

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Anna, Illinois

©2023 Reppert Publications

\$1.00

Volume 174, Number 6

News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area, from social media and beyond...



A female cardinal made a stop at a bird feeder in Union County over the weekend.

Gun control legislation was expected to be among the topics discussed at a Southern Illinois Legislative Town Hall Meeting scheduled Tuesday evening at the Marion Cultural and Civic Center. All of the area's state legislators were expected to be in attendance.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah was calling for the possibility of heavy rain and severe storms on Wednesday in the region.

Plans are moving forward on a Lick Creek Road safety project. Work is expected to begin in 2024 on the \$2.4 million project, with major funding from a federal grant.

Rendleman Orchards near Alto Pass has been honored by Feeding Illinois for its contribution to a pilot program to create a permanent Farm to Food Bank program in the State of Illinois.

Cobden High School's fourth annual Purple Out basketball game day is set for Saturday, Jan. 28, at Jonesboro School. The Cobden girls are scheduled to play Webber at 2 p.m., followed by a boys' game. All proceeds go to the Taylor Tomazzoli scholarship fund.

(continued on page 2)

Illinois assault weapons ban

Sheriffs want no role in enforcing registry

By Hannah Meisel
For Capitol News Illinois
news@capitolnews-illinois.com

SPRINGFIELD – Dozens of county sheriffs in Illinois – approximately “80-ish,” per Illinois Sheriffs’ Association head Jim Kaitschuck – say they’ll refuse to enforce a provision of a new assault weapons ban that would require owners of such guns to register them with the state.

In the wake of Gov. JB Pritzker’s signature Tuesday, Jan. 10, on the law banning the sale and manufacture of assault weapons in Illinois, many sheriffs have written nearly identical letters expressing their

unwillingness to enforce the law’s requirement for registering assault-style weapons with the state.

Beginning next year, a gun owner’s failure to provide the state police with the serial numbers for assault-style rifles they own prior to Jan. 1, 2024, will be a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in prison. The degree of charges could increase based on the number of unregistered guns.

But Kaitschuck contended it would be impossible for local sheriffs to know who in their county owns assault weapons if those gun owners don’t voluntarily comply with the law,

suggesting it would be ridiculous to go door-to-door to find out.

“We have no inventory of guns bought and sold that are available to local sheriffs,” Kaitschuck said of information partially available to the Illinois State Police. “We don’t have access to it – and I’m not asking for it either, by the way.”

Several gun rights organizations say they are planning to challenge the law in federal court, buoyed by a 2022 U.S. Supreme Court decision which Second Amendment proponents believe could mean friendlier opinions on firearms-related claims moving forward.

Democrats and advocates who pushed for Illinois to pass the nation’s ninth statewide ban on assault weapons had expected litigation, but on Thursday, Jan. 12, maintained that unless the law gets struck down, sheriffs’ refusal to enforce any part of it is a dereliction of duty.

“They took an oath of office to uphold the law,” Pritzker said at an unrelated news conference. “As law enforcement, that’s their job. And I expect them to do that job. You can have all the resolutions and declarations that you want (but) the reality is that the laws that are on the books, you don’t get to choose which ones

people are going to follow.”

But Kaitschuck countered with the common example of police declining to write a ticket to a driver pulled over for driving 10 miles over the speed limit.

“If I pull somebody over for speeding going 65 in a 55, and I don’t write them a ticket, does that mean I’m not enforcing (the law)?” he asked.

“And I know we’re talking apples to oranges here, but...my point on this is that officers have discretion. We don’t arrest everybody we could or else our jails would be totally overrun.”

(continued on page 2)

Wellness on Wheels

van visits set in county

Southern 7 Health Department reminds the community about getting an annual flu shot and a COVID-19 booster.

Southern 7 Health Department provides these and many other services through the Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, Wellness on Wheels, WOW, van. The van is available through a grant funded by IDPH.

The WOW van travels to high health risk communities in the lower seven counties of Illinois. The counties are served by Southern 7 Health Department.

The upcoming schedule of WOW van visits includes

stops in Olive Branch, Dongola and Cobden:

Jan. 25. Dollar General Store, Dongola, 9 a.m. to noon.

Jan. 25. Dollar General Store, Cobden, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The health department noted that the dates and times are subject to change without notice.

Free services which are available include NARCAN training, blood pressure checks, colorectal cancer tests (FIT) and medication disposal packets.

Services which are available for a fee include blood lead, hemoglobin and cholesterol screenings, STD tests (including chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis), HIV, pregnancy and TB skin tests and well water tests.

All services will be offered while supplies last. No appointment will be necessary for services. Walk-ins are welcome.

Charged services, including COVID-19 vaccines and boosters and flu shots, require a health insurance card.

Southern Seven advised that those who will be requesting a COVID-19 booster are asked to bring their vaccine card.

More information about the WOW program are available by contacting Shawna Rhine at 618-634-2297, extension 9161, or by visiting S7HD on Facebook, the Southern 7 app and at www.southern7.org.

Weather

High temperatures range from 33 to 64

High temperatures in Union County ranged from 33 to 64 degrees during the period of Jan. 10-16. The low was 21.

Precipitation for the period included .23 of an inch of rain on Jan. 12 and .05 of an inch of rain on Jan. 16.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, Jan. 10	59	37
Wednesday, Jan. 11	64	48
Thursday, Jan. 12	57	33
Friday, Jan. 13	33	30
Saturday, Jan. 14	40	21
Sunday, Jan. 15	53	24

CEO team grateful for support



Union County CEO Team 23 is voicing appreciation for the support which was given to their class business. From left are team members Jaden Ebberts, Kaylee Hall, Reese Reynolds, Orié Dover, Drake Campbell, Sienna Morrison, Abigail Smith, Marissa Simmons and Lia Mays. The CEO team’s show of appreciation can be seen in a letter to the editor and a thank you advertisement which appear in this week’s paper.

“All I Want for Christmas is...to support local businesses” was the theme for the CEO Class of 2023’s business. The CEO team continued a tradition of selling local sampler Christmas Boxes. The boxes contained a wide variety of items from local businesses, such as cheesecake bites, apple butter, umbrellas and more, along with coupons and discounts from many retailers. Photo provided.



Christmas Boxes were picked up Saturday, Dec. 10, at Anna Junior High/Davie School. CEO team members were on hand to help take the special local gifts to those who had purchased them.

Union County Boy Scout Troop has Court of Honor

The Union County Boy Scout Troop held a Court of Honor Monday, Jan. 9, at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna.

The opening ceremony began with a color guard presenting the colors.

The scouts and the audience members joined the scouts in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ben Hauser, senior patrol leader, served as master of ceremonies.

Stan Palmer presented merit badges to David Cook, Ben Hauser, Joshua Rochon, Anthony Wiseman, Mason Wren and Frank Gaddis.

Merit badges earned by the scouts included first aid, emergency preparedness, radio, citizenship in the community and entrepreneurship.

Advancement in Boy Scouts is the process of a scout’s progress from rank to rank. Every rank in scouting is reached by accomplishments by the scout.

To advance to another rank in Boy Scouts, much of a scout’s work is done individually at the scout’s own pace.

Congratulations were extended to Mason Wren, who was promoted to the Star rank.

Assistant Scout Master Frankie Williams gave a short presentation to the group about the “Friends of Scouting” program.

Williams also invited all scouts and their parents to attend the district awards dinner, which is planned Jan. 21. Some of the Union County Boy Scout Troop’s Scouts and leaders have

been nominated to win an award.

Tim Casper had a short meeting with parents. Light refreshments were served following the ceremony.

A closing ceremony was held and the scouts retired the colors.

This was a formal recognition with the scouts families, friends and public in attendance.

Troop leaders note that Scouting is the ultimate form of learning by doing.

Young people between the ages of 11 and 17 who

would like to join the Boy Scouts of America are invited to attend a local troop meeting.

Meetings are set for 7 p.m. on Mondays at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna. The church is located at 102 W. Jefferson St.



From left are Boy Scouts David Cook, Mason Wren, Ben Hauser, Frank Gaddis, Joshua Rochon and Anthony Wiseman. Photo provided





THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

THE TALK AND COBDEN REVIEW

Serving Union County Since 1849

(USPS 215-280)

ISSN 2834-6165 (Print)

2834-6173 (Online)

112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 529
Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Phone: 618-833-2158

Fax: 618-833-5813

Email: news@annanews.com



Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

PUBLISHED THURSDAY

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Per Year • July, 2022

In Union County.....	\$42.00
Elsewhere in 629 Zip Code.....	\$44.00
Out of Area.....	\$52.00
Armed Services.....	\$43.00
Per Copy.....	\$1.00
Mailed Copy.....	\$5.00
E-edition.....	\$35.00
E-edition with Print Subscription.....	\$7.00



1-800-833-2699

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The Gazette-Democrat, P.O. 529, Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Advertising rates given on application.

Mail list open to inspection by advertisers.

Other Quality Titles from REPPERT PUBLICATIONS

Monday's Pub. • Senior Views • And many others

www.annanews.com

facebook.com/gazettedemocrat

Twitter: @gazettedemocrat

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

Shawnee School District No. 84 is mourning the loss of retired long-time teacher and guidance counselor Gene (Jesse) Pulley.

U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., has been chosen by his House Republican colleagues to serve as the chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs for the 118th Congress. Bost served as ranking member on the committee the previous two years.

Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton made stops in Carbondale and Pulaski Monday to attend events held in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Union County commissioner Brandon Bierstedt has been appointed to a post on the Southern 7 Health Department board.

The Union County Board of Commissioners on Friday approved the appointments of Doug Halterman and Mervin Lence to the Lick Creek Public Water District Board.

The county board on Friday also approved the reappointments of Darryl Harvell, Carol Hoffman, Ken Pinnon and Wendy Winkelman and the appointments of Lyle McDowell and Regina Morrison to the county's hotel operators occupancy tax board.

Cobden Unit School District No. 17 has received a waiver for the zoning permit fee for construction of a new gymnasium from the Village of Cobden.

Action to complete the purchase of property for the location of a new well has been approved by the Cobden Village Board of Trustees.

The Cobden Village Board of Trustees recently approved the appropriation of \$80,000 in motor fuel tax funds for street and highway maintenance work during 2023.

The Village of Cobden has approved an intergovernmental agreement relating to funding of the Union County animal control program for Fiscal Year 2023. The village's contribution is \$5,470.15.

The Village of Cobden recently renewed its membership in the Union County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development.

The Anna-Jonesboro Elks Lodge is among the sponsors of a free children's orthopedic assessment clinic which is planned Friday afternoon, Feb. 17, at Marshall Browning Hospital in Du Quoin.

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School is scheduled to host an IHSA postseason wrestling regional event on Feb. 4.

The men of the Clear Creek Baptist Association are planning to have a wild game supper Friday evening, Jan. 20. The meal will be at 6 p.m. at Big Creek Baptist Church near Anna.

Plans for development of a meat processing facility near Harrisburg are seen as a boost for the region.

The Shawnee Hills Wine Trail is offering a winter passport program during January and February.

Disney princesses are scheduled to visit C's Bitsy Bees inside the Annabelle Market in downtown Anna on March 11.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center is planning to host the popular Maple Syrup Festival March 25-26. Prior to the festival, a maple syrup production demonstration is scheduled Feb. 18.

Works that showcase the diverse talents of regional artists and Southern Illinois University Carbondale alumni are among the highlights at University Museum this spring. With the start of the spring semester on Tuesday, Jan. 17, the museum's exhibitions include the works of acclaimed Southern Illinois woodcarver Fred Myers and alumnus Fred Brown.

The St. Louis Cardinals are scheduled to open their spring training season Feb. 25 against the Washington Nationals.

The Chicago Cubs also are set to open their spring training season Feb. 25, when they play the San Francisco Giants.

Assault weapons

(continued from page 1)

The sheriffs' letters this week primarily dealt with enforcing the registry portion of the assault weapons law, and Kaitschuck said he wasn't aware of any sheriffs in his organization

who don't plan on complying with the law's other provisions, like the ban of sales of assault weapons at Illinois gun shops.

However, Chicago-Kent College of Law professor Harold Krent argued the

sheriffs' letters go beyond what was explicitly stated and said the symbolism of law enforcement officers refusing to comply with state law is a slippery slope.

Krent contrasted the sheriffs' move with state's attorneys' actions surrounding the cashless bail provision of Illinois' SAFE-T Act, which was supposed to do away with cash bond in Illinois on Jan. 1.

Despite grumbling from dozens of state's attorneys in Illinois, even the staunchest opponents to the law were at least somewhat prepared to comply with it in the new year, at least until the Illinois Supreme Court stayed the law on Dec. 31, pending a full appeal.

"There, (the state's attorneys) went to court and said, 'We're not going to

block the process but we want a judicial resolution.' That's a norm in our country," Krent said.

"...The General Assembly has decided (the assault weapons ban is) constitutional. The attorney general has decided it's constitutional. I think it's an incredible risk for sheriffs to say, 'We're not going to enforce a law.' ...because that's encouraging a lack of respect for the law."

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide, as well as hundreds of radio and TV stations. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Food price inflation expected to remain high during 2023

By Daniel Grant FarmWeek

It looks like U.S. consumers will have to stomach another year of historically high food prices.

The latest food price outlook from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service projects all food prices could increase 3.5 percent to 4.5 percent in 2023.

If realized, this year's inflation rate would be much lower compared to 2022, but still higher than average. USDA estimated all food prices increased 9.5 percent to 10.5 percent in 2022, with the cost of food at home up as much as 11 to 12 percent, while prices of food away from home jumped 7 to 8 percent.

"Food prices are expected to grow more slowly in 2023 than in 2022, but still at above historical average rates," USDA noted in its December food price outlook.

The 20-year average rate of food price inflation hovered near 2 percent annually prior to the COVID pandemic and war in Ukraine.

Issues with logistics, high transportation costs and freight rates, labor, soaring production costs and weather have all contributed to the recent price surge.

Some of the largest price hikes by category in 2022 include eggs (forecast to increase 30.5 percent to 31.5 percent), poultry (up 14 to 15 percent), fats and oils (up 18 to 19 percent), cereals and bakery products (up 13.5 percent) and fresh fruit and vegetables (up 7 to 8 percent).

"The ongoing outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to reduce the U.S. egg layer flock, as well as the poultry flock to a lesser extent," USDA noted in its food price report. "This decrease is expected to increase wholesale and retail egg prices for the coming months."

In the first two weeks of December, USDA reported 4.8 million birds were destroyed to keep HPAI in check, bringing total losses for the year to 57.3 million birds nationwide.

The majority of bird losses due to HPAI (42.5 million) were table egg layers. Roughly 9.4 million turkeys

were destroyed since the first of the year, the CME Group's Daily Livestock Report noted.

"Keep in mind there is a lag in price transmission and retailers likely are operating with compressed margins," authors of the Daily Livestock Report noted. "Given the trend of the last few weeks, we would expect retail (egg) prices to be sharply higher and unlikely to drop much in January and February."

How does food price inflation affect U.S. citizens? It depends, in part, on your location and income level.

A recent survey-based report released by Purdue University's Center for Food Demand Analysis and Sustainability found stark regional differences about food spending.

The survey of 1,200 consumers across the United States found households closer to the coasts are spending much more per week on food. But households farther from the coasts are experiencing higher rates of food insecurity.

"The regional differences are not surprising," said Jayson Lusk, distinguished professor of ag economics at Purdue who leads the center. "The West and Northeast are generally higher-cost and higher-income areas, so we would expect them to spend more on food."

The survey also seemed to indicate consumers reached a choke point in 2022 and responded to rapidly rising food costs by simply purchasing less of it. Grocery spending subsequently levelled off since May, according to the survey.

"There is a similar story for spending on restaurants, but this area still appears fairly robust," Lusk said. "We will watch closely for further declines."

USDA projects the cost of food away from home could increase 4 to 5 percent in 2023 compared to a 3 to 4 percent rise in food at home.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

Infant sleeper recall highlighted

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul again is urging parents and caregivers to immediately stop using the Fisher-Price and Kids II Rocking Sleepers.

In 2019, Raoul first alerted families that the Consumer Product Safety Commission, CPSC, recalled the products after several infant deaths were reported.

However, according to the CPSC, 12 infants have died in the sleepers since the 2019 recalls.

"It is tragic to hear more infants have died using the rocking sleepers, even after the 2019 product recalls," Raoul said in a news release.

"I urge parents and care-

givers to again check the rocking sleepers in their homes and daycares to ensure they are not recalled, and I encourage them to spread the word to others who may use these products. Please check with the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a full list of recalled models, and stop using the Fisher Price and Kids II sleepers immediately."

Both Fisher-Price and Kids II offer a refund or voucher for the recalled sleeper, depending on which item was purchased and when it was purchased.

Additional information is available on the CPSC website at cpsc.gov.

Sheriff: State assault weapons ban violates 2nd Amendment

Union County Sheriff David Wilkins is among the Illinois sheriffs who are saying they won't be enforcing a law which bans assault weapons in the state.

The sheriff issued the following statement regarding the law:

As your Sheriff, I wanted to give citizens of Union County an update on the recent passage of HB 5471, also known as the Protect Illinois Communities Act.

As your duly elected Sheriff my job and my office are sworn, in fact, to protect the citizens of Union County. This is a job and responsibility that I take with the utmost seriousness.

Part of my duties that I accepted upon being sworn into office was to protect the rights provided to all of us, in the Constitution.

One of those enumerated rights is the right of the people to keep and bear arms provided under the 2nd amendment.

The right to keep and bear arms for defense of life, liberty and property is regarded as an inalienable right by the people.

I, among many others, believe that HB 5471 is a clear violation of the 2nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Therefore, as the chief law enforcement official for Union County, neither myself nor my office will be checking to ensure that lawful gun owners register their weapons with the State, nor will we be arresting or housing law abiding individuals that have been arrested solely with non-compliance of this Act.

State's attorney: law direct attack, infringement on right to keep, bear arms

Union County State's Attorney Tyler E. Tripp issued a statement regarding the Protect Illinois Communities Act. The statement, which was posted on social media, follows:

On January 10th 2023 HB 5471 the "Protect Illinois Communities Act" was promptly signed into law by Governor J.B. Pritzker.

HB 5471 was specifically designed to serve as a gun control measure applicable to the majority of Illinois gun owners.

This law serves to restrict or ban the manufacture, sale and possession of various firearms which are labeled as "assault weapons" among others.

HB 5471 also serves to limit magazine capacity, and impose a registration requirement for qualifying firearms lawfully owned by Illinois residents.

This Act is a direct attack and infringement of our right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Furthermore, this law will criminalize thousands of lawful gun owners who might refuse to comply with registration requirements and possession restrictions imposed by this unconstitutional law.

Union County is a community steeped in traditions of gun ownership for hunting, sporting, collecting and self-defense. I am committed to preserving those values for the good and deserving people of this county and beyond.

Recently, I along with a

class of other State's Attorney successfully challenged and put a hold on the implementation of the SAFE-T Act which sought to flood our communities with dangerous criminals.

HB 5471 will operate to reduce our right to defend our lives and those that we love against violent criminals.

The lack of foresight as to how these two sets of laws would compromise public safety in our community is unacceptable.

There are many ways to address crime and gun violence in this state. These recent laws championed by the controlling majority are not the proper means to correct issues with criminal justice and gun violence as they fail to consider the impact on communities outside of major metropolitan areas.

I am currently working with other State's Attorneys to organize and challenge this effort to erode our constitutional rights.

I will pursue any and all reasonable measures under the law to protect our community from those who would take our absolute right to keep and bear arms.

I am forever grateful that it is my duty and oath as your State's Attorney to support the Constitution of the United States, specifically, the Second Amendment, and to give a voice to the good people of Union County in speaking out against those who fail to consider and protect us.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, Jan. 15, during the morning worship service, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about "the importance of knowing the truth of the gospel." The message shared that "it is vital to know scripture for yourself because God's word reveals truth." The message was based on scripture from Philippians and 2nd Timothy.

The service was sent via transmitter for worshippers who stayed in their cars on the church's lower parking

lot while tuned in to their radios on station 87.9 FM.

The service also was live streamed on Facebook, where it can be viewed.

The church's Facebook page, Jonesboro FBC, has videos and the latest information about possible closings.

Music director Dee Rose led the worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Marion Hill played his banjo and sang "God is So Good."

Men's Bible study was

planned at 7 p.m. Monday.

The men of the Clear Creek Baptist Association are planning to have an annual wild game supper at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at Big Creek Baptist Church.

The church plans to have a monthly Hospitality Sunday potluck meal Sunday, Jan. 22, after the morning worship service.

Birthdays: J.D. Tripp, Jan. 15; Marcita Martin, Jan. 18. Anniversary: Leon and Sue Rendleman, Jan. 18, 60

News from

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna

Next week there will only be one service for both Mt. Moriah and Salem Lutheran Church in Jonesboro. The service will be at 10 a.m. at Mt. Moriah.



Ms. Paula's "storybook" children's sermon told the young listeners that God made them "from head to toe" and that they are encouraged to ask questions and seek God's answers. The children included Andersyn Kelley, Bowen Kelley, Emmy Kelley, Dallas Keller, Merritt LeFevre, Hasely LeFevre, Rowan LeFevre and in back, Laney Kelley. Photo provided.



Children's church kids worked with Marci Malnar on lessons about kindness this week and "painting the world with kindness." Photo provided.



Mt. Moriah's bell ringer team on Sunday, Jan. 15, included Rowan LeFevre, Bowen Kelley, Hasely LeFevre and Dallas Keller. With her back to camera is Merritt LeFevre. The vintage church bell has been calling people to worship for 121 years. The bell and tower, first dedicated in 1902, have undergone some recent restoration and stands ready, along with the help of this generation of bell ringers, to assure that the custom continues well into the future. Photo provided.

Union County at low COVID community level

Union County was at a low community transmission level for COVID-19 as of Friday, Jan. 13.

The county is one of the area counties served by the Southern 7 Health Department. Those counties include Union, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Alexander and Pulaski.

Updated information reported on Jan. 13 showed that Hardin County had moved to a high community transmission level.

Along with Union County, Alexander and Pulaski counties were at a low community transmission level as of Friday.

Johnson, Massac and Pope counties were at a medium community level.

With COVID-19, flu and RSV continuing to be reported across the state, Southern 7 Health Department shared that the Illinois Department of Public Health was urging Illinoisans to take action to

years.

The regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist Church includes Sunday School classes on Sunday at 9 a.m., Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. and Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m.

The Dig-In Children's program for children ages 4 through 6th grade is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Youth are scheduled to meet from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Adult Bible study is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

16,602 new COVID-19 cases reported in Illinois

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, on Friday, Jan. 13, announced that the CDC was reporting 61 counties in the state are at an elevated level for COVID-19, compared to 73 in the previous week.

Of those, five Illinois counties were at a high community level, compared to 28 the previous week; and 56 counties were at medium level, compared to 45 the previous week.

IDPH was reporting 16,602 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Illinois in the week ending Jan. 8, and 113 deaths.

"I am encouraged to see COVID-19 community levels once again declining and hospital capacity remaining stable this week," IDPH director Dr. Sameer Vohra said in a news release.

"Thank you to all Illinois residents who have continued to protect themselves and their loved ones from infection.

"IDPH is closely monitoring the XBB 'Kraken' variant which is spreading in the northeastern United States and leading to increased

Illinois COVID-19 update

- Jan. 13: 16,602
 - Jan. 6, 2023: 16,281
 - Dec. 30: 15,904
 - Dec. 2: 20,495
 - Nov. 23: 14,388
 - Nov. 18: 13,659
 - Nov. 4: 14,225
 - Oct. 7: 11,447
 - Sept. 30: 10,945
 - Sept. 2: 26,127
 - Aug. 26: 24,297
 - Aug. 5: 30,762
 - July 29: 35,371
 - July 1: 28,216
 - June 24: 27,094
 - June 3: 32,605
 - May 6: 30,633
 - April 1: 8,426
 - March 4: 10,462
 - Feb. 4: 60,389
 - Jan. 7, 2022: 201,428
- Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

protect themselves and their loved ones.

COVID-19 and flu vaccines are available for adults and children 6 months and older by appointment only at each Southern 7 public health clinic. The health department has a clinic in Anna.

Adults can also get their shots, without an appointment, on the Wellness on Wheels van. Most forms of insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid, are accepted.

IV medications and oral pills can now be used to treat COVID-19.

Talk with a health care provider as soon as possible to see if you are eligible for one of these treatments, the health department advised. A prescription is needed.

To find the Southern 7 public health clinic or WOW van clinic in an area county, visit southern7.org, download the Southern 7 app or call 618-634-2297, extension 9161.

cases and hospitalizations.

"Although we are currently seeing low rates in Illinois, it is important for all of us to prepare for and be aware of this emerging variant.

"Please continue to use all of the tools available to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19, the flu, and other respiratory diseases, especially those most at risk for severe disease."

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

A Sunday morning worship service was held Jan. 15 in the church and on Zoom.

Singing was led by Pastor Randy Wright and the worship team.

The message given by Pastor Wright was titled "Our Responsibility to the Gospel." Scripture was from Mark and John.

The message can be listened to on the church's website at annanaz.com and on the Anna First Church of the Nazarene Facebook page.

A missionary service was held Sunday evening. A meal was served. The meal was followed by a video and a devotional given by local NMI president Jessica Elkins.

Birthdays: Emily Wiseman, Jan. 20.

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 22.

Sunday School is planned at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 22.

A worship service is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 22.

Quizzing is planned at 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22.

An evening worship service is planned at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 25 in the sanctuary and on Zoom. Youth group

and children's Bible quizzing are planned at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the Zoom password.

Team Day South is planned Saturday, Jan. 28, at Salem Grace Church of the Nazarene, beginning at 9 a.m., with praise and worship and table discussions. Lunch will be \$10 per person. The day also will feature questions and answers and keynote speaker Steve Green.

The church can be contacted by calling the church office at 833-6702 and leaving a message if necessary or by calling Pastor Wright at 618-534-7103.

Follow us on
Facebook
 Facebook.com/
GazetteDemocrat
Twitter
 @GazetteDemocrat
 or online at
 annanews.com

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates
 Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

6-month	4.40 % APY*
9-month	4.45 % APY*
1-year	4.65 % APY*

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Phillip McGrath
 Financial Advisor
 311 South Main
 Anna, IL 62906
 618-833-6999

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 01/12/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. *Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-18671-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD 6G

MEET HELEN, YOUR NEW CUSTOMER SERVICE REP

At least, that's what he'd like you to believe. Every day, thousands of bank customers are targeted by scammers posing as bank employees, hoping to steal their personal information, then, their money.

Know this. As your financial institution we will NEVER:

- Ask for any personal information by phone, text, mail or email
- Ask you to verify over phone, text, mail or email any personal information
- Send you an email and ask you to click on a link
- Pressure you to make a payment of any kind

Anna Jonesboro National Bank is committed to protecting you, your information, and your assets. If you should receive any questionable correspondence via email, mail, text, or phone, we encourage you to call us at 618-833-8506 and confirm its legitimacy.

Anna-Jonesboro
National Bank

Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community

Visit Us On The Web At: www.ajnational.com

Serving you from three locations

201 S. Main Street
Anna • 618-833-8506

Member
FDIC

1002 Public Square
Jonesboro • 618-833-4547

512 E. Vienna Street
Anna • 618-833-2922

LENDER

6GP

Sports

Wildcats face Vienna, Nashville in recent action

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team was in action against Vienna and Nashville last week.

Vienna 61, A-J 59: The visiting Wildcats and Vienna played a game which featured seven ties and 14 lead changes on Saturday, Jan. 14.

The game was tied 14-14 after one quarter. A-J was on top 26-25 at the half. The host Eagles came back to go ahead 40-38 after three quarters.

Dylan Harvel led A-J with 22 points. Dawson Trammel scored 17, Drew Page 7, Evan Hall 5, J.J. Geradi and Payton Denny 4 each and Dawson Nichols 1.

A-J was 17 of 35 from the field, 6 of 23 from 3-point range and 7 of 19 from the

free throw line.

Vienna was 17 of 32 from the field, 6 of 21 from 3-point range and 9 of 10 from the free throw line.

Nashville 69, A-J 44: The host Hornets were ahead 21-16 after one quarter and held on to the lead on their way to the win Friday, Jan. 13.

Harvel led A-J with 19 points. Trammel scored 12, Geradi 6, Page 3, Taj Hodges and Nichols 2 each.

A-J was 18 of 21 from the floor, 6 of 12 from 3-point range and 13 of 16 from the free throw line.

Nashville was 20 of 38 from the floor, 11 of 17 from 3-point range and 8 of 11 from the free throw line.

A-J, 6-12, plays this week in the Johnston City Arrowhead Classic.

A-J defeats Du Quoin in tournament action

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School boys' basketball team avenged an earlier season loss to Du Quoin with a 67-55 win in first-round action at the Johnston City Arrowhead Classic Monday, Jan. 16.

The Wildcats were ahead 16-11 after one quarter, 32-23 at the half and 51-36 going into the final quarter. The game had four ties and one lead change.

Drew Page led A-J with 27 points and was 9 of 12 from 3-point range.

Dylan Harvel added 16 points, Taj Hodges 11, Dawson Trammel 9 and J.J. Geradi and Evan Hall 2 each. Geradi had 11 defensive rebounds and Payton

Denny had 10 offensive boards.

The Wildcats were 7 of 27 from the floor, 14 of 25 from 3-point range and 11 of 24 from the free throw line.

Du Quoin was 17 of 33 in shot attempts from the floor, 4 of 15 from 3-point range and 9 of 18 from the free throw line.

A-J improved to 7-13 overall and continues play in the Classic this week. The Wildcats are scheduled to continue regular season play at home against Cartersville Friday, Jan. 27.

A-J girls on road for two games

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' basketball team played road games at Benton and Nashville in recent action.

Benton 50, A-J 38: Visiting A-J trailed 10-9 at the end of the first quarter in the game played Saturday, Jan. 14.

Savannah Smith and Jayci Needling led A-J with 9 points apiece. Ava Turner scored 5, Kayleigh Wheaton, Jayda Shepard and Kansas Craig 4 each and Raelynn Sadler 2.

Nashville 57, A-J 28: The visiting Lady Wildcats trailed at the end of the first quarter in the game played Thursday, Jan. 12.

Smith led A-J with 14 points. Craig scored 5 and Ava Alsip, Sadler and Shepard 3 each.

A-J is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at home against Benton.

Shawnee girls outscore Joppa to win homecoming game

The Shawnee High School girls' basketball team defeated visiting Joppa 45-34 in overtime to win its homecoming game Saturday, Jan. 14.

The Lady Reds trailed 9-7 after one quarter, 13-11 at the half and 22-21 after three quarters. They came back to tie the game 34-34 going into overtime.

Emma Young led Shawnee with 16 points. Allie Myers scored 8 and Kelci Bader, Avery Stegle and Jaslyn Phelps had 7 each.

Elverado 42, Shawnee 20: The host Lady Eagles

were ahead at halftime and went on to win the game played Thursday, Jan. 12.

Myers led Shawnee with 8 points. Bader and Young scored 4 each and Phelps and Alaina Charles 2 apiece.

Shawnee 39, Joppa 37: The visiting Lady Reds led 10-8 after one quarter and went on to post the win on Monday, Jan. 9.

Myers led Shawnee with 15 points. Young had 13, Stegle 5, Phelps 4 and Bader 2.

Shawnee's next game is scheduled Monday, Jan. 23, at Cobden.

Shawnee defeats Dongola for homecoming victory

The host Shawnee High School boys' basketball team topped visiting Dongola 59-45 to win its homecoming game Saturday, Jan. 14.

Shawnee was ahead at the end of the first quarter and stayed in the lead on its way to win.

Brody Wills led Shawnee with 21 points and a rebound. Dryden Wills had 12 points, 5 rebounds and 5 steals.

Ryan Libbert had 8 points and 5 rebounds. Kayman Ford had 7 points and 2 rebounds. Noah Mayberry had 5 points and a rebound.

Austin Kinder had 4

points and a rebound. Issac Wonnell and Gabe Ellet 2 points each.

Crab Orchard 89, Shawnee 42: Visiting Shawnee trailed 28-16 and couldn't catch up in the game played Friday, Jan. 6.

Dryden Wills led Shawnee with 14 points and 2 rebounds. Ford and Mayberry each had 8 points and 7 rebounds apiece.

Ethan Smith had 5 points. Brody Wills had 4 points and 5 rebounds. Wonnell had 3 points and a rebound.

Shawnee is scheduled to play this week in the Zeigler/Royalton Mid-Winter Classic.

Birds, mysteries of fire topics of programs set at Giant City

Birds and the mysteries of fire will be the topic of upcoming events planned at Giant City State Park near Makanda.

Both of the programs are free and open to the public, but registration is required. More information is available by contacting the visitors center at the park by calling 618-457-4836.

"Mysteries of Ancient Fire"

A "Mysteries of Ancient Fire" program is planned from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28.

Mark Denzer will present the program, which will follow the progression of humanity's relationship with fire.

The program will offer a look through ancient and modern lenses to discover how people have manipulated this powerful element through time.

From ceremonial and ritual uses to transforming landscapes and mundane

daily uses, fire has been used since time immemorial.

After the talk, hands-on training is planned. Denzer's 25 years of experience with primitive technologies will guide those in attendance in their own experience of creating fire.

Through friction, percussion and tool use, participants will gain first hand experience in ancient ways.

Birding Hike
An accessible birding hike is planned from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 29.

With the vegetation out of the way, now is a great time to look for birds in Giant City State Park.

Park volunteer and Southern Illinois Audubon Society member Vicki Lang-Mendenhall plans to guide participants along the 1/3-mile accessible Post Oak Trail for the event.

Appleknockers face Elverado, Hardin County in recent action

The Cobden High School boys' basketball team was in action last week against Elverado and Hardin County.

Elverado 66, Cobden 65: The host Appleknockers couldn't hold a 20-7 first quarter lead in the game played Friday, Jan. 13.

The Falcons fought back to pull to 29-27 at the half and went ahead 46-44 after three quarters.

Tyler Franklin led Cobden with 34 points. Aron Funes scored 10, Brady

Bundren 9, Mitchell Howell 6, Jeff Kuhn 4 and Kevin Webb 4.

Hardin County 48, Cobden 44: Visiting Cobden let a 11-10 first quarter lead slip away in the loss Wednesday, Jan. 11.

Hardin County came back to go ahead 27-19 at the half and 33-22 after three quarters.

Franklin led Cobden with 26 points. Bundren scored 9 and Funes 4.

Cobden is scheduled to play in the Zeigler-Royalton Tournament this week.

Rural Health Inc. to award scholarships

Rural Health Inc. announces that it is funding and administering eight healthcare scholarship opportunities.

A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior at each of the following schools: Anna-Jonesboro, Cobden, Dongola, Goreville, Joppa, Massac County, Shawnee (in Wolf Lake) and Vienna.

Home-schooled students in Union, Johnson and Massac counties are welcome to apply as well.

Applicants will be recognized for their desire to pursue a career in the healthcare field.

Application packets are available from the guidance counselors at the eight area schools.

Home-schooled students who are interested in applying for a scholarship can call Rural Health, Inc. at 833-4471 for an application packet.

Rural Health Inc. noted that students must comply

with the following deadlines:

Application packets must be submitted to the guidance counselor at the school/school district by March 8, 2023. All application packets are due at Rural Health Inc. by March 10, 2023, in Anna.

Home-schooled students can return their application packet to Rural Health Inc. in Anna.

More information is available by contacting Rural Health Inc. at 833-4471.

Rural Health Inc. is a FTCA deemed, private non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center located in Southern Illinois, with clinics in Anna, Dongola, Vienna, Goreville and Metropolis.

Rural Health Inc. provides primary care to individuals and families throughout their lives, including obstetrics, gynecology, pediatrics, adolescent, adult and geriatric care.

Check us out online at annanews.com

The CEO Class would like to say Thank You to all of the businesses and community members who supported our class business. Giving is not just about making a donation, it is about making a difference. Your overwhelming support has truly made a difference for the CEO Program and the community. Please help us continue to support these businesses in our local community as they are the heartbeat of our neighborhood, the spine of our local economy and the spirit of our town.

Thank You to all of our Partners!

PLATINUM PARTNERS

Wright Bros./Rod's Towing	Schoolhouse Cheesecakes
McDonald's	A-J National Bank
Gurley & Sons	C's Bees & Honey and Lace
Kenz Boutique	Angi's A-Doorables
Nalee Rae's Boutique	Quick's Skating Rink
Coffman's Martial Arts	Southern Charms
The Gazette-Democrat	Nails by Jaime
Farmer's Daughter Boutique	

GOLD PARTNERS

Union County Hospital	Bald Knob Cross of Peace
Wildflower Meadows All Naturals	

SILVER PARTNERS

WIBH	Anna Baking Company	Triple C Meats
Salon Euphoria	Anna State Bank	Anna Quarry
Kiwanis of Anna		Southern FS

BRONZE PARTNERS

Kiki's Coffeehouse	Cobden Lions Club	ET Simonds
Trainer Ag	Main Street Bar & Billiards	Davis Pastry
Whitney Accounting	Rendleman Orchards	City of Jonesboro
Enchanted Garden	Rural Health	Darci Morrison
UC Chamber of Commerce	Country Roads Flowers & Gifts	Farmstead Market
Flamm Orchards	Taylor, Dodd & Wood Insurance	The Goddard Place
Nana's Farm	Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative	The Beauty Boutique

FRIENDS OF UCCEO

Brumleve Farms	Fork & Vine	Massage by Cherry
Walmart	Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home	Dixie BBQ
Karl Sweitzer	Union County Women in Business	Rise Performance
Dairy Queen	Hebrewz	Jim & Dot's
	Kelly Wood - Edward Jones	

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Stephanie Cox	Heather & Dexter Reynolds	Jeff Flamm
Mindy Carter	Angela Boyd	Jimmy Smith
Evelyn Bailey	Mark Chamness	Lisa Tomazzoli
Steven Wiseman	Cody Hubble (+ Grayson)	Jennifer Osman

These boxes would not be possible without the support of the businesses and individuals listed here. Once again, thank you for your continued support of the Union County CEO Program!

2022 sixth-warmest on record since 1880

The planet continued its warming trend in 2022, with last year ranking as the sixth-warmest year on record since 1880, according to an analysis by scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's, NOAA, National Centers for Environmental Information, NCEI.

Earth's average land and ocean surface temperature in 2022 was

1.55 degrees F above the 20th-century average of 57.0 degrees F, which was the sixth highest among all years in the 1880 to 2022 record.

2022 also marked the 46th consecutive year (since 1977) with global temperatures rising above the 20th century average.

The 10-warmest years on record have all occurred since 2010, with the last nine years (2014

to 2022) among the 10-warmest years.

The 2022 Northern Hemisphere surface temperature was also the sixth highest in the 143-year record at 1.98 degrees F above average.

December 2022 was warm: The average temperature across global land and ocean surfaces in December was 1.44 degrees F above the 20th-century average. This ranked as the eighth-warmest December in the 143-year NOAA record.

Garden of Gods observation deck temporarily closed

The U.S. Forest Service on Jan. 12 announced the temporary closing of the observation deck at Garden of the Gods recreation area near Harrisburg.

The temporary closing was set to begin Tuesday, Jan. 17.

The Forest Service said that employees will be replacing small sections at a time, so no large gaps are present at the end of each week. Repairs are expected to take several weeks, depending on the weather.

Visitors will be able to trek the quarter-mile hike on either end of the Observation Trail loop, beginning at the parking lots, but they will not be able to use the observation deck area.

Observation Trail has two large parking lots. Overnight parking is allowed at Back-packer's Parking Lot in the Garden of the Gods Recreation Area and at Hitching Post Trailhead along Gape Hollow Road on the west side of Garden of the Gods

Wilderness.

No overnight parking is allowed in picnic area or Observation Trail parking lots.

The Forest Service noted that Observation Trail features unique sandstone rock formations and panoramic views of the surrounding Garden of the Gods Wilderness.

Interpretive signs explain the geological history. The trail is made of natural sandstone and takes about an hour to walk.

The trail contains short, steep grades and steps. Benches are located along the trail. Caution should be used due to the high cliffs in the area, the Forest Service advised.

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

BASLER EXCAVATING & TRUCKING

Demolition,
Clearing,
Basements,
Track Hoe Service
833-7831



Custom Processing of Beef-Pork-Goat-Sheep
Deer Processing Oct. 1st through Jan. 30th.



5565 St. Rt. 146E Jason Martin, Owner
Anna, IL 62906 Visit our website:
618-833-5986 triplemeats.com

Duty's Auto Glass

Windshields • Door Glasses
Back Glasses • Chip Repair

Serving All of Southern Illinois
Over 30 Years Experience

324 Willard Ferry Rd. • Jonesboro
833-2923 or Toll Free 866-759-2923

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank

Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community

201 South Main • Anna, IL • 618-833-8506
512 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL • 618-833-2922
1002 Public Square • Jonesboro • 618-833-4547

Southern FS Inc.

Bulk & Bag Feed
Pet & Horse Supplies
Home & Garden

Not just for farmers anymore! Take a look around!

400 S. Main • Jonesboro, IL 62952
Phone (618) 833-2494
Fax (618) 833-3868

MAKE SOMEONE'S DAY



Photo Credit: istockphoto/AlexRaths

When was the last time someone beamed at you and said, "You made my day!"? Whatever's going on, it is important to realize that we never know when we might be making a life-altering impact with a small kindness or an extra consideration. God may be using you for His particular purpose. Would you like to learn more about God working through you? Worship at His House this week, it will make your day!

Daily Bible Readings

Matthew 10:32-42	Matthew 11:1-19	Matthew 11:20-30	Matthew 16:1-12	Matthew 16:13-28	Matthew 17:1-23	Matthew 18:1-14
------------------	-----------------	------------------	-----------------	------------------	-----------------	-----------------

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org
©2023 Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnews.com

Ozhourn Chiropractic Clinic, S.C.

618-833-2179

We care about your total body health and wellness.



Dr. Jason S. Ozhourn
Chiropractic Physician
101 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
ozhournchiropractic.com

RILEY'S APPLIANCE PARTS & SERVICE

Terry & Tina Riley
833-9225 • Anna, IL

Dishwashers • Refrigerators • Freezers • Washers
Dryers • Ranges • Microwaves • Disposals

Gurley & Son Heating & Air Conditioning



INSTALL CONFIDENCE

1540 Old Hwy. 51N • Anna, IL
(618) 833-5211

"Hope to see you in church Sunday"

Schaefer Enterprises

Website: www.sewlparts.com

P.O. Box 136 • Wolf Lake, IL 62998
Email: parts@sewlparts.com
800-626-6046 • (618) 833-5498
Fax: 618-833-7765

WHITNEY ACCOUNTING

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

Need a Tow? Call the Pro!



115 N. APPLEKNOCKER
COBDEN • 893-2252



THE FIRST STATE BANK OF DONGOLA

108 SE Front Street • Dongola, IL 62926
618-827-3451

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ALTO PASS

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.

PASTOR - DON COX

Pizza Hut

Dine-In
Carryout
Delivery

1835 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL
(618) 833-2415
www.pizzahut.com

FARMERS STATE BANK

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

MIDWESTERN PROPANE GAS CO.

Anna, IL • 833-6300
Mike Jones, Manager

DUTCH GUTTERING

CALL FOR WINTER SPECIALS!

618-351-1881

Seamless Aluminum Guttering
Gutter Clean Outs • Leaf Guards
Roof Repairs • Home Improvement
Service and Repair • Siding & Overhang

Cardinal Corner

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

A&G AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

109 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
833-8755

Apostolic Lighthouse Church

Breakfast and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship service at 10:45 a.m.
Midweek service Wednesday at 7 p.m.
423 S. Front St. Cobden, IL 51-3GC

ASB Anna STATE BANK

100 E. Vienna Street • Anna, IL
833-2151
www.annastate.com

Worship & Praise

BIGLER INSURANCE

HOME | LIFE | AUTO BUSINESS 618-614-7373
biglerinsurance@gmail.com

Patsy Lou's Boutique

Located at JR Centre
(618) 833-4956
100 Florsheim Drive • Anna, IL 62906

Union County Abstract Office, Inc.

Chicago Title Insurance Company
Susan T. Holderfield, President
304 West Market Street • P.O. Box AC
Jonesboro, Illinois 62952
(618) 833-6521

Praise & Worship

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Community Integrated Living, Inc.

Improving the lives of the individuals we serve.
201 E. Chestnut St. • Anna, IL
618-833-2500
www.communityintegratedliving.com

Southpass Beads & Fibers

Feed your crafting needs.
BEADS • YARN SUPPLIES
southpassbeads.etsy.com
Find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/southpassbeads) southpassbeads
203 E. Ash St., Cobden, IL • (618) 893-6170

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

The Gazette-Democrat

Classified Section

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

CLASSIFIED RATES

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

AD DEADLINE IS 11:00 A.M. TUESDAY

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES

Per inch \$12.50

BUSINESS

DUCKWORKS LAWN CARE:

618-201-5712
MOWING IS WHAT WE DO!
Free Estimates!
Other Services:
Landscaping,
Power Washing
www.duckworkslawn.com
gptfn

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School District #81 is soliciting bids for the provision of the following service for the 2023 calendar year:

- Mowing property located on Brady Mill Rd. in Anna, IL (commonly known as the Union County Soccer Complex)

Proposed details and bid sheets are available by visiting or contacting the district office. Deadline for bids is 1 p.m. on February 10, 2023. Please contact Rob Wright, Superintendent at Anna-Jonesboro CHSD #81, 608 S. Main Street, Anna, IL 62906 or call 618-833-8421 for more information. 5p-7g

Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) which is the point of beginning, situated in Union County, Illinois.

Potential buyers may contact John R. Schneider of the law firm of Johnson, Schneider & Ferrell, L.L.C., 212 North Main Street, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701, Phone Number 573-335-3300 for information regarding this real estate.

At said sale, the Court will give the purchaser a certificate showing the amount of the bid, a particular description of the property sold, and the time when the purchaser will be entitled to a deed for such property unless same shall have been redeemed according to law.

Keri E. Clark
Circuit Clerk

Document prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER
& FERRELL, L.L.C.
212 North Main Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Telephone: 573-335-3300
Facsimile: 573-335-1978
www.johnsonschneider.com
5-7g

Jonesboro Elementary CCSD #43 Mowing and Trimming Bid

Description and Scope of Work

Jonesboro Elementary consolidated Community School District #43 is accepting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for lawn mowing services. Proposed details and bid packet are available at the District's business office or may be downloaded at www.jonesboro43.com by clicking on menu then going to documents. Sealed bids will be received until 12 P.M. noon, February 3, 2023. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, in part or in total, for any objective or subjective reason whatsoever and to waive informalities in bidding. 5g

Request for Bids OPEN: January 11, 2023 DEADLINE: February 13, 2023 by 5 p.m.

The Village of Olmsted is currently seeking bids for the provision of comprehensive, high-quality solid waste and recycling collection services

and options with contractor provided containers.

The Village intends to enter into a contract with a firm for such services, and accordingly, is furnishing herein a set of specifications by which such proposals shall be judge. Any Contractor desiring to furnish a proposal for such services, shall submit bid in person or by email, by February 13, 2023 by 5 p.m.

Main Contract Specifications:

- Provide WEEKLY curbside pick-up for approximately 175 residential homes within City Limits of Village for the duration of 5 years, starting March 1, 2023- February 29, 2028.

- Provide one (1), 4-yard dumpster behind City Hall for Village usage.

- Provide Village with roll off dumpster, 2 times per year, during city wide clean-up weeks, scheduled in Spring and Fall for City Limit residents.

- Contractor will provide Village with 24 hours' notice with any changes or delays in service pick-up. This will ensure customers are notified of any changes.

All bids should be delivered by February 13, 2023 by 5 p.m. to Village Clerk at City Hall, 150 N. Front Street, Olmsted, Illinois 62970 or by email, villageofolmsted@yahoo.com

Any questions, contact City Hall during regular business hours @ 618-742-6487.

Award of contract will be awarded on February 13, 2023 at regular scheduled Board of Trustees meeting.

*Award granted contingent on final contract signed and agreed upon by Village and awarding contractor. 5-7gp

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 3rd day of January, 2023, under the Assumed Name of Fresh Express Meals with the place of business located at 585 Bridwell Lane, Cobden, Illinois 62920, and that the

True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Natalie Ellis
585 Bridwell Lane
Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
5-7gc

STATE OF ILLINOIS CIRCUIT COURT UNION COUNTY

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

REQUEST OF:
JAMA ANN
STAPLETON
2023-MR-1

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from: JAMA ANN STAPLETON to the new name of: JAMA ANN CARPENTER.

The court date will be held on MARCH 15, 2023 at 11 a.m. at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market Street, Jonesboro, Illinois, in Courtroom 1.

JAMA STAPLETON
5-7gc

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 17th day of January, 2023, under the Assumed Name of Anytime Truck Service with the place of business located at 130 Howell Lane, Dongola, Illinois 62926, and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Trent Tollison
130 Howell Lane
Dongola, IL 62926

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
6-8gc

FOR SALE

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. gptfn

FOR SALE: 2005 PT Cruiser.

Runs, 125K miles, needs work. \$750.00 obo. Text 618-999-9655.

FOR RENT

CUT YOUR EXPENSES!

Rent an ENERGY EFFICIENT 2 bedroom apartment starting at \$575.00 per month, laundry facilities, Anna/Jonesboro! Classic Properties, 618-751-3025. 4p-5g tfn

FOR RENT:

2 bedroom with living room, dining room and kitchen, complete. Very, Very nice. Available February 1. Call 618-697-1893. 5gp tfn

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED:

Looking for full and part-time Custodians for Shawnee Community College in Ullin. Apply at Main Campus front desk. Phone 618-634-3200, ext. 3436. 51gpc tfn

HELP WANTED:

Jonesboro Elementary School District #43 is accepting applications for the following positions:

Head Junior High Baseball Coach (2023-2024 school year)
Head Bowling Coach (2022-2023)

Please send Letter of interest, resume, references and certification credentials to Tom Stark/Principal by email: tstark@jonesboro43.com 4p-6g

HELP WANTED:

Jonesboro Elementary School #43 is accepting applications for a First and Third grade teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year. Must possess proper Illinois certification. Deadline to apply is February 10, 2023. Please send a letter of interest, resume, 3 letters of recommendation and transcripts to: Tom Stark, Jonesboro Elementary School, 309 Cook Avenue, Jonesboro, IL 62952. 4p-6g

Junior High Math Teacher

Dongola Unit #66 is seeking a Junior High Math Teacher. Applicants must have IL PEL.

Please send letter of interest, resume, and three references to: Dr. Paige Helm Maginel, Superintendent, Dongola Unit #66, P.O. Box 190, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois 62926 by March 1, 2023. 5-6gp

Dongola Unit School District #66 is advertising for the following position:

High School Drivers Education, Physical Education, and Health Teacher

The successful candidate will teach drivers education, as well as physical education and health in the junior high and high school setting. Please send letter of interest, resume, and three references to: Dr. Paige Helm Maginel, 6-7gpc

Superintendent, Dongola Unit #66, P.O. Box 190, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois 62926. Deadline for application submission is March 1, 2023. 5-6gp

HELP WANTED Village of Olmsted Part-Time Maintenance

The Village of Olmsted is accepting applications for a full-year, part-time, maintenance/laborer position. Applicants must be 18 or older, with a high school diploma or equivalent, and have a valid Drivers' License. The position will consist of 16 hours weekly, or more as needed.

Candidates must have a positive and professional attitude, be able to multi-task, work well with the public, reliable and work independently without direct supervision.

Application deadline is February 10, 2023.

Applications may be picked up at Olmsted City Hall, 150 N. Front Street, Olmsted, IL 62970, or resumes e-mailed to villageofolmsted@yahoo.com.

Contact City Hall, 618-742-6487, for more information.

The Village of Olmsted is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 5-7gp

HELP WANTED Village of Olmsted Part-Time Clerk/ Librarian

The Village of Olmsted is accepting applications for a full-year, part-time, clerk/librarian. Applicants must be 18 or older, with a high school diploma or equivalent, and have a valid Drivers' License. The position will consist of 16 hours weekly, or more as needed.

Candidates must have a positive and professional attitude, be able to multi-task, work well with the public, reliable and possess basic computer and bookkeeping skills.

Application deadline is February 10, 2023.

Applications may be picked up at Olmsted City Hall, 150 N. Front Street, Olmsted, IL 62970, or resumes emailed to villageofolmsted@yahoo.com.

Contact City Hall, 618-742-6487, for more information.

The Village of Olmsted is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 5-7gp

HELP WANTED: Jonesboro Elementary School District #43 is accepting applications for the following position:

School Nurse
Please send Letter of interest, resume and credentials to: Tom Stark, Principal, Jonesboro Elementary School, 309 Cook Avenue, Jonesboro, IL 62952. 5p-7g

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: CASH PAID FOR - Old Hunting and Fishing Items, Knives, Watches, etc. Call 618-833-3584 4-8gpc

WANTED IMMEDIATELY: Someone to trap & remove moles from property, must have own traps. Union County Area. Please call 630-659-7637. 6-7gpc

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

ANNA-JONESBORO
NATIONAL BANK,
a National Chartered
Bank,
Plaintiff,

vs
MICHAEL J. SMITH,
ANGELA C. SMITH,
STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF
REVENUE TAX LIEN
UNIT,
UNKNOWN OWNERS
and NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No.: 2022-FC-3

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above captioned matter on 25th day of October, 2022, the Sheriff in Union County, will by public sale on February 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Union County Courthouse, in Jonesboro, Illinois, sell at public venue to the highest and best bidder, for cash, or cashier's check drawn on a federally or state chartered bank or savings and loan, the following described real estate:

EXHIBIT A

A Two (2) Acre tract of land located in the South part of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35) and the South west Quarter (SW1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36), all in Township Eleven (11) South, Range One (1) East of the Third (3rd) Principal Meridian, described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a point on the North line of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) which is 14 rods East of the Northwest Corner thereof, thence West on said line 14 rods to the Northwest Corner thereof and continuing West on the North line of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35) a distance of 4 rods to a point; thence North parallel with the West line of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35) a distance of 19 rods to a point, thence Easterly 4 rods to the West right-of-way line of the County Road, thence following the South line of said road in an Easterly direction 14 rods to a point, thence South parallel with the East line of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36) to the North line of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of the Southwest

Forest Service notes fee-free days in 2023

The U.S. Forest Service announces it will waive fees at many of its campgrounds on special days throughout 2023 as part of the federal land management fee-free program.

"Fee-free days are our way of thanking our many Shawnee National Forest visitors, while also encouraging people to get outside," said Michael Chaveas, forest supervisor for the Shawnee and Hoosier national forests.

The Shawnee National Forest is located in Southern Illinois, including Union County.

"For those who have never visited public lands, this is a great opportunity to get out and explore," Chaveas said in a news release.

Shawnee National Forest campgrounds included in the fee waiver are Garden of the Gods, Pounds Hollow, Camp Cadiz, Pine Hills and Johnson Creek. Concessionaire operated campgrounds are not included in the fee waiver.

The first fee-free day for 2023 was Jan. 16, which was Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which honored the legacy of the civil rights leader and encouraged Americans to participate in the MLK Day of Service.

Upcoming fee-free days this year include:

Feb. 20: Presidents' Day, which honors the nation's presidents, with particular attention given to commemorating former Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

June 10: National Get Outdoors Day (www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org), a day when federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and the recreation industry encourage healthy, outdoor activities.

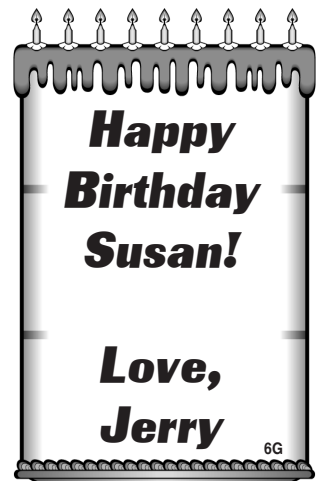
Sept. 23: National Public Lands Day (www.publiclandsday.org), which is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort in support of public lands.

Nov. 11: Veterans Day, which commemorates the end of World War I and pays tribute to all military heroes...past and present.

The fee-free program is offered in cooperation with

other federal land management agencies under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

The Forest Service's interactive visitor map, which can be found online at www.fs.usda.gov/ivm, gives those who use it an opportunity to find a national forest or grassland.



HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING PLANNED

The Union County Hospital District Board of Directors will meet January 26, 2023.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. at Fork and Vine in Cobden, IL.

The agenda will include the Union County Hospital District Board Financial Reports and Business Updates. 4P.5&6GP.7G

Jean R. Hinkle

Jean R. Hinkle, 79, of Dongola, and formerly of Jackson, Mo., died at 10:04 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Feb. 18, 1943, in Belleville, and adopted by Edward O. and Bess Rodgers Baierbach of Elmhurst in October 1943.

She married Bennie Hinkle on June 13, 1987. He survives.

She was a graduate of York High School in Elmhurst and attended Shawnee Community College.

She worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge. She loved horses, bird watching, dogs, gardening and playing the piano. She also enjoyed RV traveling with her husband Ben. She was a great cook and was always eager to teach her skill.

She was of the Lutheran faith and was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Dongola for over 35 years. Her family was her joy above all.

She is survived by her husband, Ben Hinkle of Dongola; daughter Susan (Tim) McDowell of Jackson, Mo.; sons Scott (Carrie) Krause of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Jerry Krause of Dongola; grandchildren Brett (Laura) McDowell, Blake (Rhea) McDowell, Taylor (Logan) McDowell, Alynna (Cody) Hillman and Hadyn Krause; great-grandchildren Brantley McDowell, Eleanor McDowell, Eli McDowell and Oliver McDowell; nieces Jenny Dudasik of Glendale Heights and Carol Sue Melton of Clermont, Fla.

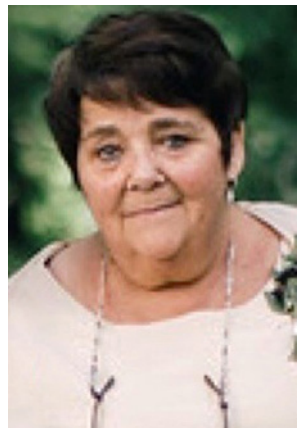
She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Susan B. Alley; and her best friend, whom she considered a sister, Martha A. Vandivort.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, at the First Lutheran Church in Dongola, with the Rev. Cherie Riedel officiating

Interment will follow at a later date in Hinkle Cemetery. Memorials can be made to Hinkle Cemetery or to the First Lutheran Church in Dongola.

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

Crain Funeral Home Crain Funeral Home in Dongola is in charge of arrangements.



Obituaries

Dr. Janice Lu Henry

Dr. Janice Lu Henry, 76, of Carbondale, and formerly of Alto Pass, died at 7:02 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, at Reflections Memory Care in Carterville after a long battle with dementia.

She was born on July 31, 1946, the daughter of Dr. Wayne P. Sirls and Helen Rendleman Sirls. After the death of her father, when Jan was a baby, her mother moved her, along with her older sister and brother, to their family farm, Rendleman Orchards.

She was a loving mother, daughter, wife, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She was caring, accomplished and had fierce determination in all she did.

After graduating as valedictorian from Alto Pass High School in 1964, she went on to earn both bachelor's and master's degrees.

In 1974, she started teaching at Southern Illinois University. She earned her Ph.D. in 1997 and became a full professor in 2001.

She married her husband, Jim Henry, in 1987 and in 2003 retired from Southern Illinois University after 35 years of teaching.

She and Jim enjoyed traveling, hosting parties and being with family until his passing in 2014.

She will be remembered by many as an outstanding teacher, leader and friend; however, she will be remembered most for the dedication and loving care she gave to her daughter, Suzanne K. Schoen-Harju, who died, in 2020, after a lifelong battle with Glycogen Storage Disease.

She is survived by a granddaughter, Ella Harju; son-in-law Craig Harju; a sister, Sharon Williamson; a brother, Ren Sirls; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jim; daughter Suzanne and her sister, Judy Mittendorf. With her strong faith, she will be welcomed in heaven with open arms.

Her niece, Diane, would like to give special thanks to those that assisted her with Jan's care: her dedicated caregiver, Sherri Young, the amazing staff at Reflections Memory Care in Carterville and Hospice of Southern Illinois.

Services will be Saturday, Jan. 28, at Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home, 31 Memorial Dr., Murphysboro. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. A Celebration of Life will immediately follow at 3 p.m., with Pastor Don Cox officiating. A private family burial will follow in the Alto Pass Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Association for Glycogen Storage Disease or to the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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

Crain Funeral Home Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home in Murphysboro is in charge of arrangements.



Marilyn E. Belcher

Marilyn E. Belcher, 96, of Coulterville, died at 6:20 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, at Sparta Community Hospital in Sparta.

She was born on Feb. 27, 1926, in New Bedford, Mass., a daughter of Lynwood and Mary Callahan Davis.

On Dec. 26, 1946, she married Roy Belcher in New Bedford, Mass. He preceded her in death on Nov. 24, 1995, after 49 years of marriage.

She was a member of the Anna Methodist Church in Anna.

Mrs. Belcher loved nursing and had worked as an RN for 58 years, including serving in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps and working at the Anna Rural Clinic. She enjoyed reading and knitting and loved traveling and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her three sons, Dr. Terence (Patricia) Belcher of Bristol, R.I., Kevin (Margaret "Peggy") Belcher of Springfield and Brian (Rhonda) Belcher of Coulterville; seven grandchildren, Kris Belcher, Kera Morris, Jessica Rinner, Becca Guyman, Kelly Williams, Sean Belcher and Brittany Mueller; two step-grandchildren, Craig Wade and Andrea Buchanan; 13 great-grandchildren; six step-great-grandchildren; and two nieces, Lynne (Jan) MacLaughon and Janice (Bill) Knoerzer.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a son, Reid Belcher; a sister, Carol Siddell; and a niece, Marilyn Siddell.

Her wishes were to be cremated and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorials can be made to the American Red Cross.

Pyatt Funeral Home in Coulterville is in charge of arrangements.

For more information or to sign an online guest register, visit www.pyattfuneralhome.com.



Kevin Lowell Hileman

Kevin Lowell Hileman, 58, of Jonesboro, died Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023, at Union County Hospital in Anna.

He was born on Aug. 24, 1964, in Cape Girardeau, the son of Lowell and June Powles Hileman.

He is survived by one son, Clint (Bridget Clark) Hileman of Jonesboro; a grandson, Oliver Hileman; three brothers, Dale (Jackie) Hileman, Roger Hileman and Gerald (Charlene) Hileman, all of Jonesboro; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Marilyn Hileman; and a brother, Stanley Hileman.

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

To visit his memorial page and to leave online condolences for his family, visit the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home website at rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Kathleen Elaine Horne

Kathleen Elaine Horne, 71, of Carbondale, went to her eternal rest on Friday, Jan. 13, 2023, at her home after a short illness.

She was born on Feb. 18, 1951, in Avon, the daughter of Richard Irvin Horn Sr. and Harriett Rose Jennings.

She was professionally a bookkeeper, banker, loan officer, housekeeper and assistant. She was a kind soul who enjoyed her congregation, helping others and was a truly dedicated pet parent.

She is survived by her mother and one brother, Richard Irvin Horn Jr. of Gilbert, Ariz.; and two nieces, Stephanie Veronica Rose Horn Hannah and Alecia Rebecca Horn of Ventura, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her father and one sister, Christine Marie Siebersma, of Moline.

Cremation arrangements are being handled by Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna. A life celebration service is planned for a later date.

To visit her memorial page and to leave online condolences for her family, visit the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home website at rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES

Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Joe Schneider of Cape Girardeau visited Friday with Shirley Miller of McClure.

Artenia Jones and Conda Nave of Anna visited Saturday with Shirley Miller.

Thank you to Keith Easton of Homer for renewing his subscription to The Gazette-Democrat and giving me the credit.

Happy belated birthday to our great-grandson, Wade Driskell of Cape Girardeau who turned 3 on Saturday, Jan. 14. He celebrated on Sunday, Jan. 15, with a party at the home of

his parents with several in attendance.

You are invited to attend services at Reynoldsville Missionary Baptist Church. Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening worship service is at 6 p.m. Rev. Jamie Bridgeman is the pastor.

Thanks to the Pinnon family of Wolf Lake and Richard Tweedy for renewing their subscriptions to the The Gazette-Democrat and giving me the credit.

Valentine's Day steak dinner planned at Anna VFW post

Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 near Anna is planning to serve a steak dinner on Valentine's Day, which is Tuesday, Feb. 14.

The post invites everyone to "stay close to home and support a local business."

The menu for the dinner will include New York strip steak, a baked potato, salad and dessert for a donation of \$20 per person.

Dinner starts at 6 p.m. A 6 p.m. seating or a 6:30 p.m. seating can be requested.

The dinner is open to the public. Dine in, carry out or drive thru options are

available.

Dinner reservations can be made any day after 1 p.m. at the VFW post.

The post notes that payment must be made at the time a reservation is made. Only 76 steaks will be available.

"Surprise your sweetheart and call your local florist and order flowers for her to be delivered to the VFW and we will bring them to your table," the Anna post noted.

More information is available by contacting the post at 833-7737.

Dorothy Ann Kacinski

Dorothy Ann Kacinski, 74, of Lick Creek, died Tuesday, Jan. 17, at her home.

Funeral arrangements were pending at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro.

To view the obituary and to leave online condolences for the family, visit www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com.

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

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Bro. Brad Easton's sermon Sunday was titled "Draw Near to God," part 2, with his main scripture from the book of James.

The message shared that "by submitting to God, we are given the keys to live our earthly life and our future eternal life.

"Often, we let the world influence us and allow it to fill us with doubts and fears rather than trust in God. In those times, we must resubmit ourselves to the Lord, to get back into close relationship with Him again."

Bro. Brad used an analogy of a young couple newly married: "When they were in their vehicle, she sat as close to him as she could. As time went by, she gravitated to the door on her side of the seat. After some time she commented how nice it was when they were so close...to which the fellow replied 'I haven't moved!'"

"So it is with our relationship with God; when we first accept Him as our Lord and Savior, we feel so close to him. But as time passes, we often feel as if He isn't as close as He was in the beginning. God never

moves. It is us who need to get back into fellowship with Him."

Addi Bonner rang the bell calling everyone to worship.

Addi Bonner and Rodney Miller took up the offering.

Rodney Miller is the head elder during the month of January.

The members of Camp Ground Church were happy to have some back in worship Sunday after being "under the weather." Prayers were offered for those who are now sick or suffering from various things.

Birthday wishes this week go to Deloris Pribble, whose birthday is Jan. 19.

Congratulations go to Camp Ground Church's pastor and his wife, Bro. Brad and Amber Easton, whose wedding anniversary was Monday, Jan. 16.

All are welcome to services each Sunday at Camp Ground Church. A time of fellowship, with coffee and donuts for early arrivals, is followed by Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

CUSTOM PROCESSING OF BEEF, PORK, GOAT, SHEEP

Deer Processing Oct. 1st through Jan. 30th.

TRIPLE C MEATS

Visit our website: triplecmeats.com

Open: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
5565 St. Rt. 146 East • Anna, IL 62906

833-5986

46GTF

"The Preaching Pen"

Lessons From Apollos

Acts 18:24-26

Apollos is an intriguing biblical personality; he had a Roman name (which was a false God). He was an Alexandrian Jew who arrived in Ephesus during Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey. Although Apollos knew and taught about the Messiah, what he learned saved his soul as well as the thousands whom he taught.

Apollos was teachable. He was born and taught at Alexandria, one of the intellectual centers of Roman Empire. H. Leo Boles refers to Apollos as an "apt student and rapid learner with a desire to know full truth." v. 24 Apollos was eloquent, mighty in the scriptures, v. 25 "instructed in the way of the Lord." Apollos had a good command and profound understanding of Old Testament, but he did not know of the wonderful news that the Messiah had come, died, and was resurrected. He did not know the wonderful news of how sin was no longer "pushed aside" but removed forever; we must remain teachable as Apollos.

Apollos was correctable. Priscilla and Aquilla saw it was their duty **1 Thessalonians 2:9**, their responsibility **1 Tim 4:1-10** to teach Apollos the correct way. They took Apollos "unto them" (in their home and in their hearts); they did not label him a false teacher nor make public marking **2 Thessalonians 3:15**. Priscilla and Aquilla expounded or gave an "intense" explanation which enlightened, more perfectly (accurately), ensuring that Apollos understood this information. Apollos accepted good news of Jesus, just as he had done previously. He did not get haughty; he did not get his feelings hurt. We must be correctable as well; God's standard is key.

Apollos was useful. With the baptism of John on his mind, Apollos was workable, taught diligently (accurately NKJV). This was the key to his usefulness. Christ's call for repentance even made Apollos more effective; it made his ministry even more successful. Human beings do not like change and especially once we get our minds made up. From the beginning, Apollos was zealous, but he always wanted to be zealous toward God. Do we?

Ryan Thornsberry
Anna church of Christ

Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

Please have news to me by Sunday night. Email me at marthaannwebb@gmail.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.

Christmas Trip

Jean Few returned to her childhood home and joined family for holidays at Crestwood. She stayed with her mother Elizabeth Chase who is 98 and her sister Elizabeth Peters.

Trip

John David Newman from Smithfield was in Anna visiting friends. He enjoyed a late Christmas with his daughter Lisa and Cliff Darcy and family in Jackson, Mo. He said he drove in snow from Smithfield to Nashville on his way here.

61st Anniversary

Family and friends extend congratulations and best wishes to Collin and Alice Foreman Boyd on the occasion of their 61st wedding anniversary. They were married at the United Methodist Church in Anna on Jan. 14, 1962.

Congratulations

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School got four awards in the January High School Annual Show at Little Egypt Art Association in Marion. They received cash awards and ribbons.

Birthdays

Shirley Page who celebrated her birthday Sunday, Jan. 15. Jack Bigler who will celebrate his birthday Sunday, Jan. 22.

Retirement

Barbara Casper is retiring from Jonesboro city clerk after 18 years of service. Thanks for always being so friendly and helpful to ev-

eryone. Congratulations to Brandi Boyd, Jonesboro's new city clerk.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

January birthdays: 17th Lowell Huckleberry, 18th Rowan Wright, 19th Charlotte Echols, Lola Edmonds, 21st Bill Goodman, 22nd Audrey Grear, Dennis Thornburg, Miles Yates.

Jan. 8 attendance: 8 a.m. worship, 81. 10:30 a.m. worship, 120. Small group Bible study, 197. 6 p.m. worship, 31.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal was met this year with a total of \$4,097.29.

Souper Bowl Event, Sunday school and attendance contest and food drive starts Jan. 22 to Feb. 12 ending with a Souper Bowl fellowship with chili and dessert contests on Feb. 12 following the 10:30 a.m. service.

Clear Creek Baptist Association men's wild game supper Friday, Jan. 20, at 6 p.m. at Big Creek Baptist Church.

Right to Life meeting is Sunday, Jan. 22, at 4:30 in the FLC chapel.

Momma Lou's Crafters will meet Thursday, Jan. 26, in the church basement. This month's project is a decoupage charger.

Upward Basketball and Cheer has begun at Anna Heights. Games start every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon series: The Mission of Re-

newal. This week: Understanding Our Mission.

Anna First Baptist Church

Sunday morning call to worship was "Joy in the Morning" and Psalm 100 "A Psalm of Thanksgiving."

Rev. Lupe Lopez's sermon was "Two-Faced" with scripture from Matthew and Ephesians.

Jean Denny played the piano and led in the singing of "Oh, How I Love Jesus" and "Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I know." "Open the Eyes of my Heart Lord" and "Goodness of God" led by the Worship Team.

Sunday, Jan. 22, at 10:15 a.m. Rev. Zack Thompson will be starting a new children's church during morning worship in the sanctuary. It will be upstairs right after the children get out of Sunday school.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Sympathy to the family of Marilyn Belcher who passed this week. Memorial service later.

Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was "Giving Your Testimony with scripture from John. Special music was "Great is Thy Faithfulness" by the Hand Chimes."

Anna VFW

Star Karaoke will be at the VFW Friday night 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Public welcome.

Camp Ground Church

The congregation of Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church would like to express their most sincere appreciation to the donor who purchased wreaths for the veterans buried in Camp Ground Cemetery for December 2023.

They also expressed their gratitude to me for placing wreaths on the veterans graves this year from our matched wreaths. Sandy Boaz said "in all the 'blahness' of a cold January morning, they looked so pretty when they arrived at church Sunday.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

Special thanks for laying Honor Wreaths for Veterans to Ernest and Marilyn Russell for always supporting Honor Wreaths for Veterans for the last 4 years. They always bought their wreaths for St. Johns Cemetery at the first of the year when Wreaths Across America matches the wreaths so they were able to lay 20 after their purchase of 10 and the matched 10. Ernest always came to Anna City Garage and picked his 20 wreaths up and placed them on veterans' graves. He is

appreciated so much for doing this.

A special thanks to Beverly Bolanowski for laying wreaths at McGinnis cemetery. Terrie Rhymer is appreciated for always helping lay Honor Wreaths for Veterans in our Anna Cemetery.

Adding more who have donated this year for 2023 for the matched wreaths we are very happy to announce an anonymous donor for Camp Ground Cemetery and thanks to Bill Smith who will pick the 32 wreaths up and place them. Bill said many of the veterans there were Civil War veterans who had no one left to buy for them and the donation was so much appreciated. Dwight and Sandra Boaz for their donation for Tilman Manus, Civil War veteran at Trinity Cemetery. Steven and Sue Bauer for their donation for Curtis L. Adams. Alma Osterholm for her donation for Harvey W. Osterholm, Harvey G. Osterholm, Kenneth Tucker, Tracy and Diane Kirby for their donation for Kenneth Millis and a veteran that has no one left to buy for them. GFWC Illinois Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club for their donation in memory of president Jane Bauer's cousin Donald Aldridge, Elaine Shepherd for her donation in memory of her husband Robert Penninger, Barbara Adams in memory of her husband Robert Adams Anna Cemetery and her cousin Tim Stokes at McGinnis. Jean Few in memory of her husband Howard and Jean asked for the donated wreath for her to place at the Anna Jo Garden Club/Hindman Park for the Blue Star/Gold Star marker. Townsend F. Dodd Post 344 American Legion for the American Legion veterans buried at the Anna Cemetery and the veterans memorial by the 4-way stop in Anna, and the matched wreaths for Kelly Cemetery. Shirley Page for a veteran that has no one to buy for them. Terrie Rhymer for James Chamness and will pick up and take to another cemetery, Ryan and Danyelle Dodd for two veterans that have no one to buy for them in honor of their children Eva Meisenheimer and Eleanor Dodd, Sue Williams for Gene Frank Williams, Mike and Becky Estel for seven veterans that have no one left to buy for them, Geraldine Davis for two family members and two veterans that have no one to buy for them. Karen Betts for her dad Stanley Bo-

swell, Jr., one for Edward Eugene Taylor and four veterans that do not have a sponsor, Dale and Jean Denny for their donation for Anna Cemetery Jean's dad George Casper and nine veterans that have no one left to buy for them. Bruce and Cindy Mosby two Honor Wreaths for Veterans. Stephen Burns from St. Louis two Civil War veterans. Aaron Hart from Florida five veterans. Scott and Carolyn Ury for Bob Ury at St. Johns, Carolyn will pick up and place the wreaths there, Wayne and Debrah Lingle for Forrest Dale Young WWII veteran. Carol Kroeger for three Honor Wreaths for Veterans that she will take to another cemetery. I have put some of the matched wreaths I had at Camp Ground and Casper Church. We need a lot of volunteers to take on the responsibility of the smaller cemeteries if we are to ever be able to place an Honor Wreath for Veterans on every veteran in Union County.

Our matched wreaths are over now but you can still purchase an Honor Wreaths for Veterans for your loved one all year till the end of November 2023. We will lay the wreaths Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. The rest of this year \$15 spent for an Honor Wreath for Veterans \$5 of that will go to 2024 so we are always building up for the next year while working on this year. How wonderful to honor our veterans this way.

A special thanks to everyone who lays their own family wreaths and all the many volunteers who help us lay the wreaths. I was talking to Geraldine Davis and she said she was happy to see her husband's cousin Judy Wyatt while laying her wreaths and helping lay other veterans. They had a good visit.

If I have left your name out please let me know and I will put it in next weeks. Never forget to honor, respect and teach. We do this to honor our veterans not for any rewards. May God bless all our military past present and future. Words

from Ronald Reagan "If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be one nation gone under." "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free." May God always bless and protect the United States of America.

I received this letter, I would like to share with everyone because I feel it not only is for me but for everyone who helped lay our Honor Wreaths for Veterans and who will help us in the future, from Merrill Worcester founder of Wreaths Across America. Each wreath you laid was handmade and unique. They are made of balsam fir grown in the Downeast region of Maine, USA, with pride. Some of the needles do become detached during the making, packing, and transportation of the wreaths. Please keep in mind that every wreath has tens of thousands of needles and it is normal for this to happen. Because the wreaths are packed tightly in boxes, it will take 2-3 hours for them to fully relax to their natural circular shape. Before placing a wreath on a headstone, take a minute to re-fluff the greens and rearrange the bow. When the wreath is finally laid at the headstone, please make sure the bow is at the 12:00 position. It is important to have that intimate moment with the hero you are honoring, but please remember to take a step back and look at the complete picture of what all of us have accomplished through the mission to remember, honor and teach. Again, thank you for your patriotism. Without you National Wreaths Across America Day would not be so nice. God bless our veterans and God bless America. With thanks, Mer-



Carol Gordon celebrated her 85th birthday with her son and daughter-in-law Kerry and Cindi Willis and family and friends.



Velma Eaker, celebrated her birthday on Friday, Jan. 13. She thought she would only receive her usual three birthday cards, but instead was surprised with many more birthday wishes including several letters from students in Jen Stokes' class at A-JCHS. She felt loved and blessed after receiving so many birthday wishes.



A baby shower was held for Amber and Robert Mayberry, by their parents, Will Bracken and Lori and Bobby Mayberry. It was held at Trinity Pentecost Church in Jonesboro. Lori decorated beautifully in sage green and gold. They enjoyed bbq, salads, then had cake and punch. This will be Robert and Amber's fifth child, their other children are Lexie, Ava, Kylie and Titus. Several family members attended and enjoyed the fellowship.



Barbara and Norm Bauer are pleased to announce the arrival of great-grandchild number nine, Joelle Rae Hileman, born Nov. 14, 2022, to Lucas and Rachael Johnson Hileman in Evansville, Ind. She is the granddaughter of Doug and Beth Bauer Hileman, Anna. Joelle is pictured with great-grandfather Norm Bauer.



Barbara and Norm Bauer are pleased to welcome great-grandchild number 10, Oscar Paul Bauer, born Nov. 28, 2022, to Matthew and Paula Schwartz Bauer in St. Louis. He is the grandson of Lou and Debra Brown Bauer of Chesterfield, Mo. He is pictured with great-grandparents Barbara and Norm Bauer.

Opinion and Commentary

Letter to the editor

CEO program offers special thanks for support

To the editor,

We, the Union County CEO class of 2023, would like to express our appreciation for the partners, helpers, purchasers, and other individuals who contributed to the success of our class business! The people that supported our business are what makes it so special, and it could not be done without them.

This year, the UCCEO team decided to continue the tradition of The Community Christmas Sampler Boxes. These boxes had the intent of creating traffic to Union County's small businesses, and the support they received was tremendous!

The process of team members going out and approaching these business owners started in November. The team went to dozens of businesses, pitched our vision, and hoped for the best.

We were pleasantly surprised with the multitude of businesses that wanted to advertise their goods and services in this way and play a part in the success of our class business and the program itself. This was one of the biggest goals for the team as we continuously discussed the importance of involving the community and to bring awareness of the wonderful small businesses in our area.

Every business owner/worker that we met with was so kind and generous, doing everything they could to contribute. Not only did the team gain partners for their business, but we also gained life long connections to the people we had met and talked to. Successful people really do give back! (See our "Thank You, Sponsors" ad elsewhere in this issue of The Gazette-Democrat.)

As the time rolled on and the products started to accumulate, the excitement came right along with them. The thought, time, and effort each business leader put into selecting each item was heartwarming and showed their passion for the bettering of the Union County business community. Getting each item from our partners was just as exciting as the next, and the team became more and more eager to deliver these boxes to the community.

The support did not stop there. There were many individuals that helped and dedicated their time to the process of the class business planning and execution as well as on pickup day. UCCEO board members such as Angela Boyd, Evelyn Bailey, Mindy Carter and Mark Chamness helped largely with things like finances, advertisement and fine details.

Pickup day came, and the day that the team had been preparing for months now had finally arrived. However, bad weather also came. Fortunately, Anna Junior High generously donated an inside area for dry assembly. Boxes, crinkle paper, bags and people filled the space as the team and everyone who helped scrambled around to prepare for box pickup. The excitement on people's faces as they reacted to their boxes, the feedback, and the smiling faces of everyone who drove through was truly a memorable experience for all of us – an experience you live only once. It was not only a class business, but we saw it truly had become a community event.

UCCEO board members Lisa Tomazzoli, Stephanie Cox and Dr. Cody Hubble attended and assisted the team on the day of pickup, dedicating their time to the program without question. Other individuals such as Heather and Dexter Reynolds helped with the transportation of our boxes and the decoration of our photo set. The UCCEO team would also like to give a special thanks to Jennifer Osman for not only being one of our platinum partners but for transporting those Schoolhouse Cheesecake Bites safely to the team on pickup day. The undying support from community members is what makes the class business so successful and really fulfills the goals of the UCCEO team!

The 2023 Christmas Boxes experience was truly a success. The word of small businesses in Union County was spread far and wide, which was the primary purpose.

So we would like to give special thanks and appreciation to all of the people that made this possible such as our partners, board members, purchasers, and other individuals involved. The love and support of the community and organizations within it is what keeps Union County growing and thriving. With another successful class business down in the books, the Union County CEO program could not have done it without them!

Sincerely, Abigail Smith, for Union County CEO '23

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Thank you, Clarence, for paying attention...

Do you believe in guardian angels?

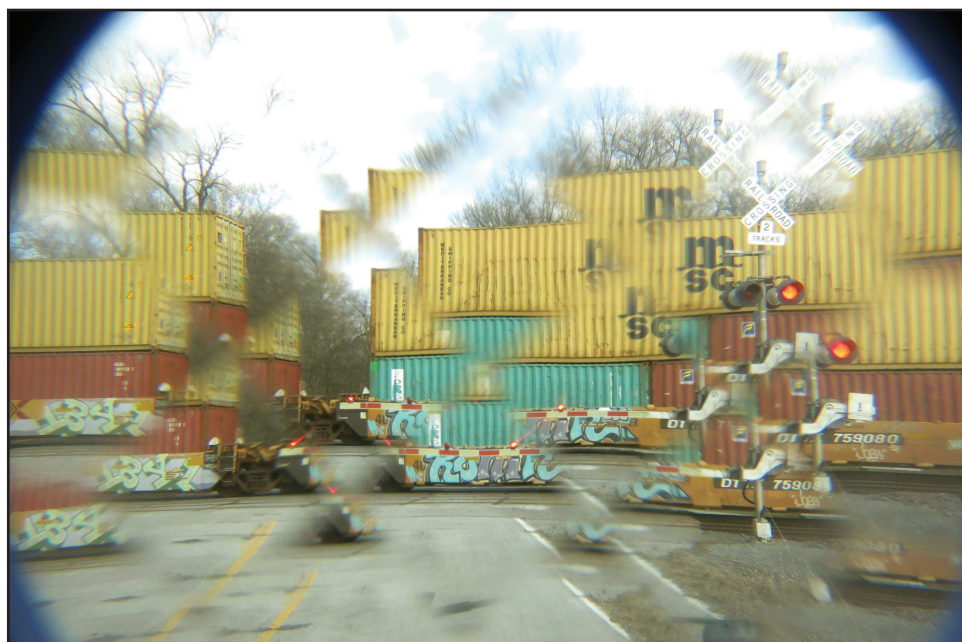
We'll get back to that question in just a bit. But first, a few words about one of the photographs which accompanies this week's column.

During the afternoon of the 11th day of the first month of the now not so new year of 2023, yours truly went for a ride out to the Mississippi River bottom lands in Union County.

My goal was to find...and to photograph...waterfowl at the Union County State Fish and Wildlife Area... that place most of us pretty much know as the refuge. Photographs of waterfowl did not happen. Truth be told, I did not see a single goose...or duck...or any other feathered creature which frequents the water. At one point, I did hear what sounded like geese off in the distance...beyond a tree line, west of the road that goes through the refuge.

I did see a turtle in water which is parallel to the railroad tracks on the west side of the refuge. The railroad tracks themselves are parallel to the Great River Road, also known as Illinois Route 3. Didn't expect to see a turtle in January, but the temperature that day was in the 60s. Which, I suppose, explained the other turtles I saw in some water near a wooden plank bridge in suburban Ware.

Now...about that photograph...of a train. Really, it is a train. Sometime, fairly recently during the Journey Through Life, I came across an old kaleidoscope at home which happened to be falling apart. (The kaleidoscope, not home.) I kept the lens, thinking it might come in handy some day for taking a photograph.



Magical Mystery Tour? Nah. With apologies to Messieurs Lennon and McCartney, I do not think there is mention of a southbound freight train in "Magical Mystery Tour." I'm guessing there has to be a country music song with lyrics about such a train... By the way...the photograph is explained in the column...

I had the kaleidoscope lens with me during my journey to the bottom lands. While waiting for a southbound train to make its way through a railroad crossing at the refuge, I stuck the lens in front of my camera and took some pics...including the one you get to see this week. Such things happen when I have too much time on my hands. And, these days, I do indeed have more time on my hands. Too much? I'm still figuring that out...

Enough about adventures in the bottom lands...

So...I'll ask again. Do you believe in guardian angels? Monday evening, I'm pretty sure a guardian angel was watching over yours truly. He may have been an unseen passenger in the car. For all I know, the angel might have been Clarence. He might have some time on his hands, now that the Christmas holiday season has come to an end.

Monday evening, yours truly had left The Paragraph

Factory and was motoring home on old U.S. Route 51. Just outside of Anna, I couldn't help but notice an oncoming vehicle which seemed to be intent on joining me in my lane. Thankfully, the other vehicle, perhaps with some assistance from Clarence, quickly edged back to where it was supposed to be.

Thank you, Clarence.

Shortly after that unsettling encounter, while I was somewhat calmly attempting to get safely home, I happened to look off to my left. There was a deer, with ghostly eyes glowing in the dark. The deer was right along the highway. Thankfully, the deer stayed put.

Thank you, Clarence.

Eventually, I made it home safely. I determined that I would go for a walk... and, perhaps, ponder the existence of guardian angels while wandering through the dark.

I stepped out on our porch...and heard a rustling sound in the leaves just off

to my left. I figured one of our friendly neighborhood raccoons, or maybe a possum, might be paying a visit on a Monday evening.

I was carrying a flashlight to illuminate the dark of a January night. I turned on the light and shined the beams in the direction of the noise.

The sound in the leaves was indeed being created by a furry visitor...a critter dressed in formal black, with matching white stripes... Yup. A skunk. Right there. I moved quickly away from our visitor... and really, really hoped that it would not notice my presence...and do what skunks do. It didn't.

Thank you, Clarence.

The rest of my walk... and the rest of the evening... turned out to be pretty much uneventful. I guess a guardian angel was enjoying the walk, too.

Thank you, Clarence. I'm sure glad that bell rang and you got those wings... Life really is wonderful.



Went out looking for geese one day last week...found...turtles...including this one...which was out enjoying temperatures in the 60s in the middle of winter...

Anna Arts Center to host reception for new exhibit

"Imagined Divides," an exhibit featuring the works of artist Zach Rowatt of Goreville is planned from Jan. 20 through Feb. 12 at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center. The arts center is located at 117 W. Davie St. in Anna. An opening reception for the exhibit is planned from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at the arts center. The reception is open to the public. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibit is scheduled to be open for viewing on

Thursdays, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; on Fridays, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and on Saturdays and Sundays, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Rowatt works with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Vienna, providing technical conservation planning assistance in Johnson, Massac and Pope counties.

Groups that may want to see the exhibit can contact Lee Hackney by phone at 904-625-1109 or by email vabchlee@gmail.com to set a date and time for viewing.

With a strong foundation, you can build on a scale that others only dream about... And that's what we've done at our new 70,000-square foot

INTEGRATED HEALTH CENTER



**NOW
OPEN**

The Southeast Center for Integrated Health Services houses the Southeast Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Center, Southeast Women's Integrated Health and Southeast Breast Health. This new facility defines our commitment to the highest standards of care, the most advanced technology, all, at the lowest cost to you.

 **Southeast**

Center for
Integrated
Health Services

Welcoming Patients

at 650 South Mount Auburn Road, Cape Girardeau

> sehealth.org