois Supreme Court plans to leave the Illinois Supreme Court Building in Springfield behind for a day to hear oral arguments at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments in two cases starting at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 15, in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"Since I first joined the court over a decade ago, we have made an effort to better inform the public on the work we do by 'riding circuit,' that is, by holding oral argument at various locations throughout the state," Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier said.

"I am very excited that the court will be continuing this tradition during its upcoming March Term when it convenes at my alma mater, the University

Manager appointed

Illinois Department of Agriculture director Raymond Poe has appointed Luke Sailer the new division manager of fair and promotional services.

The division oversees the bureaus of the Illinois State Fair, the Du Quoin State Fair, business services and county fairs and horse racing.

Sailer, a Carmi native, has been with the Illinois Department of Agriculture for three years.

In that time, he has served as the bureau chief of business services and the assistant Illinois State Fair manager under previous division manager Kevin Gordon.

of Illinois.

"Normal arguments at the Supreme Court Building in Springfield rarely attract the interest of anyone but the specific parties and attorneys involved in the particular cases we are hearing.

"When we ride circuit, as the court routinely did in its earliest days, the local community and the public at large have a much better opportunity to observe, first hand, the work we do and how we do it.

"The appellate process is poorly understood, sometimes even by lawyers.

"Holding court at different locations and inviting area students and residents to attend helps demystify the process.

"At the same time, it also serves as an important reminder to the members of the court that our rulings are never merely an exercise in legal reasoning, but rather have a direct impact on our fellow citizens in real, significant, and often life-altering ways."

The upcoming arguments at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be the court's first road trip since 2016, when arguments were heard at Benedictine University in Lisle.

Students and teachers from 18 schools have been invited to participate in the March 15 program, either by attending the arguments live, or watching them on a live stream provided by the University of Illinois College of Law at <https://livestream.com/accounts/23585776/events/8065118>.

All public tickets for the event have been reserved. A question and answer session will follow the oral arguments.

The Supreme Court on March 15 will hear arguments in the cases of *People v. John W. Plank and Institute for Justice et al. v. The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation*.

Legal briefs in both cases and a link to the live stream have been posted to the court's website at <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/SupremeCourt/Docket/default.asp>.

People v. John W. Plank is a direct appeal from a trial court order finding an Illinois statute unconstitutional.

The defendant was charged with driving a motor vehicle while his license was revoked.

At the time, the defendant was riding a bicycle powered by a gasoline motor. Under Illinois law, "low-speed gas bicycles" are not considered to be a "motor vehicle."

The trial court ruled that this statute is unconstitutionally vague and the state is appealing the trial court's ruling.

In cases such as this where the trial court finds that a statute is unconstitutional, the appeal goes directly to the Illinois Supreme Court.

Institute for Justice et al. v. The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation are consolidated cases involving the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, FOIA.

In both cases, the plaintiff filed a FOIA request seeking copies of com-

plaints filed with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation against licensed professionals, cosmetologists and hair braiders in one case and a structural engineer in the other case.

In both cases, the department denied the FOIA request. The plaintiffs filed complaints in the trial court, seeking to compel the department to release the complaints.

While the lawsuits were pending, the Illinois General Assembly amended the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act and the Civil Administrative Code to provide that complaints against licensees on file with the department are "for the confidential use of the Department and shall not be disclosed."

The issue in this case is whether the amended versions of the Act and the Code apply to requests made before their enactment but which were not fulfilled.

The appellate court ruled that the amended version of the statutes applies to such requests.

Plaintiffs are appealing that decision to the Illinois Supreme Court.

The upcoming program is sponsored by the Illinois Supreme Court, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, the Champaign County Bar Association, and the University of Illinois College of Law.

State Emergency Management Agency acting director named

Brig. Gen. William P. Robertson has been appointed as acting director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, IEMA.

Robertson's appointment to the post was announced by Gov. Bruce Rauner.

Robertson has more than 37 years of experience with the Illinois Air National Guard.

He serves as the chief of staff for the Illinois Air National Guard, where he is responsible for ensuring combat readiness and mission capability for the 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base near Belleville, the 182nd Airlift Wing in Peoria and the 183rd Wing in Springfield. He was Commander of the 182nd Airlift Wing in Peoria from August 2004 until October 2017.

Robertson began his military career in 1980 by enlisting as a security policeman with the 182nd Tactical Air Support Group.

He later became a pilot and served in many roles, including forward air controller, air liaison officer and aircraft commander. Robertson has more than 20 years of command ex-

perience. During Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Robertson served as commander of the 486th Air Expeditionary Wing Operations Group.

Robertson was trained by FEMA and the U.S. Northern Command as a Dual Status Commander, DSC. During a multi-state disaster or national event, a DSC may serve in both federal and state roles to facilitate joint response.

He also has played a key role in the Illinois Air National Guard's support of the Polish Air Force's transition to the C-130 Hercules aircraft, as well as facilitating the use of other mission capabilities of the 182nd Airlift Wing for the Polish Armed Forces.

Robertson has received more than a dozen military awards.

A Peoria native, Robertson earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Bradley University and an associate degree in police science technology from Illinois Central College. He is a graduate of Air War College and the Air Command and Staff College.

Kentucky Lake Catfish Fillet Lunch every Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$8.75

JR's Place - Jonesboro
Served with Cole Slaw, Potato Salad and Baked Beans
Eat in or Carry Out
Call 618-614-0065

What Is The Value Of A Community Newspaper?

What is the value of a community newspaper? What does it bring to that community that no other institution can provide?

The local newspaper is a basic institution in any community, like the post office, the schools and the churches.

The local community newspaper, whether it be a 2,000 circulation weekly or a 50,000 circulation daily, serves to keep people connected to their community, by telling them what's happening with their neighbors, as well as the institution serving the community.

The publication of obituaries, birth announcements, weddings and other significant events in our lives remind us of poet John Donne's words, "no man is an island."

Community newspapers alert members of the community to problems needing attention. The community newspaper facilitates the exchange of ideas and opinions through its editorial page and letters to the editor.

There are so many things of value community newspapers provide: the recording of local history and helping to maintain a healthy local economy through effective advertising for local businesses are just a few areas of value.

The community newspaper's value to its community is unquestioned.

— from Publishers Auxiliary, a publication of the National Newspaper Association

City of Jonesboro Cemetery Clean-up

The City of Jonesboro will start cleaning up the cemetery on March 19, 2018. All arrangements, grave blankets and miscellaneous items left on the ground after March 18, 2018, will be picked up and disposed of by the cemetery department.

Republican Wes Sherrod for State Representative 118th District

I am asking for your vote on March 20th.

I am the only candidate that has funded my own campaign and sponsored tourism and local businesses while running my campaign.

Visit my website WesSherrod.com and my Facebook Page Wes Sherrod for State Representative to see my plan to fix the pensions cut taxes and bring jobs and industry back to Southern Illinois. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. We do not need another career politician. We need a business owner.

Wes Sherrod - Republican State Representative - 118th District

TWO AUCTIONS
2253 W. MORTON AVE, JACKSONVILLE, IL

#1 - MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018 @ 10 A.M. COMMERCIAL WELDING EQUIPMENT - TOOLS - SUPPLIES: carbon grade SA333 & assorted piping - aluminum - scaffolding & assorted various other items not mentioned!

#2 - MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018 @ 10 A.M. EQUIPMENT - TRUCK - FORKLIFT - WELDERS - TOOLS - SUPPLIES

PETRI WELDING
NOTICE: Listing & additional info, pictures & sale terms view online at www.middendorfs.com or auctionzip.com ID #2483 or contact auctioneers.

MIDDENDORF BROS. AUCTIONEERS and REAL ESTATE www.middendorfs.com 888-643-2767

Union County Republican Candidates

<u>State</u> 2018 Union County Republican Slate	<u>Local</u> 2018 Union County Republican Slate
Governor Bruce Rauner Jeanne Ives	Union County Clerk Lance M. Meisenheimer
Attorney General Erika Harold Gary Grasso	Union Co. Treasurer Leigh Burns Monica L. Russell Gary C. Dahmer Lashonna Pinnon-Loveless
Secretary of State Jason Helland	Union Co. Comm. <u>Seat A</u> Kent L. Pitts
Comptroller Darlene Senger	Union Co. Comm. <u>Seat C</u> Alex Foeller
State Treasurer Jim Dodge	Union Co. Comm. <u>Seat D</u> Max Miller
U.S. 12 Rep. Mike Bost Preston Nelson	Republican Precinct Committee Darryl Adams Ilona "Kay" Johnson Magen Brumleve Janis Kay Corrington Robert E. Weilmuenster Gerry A. Basler Kindra "Ann" Toler Stanley
Illinois Senate 59 Dale Fowler	
Illinois Rep. 115 Terri Bryant Paul Jacobs	
Illinois Rep. 118 Patrick Windhorst Wes Sherrod Samuel K. Stratemeyer	
1st Judicial Circuit V1 Amanda Byassee Gott	
1st Judicial Circuit V2 Carey C. Gill	

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT
The Talk And Cobden Review
Serving The Union County Area Since 1849

Arts center presents play



An Angel Appears
Nancy Kucera portrayed the eccentric angel "Ashrath" in the comedic play "Assumptions" by Steve Falcone. The performance was the first in a five-show theater series planned during 2018 by the Shawnee Hills Arts Council at the Anna Arts Center in Anna. Photos by Benjamin Marxer.



Theater Season Begins
Local actors R L Pete Houseman, Nancy Kucera and Kaitlin Griffith performed in "Assumptions," which was staged during February at the arts center.

Sheriff works to employ proactive, rapid response to school safety issues

Union County Sheriff Scott Harvel says that his office is working to be as proactive as possible when it comes to preventing possible tragedies from unfolding at local schools. The goal is to respond as rapidly as possible to any potential incidents.

The sheriff reported at a recent Union County Board of Commissioners meeting that he and other sheriff's office personnel have been spending a lot of time in local counties as part of an ongoing effort to keep everyone safe.

Concerns about school safety are a top priority as people have witnessed shooting tragedies which occurred at schools in Kentucky and Florida.

Harvel said that the sheriff's office responded to an issue which surfaced on social media during February.

The sheriff posted on Facebook on the night of Feb. 21 that:

"There is a viral post spreading across social media of a screen shot by a person identified as 'Ray Andres' indicating that there is going to be a shooting at 'SHS' tomorrow.

"Upon investigation this is a nation wide post that originated out of the State of Ohio, and has spread fear in many schools across the country using the acronym 'SHS.'

"Information that was received by the Union County Sheriff's Office indicated that the threat was to Shawnee High School.

"Upon investigation into this matter, it has been determined that there is no credible threat to Shawnee High School or any Union County Schools.

"The Union County Sheriff's Office is continuing to monitor the post and investigate the incident.

"Again no credible threat exists to Shawnee High School."

On the Thursday following the incident, the sheriff posted deputies at the high school to offer assurances about safety and to meet with students as needed.

Harvel continues to work to enhance intruder and active shooter training programs in the schools as a way to prepare for possible violent situations.

A program called ALICE is made available to local

school personnel. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate.

The ALICE Training Institute explains on its website that the program offers classes which "provide preparation and a plan for individuals on how to more proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event."

Union County Sheriff's Office Deputy Eric Ralls is a trained ALICE instructor.

The seemingly all-encompassing presence of social media presents a special challenge and a need for around-the-clock monitoring of potential threats.

The sheriff's office offers protection 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for the people of Union County.

However, providing that service, has become more challenging as the sheriff's office, and other local law enforcement agencies, look to fill vacancies with trained personnel.

Harvel said that the sheriff's office has very dedicated personnel who continue to work hard to keep everybody safe.

State correctional cadet graduation ceremonies held in Murphysboro

The state's new correctional cadets were welcomed during graduation ceremonies which was held March 2.

The academy graduates included the first class of cadets for the Murphysboro Life Skills Re-Entry Center.

The Illinois Department of Corrections held two graduating ceremonies, one at its Springfield headquarters and another at the Murphysboro Life Skills Re-entry Center, where Gov. Bruce Rauner delivered the keynote address.

The Murphysboro Life Skills Re-entry Center is the second of its kind to

open during Rauner's administration.

The first, which is located in Kewanee, opened in February 2017. More than 60 offenders have been released from the Kewanee facility in the past year; none have returned to prison, state officials said.

The Life Skills Re-Entry Centers focus on teaching skills that are designed to help offenders to be successful once they're released.

The skills include how to manage a bank account, write a resume, communicate effectively with others and prepare for job interviews.

The Murphysboro facility is scheduled to accept its first group of offenders in April.

A total of 190 cadets graduated from the Illinois Department of Corrections during the ceremony, wrapping up six weeks of course work and on-the-job training.

During their time at the academy, they learned how to understand and communicate with offenders on the mental health caseload and how to maintain composure in crisis situations.

The new cadets were scheduled to start at facilities across the state on March 5.

Trail society hike planned

The River-to-River Trail Society plans to offer its first guided hike of the spring hiking season on Saturday, March 10, at Thacker Hollow in Gallatin County. The hike is free and open to the public.

Hikers are advised to meet at 10 a.m. at the Rim Rock parking lot on Karber's Ridge Road, about 8 miles east of Route 34 and about 3 miles west of Route 1.

The trail society said the hike will be one of moderate difficulty, intended for people in good health who have done some walking.

The hike will include several creek crossings, so feet may get wet. Boots or sturdy shoes, a pair of dry socks and a hiking stick are strongly recommended, the society noted.

Hikers are advised to bring their own water and a snack. Hikers are asked to not bring dogs.

For more information, call 630-470-7692.

St. Anne's supper, dessert auction planned

An annual soup and chili supper and dessert auction are planned at historic St. Anne's Church at 507 S. Main St. in Anna Friday, March 16, at 5:30 p.m. \$5 per person.

The event and auction will help to support the upkeep of St. Anne's.

Donations of desserts for the auction are welcome; however, it is asked that no cream desserts be brought.

Walk-ins are welcome, although if possible, those who plan to attend are asked to call 833-9441 to help the hosts plan for the amount of food to prepare.

Parking is half a block from the church, behind Stinson Memorial Library.

The event is being hosted by the PAST organization of Union County, which invites the community to come for a bowl of hot soup or chili, fellowship and bidding for desserts.

Service days set for spring

The Shawnee Volunteer Corps invites area residents to be a part of upcoming trail work days.

Volunteers will join U.S. Forest Service/Shawnee National Forest employees at Garden of the Gods Wilderness, which is located south of Harrisburg.

Spring service days are scheduled on the following Saturdays: March 17, April 14 and May 12.

For more information, or to preregister for a work day, visit www.tailsntrails.eventbrite.com or call the Shawnee Volunteer Corps at 833-8576.

UNION COUNTY SWCD

Now taking fish orders for stocking ponds until April 9th for delivery on April 15th.
Game species, fat head minnows and grass carp.
For more information, contact John Wingate at the Anna USDA office, 201 Springfield Ave. or call 618-833-5666, Ext. 101.
12GP

SPRING MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
404 N. Old Route 66 ~ Hamel, IL (Next to Sievers Equipment)
SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018 - 8:30 A.M.

**TRACTORS • BACKHOE • FARM EQUIPMENT • COMBINES & HEADS
TRUCKS & TRAILERS • EQUIPMENT FROM WORKSAVER
SHOP EQUIPMENT, TOOLS & MORE**
To view more photos visit: www.auctionzip.com

618-459-3445 DENNIS AHRENS www.a-nauctions.com 618-781-3814 GARY NIEMEIER

CD SPECIALS

15 MONTH CD SPECIAL
1.50% annual percentage yield*

21 MONTH CD SPECIAL
1.81% annual percentage yield*

Southern BANK

www.BankWithSouthern.com

CDs available under \$100,000.00. Minimum deposit required to open under \$100,000.00 is \$1,000.00. Rates for under \$100,000.00: 15 Month CD-- 1.50% APY*, 21 month CD-- 1.81% APY*, APY=Annual Percentage Yield • Rates as of February 3, 2018. APY* subject to change at any time. Penalties may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees incurred may reduce balance. Certain restrictions may apply. Interest paid at maturity. CDs do not automatically renew at the stated term.

UNION COUNTY POLLING PLACES

Union Co. Precincts	Polling Places	Location
Anna 1 & 2	Main Street Center	400 S. Main St., Anna
Anna 3 & 4	Anna City Hall Com. Room	103 Market St., Anna
Anna 5 & 6	Nazarene Church	100 Kirk St., Anna
Anna 7	Jo-Co Pools	1009 Enterprise Dr., Anna
Jonesboro 1 & 2	First Baptist Church	201 W. Walnut St., Jonesboro
Jonesboro 3	Jonesboro Fire Station	102 W. Market St., Jonesboro
Cobden 1 & 2	First Baptist Church	200 S. Walker St., Cobden
Dongola 1 & 2	Community Center	105 Oak St., Dongola
Alto Pass	New Alto Pass Civic Center	19 Elm St., Alto Pass
Mill Creek	Mill Creek Baptist Church	8525 St. Rt. 127 South, Mill Creek
Balcom	Big Creek Baptist Church	485 Big Creek Church Rd., Anna
Lick Creek	Lick Creek School	7355 Lick Creek Rd., Buncombe
Stokes	Camp Ground Church	50 Tunnel Lane, Anna
Union	Wolf Lake Community Center	4720 St. Rt. 3N, Wolf Lake

The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Dated March 6, 2018

Terry Bartruff, Union County Clerk

"Gotta Have Gott!"

Amanda
**BYASSEEE
GOTT**

for Circuit Judge

www.GottforJudge.com

19 Years Experience in ALL 9 Counties
of the 1st Judicial District!

Experience! Service! Leadership!

Paid for by Amanda Byassee Gott for Judge Committee

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

BEAGLE PUPS FOR SALE: Parents on site. \$100.00. Call (618)-833-3338.

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: 2014 Ford Mustang, 52,xxx miles, 6-speed manual, convertible, blue. Always garaged, fantastic condition. \$17,000. Call (618)-534-0573.

FOR SALE: 2010 Ford Ranger. Automatic, regular cab, 4-cylinder, metal toolbox, good tires. Good condition, clean. 108,000 miles. \$6,000 obo. Call (618)-521-8049.

FOR SALE: BassTracker PF16 boat, Mercury motor. Good shape. \$2,000. Call (618)-833-2869.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE: 2 lots in Anna city limits with all utility hook-ups. Call (618)-697-6292.

FOR SALE: 4 miles north of Cobden off of old route 51, 3 bedroom home and a mobile home with a new roof on 3 acres, \$85,000. Call (618)-969-2451.

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 ANNA: 1 bedroom apartment. No pets. No smoking. 1 year lease. \$400.00 deposit, \$495.00 per month rent. Call (618)-697-7050.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom house. \$400.00 per month plus utilities & deposit. No pets. 208 Kohler Street, Anna. Call (618)-697-2534.

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom apartment. Ground-floor, furnished, close to restaurants, stores. Call (618)-833-6618 or (618)-697-1039.

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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: River to River Community of Ullin has openings for a FILL IN Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and a Weekend Kitchen worker/cook. If you are interested please call Delinda at (618)-845-9065.

FULL-TIME DRIVER NEEDED:

Class A CDL required. Hazmat endorsement a plus, but not required. Local driving, home every night. Guaranteed 40 hours per week, with overtime as needed. Apply in person at 5380 State Route 146 E, Anna.

HELP WANTED:

The Village of McClure is accepting applications for a full-time police officer. Competitive pay with benefits after 30 days. Must be Illinois Certified and willing to work all shifts. Hours will vary. Experience preferred. Please send resume and copy of certifications to Mayor Cheryl Dillon, Village of McClure, P.O. Box 117, McClure, IL 62957.

HELP WANTED: The City of Anna is now accepting applications for pool lifeguard positions. American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification is highly desirable. Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 103 Market Street, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Application deadline is April 6, 2018. EOE.

HELP WANTED: CIL, Inc. is accepting applications for DSP's. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent to apply. Starting salary for a trained DSP is \$10.00 per hour. \$9.00 if we must train to be a DSP. Apply in person at 201 East Chestnut in Anna, IL (behind Hardee's). EOE.

HELP WANTED: The City of Anna is now accepting applications for Pool Manager and Head Lifeguard. American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification, prior management experience and W.S.I. training is highly desirable. Must pass background check. Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 103 Market Street, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Application deadline is April 6, 2018. EOE.

PAYROLL/RECEPTION-IST POSITION: Successful candidate should have payroll and receptionist experience, have pleasant personality, and be trustworthy. Duties involve payroll processing, answering the phone, greeting visitors, and involvement with transportation. Must have experience in operating a computer. Position is Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Come by and fill out an application or mail resume to: Rave Inc., 214 West Davie Street, Anna, IL 62906. EOE.

REPPERT PUBLICATIONS, a family-owned, award winning newspaper group in Southernmost Illinois, is seeking community-minded reporters/editors. A journalism degree is desired, but will consider others with appropriate work experience in newsroom applications. You will cover everything from local government, school news, hard news to ribbon cuttings. Must be a self-starter, versatile writer and deadline- and results- oriented. We offer competitive salary, vacation and opportunities for advancement. Computer, photography and layout skills are a huge plus. Send cover letter, resume and samples of your work to lhinton@annanews.com or mail to: Lonnie Hinton, P.O. Box 457, Vienna, IL 62995.

WANTED

WANTED-SEWING JOBS. Please call (618)-697-0887.

LAWNS TO MOW, SMALL LANDSCAPING JOBS:

Prater Lawn Care
Free Estimates,
Small & Large Lawns,
Fully Insured,
Experienced,
(618)-697-9578.

TWO SONS & A DAD MOWING!

Professional job with reasonable prices.
Call (618)-771-7796 or (618)-771-7795.

WANTED TO BUY: 1 to 3 acres in the Lick Creek School District. Preferably with utility hook-ups. Call (618)-614-0349.

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

WANTED TO BUY: Junked & wrecked automobiles and scraped metal. Clark & Son, 100 Kelly Cemetery, Cobden. Call (618)-893-2195.

YARD SALE

DON'T MISS THIS ONE! HUGE BENEFIT YARD SALE:

Harvest Church, 602 East Davie Street, Anna. Saturday, March 10, 7 a.m. to noon.

BUSINESS

Duck Works Lawn Care (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! duckworkslawn@gmail.com www.duckworkslawn.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

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

NOTICE

LOOKING FOR the father of Traven Ayers. Call (618)-306-3742.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with Section 17-20 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/17-20), notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 1 P.M. Tuesday, April 3, 2018, in the Offices of the Department of Revenue, 101 West Jefferson Street, Springfield, Illinois, for the purpose of taking evidence which may be pertinent to the Department's estimate of the percent to be added or be deducted from the aggregate assessment of locally assessed property in Union County for the assessment year 2017. This hearing is required by the Property Tax Code.

Based on the comparison of assessed valuation, the analysis of property transfers, and other available information, the estimated percentage to be added to the aggregate assessment of locally assessed property other than property assessed under Sections 10-110 through 10-140 and 10-170 through 10-200 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/10-110 through 10-140 and 10-170 through 10-200) is 0.00%. Accordingly, the tentative equalization factor

is 1.0000. This meeting will be accessible to handicapped individuals in compliance with Executive Order #5 and pertinent state and federal laws upon notification of anticipated attendance. Handicapped persons planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact Thomas Raymond, either by telephone (217/785-6619) or letter (Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division MC-3-450, 101 West Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 19033, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9033), by Tuesday, March 27, 2018, to inform of their anticipated attendance.

Constance Beard
Director
12g

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the disposing of the following described personal property which is stored at the self service storage facility known as AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, Illinois 62906.

1. Name of occupant: Lisa Pulver
2. Property to be disposed of: Miscellaneous personal property
3. Date and place of disposition: March 30, 2018, at AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, IL 62906.

12-13g

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the disposing of the following described personal property which is stored at the self service storage facility known as AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, Illinois 62906.

1. Name of occupant: Sarah Sanders
2. Property to be disposed of: Miscellaneous personal property
3. Date and place of disposition: March 30, 2018, at AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, IL 62906.

12-13g

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the disposing of the following described personal property which is stored at the self service storage facility known as AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, Illinois 62906.

1. Name of occupant: Kedron Jones
2. Property to be disposed of: Miscellaneous personal property
3. Date and place of disposition: March 30, 2018, at AJ Store and Lock, 105 Quarry Road, Anna, IL 62906.

12-13g

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

**State of Illinois
SS
County of Union**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Name in the conduct or Transaction of Business in the State," as Amended that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Union County. Filed this 21st day of February, 2018, under the Assumed Name of Southfork Firearms with the place of business located at 1215 Body Barn Road, Anna, IL 62906 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the Sole Owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Jared Blessing
1215 Body Barn Road
Anna, IL 62906

Terry Bartruff
Union County Clerk
11-13g

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF UNION, ILLINOIS

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) packets are available in the Union County Clerk's office. Questions regarding specifications may be directed to the County Administrator at

(618)-833-8276 or via email at acoke@unioncountyil.gov.

Qualifications response packages should be submitted to the Union County Clerk by Noon on Friday, March 16, 2018, at the Union County Courthouse. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids received and to waive or not waive any informalities or irregularities in bids or bid procedures, and to accept or further negotiate costs, terms, or conditions of any bid determined by the County to be in the best interest of the County.

Union County Clerk
Terry Bartruff
309 West Market Street
Room 116
Jonesboro, Illinois 62952
12g

BID NOTICE

Union County will be placing a 2006 Ford F450 retired ambulance unit up for sealed bid as surplus property. Bids will be received by mail addressed to Union County Clerk Terry Bartruff, 309 West Market Street, Room 116, Jonesboro, Illinois 62952. Bids should be labeled "2006 surplus ambulance bid." All sealed bids will be presented to the Union County Board of Commissioners to be opened and the winning responsive bid announced on March 23, 2018, during a regular county board meeting. Deadline for submission of a sealed bid will be on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at the close of the business day. Any questions in relation to this used unit can be directed to Grant Capel-Director, Union County Ambulance during regular business hours at (618)-833-2871. The Union County Board of Commissioners has set a minimum reserve of \$17,000.

12gp

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

ESTATE OF FRANCIS M. WESTBROOKS, JR. IN PROBATE DECEASED. NO. 2018-P-10

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Francis M. Westbrook, Jr. of Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 5, 2018, to Hugh M. Westbrook, 1404 Butternut Drive, Greenville, IL 62246, 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 September 8, 2018, 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: March 5, 2018.

HUGH M. WESTBROOKS

CAMERON LAW FIRM, LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
12-14g

MISC.

I NEED YOUR VOTE! VOTE LASHONNA PINNON LOVELESS FOR TREASURER ON MARCH 20TH!

ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED NETWORK

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 844-359-8922

A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE. No obligation. CALL 844-363-6919

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 844-209-8952

DRIVER - CDL A TRAINING. \$250 - \$500 Incentive Bonus. No Out of Pocket Tuition Cost!. Get Your CDL in 22 Days. 6 Day Refresher Courses Available. Minimum 21 Years. 877-899-8741. EOE. www.kllmldrivingacademy.com

Meet singles right now! No paid operators, just real people like you. Browse greetings, exchange messages and connect live. Try it free. Call now: 855-379-3128

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 855-977-3059

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00 MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 800 567-0404 Ext.300N



Candidate Questionnaires

This week, The Gazette-Democrat is featuring responses to questionnaires from candidates who are running in the March 20 primary election. Questionnaires were mailed to candidates in mid-January.

David Bequette



Name: David Bequette
Address: Columbia
Occupation: Marketing consultant (Former Marketing Instructor of ATC a Texas A&M Agribusiness degree program)
Office you are seeking: U.S. House of Representatives, Illinois 12th Congressional District
Party affiliation: Democrat

Are you an incumbent? No

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? No

Why are you running? Over a year ago, like many Americans, I was on the sidelines, watching the current fate of our nation unfold.

I never considered the audacious path of running for office, let alone for Congress.

However, with the election of Trump, the deterioration of our party in Southern Illinois, and back to back failed congressional elections in the 12th with familiar names coming out of St. Clair County, I realized I could no longer sit on the sidelines.

With a global career of serving, teaching and leading there is no greater calling than that of representative politics. It's not enough for us just to say we "hear you" or that we are "listening," we need leaders that are focused on fixing the status quo.

What are your goals if elected?

The #BequetteList is a comprehensive list of goals and our contract with our constituents.

On that list we cover policies for healthcare, criminal justice reform, racial equity programs, continued protections for the LGBTQIA+ community and economic and environmental reform.

Specifically, I will work with other members of Congress to pass a single-payer healthcare program that covers all Americans because healthcare is a right, not a privilege.

I will propose a nationwide criminal justice reform package that includes an end to mandatory minimums, a nationwide decarceration program, decriminalization and legalization of marijuana and an immediate clean slate program for millions who are financially affected by past offenses.

On top of policy, our specific goal locally is to strengthen Southern Illinois and get our citizens working together to re-build our communities; focusing on our environment and protecting it for increased tourism and eco-tourism, placing education and our numerous universities at the forefront of shaping our labor force and attracting companies to the region, investing in our communities like Cairo and East St. Louis which have been used and abused by politicians but have received no real attention other than to attain a vote, and protecting our

coal miners and the communities they have built with comprehensive re-tooling and retraining programs for jobs in hi-tech, renewables and diversified agriculture.

Why should someone vote for you?

Our district is incredibly diverse, and to properly represent that diversity, and to ensure that everyone has a voice, we can no longer continue the failed policy of allowing one county in our district to dictate who represents us and whose voice matters.

As an educator, military veteran, entrepreneur and leader, I have had the awesome responsibility of leading and working with people from all walks of life.

As a father of three young kids, and a proud husband, I also understand what the middle-class struggle is truly about.

It's cliché, but there is nothing more powerful than really knowing what it's like to live pay check to pay check, or what it's like to worry that your child might get sick when you don't have healthcare coverage, or what it's like to be drowning in student debt.

I've been there, I've done that and frankly I'm tired of American's feeling this pressure.

We can fix this, and we can fix this with leadership that understands and is committed to changing this.

Mike Bost



Name: Mike Bost
Address: Murphysboro
Occupation: U.S. Congressman, Illinois 12th District
Office Seeking: U.S. Congress, Illinois 12th District
Party Affiliation: Republican

Are you the incumbent? Yes

If yes, how long have you served in office?

U.S. Congress, Illinois 12th District, running for third term.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

U.S. Congress, Illinois 12th District, 2015 to present.

Illinois State Representative, 115th District, 1995-2014.

Murphysboro Township Trustee, 1993-1997.

Murphysboro City Treasurer, 1988-1992.

Jackson County Board, 1985-1988.

Why are you running?

To ensure our military is a well-prepared force in readiness to provide for a strong national defense.

To secure our borders and fix our broken immigration system.

To continue to remove over-burdensome regulations on job providers and allow the American people to grow the economy for a better future.

What are your goals if elected?

To continue working on policy and legislation to

achieve the above goals for the betterment of the lives of our children and grandchildren.

If you are the incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

In my short time in Congress, I have worked to be a leader on issues important to Southern Illinois, including as Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disabilities and Memorial Affairs and as Chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus.

As a member of both the House Agriculture and House Transportation committees, I have a record of fighting to grow jobs and expand Southern Illinois' agricultural and industrial economies.

Pieces of legislation I introduced last year that President Trump signed into law included streamlining the process by which our veterans can resolve disability claims and providing a cost-of-living increase for our veterans.

I also voted to pass tax reform for the first time in 35 years, to reduce over-burdensome regulations to allow for positive job growth, and make it easier for new farmers to get involved and invest in agricultural careers.

We've put in place a staff in both D. C. and in the district that is positive, professional, efficient and effective in handling both legislative procedures and constituent services.

Why should someone vote for you?

Being born and raised in Southern Illinois, I understand the needs of the people who live here and the needs of Scott Air Force Base, Southern Illinois University and our community colleges, small and large business, and farm and agricultural interests throughout the district.

My experience in working with my constituents, as well as local, state, and federal officials to achieve positive results for Illinois 12th District and this nation, provides the best option for the voters of Southern Illinois.

Terri Bryant



Name: Terri Bryant
Address: Murphysboro
Office you are seeking: 115th District State Representative
Party Affiliation: Republican

Are you an incumbent? Yes

If yes, how long have you served in office?

I was first sworn in to fill the remainder of Congressman Bost's term as 115th District State Representative in December 2014. I was sworn in to my first full-term in January 2015.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

Yes. I was elected in the 2014 race for 115th District State Representative. I defeated Bill Kilquist 61 percent to 39 percent in that race.

In 2016, I stood for re-election as 115th district State Representative and defeated Marsha Griffin 55 percent to 45 percent.

Why are you running?

I'm running for re-election as your State Representative because I have, and will continue to always put the interests of Southern Illinois first.

My campaign is built on a foundation of "promises-made, promises-kept."

When I was elected in 2014, I promised to work to reopen the shuttered

Department of Corrections facility in Murphysboro.

As of today, the facility is on its way to reopening. There are staff members training, inmates soon returning and a facility, once wasting away because of Pat Quinn's foolish mistake, will now provide 100 good paying jobs for the hard working men and women of Southern Illinois.

In a new term I pledge to stand firm on my promises made in 2014. As your State Representative, I have never and will never vote for Mike Madigan for Speaker of the House.

During my time as your State Representative, I have fought for and voted to protect pro-life and traditional family values.

I have voted to stop taxpayer funded abortions and will continue working to repeal the morally wrong HB 40. I have defended our 2nd Amendment Right to bear arms, voted for balanced budgets, supported record funding for our public schools and passed major pieces of legislation, including Molly's Law.

Much work remains to be done, and if elected I will continue to put the interests of Southern Illinois first, with a focus on growing the regional economy.

What are your goals if elected?

I believe the fight to make Illinois continue to live within its means is going to be the biggest fight we have going forward.

When I supported a balanced, full-year budget, I helped end a two and a half-year stalemate that saw Illinois threatened with junk-bond status and the closing of state universities.

The loss of accreditation or the possible closing of Southern Illinois University would have devastated Southern Illinois' working families and economy.

Illinois piled up billions of dollars in unpaid bills and interest penalties as large and small health care providers, schools, community service organizations and our public service institutions went unpaid for months and in some cases years. This cannot continue. I will work to put Illinois on a tight fiscal diet.

My goal will be to continue to fight to protect the values that Southern Illinoisans share. I have a long record of fighting attempts by Chicago politicians to advance a liberal progressive agenda, and as your State Representative I will continue efforts to keep Chicago out of Southern Illinois.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

I have voted to stop taxpayer funded abortions and am the sponsor of legislation that would repeal HB 40.

I have defended our 2nd Amendment Right to bear arms, voted for balanced budgets, helped secure record funding for pre-K through 12th grade schools, and passed major pieces of legislation, including Molly's Law.

I am also very proud of my efforts to provide top-notch constituent service. I have two offices, one in Mt. Vernon and one in Murphysboro that have answered thousands of calls, taken hundreds of walk-ins and connected people having problems with the solutions that they need.

I am proud to have hosted town hall meetings and legislative updates in every county in the district. My focus on constituent service is a priority and will continue to be in a new term because I believe a State Representative should be open, accessible and accountable to their constituents.

Why should someone vote for you?

I believe my record of getting results for Southern Illinois is second to none. I

am honored to be supported by a wide variety of advocacy groups that represent interests from across the political spectrum.

I have been endorsed by the Illinois Farm Bureau ACTIVATOR and have previously been named a "Friend of Agriculture" by the Jackson County Farm Bureau.

My strong record of defending pro-life values has earned me the endorsement of the Illinois Citizens for Life PAC and the Illinois Federation for Right to Life. I have also been endorsed by business and labor groups, including the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Education Association, the Illinois Federation of Teachers, the Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance PAC, the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, and IUOE Local 150.

As your State Representative, I have kept my promise to put the interests of Southern Illinois first and will continue to do so in the future. I am humbled by your previous support and kindly ask for your vote on Tuesday, March 20.

Leigh Burns



Name: Leigh Burns
Address: Jonesboro
Occupation: Deputy Treasurer
Office Seeking: Union County Treasurer
Party Affiliation: Republican

Why are you running?

I have worked in the Treasurer's Office for nearly 25 years and have the ambition to run for the position.

What are your goals if elected?

To continue the progress that the county has made in all aspects.

Why should someone vote for you?

I have the experience in all of the different areas and duties in the Treasurer's Office.

I enjoy my job and working for Union County and would appreciate your vote and support.

Gary C. Dahmer



Name: Gary C. Dahmer
Address: Jonesboro
Occupation: Businessman
Office Seeking: Treasurer
Party Affiliation: Republican

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? County Commissioner.

Why are you running?

I am running to make sure the people's money is used wisely.

What are your goals if elected?

Checks and balances of all the people's money. Making sure all reports are done on time.

Why should someone vote for you?

I have been around business long enough to know when numbers are on and numbers are off. I'm easy to talk to and my door is always open.

Tyler R. Edmonds



Name: Tyler R. Edmonds
Address: Anna
Occupation: Union County State's Attorney

Office sought: Circuit Judge of the First Judicial Circuit: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Mascac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union and Williamson counties, vacancy of the Hon. Mark H. Clarke
Party Affiliation: Democratic

Are you an incumbent? No.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

I currently serve as the Union County State's Attorney.

Why are you running?

As a fifth generation Union County native, I care deeply about the future of our community.

I have been very fortunate to serve the public as a prosecutor and it would be an honor to continue that service as a judge.

As State's Attorney I have handled thousands of civil and criminal cases and I see the tremendous impact the courts can have on lives of Southern Illinoisans each and every day.

What are your goals if elected?

As a judge, I am committed to serving impartially and independently.

I will work every day to ensure that the public has confidence in our courts.

I will ensure that all sides are heard and that cases move to a conclusion as efficiently as possible.

As State's Attorney I have worked with law enforcement, public defenders, judges, probation and the community to improve our juvenile court system and I would continue those efforts as a judge.

I will also support alternative courts such as drug court, veterans court and mental health court.

If you are an incumbent, what would you consider to be your accomplishments?

As State's Attorney I have worked proactively to improve our justice system by partnering with court personnel, law enforcement and the community.

The State's Attorney's Office has reduced the backlog of open cases in the court system resulting in significant increases in felony dispositions.

I have also worked to expand services to crime victims, and focus law-enforcement efforts on domestic violence, stalking, child abuse and methamphetamine addiction.

As, State's Attorney, I have also worked with leaders in Union County and across Illinois to create better opportunities for kids through early-childhood education and juvenile justice reform.

Investing in our at-risk youth means better lives for those kids and a safer community for all of us.

I have led efforts to secure grant funding for the Redeploy Illinois program which focuses intensive probation services on juveniles at risk for incarceration.

This program promotes public safety by steering kids away from a future of bad choices and crime and saves taxpayer money by reducing incarceration.

(continued on next page)

Candidate Questionnaires

Edmonds

(continued from previous page)

Redeploy has seen great results in Union County and brought new services to our most troubled youth.

I also chair the First Circuit Juvenile Justice Council and am a state co-chair of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois, a non-partisan coalition of prosecutors, police chiefs and sheriffs across Illinois which advocate for proven strategies to reduce crime including high-quality preschool and the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Why should someone vote for you?
It is an incredible honor to serve the public as Union County State's Attorney and I would be humbled to continue that service as a judge.

Each and every day I will work to make our courts work for everyone. I would appreciate your vote and support on March 20 and on November 6.

Alex Foeller



Name: Alex Foeller
Address: Anna
Occupation: Director of Finance at Masters Choice
Office you are seeking: County Commissioner (Seat C)

Party affiliation: Republican
Are you an incumbent? Yes.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? Yes. Sought first in 2016, currently holding office of County Commissioner (Seat C)

Why are you running?
I'm running because I love Union County and all of Southern Illinois. It's home to me, and I want it to be a place where my children can grow up, find jobs, and create a life in this community.

Right now, I believe I can be of assistance to help the county unlock its full potential.

I find great joy in life when I help people – what better way to help than by serving your friends and neighbors?

My responsibilities as county commissioner center around budget management, personnel decisions, and fostering communication between the departments of our other elected offices.

What are your goals if elected?
If elected, my primary goal will be to work alongside community and business leaders to improve Union County's economy.

This starts with an immediate look at our tax structure. Ideally, we would rely more on tax revenue from outside sources than those from our residents.

This means lowering property taxes, and replacing them with other methods of revenue collection.

The next step would be to work alongside economic development entities to reach out to expanding businesses.

More specifically, we are in a great need of manufacturing jobs in Union County to help boost employment, and support our other indus-

tries currently present.

Why should someone vote for you?

I believe my position in a growing and dynamic business, combined with my year of experience within the county government, would make me the perfect candidate for a county that needs a more efficient government, and a more business-friendly environment.

My motivation as a community leader will be to empower the people that put me in office, not control them.

Dale Fowler



Name: Dale Fowler
Address: Harrisburg
Occupation: State Senator, 59th District
Office Seeking: State Senator, 59th District
Party Affiliation: Republican

Are you an incumbent? Yes

If yes, how long have you served office? First term

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

Saline County Board, elected to 4-year term 2002.

Mayor of the City of Harrisburg, elected April 2015.

Why are you running?
To continue working for the citizens of Southern Illinois.

What are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

improve Southern Illinois and end the partisan gridlock in Springfield.

During the budget impasse, school districts were essentially held hostage and did not even know if our doors would be open in the Fall.

I want to be a strong advocate for our children here in Illinois. They deserve a better legacy than what we are leaving them. They did not create the budget issues that our state is facing but will surely inherit them if we don't get Illinois back on track.

I've been a lifelong resident of Southern Illinois, and I want to see our area grow and reach its full potential.

For far too long, we have been ignored by politicians, and we need someone who will not back down from speaking up, loud and clear, for the values and needs of our district.

What are your goals if elected?

My goals include being a strong voice for middle-class families and their values.

That includes fighting for local jobs, working to close corporate tax loopholes and preventing companies from shipping jobs overseas.

As an educator, I also want to ensure that every school in Southern Illinois receives its fair share.

I will also support a budget that supports critical services and jobs here in Southern Illinois, while cutting government waste and bureaucracy.

Why should someone vote for you?

Our area deserves a legislator who isn't afraid to vote on the issues that are important to the district.

Whether I was organizing against Pat Quinn's plans to cut Southern Illinois jobs instead of Chicago waste, or standing up to Bruce Rauner and his allies' anti-middle-class agenda, I've never been someone who backs down.

I have the necessary grit and tenacity to do just that. A legislator should strive to be a strong voice for the people of the district, and the only people I'm going to represent are the people of this district.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

Why are your goals if elected?
To continue promoting the economic development opportunities in Southern Illinois. Promoting tourism and the beautiful area we live in.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

Reopening efforts of Rend Lake Resort. Developing plans for Mississippi river port terminal in Cairo. Marketing the resources Southern Illinois has to offer.

Why should someone vote for you?
I will continue to treat all citizens equal in a bipartisan manner.

What are your goals if elected?

Being elected At Large Circuit Judge, will allow me to continue serving the citizens of Southern Illinois and the legal profession.

Being a Circuit Judge is about being a leader and having input on administration and policy within the circuit.

I look forward to working with the other Judges in the Circuit to continue the development and implementation of specialty courts, like veterans court and drug court, as well as working to increase the equal access to justice for self-represented persons.

As Circuit Judge, I plan to serve the profession by maintaining membership in local legal organizations, contributing to continuing legal education courses, and serving as a mentor to younger members of the legal profession as many great judges did for me as a young attorney.

Why should someone vote for you?

I was born and raised in Marion and have spent my almost 20 year legal career representing clients, businesses and families throughout Southern Illinois.

I have 12 years experience as a family law mediator and am a court approved Guardian ad Litem for disabled persons and minor children.

I have represented the wealthy as a private attorney and the indigent as a legal aid attorney and pro bono provider, and am proud to have practiced in all nine counties of the First Judicial Circuit.

I am a third generation small business owner, have spent thousands of hours in the courtroom, and have handled a wide variety of legal issues ranging from criminal law to civil litigation, from probate to foreclosure, and from family law to personal injury cases.

Therefore, I will bring a broad base of experience to the judiciary in Southern Illinois.

Scott Harvel



Name: Scott Harvel
Address: Jonesboro
Occupation: Sheriff
Office you are seeking: Sheriff

Party affiliation: Democrat
Are you an incumbent? Yes

If yes, how long have you served in office?

I have worked in law enforcement for 31 years.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

I served since 2014 as Sheriff.

Why are you running?
To provide an effective professionally trained law enforcement agency that will meet the needs of the community while maintaining a safe environment for the citizens of Union County.

What are your goals if elected?

1) Explore the development of a diversion program for nonviolent drug offenders as an alternative to incarceration.

2) Continue to enhance intruder/active shooter training programs within all Union County Schools so that they may be better prepared for violent encounters or situations.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?

1) Established a canine unit for the Sheriff's Office.

2) Provided ongoing active shooter preparedness training programs for schools, churches and government agencies.

3) Developed an effective residential security check program.

4) Acquired an unmanned aircraft for search and rescue missions.

Why should someone vote for you?

I feel as though I have the experience, training, and skills to be a fair and honest leader in our community.

John L Hughey



Name: John L. Hughey
Occupation: Grain Warehouse Examiner Specialist
Address: Anna

Office Seeking: Union County Treasurer
Party Affiliation: Democrat

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

I served from 1995-2011 on the Anna CCDS No. 37 Board of Education and from 2011 to current day on the A-JCHS No. 81 Board of Education.

Why are you running?
I am running for treasurer because I see a need for our treasurer to be one of our county leaders. I see a need for the treasurer to be a person who is willing to work as part of a team, in good times or bad.

In a county like ours we need a person willing to listen to new ideas, no matter who or where they come from. I believe I am that person.

What are your goals if elected?
To have an office that is transparent, run efficiently and accountable to all taxpayers.

My office would have an open door to new ideas that would help our county be good stewards of its resources.

I also promise to work with the Board of Commissioners, other office holders and the other parts of our county government to better serve the people of this county.

Why should someone vote for you?
I grew up in Union County, graduated from Cobden High School and SIU Carbondale.

I have over 30 years of experience auditing the books and records of grain elevators. These elevators are responsible for paying farmers what they are owed for grain and to be able to demonstrate their ability to pay at all times.

I have spent more than 20 years on local boards of education. This has given me invaluable financial oversight, budgeting and personal management experience.

My education and experience has given me the preparation that I need to be Union County's next treasurer.

Dr. Paul Jacobs



Name: Dr. Paul Jacobs
Address: Pomona
Occupation: Optometrist and Businessman
Office Seeking: Illinois State Representative District 115

Party Affiliation: Republican
Why are you running?

In Illinois, we are burdened with some of the highest tax rates in the country. As a member of the Southern Illinois community for nearly 40 years I've witnessed business after business leave the state and countless families struggle to make ends meet.

On July 2, 2017, State Rep. Terri Bryant joined hands with Chicago Democrats and voted to enact a 32 percent income tax hike, the largest income tax hike in Illinois history.

This means every Illinois household will pay an additional \$1,125 in taxes annually without any major reforms in property taxes or other burdensome taxes.

I'm sick of seeing businesses and families leave the area to find better opportunities elsewhere. I've decided to stand up for Southern Illinois and fight for the communities that I love.

What are your goals if elected?

If elected, I want to provide Southern Illinois residents with tax relief. Property taxes have escalated out of control and are causing Illinois families to leave the state in record numbers.

We cannot continue to use this state's budget problems as an excuse to create burdens on the families and businesses of this state.

We also need jobs in Southern Illinois and not only do we need a tax environment for residents that is conducive to living and thriving here, but we need business regulations that are attractive to new business.

I am pro-life and have been endorsed by the Illinois Family Institute and Family Action. I will also fight for Second Amendment rights for the people of Illinois.

Why should someone vote for you?

I am not a career politician. I am a husband, father, grandfather, Navy veteran, optometrist and entrepreneur. I have conservative values and will stand up for Southern Illinois and will not cave to the political machine.

I will work to resolve the state's budget issues without increasing student tuition for our college students.

As a matter of fact, I believe college tuition should be lowered and have a plan that will not only lower the tuition for students but will also increase student enrollment.

I believe correctional officers are understaffed while there are too many layers of unnecessary supervisory positions. And these are just a couple of the examples of issues with our state.

I will always be open to ideas and suggestions from my district.

Be Sure To Vote On March 20

Candidate Questionnaires

Lashonna Loveless



Name: Lashonna Pinnon Loveless
Address: Anna
Office Seeking: Union County Treasurer
Party Affiliation: Republican

Why are you running?
I am very committed to my community and its success.

I have lived in Union County all my life, and I want to make a difference—not just for my generation—but for those who will be leaders in the next generation.

I am concerned about the financial status of our county running into great deficit for the last few years.

I have many years of experience in working budgets, building budgets, collections and more that I can provide and I want to utilize these skills to make a great impact on our community.

What are your goals if elected?

My top priority is getting our budget back on track. I am looking forward to joining forces with other county leaders to ensure that we are not just out of deficit, but striving towards being in a place that we have a surplus in our county.

I will look at different avenues to achieve this that will be not relying so heavily on the back of the property owners and residents of Union County.

I have grant writing experience and I intend on exploring and aggressively seeking funding for projects that will provide much needed public services and stimulate our economy.

One example of this would be to seek grant funding to replace, rather than repair, older equipment which will relieve overextended areas and thus reduce specific line item expenditures.

I would like to create a committee of community members that will explore ideas for stimulus growth for our county so that we are insuring future budget surplus.

I also want to ensure that the office staff in the Union County Treasurer/Collectors Office will continue to provide the best service to our community as it has for many years.

Why should someone vote for you?

I will work hard so that the residents and employees that work and live in Union County can be provided the best place to make their home.

Our fiscal health, future growth, and financial security is an utmost priority to me. I believe that I am the best candidate to do just that.

Lance Meisenheimer



Name: Lance Meisenheimer
Address: Jonesboro
Office Seeking: Union County Clerk
Occupation: Union County Sheriff's Office 911 Telecommunicator and Correctional Officer

Party Affiliation: Republican

Have you ever sought, or held, public office?
City of Jonesboro Alderman, Ward Two, May 2013 to present.

Why are you running?
My extensive work in public service has equipped me to serve Union County in a greater capacity.

I feel it is vital to bring transparency and communication from our government to the community in which we serve.

What are your goals if elected?
As county clerk, it is important to maintain fair elections, proper record documentation, tax levies and real estate tax calculations in a timely and professional manner.

My goal as county clerk is to bridge the gap of all offices in Union County government, regardless of party affiliation.

We must develop a system of checks and balances to insure all office responsibilities are being met.

As clerk, I plan to address these concerns. I feel that it is important to maintain the integrity of this office and all the responsibilities with utmost importance.

Why should someone vote for you?

I am a graduate from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School, Shawnee Community College and Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

My bachelor's degree from SIUC in agri-business economics prepared me for the opportunity to run a family-owned business in Union County.

My work experience with the county's governmental departments, such as the ambulance service, sheriff's office and City of Jonesboro as alderman, has inspired me to become more involved in public service.

Union County has been what I call home my entire life. I am asking for your vote because I am hard working, dependable and trustworthy.

I feel that's what it takes to run the most important office in the county.

Max Miller



Name: Max Miller
Address: Anna
Occupation: Funeral Service Consultant for Matthews Aurora Funeral Solutions

Office you are seeking: County Commissioner Seat D

Party Affiliation: Republican

Are you incumbent: Yes
If yes, how long have you served in office?
Five and a half years.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?
Union County Commissioner Presently

Why are you running?
To be re-elected to my seat and continue working for all of Union County, IL.

What are your goals if elected?
Continue to make good decisions for the betterment of Union County.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?
Making changes to outdated operations of county government

Why should someone vote for you?
I make decisions on common sense and business experience and not politics.

Tamiko Mueller



Name: Tamiko Mueller
Address: Murphysboro
Occupation: Military, U.S. Army, and Realtor

Office Seeking: State Representative 115th District

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?
Jackson County Board, three terms to present.

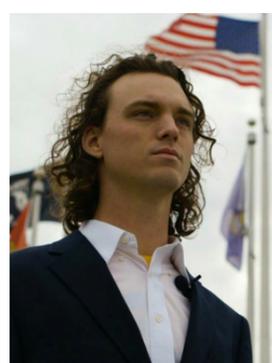
Why are you running?
To be a voice for Southern Illinois, to bring economic development to our region for industry and jobs.

To help and increase services for elderly care. Include trade training in high schools in automotive, wood shop, carpentry etc.

What are your goals if elected?
To provide good-paying jobs for the working class. To help children stay motivated and engaged in school. To help SIUC increase enrollment. To bring industry to the Southern Illinois region.

Why should someone vote for you?
A fresh start, a new beginning for a new year. New changes for people tired of old promises not fulfilled, and old ways of doing things without getting real results.

Preston Nelson



Name: Preston Nelson
Address: Benton
Occupation: Wireless Network Technician
Office: 12th District U.S. Representative.

Party: Republican
Incumbent: No
Ever sought public office before? No

Why I'm running:
To protect the Constitution and freedom. There are giant threats which must be confronted.

Much of the media ignores them, or even helps cover-up, and politicians continue kicking cans down the road while getting rich off of lobbyists who practically control legislation. "If tyranny and oppression come to this land, it will be in the guise of fighting a foreign enemy."

We are now well over \$20 trillion in debt, and over 100 percent of GDP. Last year we paid over a quarter-trillion dollars in interest on the debt.

We are expected to pay nearly half-trillion within a few years. Republicans have NEVER made any real, big spending cuts, and they only achieve temporary tax relief, which is all-together disastrous because we CANNOT lower taxes without lowering spending, or the debt explodes.

Republicans establishment is doing this right now, while they cannot even repeal Obamacare.

My goals if elected:
H.R. 608 "Stop Arming Terrorists Act" This must pass immediately to stop the government from supporting and arming terrorists, as we have covertly and overly done for years now.

It is sad and insane, policy that has already backfired on us, not just recently in Syria, where we continue arming "rebels" to this day, but also in Afghanistan. In the '80's we trained and armed over 12,000 jihadists there, including Saudi imports, including Osama Bin Laden, in both guerilla warfare and bomb-making.

Intelligence has shown that weapons we are sending to Syria have flowed in part to Al Qaeda since we began in 2011. (Remember, ISIS wasn't even a thing until 2014.)

Despite history, we continue this failed policy that even harms our own servicemen and women when those weapons are inevitably used against us.

This goes without counting the millions or billions in taxpayer-dollars lost in the process.

I also want to see troops and the military brought home to rebuild and be ready to defend OUR borders in a time of true need.

Part of the reason Rome fell was that their military was spread all over the known world, and they couldn't afford it.

Part of the reason the Soviet Union went bankrupt was because of their 10-year-long war in Afghanistan.

We must learn from history rather than repeating mistakes at our own expense.

Nothing is more important now than the use of our armed forces abroad, and it is shameful, Congress' overwhelming silence on the issue.

The Constitution is clear about its requirement for specific congressional approval for warfare.

I also want to abolish the Federal Department of Education so that Common Core may never again be forced upon us.

Education dollars should be sent back to state departments of education, local communities, and people to make their own local decisions.

I want a balanced budget amendment. There are many other things I want to do too, but not enough room to include here.

Why vote for me?

Because our situation is dire. We go billions further in debt every day, and the Fed is ruining our currency through "quantitative easing" and bailing out "too-big-to-fail" banks, using OUR MONEY. We have to end the madness and corruption before it's too late.

There are many politicians running for office, but few concerned citizens, few statesmen.

Let's end the days of politicians going to Washington to get rich while letting lobbyists make all the decisions.

Jason A. Olson



Name: Jason A. Olson
Address: Marion
Occupation: Assistant State's Attorney, Saline County, Illinois

Office you are seeking: At Large Circuit Judge First Judicial Circuit – Judge Moore Vacancy

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?
Held – Marion Park District Commissioner 2001-2005

Sought – Pope County State's Attorney - 2004

Why are you running?
I am running for Circuit Judge because I believe we need judges who have courtroom experience to serve the citizens of the First Judicial Circuit.

I am running because I have seen families torn apart due to drug addiction. The Supreme Court of Illinois has authorized the creation of specialized courts, drug court, veteran's court and mental health court and these specialized courts are not being used in the first circuit.

Being a prosecutor I see the need every day for these courts in order to better serve our communities. I am also a veteran of the United States Navy and am aware of the problems our veteran's face when returning home.

Veteran's court is designed to reach out and help our veteran's rather than sending them to prison.

What are your goals if elected?
My goals are to ensure the First Judicial Circuit operates specialized courts to better serve the needs of our communities.

Sending people to prison does not solve the underlying problems of our society.

By utilizing these courts we can identify and address the underlying problems which may allow us to return an offender to their family and become a contributing member of their community.

We cannot rehabilitate everyone. However, if we save just one person, it is worth the effort.

Why should someone vote for you?
I have been practicing law for over 20 years. I have

experience in Juvenile court representing parents and serving as guardian ad litem for children.

I have handled family law matters including divorce and child custody.

I have worked on probate matters and various civil law remedies.

I have extensive criminal law experience having tried over forty cases to jury verdict, including first degree murder, armed robbery, home invasion, predatory criminal sexual assault of children, aggravated battery, driving under the influence of alcohol, domestic battery and many other offenses.

I bring a unique perspective to the position as I have both prosecuted and defended these cases. I believe each case and each party to a case is unique and will make decisions based on the law but also with compassion.

I have 20 years of courtroom experience and have watched and learned from judges both past and present.

In sum I bring compassion, integrity and experience to the position of Circuit Judge.

Carey Gill



Name: Carey Gill
Address: Carterville
Occupation: At Large Circuit Court Judge for the 1st Judicial Circuit

Party Affiliation: Republican

Office Seeking: At Large Circuit Court Judge for the 1st Judicial Circuit.

Are you incumbent: Yes.
If yes, how long have you served in office?
I was appointed to the position in January 2017.

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?
No, not prior to my appointment.

Why are you running?
I was very honored to have been appointed unanimously by the entire Supreme Court over a year ago, and committed to run to keep my position at that time.

I am serving the community by ensuring access to the courts, treating all litigants with respect and making fair decisions based on the law.

What are your goals if elected?
I am making a positive impact on the judiciary by working hard and rendering fair, unbiased decisions.

I want to improve the legal profession by providing quality legal education and mentorship for new attorneys.

If you are an incumbent, what are your accomplishments while in office?
I am starting the Drug Court and Veterans' Court for the 1st Judicial Circuit in May, 2018. It is a highly intensive specialty court which will work to address the underlying issues in Veterans' cases and regarding the drug epidemic in our area.

I have also helped local high schools with their Traffic Safety and Drug Awareness Programs.

Why should someone vote for you?
I am the only candidate for this position with Judicial Experience. I am deeply committed to the judiciary and am honored to serve the entire 1st Judicial Circuit as your judge.

I am asking for the voters to give me the opportunity to continue in this position by voting for me.

Make plans to exercise on March 20.

Exercise your right to vote.

Go to the polls on primary election day.

Candidate Questionnaires

Monica Russell



Name: Monica Russell
Address: Buncombe
Occupation: Office Administrator
Office you are seeking: Union County Treasurer
Party affiliation: Republican
Are you an incumbent? No

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office? No
Why are you running? My husband, Dale Russell, served for 8 years as a Union County Commissioner. He had to resign due to health reasons. He showed me how rewarding it can be to serve the people of Union County.

I would like to serve the people of Union County as well as he did.

What are your goals if elected?

To uphold the integrity of the office by performing my duties to the best of my ability and to ensure that the county budget remains balanced.

Why should someone vote for you?

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics; 30 hours of Accounting courses; worked 20 years at SIU Carbondale in various Office Support positions; 6 years of experience as an Office Administrator with duties including maintaining the department budget for multiple accounts and managing the office; been an owner, operator, and bookkeeper of a shaved ice business; lived in Union County for 30-plus years.

Thomas Sadowski



Name: Thomas Sadowski
Address: Anna
Occupation: Retired Forensic Scientist
Office Seeking: County Commissioner
Party Affiliation: Democrat
Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

No, but I am serving on the board of a not-for-profit, The Friends of the Shawnee National Forest. I also served as school board president of a private school.

Why are you running? I plan to help lead the county in the most productive way possible and effectively address all problems with an efficient solution.

What are your goals if elected?

My goal is to bring economic development to Union County.

Another objective is to improve the infrastructure of Union County. I will keep you informed of the problems facing us on a regular basis and with transparency.

Why should someone

vote for you?

As an Illinois State Police forensic scientist, I developed problem solving and human relation skills needed to work with law enforcement, the State's Attorney and the judicial system.

I have the ability to objectively see both sides of an issue. I will stand up and fight for Union County

Wes Sherrod



Name: Wes Sherrod
Address: Harrisburg
Occupation: Owner of Sherrod's Collision Center & Hard Luck Farms
Office Seeking: State Representative, 118th District
Party Affiliation: Republican
Why are you running?

I am running to bring prosperity back to Southern Illinois and make a difference to those of us that have been forgotten.

What are your goals if elected?

My goals are to reduce taxes, promote tourism, work to help save the pensions, bring trade classes back into the school system, and work with mental health facilities to see that they get the funding they are entitled to.

I am also willing to push for the legalization of marijuana to bring revenue into the State of Illinois.

Why should someone vote for you?

I am a business owner that understands the needs of the people.

I am the only candidate not backed by Springfield. I am the only business owner that knows how to bring business into the area. I promote tourism every time I go into a community in my district.

I am not a career politician. My ability running a successful business allows me to work with everyone to come up with a solution to difficult problems.

Kevin L. Starr



Name: Kevin L. Starr
Address: Anna
Occupation: Construction Laborer
Office Seeking: County Commissioner
Party Affiliation: Democrat
Why are you running?

And what are your goals if elected?

I am running for a chance to help the citizens of Union County.

I have seen Union County decline year after year. We have to drive outside of our county to earn a good living for the most part.

I am not demeaning jobs that pay minimum wage nor the people working those jobs. Most deserve a higher wage.

However, higher paying jobs pay more into the county.

Why should someone vote for you?

I have a unique percep-

tion on politics. I truly believe that elected officials should do what is right for the whole, not the few.

I will not take donations from any union or any other pac funds. I will not take money from my party.

I will make sure the veterans, the elderly, the weak of our community are not left behind.

I will not be a "rubber stamp" for anyone or any organization.

I will look at all sides of every situation and make decisions based on what is good for Union County.

I will not tolerate any corruption nor the "good ole boy" system.

It is time to come together as citizens of this county and country, not to be Democrats or Republicans.

Samuel K. Stratemeyer



Name: Samuel K. Stratemeyer
Address: Metropolis
Occupation: Farmer, businessman and broadcaster
Office seeking: State Representative, 118th District
Incumbent: No
Party Affiliation: Republican
Have you sought office before?

I am the current Chairman of the Massac County Republican Party

Why are you running?

I am tired of career politicians raising our taxes and spending uncontrollably.

We need some major reforms if we are going to get Illinois back on track.

Instead of complaining about what is wrong, I have chosen to do something about it by running for State Representative.

What are your goals if elected?

Illinois is the highest taxed state in the nation. I want to lower taxes and implement pro-business reforms in Illinois. All taxes need to be lowered from property taxes to income taxes.

We can't fix the budget problem in Illinois without creating a better environment for businesses to grow and generate new jobs.

If we had more people working we could solve a lot of the budget problems we have in this state.

Illinois continues to lose people at alarming rate. More people are leaving Illinois than any other state in the country.

We need jobs and the way to get jobs is to cut taxes and implement real pro-business reforms.

I also want to repeal House Bill 40 and eliminate state funding for abortions. I am strongly pro-life. I was endorsed by Illinois Family Action, the Political arm of the Illinois Family Institute: the gold standard of pro-family organizations in the state promoting marriage, family, life and liberty - and by The Illinois Federation for the Right to Life.

I am saddened by HB 40 which expands state funded abortions in Illinois. I will work to repeal that legislation.

I will also make it a priority to enthusiastically protect our Second Amendment rights.

Why should someone vote for you?

Voters should vote for me because I am the most qualified to serve in Springfield.

What makes me the most

qualified is that as a business owner, I must follow the rules and regulations that lawmakers make for businesses in Illinois.

I know what is wrong with the system and what it is going to take to fix it so that Illinois can create more jobs either by organic growth from existing Illinois businesses or by attracting employers from out of the state with pro-business reforms.

Finally, I am a conservative, independent voice. No special interests are helping me in my campaign.

I am beholden to no one except for people of the 118th District. I will truly be a conservative and independent voice for this district.

I am the local candidate that is supported by local citizens who have had enough of Springfield and Chicago's intervention in our local elections.

I was raised in, and have spent every day of my life as a resident of Southern Illinois.

Tina Waller



Name: Tina Waller
Address: Anna
Occupation: Retired Secretary from Anna District No. 37 Schools
Office Seeking: County Commissioner Seat A
Party Affiliation: Democrat
Public Office Held: Currently Vice President of Anna District No. 37 Schools and Currently Resolutions Chair of the State of Illinois Shawnee Division of School Boards

Why are you running? And what are your goals if elected?

The taxpayers of Union County deserve a core group of leaders that will move this County in right direction.

I am asking for your support and vote as a candidate for County Commissioner to become one of those core leaders.

I want to set infrastructure goals to bring business and money into County. I want those goals to be set with the taxpayers input and the guided assistance of the County Commissioners.

I am also running for this office to "listen" to you!

The taxpayer should have a say in where your tax dollars are spent. Including you in the goals of the future in this County is a big part of my agenda.

I want to be a Commissioner that always includes and informs the taxpayer of the planning and execution of their tax dollars.

I want to bring the County together to set goals for economic improvements. People listening to people and their ideas can make great change for the future.

I feel if we can be supportive of each other and have a plan/goals in place, our County will be growing in the right direction for our future.

Why should someone vote for you?

Voting for me would be a vote for true honest leadership. I am a lifelong resident of this County and am ready to tackle the economic challenges ahead of us.

If I am lucky enough to win your vote, I look forward to working with the other commissioners, the county office holders and the county taxpayers to set

some goals in motion.

Working together as a team is top priority for me. When everyone is involved in our small towns it leads to a strong sense of worth for every resident. A vote for me would make, You, a vital part of growing the future of this County.

Patrick Windhorst



Name: Patrick Windhorst

Address: Metropolis
Occupation: Attorney
Office Seeking: State Representative 118th District
Party Affiliation: Republican

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

Massac County State's Attorney, 2004-present.

Why are you running?

I am running because of my children. I want them to have a bright future right here in Southern Illinois.

Too many people are leaving our region because of failed leadership in Springfield.

I want to change that by improving opportunities in our region for people and businesses.

What are your goals if elected?

My goals would be to reform our state by lowering taxes, truly balancing our state budget and passing term limits.

These goals can happen if we replace Michael Madigan as speaker, which I will vote to do.

Why should someone vote for you?

I am a tested conservative who will fight to turn our region around.

I will work every day to stop the flow of people and businesses leaving our state and region by making us a great state to live and do business.

For this change to happen, we must reform Springfield.

Kent Pitts



Name: Kent Pitts

Occupation: Retired from the Department of Justice. Manage Little Egypt Polo Team

Office Seeking: County Commissioner Seat A

Party affiliation: Republican

Have you ever sought, or held, public office? If so, when and what office?

No, but have always wanted to. I have the time now since I am retired.

Why are you running?

I want to be involved and give my undivided attention to the future of Union County.

I feel like I can bring a fresh perspective to the Board of Commissioners. I want to give back to the community.

What are your goals if elected?

If I am elected, at the end of my term, I would like to leave the county in better shape than when I found it. I want to work with the board and the people of Union County in supporting and promoting local businesses, and coming up with small business incentives for the future.

I believe in keeping checks and balances to prevent any further tax increases, as I feel we have been taxed enough.

What should someone vote for you?

As a lifetime resident of Union County, I will use common sense to reach workable conclusions.

I have high personal values and integrity. I am honest, genuine and sincere.

I work well with others in the solution of problems, and try my best to keep conflicts from arising.

I can look beyond obstacles, and effectively handle differing viewpoints. I possess flexibility, but also mental toughness when necessary. I promise to give maximum effort if elected.



Obituaries

Mary Elizabeth Greer Rendleman

Mary Elizabeth Greer Rendleman, 86, of Carbondale, died peacefully at her home at 1:18 a.m. Thursday, March 1, 2018.

She was born on Jan. 8, 1932, the daughter of Dr. Mark and Iris Camille Klasing Greer of Vandalia.

She married Dr. David Ford Lee Rendleman on June

5, 1954, in Vandalia. They spent many wonderful years together until his passing on Dec. 25, 2015.

Survivors include three daughters and two sons-in-law, Lucy Jill Rendleman and spouse Edwin William Vogler III of Cobden, Amy Jo Rendleman of Glen Carbon, and Dr. Laurie Greer Massa and husband Dr. Christopher Massa of Nicholasville, Ky.; eight grandchildren, Wesley, Sean and Mary York, Nicole Stewart, Samuel, Elizabeth, Emma and Leah Massa; and five great-grandchildren, Ethan, Gracie and Harper Stewart and Sawyer and Rosemary York.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; and a sister, Lucy Jill (Greer) Baue.

She was a graduate of the Vandalia High School Class of 1949. She received her initial college education from Monticello College in Alton. She further pursued a degree as a registered nurse at Rush-Presbyterian School of Nursing in Chicago. She went on to work at Rush-Presbyterian Hospital, where she met her future husband, Dr. David Rendleman of Anna.

Mrs. Rendleman and Dr. Rendleman returned home to Southern Illinois in 1954 after practicing medicine at Rush-Presbyterian in Chicago and later in Kent, England. She became involved in many community causes, volunteering and supporting health care, wildlife conservation and education.

She was a lifetime member of the American Red Cross proudly volunteering over 1,000 hours of service as a Red Cross Nurse. She was a lifelong member and volunteer of the Auxiliary of Carbondale Memorial Hospital. She supported the SIU School of Medicine and the SIH Cancer Institute.

Proud of her Scottish American heritage, she was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (Daniel H. Brush Chapter) and Historic Vandalia Inc., supporting the causes of veterans, wildlife conservation and historic preservation. An avid ornithologist, she was an active bird counter and lifetime member of the Southern Illinois Audubon Society.

She was a lifelong Presbyterian and served as deacon of the First Presbyterian Church in Carbondale.

She was an enthusiastic supporter of Southern Illinois University and a lifetime member and supporter of the SIU Alumni Association and SIU Athletics. Her generous desire to encourage local students to become physicians dedicated to Southern Illinois led to the establishment, along with her late husband, of the Dr. David F. and Mary Rendleman Pre-Med Scholarship Endowment Fund through the Southern Illinois University Foundation.

Funeral services will be Friday, March 9, at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Carbondale, with the Rev. Laurie Fields officiating. Public visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the church. A private family burial will be held immediately after the funeral service.

The family requests no flowers. Memorials can be given to the Dr. David F. and Mary G. Rendleman Pre-Med Scholarship Endowment Fund in care of the SIU Foundation, to the First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale, to St. Francis Care Animal Shelter, or to the Southern Illinois Audubon Society, and will be accepted at the church or can be sent to Meredith Funeral Home, c/o Mary Rendleman, 300 S. University Ave., Carbondale, Ill. 62901.

Meredith Funeral Home in Carbondale is in charge of arrangements. To share a special story or memory, visit, www.meredithfh.com.

Evelyn Lucille Dallas

Evelyn Lucille Dallas, 92, of Anna, died Tuesday, March 5, at Union County Long Term Care.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home of Jonesboro.

Eva Ruth Brimm

Eva Ruth Brimm, 90, of Anna, died at 12:35 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, at Hillview Healthcare Center in Vienna.

She was born on Aug. 9, 1927, in Belknap, the daughter of William Florance and Martha Ann Bost Canada.

She married Christopher C. Brimm on Sept. 29, 1945, in Vienna. He preceded her in death on Nov. 27, 2008.

She is survived by her son, Larry Brimm of Tucson, Ariz.; a daughter, Christie (David) Wright of Herrin; grandchildren Scarlet Godwin, Caleb Trexler and Eric Brimm; great-grandchildren Benjamin Godwin, Olivia Godwin, Kylie Trexler, Kenzie Trexler, Justin Brimm, Corbin Brimm and one on the way; sisters Iva McHugh of Vienna and Emily Taylor of Manteno; other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Christopher C. Brimm; three brothers, Ralph, Melvin and Martin; and three sisters, Mary Gustin, Amy Fisher and Madge Felker.

She was a member of the Landmark Pentecostal Church in Anna. She worked for Florsheim Shoe Factory for over six years. After her job with Florsheim, she went on to work as a cook at Union County Hospital in Anna.

Memorial services for Eva Ruth Brimm were at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Pentecostals-Southern Illinois Church in Carterville, with Caleb Trexler officiating. Interment will be in Casper Cemetery near Anna at a later date.

To leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

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



Shirley Earnhart

Shirley Earnhart, 70, of Dongola, died at 11:32 a.m. Monday, March 5, 2018, at her home in Dongola.

She was born on Aug. 3, 1947, in Cairo, the daughter of Harold H. and Bernice Litsey Hart.

She married Teddy Lynn Earnhart on March 19, 1966. He preceded her in death on Dec. 13, 2011.

She graduated from Dongola High School in 1965. Later, she graduated from Southern Illinois University and she taught for many years at Dongola Elementary School. She was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Dongola.

She is survived by her son, Greg Earnhart of Dongola; sisters Nancy Davis and Melanie (John) Terbrak, both of Dongola; a dear friend, Janie Peterson of Dongola; nieces Stacy Davis of Tulsa, Okla., Tommie (Daniel) Pickett of Tulsa, Okla., and Emily Terbrak of Dongola; a nephew, Jesse Terbrak of Dongola; an aunt, Marietta Churchill; and cousins Charlie Hart, Sally Bell, Carol Hutchison and Linda Diaz.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Funeral services for Shirley Earnhart will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, today, at Crain Funeral Home in Dongola, with the Rev. Tim Heinecke officiating. Interment will follow in the American Legion Cemetery in Dongola.

Memorials can be made to the Dongola Fire Department.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit www.crainsonline.com.



Crain Funeral Home in Dongola is in charge of arrangements.

Mary Vitt

Mary Vitt, 80, of Cobden, died Monday, March 5, at Parkway Manor in Marion.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden.

'Experiencing War' site highlights Guadalcanal

The Veterans History Project, VHP, at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., has launched a new "Experiencing War" website feature titled "Guadalcanal: 75 Years Later."

The site recognizes the anniversary of the end of the major World War II campaign known as the Battle of Guadalcanal.

The feature highlights 12 digitized collections found in the VHP archive, each of which includes the first-person narrative of a veteran who fought in this epic, six-month offensive in the South Pacific during 1942 and 1943.

One of the collections included is that of Garnett Moneymaker, a sailor aboard the U.S. ship Boise who used four government-issued notebooks to record his most intimate thoughts during his service.

Among other events, he details his experiences in the Battle of Cape Esperance, part of the Guadalcanal campaign.

As an apparent morale booster, Moneymaker often utilized the front page of his diaries for inspirational thoughts or quotes.

In one page he inscribed, "It is only when we become conscious of our part in life, however modest, that we shall be happy."

In a handwritten, unpublished memoir, Joseph Lane Jr., a Marine Corps cook responsible for run-



ning his battalion's mess hall, recalls the difficulty in feeding the Marines after they landed on the island of Guadalcanal.

Lane details the angst he experienced when they ran out of food and were forced to subsist solely on captured Japanese rice and coconuts.

A combat soldier with the Army's Americal Division, former Sgt. William Caldwell was part of the first Army unit to be sent to Guadalcanal.

During his 41-minute audio interview, the sergeant provides a vivid account of this bloody battle that marked a turning point in the war in favor of the United States and allied forces.

Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000 to collect, preserve and make accessible the firsthand remembrances of America's war veterans from World War I through the more recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The goal of the project is to ensure that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

For more information, visit loc.gov/vets or call the toll-free message line at 888-371-5848. Subscribe to the VHP RSS to receive periodic updates of VHP news. Follow VHP on Facebook @vetshistoryproject.

Jackie 'Lynnell' Hinkle

Jackie "Lynnell" Hinkle, 77, of Dongola, died at 6:25 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

She was born on Sept. 14, 1940, in Lubbock, Texas, the daughter of JQ and Eva Adelia Carrol Hall.

She married James R. Hinkle on Nov. 25, 1960. They shared 57 years of marriage together.

She graduated from Shawnee Community College as a LPN in 1977. She was employed at Union County Hospital and Jonesboro Rehab. She enjoyed genealogy, computer games, hummingbirds, gardening and crocheting. She was a very active member of Eastern Star Chapter No. 522 and her church, Mt. Olive Baptist.

She is survived by her husband, James R. Hinkle of Dongola; daughter Debra (Albert) Hill of Olmsted; son Ronnie (Pam) Hinkle of Anna; grandchildren Clay Aden, Josh (Amber) Aden, Jamie (John) Johnson, Traci (Michael) Hill, Kami (Jacob Hancock) Hinkle, Megan Hinkle and Jessie Cook; great-grandchildren Courtney Aden, Trevor Fox, Nathan Aden and Owen Aden, due in May; several step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; and brothers, Chester Hall and Doyle Hall, both of Yucaipa, Calif.

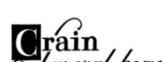
She was preceded in death by her parents and by a half-brother, James Hall.

Funeral services for Jackie "Lynnell" Hinkle were at noon Monday, March 5, at Crain Funeral Home in Dongola, with Victor Duckworth officiating. Interment was in Hinkle Cemetery in Dongola.

Eastern Star readings were at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials can be made to Hinkle Cemetery.

To view the obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit www.crainsonline.com.



Crain Funeral Home in Dongola was in charge of arrangements.

NEED LEGAL HELP?

Get a FREE referral to an attorney!

Call the Illinois State Bar Association Illinois Lawyer Finder.

Get connected to a lawyer today.

Call 877-270-3855 or go to

<https://www.isba.org/public/illinoislawyerfinder>



ILLINOIS STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION™



Brad E Donna, Agent
102 West Broad Street
Jonesboro, IL 62952
Bus: 618-833-6021
brad.donna.ggvf@statefarm.com

Discount.
Discount.
Discount.

Get them all with
Discount Double Check®.

It's a quick and easy way to make sure you're saving all you can. And it's free.

GET TO A BETTER STATE™.

CALL ME TODAY.

State Farm™

1101246.1

State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

"The Preaching Pen" He Swapped With Me

Once, a preacher was speaking to a congregation of English fishermen. His message was, "The Old Rugged Cross." To make sure he was getting through to them, he asked a question "Now, one of you tell me, in your own words, what did the Lord Jesus do at the Cross?" One old fisherman, with tears in his eyes, looked up at the preacher and said, "He swapped with me."

It would be hard to put this great truth more simply than this, and it describes every person's situation. The human race faces spiritual death because of sin: "For the wages of sin is death..." (Rom. 6:23). Jesus came to give His life so that those who accept Him, and obey His Father, will live. One of the saddest things in life is the fact that millions turn down His offer for salvation made possible by His death, only to face death themselves. He came to save us from spiritual death, the second death, and to give us a hope of being resurrected to eternal life.

Have you responded in obedience to this offer from Jesus? Has your faith caused you to repent of your sins (Luke 13:5), confess Him to be the Christ (Mt. 10:32-33), and to put Him on in baptism (I Pet. 3:20-21; Acts 22:16)? If you're a wayward Christian, will you confess your wrongs, repent, and ask forgiveness through prayer, and rededicate your life to the Lord?

We at the Anna church of Christ invite you to be with us this Sunday. We meet at 9:30 a.m. for Bible study, 10:30 a.m. & 5 p.m. for worship. Mid-week Bible study is Wednesdays at 7 p.m. We hope to see you soon and wish you a great day!

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

REPERT'S
OFFICE SUPPLIES & FURNITURE

Home Office: 800-524-7911
Fax: 618-833-5813
Order Online at www.reppertsales.com

Lozell Door Wedge
LLR42590
Reg. Price \$6.99 Ea.
SALE \$4.37 Ea.

Genuine Joe 2-ply Bath Tissue Rolls
GJO2540096
Reg. Price \$59.97 Ctn.
SALE \$37.50 Ctn.

Genuine Joe Premium Dish Detergent - Gal.
GJO99678
Reg. Price \$26.24 Ea.
SALE \$18.01 Ea.

More than ink pens and paper clips

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 8, 2018

©2018 Reppert Publications

Section B

Area legislator welcomes youth advisory council to Springfield



Meeting at Illinois State Capitol

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, welcomed more than four dozen students from across the 59th Senate District to his youth advisory council meeting at the Illinois State Capitol in Springfield. Photo provided.

More than four dozen students from the 59th Senate District in Southern Illinois travelled to Springfield last week to participate in the second meeting of State Sen. Dale Fowler's youth advisory council.

"This program is about giving students the opportunity to learn about and experience their state government directly, pulling back the curtain and enabling a younger generation to see how the legislative process operates here in Illinois," Fowler, R-Harrisburg, said in a news release.

"One of the most exciting parts about hosting this event is being able to interact with kids from my district who are motivated to make a differ-

ence, share their voices and be engaged."

Students from 17 different schools across the district arrived at the Illinois State Capitol on Feb. 28.

Students began their day by visiting the state Senate Chambers and touring the Capitol building before speaking with lawmakers who represent districts across the state.

The students also heard from Lt. Gov. Evelyn Sanginetti, a representative from the chamber of commerce and the acting division manager of fairs and promotional services with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

"State government is a culmination of so many moving parts with actors fulfilling

very different, but still critical roles in crafting, debating and passing legislation," Fowler said.

"It's great to have the opportunity to introduce these kids to speakers with unique perspectives that help represent different opinions, responsibilities and influence within our state's policy process."

"One of the main things was to take advantage of the opportunities you have," Cairo High School student Jekairy Thomas said about hearing the speakers.

Alexandria Hughes from Pope County High School echoed those sentiments: "If you want something, go for it. Don't be afraid to fail. Failure only builds you.

And be proud of where you came from and where your home is."

Later in the day, students were immersed in a simulation of Illinois' legislative process, breaking into groups and participating in a mock committee hearing on legislation that was proposed by the students when they met in November.

Students took on the roles of lawmakers, lobbyists, concerned citizens, and reporters in the process.

"I think it's important for kids to do things like this because it kind of gives you a different perspective than what you just have," Herrin High School student Morgan McKinnies said.

"You come in and realize what people have and what they take away from things and why they view things the way they do. It kind of gives you a sort of reality check of what you believe and what you don't believe."

"This is something extremely important and valuable to your education. You're only able to experience these kinds of things here and through programs like this. And if you do not take the opportunities presented to you, it's your loss," said Tyler Short from Marion High School.

Students spent the afternoon hearing testimony, lobbying and discussing their proposed legislation to expand the right to conceal and carry firearms in public parks and athletic facilities under the control of municipalities or park districts.

At the end of the day, the students voted to pass their suggested proposal.

"This was my first time hosting this event in Springfield and I couldn't be more

impressed with the leadership and effort I saw at this youth advisory council," Fowler said.

"Each and every student here rolled up their sleeves, put in the effort and engaged in the process."

A-J Garden Club hears about raised bed project

The Anna-Jonesboro Garden Club had a regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the United Methodist Church in Anna.

Hostesses were Lois Clutts, Peggy Ferguson, Linda Clutts, Sandra Boaz and Charlotte Clover.

They created a Valentine-themed food table and floral arrangement as a door prize.

The meeting was called to order by club president Shari Sweeney.

The 25 members present answered the roll call by telling about "a pretty plant in my garden in the winter."

Information shared by Sweeney included programs sponsored by the Garden Clubs of Illinois.

The programs included a contest for the design of a monarch decal, a GoFundMe page for saving the monarch and milkweed seeds available for ordering.

The annual GCI convention and the Chicago Flower and Garden Show are scheduled April 29-30.

Sweeney announced that the Anna-Jo Garden Club was successful in being awarded a grant by Plant America.

The grant funds are designated for expansion of a community food garden raised beds.

December, January and

"If what I saw here is any indication on what's to come from these students, Southern Illinois will be proud to have these outspoken voices, leaders and role models represent our communities in the future."

February birthdays were acknowledged.

The garden therapy committee members reported they had visited the Union County Hospital Nursing Home in Anna in February.

The Sunshine Committee shared information about members needing cards of condolence or healing.

The club approved a motion to make a second college scholarship available to Union County seniors in spring 2018.

Information about applying for the scholarships is available from school guidance counselors.

Tom Sadowski and Shari Sweeney presented a program about raised bed gardens which were established by the club in 2017.

Vegetables grown in the gardens were donated to the community food pantry.

Plans include increasing the number of beds in 2018. Community involvement is encouraged. Information about helping with the project is available from garden club members.

The club's next meeting is set for 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at the United Methodist Church in Anna.

Verlinda Newton is scheduled to present a program about herbal infusions for healthy cooking.

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION...

HELP FEED KIDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER!



ILLINOIS NEEDS SPONSORS AND SITES ACROSS THE STATE.



School districts, local governments, and non-profits can be sponsors. Community locations such as parks, recreation centers, resource centers, churches, summer camps, and libraries can serve as feeding sites.

Call Summer Meals at **800-545-7892** or email cnp@isbe.net for more information.

Summer meals are part of the Summer Food Service Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education. These institutions are equal opportunity providers and employers.



CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF ILLINOIS

STORIES FROM THE BOOK BY ED & DIANE ANNABLE, PUBLISHED 2017

SIX YEARS IN THE ILLINOIS TERRITORY, 1812-1818 WHEN JOHNSON COUNTY SPANNED RIVER TO RIVER



The Three Protectors of the Illinois Country, Part 3

Fort Wilkinson aka: Wilkinsonville

This site has been a place of mystery and intrigue. Located one half mile west of the Juchereau site where present day Post Creek flows into the Ohio River; it is also known as "Cantonment Wilkinson" or "Wilkinsonville." The site was named after General James Wilkinson, commander of the American Armies at that time. W.N. Moyers is the most reliable source on the many names of the fort, stating the following:

"It was designated by several names: 'The South West Post,' 'The Post near the Mouth of the Ohio,' 'The Post near Massac,' 'The Camp Northwest of the Ohio,' 'The Cantonment at the Grand Chain,' and 'Cantonment Wilkinsonville.' The last was the official name. Since 1805, it has been known locally as 'Fort Wilkinson.'"

The history of the fort during its short existence, notes the following: It was established in 1801 and abandoned in 1802. It was established by Colonel David Strong in January 1801. The post was an open fortification, guarded by sentries. In the summer of 1801, it housed 1500 troop plus the civilian followers. It overlooked the Ohio at

the head of the Grand Chain of Rocks. There were 200 to 300 logs huts laid out with streets.

One event that is notable as occurring in the Spring of 1801 is the destruction of some of the fort by a tornado. In a letter sent to General Wilkinson appears the following:

"Cantonment Wilkinsonville - March 14, 1801.

Sir: - it is my duty (although but too well known to you) to report that yesterday evening between the hours of 4 and 5 o'clock, a dreadful tornado visited our camp; it came a S.W. direction accompanied with a torrent of rain taking along a skirt of the quartermaster's camp, and in an oblique on N.E. over our encampment, tearing trees up by the roots, and carrying all before it, destroying a great quantity of our equipment and clothing, which is not yet accurately ascertained, and though painful to relate, by the falling of trees, has maimed and killed some of our soldiers, of which the following is a statement. Total killed - One Sergeant. Total wounded - One Captain, four Lieutenants, two Quartermaster Sergeants, one Corporal, one musician, and twenty-nine privates. One woman killed and several wounded. Names of officers wounded: Captain Lukens, badley, Lieutenants Webster, Laybourn, and Shires. Lieutenant Hooker's

leg broken, and others badly wounded.

I have the honor to be respectful, Your most obedient servant,

Ferdinand L. Claiborne.

Lt. Col. Strong died on August 19, 1801. He was buried just outside the fort in a homemade wooden coffin. His wife, Chloe Richmond, was with the Col. during his time at the fort. In March 1936, The Egyptian Chapter of the D.A.R. had a marble military marker set at a site representing his grave. The marker is a standard marble military stone commemorating his service as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. That stone may be seen today where Strong LN meets the road going from Grand Chain to Joppa.

When the fort was abandoned in 1802, the site was placed under the control of the commander at Fort Massac.

The time when the fort was active was short but the extensive building of housing for troops left a legacy that would remain for years. After its closure, some of the people who were not troops were left behind. The fort has been remembered more as a settlement than a military post. It is now quite often referred to as Wilkinsonville.

Don't Miss Next Week

"John Reynolds Passes Through Old Johnson County"

Indigenous plant symposium planned

The Illinois Native Plant Society plans to host its 2018 indigenous plant symposium April 13-15 at John A. Logan College in Carterville.

The focus of the symposium will be on "Shawnee Natural Areas: Hotspots of Biodiversity."

"Southern Illinois is one of the most biologically diverse places in Illinois," says Chris Evans, University of Illinois Extension forester and vice president of the Illinois Native Plant Society's Southern Chapter.

"Natural areas are places where most of our state's genetic diversity is found. They contain more, and rarer, species than other places in nature," Evans said.

Nearly 10 percent of Illinois' natural areas are found on Shawnee National Forest, making the national

forest the second largest landowner in the state of such biological hotspots.

About 400 plants and animals that are listed on the state's threatened or endangered species list occur within the forest, as well as federally-listed species.

The forest's 80 natural areas include 25 different natural communities, ranging from woodlands and glades to barrens and caves.

"Our natural areas are gems within the forests of Southern Illinois," says Brendan Cain, the forest supervisor for the Shawnee National Forest, which is overseen by the U.S. Forest Service.

"It is great to know that so many people value and love these places. We hope others will discover natural areas through this symposium."

The symposium is scheduled to begin with a keynote talk by Gerould Wilhelm, who is a botanist and ecologist.

Wilhelm plans to talk about why it is important to save and manage natural areas.

The symposium also is scheduled to host guest speakers who are experts on the region's natural areas.

Sessions will be split into two tracks: Understanding Natural Areas, for those who are just learning about such places; and Getting More Technical, for people who want to delve into the science of managing natural areas.

Guests also will have the opportunity to join guided hikes on Friday and Sunday, to browse goods for sale and to shop for native plants and shrubs at an annual

native plant sale, which is organized by Green Earth and Illinois Native Plant Society.

In addition to the annual native plant sale, other area organizations are scheduled to be on hand to share their knowledge about native plants, research and natural habitats.

The symposium is made possible by the southern chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society in collaboration with John A. Logan College, the Southern Illinois University Department of Plant Biology, Green Earth, University of Illinois Extension and U.S. Forest Service/Shawnee National Forest.

More information and registration can be found online at <https://ill-inps.org/2018-illinois-indigenous-plants-symposium/>.

Jonesboro School students earn honors at music contest

Jonesboro Grade School students received honors at the recent Illinois Grade School Music Association contest in Carterville.

Jonesboro students who received honors included:

Lily Baker, Division I Superior, advances to state.
Jaden Ebberts, Division I, advances to state.

Cadence Black, Division I, advances to state.
Hallie Black, Division I, advances to state.

Zach Miller, Division I, advances to state.
Ella Lingle, Division I, advances to state.

Baley Robinson, Division I, advances to state.
Grant Lingle, Division I.
Amelia Lingle, Division I.

Kyle Conway, Division I.
Logan Abernathy, Division I.

Katelynne Heinrichs, Division I.

Carson Knupp, Division I.

Marilyn Musgrave, Division II.

Allison Toler, Division II.

Garden club meeting planned

The Anna-Jo Garden Club plans to meet at 1 p.m. March 13 at the United Methodist Church in Anna.

Hostesses for the meeting are scheduled to be Alma Osterholm, Sylvia Maske, Helen Sitter, JoAnn Lambert and Tammy Loomis.

Lambert will present a horticulture tip.

Verlinda Newton is scheduled to give a presentation about herbal infusions for healthy cooking.

Newton is the owner of Sanctuary Home Spa Works.

OFFICIAL DEMOCRATIC BALLOT GENERAL PRIMARY MARCH 20, 2018

PUBLICATION

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff, County Clerk & Recorder

Judges Initials _____

UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

To vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of your choice, like this . To cast a write-in vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of the blank space provided and write the candidates name in that space. For specific information, refer to the card of instruction posted in the voting booth. If you tear, spoil, deface or erroneously mark this ballot, return it to the election judge and obtain another.

STATE	CONGRESSIONAL
FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> (JB PRITZKER (JULIANA STRATTON <input type="radio"/> (CHRIS KENNEDY (RA JOY <input type="radio"/> (DANIEL BISS (LITESA E. WALLACE <input type="radio"/> (BOB DAIBER (JONATHON W. TODD <input type="radio"/> (TIO HARDIMAN (PATRICIA AVERY <input type="radio"/> (ROBERT MARSHALL (DENNIS COLE	FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS TWELFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> BRENDAN KELLY <input type="radio"/> DAVID BEQUETTE FOR STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEEWOMAN TWELFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KATHY WEST FOR STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEEMAN TWELFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JERRY F. COSTELLO
FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> PAT QUINN <input type="radio"/> RENATO MARIOTTI <input type="radio"/> SCOTT DRURY <input type="radio"/> NANCY ROTERING <input type="radio"/> KWAME RAOUL <input type="radio"/> JESSE RUIZ <input type="radio"/> SHARON FAIRLEY <input type="radio"/> AARON GOLDSTEIN	LEGISLATIVE FOR STATE SENATOR FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MARSHA GRIFFIN <input type="radio"/> TAMIKO "T.C." MUELLER FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NATALIE PHELPS FINNIE
FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JESSE WHITE	COUNTY FOR COUNTY CLERK (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> TERRY BARTRUFF FOR COUNTY TREASURER (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JOHN L HUGHEY
FOR COMPTROLLER (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> SUSANA A. MENDOZA	
FOR TREASURER (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MICHAEL W. FRERICHS	

FRONT Card 1 RptPct 000000-0000 "PUBLICATION"

OFFICIAL DEMOCRATIC BALLOT GENERAL PRIMARY MARCH 20, 2018

PUBLICATION

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff, County Clerk & Recorder

Judges Initials _____

UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

To vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of your choice, like this . To cast a write-in vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of the blank space provided and write the candidates name in that space. For specific information, refer to the card of instruction posted in the voting booth. If you tear, spoil, deface or erroneously mark this ballot, return it to the election judge and obtain another.

PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ALTO PASS (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JAMES E NASH
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN MILL CREEK (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KENNETH D ROSSON
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN BALCOM (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> BRYANT W WALLER
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN LICK CREEK (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN STOKES (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> RICHARD REYNOLDS
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN UNION (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JAMES "JIM" WRIGHT
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 3 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JOSHUA KELLEY

FRONT Card 2 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

COUNTY	PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN
FOR COUNTY SHERIFF (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> SCOTT HARVEL	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 2 (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE REGION FOR REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (ALEXANDER, JACKSON, PERRY, PULASKI & UNION COUNTIES) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> CHERYL R. GRAFF	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 3 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> TERESA VINCENT
FOR REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (FRANKLIN, JOHNSON, MASSAC & WILLIAMSON COUNTIES) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> LORIE LAKSO LEQUATTE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 4 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MICHELE J STARR
COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER SEAT A (6-YEAR TERM) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> TINA WALLER	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 5 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MICHELLE BARNHART
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER SEAT D (6-YEAR TERM) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> THOMAS SADOWSKI	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 6 (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER TO SERVE AN UNEXPIRED 4-YEAR TERM SEAT C (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KEVIN L STARR	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 7 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ALLEN "DALE" FOSTER
JUDICIAL FOR JUDGE OF THE APPELLATE COURT FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. Richard P. Goldenhersh) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KEVIN T. HOERNER	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ROBERT L HOUSMAN
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. James R. Moore) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JASON A. OLSON	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 2 (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. Mark H. Clarke) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> TYLER R. EDMONDS	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN COBDEN 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KIRSTEN L SCHAPER
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> BONNIE CISELL	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN COBDEN 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ROSE HOGAN
	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN DONGOLA 1 (Vote for ONE) NO CANDIDATE
	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN DONGOLA 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> WAYNE BROWN

BACK Card 1 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

BACK Card 2 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

Walmart raises age for purchase of firearms, ammo

Walmart has reviewed its policy on firearm sales. The retailer posted the following statement on its corporate website, corporate.walmart.com:

Walmart Statement on Firearms Policy

In light of recent events, we've taken an opportunity to review our policy on firearm sales.

Going forward, we are raising the age restriction for purchase of firearms and ammunition to 21 years of age.

We will update our processes as quickly as possible to implement this change.

In 2015, Walmart ended sales of modern sporting rifles, including the AR-15. We also do not sell handguns, except in Alaska where we feel we should continue to offer them to our customers.

Additionally, we do not sell bump stocks, high-

capacity magazines and similar accessories.

We have a process to monitor our eCommerce marketplace and ensure our policies are applied.

We take seriously our obligation to be a responsible seller of firearms and go beyond Federal law by requiring customers to pass a background check before purchasing any firearm.

The law would allow the sale of a firearm if no response to a background check request has been received within three business days, but our policy prohibits the sale until an approval is given.

We are also removing items from our website resembling assault-style rifles, including nonlethal airsoft guns and toys.

Our heritage as a company has always been in serving sportsmen and hunters, and we will continue to do so in a responsible way.

Kindergarten screenings set in Cobden next week

Cobden Unit School District No. 17 plans to have kindergarten screenings on Friday, March 16.

Parents and guardians of children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2018, who live in the Cobden School District are asked to call 893-2311 to make a kindergarten screening appointment. Screenings will be by appointment only.

On appointment day, the child needs to be present and the following items are

needed:

The child's birth certificate; certified birth certificate, and not a hospital copy, is required.

The child's immunization record.

Proof of income, such as a W2 form, at least three pay stubs or a tax return.

Proof of residency in the Cobden School District, such as a utility bill, a tax bill or an official document which has a physical address on it.

Chamber choir concert planned

The chamber choir of the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University is scheduled to perform Thursday, today, in Carbondale.

The select mixed-voice touring ensemble is scheduled to present a concert at 7:30 p.m. at St. Francis

Xavier Catholic Church at 303 S. Poplar St.

Admission is free. Free will donations are suggested.

The 35-member choir is in the midst of a concert tour which includes stops in Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Story of Ann Stokes brought to life at Shawnee College event

Shawnee Community College near Ullin celebrated Black History Month Feb. 25 by hosting a presentation featuring Marlene Rivero.

Rivero is a storyteller and living history artist who portrays Ann Stokes. Stokes is believed to have been the first pensioned African American woman to serve aboard a U.S. Navy military vessel.

Rivero's depiction reveals Stoke's life from an enslaved woman before the Civil War to a volunteer nurse during the war on the first Union Naval hospital ship, the USN Red Rover, which was stationed out of Mound City.

Clothed in period attire, Rivero shared songs and stories from the Civil War Era including the difficul-

ties faced by African Americans during that period.

Students from around the area attended the cultural event, along with college faculty members, administrators and community members.

The story focused on the importance education played in the life of Ann Stokes, who after having friends file for a Navy pension on multiple occasions only to be denied, made the decision to learn to read and write well enough to write her own appeal.

Finally, after many years of struggle, Stokes' pension was approved.

After the presentation, those in attendance were given an opportunity to ask Rivero questions. She provided a detailed response with historical narrative.

OFFICIAL REPUBLICAN BALLOT GENERAL PRIMARY MARCH 20, 2018

PUBLICATION

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff, County Clerk & Recorder

Judges Initials _____

UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

To vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of your choice, like this . To cast a write-in vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of the blank space provided and write the candidates name in that space. For specific information, refer to the card of instruction posted in the voting booth. If you tear, spoil, deface or erroneously mark this ballot, return it to the election judge and obtain another.

STATE	REPRESENTATIVE
FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> (BRUCE RAUNER (EVELYN SANGUINETTI <input type="radio"/> (JEANNE IVES (RICH MORTHLAND	FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> PATRICK WINDHORST <input type="radio"/> SAMUEL K. STRATEMEYER <input type="radio"/> WES SHERROD
FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ERIKA HAROLD <input type="radio"/> GARY GRASSO	COUNTY FOR COUNTY CLERK (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> LANCE M MEISENHEIMER
FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JASON HELLAND	FOR COUNTY TREASURER (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> LEIGH BURNS <input type="radio"/> MONICA L RUSSELL <input type="radio"/> GARY C DAHMER <input type="radio"/> LASHONNA PINNON-LOVELESS
FOR COMPTROLLER (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> DARLENE SENGER	FOR COUNTY SHERIFF (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JIM DODGE
CONGRESSIONAL FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS TWELFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MIKE BOST <input type="radio"/> PRESTON NELSON	EDUCATIONAL SERVICE REGION FOR REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (ALEXANDER, JACKSON, PERRY, PULASKI & UNION COUNTIES) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
LEGISLATIVE FOR STATE SENATOR FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> DALE FOWLER	FOR REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (FRANKLIN, JOHNSON, MASSAC & WILLIAMSON COUNTIES) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
REPRESENTATIVE FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> TERRI BRYANT <input type="radio"/> PAUL JACOBS	COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER SEAT A (6-YEAR TERM) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KENT L PITTS

FRONT Card 3 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN UNION (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 3 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> STANLEY E HUNTER

PUBLICATION

FRONT Card 4 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER SEAT D (6-YEAR TERM) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MAX MILLER	PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 7 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER TO SERVE AN UNEXPIRED 4 YEAR TERM SEAT C (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ALEX FOELLER	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> DARRYL ADAMS
JUDICIAL FOR JUDGE OF THE APPELLATE COURT FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. Richard P. Goldenhersh) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> DAVID K. OVERSTREET	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JONESBORO 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ILONA "KAY" JOHNSON
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. James R. Moore) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> CAREY C. GILL	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN COBDEN 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> MAGEN BRUMLEVE
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (To fill the vacancy of the Hon. Mark H. Clarke) (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> AMANDA BYASSEE GOTT	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN COBDEN 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> JANIS KAY CORRINGTON
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN DONGOLA 1 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN DONGOLA 2 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 3 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ALTO PASS (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 4 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN MILL CREEK (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 5 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN BALCOM (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> ROBERT E WEILMUENSTER
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 6 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN LICK CREEK (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> GERRY A BASLER
FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN ANNA 6 (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> NO CANDIDATE	FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN STOKES (Vote for ONE) <input type="radio"/> KINDRA A TOLER

BACK Card 3 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

BACK Card 4 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

Library/museum notes major acquisitions of Lincon letter, painting

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield launched its celebration of Lincoln's birthday by announcing two major acquisitions: an angry letter the future president wrote to a colleague and a painting that shows the young Lincoln reading while he takes a break from chopping wood.

"Both these items are wonderful additions to our collection," said Alan Lowe, executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

"One shows the Lincoln that we sometimes forget: the politician trying to lead a team. The other shows Lincoln as we'd like to remember him: hardworking and never wasting an oppor-

tunity to improve himself." The letter was written to Andrew McCormack, one of the "Long Nine," a group of nine tall Illinois legislators who banded together and, among other things, helped make Springfield the state capital.

In the letter, the normally diplomatic Lincoln chastises McCormack for planning to vote against the group. The issue was whether a government job would go to a fellow Whig or a rival Democrat.

"All our friends are ready to cut our throats about it," Lincoln writes. "For Heaven's sake, for your friends sake, for the sake of the recollection of all the hard battles we have heretofore fought shoulder to shoulder, do not forsake us this time."

The letter has been passed down by McCormack's descendants (who later used the spelling "McCormick") for generations. It was owned most recently by Fred Schneeberger of Atlanta, Ga. His son, Craig, convinced Mr. Schneeberger that it belonged somewhere that scholars and the public could benefit from it.

Craig Schneeberger had visited the Lincoln Presidential Library and was "amazed" by it. "When the time came to donate the letter, we knew where it needed to go," he said. Conservation philanthropist Louis Moore Bacon concluded the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum was also the proper home for the painting "The Young Abe Lincoln."

The painting by William

Morton Jackson Rice dates to the late 1800s. It is 7 feet wide by nearly 5 feet tall and shows Lincoln, clad in buckskins, sitting against a tree he has just chopped down. Lincoln is reading a book while he eats a meal that had been wrapped in a red bandana.

"The Young Abe Lincoln" will hang in the presidential library for the rest of the year.

Dr. Samuel Wheeler, the Illinois state historian, thanked Schneeberger and Bacon for their donations.

"We are grateful any time the owners of precious documents or art decide to share their possessions with the world. They are ensuring these wonderful items will be preserved for the good of all," Wheeler said.

Wheeler also thanked Ian Hunt, the presidential li-

brary's head of acquisitions, and James Cornelius, curator of the Lincoln Collection, for their diligence in arranging these donations.

The Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum celebrated his birthday Feb. 12 by offering free admission, showcasing some of its rarest artifacts and presenting musicians and historic interpreters.



After the heavy rain

Recent heavy rains created a new pond in a low-lying area of a field along Kaolin Road between Anna and Cobden. Four Canada geese paid a visit to the pond one afternoon last week.

**OFFICIAL GREEN BALLOT
GENERAL PRIMARY
MARCH 20, 2018
PUBLICATION**

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff, County Clerk & Recorder

Judges Initials _____

UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS

To vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of your choice, like this . To cast a write-in vote, darken the oval to the LEFT of the blank space provided and write the candidates name in that space. For specific information, refer to the card of instruction posted in the voting booth. If you tear, spoil, deface or erroneously mark this ballot, return it to the election judge and obtain another.

CONGRESSIONAL

**FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
TWELFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
(Vote for ONE)**

RANDY AUXIER

FRONT Card 5 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

LaShonna Pinnon

LOVELESS

for

Union County

TREASURER

P: (618) 833-8287
E: Sales@martinsharpall.com

ZTRs
Sales and Service

11&13GP

**Immediate Openings at River to River Community of Ullin
an affordable assisted living community
for seniors 65 and older.**

Services available include:

- 24 hour staffing
- Housekeeping
- 3 Meals Daily
- Medication reminders
- Laundry
- Health and Wellness Programs
- Personal Assistance
- Transportation
- Social Outings

River to River

Residential Communities

751 Ullin Avenue
Ullin, Illinois 62992
For price and availability
618-845-9065

8-28GP

BACK Card 5 RptPct 999999-9999 "PUBLICATION"

News from

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna



Youth group

Junior youth group members Alli Toler, Baley Robinson, Serena Hasty, Sydney Waun and Mari Robinson went bowling at The Strike Zone in Anna. Anthony Jimenez also went, but could not be present for the picture. Junior youth group meets on the first Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church in Jonesboro. The group includes young people from Salem Lutheran Church and Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna. Photo provided.

In his sermon on Sunday, March 4, Pastor Hasty told the story of the services in the temple at Jerusalem and how a "vandal" destroyed everything.

The message shared that "the gospel is not always polite because it is urgent. Every message doesn't come across clearly and plainly. Disruption is sometimes necessary. Jesus' actions at the temple were 'righteous anger.' People were putting themselves between believers and God. Jesus was angry because instead of being a house of worship, the temple was a place where money was made."

The congregation offered prayers for Will Eidson, Spencer Hammond, Kenny Roach, Pam Wheaton, Ron Tomme, Charlotte White, Linda Starr, Annette Roach, Stacy High Anderson, Betty Mattheis, John Kern, Rob Salversen, Mallory Harris, Tim Hunter, Mary Beth Smith, David Rothschild and Beth Martin.

Other prayers offered were for those grieving for Roger Waller and Karen Gardner.

The remaining Lenten meals and services follow:

March 14, Salem, Jonesboro, meal at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m.

March 21, Mt. Moriah, Anna, meal at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m.

On Maundy Thursday, March 29, the worship service will be at Salem Lutheran in Jonesboro. No meal will be served that day, nor at the worship service on Good Friday at Mt. Moriah Lutheran. Each service will begin at 7 p.m. at the respective church.

The youth are raising money for their trip to San Antonio this summer, with

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, March 4, the Rev. Tony Auxier was the guest speaker. He is the Clear Creek Baptist Association's director of missions.

Worship was led by Dee Rose. Special music was presented by Connor Benbrook.

A Women on Mission meeting is planned at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, today.

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 11. The church encourages everyone to turn their clocks forward on Saturday, March 10, in order to be on time for church Sunday.

Birthdays: Jim Ralls, Doris Rhoads, March 7.

The schedule for Sunday includes Bible study at 9 a.m. and worship services at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Awana meets at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday. An adult Bible study and prayer meeting are at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, as well as a youth meeting.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

Music for the Sunday morning worship service was led by Randy Wright and Abby Barlow.

Special music was provided by Jaida Smith, with Mark Smith, Jack Shepard, Terry Wiseman Sr. and Robert Smith serving as ushers.

The morning message, titled "The Power of the Holy Spirit-Week 3: Greater," was brought by Pastor McBride. Scripture was from John.

The message shared that "we need greater conviction and greater action."

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

Kim Capel was the guest speaker at the Sunday morning worship service.

The next Soup and Serve is planned from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 12, in the fellowship hall. The menu will feature vegetable soup. The meal is free and all are welcome.

The church has a contemporary service from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday.

The greater conviction is this: Jesus is the only real and lasting hope. The greater action then is point people to Jesus."

Music for the Sunday evening worship service was led by Randy Wright and Abby Barlow.

Special music was provided by Randy Wright, with Robert Smith serving as usher.

Pastor McBride read some scriptures and communion was served to the congregation, followed with prayer around the altar.

Birthdays: March 5, Bob McClure.

An international celebration of missions is planned at 6 p.m. on March 18. Everyone is invited to get their "missionary team" together and let Tammy Vicenzi know which region they will be traveling to and representing.

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. Youth services are at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

News from

First Christian Church, Anna

"Loving People Where They Are: A Vision for Our Community" was the title of the sermon preached by church elder Rollie Hawk on Sunday, March 4.

The message focused on topics which included public relations: "we have to work to put our best foot forward and honor God in our effort"; becoming a vital part of the community: "we need to make sure that we are active in all levels of our community"; and eating with sinners: "when it comes to the lost, we should be eating with them."

Birthdays: Fallon Millis, March 4; Maggie Bush, March 5; Brandi Hoehner, Parker Flamm, March 6; Valerie Weilmuenster, March 10.

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

The Sunday evening program begins at 6 p.m., including a junior high school youth group and senior high school youth group. Adult Bible study is at 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday Bible study is at 6:30 p.m. Awana clubs for young people meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Tree care program scheduled

A Four Seasons Gardening program from University of Illinois Extension is scheduled to continue with a session titled "Tree Care in Urban Soils."

A presentation is set for 6:30 p.m. March 15 at the Extension office in Anna. The office is in Suite G at 515 E. Vienna St. The program is free.

Extension horticulture educator Ryan Pankau plans to discuss tree care

and urban soils by exploring the attributes of urban soils in contrast to undisturbed forest soils.

The webinar also can be viewed from home by pre-registering at go.illinois.edu/4seasons_webinars.

This is the second session of the winter series. The next program, titled "Keep on Growing: Tips for Extending the Gardening Season," is set for March 29 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Stegle Plumbing
Licensed & Insured
License # 058-193632
Contractors Lic.
#055-042748
www.stegleplumbing.com
stegle2011@gmail.com
618-833-0247
Anna, Illinois
Residential and Commercial Plumbing

SES
Southern Environmental Services
2165 Boyd Road
Anna, IL
(618) 833-PUMP
(7867)
License # 054-801451
Serving all of Southern Illinois
Septic Tank Pumping
Anna, Illinois • Owners, Jeremy & Kristen Stegle

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

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

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

goosehead INSURANCE
Bigler Agency
(618) 614-7373

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

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

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

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!

Custom Processing of Beef-Pork-Goat-Sheep
Deer Processing Oct. 1st through Jan. 30th
TRIPLE C MEATS
5565 St. Rt. 146E
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-5986
Jason Martin
Owner
jasonm@triplecmeats.com

GOD'S GOOD NEWS

The sanctuary of a church is a big place to a small child. Imagine what it must feel like to be surrounded by silence in such a serious place – the place where the grown-ups go. Children can learn to worship God in their own special way and learn about Him as they hear the prayers and songs. It may not seem as if they are listening, and they may not be able to sit quietly the whole time, but they will hear and learn about God. Do you remember what it was like to worship as a child? A child hears with innocent enthusiasm. God is big and wonderful! Take a new look at your house of worship this week; see it through eyes of a child and rejoice in God's Good News!

Daily Devotional Reading

Ezra	Ezra	Ezra	Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Nehemiah
8:1-23	8:24-36	9:1-25	8:1-18	9:1-25	9:26-38	10:28-39

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

©2018, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnews.com

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

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
Paid for by Committee to Elect Tyler Edmonds

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

We care about your total body health and wellness.
Ozourn Chiropractic Clinic, S.C.
Dr. Jason S. Ozourn
Chiropractic Physician
101 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-2179

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

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Serving the area for over 35 years
Gurley & Son Heating & Air Conditioning
1540 Old Hwy. 51N • Anna, IL
(618) 833-5211
"Hope to see you in church Sunday"

First Christian Church
200 Mallard Lane
Anna, IL
618-833-6834
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Dine-In • Carryout Delivery
Pizza Hut
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 southpassbeads
203 E. Ash St., Cobden, IL • (618) 893-6170

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

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

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

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

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

Duty's Auto Glass
324 Willard Ferry Rd. • Jonesboro
833-2923 or Toll Free 866-759-2923
Serving All of Southern Illinois
Over 30 Years Experience

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

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
151 Leigh Ave. • Anna, IL • 618-833-4546
1002 Public Square • Jonesboro • 618-833-4547
Member FDIC

Schaefer 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
Member FDIC

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

FITNESS FORUM
24 Hour Access
833-3234
Proud to be partnered with Silver Sneakers
131 W. Chestnut

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

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

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

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

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.

Spring Forward

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour Sunday. Spring forward.

Nashville Trip

Jimmy and Valeria Meller and Don and Jane Meller McClain enjoyed a trip to Nashville, Tenn. They went to Ryman Auditorium to see the Tedeschi Trucks Band. They ate at Valentinos, an Italian restaurant.

Arizona Trip

Last week, Mindy Carter, Linda Hileman and Evelyn Bailey flew to Phoenix, Ariz., to spend a few days with their friends, Joan and Rick Bittle, former Jonesboro residents and local career teachers.

While there, the group was able to visit with the Bittles' sons Brock and Ryan as well as Ryan's fiancée, Nyree Christopher.

Highlights of the trip were a day trip to Sedona and a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West, his winter home and school. Former Anna resident Jill Cunningham joined them for the tour and lunch.

Guests

Norm and Barb Bauer were pleased to have Lou and Deb Bauer from Chesterfield, Mo., and Doug and Beth Hileman from Anna to visit last weekend and help with their down-sizing project.

St. Louis Trip

Doug and Beth Hileman went to St. Louis recently to visit their son Jacob Hileman and family.



Congratulations to Dawson Montfort, who finished 16th out of 41 in the world in heavyweight at the Columbus Convention Center at Columbus, Ohio. He competed against guys from 30 different countries. Ripped his hands open on day one so had to compete with ripped hands day two.

They especially enjoyed helping grandson Finlay Hileman celebrate his 4th birthday.

Florida Trip

Kay Johnston and Judy Shoemaker have returned from a trip to Florida, where they stayed five days in Naples.

They enjoyed a tour of the Everglades. They also stayed two days with their friend Janice Lewellyn in Lady Lake.

New York Trip

Angela Gordon recently visited her daughter Olivia Gordon in New York.

"Emma"

Just 10's Frozen Yogurt and Dessert Shop will give part of their profit to support Friends of the Theatre for the musical "Emma" at A-JCHS March 9 starting at 4 p.m. Come out and support the cast and Just 10's.

Congratulations

Great job Saturday Maniacs bowling team at the Pepsi bowling tournament in Benton Saturday.

Anna VFW

March 8 the Post will hold their monthly business meeting starting at 7 p.m. Nomination of officers will take place.

Saturday, March 10, the Turkey Federation will hold their annual dinner at the post.

A-JCHS Band

Congratulations to the A-JCHS Band ensemble performances musically talented Wildcats at IHSA contest Saturday.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Our Lord' supper was taken.

Rev. Carl Johnston's sermon was working the



Randy Young celebrated his 14th Leap Day birthday Feb. 28 with a party given by his family.

program.

"How Great Thou Art" was sung in honor and memory of Billy Graham.

Surprise Mail

Darryl Parks was surprised by a magazine he received in the mail addressed to his father Walter. It was a Farm Bureau Magazine dated May 1964, 53 years ago.

Acts of Kindness

A special thanks to Bryan and Stacey Crain, the Crain family and staff for the nice surprise I got in the mail with the laminated clipping of the newspaper article and picture where Jane Bauer and Martha Ann Webb were serving refreshments at the Union County Courthouse to celebrate the 200th birthday of Union County.

Litter

Spring is coming, so hoping everyone will take a little time to put on gloves and pick up the litter that has been left from winter.

Years ago there used to be road signs that said you would get a fine for littering.

Remember Smokie Bear and the song we use to sing about not littering?

There are so many fast food places now and everyone loves to go to them but please keep a plastic sack in your car and put the cups and papers in it until you get home or to a trash can and dispose of them there not in people's yards, on our city streets or the highways.

We have a free country to live in and God has given us a wonderful world. Let's all work together to keep it beautiful.

Birthday Celebration

Melissa McCord celebrated her birthday on Feb. 20 with her daughter Brynn Edwards and grandson Isaac Edwards.

She had lots of fun using her AARP card for birthday gifts at the Carbondale Mall.

Congratulations Wrestlers

Good luck Anna Junior High wrestlers who will be going to state: 8th grade Keegan Keller, Blake Mays, Barry Johnson and Arojae Hart. One 7th grader also qualified, Caleb Mays.

Their hard work, determination and attitude paid off says mother Lenore Ashby.

Anniversary

Jim and Jackie Koonce celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary March 4.

Shawnee Food Pantry

A special thanks to Wilma Thomas from Norris City and formerly of Anna for her donation to the Shawnee Food Pantry.

Artifacts

Melissa McCord, Brynn and Isaac Edwards visited the Robert Thomas home when they were picking up a refrigerator they bought from him.

They got to talking about the history of Union County and how close to Willard's Landing he lived.

Robert's grandson Clay was visiting one day when he went to play in the creek that runs through their land south of Jonesboro.

It was after a heavy rain and he found an ax head that was 188 years old that was lost by a Cherokee brave during the Trail of Tears encampment. It had been buried under almost 200 years of mud.

Robert and Clay cleaned the ax head and put a new handle so Clay will be able to display it in a case.

Melissa had never seen anything like it before and looked it up on line.

It shows that indeed it is an original ax head made by the Cherokee men for war or cutting down trees for building a lodge during a brutal winter in Southern Illinois.

Melissa said Illinois is rich in history as being part of the Trail of Tears. But even some locals don't know that Union County is one of the wealthiest counties of all.

During the year 1838 the United States government forced the Native Americans from their homeland in the East to march across the land to Oklahoma.

Many stories are readily available to read about the mistreatment of the Cherokee Nation and other Native tribes but this story is about our place in the history of the Cherokee people.

In the winter of 1838 it is said the Mississippi River was frozen 10 inches solid. It was impossible for the ferry that was run by Mr. Willard to cross the river.

The Cherokee people had to wait until the river thawed in order to be ferried across.

They set up camp south of Jonesboro until the weather warmed up enough to move forward, farther from their homes and closer to the unknown land of Oklahoma.

But first they had to survive a winter in Southern Illinois. As most of the residents of Southern Illinois know it can get miserably cold here. We long for spring days just like Clay did when he got outside and played in the creek that runs across his grandpa's property.

A-JCHS Musical

Students at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School have been practicing on their musical "Emma" that will be March 16-18.

St. Anne's Historic Church

An annual soup and chili supper and dessert auction are planned at historic St. Anne's Church at 507 S. Main St. in Anna Friday, March 16, at 5:30 p.m. \$5 per person.

The event and auction help to support the upkeep of St. Anne's.

Donations of desserts for the auction are welcome; however, they ask that no cream desserts be brought. Walk-ins are welcome, although if possible those who plan to attend are asked to call 833-9441 to help the hosts plan for the amount of food to prepare.

Parking is half a block from the church, behind Stinson Library.

PAST invites you to come and enjoy a bowl of hot soup or chili and join in the fun and fellowship of bidding for desserts.

Guests

Guests of Gaylon and



Robert Thomas shows a Cherokee ax artifact his grandson Clay found in the creek on his family farm below Jonesboro.



Goldie Clardy Woods was honored for her 105th birthday at her church Sunday with a dinner birthday party after church. Her birthday was March 6. Pictured with her is her great-niece Brenda Allen.



Stegle Plumbing was voted business of the year at the Union County Chamber of Commerce annual gala. They also gained national recognition when featured as the cover story in Plumber magazine a few months ago. Stegle Plumbing received honorable mention for a second year as Best Plumber in the Southern Illinoisan's readers choice awards. Jeremy and Kristen have been in business for seven years and they take pride in their work and are blessed to be a part of this community.



A birthday dinner party in honor of Pauline Vick of Anna and Thelma Vick of Tamms Baptist Church. Thelma's 95th birthday is in March and Pauline's 91st birthday is in April.

Clara Cates were Bill and Angel Burich from Joliet and Joann Mayle from West Virginia.

Election Judges

The election judges were in class Monday at the Union County Courthouse for the primary election that will be March 20. Don't forget to vote.

Birthday

Bruce Henderson celebrated his birthday March 5.

Birthday Celebration

Feb. 28, Tonya Young said they celebrated her husband, Randy's Unbirthday.

This year he does not have an actual birthday, and he keeps telling Tonya that, but she informed him that he does turn another year older, so they were going to celebrate his aging.

Why does Randy not have a birthday this year? Because he is a Leap Day baby, born on Feb. 29, 1960, so he has actually only had 14 birthdays but he is 58 years old.

This year he got double the fun. His niece Linda Miller made him a cake, the "Happy Unbirt." She said she ran out of room, but Tonya thinks she just wanted to make it funny for her uncle the Klown.

His sister Nancy Young made him a delicious chocolate bundt cake with his and her's frosting. His had nuts in it.

For Randy to not having an actual birthday until the year 2020, he did very well. He now says, he is 14.5. Happy Birthday, oh Unbirthday.



Friends of the Theatre: Kathy Capel, Angela Gordon, Amy Casper, Bessie Mae Ellis and Brent Gordon are volunteering their time to help with the musical "Emma" that will be performed at A-JCHS March 16-18.



The Strike Zone Saturday Maniacs at the Mt. Vernon Pepsi bowling tournament.

Connect Point Church Sunday morning there were 411 in attendance.

March 17 at 8 a.m. there will be a men's breakfast, Sheriff Scott Harvel will be the guest speaker.

They have two services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. The church is located across from the Anna Post Office.

Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club Meeting

The Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club planned to meet Monday at the Sunshine Inn at Goddards Barn and Grill for lunch. Guest speaker was John Schwegman.

Birthday Celebrations

If you would like your birthday or anniversary and how you celebrated in the paper email me or give me a call.

Free Community Dinners

Anna First Baptist

Church serves a free community meal the second Monday of each month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Loaves and Fishes free community meal is on the third Tuesday of each month from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at United Methodist Church Anna fellowship hall.

Harvest Church serves a free meal every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Military Prayer List

Garrett Goines, Nick Harvel, Nona Elizabeth Luke, Lucas J. Strickland, William Nathaniel Frankell, Ethan Maze, Lukas W. Davis.

Kiefer Stull, David Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, C J Youngerman, Freddy Morse, Reagan Morrison, Josh Stevenson, Josh Williams, 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. Mc-

Meely, James McWhorter, Arin Whitemountain.

Anna Moose Lodge

The Anna Women of the Moose will be serving a baked chicken dinner on Saturday, March 10, from

5 p.m. until 7 p.m. The public is welcome.

Looking for Cousins

Carol M. Gray is looking for her cousins Mark Parmly and Vicky Parmly. Carol's maiden name is

Nance from Carbondale. Mark is from Missouri. Vicky was last known to be living in Arizona. Carol would love to contact them. Phone number is 623-262-8945.



Fog develops over pond Fog was seen developing over a pond near Cobden during damp and calm evening hours on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

Table of TV listings for Thursday, March 8, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM with program titles.

MARCH 8, 2018

THURSDAY

Summary of TV listings for Thursday, March 8, 2018. Includes programs like FOX Gotham, NBC Champions, and The Chi.

FRIDAY

Table of TV listings for Friday, March 9, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 9, 2018

FRIDAY

Summary of TV listings for Friday, March 9, 2018. Includes programs like CBS MacGyver, FOX 9-1-1, and The Chi.

SATURDAY

Table of TV listings for Saturday, March 10, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 10, 2018

SATURDAY

Summary of TV listings for Saturday, March 10, 2018. Includes programs like NBC Will & Grace, USA Falling Water, and The Chi.

SUNDAY

Table of TV listings for Sunday, March 11, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 11, 2018

SUNDAY

Summary of TV listings for Sunday, March 11, 2018. Includes programs like TBS iHeartRadio Music Awards, CBS NCIS: Los Angeles, and The Chi.

MONDAY

Table of TV listings for Monday, March 12, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 12, 2018

MONDAY

Summary of TV listings for Monday, March 12, 2018. Includes programs like ABC American Idol, NBC The Voice, and The Chi.

TUESDAY

Table of TV listings for Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 13, 2018

TUESDAY

Summary of TV listings for Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Includes programs like NBC The Voice, ABC black-ish, and The Chi.

WEDNESDAY

Table of TV listings for Wednesday, March 14, 2018. Columns include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW. Rows show time slots from 6 PM to 11 PM.

MARCH 14, 2018

WEDNESDAY

Summary of TV listings for Wednesday, March 14, 2018. Includes programs like FOX The X-Files, USA NCIS, and The Chi.

Opinion and Commentary

Severe Weather Preparedness Month observed during March

As recent widespread flooding demonstrates, severe weather can happen any time of the year. To help people prepare for weather emergencies, IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting Severe Weather Preparedness Month throughout March.

"We want to make sure families have a plan in advance, just in case they're ever impacted by severe weather," IEMA acting director Jennifer Ricker said. "Throughout the month of March, we'll help people understand where they should take shelter, the importance of having a family communications plan, and what should be included in their preparedness kit."

IEMA and the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association, IESMA, are also sponsoring an online contest that offers Illinois residents a chance to win a weather alert radio. The "Weather Alert Radios Save Lives" contest will be available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov through March 31.

A total of 100 weather alert radios will be awarded to randomly selected participants who register after reading information about the radios and successfully completing a five-question quiz. Winners will be notified in April. The radios were purchased by IESMA to increase the use of the devices throughout Illinois.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, weather alert radios can be programmed to sound an alarm and provide information when a weather warning has been issued for your county.

Other ways to receive severe weather warnings include Wireless Emergency Alerts, WEA, weather alert apps, television and radio broadcasts, the internet, outdoor warning sirens and more.

"Standing among the ruins of their Saline County home, a man, woman and their infant child told me they were thankful for the precious time their NOAA weather alert radio gave them to take shelter," said McHenry County Emergency Management director and IESMA Board member David Christensen, referring to the Feb. 29, 2012, pre-dawn tornado that struck Saline County in Southern Illinois. "Those three lives saved convinced me of the value of these radios."

A Severe Weather Preparedness Guide, which provides tips on how to prepare for weather emergencies is available on the Ready Illinois website. Additional tips and information are available on the Ready Illinois Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois) and Twitter Page (twitter.com/ReadyIllinois).

"Please keep in mind, if there are flooded roads it is very simple, don't drive through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown," said Chris Miller, warning coordination meteorologist with the NWS office in Lincoln. "Nearly all of the people who have died in floods across Illinois were in vehicles."

Page from the Past

From the files of The Gazette-Democrat 50 Years Ago, March 7, 1968

District Forest Ranger Robert Burton of the United States Forest Service has reported that the low humidity and lack of moisture is creating fire hazards in the surrounding forest areas.

The residents of Cobden will be hearing a new sound, especially the Volunteer Fire Department. The 21 year old fire siren purchased in 1947 is being replaced with a new 5 hp, 3 phase unit.

Few petitions have been filed with the various school boards in the County since February 28, the first date for filing for the seven man boards in each school district.

Officers have been named for the group of persons who make up the Union County Citizens for Lincoln Memorial Square.

A meeting will be held at the Stinson Memorial Library Tuesday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. for further planning of the Sesquicentennial observance activities in Union County.

For a short time Thursday morning, Feb. 29, residents might have thought they lived in the far north when a snowstorm struck the area. March came in like a lamb on Friday, March 1, with the temperature reading 49 for a high and 15 for a low.

The schedule of Holy Week Services sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance includes noon time daily meditation services to be held at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Monday through Friday, April 8-12.

The Anna Chamber of Commerce met Monday evening, March 4, at the Whitehouse Coffee Shop for their quarterly dinner meeting with Chamber president Luther Davis presiding.

Mr. and Mrs. George V. Saul, Wolf Lake, will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary Sunday, March 10, with an Open House from 1:30 until 5 p.m. at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Daniel Morgan, whose home is on Route 3, first house west of Glenn.

The annual dinner meeting of the Union County Hospital Auxiliary was held Tuesday in the Nursing Home with 20 present.

The Davie School Music Festival will be held in the Davie School Gymnasium tonight, Thursday, March 7, at 7:00 p.m.

The first District meeting of the World War I Barracks and their Auxiliary will be held Sunday, March 10, at the American Legion Home in Anna, with a potluck dinner at 12:30 p.m.

The Anna-Jonesboro Wildcats were defeated in the Regional Tournament at Cairo Monday night by the Shawnee Redskins 64-59.

Please read this. . .

by Geof Skinner

Mother Nature offers some pleasant surprises...

Thank goodness...
...last Saturday afternoon, yours truly went on a daily walkabout.

The sun was shining, all bright and warm. Yes. Warm. As in I won't freeze my face while on a walk.

I'm not sure how or why the idea flashed through my simple little mind. Such is often the case. That being said, I thought that while I was out enjoying the sunshine, I'd see what kind of exciting shapes I might spot in the wonderful, wide world right there in our neighborhood.

If you pay close attention, Mother Nature can offer some pleasant surprises. Generally, all you really have to do is pause for a moment or two, and take a look around.

So, this week there are few more pictures than usual. Hope you get a chance to enjoy Mother Nature's wonders, especially since the weather outside isn't quite as frightful, and freezing, as it seems to have been for a while in our neck of the woods...



Not quite sure what kind of seed cluster, or ball, or pod, this might be...probably should know.



Would be interesting to know what kind of critters might have created these holes in a tree.



Lots and lots of "gum balls" from the sweet gum tree can be seen in our front yard.



These leaves, which reminded me of ferns, were bright green, and hugging the ground.



A lone sweet gum ball was nestled in some rocks next to one of The Other Half's gardens.



Bright yellow daffodil flowers have become common sights in the last week or so...hopefully, they are a sure sign that warm breezes and naps on the front porch are coming...

Governor taps first keg of bicentennial craft beer

An official Illinois bicentennial craft beer is available.

Gov. Bruce Rauner tapped the first keg of the beer recently at Binny's Beverage Depot Tasting Room in Lincoln Park.

Hand of Fate Brewing Co. of Petersburg created the special birthday brew, called 1818 Prairie State... Farmhouse Ale, which is being distributed statewide

by Breakthru Beverage Illinois.

Hand of Fate Brewing was chosen to brew the official beer after winning a bicentennial craft beer contest at the Illinois State Fair in August.

The beer features staple Illinois crops including corn, wheat and oats. The crystal hops are grown by Hallowed Hops of Lewistown, and fermented with

a hybrid saison yeast developed by Omega Yeast Labs of Chicago.

Restaurants and bars featuring craft beer will offer 1818 throughout Illinois. In early March, 1818 will be available in cans at retail locations.

Hand of Fate Brewing Co. is a small brewery that opened on the historic Petersburg Square in May 2016.

The company brews a variety of beers that appeal to all spectrums of craft beer drinkers.

With the statewide release of 1818, Hand of Fate looks to expand with more offerings throughout Illinois.

On Dec. 3, 1818, Illinois became the 21st state in the union. The Illinois bicentennial is a yearlong celebration of statehood.