

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Anna, Illinois

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\$1.00

Volume 168, Number 13

News

Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all on March 17.

An annual Blue Ribbons for Kids Campaign Union County Proclamation Day event is set for 9 a.m. on March 31. The event, spearheaded by WIBH radio in Anna, will be at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro and will kick off the local observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

A National Day of Prayer service is planned May 4 at the Anna City Park in Anna.

State Sen. Paul Schimpf and State Sen. Dale Fowler are scheduled to visit Shawnee High School at Wolf Lake on Wednesday morning, March 22. The legislators are slated to get a firsthand look at river levees and to meet with students.

A Water/Ways exhibit featuring works by Shawnee High School students is underway through March 26 at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center in Anna.

A spring art exhibit is planned April 3 through May at the arts center in Anna.

The arts center also is planning to host its "Paint the Town" event on April 8.

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Snowy Monday morning commute

A vehicle makes its way through the railroad crossing on South Main Street in downtown Anna Monday morning. Snow was falling as area residents made their way to work and to school. The snow was not accumulating on roads and streets and, for the most part, had melted away by Monday evening.

Fruit growers monitor peach crop

High of 75; then, freeze warnings for area

Snow and cold followed quickly on the heels of 75-degree temperatures during the past week in the Union County area.

Bitter cold temperatures were in the forecast on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings of this week.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah early this week issued a freeze warning for Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

Hard freezes were expected on both Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

The weather service explained that a freeze warning meant that sub-freezing temperatures were imminent or highly likely. "These conditions will kill crops and other sensitive vegetation," the weather service stated on its website.

A freeze warning also was issued last Friday night for the region.

The wintry conditions caused concerns for local fruit growers, who were monitoring the condition of peach trees and other crops.

The cold weather came less than a week before the start of spring, which begins on Monday, March 20.

High of 75, Low of 22

Local weather observer Dana Cross reported that the high temperature reached 75 degrees on Thursday, March 9, in Jonesboro.

By Saturday morning, the low temperature had dropped to 27. The cold



Peach trees in bloom

Peach trees near Alto Pass were in full bloom last Saturday morning. At the time the picture was taken, an occasional snowflake could be seen. Local fruit growers were keeping an eye on the weather this week. Last weekend, low temperatures dipped into the 20s. Even colder temperatures were in the forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday nights of this week.

was accompanied by a very light dusting of snow in the area.

On Sunday morning, the low temperature had dropped to 22 degrees.

Monday remained cold, with a high temperature of 39. Monday morning also was highlighted by about an inch of snow which fell on the area. As the temperature rose above freezing during the course of the day, the snow melted away.

Freeze Warning

Tuesday started cloudy and was expected to remain cold, with a high temperature expected in the upper 30s. The forecast for Wednesday was calling for sunshine and a high in the upper 30s.

Low temperatures on

Tuesday night and again on Wednesday night were of concern.

The National Weather Service forecast for Tuesday night was calling for a low temperature in the range of 18 to 23 degrees in the area.

The low temperature Wednesday night was expected to be 20 to 27 degrees.

"Fruit trees in bloom or budded out will be damaged by the hard freeze conditions" which were expected Tuesday and Wednesday night, the weather service stated.

"Other similar early spring plants that are ahead of schedule with their blooms and buds will likewise experience similar

damage," the weather service cautioned.

Warmer weather is in the forecast for the area. The forecast posted early this week called for a high temperature near 47 degrees on Thursday, today, along with mostly cloudy conditions.

On Friday, the forecast called for showers and a high near 62. Saturday is expected to be mostly sunny, with a high near 57.

Fruit Growers Monitor Conditions

The past week's cold weather had local fruit growers keeping an eye on their crops.

The cold conditions followed an unusually warm February and last week's mild temperatures.

Peach trees in Union

County orchards had started to bloom during recent warm weather.

Jeff Flamm, co-owner of Flamm Orchards near Cobden, said on Monday that he had seen peach trees in bloom some 10 days earlier.

Ren Sirles, owner of Rendleman Orchards near Alto Pass, said on Monday that he had seen peach blossoms a week earlier.

Flamm said that the low temperature reached 23 degrees at Flamm Orchards on Sunday morning.

A low in the range of 24 to 25 degrees was recorded Sunday morning at Rendleman Orchards.

Flamm said that while the peach crop sustained

(continued on page 2)



Practicing for season opener...

Thursday afternoon, March 9, the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team was practicing for its 2017 season opener. Kyle Clover was on the mound, pitching to Ross Pinnon; Jacob Schaefer was the catcher. The team was practicing at Kiwanis Field at the Anna City Park in Anna. A-J's season opener was scheduled for Monday, March 13.



...which was cancelled due to weather

By the morning of game day on Monday, March 13, Kiwanis Field was under a layer of snow. The weather forced the cancellation of the game.





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THE TALK AND COBDEN REVIEW
 Serving Union County Since 1849
 (USPS 215-280)
 112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 529
 Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Phone: 618-833-2158
 Fax: 618-833-5813
 Email: news@annanews.com



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

PUBLISHED THURSDAY

Jerry L. Reppert.....Publisher
 Geoff Skinner.....Editor
 Lonnie J. Hinton.....Production Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Union County.....\$35.00	Six months out of area.....\$40.00
Elsewhere in 629 Zip Code.....\$37.00	Students (nine months).....\$36.00
Out of area.....\$45.00	Armed services.....\$36.00
Six months in county.....\$32.00	Single copy.....\$1.00
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e-edition.....\$35.00	With print subscription.....\$7.00



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News Notes

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The Village of Cobden is planning to replace park and bridge lights with LED bulbs. ***

A butterfly monitor training workshop is planned Saturday, April 1, at Giant City State Park near Makanda. ***

Spring wildflower walks are planned April 8, 14 and 29 at Giant City State Park. ***

The Illinois Depart-

ment of Natural Resources is planning to launch a new "White-Tailed Deer Illinois" website. The website is slated to provide information about deer biology, research and regulations. ***

Snow flurries were still flying around early Tuesday afternoon in Union County. ***

Recent weather would suggest otherwise, but there are signs that spring is coming. The new season begins on March 20. ***

Bid opening scheduled for Anna park project

Bids are scheduled to be opened Thursday, today, for a major improvement project which is planned at the Anna City Park in Anna.

Plans for the bid opening were shared at a regular meeting of the Anna City Council which was held Tuesday evening, March 7. The meeting was at Anna City Hall in Anna.

Concerns about addressing vandalism at the park also were discussed at last week's meeting.

The bid opening is scheduled at city hall. City administrator Steve Guined explained that once the bids have been opened, they will be reviewed. A recommendation then will be made to the Anna City Council. The council then will act on the bids.

Guined said that he hopes to be able to make a recommendation to the city council regarding the bids at its next regular meeting, which is scheduled on March 21.

Estimates have put the cost of the project in the range of about \$314,000. The city is receiving \$150,000 in state grant funds for the project. The city will pay for the remainder of the costs.

The project is slated to include a new concessions/restroom building, as well as improvements at the basketball and tennis courts at the park.

Work on the project is scheduled to be completed by August, in time for the 2017 Union County Fair. The fair is held at the park. In other business at the March 7 meeting: Anna Police Chief Mike

Hunter reported that he is looking into the potential costs of installing security cameras at the park.

Vandalism has been a matter of ongoing concern at the park for many years. Another round of vandalism was reported recently at the park.

Early estimates put the cost of acquiring and installing cameras at the park in the range of \$5,000 to \$10,000.

The council voiced its appreciation to Capt. Rich Elliott of the Anna Fire Department. Elliott is retiring from service due to health issues after many years of service.

Weather High 75, low 22; snow recorded

Temperatures ranged from a high of 75 degrees to a low of 22 during the period of March 7-13 in Union County.

The period also was highlighted by snow, including a trace on March 11 and about an inch on March 13. Monday's snow melted down to .24 of an inch of precipitation.

Other precipitation during the period included 1.33 inches of rain on March 7 and .14 of an inch of rain on March 9.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, March 7	64	38
Wednesday, March 8	67	36
Thursday, March 9	75	39
Friday, March 10	54	36
Saturday, March 11	39	27
Sunday, March 12	47	22
Monday, March 13	39	32

U.S. Attorney: Superseding indictment returned in Cairo bank robbery case

Donald S. Boyce, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, on Monday, March 13, announced that a superseding indictment was returned by a federal grand jury in Benton in the case regarding the May 2014 attempted robbery of the First National Bank in Cairo.

Boyce announced in a news release that a seven count superseding indictment was returned against James Nathaniel Watts, 32, of Cairo, Otha D. Watkins, III, 33, of Cairo, and Sharita S. Tipler, 30, of Ullin.

Count 1 charges Watts with attempted armed bank robbery resulting in death.

The indictment alleged that during the commission of his attempted robbery of the First National Bank in Cairo on May 15, 2014, Watts killed Anita Grace and Nita Smith, and critically injured a third bank employee.

Count 2 charges that on May 15, 2014, Watts was a convicted felon in possession of a .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol which had previously traveled in interstate commerce.

Count 3 charges that on May 15, 2014, Watkins did aid and abet James Nathaniel Watts, in the attempted armed bank robbery which resulted in the deaths of Anita Grace and Nita Smith (Count 1 above).

Count 4 charges that on May 16, 2014, in Alexander County, IL, Watkins did knowingly and willfully make a materially false statement in a matter within the jurisdiction of the executive branch of the government of the United States, by making false statements to a special agent of the FBI.

Count 5 charges that from on or about May 4, 2014, to on or about May 17, 2014, in Alexander County, Watkins was a convicted felon who knowingly possessed a Ruger 9 mm pistol which had previously traveled in

interstate commerce.

Count 6 charges that on or about May 12, 2014, in Alexander County, Watkins did conspire and agree with James Nathaniel Watts, and others known and unknown to the grand jury, to commit robbery, which robbery would obstruct, delay, and affect interstate commerce, in that they agreed to take United States currency belonging to McDonalds restaurant, in Charleston, Mo., from employees of the McDonald's restaurant, in their presence and against their will by means of actual and threatened force, violence and fear of injury to their person, by brandishing a firearm.

Count 7 charges that from on or about May 15, 2014, to on or about May 17, 2014, in Alexander County, Tipler did knowingly dispose of a firearm (transferred a firearm), a Ruger 9 mm pistol, to Otha Don Watkins III, knowing and having reasonable cause to believe that Otha Don Watkins III, was a convicted felon.

With respect to Count 1, the possible penalties are death or a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, the news release stated.

With respect to Count 2, the possible penalties are up to 10 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to 3 years of supervised release to follow any term of incarceration imposed.

With respect to Count 3, the possible penalties are death or a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole.

With respect to Count 4, the possible penalties are up to 5 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to 3 years of supervised release to follow any term of incarceration imposed.

With respect to Count 5, the possible penalties are up to 10 years of imprisonment,

a \$250,000 fine, and up to 3 years of supervised release to follow any term of incarceration imposed.

With respect to Count 6, the possible penalties are up to 20 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to 5 years of supervised release to follow any term of incarceration imposed.

With respect to Count 7, the possible penalties are up to 10 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to 3 years of supervised release to follow any term of incarceration imposed.

Watts has been in custody since May 15, 2014.

Watkins is in custody and has an initial appearance

set for March 21, in the United States Courthouse in Benton.

Tipler was arrested and had an initial appearance on March 13, 2017.

Tipler is in custody and has a bond hearing scheduled for March 14 at the United States Courthouse in Benton.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys James M. Cutchin, George A. Norwood, and Jeffrey A. Zick.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Illinois State Police and numerous other law enforcement agencies.

Monitoring crops

(continued from page 1) significant damage during last weekend's cold, some varieties had survived the cold.

"As of this morning, we still have peaches," he said during a telephone interview on Monday morning.

He said that Flamm Orchards has some 10 to 12 varieties of peaches. The local agribusiness has about 260 acres in peaches. Different varieties were at various stages of development. The cold weather has had varying levels of impact, depending on how far along the peaches had developed.

Flamm Orchards also grows strawberries on about four to five acres. Work had been done to protect that crop.

"We're doing what we can do" to protect crops, he said.

Sirles took a cautious approach to reviewing the

damage to peaches which was caused by last weekend's cold weather, especially in light of a forecast which was calling for very cold temperatures on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Rendleman Orchards has about 80 to 90 acres in peaches.

"We've got two more real bad nights" in the forecast, Sirles said Monday morning.

Sirles recalled that in 2007, cold weather froze both the peach and apple crops. So far in the 2017 growing season, apple trees have not started to bloom like the peaches.

"We hope Mother Nature smiles on us," Sirles said Monday.

Flamm said that unusual weather conditions during the growing season are expected by producers.

"The first part of March can be a wild ride," he said.

Tax multiplier, Extension among items on agenda at county board meeting

Taxes, University of Illinois Extension activities, tourism and the hiring of a human resources administrator were on the agenda at last week's regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners.

The meeting was Friday morning, March 10, at the Union County Courthouse.

Supervisor of assessments Tammy Robinson reported that the county has received a tentative tax multiplier of 1.0287 from the state.

The multiplier, once finalized, is one of the factors used in determining local property tax bills.

Robinson noted that the county received the tentative multiplier about four weeks ahead of when it was received last year.

She also reported that the county's most recent assessed valuation was in the range of \$236 million.

In other business at Friday's meeting:

Union County Treasurer Darren Bailey reported that his office had completed the final disbursement of

\$13,364,360.85 in local property tax funds to the taxing districts.

University of Illinois representative Jody Johnson presented a funding request in the amount of \$40,000 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 to the county board for review and consideration.

Johnson serves as Extension director for Union, Johnson, Alexander, Pulaski and Massac counties.

Union County levies a tax to help support Extension and its activities.

Local business person Andrea Dahmer voiced her concerns about the allocation of funds for the promotion of tourism.

She also suggested that the county consider changing its participation in the Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau. No action was taken by county officials on the proposal.

The commissioners continued discussion, in closed session, about the hiring of a human resources administrator. The county received 26 applications for the job.

Illinois State Police plan NITE patrols in Union County

Illinois State Police District 22 personnel plan to conduct Nighttime Enforcement, NITE, patrols in Union County during March.

Plans for the patrols were announced by Lt. Michael Alvey, who is the interim commander of District 22. The district has its headquarters in Ullin.

Alvey said in a news release that the NITE patrols allow the state police "to focus on preventing, detecting and taking enforcement action in response to impaired driving and occupant restraint violations especially between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m."

"The number of unrestrained drivers killed in traffic crashes is significantly higher at nighttime and combined with impaired driving means even

more traffic deaths during these critical hours," Alvey said.

Officers will be strictly enforcing violations which include driving under the influence, safety belt and child restraint use, 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 stated.

"Over half of all fatal crashes in Illinois occur at night. The NITE program allows officers to work even harder at removing dangerous impaired drivers from the road and making sure everyone is buckled up."

The project is funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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New findings contradict history of corn cultivation

A new study contradicts decades of thought, research and teaching on the history of corn cultivation in the American Bottom, a floodplain of the Mississippi River in Illinois.

The study refutes the notion that Indian corn, or maize, was cultivated in this region hundreds of years before its widespread adoption at about 1000 A.D.

The findings, reported in the journal *American Antiquity*, are important in understanding how and why Cahokia, the first major metropolitan center in North America, arose, said Thomas Emerson, the director of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey, ISAS, at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, where the new study was conducted.

Cahokia was a vast, highly organized settlement with tens of thousands of inhabitants in its heyday, Emerson said.

Its dramatic rise near present-day St. Louis and East St. Louis, Illinois, at about A.D. 950 and its sudden demise by 1350 have long been a source of fascination.

There is broad agreement that corn was cultivated in this region at about 1000 and widely consumed by the people of this time period, Emerson said.

Corn fragments, including cobs and kernels, show up in sites dating to 1000 or later.

Skeletal analyses from bodies buried at Cahokia also reveal the devastating impact of corn on people's teeth.

These signs, as well as chemical signatures of corn consumption in the teeth and bone, also date to 1000 and after, he said.

The new findings challenge earlier reports that maize was cultivated and consumed in the American Bottom as early as 60 years B.C.

The early conclusions, in studies conducted before 2000, were based on flawed approaches to analyzing ancient materials, said Mary Simon, an archaeobotanist with ISAS who conducted the new study.

Rather than dating charred plant fragments directly, researchers analyzed charcoal or other "associated materials" to determine the age of the plants, she said.

"We have since learned that a piece of charcoal or other material found adjacent to a corn kernel in an archaeological site could date to a later or earlier time period than the corn," Simon said. Also, "visual identifications can be wrong, she said.

Scientists now date plant fragments directly using accelerated mass spectrometry, a technology that was

just "coming into vogue in the 1990s" and used at that time to determine the age of materials, Simon said.

Today, stable isotope mass spectrometry can be used in conjunction with AMS to detect differences between plant types, information that aids in plant identification, she said.

Corn and other grasses absorb atmospheric carbon differently than other plants. This is reflected in the ratio of carbon isotopes, carbon atoms with differing masses, in plant tissues, Simon said.

"The beauty of this procedure is not only do you get an absolute date, you also get that carbon isotope ratio, so you know, first, how old it is, and second, whether or not it's corn," she said.

In the new study, Simon revisited botanical samples from Holding, an archaeological site in western Illinois that was occupied from about 150 B.C. to A.D. 300.

Simon was among those who mistakenly identified plant fragments from this site as very early corn, and later AMS data confirmed its age.

Those findings were published by a group of archaeologists in 1994, and were widely recognized as being the oldest directly dated corn in the eastern United States.

The new analysis, of remaining botanical samples

from the Holding site, used both AMS and SIMS and found that the samples that looked like corn either were not corn or dated to A.D. 900 or later, Simon said.

Researchers at Arizona State University found samples from the original study and also tested those for carbon isotope ratios. Their results confirmed that although it was old, the material dated in 1994 was not, in fact, corn.

"Basically, what we found is that myths of early corn in the central Mississippi River Valley are simply inaccurate. They've been disproved. We no longer believe that corn was at all important, that people were growing corn, that anybody was using corn to any extent at A.D. zero," Simon said. The two new studies suggest that corn was not in widespread use until 900 or later, she said.

"You can never say it wasn't present here before then," she said.

"For example, there was Wyoming obsidian here at A.D. 60, so it's totally possible that a cob of corn made it here from the southwestern U.S. at an earlier date. But, until it was cultivated here, it doesn't really count."

The Illinois State Archaeological Survey is a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois.

Resource team plans diabetes conference

Southern Seven Health Department, in collaboration with the Diabetes Today Resource Team, is planning to host a diabetes conference on Thursday evening, March 30.

The conference is scheduled from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Shawnee Community College near Ullin.

The conference will address the topics of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.

Conference registration is free. A light dinner will be served at 4:45 p.m. The conference and education portion are scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Organizers noted that nursing CEUs, as well as certificates of attendance, will be issued at the closing.

Presenters/panelists are scheduled to include Dr. Tanya Vargas, a pediatrician at Community Health and Emergency Services Inc., CHESI; Dr. Varadendra Panchamukhi, with Prairie Cardiovascular; and Sherrie Crabb, executive director of Family Counseling Inc.

Organizers of the conference shared in a news release that the seven southernmost counties in Illinois continue to show higher rates of diabetes, chronic diseases and risk factors

than most other counties in Illinois.

Through health education programming and outreaches, Southern Seven works to educate the communities it serves about the importance of lifestyle changes in order to reduce these higher rates.

Southern Seven collaborates with Southern Illinois Healthcare and the Jackson County Health Department.

They have joined to form the Diabetes Today Resource Team, DTRT.

The DTRT is made up of individuals who are interested in decreasing the incidence of diabetes and assisting in the management of diabetes by strengthening diabetes education and prevention.

The DTRT is part of a regional partnership through the Healthy Southern Illinois Delta Network to address diabetes in the lower 15 counties of Illinois.

Those who want to attend the conference are asked to register by March 20.

To register, or for more information call Cheryl Manus at 618-634-2297, extension 112. Registration also is available online at www.southern7.org.



Award presented

State conservationist Ivan Dozier presented the award to staff members (from left) Patrick Mitsdarfer, Danette Cross, Sarah Wilson, Katie Smith and Ron Ziehm. Photo provided.

Earth Team Volunteer Award winners from Southern Illinois

The staff at the Alexander-Pulaski-Union Counties' District Group at USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, has earned statewide recognition.

The team was named Illinois NRCS's 2016 winner of the State Earth Team Volunteer Award.

State conservationist Ivan Dozier presented the traveling crystal award to staff members Danette Cross, Katie Smith, Sarah Wilson, and Patrick Mitsdarfer, thanking each of them in Anna.

The award recognizes staff members work to recruit great volunteers like Julian Zuluaga, who last year donated 147.5 hours of his time and talent to this NRCS team.

Zuluaga's work helped the local team put more valuable and protective conservation solutions on the land, an NRCS news release stated.

"Going out and finding a volunteer is hard enough, but doing all the follow-through and working with them so they get to the point where their skills and passion actually accomplishes some of the technical work we do? That's the best possible outcome there is," said Danette Cross, NRCS district conservationist for the team.

Both Wilson and Mitsdarfer agree. "When we realized our volunteer was really helping us get things done and off our never-ending 'to do' list? That's when you realize how awesome volunteers can be," says Wilson.

"Volunteers have a desire to learn and a strong drive to get things accomplished,"

adds Mitsdarfer. "They might get their enthusiasm from you, but somehow it re-energizes you at the same time."

Katie Smith coordinates NRCS Earth Team activities in Illinois' 30 southern counties.

"I'm so proud that this District Group in Area 4 won this beautiful award. Julian Zuluaga was a great NRCS volunteer and this team made the most of him," said Smith.

Zuluaga eventually applied for and accepted a position with NRCS in Minnesota and is now working on a promising career in conservation.

The 15-inch tall clear award will be guarded by the team until a new winning team or individual is announced at the end of 2017.

"I sure hope we can keep this traveling award down here in Southern Illinois, but

Semi overturns on interstate

A semi truck and tractor trailer overturned in a traffic accident which happened Sunday afternoon on I-57 in Pulaski County.

Illinois State Police District 22 at Ullin reported that the accident happened at 3:50 p.m. in the northbound lane of I-57 at mile marker 17.5.

State police reported that the vehicle was traveling north on I-57.

For unknown reasons, the unit left the roadway and entered the median. The vehicle overturned and came to rest on its side in the median.

A preliminary report about the accident did not indicate if there were any injuries.

I know staff and volunteers across the state will try hard to win it for themselves," says assistant state conservationist Ron Ziehm.

"I'm proud to see this team properly recognized for all they did in 2016. I can't wait to see which NRCS team will earn the honor for the hard work they are doing right now," said Dozier.

"With Earth Team volunteers, our agency benefits, the volunteer makes a difference, and our natural resources are improved."

Eclipse, businesses to be discussed

An Aug. 21 total solar eclipse will be the focus of two sessions which are planned Thursday, March 30, at Shawnee Community College's extension center in Anna.

The sessions are geared toward business owners and how they can prepare for the eclipse.

The first session is scheduled from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. A second session is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Organizers said that both sessions will cover the same information, which includes an overview of the eclipse, what business owners can expect and joining the official eclipse website.

Computers will be available to help register a business on the official eclipse website.

Advance registration is not required, but is appreciated.

For more information or to register, contact Candy Eastwood at 618-634-3231.

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank is sponsoring an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Course.



The course is free of charge and will be taught at the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 315 South St., Anna, IL from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th and from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 18th. Participants must attend both classes and at completion will receive a hunter education certification card verifying they have passed the course of instruction. For information about the course call 618-697-0286. The course includes instruction in wildlife management, firearms safety, hunter ethics, game identification, first aid, survival techniques and regulations.

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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 7, 2017

Terry Bartruff, Union County Clerk

SPORTS

Five seniors bolster

A-J girl's soccer team

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' soccer coach Sarah Konecek looks forward to a good season.

"This is a very strong team that is full of very good talent and have the potential to go far and do very well," Konecek said. "We should be a very exciting year."

Individual team positions won't be finalized until next week.

There were no seniors on the squad last season that finished 8-10 after losing in the first round of the Class 2A regionals.

The five seniors on the team are Emma Butterfield-Kocher, Elle Basler, Jaycee Pender, Lexa Sharp and Chelsea Reinier.

Juniors are Aspen Earnhart, Jacque Arreola, Seara Carmak, Emilee Awbrey and Taylor Hoekstra.

Cubs' Series trophy visits

Springfield

Chicago Cubs chairman and owner Tom Ricketts, along with the Commissioner's Trophy from the Cubs' historic World Series win, were welcomed March 8 by Gov. Bruce Rauner during a visit to the state capitol in Springfield.

The trophy has traveled more than 17,000 miles and will make more than 140 stops before opening day. The trophy has visited two countries, eight states and the White House.

While in Springfield, the trophy also was set to make a stop at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Hill records

hole-in-one

Larry Hill of Anna had a hole-in-one while playing golf March 9 at the Union County Country Club in Anna.

Hill aced the 100-yard No. 15 hole using a pitching wedge. The shot was witnessed by his wife, Jean Hill.

Lick Creek School announces third quarter honor students

Lick Creek Elementary School announced honor roll students for the third quarter of the 2016-2017 school year.

3rd Grade

High honor roll: Sandy Browning, Lydia Coleson, Lauren Ecker, Emily Kacinski, Alex Orange, Calie Pinnon, Paxten Roberts, Kaylina Willey.

Honor roll: Henry Hoehner, Andrew Larsen, Chris Wright.

4th Grade

High honor roll: Brinley Corbit, Macie Hoehner, Kayla Matuszewich, Sophia Smiley, Kenzie Stover, Luke Vaughn.

Honor roll: Lindsay El-sner, Malayna Korb, Kaitlyn Matuszewich, Clayton Smith.

5th Grade

High honor roll: Payton Denny, Evan Hall, Matti Houseman, Hailey Wright.

Honor roll: Brisan Dirden, J.J. Gerardi, Lucas Hoehner, Drew Holshouser, Gunnar Myers, Tysen Tripp, Sammi Turner.

6th Grade

High honor roll: Danielle Dunaway, Kaylee Stover, Shealyn Thorn, Louis Van Muyllder.

Honor roll: Hunter Chapman, Kiley Dailey, Brodie Denny.

7th Grade

High honor roll: Addison Denny, Bryce Ecker, Kristin Edmonds, Ethan Minckler, Erin Overstreet, Bo Schuetz, Will Smiley.

Sophomores include Madi Johnston, Kristen Brimm, Atarah Hart and Josie Merriman.

Freshmen are Morgan Keller, MiKayla Bundren and Raegan Cruse.

"We have a very strong group of freshmen coming up, which is very exciting for this year and the future of the team," Konecek said.

The Lady Wildcats are scheduled to open their season at home playing against Herrin on Thursday, March 23.

IDNR News Bits

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, shares the following items of interest:

New License Year Begins April 1: Illinois fishing, hunting and sportsman's combination licenses and stamps for 2017 are available from DNR Direct license and permit vendors, online through the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov or by calling 1-888-6PERMIT (1-888-673-7648).

The 2017 licenses and stamps are valid through March 31, 2018, unless otherwise noted.

Two Weekends for Spring Youth Turkey: New for 2017, the Illinois spring youth turkey season is open two weekends in both the South and North zones: March 25-26 and April 1-2.

Spring youth turkey season county permits are available over-the-counter from IDNR license/permit vendors.

For information about spring turkey hunting, check the IDNR website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/TurkeyHunting.aspx>.

Fishing Information Booklet: The 2017 Illinois Fishing Information guide is available at many IDNR license and permit vendor locations, and in PDF format online at this link: http://www.ifishillinois.org/regulations/2017_Fishing_Guide%20.pdf.

Regulations in the guide

Honor roll: Campbell Belcher, Gracie Cook, Savan Rambeau, Jude Smith.

8th Grade

High honor roll: Julia Hall, Kyleigh Matuszewich, Hannah Miller.

Honor roll: Jaiden Foster, Grayson Heath, Miranda Miller, Cierra Thorn.

Trail Society

guided hike set

The River-to-River Trail Society plans to host a free guided hike on Saturday, March 18, in Pope County, between Raum Road and One Horse Gap.

The trail society said that this will be a somewhat strenuous hike, which is intended for people in good physical condition who have done some walking. There will be uphill hiking and at least one creek crossing.

Feet are likely to get wet. Boots or sturdy shoes are essential and a hiking stick is recommended, the trail society noted.

Hikers are asked to bring water and a snack, and to not bring dogs.

The hike is set to leave the Herod Post Office on Route 34 in Herod at 10 a.m.

Hikers with trucks or other four-wheel drive vehicles who can move vehicles to the end of the hike are requested to meet at the Herod Post office at 9 a.m. For information or directions, call 618-499-2337.

A-J baseball team deep in pitching

Pitching could be the key to a successful season for the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team this spring.

"We've got a lot of guys who can pitch," A-J baseball coach Aaron Roberts said. "We're six or seven deep. I feel good with the guys we have throwing. They look good on the mound, so far. Our pitchers have to come out and throw strikes."

The Wildcats return four players from last year's 9-19 squad and three of them were pitchers.

One returning pitcher is senior Shawn Plott, along

with juniors Bryce Osman and Hunter Ralls. Plott will either be in the infield or outfield when not on the mound, Osman in center field and Ralls at third base.

Other pitchers in the lineup include senior Kyleen Grant, juniors Ethan Krumrey and Kyle Clover and sophomore Damian Crisp. Krumrey will be at shortstop when not on the mound, Clover in the outfield and Crisp either third base or outfield.

The other senior starter returning is first baseman Jake Wright.

Other junior prospects are infielder Ross Pinnon, catcher/infielder/outfielder Dalton Goddard, catcher/ outfielder Chandler Edwards and outfielders Trenton Newberry and D.J. Latham.

Sophomores who could contribute are outfielder Wyatt Johnston, second/third baseman Conner Jerolds and catcher Carson Reynolds.

"Our defense should be good," said Roberts, who indicated the team is loaded with good athletes.

The coach also noted there will be big changes in the team's lineup this season.

"There will be a lot of mixing," he said. "A lot of guys will be playing in different spots."

Roberts looks for a competitive Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division race.

"It's a tough conference," he said. "Nashville and Carterville should be the top two teams."

The Wildcats were scheduled to open their season this past Monday, but the game was cancelled because of cold, snowy and wet weather conditions.

A-J is scheduled to play Friday at home against Monticello and Monday at home against Murphysboro.

are effective from April 1, 2017, through March 31, 2018.

Spring Trout Season Opens April 1: The 2017 spring trout fishing season in Illinois is scheduled to open at 5 a.m. on Saturday, April 1.

The catchable trout program is made possible through the purchases of inland trout stamps by those anglers who participate.

Unless they are exempt, anglers must have a valid Illinois fishing license and an inland trout stamp to legally possess trout.

Catch-and-release fly fishing for trout will open at nine locations on March 18.

Details about spring trout fishing locations can be found at http://www.ifishillinois.org/programs/trout_stocking.html.

Hunter safety course set

in Anna

Basic principles of safe hunting will be taught at an Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, hunter safety course which is scheduled March 17-18 at the First Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Anna.

The church is located at 315 South St. The course is being sponsored by Anna-Jonesboro National Bank.

Hours for the course will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on March 17 and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 18. Students must attend both sessions.

Those who want to attend the course are asked to preregister by calling 618-697-0286.

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

Those who take the course will be asked for their Social Security number.

Saluki Sports Update

By Fred Huff

Ready or not. Happy or disappointed. Mad or sad-Basketball is taking over TV watching for most sports fans for the next few weeks.

We normally start out strong, watching every game possible, then become more selective until it's down to final four time. Regardless of your likes or dislikes, it's entertaining.

Selection Sunday is always the first step as well as the first disappointment. It really should not be any more.

If you're a Missouri Valley Conference fan, get accustomed to it. Valley teams seldom receive the respect we are hoping for and that's because we are prejudiced about the topic, normally disappointed that more MVC teams are not selected, their first-round opponents, etc.

And, it happened once again. One team, period. The Valley tournament champion, Wichita State, which was an automatic. Its opponent . Kentucky. Ouch. Runner-up Illinois State wound up in the NIT. Nice, but hardly "the big dance."

Like it or not. Admit it or argue the point. The Missouri Valley Conference was not strong this season. It truly provided little material for followers to argue the point. So, next subject.

How did he slip away from Saluki land?

We're talking about Jordan Caroline, of course, who led his Nevada teammates to an impressive win over Colorado State and a spot in the NCAA tournament.

If you're having trouble remembering, like we were, Caroline was SIU's second-leading scorer as a freshman in 2015. He bailed out...his choice, coach Barry Hinson's decision, we do not know. However, obviously after averaging 9.2 points and 6.2 rebounds for the Salukis and finishing as the fifth-best all-time freshman scorer in SIU's history, he

proved he could play the game.

We're happy for him as he led his new teammates to a league tournament championship over the weekend by scoring 23 points and grabbing a team-leading nine rebounds.

Just wondering why he, or Hinson, made the decision.

So while games will be front-and-center, watch and listen closely as coaching firings and hirings creep into the headlines.

Illinois' quick disposal of its coach, John Groce, was a little surprise. Not the move, but the timing of it. The Illini A.D. isn't even allowing Groce to hang around long enough to coach the Illini in the NIT. Now that is a double slap in the face.

Groce had replaced our friend Bruce Weber at Champaign and the latter barely managed to slip into the NCAA tourney, but had to win a play-in game earlier this week to advance to the true final 64-team field. As all know, Weber is at Kansas State and had another solid, if not sensational, season.

Birding program

set at center

Birding at Grand Bahama Island will be the topic of a program which is planned Saturday, March 18, at the Barkhausen Cache River Wetlands Center near Cypress.

The program is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. The center is located at 8885 State Route 37 South. For more information, call 618-657-2064.

Saturday's program will be presented by John and Martha Schwegman.

The presentation will feature birds and sights from the West Indies, as well as some of the Southern Illinois species, especially warblers, which winter there.



Turner signs with Illinois College

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School student athlete Trenton Turner has signed a national letter of intent to play track and field and football at Illinois College in Jacksonville. He plans to enroll in the college's 3 and 2 program and to earn a bachelor's degree in biology and nursing. In the first row are, from left, Trenton's mother, Cindy Turner; Trenton Turner; and Trenton's father, Daniel Turner. In the second row are A-JCHS football head coach Bret Detering and A-JCHS track and field coach Michael Eudy. Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.



Getting ready for new season

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team was practicing Thursday afternoon, March 9, in preparation for its 2017 season opener. The team was practicing at Kiwanis Field at the Anna City Park. A-J was scheduled to open the season Monday, March 13. However, the game was cancelled due to bad weather.



Guest speaker

Irma Lopez (standing), outreach manager for the business enterprise program of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services in Chicago, was guest speaker at a March 2 meeting of the Union County Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Amber Skelton.

Chamber welcomes guest speaker

By Amber Skelton
The Union County Chamber of Commerce held their monthly meeting at the Union County Courthouse on Thursday, March 2.

The guest speaker was Irma Lopez, outreach manager for the business enterprise program of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services in Chicago.

Lopez gave a presentation about her program, which works to promote the economic development of businesses owned by minorities, women and people with disabilities.

She explained that the program also supports these businesses participating in the state's procurement process.

Robin Hawk, who works with the Union County Abstract Office in Jonesboro, shared information about Union County United, an event set to launch a mobile

directory of Union County businesses.

StarView Vineyards near Cobden plans to host the event on Thursday, March 23, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Union County Women in Business, the Union County Chamber of Com-

merce and the Union County Economic Development Corporation are sponsors of the event.

Other upcoming chamber-sponsored events include an annual golf tournament on May 12 and the Annabelle Street Festival June 9-10.

Three persons injured in accident on Route 146

Three persons were injured in a traffic accident involving two pickup trucks which happened Sunday afternoon, March 12, in Union County.

Illinois State Police District 22 at Ullin reported that the accident happened at about 3:30 p.m. on Illinois Route 146 at Moscow Road.

State police reported that one of the pickup trucks was northbound, pulling out of Moscow Road onto Route 146.

The other pickup truck was eastbound on Route 146 at Moscow Road.

The driver of the second vehicle said the first unit pulled into his path. The second vehicle then struck the first unit.

The driver of the first pickup was ejected from the vehicle. The driver was airlifted to a regional hospital.

A passenger in the first vehicle was injured and also was airlifted to a regional hospital.

The driver of the second pickup was not hurt.

A passenger in the second vehicle sustained minor injuries and was transported to Union County Hospital in Anna for treatment.

State police reported that multiple charges were filed following the accident.

A-J math team places second

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School math team placed second overall at the Illinois Council Teachers of Math regional math team contest at Herrin High School on Feb. 25.

In addition, the Algebra 1 team, geometry team, Algebra 2 team, pre-calculus team, freshman-sophomore two-person, freshmen-sophomore eight-person, junior-senior eight-person, the oral team and the calculator team

Day-long fundraising campaign generates \$341,121 for university

Thanks to hundreds of donors, Southern Illinois University Carbondale's inaugural Day of Giving was a success.

During the 24-hour fundraising campaign March 1-2, donors were invited to directly support an area on campus which is meaningful to them.

The campaign has raised \$341,121, which shattered the initial goal of \$150,000.

The SIU Day of Giving website, showing present

totals and where funds were donated to, can be found at <https://siuday.siu.edu/>.

"The Day of Giving was a success due to the hundreds of alumni, students, faculty, staff and supporters who realize the importance of philanthropy to the university's success," interim chancellor Brad Colwell said in a news release.

The event would not have been successful without more than 70 ambassadors, including about 40 students,

who shared fundraising progress and messaging on various social platforms, organizers said.

Students who called alumni raised more than \$6,000 over the 24-hour period.

Of the 1,334 gifts, the largest total amount from multiple donors, \$106,105, was raised for campus lake.

The participating group with the greatest number of donors was the SIU School of Law.



Bank board members

Anna State Bank board member Sonny Eddleman, left, retired from the board in December 2016 after 24 years of service. Chris Boyd, longtime resident of Anna and director of member services for Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative in Dongola, was chosen to fill the vacant seat on the board. Boyd is very active in the Union County community. Boyd is also on the Union County Hospital district board and the Union County Economic Development Corporation board. Photo by Amber Skelton.

Regional human rights authority meeting planned

The Egyptian Regional Human Rights Authority of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission plans to meet Thursday, March 23, in Carbondale.

The meeting is set for 5 p.m. in the meeting room at Bandana BBQ at 309 E. Main St.

The authority will review and discuss allegations that the rights of persons with disabilities are being violated at facilities that provide mental health or developmental disability services.

The human rights authority is a panel of nine citizen volunteers appointed by the commission.

The authority is empowered by statute to investigate alleged violations of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Cases tentatively set for the meeting's agenda include complaints involving alleged violations of the laws, regulations and other mandates that protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

For information, contact the authority's regional coordinator at 833-4897.

P.A.S.T. wishes to thank everyone who attended the annual Soup/Chili Supper & Dessert Auction at St. Anne's on March 10th.

We want to thank those who provided the soup, chili and desserts and those who bid on the desserts. A special thanks goes to Robert and Kasie Craft of 3D Auctions for auctioneering the desserts and making the event fun for everyone.

St. Anne's appreciates each and everyone of you!

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS CAUSE NO. 2017-TX-2 TO THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS (AND IF DECEASED, TO THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES), AND TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND TO ALL INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES THEREOF, INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS UNION COUNTY CLERK, UNION COUNTY TREASURER, UNION COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL, ILLINOIS DEPT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPT OF HEALTHCARE & FAMILY SERVICES (PUBLIC AID) GENERAL COUNSEL, CITY OF JONESBORO, AND TO OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED IN THE PARCELS HEREINAFTER NAMED:

Parcel Number	Owners/Parties Interested	Cert Number	Street Or Common Address
03-19-01-699	MC ALEXANDER KENNETH J	130020	
03-19-01-699	MC ALEXANDER IVA D	130020	
04-30-02-669-C	KESSLER TIMARA	130037	315 OAK ST.
04-30-02-669-C	VILLAGE OF COBDEN	130037	315 OAK ST.
05-13-03-173-AL	HALE DAVID W	130048	735 MURPHY SCHOOL RD
05-13-03-173-AL	HALE LINDA A	130048	735 MURPHY SCHOOL RD
05-13-03-173-AL	HALE ROBERT	130048	735 MURPHY SCHOOL RD
05-13-03-173-AL	ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK	130048	735 MURPHY SCHOOL RD
05-19-03-440	FLORES MARTIN	130056	USSERY ST.
05-19-03-440	MARTIN FLORES	130056	USSERY ST.
05-19-03-440	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK	130056	USSERY ST.
05-50-09-287	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION		
05-50-09-287	ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO	130080	E. VIENNA ST.
05-50-09-287	PAWS, INC	130080	E. VIENNA ST.
10-29-06-751-A1	MCHARRY JOEL	130145	
10-29-06-751-A1	MCHARRY RENA	130145	
10-29-06-751-A1	ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK	130145	
10-29-06-751-A1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	130145	
10-29-06-751-A1	ATTORNEY GENERAL	130145	
14-00-07-314	RUBY ENTERPRISES LLC	130152	100 E. BROAD ST.
14-00-07-314	BANTERRA BANK	130152	100 E. BROAD ST.
14-00-07-314	ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	130152	100 E. BROAD ST.
14-00-07-314	VINOD C GUPTA	130152	100 E. BROAD ST.
14-00-07-339	LAND CARL W JR	130153	103 E. UNION ST.
14-00-07-339	WHITE JULIE	130153	103 E. UNION ST.
14-00-07-566	RITA OSCAR	130163	203 N. JASPER ST.
14-00-07-566	ALEXANDER, HAROLD	130163	203 N. JASPER ST.
14-00-08-005	ALLEN TERRY L	130170	407 SOUTH ST.
14-00-08-005	ALLEN DANA L	130170	407 SOUTH ST.
14-00-08-005	ALLEN, DAVID	130170	407 SOUTH ST.
14-00-08-361	BROSKI JEROME	130177	E. HIGH ST.
14-00-08-361	CHAMPION MORTGAGE	130177	E. HIGH ST.
14-00-08-631	CUNNINGHAM MICHAEL S	130187	209 W. VIENNA ST.
14-00-08-631	CUNNINGHAM APRIL	130187	209 W. VIENNA ST.
14-00-08-631	CITY OF ANNA	130187	209 W. VIENNA ST.
14-00-08-631	CUNNINGHAM MICHAEL	130187	209 W. VIENNA ST.
14-00-09-187-A	KNUDSON ERIC D II	130200	OAK ST.
14-00-09-187-A	VINOD C GUPTA	130200	OAK ST.
14-00-09-187-A	CITY OF ANNA	130200	OAK ST.
14-00-10-087	MAYBERRY CURTIS	130224	103 MONROE ST.
14-00-10-087	MAYBERRY TERRY	130224	103 MONROE ST.
14-00-10-087	AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCE INC	130224	103 MONROE ST.
14-00-10-703	JONES CINDY LOU	130258	ELM DR.
14-00-10-763	RICHARDSON DOUGLAS	130266	90 ADAMS ST.
14-00-10-763	RICHARDSON FAITH	130266	90 ADAMS ST.
14-00-10-763	US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	130266	90 ADAMS ST.
14-00-11-735	SMITH JOHN PAUL JR	130286	OFF CROWELL HEIGHTS LOOP

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE ABOVE SAID PARCELS WERE SOLD ON JANUARY 21, 2015, FOR GENERAL TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2013 AND PRIOR YEARS, AND THAT THE PERIOD OF REDEMPTION FROM SUCH SALE EXPIRES AUGUST 18, 2017. TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT A PETITION FOR ORDER DIRECTING ISSUANCE OF TAX DEEDS HAS BEEN FILED IN THE ABOVE SAID CAUSE AS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED PARCELS BY UNION COUNTY, AS TRUSTEE, AND THAT ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 AT 1:00 PM, SAID PETITIONER WILL APPLY FOR AN ORDER THAT A TAX DEED ISSUE AS TO EACH ABOVE SAID PARCEL NOT REDEEMED ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 18, 2017. /S/ UNION COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, PETITIONER.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 309 W MARKET ST ROOM 116, JONESBORO, IL 62952 TELEPHONE: (618) 833-5711

Forum planned

A New Humanist Forum is planned at 12:15 p.m. Sunday, March 19, at the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship, which is located at 105 N. Parrish Ln. in Carbondale. Admission is free and open to the public.

Carbondale Police Department community resource officer Randy Mathis is scheduled to present information about the Citizen's Police Academy.



Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative Member Topic Tips Around the House

Energy Efficiency: Sometimes we forget the little things we can do to save money on our electric bill. This spring, open your windows and let in the fresh air! This summer, be sure to close your blinds during the day to block heat from the sun. Set your water heater temperature no higher than 120° F. Wash full loads of clothes in cold water. Use hot water only for very dirty loads. Try to hang-dry most clothes, but when you must use your dryer, make sure you clean the lint trap before each load. Clean your refrigerator coils annually. Only run dishwasher when fully loaded and use air-dry cycle. Use CFLs or LEDs when it's time to replace your bulbs. Turn computers and monitors off when not in use and unplug battery chargers when not needed. Run ceiling paddle fans on medium, blowing down in summer. Set your thermostat to 78° F this summer and change air filters monthly.

Safety: Call 811 before you dig for any new project in your yard. Look up and Live! Before doing anything outside around power lines, know where they are and stay at least 10 feet away. Do not plant trees near power lines. Pools, decks, slides and any other fixed, pool related structures should be built at least 25 feet away from power lines, from any direction. Keep electronics away from wet areas. Do not let children climb trees or fly kites near power lines. Install and use GFCI outlets outside. Electricity can be dangerous and deadly. Don't take any chances.



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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: 2007 Jayco pop-up camper. 10' box, 22' long when open, has A/C, 1- queen-size, 1- king-size and 2 others, awning. Always garaged, like new condition, pulls easily, sleeps 6. Valued at \$4,000, sell for \$3,500. Call (618)-697-1366.

FOR SALE: 3 year old Whirlpool stainless refrigerator/freezer in bottom. Too big for my space. Paid \$1,200, selling for \$500.00. Call (618)-833-8828.

FOR SALE: 2003 Ford E350. \$4,000 obo. Call (618)-833-2150.

FOR SALE: 1995 Buick Park Avenue. Loaded, high mileage, 3800 engine, V6, Skylight Blue. \$3,200 (has \$3,000 worth of new parts). Call (618)-318-1152.

FOR SALE: 1993 GMC pickup 4x4. Good condition. Call (618)-528-8744.

FOR SALE: Easy Go golf cart. Use as run about on farm. Gas motor, good condition. \$600.00. Call (618)-697-2956.

FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE: 5 acre mini farm. 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home, big barn, 4 acre pasture, big garage, carport. Dongola. \$80,000. Call (618)-697-4390.

FOR SALE: 16X80 mobile home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large deck, 2 out buildings, with property. \$21,000. McClure, IL. Call (618)-614-9090.

FOR SALE: 4 miles north of Cobden off of old 51, 3 bedroom home and a mobile home with a new roof on 3 acres, \$92,000. Also a 2005 GMC Sierra half ton pickup truck, 2 wheel drive, automatic, 171,000 miles, \$6500.00. Call (618)-969-2451.

FOR SALE: Large single-family or possible apartments, 2-story Victorian on large lot on S. Main in Anna with large, private backyard. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, formal dining room, foyer, bonus room, main floor utility/living room, aluminum siding, gas fireplace, beautiful woodwork, full basement, 2-car attached garage, lots of storage with great potential. Reduced for quick estate sale. \$20,000 obo. Call (618)-697-1697.

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: April 1. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 16x80 trailer with stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, all electric. \$440.00 per month plus deposit. Leave message at (618)-697-2085.

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

FOR RENT: Large 1 bedroom, upstairs apartment. Newly remodeled, deck overlooking Main Street in Anna. \$600.00 per month. Call (618)-697-8834.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Hiring full and part-time DSP's for CILA, evening & midnight shifts. Training will be provided. Benefits available. For application process, please call (618)-833-7756.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED OR LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE?

Priority Professional Group has positions available in the Anna, IL area. Apply online at www.priorityprofessionalgroup.com or call (618)-969-8295.

COME JOIN OUR TEAM AT UNION COUNTY HOSPITAL!

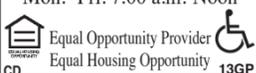
Positions are now being posted online for the following:

- Registered Nurses for Long Term Care, Med/Surg and Emergency Room, Certified Nurse Aides Long-Term Care, MLT positions for Lab, Cook position, Director of Surgical Services, Director of Quality, Nurse Practitioner.
- Sign-on bonus offered for clinical positions!
- For more information, contact us at (618)-833-4511, ext. 4297.
- See all our job postings and apply online at www.unioncountyhospital.com
- (We are an Equal Opportunity Employer) Union County Hospital 517 N. Main Street Anna, IL 62906

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

HELP WANTED: The City of Anna is accepting applications for the position of Public Works Manager. This position is responsible for management and operations of the Public Works Department, including Street, Park/Pool, Cemetery, Gas, Water and Sewer Departments. This position reports to the City Administrator. The ideal candidate should possess at least 5 years management experience and experience in the area of Public Works or a related field. A bachelor's degree is preferred but not required. The ideal candidate should possess or will be required to obtain the necessary Water/Gas/Sewer Licenses required for the operation of the Public Works Department. The City of Anna offers a competitive benefit package with a salary range of \$75,000+/- depending upon qualifications. Interested applicants should submit resume and application to the City of Anna, Attn: City Administrator. This position will remain open until filled. EOE.

Knollwood Apartments
 Now taking applications for one and two bedroom apartments. Rent based on income. Call for appointment or application.
(618) 833-7766
 Mon.- Fri. 7:00 a.m.-Noon

 Equal Opportunity Provider
 Equal Housing Opportunity

HELP WANTED: Greenhouse work. Part-time, seasonal, irregular schedule, some heavy work, some fussy work. Call (618)-759-0028 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

HELP WANTED: Direct Support Person to assist in providing training to individuals with developmental disabilities in a vocational, day training and residential program. High school diploma or GED required. Benefits for full-time staff of dental, vision, life insurance, and medical insurance are available. Workshop starting salary \$9.00 per hour and residential \$9.50 per hour. We have a dollar an hour differential increase for working the midnight shifts. Training and certification provided. Experience preferred. Apply at RAVE, Inc., 214 W. Davie, Anna, IL 62906. EOE.

HELP WANTED: Hiring CDL positions and others. Contact Evan Sweet at (618)-833-2494.

HELP WANTED: Culinary Arts Instructor needed for the 2017-2018 school year. Qualifications: (1) 60 semester hours of accredited college credit and documented evidence of 2,000 hours of work experience in the culinary field, or (2) 8,000 hours of work experience in the culinary field with no college credit. Both avenues also require Illinois licensure. Interested persons should send letter of application and resume to: Patrick Harner, Five County Regional Vocational System, P.O. Box 70, Tamms, IL 62988 or patrickphamer@fivecountyrvs.com

HELP WANTED: CIL, Inc. is accepting applications for certified DSP's to work full-time on the evening and midnight shifts. Must have high school diploma or equivalent. Competitive salary based on years of experience as a DSP. Apply in person at 201 E. Chestnut Street (behind Hardee's) in Anna. EOE.

VACANCY NOTICE
 Shawnee District #84 is seeking applicants to fill the following positions for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Junior-Senior High School Principal
- Assistant Cook
- Ag Teacher / FFA Sponsor

Applicants must submit a letter of interest, resume, valid State of Illinois License and three letters of recommendation to:
 Shelly Clover-Hill, Superintendent
 Shawnee CUSD #84
 3365 State Route #3
 Wolf Lake, IL 62998

For more information contact: sclover-hill@shawneedistrict84.com
 Deadline to apply is Friday, March 17, 2017.

WANTED

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

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

WANTED: Yards to mow and trim, small landscaping job, in Union County area. 20 years experience. Call (618)-697-6772.

WANTED: Yards to mow. Any size, free estimate. Experienced. Prater Lawn Care. Call (618)-697-9578.

FOR RENT
 Union County Housing Authority is taking applications for a one (1) bedroom apartment in Wolf Lake. Rent is based on income and some utilities are provided.
 For information, call (618) 833-5129.

 Union County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



YARD SALE

HUGE MOVING SALE: Friday & Saturday, March 17 & 18, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. 28572 Tamms-Olive Branch Road, Tamms, IL. Lots of furniture, household items, tools, and exercise equipment.

BUSINESS

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

CAMPBELL'S POWER WASH & PAINT:

- House Washing
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Call (618)-202-0507

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Full Service Lawn Care: Mowing, Landscaping, Cleaning Gutters, Fall Clean Up, Leaf removal, Flower Bed Maintenance, Mulch, Lawn Weed Control, Bush Trimming, Retaining Wall Construction, Power Washing. **FREE ESTIMATE!** duckworkslawncare@gmail.com www.duckworkslawncare-il.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, Dirt & Sand (618)-833-6197 or (618)-697-0453

MISC.

COBDEN ST. JOSEPH CHURCH FISH FRY: Fridays of Lent, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Fried & Baked Fish, Drinks, Desserts. Buffet Style, Adults, \$11.00; Children, \$4.00

PANCAKE BRUNCH: Sunday, March 26, 11 a.m. At Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, Jonesboro. Everyone Welcome! Kids 4-11 - \$4.00; Adults - \$7.00; Kids under 3 - Free. Pancakes, Egg Casserole, Juice, Coffee & Tea

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 27th day of February, 2017, under the Assumed Name of Southern Family Metal Roofing with the place of business located at 408 E. Vienna Street, Anna, Illinois 62906 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the Sole Owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

FOR RENT
 Union County Housing Authority is taking applications for a one (1) and two (2) bedroom apartment at the Annavista Highrise. The applicants for Annavista must be 62 years of age or older, or drawing disability in order to qualify. Rent is based on income.
 For information, call (618) 833-5129.

 Union County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



sumed 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 27th day of February, 2017, under the Assumed Name of Southern Family Metal Roofing with the place of business located at 408 E. Vienna Street, Anna, Illinois 62906 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the Sole Owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Karl Basler
 408 E. Vienna Street
 Anna, IL 62906

Terry Bartruff
 Union County Clerk
 11-13gc

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

IN RE THE MATTER OF: Addison Jayde Roach change to: Addison Jayde Pinnon NO. 2017-MR-40

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO: KYLE ROACH 103 Elm Street Dongola, IL 62926

Notice is given to you, the public, that on April 26, 2017, at 1 p.m., Addison Jayde Roach, a minor, by Brittany Pinnon, her mother and next friend, will request that this Court change her present name of Addison Jayde Roach to the name of Addison Jayde Pinnon.

The hearing will take place at the Union County Courthouse, 304 West Market Street, Jonesboro, Illinois.
 Addison Jayde Roach, a minor, by Brittany Pinnon, her mother
 March 9, 2017
 13-15g

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

IN RE THE MATTER OF: Lucas Christopher Scott Casper to Lucas Scott Mathew NO. 2017-MR-28

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO: MARK P. CASPER 740 2nd Street Mounds, IL 62964-1345

Notice is given to you, the public, that on April 5, 2017 at 1 p.m., Lucas Christopher Scott Casper, a minor, by Jamie L. Mathew, his mother and next friend, will request that this Court change his present name of Lucas Christopher Scott Casper to the name of Lucas Scott Mathew.

The hearing will take place at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro, Illinois.
 Lucas Christopher Scott Casper, a minor, by Jamie L. Mathew, his mother/custodial parent
 February 27, 2017
 11-13g

FOR RENT
 Union County Housing Authority is taking applications for a two (2) bedroom apartment in Cobden and a one (1) bedroom apartment in Jonesboro. The applicants must be at least 62 years of age or drawing disability to qualify. Rent is based on income and some utilities are provided.
 For information, call (618) 833-5129.

 Union County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



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 28th day of February, 2017, under the Assumed Name of Shipley Construction and Home Improvement with the place of business located at 526 N. Main Street, Jonesboro, IL 62952 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the Sole Owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

John Shipley
 526 N. Main Street
 Jonesboro, IL 62952

Terry Bartruff
 Union County Clerk
 11-13gc

ADOPTION NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS SS. COUNTY OF UNION Circuit Court of Union County

In the Matter of the Petition for the Adoption of Shelby Rose Frances Baker, a female child, Adoption No. 16-AD-1

To: All Unknown Fathers, and All Whom It May Concern

Take notice that a petition was filed in the Circuit Court of Union County, Jonesboro, Illinois, for the adoption of a child, named Shelby Rose Frances Baker. Now therefore, unless you, any and all unknown fathers, and all whom it may concern, file your answer to the Petition in the action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in the said Circuit Court of Union County, in the City of Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before the 29th day of March, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition.

Dated, February 28, 2017

Tiffany Busby
 Union County Circuit Clerk

William B. Ballard, Jr.
 Attorneys for Petitioners
 00130640
 500 S. Main Street
 Anna, IL 62906
 618-833-6432
 618-833-5488 (Fax)
 11-13g

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

ESTATE OF NORMA JEAN GRAHAM, Deceased. No. 17-P-6

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Norma Jean Graham, of 108 Evergreen Dr., Anna, Union County, Illinois. Letters of Office were

issued on March 7, 2017, to Jama Wolf, as Executor, whose attorney is Letisha Luecking Orlet, 236 East St. Louis Street, Nashville, IL 62263.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk in the Union County Courthouse, P.O. Box 450, 309 West Market St., Rm 147, Jonesboro, Illinois 62952, or both, on or before September 18, 2017, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

DATED: March 9, 2017.

By: Letisha Luecking Orlet,
#6306478
Letisha Luecking Orlet,
P.C.
236 E. St. Louis St.
Nashville, IL 62263
P: (618)-464-0400
F: (800)-564-8309
lorletlaw@gmail.com
13-15g

State officials: Don't drink, drive on St. Patrick's Day

The Illinois Department of Transportation, IDOT, is sharing a reminder for those who plan to party on St. Patrick's Day, which is Friday, March 17.

IDOT says that if you will be drinking alcohol to celebrate the holiday, don't drive. Designate a driver, call a cab or ride-sharing company or take public transit. Don't make a mistake that could cost you all of your green.

The Illinois State Police and law enforcement agencies throughout the state will be looking for impaired drivers.

Police will be conducting roadside safety checks and seat belt enforcement zones around the holiday, in an effort to keep the roads safe.

The message during this campaign, and every day, is Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

IDOT data show that 58 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes on the weekends prior to, and after, March 17 from 2012 to 2016.

Sixteen of the fatalities involved at least one driver who had been drinking.

In 2016 alone, 15 people were killed during those two weekends and four died as a result of crashes involving at least one driver who had been drinking.

State officials note that impaired driving puts you and others on the road at risk of a crash, or even death. Even a small amount of alcohol consumption can lead to disaster.

Schwegman guest speaker at program

The spring programs of the Johnson County Genealogical and Historical Society are scheduled to begin on Sunday, March 19.

Programs are held at the Vienna Public Library, which is located on the historic public square in Vienna.

The March program is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

John Schwegman is scheduled to present the March program with information from his new book, "The Natural Heritage of Illinois - Essays on its Lands, Water, Flora, and Fauna."

For more information about the program or activities of the Johnson County Genealogical and Historical Society, call 618-771-6877.

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 2 P.M., Thursday, March 30, 2017, 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 to or deducted from the aggregate assessment of locally assessed property in Union County for the assessment year 2016. This hearing is required by the Property Tax Code.

Based on the comparison

of assessed valuations, 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 2.87%. Accordingly, the tentative equalization factor is 1.0287.

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 Dana Baisden, either by telephone (217/782-3627) or letter (Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division MC-3-450, 101 West Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 19033, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9033), by Thursday, March 23, 2017, to inform of their anticipated attendance.

Constance Beard
Director
13g

ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED NETWORK

State of Illinois Surplus
Property Online Auction

Equipment, watches, boats, vehicles, knives, jewelry and much more iBid.illinois.gov

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March 30th 4PM Paris, IL
2014 Chevrolet Silverado
2013 JD Tractor 2013 J&M
Gravity Wagon 2013 Frontier
7' Mower 217-465-4545
MossAuctionTeam.com

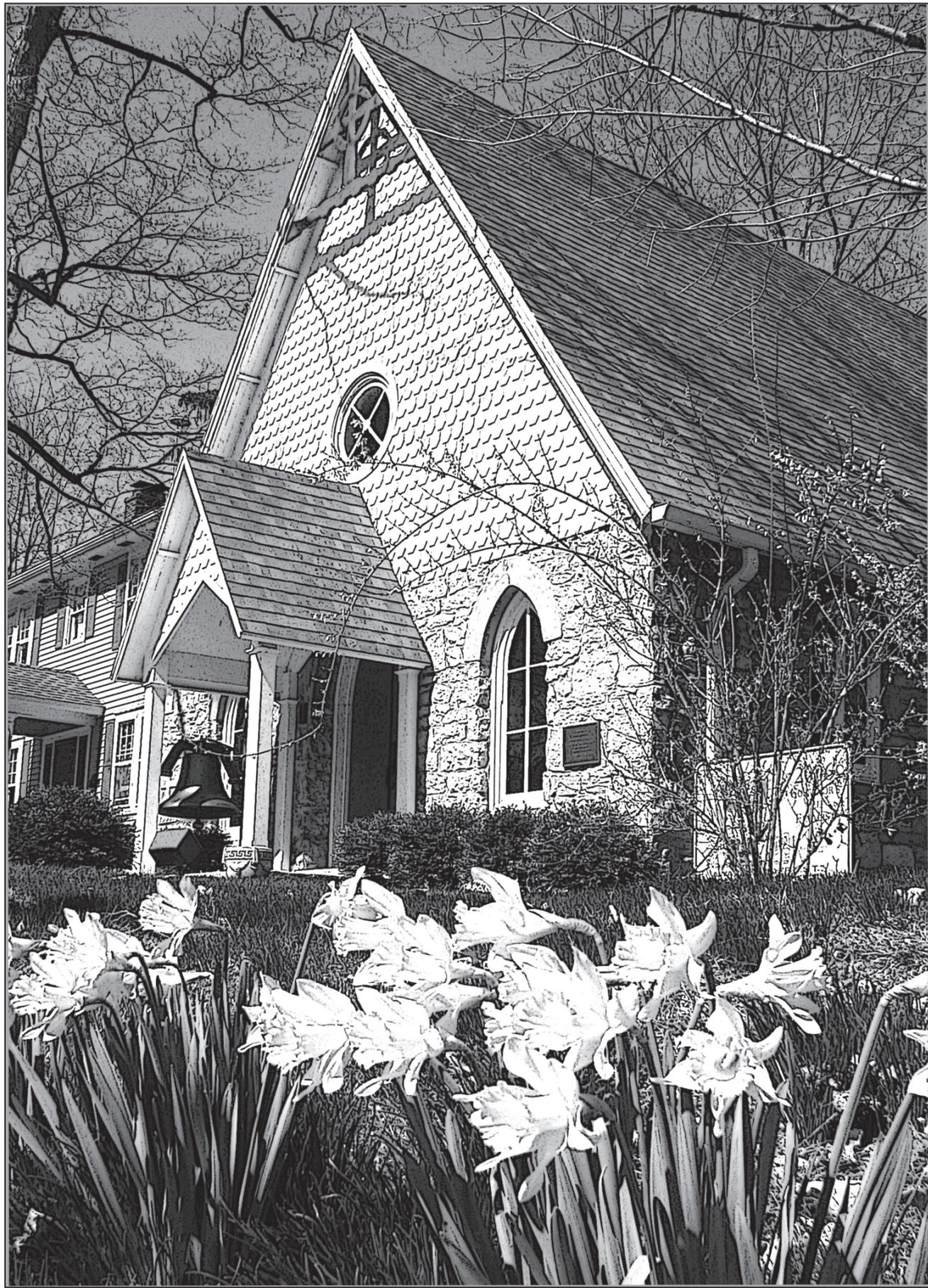
LAND AUCTION EDGAR
COUNTY, IL March 28th
10AM 319 E. Elliot St.,
Paris, IL 61.97+/- acres
Tillable farmland and deer
hunting woodlands! 217-
465-4545 MossAuction-
Team.com

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email: news@annanews.com

annanews.com

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School News Notes

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School
National Honor Society plans to host a Spring Fling Saturday, March 18, from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The theme is Totally Awesome '80s.
Auditions for a talent show are planned March 21, right after school at 2:15 p.m.

Anna Junior High School
A talent show is scheduled Friday, March 24, at 6 p.m.
Cobden
A junior high spring dance is planned in the small gym on Saturday, March 18, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
An FFA petting zoo is planned Tuesday, March 21.
SCC high school honor band is scheduled Thursday, March 23.
Regional history fair is planned Saturday, March 25.
Summer sports League sign-ups are planned at the Cobden Village Hall. Dates are March 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 23 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and March 25 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. First time players must bring a copy of their birth certificate. No players will be added to the rosters after March 25.
Dongola
Book fair this week.
The Dongola marching band needs new uniforms. They have started fundrais-

ing towards that goal, and the community can help in several ways:
By purchasing a discount card. By going to the Dongola band's website, clicking on the "Shop Now" button and looking through the online catalog. Every sale made on this site goes towards the band.
By sharing the Dongola Music Department Facebook page, inviting friends to like the page, and sharing posts to get the word out that things are happening in Dongola. By donating any amount to the Dongola band program.
Jonesboro
Beta Club placed second on "Scrapbook" and third on "Spotlight Your Club." Individual awards went to Hannah Lincoln, third place in fiber arts; Lilly Hancock, third place in poetry; and Jaley Watkins, third in digitally enhanced photography. Beta Club will have projects on display during both evenings of parent teacher conferences.
Students Involved in Technology presenters were Kyle Conway, Olivia Bown, Anna Hess and Jaley Watkins. SHI International donated prizes for the presenters.
A book fair is scheduled March 22-23.

PTO Reading Night on Thursday, March 23.
Shawnee
A School to Farm Trip is planned Friday, March 17.
A Five County Regional Vocational Trip is scheduled Wednesday, March 22.
SIU history Fair on Saturday, March 25.
Drew McLane and Abbey Livesay attended the Chicago Civics Conference: Students as Agents of Change during the past week, and gave a presentation with teacher Jamie Nash-Nashberry on the Save the Levees, Save the Future project.
Several teachers from the Metro-East and Chicago area said they'd like to find a way for their students to help us raise awareness and funds. Beth Marks and Emily Garner also attended civics workshops there. All expenses were paid through the McCormick Foundation Democracy School program.
Student Government League is helping the Union County Sheriff's Office raise funds for their new K-9. There will be a school-wide gold-out to wear the shirts April 7 in the gym. Shirts are \$12.
Tre Rains, a sophomore at Shawnee High School, was the winning artist who designed the logo on these shirts. Tre's was selected from the 19 submissions for the contest.



Winning artist
Shawnee High School sophomore Tre Rains created the winning design for a t-shirt that is helping to raise funds for a Union County Sheriff's Office K-9 project. Photo provided.



Chicago Civics Conference
Shawnee High School students Drew McLane and Abbey Livesay attended the Chicago Civics Conference-Students as Agents of Change March 9-10, and gave a presentation with their teacher, Jamie Nash-Mayberry, about Save the Levees, Save the Future project. Several teachers from the Metro-East and Chicago area said they'd like to find a way for their students to help them raise awareness and funds. Beth Marks and Emily Garner also attended civics workshops there. All expenses were paid through the McCormick Foundation Democracy School program. Photo provided.

Cobden School District sets kindergarten screening
Cobden Unit School District No. 17 has scheduled kindergarten screenings on Friday, March 17.
The school district advises that parents or guardians who have a child who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2017, and live in the district will need to call 893-2311 to make a screening appointment.
The following items will

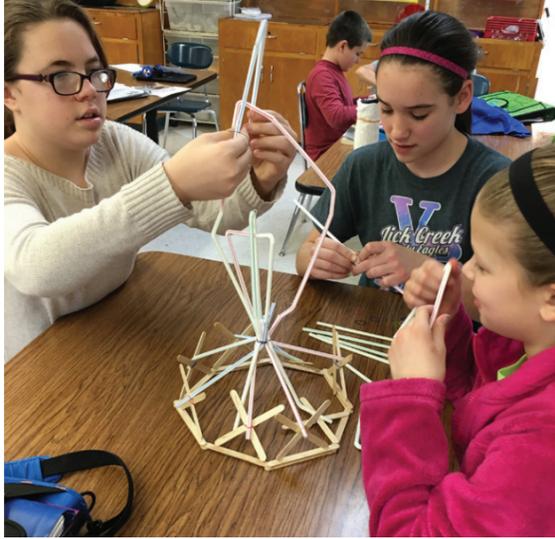
be needed at the screening appointment:
The child's birth certificate. A certified birth certificate is needed, not a hospital copy. The child's immunization record.
Proof of residency in the Cobden School District. Proof of residency can be a utility bill, a tax bill or an official document with a physical address on it.

Lick Creek students learn about volcanoes, earthquakes

Students in an earth science class at Lick Creek School have been busy recently completing chapters about volcanoes and earthquakes.



Lick Creek School English and science teacher Heather Coffman said students made and exploded their own volcanoes.



For a chapter about earthquakes, students engineered their own earthquake proof structure. The accompanying pictures were taken during their studies. Photos provided.

Illinois has early start to 2017 ozone season

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois EPA, has announced an early start to the 2017 ozone season.
Historically, Illinois has not reached the top two categories of "Very Unhealthy" or "Hazardous."

The EPA notes that this is the time of year when meteorology and air pollution could result in elevated ground-level ozone.
Ground-level ozone is formed through a complex chemical reaction with air pollution and sunlight.
Emissions from vehicles and industry are heated up by the sunlight to form ground-level ozone.
Elevated ozone levels can impact individuals, especially seniors, children and those with respiratory and heart conditions.
Those individuals should take special precautions and follow their physician prescribed regimen when ozone levels are elevated.

Previously, the ozone season ran from April through October, and 2017 is expanding by one month at the direction of U.S. EPA.
The Illinois EPA provides the daily air quality forecast online at <https://www.airnow.gov>.
Residents can also receive free air quality forecasts by email or by text by registering at <http://illinois.enviroflash.info>.
The agency also posts daily air quality forecasts for five regions on Twitter @IL_AirQuality.

Following the implementation of the new standard in 2016, U.S. EPA updated the Air Quality Index and subsequently updated the ozone monitoring seasons in 32 states, including Illinois.
The extra month of monitoring will standardize the ozone season across a number of states.
States use the Air Quality Index, AQI, to forecast each day's air quality according to the six-colored system ranging from "Good" (green) to "Hazardous" (maroon).

Attorney general's office collected nearly \$1 billion

The Illinois attorney general's office reports that it collected \$989,858,586 in revenue on behalf of the state through litigation and collection efforts in 2016.
The revenue collected by the attorney general's office in 2016 included \$47.5 million for Illinois' pension systems from settlements with Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs for the investment banks' misconduct in its marketing and sale of risky residential mortgage-backed securities leading up to the 2008 economic collapse.
The settlement with Goldman Sachs also included \$16 million in consumer relief.
In addition to those settlements, the attorney general's office has reached five other settlements relating to investments in mortgage-backed securities that have secured over \$400 million of relief for the pension systems.
In addition, the office collected more than \$346

million through collections litigation, including cases involving the collection of funds for damage to state property, child support enforcement, fines and penalties.
The office also collected more than \$278 million through tobacco litigation and more than \$317 million in estate tax revenues.

Illinois jobless rate 5.7 percent

The unemployment rate in Illinois held at 5.7 percent in January and non-farm payrolls increased by 1,700 jobs over the month, based on preliminary data released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and distributed today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security.
December job growth was revised up to show an increase of 2,000 jobs rather than the preliminary estimate of a loss of 16,700 jobs.

NOTICE
Integrity Healthcare of Anna, located at 315 Brady Mill Road, Anna, IL, 618-833-6343 admits and treats all residents without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sexual preference, age or handicap.

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New Owners
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The Quiet Man Irish Whiskey	750ML	\$34.69
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Blonde • Extra Stout • Draught		
Killian's Irish Red	6 Pk. Bottles	\$7.09

New Irish Beers Are Here!
Harp Premium Lager
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March 17th 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

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FEATURED ILLINOIS AUCTIONS

Antique Auction No Reserve! March 19th 10am 1504 Mulford Rd. Lindenwood II Railroad Desk, Wood Wagon, Secretaries, Primitives, Wood Advertising Boxes, Stained Glass, Vintage Toys, More! kitsonauctions.com	Farm Equipment Auction March 24th 9am 1322 1250th Avenue Lincoln, IL Tractors, Combine, Vehicles, Equipment Tillage Equip, Planter, Carts, Wagons, Drill, Parts, Bins, Barn, More! brentschmidgallauction.com	Longaberger Baskets & More Auction March 25th 10am Park District Bldg 601 S. Fall Paxton, IL 400+ Lots Longaberger baskets, Pottery, Wrought Iron, MUCH MORE! strebeckauctions.com
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Obituaries

John E. Montgomery

John E. Montgomery, 82, of Dongola, and formerly of Goreville, died at 1:45 p.m. Monday, March 13, 2017, at Integrity Healthcare of Anna.

He was the seventh son of Homas Duco and Inez L. Albright Montgomery. He grew up on the family farm south of Marion, in the Neilson community.

He married Louise Turnage and they had four children, John Benson (deceased), Rowena June, Homas Duco "Duc" (deceased) and James Clark.

He later married Sandra Batson; together they had one daughter, Inez LeeAnn Montgomery (Casy) George, and gained two more children, Debby (Richard) Rushin and David (Melissa) Bierer.

He was saved in 1952 and was an ordained Freewill Baptist minister and a member of McKinney Chapel Church. He served as pastor of several churches in Southern Illinois. He was in the cattle business, farmed as a young man and built the United Market Center in 1976. In Nebraska, he worked for the Lute and Haythorn Ranches.

He is survived by his wife Sandra; daughters Rowena Montgomery and LeeAnn Montgomery (Casy) George; one son, J.C. Montgomery; Debby (Richard) Rushin and David (Melissa) Biere. One brother, Rev. P.L. (Betty) Montgomery, survives Paul (Peggy) Robinson and daughter-in-law Pam Montgomery, plus three sisters-in-law, Reba, Lorene and Lamoya Montgomery; 18 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sons John and "Duc" Montgomery; sister Helena Robinson; brothers Ross, Glen, H.D. and Raymond Montgomery; and daughter-in-law, Tracy Montgomery.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, today, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro.

Funeral services for Mr. Montgomery will follow the visitation at 2 p.m. at the funeral home, with the Rev. Kenny Blumenstock and the Rev. Gordon Montgomery officiating. Interment will follow in Friendship Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Walk to End Alzheimer's Moving for Memories team to help fight this disease. Donations can be made online at act.alz.org/goto/movingformemories or mailed to Alzheimer's Association, Courtney Finigan, Team: Moving for Memories, 320 E. Walnut St., Suite A, Carbondale, Ill. 62901 and will be accepted at the funeral home.



Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro is in charge of arrangements.

Darla Sue Wright

Darla Sue Wright, 56, of Anna, died at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 12, 2017, at her home.

She was born on Oct. 24, 1960, in Anna, the daughter of Everett Earl and Blanche Mathias Wright.

She is survived by her children, Halie (Tanner) Starling of Ullin, Susan Pearl of Anna, Sasha (Eric) Walls of Festus, Mo., and Harris Wright of Columbus, Ind.; her mother, Blanche Wright of Anna; nine grandchildren; a brother, Everett Wright Jr. of Spokane, Wash.; her significant other, Henry Decker of Anna; other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her father and a brother, Rodney Wright.

Services for Mrs. Wright will be held privately for her family.

To leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

News from

First Christian Church, Anna

On Sunday, March 12, youth minister Aaron Filbeck preached a sermon titled "Refocusing Faith," which was based on scripture from Luke.

The sermon shared a message which called for the refocusing of faith: "Ultimately, pray every day, constantly, with faith

and no doubt. Admit your weaknesses, seek help from other Christians and try to repent. Trust requires a heart change more than a change of action."

Birthdays: D.J. Phillips, March 13; Ryan Schaefer, Sarah Schaefer and Mahala Montfort, March 15.

Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 a.m., with a worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The evening program begins at 6 p.m. with the junior high and high school youth group. An adult Bible study meets at 6:45 p.m.

Awana Clubs for youth age 3 through 5th grade meet Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. A Wednesday evening Bible study meets from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Cobden church chooses new deacons, elders

The First Presbyterian Church USA of Cobden has chosen new deacons and elders.

The deacons are Tommie Ury, Rita Engbring, Elaine Dunn, Mary Tweedy, Dr. Carroll Loomis and Sandra Schluter.

The church elders are Stephanie Cox, Ellen Spalt, Jennifer Burke, William Walker, Sharon Witke and Meg Simmonds.

The pastor is the Rev. Kerry Bean, who can be reached at 618-314-2298.

Bible study is offered Sundays at 9 a.m. and Thursdays at 4 p.m. Worship is Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

Presentation Planned

On Monday, March 20, at 10 a.m., Rev. Dan Whitfield is scheduled to make a special presentation on Habitat for Humanity. All are welcome to attend.

Larry L. Rendleman

Larry L. Rendleman, 59, of Anna, died at 2:12 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

He was born on Dec. 3, 1957, in Anna, the son of Ray and Kathleen Lence Rendleman.

He is survived by his two sons, Nick Rendleman of Anna and Adam Rendleman of Sandy Hook, Ky.; two grandchildren, Kaitlynn and Mathew Rendleman; the mother of his children and friend, Vera Lipe of Anna; a sister, Jean (Wayne) Lazenby of Burlington, Wis.; a brother, Gary (Linda) Rendleman of Saratoga; nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his two parents; sisters Kay Irene Acuff and Margaret Ann Rendleman; a brother, Jerry Rendleman; and a half-brother, James Rendleman.

He worked as a carpenter for Guthrie Construction. He enjoyed fishing in his spare time.

His family said Larry never met a stranger, he was always having fun and was a "cut up" to everyone.

Funeral services for Mr. Rendleman were at 11 a.m. Friday, March 10, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna. Interment was in Ebenezer Hall Cemetery in Lick Creek.

To leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna was in charge of arrangements.



Neil Casper

Neil Casper, 65, of Jonesboro, died at 5:45 p.m. Friday, March 10, 2017, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Mt. Vernon.

He was born on March 22, 1951, in Anna, the son of Loy and Betty Bollinger Casper.

He is survived by his mother, Betty Crain of Freeburg; cousins Lisa (Rick) Hicks, Bobby Boyd, Steve Casper, Jerry Casper, Sandy Williams, Pam Casper and others; nieces and nephews Rik Hicks, Cortni Hicks, Shane Boyd, Joda Cunningham and others; two half-sisters, Cindy Wenger of Collinsville, and Bonny Jo Rotman; an aunt, Mary Casper; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father; a sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann (James) Jones; and an uncle, Walkie Casper.

He was an iron worker for many years. He served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam as a para rigger. He loved antiques, collecting knives and was a collector of many things. He was active with Ducks Unlimited for many years.

Funeral services for Mr. Casper were at noon Wednesday, March 15, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro, with the Rev. Randy Morgan officiating. Interment was in the Jonesboro Cemetery. Graveside military rites were conducted by Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 of the VFW in Anna and the Illinois Army National Guard military honor team of Marion.

To leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro was in charge of arrangements.



Ronald Hill

Ronald Hill, 73, of Creal Springs, died at 12:12 p.m. Monday, March 12, at his home.

Arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna.

To leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

Reynoldsville News

by Sue Eudy

Visiting last week with Maxine and Fred Pender of Fair City were on Monday, Russ Pender of Olive Branch. On Wednesday were Mildred Fox, Helen Bracken and Gary Gibbs, all of Jonesboro. Brad Pender of Jonesboro visited on Sunday.

Shirley Miller of McClure visited Wednesday with Ermadell Elkins of Anna and Deanie Hinkle of Jonesboro.

Lois Prater of McClure visited Tuesday with Shirley Miller. Jay Eudy of McClure visited Saturday with Shirley Miller.

Get-well wishes to Lucille Choate of Lake of Egypt. Her sister, Dolores Reynolds of Reynoldsville visited with her.

Daphne Huffman of Thebes visited her parents, Berniece and Don McRaven of Fair City on Monday.

Hazel Ulen

Hazel Ulen, 100, of Ullin, died at 1:10 p.m., Thursday, March 9, 2017, at her apartment in Cache Valley.

She was born on July 23, 1916, in Reynolds County, Mo., the daughter of Clarence H. and Odessa "Dessie" Lay Weible.

She married Sam Ulen on Aug. 27, 1949. He preceded her in death on March 19, 2013.

She was an avid gardener and loved her grandchildren.

In addition to being a mother and grandmother, she was the business manager of Ulen Farms. She was a member of Ullin Baptist Church and a former member of Beech Grove Church.

She is survived by her children, Mike (Pam) Ulen of Ullin, Becky Rodney of Energy and Sammy (Cathy) Ulen of Ullin; seven grandchildren, Jarrod (Diane) Ulen of Union City, Tenn., Lesley Ulen of Tamms, Lindsey Ulen (Michael Washington) of Farmington, Mo., Kerri (Michael) Buescher of Herrin, Kristi Viola of Bossier City, La., Marissa (Adam) Reynolds of Cobden and Brian (Lexie) Ulen of Jackson, Mo.; 16 great-grandchildren, Ryleigh Ulen, Reese Ulen, Eric Evans, Madelyn Washington, Miley Washington, McKenna Washington, Shannon Youngman, Austin Youngman, Hayden Viola, Grayson Viola, Brady Reynolds, Bryce Reynolds, Brock Reynolds, Bryleigh Ulen, Brielle Ulen and Brynn Ulen; and a brother, Marvin Weible of St. Louis.

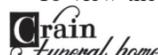
She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Sam Ulen; two brothers, Ed and Homer Weible; and two sisters, Eileen May and Geraldine Spuhler.

Funeral services were at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at Ullin Baptist Church, with the Rev. Clint Nale officiating. Interment was in Mt. Pisgah Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Mt. Pisgah or Ullin cemeteries.

Crain Funeral Home in Ullin was in charge of arrangements.

To view the full obituary or to leave an online condolence for the family, visit www.crainsonline.com.



Birdia Ann Groves Koch

Birdia Ann Groves Koch was born on Sept. 30, 1932, in Reynoldsville, the daughter of Hiram and Josephine Sharp Groves, and died on March 11, 2017.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James J. Koch, of Tucson, Ariz.; a sister, Vivian Groves Foster of Elmwood; and Ott Sharp and Jim Hutchison, who were raised as brothers.

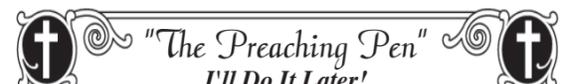
She is survived by her sister, Doris (Ernest) Rhodes; and by her seven children, Brenda (Alan) Sauer, Richard Koch, Suzanne (John) Richards, Cynthia (Phillip) Stern, Mary Ellen (Robert) Franz, Jonathan (Dee Gallagher) Koch and Daniel (Casey) Koch; 16 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and all the others whom she "adopted" over the years.

She worked as a nurse for Dr. Rife in Anna during the 1950s before moving away.

A celebration of her life was planned Wednesday, March 15, in Tucson, Ariz.



Obituaries Online at annanews.com



"The Preaching Pen" I'll Do It Later!

During the American Revolution, it's reported that Colonel Rahl, commander of the British troops in Trenton, New Jersey, was playing cards when a courier brought an urgent message stating that General George Washington was crossing the Delaware River. Rahl put the letter in his pocket and didn't bother to read it until the game was finished. His procrastination was his undoing. He and many of his men were killed and the rest of the regiment was captured.

The British ambassador, Nolbert Quayle, said, "Only a few minutes' delay cost him his life, his honor, and the liberty of his soldiers... 'Tomorrow' is the excuse of the lazy and refuge of the incompetent."

Too many people have the attitude of Felix as we read in Acts 24:25. Paul preached to Felix, "And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

Felix wanted to hear about Jesus because of Paul's faith in him, but as soon as Paul started talking about the need to live a righteous life and exercise self-control, Felix said, "No way." Then, when Paul started teaching him about what will happen at the final judgment day it scared Felix and he didn't want to think about such things or change his lifestyle, so he procrastinates and as far as we know, he never became a Christian.

This is the typical attitude of many sinners today. They put off obeying the gospel. They don't want to be bothered with details, they just want to think that God will save them no matter what, but this simply is not the case. Paul stresses the importance of obeying the gospel call today in II Cor. 6:2: "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

Now the question becomes, "How does a sinner obey the gospel call?" God's Word has the answer.

We must believe that Jesus is the son of God. (John 8:24), we must repent (Luke 13:3), we must confess Jesus as our Lord (Romans 10:9) and we must be baptized into Christ for the remission of sins. Peter makes it clear that "baptism doth also now save us" in I Peter 3:21. Acts 2:38: "... Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." No baptism = no forgiveness of sins which = separation from God.

Friends, a person must be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of their sins or they will be lost. Once you've been baptized in Christ, you must then continue to live a faithful life to God (Rev. 2:10). If you haven't obeyed the Gospel, let us at the Anna church of Christ study with you. Give it some serious thought.

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

Thank You

ON BEHALF OF THE CHAPMAN FAMILY, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE LOVE AND SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE ILLNESS AND DEATH OF SANDRA CHAPMAN. WE APPRECIATE ALL THE THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, FOOD, FLOWERS AND CARDS YOU GAVE US DURING THE TIME OF OUR SORROW.

SINCERELY,

THE CHAPMAN FAMILY

Celebrating local Scholar Bowl teams

Scholar Bowl is a game in which two teams compete head-to-head to answer questions from all areas of knowledge including history, literature, science, fine arts, current events, sports and popular culture. Below are teams in Union County public schools. Photos by Amber Skelton and Lindsey Rae Vaughn.



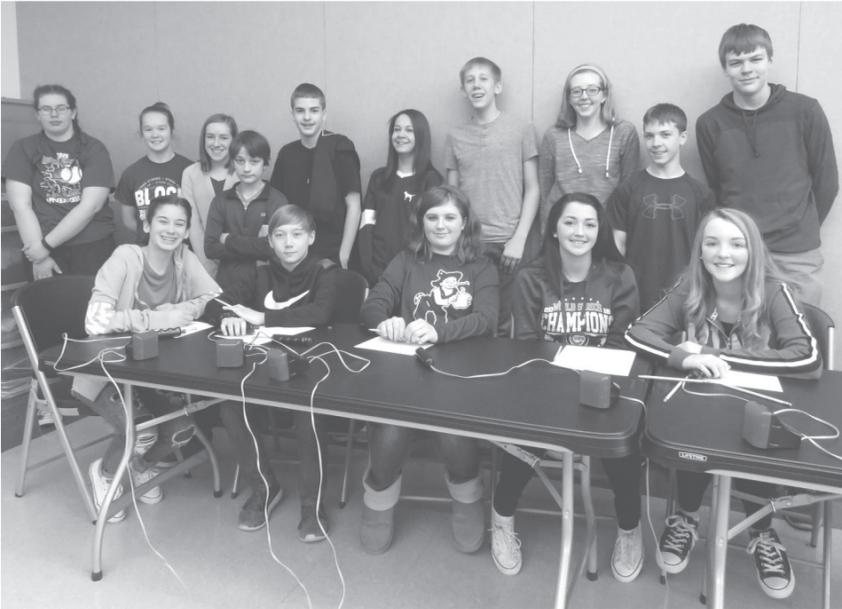
A-JCHS Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Amy Glasco, Braden Benns, Caroline Hansen, Madison Johnston and Gabe Goins. Second row, Colton Goins, Hunter Miller, Donald Rodgers, Bryce Massey, Jackson Laster and Wyatt Jones. Third row, Soren Keller, Dalton Tucker, Trenton Newberry, Evan Smoot, Jakob Eddleman, Garrett Fabec, Noah DeWitt and Aiden Jacobs.



Anna Junior High Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Caitlin Ames, Alex Little, Bryce Henry, Andrew Detering and Kyle Jerrell. Second row, Kimberly Williams, Madi Hawk, Seth Barker, Bryan Williams, Karina Griffin, Evan Keller, Lexie Lingle, Halle Menees and Jason Rios. Third row, coach Mike Eddings, Jon Nichols and Nate Belcher.



Cobden Junior High Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Callie McGee, Amon Ingle, Olivia Brumleve, Lily Britt and Molly Smith. Second row, Emily White, Aubrey Fisher, Kate Staley, Sasha Pula, Anthony Stanzack, Makenzie Howell, John Eck, Kennedy Marks, AJ Hawkins and Noah Franklin.



Cobden High School Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, John Russell, Robert Phillippe, Connor Allen, Maddie Bundren and Joe Brumleve. Second row, Zoe Fuhrhop, Emily Reese, Katie Eck and Grace Lyerla. Third row, Christian Goins, Amanda Smith, Jamison Cowart, Alex Kinsey, Chandler West and Tori Brummer.



Dongola High School Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Journey Rushing, Hailey O'Dea, Shaylee Lingle, Megan Theis, Jayden Westbrooks and Natalee Chauvin. Second row, Andrew Tarpley, Alexis Woodworth, Nathan Williams, Jordan Thompson, Delaney Cummins, Alyssa Flores, Austin Doublin and coach Amy Williams. Not pictured is Kenan Stokes.



Jonesboro Grade School Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Krishna Patal, Jaley Watkins, Olivia Bowen, Hannah Lincoln and Camille Turner. Second row, Harrison Forbes, Austin Adams, Isabelle Téhandon, Connor Hallam, Lia Mays and Lily Baker.



Lick Creek School Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Danielle Dunaway, Brodie Denny, Hannah Miller, Ethan Minckler and Will Smiley. Second row, Shealyn Thorn, Kaylee Stover, Abbie Edwards, Louis Van Muylder, Bryce Ecker, Grayson Heath, Jude Smith, Hunter Chapman, Erin Overstreet and Eli Cripps.



Shawnee High School Scholar Bowl

First row, from left, Autumn McMahan, Drew McLane, Nick Baltzell and Zach Clardy. Second row, coach Jamie Nash-Mayberry, Koby McLane, Katie Charles, Megan Smith, Chali Phelps, Tre Rains and Olivia Jackson. Third row, Austin Warren, Austin Lyerla, Ryan Schaefer, Nicholas Rose and Jesse Ellet.

Union County teams compete at Egyptian tournament

Joppa High School's scholar bowl team snagged the win at the regional high school scholar bowl tournament at Egyptian High School in Tamms on Monday, March 6.

Dongola lost to Norris City-Omaha-Enfield in the

quarterfinal, 210-80. Cairo lost to Century, 130-90. Meridian did not appear, giving Joppa the win. Egyptian beat Shawnee 160-40.

Norris City-Omaha-Enfield won 130-0 against Century in the semifinals. Egyptian was up 80-70 against

Joppa, but Joppa won the toss up on the second to last question and answered all three bonus points correctly to win 110-80.

Joppa won the championship match against Norris City-Omaha-Enfield with a score of 170 to 130.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 16, 2017

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Section B

'Scenes from Alice' rehearsals underway at Anna Arts Center

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center has announced the cast of its fourth annual children's production,

"Scenes From Alice" is scheduled to be performed on Friday, April 28, at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 29, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, April 30, at 2 p.m.

Alice Liddell will be portrayed by Jaden Brimm and "Alice in Wonderland" will be played by Jossilin Needling.

Brinley Corbit will take the stage as "Alice Through the Looking Glass," with the White Rabbit portrayed by Zach Finstad.

Three performers comprise the Heart family. Pete Housman will be seen as the King of Hearts, Trinity Sweet will be on stage as the Queen of Hearts and Anthony Jimenez will play the role of the Knave of Hearts.

Several performers will be the spade playing cards from Wonderland. They are Madelyn Hansen, Jaden Brimm, Mya Laster, Kiersten Wright and Megan Wright.

The Mad Hatter will be played by Jessi Riley. Caroline Hansen will be seen as the March Hare and the Doormouse is being portrayed by Kenzie Stover.

Turning to "Alice Through the Looking Glass," Kevin Thomas is the White King and Zack Finstad is the Red King.

Two Arts Center veteran performers are seen as the Looking Glass Queens: Debby McKibben as the White Queen and Nancy Kucera as the Red queen.

The flowers in the Red Queen's garden are Elizabeth Corbit, Marilyn Musgrave, Maggie McMahon, Ava Vasicek, Sydney Waun, Elizabeth Black and Alexan-



Rehearsing
"Scenes from Alice" cast members Jossilin Needling, Pete Housman, Trinity Sweet and Anthony Jimenez rehearse for their parts. Photo provided.



Tea party
Jossilin Needling, Caroline Hansen, Jessi Riley and Kenzie Stover rehearse for a tea party scene in "Scenes from Alice." Photo provided.

dria Keller.

Also in Looking Glass are the Jabberwock, identity secret, Tweedle Dee Bailey Robinson, Tweedle Dum and Humpty Dumpty Jacob Stamp.

Several cast members

appear in several scenes. Rehearsals are underway and are at the beginning "blocking" stage of performance.

Cindy Wright of Cobden is the costumer and Ellen Spalt, also of Cobden, is the scenery designer. Mrs. Spalt

will be transforming the familiar black walls of the arts center stage into a Victorian garden.

Dr. Lynn Steveson of rural Anna is directing her fourth play for the arts center.

"The cast will also be the crew for this large production, moving scenery pieces and setting props as needed. They are getting a good beginning education in all areas of live theatre production," Steveson said in a news release.

Tickets are scheduled to be available starting April 1. For more information, contact Lee Hackney at 904-625-1109 or Dr. Lynn Steveson at 697-2334.

Lieutenant governor asks legislators to join fight against childhood hunger

Illinois legislators were asked by Lt. Gov. Evelyn Sanguinetti March 9 to join her in the fight against childhood hunger.

The lieutenant governor co-hosted the event, which was held in partnership with the No Kid Hungry program, the Illinois Commission to End Hunger and the Illinois State Board of Education, ISBE.

The lieutenant governor spearheaded the event to raise awareness about childhood hunger in Illinois and to discuss how legislators can partner with her on two initiatives: School Breakfast After the Bell implementation and the Summer Meals programs. Both programs are federally funded and administered by ISBE.

Last year, Gov. Bruce Rauner signed into law Breakfast After the Bell legislation that required schools where 70 percent or more of students qualify for the free and reduced lunch program to serve breakfast after the first bell starts the school day.

The initiative aims to serve more than 125,000 additional Illinois children breakfast every day.

"We are asking legislators to join us in the fight against childhood hunger. In our state, one in five children is food insecure, and that has to end," Sanguinetti said in a news release.

"I grew up in a family where my parents had to choose between paying the rent and putting food on the table. It can be devastating for children having to go through that. If a federally funded program on child hunger can't bring us together, nothing will."

Statewide, only 14 percent of eligible children participated in the Summer Meals program last year due to a lack of sites.

Last summer 30 counties in Illinois failed to offer a Summer Meals site to hungry children in their community. On a national level, Illinois only ranks 31st in program participation.

"For children to achieve

their full potential, they must have consistent access to nutritious food. Yet, hundreds of thousands of children in our state wake up hungry," said Kate Maehr, Illinois Commission to End Hunger co-chair.

"But, expanding Breakfast After the Bell and Summer Meals programs will help ensure more Illinois children have the food they need to grow up healthy and succeed."

The lieutenant governor asked legislators to organize roundtable discussions with school administrators in their districts to discuss the implementation of School Breakfast After the Bell.

These discussions would be facilitated in partnership with the office of the lieutenant governor, ISBE and the Rise & Shine Illinois.

The lieutenant governor also asked legislators to help promote the Summer Meals program this summer and to help identify at least one new site to participate in the Summer Meals program.

For more on the School Breakfast After the Bell and the Summer Meals programs, visit www.riseandshineillinois.org.

Illinois big trees to be featured

Big trees in Illinois are scheduled to be the topic of a program which is planned Tuesday, March 21, in Carbondale.

The free program is set for 6:30 p.m. at the Carbondale Township Hall. The hall is located at 217 E. Main St.; entry is in the back.

"In Search of Big Trees: The Illinois Big Tree Register" is scheduled to be presented by guest speaker Chris Evans.

Evans is an Extension forester with the University of Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

The program is being presented by the Illinois Native Plant Society's Southern Chapter.

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JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE is inviting Students, Graduates, Alumni and the General Public to participate in **THE 22ND ANNUAL JOB FAIR**

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 • 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Donald L. Brewer Gymnasium

- Meet with representatives from over 75 companies
- Be prepared to interview - dress for success
- Bring updated resumes

For more information, contact Career Services

Request for special needs such as interpreters need to be made in writing no later than three days prior to this activity. Please contact Student Success Center in Room C219 to arrange accommodations.

John A. Logan College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, disability, age, or gender orientation.

South Main Street buildings in Anna home to new businesses



Working on buildings

Lee Hackney and Susan Whitemountain are in the process of transforming three buildings on Main Street in Anna into new businesses. From left are Hackney, Whitemountain and The Here and Now Shop manager Ilse Easterly. The Here and Now Shop sells supplies for quilting, embroidery and other DIY projects, along with gift items. Photo by Amber Skelton.

The Gathering Place

The flooring and portions of the wall needed to be replaced in the former Union County Pharmacy building before it could become The Gathering Place. Store manager Susan Whitemountain plans to offer genealogy and researching services to the community.

By Amber Skelton
South Main Street in Anna is three steps closer to being filled, thanks to the recent building purchases by two Anna women.

Lee Hackney and Susan Whitemountain bought the former Hunting Traditions and the two spaces that made up the Union County Pharmacy. They plan for the three spaces to become separate shops.

The Hunting Traditions shop, which has been closed since 2012, needed very little work.

"All we had to do was clean," Hackney said.

It reopened on Monday, Feb. 27, as The Here and Now Shop.

Whitemountain joked that "what's here is what we're selling now." What's there now includes materials for quilting and embroidery projects, books and picture frames.

The shop is managed by Ilse Easterly and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A grand opening is planned in April.

They hope to host quilting classes and events.

Hackney plans to manage the central shop as The Anna Potter. She intends to sell greenware pottery that has been shaped but not yet converted to ceramic. Customers will be able to choose their greenware, paint it however they like,

and Hackney will then glaze it.

Hackney said that 10 percent of the proceeds from The Anna Potter will benefit the Anna Arts Center, where she is the director.

The third shop, which will take up the second portion of the old pharmacy building, will be managed by Susan Whitemountain, who works with the PAST organization of Union County.

Whitemountain's genealogical experience with PAST will tie into the new shop, called The Gathering Place. It will be based around local history and family records.

Whitemountain has been doing her research from home but suspected that the community could benefit from her work.

"Here's an opportunity to come downtown and share my resources." She plans to donate 10 percent of her proceeds to PAST.

The building, which sat empty for about eight years, has required some construction to become store-ready. Rotting in the wood made a new floor necessary. The walls were also opened up to reveal front access to the top floor apartment and an extra door.

Whitemountain plans to have construction completed and to open April 1.

The projects have taken work, but the women said it's worth it.

"Here's three empty buildings kind of crucial to downtown. We hated for them to be lost," Hackney said. "We've had volunteers and we're very appreciative."

State senator appointed to Illinois coal board

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, has been appointed to the Illinois Coal Development Board.

Fowler fills a vacancy which was left by the retirement of former State Sen. David Luechtefeld, R-Okawville.

"I am looking forward to this new role on the Coal Development Board and hope that it will be a tool for revitalizing our coal industry in Southern Illinois," Fowler said in a news release.

"It is my hope that as the energy market rebounds, our Illinois coal miners will return to the industry."



Pottery business

Part of the building that previously had been the home of Union County Pharmacy will become the new Anna Potter, managed by Lee Hackney. The shop will offer unglazed pottery that can be painted by customers and then fired by Hackney. Photo by Amber Skelton.

NOTICE

PUBLIC TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Public Test of the Automatic Tabulating Equipment required by 10 ILCS 5/24A-9, 24B-9 or 24C-9 will be held on **March 28, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.** at the Union County Clerk's Office located at 309 W. Market St., Room 116, Jonesboro, IL. As prescribed by the Election Code, this test is open to representatives of the political parties, the press, representatives of the State Board of Elections and the public.

Dated March 8, 2017

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff,
Signature of Election Authority

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Early Voting Information

Consolidated General Election
April 4, 2017

Union County, Illinois

DATES
February 23 through April 3, 2017
309 W. Market Street, Room 116
Jonesboro, IL 62952
8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Normal early voting hours will be Monday through Friday.
The exception to this will be on Saturday, April 1, 2017. The office will be open for early voting from 8 A.M. until 12 P.M.

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff
Union County Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a **Consolidated Election** will be held at all polling places in **Union County, Illinois** on **April 4, 2017.**

Candidates will be nominated to the following offices:

- Mayor in the City Of Jonesboro
- City Clerk in the City Of Jonesboro
- City Treasurer in the City Of Jonesboro
- Alderman in the City Of Jonesboro, Ward 1
- Alderman in the City Of Jonesboro, Ward 2
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- The Board in the Lake Egypt Water District

Order of the ballot:
City, Ward, Village, Library, Educational Service Region, School, Community Unit School District, High School, Community College, Water

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

Dated: March 7, 2017

Terry Bartruff
Terry Bartruff
Union County Clerk

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

Music for the Sunday, March 12, morning worship service was led by Randy Wright and accompanied by Johnathon Cauble.

The offertory was provided by Johnathon Cauble.

News from Mt. Moriah, Salem Lutheran Churches

On Sunday, March 12, Pastor Mark's message came from John 3:16 and was a reminder that "if we knew nothing else about the Gospel of Jesus that this verse would probably be enough: 'whoever believes in Jesus has eternal life'."

Bible study is scheduled at 7 p.m. each Tuesday, except for the third Tuesday of the month, at Mt. Moriah.

Lenten services continue on Wednesdays. Prior to the service, a meal is served at 5:30 p.m.

Last week's meal and service were held at Salem in Jonesboro. This week's service was planned at Mt. Moriah in Anna. Next week's service is scheduled at Salem.

A successful youth lock-in was held last weekend. A project was completed for Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is in April.

A youth group meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. every other Sunday at Salem, unless otherwise announced. The next meeting is planned Sunday, March 26.

News from First Baptist Church, Cobden

Pastor Ed Falgout's message on Sunday, March 12, was titled "The Diary of a Madman, part 2," based on scripture from Genesis. His message shared "they are blasphemers, cursed and their every breath is sustained by God's wise patience."

Austin Walker provided special music.

A Clear Creek Baptist Association women's meeting is planned Saturday, March 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Anna Heights Baptist Church. Association executive director Tony Auxier is scheduled to bring a presentation about human trafficking. The meeting is open to everyone 12 years old and up. Those who plan to attend are asked to call the association office to preregister at 833-4481.

The Cobden Marching Appleknockers have been invited to perform at the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., this year. The church has information on how to support the band.

Sunday school begins at 9 a.m. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10 a.m. Sunday evening service begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday service begins at 6:30 p.m.

News from Immanuel Praise, Worship Center

This week's message focused on scripture from 1st John and on questions about how God has changed a person's life and seeing God's hand at work.

Michael and Jackie Penrod were baptized during the morning worship service on Sunday, March 12.

A chicken and dumpling dinner will be served Saturday, March 18. Serving is planned from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the dinner will be donated to the Cobden High School band for its trip to march in the Memorial Day parade in Washington, D.C.

Donations of food and desserts, as well as volunteer help, are welcomed. For more information, contact the church at 893-4916.

Darrell Mowell, Dorris Johnson, Jacob Wright and Matt Macy served as ushers.

Special music was provided by Jaida and Kaylee Smith.

The morning message, "The Power of The Pull," was brought by Pastor McBride from 2 Kings. The sermon shared that "God's guidance awaits our participation and the pulling power of God's grace can propel you towards your purpose and when you're feeling stretched it's a set up for strength."

Music for the Sunday evening worship service was led by Randy Wright and accompanied by Johnathon Cauble. Offertory was provided by Johnathon Cauble.

Ushers for the evening service were Robert Smith, Curly Ralls, Dorris Johnson and Terry Wiseman Sr.

Special music was provided by Ginger Morrison, Nina Shepard, Marilyn Elkins and Carla Ramage.

The evening message, "Be On Your Guard," was brought by Pastor McBride from Joshua 9, sharing that "God's truth is the protection against the enemy's lies."

Birthdays and anniversaries: March 13, Jason Cook; March 14, Beryl Clayton, Terry and Wendy Wiseman; March 17, Jayda Benefield.

March 18, a dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. is planned in the fellowship hall, followed by a concert by Mark Murphy at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. with classes for all ages. Worship services are Sunday at 10:35 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

News from First Baptist Church, Anna

The church welcomes the David Howard family. He has been called to serve as the church's new minister to young families.

Pastor Sinks' sermon on Sunday, March 12, was titled "Somewhere Between the Command and the Promise," with scripture from Luke.

The pastor's sermon on Sunday, March 5, was titled "Revive Thy Work Again," with scripture from Habakkuk.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

The sermon Sunday was titled "Jesus Our Rock, In an Unstable World," with various scriptures selected.

The message shared that when "dealing with changes, conflicts, and criticisms in our daily lives, we need stability and a firm foundation. Jesus is our Rock of redemption that will bring resolution, and lead to rejoicing."

"Through Jesus, our Rock, our past has been forgiven and completely wiped away; our present is manageable; and, most important, our future is secured."

Receiving the offering on Sunday were Aldi and Vodra Gerard, assisted by their father Tony.

Camp Ground's elder for March is Sandy Boaz.

Those celebrating birthdays this week include Mark Boaz on March 14 and Joshua Simmons on March 17.

Camp Ground congratulates Collin and Lara Crane on the birth of a daughter, Kayton Jolene, who was born at 9:54 a.m. Tuesday, March 7. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Kayton has a big brother, Reed.

The congregation is happy that Jerrie Clayton is back in the community after undergoing back surgery recently at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

Several members of the congregation have been dealing with various illnesses that are circulating in the communities and missed services Sunday. They are all wished a speedy recovery.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, March 12, Pastor Mike Turner continued his series, "Malachi: Confronting Complacency in Marriage, Money and Ministry," with the message, "7 Sure-Fire Tips to Avoid a Coma," based on selections from Malachi.

Music was directed by associate pastor of worship Paul Lemon.

Birthdays: Debbie York, March 13; and Richard Tucker, March 15.

Anniversary: Robbie and Suzie Wright, 12 years, March 19.

The schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist includes three services on Sunday at 8:15 a.m.,

Camp Ground's pastor, the Rev. Joe Vance, was "back home" in Cleveland, Ohio, for a few days this past week, where he conducted the funeral service for a maternal uncle.

The session had its bi-monthly meeting after Sunday's services.

Worship is on Sunday at 11 a.m. Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

10:35 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Men meet for Bible study on Mondays at 7 p.m.

Awana for children age 4 through 6th grade is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Adult Bible study/prayer meeting and youth is on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. All are welcome.

The Gazette-Democrat on line at annanews.com

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NEXT ON DECK



A baseball game takes a long time and involves a lot of sitting around. While one player is busy swinging, another waits for his turn to hit. For all those innings the whole team is performing, not just the active players, but also those who are "next on deck". Without them there would be no one in the dugout. The scenario of life is similar. God is our manager; our "playbook" is the Bible. Practice is each week at your chosen house of worship. We are part of a team that performs with confidence, for we know God has us "next on deck".

Daily Devotional Reading

Psalms	2 Chron.					
89:38-52	1:1-17	5:2-14	6:1-11	6:12-31	6:32-42	7:1-22

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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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.

St. Patrick's Day

Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Band Contest

Congratulations to all the students in the A-JCHS music department at the IHSA solo and ensemble contest on your performances.

Special Thanks

A special thanks to Connie Ray and Janet and Don Verble for giving me credit when they renewed their subscription to The Gazette-Democrat.

Serving our Country

Pfc. Lukas W. Davis USMC, son of Christine Davis of Kentucky, grandson of Carol Frick of Anna, graduated from Air Traffic Control Navigation Technical School on March 10, in Pensacola, Fla., and was promoted to the rank of lance corporal. After a short leave, he will report for duty at Cherry Point, N.C.

St. Anne's

Rob and Kasie Craft were the auctioneers at St. Anne's Church annual fundraiser soup dinner and dessert auction. It was a success this year.

Children's Ministry Day

On Saturday, Rev. Carl and Susan Dillow took the kids from Immanuel Praise and Worship in Cobden to Children's Ministry Day. Anna Heights went too.

Congratulations

On Sunday, Hayden Craft was in a St. Patrick's Day/Wizard of Oz Emerald City pageant in Carbondale. Hayden received Prettiest Eyes, All Star Supreme, Amber's Choice, and Grand Supreme. She had a great time.

Anniversary Celebration

Eli and Miranda Teller enjoyed a trip to Nashville, Tenn., for their fourth anniversary March 9.

Eli said their trip was great. It may have been his second trip there that wasn't involving anything business, so it was great to meet with friends who are also mostly country artists.

One of the friends was top five with Eli in the country showdown national final at the Ryman two years ago, Mr. JB Aaron.

They played some music at Legends Corner to celebrate Eli's four-year anniversary with Miranda who has showed him her ability to stand being with a musician for four years.

They enjoyed a lot of music and shopping in some stores in Nashville they had never been to and seeing a friend of Eli's, Stephen Salyers, downtown at Tequila Cowboy.

Stephen wished them a happy anniversary, then put them in the spotlight to dance to a sweet rendition of "If I Ain't Got You" by Alicia Keys.

Eli says they have been through a lot together. Miranda has seen all sorts of sides from the music business, both good and bad.

They have been through the harsh realities of being adults together from bills to raising kids. They have a beautiful daughter together who is now 2 1/2, and also Aden from her previous relationship.

Eli has a current CD that can be bought at all major online stores like iTunes. He also has brand new music about to be released and many shows coming up, including Herin Fest with Gary Allan.

Birthday Celebrations

Rage and Titan Henderson celebrated their birthdays last week.

Rage celebrated his 7th birthday Thursday evening and Titan celebrated his 6th birthday Sunday evening.

Rage and Titan's guests included their parents, T.J.

and Tanette Henderson and their Pa and Ma, Terry and Billie Henderson.

Rage and Titan's dad and mom surprised them with a trip to the Science Center in St. Louis on Saturday. After spending the day at the Science Center, they stopped by Lottawa Creek for dinner.

Anniversaries

March 26 Mary Carolyn and Larry Rendleman, 31 Valeria and Jimmy Meller.

Birthdays

March 17 Connie Kessler, 29 Cheria Casper.

Florida Trip

Darryl Parks, Mary Ada Parks, David and Linda Parks, John Parks and Becky Plott visited Diane Ward and family in northern Florida for a week. Floyd and Carol Parks from England was also visiting.

Cruise

Jack and Sue Ann Zimmerman enjoyed a cruise with their family.

Guest

Rick Davis from Virginia Beach, Va., visited his mother Audrey and family.

He came for three days to help celebrate his cousin's anniversary. Tony and Pam Newman were surprised by their children with quite a gathering at Great Boars of Fire. The couple have been married 35 years.

Memorial Lunch

In memory of Stephen Wheaton, lunch was held at El Jalapeno Saturday, March 11.

Four years ago they lost a great son, brother, father, grandson, uncle and friend to hundreds of people. They really appreciated everyone who came to honor Stephen.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Tanner and Halie Starling on the birth of their baby, Jeremiah Tatum Starling.

He was born March 10 at 11:56 p.m., weighing 7.10 pounds and measuring 20.5 inches long.

Poultry Show

Saturday was the Heartland Classic Poultry Show at the Anna fairgrounds.

They had 780 entries from Wisconsin, Indiana, Alabama, Missouri, Tennessee and Illinois.

Bob and Betty Caraker helped with the event from Thursday through Saturday night. Bob also showed their poultry.

Their son Brian was unable to attend due to his

schedule and the work he has on his farm. Brian received quite a snow. He was greatly missed by many exhibitors.

King Kong

Got word from my cousin Gretchen Robinson who lives in Australia that part of the movie Kong Skull Island was filmed where they live on the Gold Coast, Stradbroke Island, where they take their boat across, and Mt. Tamborine, where they take trips to the rain forest.

Working Together

Pastor Steven Guined of Connect Point Church gave a big shout out to the United Methodist Church of Anna.

Pastor Steven had the pleasure to meet Chris Foster from Loaves and Fishes community meal and hear about all the wonderful things the Methodist church is doing to contribute to the families in need in the community.

Chris showed Pastor Steven the church's food pantry as well. Chris donated four gallons of milk to Connect Point's outreach ministry.

Rev. Steven said he loves when churches work together. So much more can be done together.

Connect Point Church members deliver food on Saturday mornings. Connect Point is located across from the Anna Post Office in the former First Christian Church building.

Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club

The Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club met at Sunshine Inn at Goddard's. They enjoyed dinner and singing by the Butter Beans.

President Jane Bauer called the meeting to order and everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. She also said the club Collect.

Marie Samuel gave the devotion with two parts.

First she shared the concept of the Empty Bowls project inspired by Luke 1 to encourage community work to help feed the hungry.

Community gardens were mentioned that some churches sponsor to help folks learn to grow their own food.

Several club members responded that they garden and enjoy flowers as well as home-grown fruit and vegetables when asked. This led to the second part of the devotion.

This came from the Upper Room publication, a devotional guide for March 8. "How Does Your Garden Grow" by a Maryland woman has a prayer focus for gardeners and describes a gardener's eagerness to begin planting in March although winter may not be past.

During this season of Lent, we can remember the promise of a new life

in Christ as well await new life in the garden.

Jane Bauer gave current events on the history of the club in honor of March being Women's History Month. The garden club was started in Anna April 23, 1912.

Jane also showed the flamingo she purchased at the Anna Arts Center fundraiser she will take to the district meeting. The flamingo had been decorated by Martha Ann Webb.

There was a special flower on it Martha had purchased from Terri Goldsberry, who had made beautiful flowers to decorate for the Loaves and Fishes dinner at the United Methodist Church in Anna.

Terri has a different theme each month and that month different colored flowers were hanging all around the room for spring.

GFWC is working with the community in this project by giving money to support feed the hungry in the area through Loaves and Fishes at one of the community meals.

Treasurer's report was by Deb Rossberg. The secretary's report was by Suzie Kessler.

The program was on health with guest speaker June Sielbeck from Metropolis who works with Habitat for Humanity. June spoke on her trips to Ecuador.

Secretary Susie Kessler presented a check to June from the club for her mission work with Habitat for Humanity.

Lillian Milam surprised the ladies with jewelry she had purchased from an auction of their dear friend Maxine Williamson, who went to be with our Lord.

Lillian told the ladies they could pick one piece of jewelry to keep in memory of Maxine. Jane Bauer read about the life of Maxine; the clubs she was a member of and how she had volunteered in many places in the community.

Other members present were Barbara House, Judy Smith, Mary Light, Dorothy Hilliard and Martha (continued on page 5)



Susie Kessler, secretary of the Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club, presented a check from the club to June Sielbeck for her work with Habitat for Humanity.



Guests of Ray and Juanita Butler were Jim and Pat Blanton from Seattle, Wa. They had not seen them since 1968. Ray and Jim were on a ship in Vietnam. They had a fantastic visit talking of years gone by. So great when old friends come back into your life.



Barbara Adams, Betty Carter, Lois Benson, Bev Bolanowski and Amanda Endrizzi recently took in two days at Gulf Shores, Ala., with Amanda as the tour guide. They enjoyed a beach walk, shopping and several local eateries.



Elizabeth Corbit sang a special, "There is a Savior," at the United Methodist Church on Sunday morning. Elizabeth gave her testimony of how her faith in God has been with her when she battled cancer.



Barbara Adams, Betty Carter and Lois Benson enjoyed a beach walk in Gulf Shores.



Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club met at Sunshine Inn at Goddard's for their March meeting.



Hayden Craft, daughter of Rob and Kasie Craft, was in a St. Patrick's Day/Wizard of Oz Emerald City pageant in Carbondale. Hayden received Prettiest Eyes, All-Star Supreme, Amber's Choice and Grand Supreme.



Happy birthday to Louise Clutts and Joe Hardin at Sunshine Inn.



Marie Samuel gave the devotion at the Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club on Feed the Hungry and the promise of new life in Christ.

Anna News

(Continued from previous page)

Ann Webb, with guests Linda Clutts and Nancy Skoglund.

The district board meeting will be March 13 at Jackie Hancock's home in Marion. The district convention will be March 27 at 8:30 a.m. at Kokopelli Golf Clubhouse and Restaurant in Marion.

A-JCHS Class of 1964
The A-J class of 1964 is having an informal class dinner at the Moose Lodge in Anna Saturday, March 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Reservations must be made by March 17. Call Judy Neal at 967-7133 to reserve your spot.

Sew & So April Fibers Exhibit

The Little Egypt Art Association downtown Marion on the square will have an exhibit of any fiber or quilted works as well as paintings and photos of quilts, shawls, afghans, etc.

Call 618-889-4145 for more information or entry forms. Entry forms will be available April 3, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at delivery times.

The exhibit will be April

4-28. Pick up is May 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Five dollar entry fee per item if not a LEAA member.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Rev. Carl Johnston's sermon was titled "You Don't Have to Stumble in the Darkness," with scripture from John.

The call to worship was by Barbara House. Barbara led the singing. Special music was "There is A Savior" by Elizabeth Corbit. Rev. Carl told the children Jesus was the light of the world.

After church everyone gathered in the fellowship room for snacks. The youth group met at 5 p.m. Sunday.

Thursday at 5 p.m. is prayer group. 6 p.m. is Lenten Bible study. For the Lenten Bible study this week, they will be attending the Kornthal Church service. Friday at 10 a.m. is friendship and sewing. On Friday, the youth will have a lock-in.

Next Sunday will be the children's mission offering. The offering will go to St.

Jude Children's Hospital.

On April 1 there will be a one-day discipleship event for children in first through fifth grades. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please see Pastor Carl if you are interested.

VFW

On St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17, Peggy will be at the post with her Star Karaoke from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wear your green. Corned beef, cabbage and potatoes will be at 5 p.m. for a \$5 donation.

Saturday, March 18, is trivia night, sponsored by Delta Theta Tau.

The auxiliary is hosting a flea market at the post April 1. Contact president Dianna Robertson at 618-614-2168 about reserving a table.

State Retiree's Meeting

Jim Wright, president, sent out a notice on post cards that AFSCME Retirees Chapter 90 nominations and election of officers will be March 28 at 1 p.m. at Anna Heights Baptist Church at 100 Turner Ave. in Anna.

AFSCME retirees meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. at Anna Heights Baptist Church. They encourage other state

retirees to join them.

"The Sound of Music"

Students at A-JCHS are getting ready for the musical "The Sound of Music" on March 31, April 1-2. You can buy a special ticket at the school office or that night at the door.

Red Hats

The Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies met for their March meeting at Triple E in Ullin. Fern Thompson, Marybelle Morgan and Agnes Thomas were the hostesses.

The ladies meet the third Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. Bring an exchange gift if you would like to be in the gift exchange. The ladies are always looking for new people to come join them so bring a friend.

Anna Eastern Star

The Anna Eastern Star meets the first and third Thursday of each month. Refreshments are at 6:30 p.m. with meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge in the Anna Park.

Spark Ministries

The nondenominational church meets at the old McClure grade school at 11 a.m. Sunday mornings.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

The annual Blue Rib-

bons for Kids Union County Proclamation Day will be March 31 at 9 a.m. at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Proclamation Day is an important recognition that we all stand together to end child abuse in our county.

If you have any questions, please call Shawanna at WIBH Radio station 833-9434 extension 301 or email shawnnarhine@gmail.com.

Birthday Celebrations

If you would like your birthday and how you celebrated in the paper email me or give me a call. Leave a message on my answering machine if I am not home.

Free Community Dinners

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 of Anna fellowship hall.

Serving free hot meals every Thursday to the community at Harvest Church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come eat with them.

The free community meal at Salem Lutheran Church in Jonesboro is on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Cobden Church

Immanuel Praise and Worship Center in Cobden has a chicken and dumpling dinner the third Saturday of each month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Donations for the meal.

Connect Point Church

The church delivers food to homes Saturday mornings at 10 a.m.

Military Prayer List

Please send me a name if you want them in the military prayer list. If you have a loved one in the service email, call or mail their name to me. Also if they are not in the service anymore, please let me know.

Garrett Goins, David Jordan Glasco, Ryan Hampton, Brittany Michelle Lence, Killian Jesse, Molly Noyes, CJ Youngerman, Freddy Morse, Reagan Morrison, Josh Steveson, Josh Williams, Lukas W. Davis, Faith Odom, Tommy Goff and family Janette, Jamison and Kaylynn, Creighton Laster, Brandon Eaker, Jim Bonner, Jacob Schaefer, Jerod Schaefer, Jennifer Ann Bishop, Robert Jr. McMeely, James McWhorter, Arin White-mountain. Please keep them in your prayers.

From the Anna-Jo Garden Club

Small fruits option for limited space

If you have been wanting to grow your own fruit but have limited space, you may want to consider growing small fruits.

Bronwyn Aly from University of Illinois Extension recently presented a program to the Anna-Jo Garden Club discussing the benefits of growing small fruits.

The horticultural requirements of strawberries, brambles and blueberries were discussed.

All of these fruits are suitable to grow in the limited space available in a typical family garden.

Not surprisingly, strawberries are the simplest of the small fruits to grow and would be a good choice for a novice gardener.

One concern is overcrowding as the mother plant sends out several offshoots and the bed will soon get overcrowded if not thinned.

June bearing strawberries offer of a large enough crop to allow for both fresh eating and preserving.

Ever bearing varieties offer smaller yields but a more sustained harvest. If you have very limited space the strawberry lends itself to be container grown.

In fact, Aly described one gardener who grew strawberries in discarded drain gutters since the strawberry can be grown in a minimal amount of soil.

Brambles such as raspberries and blackberries are difficult to be container grown but are relatively easy to produce a successful crop in a Southern Illinois backyard garden.

Zeta Psi meeting held

Beta Sigma Phi Sorority's Zeta Psi chapter met March 9 at the home of chapter president Linda Warren. Refreshments were served and a business meeting followed.

Minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given by Nancy Gunn.

Members brought gift items for the Child Advocacy Center. A gift card also was given to a needy family.

Members brought items for decorating tables for the Founders Day, which was planned April 29.

A program was given by Linda Warren about the history of St. Patrick's Day. The door prize was won by Nancy Gunn.

Blackberries are available in either erect, thorny and erect, thornless varieties and don't require a trellis system to support the plants.

Raspberries are available in a rainbow of colors red, black, purple or yellow.

Raspberries are floricanes meaning the fruit is bore on the second year canes or primocane bearing fruit on first year canes.

Both require a trellis system to support the plants. Both raspberries and blackberries can be expected to live for five to 10 years.

Since the pH of the soil in the area is suitable for growing strawberries and brambles they are easier to get established than the blueberry plant which requires a lower soil pH range of 4.5 to 5.5.

The typical soil in Southern Illinois is more basic and must be amended to lower the pH.

It is best to prepare the blueberry site the fall before a spring planting with a 50:50 mix of topsoil and sphagnum moss amended with either elemental sulfur or ammonium sulfate.

Blueberries are shallow rooted and require mulching preferably with composted sawdust.

The extra effort required by blueberries will be rewarded with yields of four to eight quarts per plant for 30-plus years.

If space is limited blueberries can be successfully grown in containers. In fact some maintain it is easier to grow blueberry plants in containers than in the ground as it is easier to manage the acidic requirements of blueberries in a container.

Anna church welcomes soloist

The Anna Church of the Nazarene in Anna plans to welcome gospel soloist and recording artist Mark Murphy.

Murphy, of Selma, Ind., is an ordained minister and a commissioned evangelist.

He is set to minister at the Anna church on Saturday and Sunday, March 18-19.

On Saturday, a dinner is planned from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A concert follows at 7 p.m.

Services are planned at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Television Listing

THURSDAY MARCH 16, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	30 for 30 (HD)	(1:15) 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	"Grumpier"	(5:10) ★★ "Trapped" (02)	"Out of the Furnace" (13) Desperate search. (HD)
7 PM :30	Grey's Anatomy (HD)		MasterChef Junior (HD)	Superstore Powerless	ESPN Films "Catching Hell" (HD)		Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Stuck Mid.	★★★ "Mike and Dave Need Dates" (16)	★★★ "Tremors 3: Back to Perfection" (01) (HD)	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
8 PM :30	Scandal "Extinction" (HD)	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Kicking & Screaming (HD)	Chicago Med (HD)		(4:5) 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	(4:5) Jerrod Carmichael: 8	(4:0) ★★ "Tremors 3: Back to Perfection" (01) (HD)	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
9 PM :30	The Catch "The Hammer"		Local Programs	Blacklist: Redemption	Baseball SportsCenter (HD)		Colony Leave colony.	BUNK'D	(4:5) Big Little Lies (HD)	(2:0) ★★ "Tremors 3: Back to Perfection" (01) (HD)	Homeland "alt.truth" (HD)
10 PM :30	Local		Local Programs	Local			(0:1) Law & Order: SVU	Jessie (HD)	Crashing		Gigolos
11 PM :30	Kimmel (HD)		Local Programs	(3:5) Tonight (HD)			(0:1) Law & Order: SVU	Girl World	Roman (HD)		Dark Net
	Nightline	Late Show	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter with Scott	Conan Kristen Stewart		Best Fnds	★★★ "Bullet"		Billions "The Oath" (HD)

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (HD)	(1:15) 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Mod Family	Undercover	"Tarzan"	(5:15) "Dark Water" (05)	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
7 PM :30	Man Stand. Dr. Ken		Rosewood (HD)	Grimm (HD)	2017 NCAA Wrestling Championships from Scottrade Center in St. Louis (Live)		Mod Family	Good Luck	VICE (HD)	"Lights Out" (16) Danger for family.	"Love the Coopers" (15, Comedy) Chaotic holiday.
8 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)		Sleepy Hollow (HD)	Dateline NBC Investigative news. (HD)		(4:5) 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	"Unbreakable" (00) Bruce Willis. Man's new powers.		
9 PM :30	20/20 Investigative news.	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Local Programs Local info.				Mod Family	Tangled: The Series	Real Time w/ Bill Maher	"Pitch Black" (00) Monsters after dark.	SXSW Comedy with Natasha (HD)
10 PM :30	Local		Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	VICE (HD)	(1:15) "Halloween: Resurrection" (02)	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
11 PM :30	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)		Local Programs	(3:5) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	"Edge of Tomorrow"	Mod Family	BUNK'D	Animals	"Arrival"	Homeland
	Nightline	Late Show	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	Real Time w/ Bill Maher		

SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	NCAA Tour. 2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Monster Energy Supercross from Indianapolis. Ind. (Live) (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	SportsCenter (HD)	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	NCIS "Devil's Triad" (HD)	Liv Maddie	(5:05) "Marley & Me" (08)	"X Files: Want to Believe"	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
7 PM :30	NBA Count	Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	The Voice (HD)	The Voice (HD)	2017 NCAA Wrestling Championships from Scottrade Center in St. Louis (Live)		NCIS "Troll" Help with case.	Liv Maddie	"Ice Age: Collision Course"	"The Amityville Horror"	"Bride of Spies" (15) Lawyer must negotiate release of pilot. (HD)
8 PM :30	NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Los Angeles Clippers (Live) (HD)		Trial & Error	Trial & Error		2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	NCIS "The Last Boys" (HD)	Liv Maddie	Hard leaves.		
9 PM :30	Local	48 Hours	Local Programs Local info.	Trial & Error			NCIS "Neverland" (HD)	Liv Maddie	"Central Intelligence" (16) Kevin Hart. Unlikely partners.		"Secret in Their Eyes" (15) Daughter murdered. (HD)
10 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Kicking & Screaming (HD)	Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Colony Leave colony. (HD)	Liv Maddie	VICE (HD)	(3:5) "Lights Out" (16) (HD)	Billions (HD)
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	(2:29) Saturday Night Live Sketch comedy.	SportsCenter (HD)	Inside March Frontal (HD)	NCIS: L. A. Terror plot. (HD)	Liv Maddie	Real Time w/ Bill Maher	"Body Lies"	

SUNDAY MARCH 19, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Funniest Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Bob's Brgr	Little Big Shots	NCAA Women's Tournament "Second Round" (Live) (HD)	2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	(1:10) "The Last Witch Hunter" (15, Action) Last hope.	"Everest" Violent storm.	Billions "The Oath" (HD)
7 PM :30	Once Upon a Time (HD)	NCIS: L. A. "Get away" (HD)	Simpsons History (HD)	Little Big Shots (HD)			Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	★ ★ ★ "Marauders" (16) Bank heists. (R) (HD)		The Circus
8 PM :30	Time After Time (HD)	Madam Secretary (HD)	Family Guy	Chicago Justice (HD)	NCAA Women's Tournament "Second Round" (Live) (HD)		Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	Big Little Lies	"Hostage" (05) "A decision between family and hostages.	Homeland "Sack Puppets"
9 PM :30	American Crime Servitude.	Elementary (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Shades of Blue (HD)		2017 NCAA Basketball Tournament 'Teams TBA' (Live) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie	Girls (HD)		Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
10 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	SportsCenter (HD)		Mod Family	Liv Maddie	Oliver (HD)		Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Inside (Live)	Mod Family	Liv Maddie	Big Little Lies	"Fantastic Four" (15) Team with powers.	The Circus
	Nightline	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Sports (HD)	"Django" (R)	Mod Family	Best Fnds	Crashing		Homeland

MONDAY MARCH 20, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	2017 NIT Basketball Tournament "Second Round" (Live) (HD)	Family Guy	Mod Family	Undercover	(5:50) Oliver	"I Love You, Man" (09)	"TRUMPED"
7 PM :30	Dancing with the Stars (HD)	Kevin Wait	24: Legacy (HD)	The Voice "Bates Premiere" (HD)		Family Guy	Mod Family	Good Luck	Tonight		The Circus
8 PM :30		Man Plan			2017 NIT Basketball Tournament "Second Round" (Live) (HD)	Am. Dad	WWE Monday Night Raw (Live) (HD)	Stuck Mid.	"Baby Mama"	★★★ "Spy" (15) CIA analyst goes undercover. (HD)	Homeland "Sack Puppets"
9 PM :30	(0:1) Quantico "LNWILT"	Superior 2 Broke	(0:1) APB "Risky Business"	Taken "Mattie G" (HD)		Family Guy		Good Luck	First Look		Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local Programs Local info.	Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Family Guy		Liv Maddie	BUNK'D	"Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" (01) (HD)	Homeland "Sack Puppets"
11 PM :30	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(3:5) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter with Scott	Conan (HD)	(0:5) Friday Night Tykes	Liv Maddie	Big Little Lies (HD)	"Hellboy II: The Golden Army" (08)	Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
	Nightline	(3:7) Corden	Local Programs	(3:5) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter with Scott	2 Broke	Chrisley	Girl World	"Neighbors 2: Sorority"		The Circus
			Local Programs	Late Night		Conan (HD)	Chrisley	Best Fnds			"Hateful"

TUESDAY MARCH 21, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA Basketball Chicago Bulls at Toronto Raptors (Live) (HD)	Big Bang	Chrisley	Undercover	Real Time	"The Amityville Horror"	"Out of the Furnace" (13) Desperate search. (HD)
7 PM :30	The Middle	NCIS "Pay to Play" (HD)	New Girl	The Voice (HD)		Big Bang	Chrisley	Good Luck	Tonight		
8 PM :30	Housewife		The Mick			Big Bang	WWE SmackDown (Live) (HD)	Stuck Mid.	"The Last Witch Hunter"	"Search Party"	Homeland "Sack Puppets"
9 PM :30	Fresh Off black-ish	Bull "Too Perfect" (HD)	(0:1) Bones Zach's trial.	Trial (HD)	NBA Basketball San Antonio vs Minnesota (Live) (HD)	Big Bang		Good Luck	Liv Maddie	(1:15) Vin Diesel. Last hope.	Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
10 PM :30	People Icons (HD)	NCIS: New Orleans (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago Fire (HD)		The Detour	Chrisley	Liv Maddie	BUNK'D	(3:5) "The Sweetest Thing" (02) (HD)	Homeland "Sack Puppets"
11 PM :30	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Liv Maddie	Real Sports - Gumbel		Billions "Cur-rency" (HD)
	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(3:5) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter with Scott	2 Broke	Mod Family	Jessie (HD)	Crashing	★★★ "Our Brigs Is Crisis" (15) (R) (HD)	"Triple 9" (16) Rookie cop must stop Russian Mafia.
	Nightline	(3:7) Corden	Local Programs	(3:5) Tonight (HD)		Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Jessie (HD)	Animals	"X-Men: Apocalypse"	
			Local Programs	Late Night			Mod Family	Girl World	Jerrod Carmichael: 8 (HD)		
			Local Programs	Late Night			Mod Family	Best Fnds			

WEDNESDAY MARCH 22, 2017

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA Countdown (Live)	Big Bang	NCIS "Kill Chain" (HD)	Tangled: The Series	"Allegiant"	"Mission: Impossible II"	"Pelé: Legend" (16) (HD)
7 PM :30	Goldbergs	Survivor (HD)	Shots Fired (HD)	Blindspot (HD)	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Washington Wizards (Live) (HD)	Big Bang	NCIS "Reed" (HD)	Stuck Mid.	"Ice Age: Collision Course"	"Body of Lies" (08, Thriller) Terrorist pursued. (HD)	Perfect in '76
8 PM :30	Speechless					Big Bang	NCIS "Scope" (HD)	Good Luck	(16) (HD)		The Circus
9 PM :30	Mod Family	Criminal Minds (HD)	Empire "Sound & Fury"	Law & Order: SVU (HD)		Big Bang	NCIS "Wife and mistress."	Liv Maddie	Making of		"A Bronx Tale" (93, Drama) Bronx boy grows up. (R)
10 PM :30	Designated Survivor (HD)	Criminal Minds: Borders	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)	NBA Basketball New York Knicks at Utah Jazz (Live) (HD)	Big Bang	NCIS "Wife and mistress."	BUNK			

Jonesboro School kindergarten celebrates Read Across America

Read Across America is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2, which was Dr. Seuss's birthday. Jonesboro School kindergarten students celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Seuss and his books during the week with lots of fun activities. Photos provided.



Dr. Seuss's "Wacky Wednesday" inspired wacky dressing. From left are Corinne Lyles, Nolan Hubbs and Allison Leek.



Eddie and Donna Goins read "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" to grandson Bowan Graves' kindergarten class.

Anna School District 37 sets screening

Anna School District No. 37 has scheduled kindergarten screening on April 4.

Screening will be from noon to 6 p.m. at Lincoln Elementary School.

The school district advises that parents who live in the district should bring

children who turn 5 on, or before, Sept. 1 to the school.

Parents are asked to bring a certified birth certificate and the child's Social Security card to the screening.

Children will meet with teachers while parents meet with other staff members.



100th birthday celebrated

Five generations of family members, along with scores of friends, gathered March 5 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 near Anna to celebrate Mary Withhoff's 100th birthday with her. Photo provided.

Fermentation science program approved

A leading brewers association has given its stamp of approval to the new bachelor's degree program in fermentation science at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

The Master Brewers Association of the Americas conferred its full recognition upon the program, which came into existence about a year ago at SIU.

The recognition follows a full and careful review of the program and its facilities by MBAA officials.

Matt McCarroll, professor of chemistry and biochemistry and director of SIU's Fermentation Science Institute, said the recognition is an important step because it signals the high quality of the program to students.

On March 1, 2016, the Illinois Board of Higher Education gave SIU the go-ahead to create a new bachelor of science degree in fermentation science.

Students were able to declare fermentation science as their major beginning last summer semester.

Demand in fermentation-related industries drove the effort, McCarroll said. While fewer than 100 brew-

eries existed nationally in the mid-1970s, that number exploded to more than 1,500 by the turn of the century, with about 95 percent of that growth occurring over a 15-year period.

By the end of 2015 there were more than 4,000 breweries nationwide, McCarroll said, and such breweries need brewers who are highly trained in fermentation science.

In addition, many breweries are establishing quality control laboratories that will be staffed by highly trained fermentation scientists.

The market needs new

brewers and advanced training for existing brewers, McCarroll said, and the new SIU fermentation science program can meet both of those needs, especially considering the strong chemistry, biochemistry and micro-

biology foundation students will develop in the program.

As a result of the MBAA recognition, a major brewery has approached the program to explore establishing a recruiting relationship, McCarroll said.

Taylor, Dodd & Wood INSURANCE

On February 15, 2017, the Taylor, Dodd & Wood Insurance Agency acquired the Big River Insurance Agency along with Agent/Customer Service Connection, Nicole Stuart. Nicole will be joining Taylor, Dodd & Wood's staff and will continue servicing Big River clients. The phone number will remain the same 618-833-4399. Taylor, Dodd & Wood Insurance Agency is located just five doors east of Big River's current location.

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Licensing of the boat and other state regulations will be the responsibility of the winner. Promotion is for most Reppert Publications weekly community newspaper. Only one winner will be drawn from all participating newspapers. Must be 18 or older to win.

Free Seminar

Protect Your Estate from Probate and Medicaid

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 at 10 a.m.
at the Pavilion of the City of Marion

Protect what you have today and what you leave your children and grandchildren tomorrow from lawsuits, Medicaid, nursing home expenses, divorce, and death taxes.

What You'll Learn:

- How Living Trusts avoid probate and why wills don't.
- How your Durable Healthcare Power of Attorney, Living Will and the new HIPAA Release must work together.
- What blended families (her kids/his kids/their kids) must do to avoid disinheritance each other and/or their separate children.
- How to avoid death taxes, guarantee IRA stretch outs and plan for children or grandchildren with special needs.
- How to bulletproof your children's and grandchildren's inheritances from their divorces, debts, taxes, lawsuits, medical expenses and transfers out of your bloodline.
- How to protect your home and savings from \$6,000-a-month nursing home bills and Medicaid if you don't have long term care insurance - even if you or a loved one is in a nursing home now.
- How qualified veterans and their spouses can get up to \$2,127.⁰⁰ a month "Tax Free" for at-home health care or assisted living costs from a little known VA benefit for non-service-connected disabilities.

Please RSVP to 618-997-3500

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Open house

Integrity Health Care on Brady Mill Road in Anna hosted an open house Tuesday afternoon, March 7, to celebrate the launch of ZOOM! Revved Up Rehab, a new accelerated therapy program. The facility is a 70-bed nursing home that offers a full continuum of services and provides patient-centered care. Anna City Council member Martha Ann Webb joined staff members for a photograph during the open house. Photo by Amber Skelton.

Student musicians perform at Shawnee Pride

Shawnee Pride was presented at Shawnee Community College near Ullin on Thursday, March 2.

Shawnee Pride brought band students from the area together to practice and then to present a concert.

Shawnee Community College band director Lee VanAlstine worked with students for one day before the performance.

The band featured students from Anna, Century, Cobden, Cypress/Buncombe, Dongola, Egyptian, Goreville, Jonesboro, Shawnee and Massac County junior high schools.

The participating students from Union County schools included, as provided by event's organizers:

Anna: Aislynn Smith, Hayley Davis, Alyvia Lawrence, Marisol Zamora, Caitlin Ames, Kiersten Wright, Emily Bussey, Ca-

dence Ross, Selah Porter, Kimberly Williams, Chloe Penrod, Darci McMahan, Molly Siebert, Jason Rios.

Ana Markovic, Ariel Nekola, Jessi Riley, Kyle Jerrell, Max Castle, Dalton Gore, Solomon Oehlsen, Riley Rios, Devin Neal, Bryce Henry, Keegan Keller, John Michael Ligon, Jady Taylor, Madilyn Hawk, Landon Cleghorn.

Cobden: Carlie Clausen, Avigail Amezcua-Anaya, Alyssa Penrod, Tristan Brummer, AJ Hawkins, Amon Ingold, Kennedie Marks, Michael Toler.

Dongola: Emele Halphen, Cameron Halphen, Noah Wiseman, Julian Westbrooks, Kristen Duckworth, Leanna Henson, Mackenzie Kelley, Mackenna Prout, Katlyn Smith, Madison Delgadillo.

Jonesboro: Jasmine Buck, Shaely Hennesy,

Baley Robinson, Edward Dahmer, Lacey Crow, Jaden Ebberts, Erin Strout, Ella Lingle, Cadence Black, Allison Frick, Jason McAlister, Carson Knupp, Evan Vicory, Noah Rardin, Zach Miller, Marilyn Musgrave.

Shawnee: Hannah Sich-

ling, Kylie Harris, Sylvia Pacheco, Alexis Miller, Connor Benbrook, Peyton Samuels, Mariah Faire, Hallie Huffman, Karsynne Livingston, CJ Schaefer, Cole Howell, Donovan Smith, Dryden Wills, Abby Sichling.

Saints Read Celebration held at Shawnee College

Shawnee Community College's Future Teacher Organization, FTO, hosted a Saints Read Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The celebration was held to honor elementary school students who participated in the literacy program for the current school year.

Nearly 60 elementary students, ages kindergarten through 6th grade, attended the celebration at the college.

More than 100 children participated in the program for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Kindergarten through 6th grade students from 18 of the 23 elementary schools located within the Shawnee Community College district participated in

the program. Each Saints Read participant received a children's book complimentary of the college's Future Teachers Organization.

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the Saints Read program at Shawnee Community College.

The Saints Read program, sponsored by the Future Teachers Organization at the college, focuses on the importance of literacy by encouraging children to read.

For more information about the Saints Read program at the college, contact Saints Read coordinator Ruth Smith by phone at 618-634-3347 or by email at ruths@shawneecc.edu.

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Page from the Past

From the files of The Gazette-Democrat

50 Years Ago, March 16, 1967

With the deadline for filing for the various school boards in Union County only three days away, Saturday, March 18, several petitions have been obtained. However, interest remains apathetic.

Special Holy Week services will be held next week in many of the churches in Anna and Jonesboro.

The temperature hit every number from the 20 mark to the eighties this past week, with a high recorded on Monday, March 13, of 82 and a low of 22 on Thursday, March 9.

The Union County Civil Defense Unit was alerted to the possibility of one or more tornadoes for this area Tuesday evening, March 14, about 5:30 p.m.

The Union County Education Association will meet at the Shawnee High School on Friday, March 17, with the meeting commencing at 8:45 a.m.

Union County Schools will commence their Spring Vacation on Friday, March 17.

"Cowboy on the Moon," a musical play, will be presented at Davie School on Thursday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m.

The A-J High School baseball squad began spring practice on March 6 with an eye towards a 22 game schedule.

World War I veterans and their Auxiliary will meet at the Legion Home on Sunday, March 19.

From the Cobden News: The Cobden High School Chorus performed on the "Breakfast Show" at KFVS-TV in Cape Girardeau on Tuesday, March 14.

From the Friendship news: Everyone is enjoying the spring weather after the 7 in. snow we had here on Tuesday morning, which fell on Monday evening and Monday night. It is quite a change in such a short time, but we must remember the temperature can go down just as fast as it can go up. We hope it doesn't get too cold, for the lettuce we planted earlier is up now.

From the Casper Church news: We are glad to see the warm sunshine, spring-like weather, after that cold snowy spell last week. The birds, frogs and flowers are also glad and rejoicing. The writer had a dog that found a snake in the front yard.

From the Nubbin Ridge news: We had a heavy snowfall here during the week.

Governor: 'We cannot stand silent on hate'

During a dinner at an Illinois Holocaust Museum Humanitarian Awards dinner in Chicago, Gov. Bruce Rauner announced a number of steps the administration is taking to combat hate crimes and growing anti-Semitism in Illinois.

In a memo to Illinois Director of Public Safety Roger Heaton and Secretary of Education Beth Purvis, the governor outlined a number of objectives to protect minority communities from hate and violence. Those objectives are:

Strengthening Illinois' Hate Crime Law

The Illinois Holocaust and Genocide Commission has proposed legislation to increase penalties for acts of vandalism against houses of worship and religious centers.

The administration is working with the bill's sponsors on HB 2390, and the governor will sign the agreed bill when it reaches his desk.

Improve Law Enforcement Training and Response on Hate Crimes

In conjunction with the Anti-Defamation League, the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, the administration will develop a statewide standardized training plan for state troopers and local police departments.

Illinois will also strengthen its partnerships with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Federal Bureau of Investigation to protect religious minority institutions across the state.

Expand Anti-Hate Education in Schools

Illinois was the first state in the country to require students learn about the Holocaust as part of their curriculum.

The administration will work with Illinois State Board of Education to create a dedicated portal to anti-hate education in support of the state's requirement to educate students about the Holocaust.

Strengthen Illinois' Landmark Anti-BDS Law

Illinois was also the first state in the country to pass legislation to fight the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement by restricting state pension funds from investing in countries that boycott Israel.

Other states followed Illinois' lead, but went a step farther in prohibiting state contracts with companies that boycott Israel.

The administration will work with the General Assembly to strengthen Illinois' landmark by prohibiting state contracts for companies that boycott Israel.

Blue Ribbons for Kids Campaign

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month
Take a Stand Against Abuse in Union County!

Over 200 reports of child abuse are made in Union County each year. Make a difference at a WIBH Blue Ribbons for Kids Courage Collections Day! Donations will be given to the Children's Medical & Mental Health Resource Network and Two Rivers Child Advocacy Center to provide comfort to children going through the abuse investigation process. For a complete list of courage items you can donate, visit wibhradio.com, the WIBH Blue Ribbons for Kids Facebook page or call WIBH Radio at 618-833-9424. Thank you for your support!

"Courage Collections Days" - 12:30 to 2:30 each day

April 7 - Wright Bros. Body Shop & Rod's Towing
April 14 - L & P Carpet
April 21 - Union County Hospital
April 28 - Anna Baking Company -
Sponsored by Swafford Pediatrics
Or you can donate anytime at Title Cash in Anna

Other Blue Ribbon Events for the Whole Family!

Child Abuse Month Proclamation Day: March 31 - 9:00 a.m. Union County Courthouse. Everyone is welcome!

PJ's and a Movie Night: April 7 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Kiki's Coffee House. Bring your blankets and PJ's for a special showing of "Trolls". Donations of ONE courage item per person appreciated. Snacks provided by Anna Baking Company.

Blue March on Main Street Against Child Abuse: April 14 - 12:00 p.m. Wear your blue and join others for a March on Main Street in Anna. Walkers will meet in the parking lot across from Anna-Jonesboro National Bank, Main Street location.

Blue Day: April 14 - Wear blue all day to show you stand against child abuse.

The Blue Ribbons for Kids Campaign is proudly sponsored in part by: Anna Baking Company, Jordo's Pizzeria, Kiki's Coffee House, L&P Carpet, Movie Depot, River to River Residential Community, Sheriff Scott Harvel, Sling Blade Performance, State's Attorney Tyler Edmonds, Stegle Plumbing, Suday Bath & Biscuits, Swafford Pediatrics, Tech Fusion, Title Cash, Union County Abstract, Union County Chamber of Commerce, Union County Hospital, and Wright Bros. Body Shop & Rod's Towing.

Thank you for your support. For more information, visit the WIBH Blue Ribbons for Kids Facebook page, wibhradio.com or call WIBH at 618-833-9424 (WIBH)

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Opinion and Commentary

From the Wildcats' Lair

By Rob Wright, Superintendent

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School

It is hard to believe that spring is just around the corner and another school year will be winding down in a few months.

We are just now about done putting the finishing touches on our recent construction project with the repainting of the Union Hall portion of the school. I am very pleased with the outcome of the updates to the oldest part of the school building, although it did not come without a few headaches along the way.

The winter sports season is also wound down and once again our students have done a great job of representing our school.

Our wrestling team, coached by Eric Massey, just recently won its first regional team title in school history and Arieh Hart finished second place at state as an individual.

The cheerleading team has also been very successful participating in competitive cheer and just returned from a trip to the IHSA State Finals in Bloomington under the direction of Kristin Chamness.

Academically, we also had several art students have entries qualify to be on display at the Cedarhurst Center for Arts in Mt. Vernon. Hannah Fuller and Kirsten Flick each received Silver Keys for their work. Chloe Gamber received a Gold Key for her drawing, qualifying her for the national competition in New York.

I would also like to congratulate our 2017 Outstanding Seniors: Hannah Fuller, Elle Basler, Ryley Kimmel, Mackenzie Boget, Madisyn Bigler and Jade Gillis.

Springtime is also test time for students. Both the sophomores and juniors are gearing up for new assessment tests (PSAT and SAT) that will be administered soon. This test will establish benchmarks that we will use to determine academic growth in future years and help the district to set goals in order to measure improvements.

Seniors are looking forward to graduation and underclassmen are already working on class schedules for next year.

This is also the time of the year when we start to evaluate all aspects of our instructional program and look for ways to make improvements for next year. This would include new academic offerings, expanding access to technology and updating curriculum materials. If you are a parent and would like to be a part of this process, please give us a call. We are looking at forming a District Vision Team in order to get input from all stakeholders in this continual improvement process.

One other subject I would like to mention pertains to the safety of our staff and students at school. While many rumors and half-truths have been circulating regarding an incident that took place at school, I can tell you that the safety of your children while attending our school is of utmost importance to all staff members.

The administration, in consultation with all first responders in our area, has established protocols and procedures set forth in our Emergency Operation Plan designed to provide the safest environment possible for your children.

There are also guidelines provided in state law that we must follow that dictate the range and type of student discipline that may be administered for certain infractions. A decision is then made by the administrator using both legal guidance and past experience to determine the consequences of the infraction. We understand the concerns of parents and realize the enormous responsibility we have to protect your children while they are in our care.

I would also like to encourage everyone to stay informed on issues taking place in both Springfield and Washington, D.C., and let our representatives hear your voices.

Issues being debated in the state capital such as property tax freezes, pension reform, school funding reform proposals and the lack of a state budget will have a huge impact on public schools and their ability to provide a quality education.

On a national level, everything from the appointment of a new Secretary of Education to revisions in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will impact our ability to govern our schools at the local level.

Please continue to support your local school and do not hesitate to call or stop by if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your time and may God bless and protect us all.

Please read this. . .

by Geof Skinner



Daffodils...on Friday evening...yours truly took this picture during my daily walk. Snow was in the forecast for Friday night...



The same daffodils...on Monday morning...I missed an opportunity to get a pic of the flowers on Saturday morning, mainly 'cause I didn't get out before the snow which fell during the night had melted. Monday morning was a different story, mainly 'cause the snow was still falling...and falling...and falling...

Mother Nature is playing tricks on us!!!!

Ugh! Monday morning. Here again! Wake up! It's still dark! Look outside! And, in the immortal utterance of the legendary blockhead Charlie Brown, "AAARRRRGGGGHHHH!!!" Complete with a whole bunch of exclamation points!!!!

Just so you know, this writer absolutely does not like exclamation points! Don't know why! Just don't!

The Charlie Brown response to Monday morning came to mind when I looked outside and saw that it was SNOWING!!!!!!

One week before spring begins, and it's snowing! The landscape is covered in white! And I have to go out in that stuff! The Other Half, who is a very, very smart person, remains under the covers!

Enough with the exclamation points...

When all else fails, we can always talk about the weather. And given that deadline time passed about three days ago, it's probably good that Mother Nature has been playing some rather interesting games with us lately.

Up until the past week or so, we'd had about three hours of winter in our neck of the woods. February was strangely warm...as a matter of fact, the warmest on record in the Land of Lincoln.

The warm weather was kind to mosquitoes and ticks and other such pests. Why, grass was growing and folks were mowing their lawn, which set a bad example for those of us who don't like to get the mower out until about August. I still think it would be a good idea if our lawn would be declared as a nature preserve, then we wouldn't have to worry about mowing.

Then, March gets here...and, like John Madden used to exclaim - "BOOM!" Oops. Another exclamation point. Sorry about that! Anyway, March gets here, and it's been cold and snowy and pretty much unpleasant.

As I'm wrapping this up on Monday afternoon, it's a week from the first day of spring. The snow which fell

during the morning is starting to melt away and disappear. Still, it's just not very nice in the great outdoors. And, from what I was hearing, it was supposed to be even colder Tuesday night, and again on Wednesday night.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the weather will be warmer and Monday's snow will be a distant memory. We'll hope for the best. In the meantime, stay warm and enjoy March Madness. Go Wildcats!



Sometimes, I can't help myself...so, I created some snow graffiti first thing Monday morning...while the snow was still falling...

Care of Illinois seniors is important

Editor's note: the following column was shared by Illinois Department on Aging director Jean Bohnhoff:

For decades, the Illinois Department on Aging, IDoA, has maintained a strong commitment to supporting older adults in their own homes through community-based services. Through its partnership with the aging network, the Department has succeeded at diverting many older adults from more costly nursing facility care while supporting their ability to remain independent and improving their overall quality of life.

We've had some success, but we've also learned that there are areas where we can do better. While Illinois spends 3.7 times the national average on older adults that are not eligible for Medicaid, we also have many low-need individuals in nursing homes.

These are difficult facts to face; with an aging population that is projected to more than double by 2030, it's incumbent upon us to acknowledge that improvements can and must be made in order to serve seniors in a more effective and cost-efficient way and increase our ability to serve new clients.

The Department's Community Care Program (CCP) has experienced significant growth over the past ten years, from 45,746 enrollees in 2007 to 83,599 enrollees in 2016, an 83 percent increase. The projected growth in the aging population will directly impact the Department's ability to maintain its community-based service system; the funding necessary to respond to the anticipated growth will need to increase by 52 percent.

Society is changing, advancing. The last 30 years have brought with it amazing innovations in technology and service delivery. Today, we read books on tablets, have cell phones the size of pocket calculators and talk to our television sets. Yet despite all these advancements, we continue to serve our clients the same way we did three decades ago.

Innovation is not limited to multimedia; groups such as AARP and the National Association of State Units on Aging, NASUAD, have conducted studies and advocated for the use of more advanced methods and technologies to help care for seniors. Medication management, including automated dispensers, and devices to turn off faucets and stoves after periods of time are among a growing list of new technology designed to help seniors live comfortably and safely in their own homes.

Motivated by a desire to serve an increasing number of older adults and provide a greater menu of services

to address unmet needs, IDoA has developed a responsible and proactive solution through the Community Reinvestment Program, CRP, that bridges modern advancements and senior care.

Seniors in Illinois not eligible for Medicaid currently receiving services through the Community Care Program will be transitioned to the Community Reinvestment Program and have access to the same core services offered under CCP. In addition to these core services, participants will be offered a menu of flexible services to help meet their needs. Services such as medication management, companion services and mental health services and one-time expenses for home modifications and assistive technology may be among the services offered to clients.

The health and security of our older adult population is a fundamental component of the mission of IDoA. All core CCP service providers will still be held to CCP standards and protections; Regional Options Services providers will have standards developed by the local AAA's and outlined in their contracts to ensure the safety and security of all of our clients.

This is not a new concept; states such as Florida, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Indiana utilize a 2-tier system to serve both Medicaid and non-Medicaid older adults. Florida - with a population most similar to that of Illinois' older adult population - has successfully kept seniors in their homes by providing services using a similar structure for 20 years. After administering a successful demonstration program which established a framework for providing a larger menu of services with minimal bureaucracy, IDoA was able to blend the successful models used by other states with a variety of innovative flexible services to create CRP.

As society progresses and improves, it's important that older generations are not left behind. If we continue operating the way we have for the last 30 years, we will miss out on countless new and innovative ways to provide a better quality of life for our seniors. We cannot improve services for our clients both today and in the future if we don't make changes in how we deliver those services - CRP allows us the opportunity to make necessary changes in a responsible way that can sustain the projected growth in the older adult population and provide them with the services and supports that will keep them safe, secure and living independently.

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news@annanews.com to contact us. Let us tell your story.