

# THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Anna, Illinois

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\$1.00

Volume 174, Number 15

## News

### Notes

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

Anna School District No. 37 reports that the first of two Community and Business Expo events was successful.

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Anna Junior High School students Jaron Taliseo and Tyler Haywood have earned 2023 Illinois Principal's Association students of the year honors.

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Cobden High School student Makenzie Hilliard has earned Golden Apple Scholar recognition.

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Cobden School math team students earned honors at recent ACES sectional competition at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, including Nick Sutliff, first place in computer fundamentals; Sam Ingold, first place in physics; and Emma Kilpatrick, second place in math.

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The Cobden Youth & Community Advocates group is working to support the Pets Are Worth Saving, PAWS, program in Union County. A Cobden School District-wide Purple Out for PAWS event is planned May 2.

\*\*\*

Cobden Junior High School basketball player Justin (Buzz) Campbell has earned boys' basketball first-team all-conference honors.

\*\*\*

The Blue Boar, located along Kratzinger Hollow Road between Anna and Cobden, had a grand re-opening celebration on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17. The celebration included music by the Whiskey River Band, food and more.

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Reminder: The City of Jonesboro plans to begin cleaning up the Jonesboro Cemetery on March 27.

(continued on page 2)

## Forecast calling for heavy rainfall in region

The National Weather Service office in Paducah advises that a storm system will bring the potential for heavy rainfall from late Thursday afternoon (today) through Friday in the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Ken-

tucky region.

Some of the rain may be heavy enough to cause flash flooding, the weather service office reported on its website.

River flooding will also become a concern from Friday into next week.

The weather service office said early this week that confidence was increasing in the potential for thunderstorms and heavy rainfall that may lead to flash flooding Thursday night and Friday.

A few strong to severe

storms will be possible Thursday night into Friday.

Forecast average storm total amounts will be in the 2 to 4 inch range by the time the rain chances end late Friday night.

This amount of rainfall falling on top of wet

grounds may lead to flooding issues, especially where thunderstorms might locally enhance those amounts to greater than 3 inches.

The weather service office noted that the entire region faces a slight risk for developing flooding issues.

## Civil War Weekend set in Union County

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council and the PAST organization of Union County invite the community to be a part of an upcoming Civil War Weekend. Activities are planned Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 24-26, in Anna and Jonesboro.

Civil War Weekend events are scheduled at the Anna Arts Center and at PAST's Heritage House in Jonesboro.

### Blue and Gray Dinner

A Blue and Gray Dinner is planned Friday, March 24. The dinner begins at 6 p.m.

The guest speaker is scheduled to be Seth Graves, who will portray D.L. Moody, a member of the United States Christian Commission during the Civil War. He has served for the past three years as principal at Pope County High School.

The Kitchen on Lafayette is catering the Blue and Gray Dinner. Those who wanted to attend were asked to RSVP no later than March 21.

### Saturday Events

Speakers and exhibits are

## Weather

### Low of 21 degrees

The low temperature dipped to 21 degrees during the period of March 14-20 in the Union County area. The first day of spring was March 20. The high temperature for the period was 57.

Precipitation for the period included .57 of an inch of rain on March 16 and .19 of an inch of rain on March 1.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, March 14	45	26
Wednesday, March 15	54	21
Thursday, March 16	57	33
Friday, March 17	55	30
Saturday, March 18	39	25
Sunday, March 19	40	23
Monday, March 20	52	21

scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the arts center, which is located at 125 W. Davie St. in Anna. All of the day's activities are free.

Exhibits are scheduled to include Civil War era guns and memorabilia. Children's activities also are planned.

The schedule for guest speakers includes:

9 a.m. Robert Weeks, retired Southern Illinois University Carbondale professor and founding member of the Cape Civil War Roundtable. His presentation is titled "Ride, Forrest, Ride," which will be about the life of Confederate Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest.

10:15 a.m. Tony Fleege, program director and professor of mortuary science and funeral services. His presentation is titled "The Funerals of Lincoln and Jefferson Davis."

11:30 a.m. Dr. Larry Peterson, who currently serves on the Illinois Community College Board and was the sixth president of Shawnee Community College. His presentation is titled "Lincoln Visits Richmond."

12:45 p.m. Darrel Dexter, Southern Illinois historian and author. His presentation is titled "Stephen A. Douglas's Forgotten Visit to Jonesboro."

### PAST Open House

PAST plans to host an open house from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at its Heritage House in Jonesboro. Heritage House is located at 102 S. Main St. Local historian Pat Brumleve is scheduled to speak at 2 p.m. about John A. Logan's story and will show memorabilia he has collected. Doors are scheduled to open at 1:30 p.m. for tours of Heritage House. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

For more information about the Civil War Weekend, contact Lee Hackney by email at vabchlee@gmail.com or by cell phone at 1-904-625-1109.



### Bicycle, helmet presented

From left are Anna-Jonesboro Masonic Lodge No. 111 Junior Warden, Brother Brandon Smithey; 2023 Bikes for Books winner Milam Wilson; lodge Worshipful Master, Brother Rick Tweedy; and Shawnee Elementary School principal Amy Reynolds. Photo provided.

## Masons offer 'Bikes for Books' program to encourage reading

The Illinois Masonic Children's Assistance Program, IMCAP, an Illinois Freemasonry charity, partnered with Anna-Jonesboro Masonic Lodge No. 111 in offering the "Bikes for Books" program. "Bikes for Books" is a new program to encourage reading in schools.

The goal of the "Bikes for Books" program is to reverse a decline of reading in children.

In order to accomplish this goal, IMCAP encouraged Illinois Masonic Lodges to partner with their local schools in a fun reading-based endeavor to win a bicycle and bike helmet.

The bicycle and promotional material were provided by IMCAP and the bicycle helmet was provided by Anna-Jonesboro Lodge No. 111.

A-J Masonic Lodge No. 111 partnered with Shawnee Elementary School in Wolf Lake for this year's reading program.

The program was available to students who are currently enrolled in grades pre-kindergarten through 5th grade. The program ran from Feb. 6 through March 3. Students read nearly 200 books during this time.

The 2023 bicycle and helmet was won by Milam Wilson, a pre-kindergarten student at Shawnee Elementary School.

On March 14, Milam was presented with her new bicycle and helmet by Worshipful Master of A-J

Lodge No. 111 Brother Rick Tweedy and Junior Warden Brother Brandon Smithey.

Organizers reported that overall, the program was successful and well received by the students of Shawnee Elementary School.

Anna-Jonesboro Masonic Lodge No. 111 thanked principal Amy Reynolds and the faculty at Shawnee Elementary School for their support in the reading program.

### Lawyer in Courthouse set

Those in need of help with answering legal questions are invited to attend a free Lawyer in the Courthouse event which is planned March 24 at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon in the community room at the courthouse, which is located at 309 W. Market St.

Lawyer in the Courthouse is being presented by the Union County circuit clerk's office in coordination with the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice.

To reserve a spot, call 833-5913, option 3, or email circuitclerk@unioncountyil.gov.



### Munchkin land celebrates

The citizens of Oz celebrated the demise of the Wicked Witch of the East in Anna-Jonesboro Community High School's performance of "The Wizard of Oz." The A-J theater department presented three performances of the famous musical, with shows on March 17 and 18 and a matinee on March 19 in the high school auditorium. More pictures from the musical can be found on page 5. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.



**THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT**  
**THE TALK AND COBLEN REVIEW**  
 Serving Union County Since 1849  
 (USPS 215-280)  
 ISSN 2834-6165 (Print)  
 2834-6473 (Online)  
 112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 528  
 Anna, Illinois 62906-0528

Phone: 618-833-3136  
 Fax: 618-833-5813  
 Email: [news@gazette.com](mailto:news@gazette.com)

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0528

**PUBLISHED THURSDAY**

Jerry L. Hoppert \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher  
 Geoff Skinner \_\_\_\_\_ Editor  
 Lorraine J. Hinton \_\_\_\_\_ Production Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
 Per Year - July, 2022

In Union County	\$42.00
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**New facility in Anna**

A groundbreaking ceremony was held at the future location of a 5,000 square foot bus depot facility in Anna. Local lawmakers, transportation executives and other members of the community wielded the shovels in the event. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

**Shawnee Mass Transit District**

**Groundbreaking held for new facility in Anna**

A groundbreaking ceremony was held last week in Union County to commemorate the beginning of a building project that will expand the public transportation options for residents of Southern Illinois.

The spot of the shoveling ceremony will be the future location of a new 5,000 square foot bus depot for the Shawnee Mass Transit District located in Anna. The event was held on Wednesday, March 15. "Through Rebuild Illinois number one grant, we got \$2.7 million in fund-

ing," said Shawnee Mass Transit District executive director Mike Pietrowski.

"We are building this depot, which is going to be a four thousand square foot office building with a thousand square foot maintenance bay."

Part of the grant money will also go towards the construction of a depot facility in Karnak.

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, was on hand to discuss the importance of this project for the region.

"Public transportation, as we all know, is critical,

especially to the rural areas of Southern Illinois," said Fowler. "So many residents don't have vehicles or transportation opportunities."

Shoun Reece, the deputy director of transit for the Illinois Department of Transportation, was in attendance as well.

"This facility will be used to make a difference for the families here in Southern Illinois by supporting public transport," said Reece.

"Illinois has public transit in 96 of 102 counties that

we serve for the state. Connecting people to jobs, to school, to medical services, to vital services both safely and securely."

Fowler expressed his optimism that even more development projects will be coming to the region.

"Even greater things are coming to Southern Illinois, I have full faith in that," said Fowler.

"There are going to be a lot more groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings coming up in the next several months," the Southern Illinois legislator added.

**News Notes**

(continued from page 1)  
 WSIL TV reported that a "meet and greet style event" with players and the coach of the Cobden High School boys basketball team of 1964 is planned from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. March 25 at Champs Games & Grill at 1618 N. Park Ave. in Herrin.

A Cairo Magnolia Celebration is set for May 6. Touring of historic buildings, food and entertainment is planned for the day. Don Patton is president of the Cairo Historic Preservation organization.

State officials are proud to note that Illinois continues to be the number one producer of soybeans in the United States. Illinois is the second largest producer of corn in the country, only behind neighboring Iowa.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has announced that the 2023 spring trout fishing season will open Saturday, April 1, at 58 ponds, lakes, and streams throughout the state.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources also reports that about 900 young archers from 42 Illinois schools have qualified to participate in the 2023 Illinois State Archery Tournament which is scheduled March 24-25 in Champaign.

FOX2 in St. Louis reported that plans for a development of a four-lane rural expressway through Monroe, Randolph, Perry and Jackson counties in Southern Illinois "is taking on a new life." The highway would connect Southern Illinois to the St. Louis area.

As near as we can tell, most folks around here have had enough of cold weather and wind...

*Note to readers and candidates: This week's paper features information about candidates in contested municipal races which are on the April 4 election ballot in Union County. We had planned to feature school board candidates this week as well. However, due to computer issues, information about the school board candidates will not be able to appear until next week. Please be sure to vote in April.*

**Anna police, fire chiefs share reports**

The chiefs of the Anna Police Department and the Anna Fire and Rescue Department have issued activity reports for the month of February.

The reports were given at a March 7 regular meeting of the Anna City Council.

Anna Police Chief Bryan Watkins shared the following highlights:

449 total calls. 209 officer initiated calls. 100 vehicle stops. 138 warnings. 126 arrests: 89 traffic. 28 criminal. Nine warrant.

Anna Fire Chief Mike Dammerman shared the following highlights:

One mutual aid call. Two good intent calls. One weather watch. One field/woods fire. One gas leak. One landing zone. Three auto alarms. One mattress fire.

**Snake Road closed for migration**

Twice each year, in the spring and in the fall, Forest Service Road No. 345, also known as Snake Road, in Union County is closed to help ensure safe crossing for several species of snakes and amphibians during a critical time of migration.

The road is closed by the U.S. Forest Service. Snake Road is located at the LaRue-Pine Hills Research National Area near Wolf Lake.

The 2.5-mile-long road was set to close March 15. The road is scheduled to remain closed through May 15.

The closing of the road is made to allow snakes and amphibians, some of which are considered threatened and endangered in Illinois and the United States, to migrate from their winter habitat in the limestone bluffs across the road to their summer habitat in LaRue Swamp.

The gradual, two-month migration event attracts people from across the country who are eager to witness the rich diversity of reptile and amphibian species along this single stretch of road.

Though the road is closed to vehicles, it is open to people traveling on foot.

**Child Abuse Prevention Month activities scheduled during April in Union County**

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. As the number of unreported child abuse cases continues to rise in Illinois as a result of the pandemic, child abuse advocates in Union County are encouraging residents of all ages to get involved in awareness and prevention activities this April.

In 2011, the Union County Child Abuse Prevention, UCCAP, planning committee was co-developed by WIBH Radio in Anna and the Children's Medical and Mental Health Resource Network, CMMHRN, to promote child abuse awareness and prevention.

The committee included county child advocacy agencies, healthcare providers, law enforcement, schools and businesses.

In 2019, Union County

CAP expanded its support under Prevent Child Abuse, PCA, Illinois.

Today, the committee still includes its original members and many new ones who work together to improve the lives of Union County abused and neglected children and their families.

"As we recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month, let us recommit ourselves to protecting the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable population, said Rachel Chruszczyk, prevention specialist-Southern Region for Prevent Child Abuse Illinois. "By raising awareness and taking action, we can ensure that every child grows up in a safe and nurturing environment, free from the trauma of abuse. Let us work together to build a brighter

future for our children."

Organizers noted that many family-friendly events and activities are planned for April, including:

April 3 at 9 a.m.: "13th Annual CAP Month Proclamation Day" at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro. The event is open to the public.

April 7 is National Wear Blue Day.

April 7 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.: "Coffee with a Cop" at Kiki's Coffee House in Anna. Sponsored by Anna Police Department.

April 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.: "PJ's & Movie Night" at Kiki's Coffee House. All ages welcome. Admission is one pair of kid-size socks to be given to children receiving shoes through the Warm Soles Campaign.

WIBH Radio's second

Annual Warm Soles, New Hope Campaign to raise funds to buy new shoes for Southern Illinois children in need. Deadline to donate is May 12.

Purchase a blue cookie through the awareness campaign, #GoBlue Cookie Campaign, at Anna Baking Company and Davis Pastry in Anna.

Purchase Blue Kids signs from the Children's Medical & Mental Health Resource Network.

For more information about these and other events planned in Union County for Child Abuse Prevention Month, visit Facebook.com/UnionCountyCAP or contact Rachel Chruszczyk at [rchruszczyk@pcailinois.org](mailto:rchruszczyk@pcailinois.org) or Shawna Rhine at Southern 7 Head Start at 618-634-2297, extension 9161.

**Wellness on Wheels services set in region**

For Southern Illinois residents in need of basic health care, the Wellness on Wheels, WOW, van may be able to help.

Through a grant funded by the Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, Southern 7 Health Department continues to provide a variety of health care services through IDPH WOW van clinics.

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 in the region includes:

March 25: Ferne Clyffe State Park, Goreville. 9 a.m. to noon.

March 29. Mounds Dollar General Store. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

March 29. Dongola Dollar General Store. 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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, well water tests, flu shots and COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. All services will be offered while supplies are available.

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.

The Wellness on Wheels van is a multidisciplinary unit which is available to the Southern Seven Health Department through a partnership with IDPH to provide health screenings and other services.

**Union County at low level for COVID**

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, announced Friday, March 17, that the CDC reported nine counties in the state were at an elevated community level for COVID-19 last week, compared to 26 a week earlier.

Of those counties, eight were at a medium community level, compared to 26 the previous week. One county was at a high community level, compared to none the previous week.

Union County was at a low community level, as were Alexander, Pulaski, Johnson and Massac counties.

Jackson and Williamson counties were at a medium

community level.

IDPH had recorded a total of 4,092,258 cases and 36,494 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois since the beginning of the pandemic.

The department was reporting 8,966 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Illinois in the week ending March 12, and 63 deaths.

Last week, IDPH also announced that it is working with the Illinois State Board of Education, ISBE, to distribute HEPA, High Efficiency Particulate Air, air purifiers to almost 3,000 schools throughout the state.

The goal is to protect students and schools' staff

IDPH partners with health agencies and hospitals to provide staff and services at the Wellness on Wheels van at sites where people can come for medical services.

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](http://www.southern7.org).

**Union County COVID Cases Update**

**March 15: 6,872 total cases. 70 deaths.**

**March 1: 6,852 total cases. 69 deaths.**

**Feb. 9: 6,826 total cases. 69 deaths.**

**Jan. 29: 6,813 total cases. 69 deaths.**

**Jan. 4, 2023: 6,712 total cases. 69 deaths.**

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health website. Numbers represent statistics since the start of the pandemic.

# Women's conference scheduled in April

Union County Women in Business are planning to host their first women's conference on Saturday, April 29, at Blue Sky Vineyard near Makanda.

The conference is designed to bring women from across the region together for professional and personal development.

Organizers said in a news release that like the Union County Women in Business organization, the April conference "is meant to empower and encourage women in all phases of business and all stages of life."

The conference is scheduled to feature guest speakers who plan to address a range of topics, including self-discovery and promotion, health and wellness, finance, marketing and more.

Speakers, and their topics, are set to include, but are not limited to:

Emily Reuschel: Unsettled to Unstoppable. This keynote will share why so many women feel unsettled, the importance of getting clarity on what women actually want and the value in building habits and an environment to support women's goals.

Allison McDougall: #1 Am Remarkable. #1 Am Remarkable is a global movement that empowers everyone, including underrepresented groups, to celebrate their achievements in the workplace and beyond,

while challenging the social perception around self-promotion.

Holly Hartline and Destiny Dillow: Helping Women Be Healthy and Fit in a Busy World. Every day, women juggle work, family and their own lives. Hartline and Dillow will share tips to help all women to lead a healthier lifestyle.

The conference offers numerous opportunities to network, ask questions of speakers and support women-owned businesses.

Membership in Union County Women in Business is not required to attend the conference.

"Union County Women in Business recognizes the power of coming together as a com-

munity of women supporting women," Union County Women in Business president Hope Holderfield said.

"We are thrilled to collaborate with and present a variety of inspiring speakers that will empower and encourage women to overcome any challenges they may face."

"We are excited to be working with Union County Women in Business on their first annual Women's Conference," Blue Sky Vineyard marketing and event director Brandy Nance said.

"This conference offers a great sense of community while supporting, empowering and celebrating women. It will be both educational and inspiring and we're happy to be a part of that."

Ticket information for the conference is available online at <http://ucwib.com/womens-conference/>.

# Shawnee College budget presentation honored

The Government Finance Officers Association, GFOA, has recognized Shawnee Community College with a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the college's fiscal year 2023 budget.

"This award represents a significant achievement by Shawnee Community College. It reflects the governing body's and staff's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting," GFOA executive

director/CEO Chris Morrill said in a news release.

Shawnee Community College had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation to receive the award.

These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device.

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories and the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories to receive the award.

"This is an amazing honor for Shawnee Community College and reflects the hard work and dedication of many people on our campus," said Shawnee Community College vice president of administrative services Chris Clark.

"It's important for Shawnee Community College to operate under a balanced budget to continue providing quality education and services to everyone in our community,"

GFOA works to advance excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources and practical research for more than 22,500 members and the communities the association serves.

# Forum held for candidates in A-JCHS Board election

**By Benjamin Marxer**  
Anna-Jonesboro Community High School hosted a forum for candidates running for school board in the upcoming election. The event was held in the A-JCHS media center on Thursday, March 16.

School board elections are scheduled for Tuesday, April 4.

Six of the eight candidates on the ballot for the A-JCHS District No. 81 Board of Education election participated, including Tom Sadowski, Angie Johnson, Jed Mix, Nathan Bracken, Ginger Meyer and Pauline Hasty. Candidates Stacey Plott and Crystal Schroeder were not in attendance.

Candidates were posed a series of questions regarding their view on the challenges facing A-JCHS. Each candidate was given one minute to respond. Questions were submitted to candidates in advance.

Historically, there often has been low interest in school board positions. The first question of the night asked candidates what inspired them to run in the current election.

The importance of academics factored into many of the candidates answers.

"A good education is the biggest thing we can do for our children. If we do it right, they will be high functioning adults who can support themselves," said Pauline Hasty. "We can do a better job than we are already doing by really celebrating academics and getting kids to where they need to be so they can be successful adults."

For candidate Angie Johnson, the content of the curriculum was a factor for her involvement.

"I decided to run for the school board because I am concerned about the curriculum and potential agendas being pushed through our school system," said Johnson. "I will not necessarily vote with the majority. I will stand up for what I believe is right for this school district and what represents our communities values."

Candidates were also asked about their vision for the future of A-JCHS should they be elected.

Nathan Bracken would like to see students encouraged to branch out into new interests and activities.

"I think sometimes some of the kids are siloed into either a sport or band or the music department or something like that," said Bracken. "And they feel like that's all they can do and they can't branch out to another silo. We need to bring those silos down."

For Jed Mix, trade classes were a top priority.

"Trades classes are huge for our community. I know there are a lot of hurdles to jump over to get to the trade classes to come back," said Mix. "Not every kid is set to go to college. They don't want to go to col-

lege or they are not ready for college. I was one of those kids. There are things that I learned from my trade classes in school that I still use today."

Board members are often required to address controversial issues with vocal supporters on both sides. Candidates were asked about their process for making those kinds of decisions.

Candidate Ginger Meyer indicated that consulting multiple sources is key to any difficult topic.

"Speaking to a wide variety of people to understand what challenges or barriers to the issue is really important," said Meyer. "Looking at the research, looking at what families need, understanding the issue from every level is really important. Having open discussion to come to a reasonable resolution is what I would encourage."

Candidates were also asked what they believe is a board member's responsibility to a policy or action passed by the board, even if it was a topic they personally voted against.

Supporting a policy regardless of personal feelings on the issue was a key talking point for many candidates.

"It would be my duty to support that policy," said candidate Tom Sadowski. "The time for discussion happens at the meeting. Once the meeting is over, it is the responsibility of the board members to support that policy."

Many candidates indicated the need for transparency both as a board member and an individual.

"We'd need to let the community know what our agreement was as a school board. As far as my personal vote, I would let them know how I voted and why I voted that way, whether it's yea or nay," said Jed Mix.

More than three-quarters of U.S. states are experiencing a teacher shortage, including Illinois. Candidates were asked how they would recommend approaching that problem.

Several candidates discussed the importance of recruiting locally.

"I believe the best way to recruit new teachers starts inside this school with workforce development. One idea would be for the district to provide incentives for students to become teachers by offering them dual college credit classes specifically needed for a teaching degree," said Angie Johnson.

Ginger Meyer suggested working with local colleges to encourage degrees in education.

"Collaborative partnerships with Shawnee College, SIU and SEMO, workforce development initiatives, and grants to support teachers should all be explored," said Meyer. "Another idea would be to explore not capping the years of service

for experienced teachers who may want to join AJ from another district."

School-related frustrations shared on social media has been a source of tension in communities and school districts. Candidates were asked how they would approach these issues.

Tom Sadowski recommends that people take their concerns directly to the authority involved.

"If they have problems with academics, I would tell them that they need to talk to the teacher first, and if the teacher did not satisfy their needs, then I would recommend that they talk to the principal or assistant principal and all the way up to the superintendent," said Sadowski. "Similarly if it was an athletic issue, I ask them to go talk to the coach, then the athletic director, then the superintendent."

Nathan Bracken expressed belief that public discourse via social media should not be disrupted.

"My first thought is that that's their First Amendment right to freedom of speech. And I don't feel like as a school board member that I have the right to stop that," said Bracken. "I would approach that person and ask them to come to a board meeting, depending on what the situation was. At the end of the day, it would not be my place as a school board member to tell an individual what they can or cannot say on social media."

Many candidates expressed support of the rights of people to speak out online, but stated their intent to stay out of angry discourse on social media.

"I realize that people like to vent on social media, and sometimes we pay too much attention to it," said Pauline Hasty. "Just let people vent, it is their right to speak about things even if we don't agree with it. Even if they are wrong. Even if it is made up. Don't engage, it's not worth it."

A full video of the candidates forum can be found on the A-JCHS Facebook page at [facebook.com/TheAJWildcats](https://facebook.com/TheAJWildcats).

## Anna VFW events noted

A corn hole tournament and other events are planned at Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster No. 3455 of Anna. The post is located at 70 VFW Ln. near Anna.

A corn hole tournament is scheduled Thursday, today. Sign up starts at 6 p.m. Play begins at 6:30 p.m. Food will be available. No outside food or drinks are allowed. A Queen of Hearts drawing is planned at 7 p.m.

Taco Tuesday is planned March 28. Serving will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Hard shell tacos, soft shell tacos and taco salads will be available.

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# Sports

## A-J baseball team opens spring season with wins over Cobden, Egyptian

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team opened the spring season with a pair of wins.

**A-J 15, Cobden 0:** Aaron Sheffer tossed a one-hitter to lead the host Wildcats to the win Wednesday, March 15. Sheffer didn't allow a walk and struck out 11.

Tyler Franklin, Mitchell Howell, Jake Tally and Jesus Zamora pitched for the Appleknockers and combined to give up 9 hits to go with 7 walks and 5 strikeouts.

Drake Hartline led A-J at the plate by going 2-for-2 with a triple and 2 RBIs. Sheffer was 2-for-2 with a triple and an RBI.

Dylan Harvel was 2-for-2 with a double and 2 RBIs. Dylee Hartline was 1-for-1 with a double and 2 RBIs.

Taj Hodges and Nick Hannan were each 1-for-1 with an RBI apiece. Hayden Ralls was 1-for-2 with a

home run and 2 RBIs. Dawson Short was 1-for-2 for Cobden's only hit.

**A-J 18, Egyptian 1:** Jake Merriman and Ralls led the hitting for the host Wildcats in the win by each going 2-for-2 with a double and RBI apiece.

Aiden McFadden was 2-for-2 with an RBI. Hodges was 1-for-1 with 4 RBIs. Dylan Ahlberg was 1-for-1 with an RBI.

Noah Chotner was 1-for-1. Daylon Butler was 1-for-2 with a home run and 4 RBIs. Harvel was 1-for-2 with an RBI. Lucas Salazar had an RBI.

Hannan and Salazar pitched in the win. Hannan pitched 2 innings and gave up 2 hits to go with no walks and 5 strikeouts. Salazar pitched an inning and allowed a hit to go with 2 walks and 2 strikeouts.

A-J, 2-0, is scheduled to play Friday, March 24, at home against Steeleville.

## A-J 10, Marion 8

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School softball team defeated visiting Marion 10-8 Tuesday, March 14.

Avery Osman led A-J's hitting by going 4-for-4 with a double, home run and 3 RBIs. Carmin Smith was 3-for-3 with an RBI. Jenna Sadler was 1-for-2.

Shea Thorn was 1-for-3 with a triple and 2 RBIs. Kansas Craig was 1-for-3 with an RBI. Ana Turner and Jayda Shepard each had an RBI.

Ruby Yates was the winning pitcher, allowing 11 hits to go with 2 walks and 6 strikeouts.

A-J, 2-0, is scheduled to play at home Saturday, March 25, against Herrin and Johnston City. The first game is scheduled for 10 a.m.

## A-J/Cobden 4, Mt. Carmel 1

The Anna-Jonesboro/Cobden co-op high school girls' soccer team defeated host Mt. Carmel 4-1 in season opening action Thursday, March 19.

Zoe Sadler, Kenzie Stover, Payton Brust and Riley Cruse each scored a goal for A-J/Cobden. Stover, Brust and Lakelyn Carter added an assist apiece.

Cruse and Savannah Smith shared time in goal for A-J/Cobden.

Cruse had 69 minutes in goal and had a save. Smith played 21 minutes in goal and had a save.

A-J/Cobden, 1-0, plays Friday, March 24, at Carbondale.

## Elverado 10, Shawnee 2

The Shawnee High School baseball team opened its spring season with a 10-2 loss at Elverado Wednesday, March 16.

Chase Woodard and Luke Choate were each 1-for-3 with an RBI apiece to lead Shawnee at the plate. Kamen Ford and Gabe Ellet were both 1-for-3.

Woodard and Ellet pitched in the loss. Woodard pitched 4 innings and allowed 5 hits to go with 3 walks and 5 strikeouts. Ellet pitched 2 innings and allowed 4 hits to go with 4 walks and a strikeout.

Shawnee, 0-1, is scheduled to play Tuesday, March 28, at home against Century.

## Wildflower walks planned at Giant City

Spring wildflower walks are planned in April at Giant City State Park near Makanda.

Wildflower walks led by the park interpreter are set for Saturday, April 1; Saturday, April 8; and Friday, April 14. Each walk is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Walks will take place on Trillium Trail at Giant City State Park. The trail is described as one of the most diverse spring wildflower trails in Southern Illinois.

The walks are free and open to the public. Registration is required. For more information, contact the Giant City State Park visitor center at 618-457-4836.

## River-to-River Trail Society plans hike

The River-to-River Trail Society plans to sponsor a hike on April 1.

The hike is planned on the Gum Springs Trailhead to JD Falls in Johnson County. The hike is free and open to the public.

The trail society said the hike will be one of moderate difficulty, 5.5 miles in length, with four hours of hiking time. This will be a loop hike.

The trail society advised that the leader of the hike can be contacted by phone at 618-634-1321 for more information.

Hikers are advised to meet at 10 a.m. at New Simpson School.

The hike is intended for people in good health who have done some hiking. Hiking sticks and boots or sturdy shoes are recommended.

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

Information, including driving directions to the meeting area for the hike, can be found on the River-to-River Trail Society's website at [www.rivertorivertail.net](http://www.rivertorivertail.net).

## Maple Syrup Festival set at Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center

Homemade maple syrup, one of nature's original comfort foods, is the star of the show at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's popular annual Maple Syrup Festival, set for March 25-26.

The festival is happening at Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center and features a weekend full of special activities, many of which are free, and a delicious breakfast featuring homemade pancakes and maple syrup harvested at the center.

The fest, which is open to the public, is scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at the site, located about 8 miles south of Carbondale off Giant City Road.

Organizers said the event is a family friendly affair with something for everyone to enjoy.

One highlight includes lumberjack games by the SIU Forestry Club, with shows at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

The fest features other assorted children's activities and a wide variety of vendors and artisans displaying and selling their wares, including handmade soaps, spices, jewelry, freeze-dried candy, artwork and more.

Vendors and artisans from throughout the Midwest will conduct interactive demonstrations.

Visitors also can learn the process for making ropes and pottery and how early peoples survived in the wild.

They also can discover how alpaca wool is spun into yarn to create various soft woven items and can test their skills at the climbing wall, as well.

Participants can also enjoy nature hikes and discover the time-consuming process that turns the maple sap collected from the trees onsite into the rich, tasty syrup.

Live music is scheduled at 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and an open cash bar will be available throughout the day, with lunch offered for purchase from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

There is no cost for enjoying the diverse array of festival activities, with the exception of the breakfast and any purchases made.

The home-cooked pancake breakfast will be served from 9 a.m. to 1

p.m. each day and tickets are now on sale.

The pancakes will be topped with maple syrup made from sap harvested from Touch of Nature trees, served along with sausage, fruit and drinks.

Registration is available online at [campscui.active.com](http://campscui.active.com) or by calling 618-453-1211. Tickets are \$15 for ages 11 and older and \$8 for ages 4-10. Children 3 and younger eat free. Tickets can also be purchased at the festival.

For more information about the Maple Syrup Festival or to register for the breakfast, visit [www.ton.siu.edu](http://www.ton.siu.edu), call 618-453-1121 or email [tonec@siu.edu](mailto:tonec@siu.edu).

Sponsors of the 2023 Maple Syrup Festival include SIU and its Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center, the SIU Credit Union, River Radio of Southern Illinois, LiUNA Midwest Region and Paul Melzer of Countywide Insurance in Murphysboro. Triple C Meats is supplying local sausage.

## Anna Pre-K Registration CHILD FIND

If you are interested in applying for Pre-K for the 2023-2024 school year, please bring the following: your child, child's certified birth certificate and proof of family income (2 most recent, consecutive paystubs, W2, taxes or proof of benefits/assistance received).

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# Somewhere over the Rainbow

## A-JCHS presents 'The Wizard of Oz'

The theater department of Anna-Jonesboro Community High School took a trip down the yellowbrick road with the 2023 spring production "The Wizard of Oz."

The 1900 children's fantasy novel by L. Frank Baum gained legendary status with the MGM feature film adaptation in 1939 starring Judy Garland.

A-J students staged three performances of the musical on Friday, March 17, Saturday, March 18 and an afternoon show on Sunday, March 19.

Cast members included Sophia Dudley, Serena Hasty, Jacyn Samuels, Jolie Barger, Lucas Salazar, Kadyn Grant, Marissa Turner, Lucas Tehandon, Xan Meier, Jason Vizard, Evie Eddings, Logan Abernathy, Adam Clark, Mackenzie Kelley, Ella Lingle, Ruby Yates, Callysta Borders, Jacyi Hopkins, Lauren Jackson, Aalyiah Prater and Aiden Colson.

The director of the production was Brad Stamp with Kristin Nance as assistant director. The stage crew director was Tina Vancil and the choreographer was Marissa Turner.

Stage crew included Jaylen Althoff, Cadence Black, Hallie Black, Jada Buck, Jasmine Buck, Adam Clark, Gabe Eddings, Allison Frick, Jordan Gentry, Cameron Golladay, Alexis Houseman, Anastazia Kerr, Amelia Lingle, Genesis Martin, Danica Morgan, Alexis Nekola, Connor Richardson, Izzy Tehandon, Lucas Tehandon, Kosie Tripp, Marissa Turner, Sydney Waun, Kaylina Willey and Sky Williams.

Musicians in the pit orchestra included Cadence Black, Lynn Brady, Rick Brady, Brianna Brunner, Cameron Golladay, Krystal McLane, Ariana Moutell, Jenny Ruddloff, Brilea Smith and Debra York.

The names of those involved in the musical are listed as they appeared in the production program. Pictures were taken at the March 19 performance.



### Jonesboro Grade School names second quarter honor students

Jonesboro Grade School has named high honor roll and honor roll students for the third quarter.

**High Honor Roll**

8th grade: Blake Abernathy, Mackenzie Barnhart, Elizabeth Hill, Kinley Leek, Haydyn Williamson.

7th grade: Seth Cochran, Hayden Staples, Adalyn Suggs.

6th grade: Lindyn Eudy, Levi Hill, Alli Leek, Trent Miller, Clara Mix.

5th grade: Arianna Black, Reagan Cheek, Addison Ebberts, Gavin McFadden, Hailie Sullivan.

**Honor Roll**

8th grade: Emma Craig,

Hannah Hale, Norah Kelley, Reese Lofton, Leah Mowery, Brooke Sheffer, Mackenzie Turner.

7th grade: Melaina Bunden, Sophia Hill, Elly Mays, Macayla Nance, Logan Pearl, Kaitlyn Sullivan, Sophia Wells.

6th grade: June Daniel, Kylie Dillow, Hayden Lewis, Kynlee Needling, Gabby Newberry, Mason Reynolds, Smith Wilson.

5th grade: Colton Barnhart, Alanna Brock, Jaycee Clutts, Eli Fehrenbacher, Hank Goss, David Holliman, Isaac Janke, Olive Kaeding, Ryley Nance, Blake Penninger, Emme Stewart.

### Lick Creek School names high honor roll, honor roll students for third quarter

The Lick Creek School District has announced the students who have qualified for the high honor roll and honor roll for the third quarter of the school year.

**High Honor Roll**

Taylor Marie Baker, Payton Abigail Brown, Tristan Ray Brown, William Xavier Brown, Leah Frances Buchheit, Landen Liam Carter, Caden Douglas Cerney, Mya Brooke Clutts, Bentley Drew Cobb, Ayla Kree Corbit.

Easton Blaine Corbit, Natilyn Kaye Corbit, Hayden Paige Craft, Hunter Ashton Craft, Jayden Michael Culli, Cobie Leigh Hodges, Jase Owen Holschouer, Cooper Scott Knueven, Millie Jolene Morris, Kylee Shea Myers.

Jet Allen Newman, Zachary Wayne Orange, Maggie Dawn Roach, Molly Josephine Roach, Mallory Robin Smith, Abigail Renee Thorn, Sophia Josephine Vaughn, John Robert "JR" Wright, Kaitlyn Brooke Zimmerman.

**Honor Roll**

Ryan Jackson Armstrong, Kaysee Danielle Benefield, Harper Sophia Sage Bond, Jackson Stuart Carter, Alexa Danielle Chaney, Alayna Nichole Chapman, Macy Elaine Clutts, Titus Aaron Coleson, Owen Cache Corbit.

Allison Noel Daniels, Serenity Lynn Hanney, Alice Marie Hileman, Blakeley Nicole Hoehner, Lilliah Mariska Hoehner, Elias Carter Houseman, Ryan Christopher Houseman, Emilyn Jean Hunter, Liam

Thomas Kinder.

Camden Wesley Knueven, Amelia Ann Marshall, Kayleigh Elizabeth McMahon, Heinrich Wichmann Moberley, Emelia Claire Orange, Michalina Christine Riston, Matthew Gene Sadler.

Sofia Mae Short, Conway Claudale Smith, Samantha Kelly Smith, Jordan Anthony Starr, Kaleb Aaron Stover, Aries Joann Sullens, Zander Michael Sullens, Logan Andrew Waynick, Alexander Benjamin Scott Wright, Kameron Dennis Zimmerman.

### Shawnee School District announces honor students

The Shawnee School District in Wolf Lake has announced high honor roll and honor roll students for the third quarter.

**High Honor Roll**

Seniors: Abbagell Davis, Austin Kinder, Abigail Smith, Rylie Wahaib, Dryden Wills.

Juniors: Olivia Clover, Ryan Libbert, Karsynne Livingston, Allie Myers, CJ Schaefer.

Sophomores: Noah Mayberry, Jaeda Qualls.

7th grade: Eliza Ford.

**Honor Roll**

Seniors: Colton Harris, Alyssa Qualls, Madison Tweedy.

Juniors: Luke Choate,

Marissa Harris, Carmen Tapley, Elaine Willmore, Chase Woodard.

Sophomores: Savannah Andrews, Kelci Baber, Miranda Crowden, Gracie Davisson, Mallory Follis.

Freshmen: Katie Crowden, Keira Lietz, Cindy Price, Landon Smith, Emma Young.

8th grade: Addilyn Clark, Peyton Clymore, Nick Dallas, Kyler Jewell, Zoe Myers, Aniston Nicholson, Savannah Verble.

7th grade: Saphyre Beasley, Eva Ford, Berkli Holtman, Kyle Shirley, Connor Wilson.

6th grade: Joseph Willmore.



### Bonsai presentation

The fine art of Bonsai was highlighted at a March 14 meeting of the Anna-Jo Garden Club. Southern Illinois Bonsai Society members Steve Bailey, Alan Wells, Sam Hoskins and Jackie Feather presented a program about Bonsai. They spoke about sizing, training the plant, soil, watering and patience with Bonsai living over 100 years. Forming the miniature natural art formations takes time. Many examples of Bonsai were on display. More information can be found on the Southern Illinois Bonsai Society's Facebook page. Anna-Jo Garden Club's next meeting is planned at 1 p.m. on April 11 at the Rolling Oak Alpaca Ranch in Union County. Photo provided.

### Concerts set to return to SIU's Banterra Center

Country music star Sam Hunt is scheduled to perform at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Banterra Center on Aug. 3, kicking off the return of concerts to a venue that has hosted big-name entertainers, from Elvis to Elton, The Chicks to Boyz II Men, the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Yellowcard and many more.

SIU Carbondale is part of Hunt's Summer on the Outskirts Tour.

The concert, which will include special guests Brett Young and Lily Rose, is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

Tickets went on sale at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 10, at the SIU ticket office, both online and on campus.

"During my listening and learning tour shortly after my arrival here in 2020, alumni, community members and our own employees spoke fondly of the concerts they attended

and how the performances enriched the campus and the community," SIU chancellor Austin A. Lane said.

"I am excited our university is bringing concerts back to the arena. Hopefully, the Sam Hunt concert will be the first of many to come."

Hunt's debut album "Montevallo," released in 2014, includes the hits "Leave the Night On" and "Break Up in a Small Town."

His second album "Southside," released in 2020, included "Hard to Forget" and "Kinfolk." Hunt has continued to release new music, including "23," which reached No. 1 on country radio, and "Water Under the Bridge."

SIU and Dunbar Music Group, along with New Country Z100, are joining to bring the event to Banterra Center on Aug. 3. For additional information, visit events.siu.edu/samhunt.php.

### NARCAN training held at college

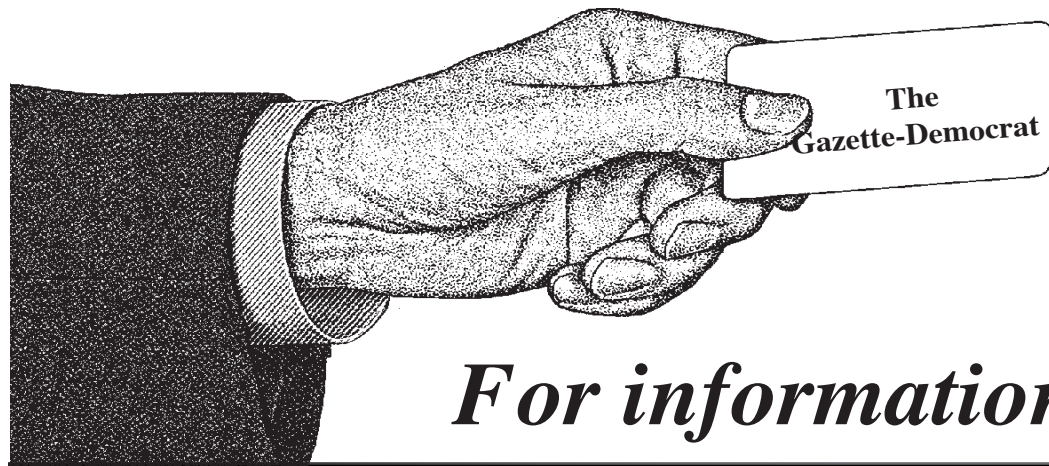
Shawnee Community College held NARCAN training for its staff March 6-7 at the college's main campus near Ullin.

The training was conducted by Bobi Cavins, who is the emergency preparedness coordinator at Southern 7 Health Department.

NARCAN nasal spray is a prescription medicine used for the treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose emergency.

The Southern 7 Health Department offers the free training to individuals in its service region through a partnership with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

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# County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco)

By Suzan Harvel

## St. Anne's Church

I love a bargain and enjoyed one St. Patrick's Day. For only \$5, I and a lot of other folks, had delicious choices at the soup and chili supper, with dessert auction, at St. Anne's Church Friday evening.

There was a wide array of soups and chili's, and a bonus

of veggies and dips, cookies, crackers, etc. If you couldn't make it, you sure missed a treat.

The dessert auction was also fun and Carl Dillow, the auctioneer, certainly turned up the humor. I bid and won a couple of desserts and bid on others.

The donations of cakes, breads, pies and cookies was abundant and there was a nice variety.

The proceeds will help in the upkeep of the Historic St. Anne's Church. It's a beautiful place and worthy of a continued presence in Anna. My sincere thanks to all who were involved in making it a wonderful evening for all.

## First Day of Spring

This Monday brought with it the first official day of spring. Most are happy it's finally here and really hope we've seen the last of the cold weather. Many are putting early gardens out and some, like us, are planning just what we're going to put out this year.

My husband enjoys trying something new each year, so we'll see what he comes up with this year.

I just love driving around and seeing the trees and shrubs that have budded out. I'm looking forward to seeking out something new for my flower beds, too. I'll be scanning the papers and awaiting the plant sales.

Speaking of sales, I'm hoping with Easter just around the corner, the price of eggs will drop. No Easter dinner is complete without deviled eggs and the grandkids (and some of the big kids) are going to want to dye the eggs first.

Plastic eggs are fine for the egg hunt, but like most things, I've noticed the price of those too have increased and the amount in the bag has decreased.

## Mill Creek Baptist Church

Mill Creek Baptist Church plans to host an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 8, at 1 p.m., at the back of the church. We'll have a small, late lunch of hot dogs, chips, and a drink before the egg hunt.

The next day, Easter Sunday, we'll be having sunrise

services at 6:30 a.m. and a breakfast in the fellowship hall will follow. Regular morning services will continue at 10:45 a.m. Please join us.

## Sunday Services

Sunday Services were held with Brother Bobby Newberry filling the pulpit.

Please keep Brother Bob Richardson in prayer as he continues to face challenges with his health.

Others added to our prayer list are Joanne Dillow, who fell and broke her pelvis; James Sullivan, who is deployed in Italy and having some health issues; David Ury, with serious health concerns; Mary Powles, for health; and Justin Wright, as he continues to struggle with cancer.

We have a praise report on Jeff Starr. He is walking a bit and his prognosis is looking a lot better. He may get to come home soon.

Brother Bobby Newberry's message was from the Book of Genesis and spoke on how our God is a God of order.

The opposite of order is chaos. Satan reigns in chaos. God starts putting things in order by creating heaven and earth. The earth was without form and void and darkness covered the face of the earth. Light did not exist until He created it.

How many times in our lives have we experienced moments of chaos? Often this chaos pitches us into darkness where everything is confusing and our path out is hard to navigate. Chaos kills life, relationships, and our walk with God.

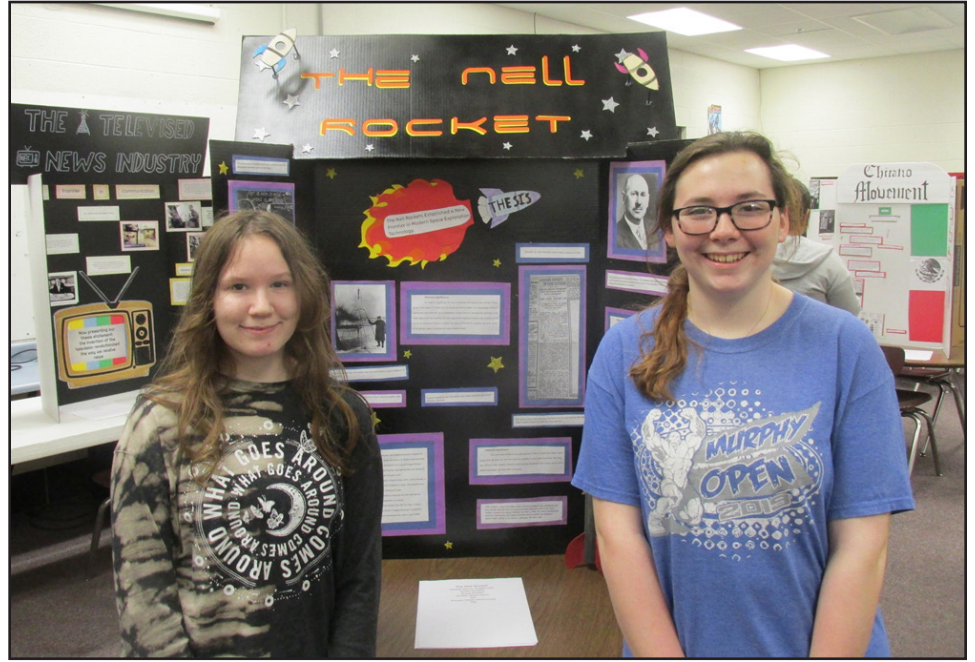
We need to remember that God has control and will lead us through it. He does this through His advocate, Jesus. If we follow Jesus and focus on God's will, we'll be able to step forward and into the light of His peace.

## Vietnam War Veterans Day

Next week, on March 29, we celebrate Vietnam War Veterans Day. I, and the Daniel Chapman Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, wish to thank all Vietnam War era veterans for their service and sacrifice in service to our country. You are not forgotten.

# Cobden Junior High history fair winners

A history fair was held Monday, Feb. 27, at Cobden Junior-Senior High School. Students in the 8th grade class of teacher Ashley Taylor participated. Ten judges reviewed 16 8th grade projects. The history fair was sponsored by the Union County Historical and Genealogy Society. Cash prizes were awarded. Winners are featured in the accompanying pictures. Photos provided.



8th grade, first place: The Nell Rocket, by Natalie Storm and Angell Cash.



8th grade, second place: Chalino Sanchez, by Lupita Zamora and Zonia Zamora.



8th grade, third place: Oscar Wilde, by Layla West.

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15GP

News from

# First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, March 19, during the morning worship service, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about the Song of Solomon in the Old Testament. The topic was marriage and "five ideals for your marriage to succeed."

Ricky Tweedy was baptized during the morning worship service.

Music director Dee Rose led the worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Debbie also sang "Lord, I Need You," accompanied by her

father, Robert McCain, on the guitar and Dee Rose as backup vocals.

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.

Women's and men's Bible study were planned at 7 p.m. Monday.

Sunday, March 26, is Hospitality Sunday. The Gideons plan to make a presentation in the morning service. A potluck meal will follow.

Birthdays: Ricky Tweedy, March 20; Andrew Dial, March 23.

Anniversary: Larry and Mary Carolyn Rendleman, March 26, 58 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.

## Fish fries continue at Cobden church

Fish fries continue during Lent at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden.

The church is located at 101 Centennial St. Fish fries will be served in the church's parish hall.

Fish fries are scheduled to be served for two more Fridays: March 24 and March 31. Serving is planned from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. each week.

The menu will feature fried fish, baked fish, baked beans,

french fries, fried squash, cucumber salad, cole slaw, dessert and a drink. Carry outs will be available.

Costs are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children ages 5 to 10. Children 4 and under are free.

Raffles are planned in conjunction with the fish fries.

A 50/50 raffle will be held each week. The winner will be drawn at 7 p.m.

A raffle for a spring time basket also is planned. The winner will be drawn on March 31.

Tickets for each raffle are \$1 apiece, or six for \$5. Ticket buyers do not need to be present to win.

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

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# ENCOURAGEMENT



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On the days that we are feeling especially happy perhaps we could challenge ourselves to share a smile with someone who needs one. Joyfulness is contagious! Paul writes in his letter to the Romans (1:11-12), "For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that it, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." Share your joy with others at your house of worship this week.

Daily Bible Readings						
Psalm 88	Psalm 90	Psalm 91	Psalm 120	Psalm 122	Psalm 126	Psalm 127
Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at <a href="http://DailyBible.AmericanBible.org">DailyBible.AmericanBible.org</a>						
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- The winners will be notified by phone on Wednesday, April 5.
- All entries must be delivered to the corresponding sponsors. (No mail-in entries will be accepted.)
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# 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.

### Guest

Mark Puffer of Elgin visited his mother Carlene Tripp and other family and many friends over the weekend.

### The Wizard of Oz

A special thanks to the students, staff and everyone that helped make this a great weekend. Loved the musical.

Cathy Jackson Milam said her niece Lauren Jackson was the witch that rode the bicycle and in all the groups. Her dad played the Tin Man in 1991. Richard still has the ax.

### Anna Heights Baptist



John Dew celebrated his 25th birthday by going to Paducah for an afternoon of shopping with his mom, Mary Lazenby-Dew, and aunt Tina Bryant. They went to the mall, then lastly, ate dinner at Applebee's. When returning home they enjoyed the birthday cake. Onward to the next year, John.

### Church

Birthdays: March 27th Jadden Brimm, 29th Jim Walker, 30th Ruthanne Kissel, 31st Bob Caraker.

March 12 attendance: 8 a.m. worship 80. 10:30 a.m. worship 129. Small group Bible study 187. 6 p.m. worship 51.

Youth fundraiser Sunday, March 26, beginning at 11 a.m. Spaghetti dinner. Donation only.

Lad and Dad RA breakfast with RA Derby after Saturday, March 25, at 8 a.m.

Ladies Brunch Saturday, May 6.

Preschool egg hunt Sunday, April 9, at 9:15 a.m.



Happy birthday to Rob Needling March 13. He was honored with a birthday party at his home given by his wife Pam and family. Anna Baking Company made his cake. Kimber and Kaylor made his king birthday hat.

Momma Lou's Crafters will meet Thursday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the FLC chapel.

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon series on Jesus at the Center a study through Colossians. This week: Understanding the Image of God.

### Happy Birthday

Wanda Lee Brimm, who turned 100 on March 15. Weldon Brown celebrated his birthday on March 18.

### Happy Anniversary

Lonnie and Joni Lewis celebrated March 19, 18 years.

### Easter Week at Anna First Baptist Church.

The community is welcome to come celebrate this time of year with us in worship Palm Sunday, April 2 in church at 10:15 a.m. and a fun time together until 3 p.m. Food, BBQ, hot dogs, popcorn, nachos, snow cones and more. bounce house, scavenger hunt, Easter egg hunt, free t-shirts, fun and fellowship. Come celebrate with us as we celebrate the living Lord of Lords.

### Anna First Baptist Church

Sunday School lesson at 9 a.m. was Jesus Gave Me Grace and Forgiveness



Sandy Bush dressed for St. Patrick's Day with her dogs Chiquita Bonita and Angel.



Anna-Jonesboro Community High School 1959. Anyone recognize faces or know the name of the group? I know I am not part of this group. I recognize Alice Kay West, Homer Cates, Mary Ruth White, Jeanie Casper and Janice Brimm. I don't remember the name of the teacher. I think front row, left to right: 1 Larnel (Buddy) Anderson, 2 Ruth Ann Tucker, 3 Carol Cox, 4 Mary White, 5 Jeanie Casper, 6 Judy Davis. Middle row left to right: 1 Homer Cates, 2, unknown, 3 Pat Basler, 4 Peggy Smith, teacher Mrs. Sitter. Back row left to right: 1 Delmer Landis, 2 Dick Egleston, 3 Richard Gillespie, 4 Joan Woesthaus, 5 Alice Kay West, 6 Dorothy Williams, 7 Janice Brimm.



At St. Anne's soup supper and dessert auction were St. Anne's director Elaine Crain, Wisconsin guests Ursula and David Bauer, PAST's Barbara Bauer and PAST's Marilyn Keller.



Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies met at Anna Pizza Hut for a St. Patrick's Day party. Left to right Brenda Lovelace, Cathy Jackson Milam, Rev. Millie Sloan, Lillah Williams, Judy Smith, Martha Schwegman and Martha Ann Webb.



Beryl Clayton turned 90 years young on March 14. To begin his birthday celebration week, his family had a fish fry in his honor. Beryl's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and closest friends joined him to help honor and celebrate this monumental occasion. Beryl enjoyed the evening being surrounded with much love, family, friends and food. Beryl will close his birthday week on Saturday, by joining a life-long friend, Vernon Glasco in celebration of his 90th birthday. The two friends share the same birthday.



Grandson of Carlene Tripp and the late Don Tripp, Justin Wallor, holding his newly born son Ryan. Ryan is Don and Carlene's sixth great-grandson. They have also been blessed with three great-granddaughters.



Hostesses for the Saint Patrick's Day Red Hat party were Cathy Jackson Milam, Brenda Lovelace and Martha Ann Webb.



Brad Stamp and Lisa Lowe from Enchanted Garden at the musical The Wizard of Oz. Lisa celebrated her 16th store anniversary St. Patrick's Day. A special thanks to Brad and Lisa for all their dedication over the years with the musicals at A-JCHS.

There was a baby dedication on March 12 at Trinity Pentecostal Church in Jonesboro. Josephine Noelle Mayberry, was dedicated to God, to direct and bless her in her future. She is the daughter of Robert and Amber Mayberry, and has four siblings, Lexie, Ava, Kylie and Titus. She is the granddaughter of Bobby and Lorie Mayberry, and Will Bracken, and the late Pam Bracken. Pastor Jeff Bond is their pastor.



Congratulations to Heather Wallor proud Momma of Ryan born Sunday, March 12, 2023. Ryan has a 6-year-old brother, Hunter. Proud Dad is Justin.



Marie Samuel shown here with her accepted entry in the "Women's Voices 3" exhibit now showing at the General John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro until May 7.



Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies met at Anna Pizza Hut for a St. Patrick's Day party. Left to right are Connie Harvel, Pam Baker, Lillian Milam, Rev. Millie Sloan.



Tracey Smith, director of Union County Chamber of Commerce, Yoshi, Spider-Man and Marion at Princess/Super Hero Day Saturday in beautiful downtown Anna. Tracey is now working with her committee for the Annabelle Festival.

with scripture from John. Teacher was Cissi Cuthbertson. Special prayers were said.

Worship service at 10:15 a.m. Dale Denny welcomed everyone and gave the announcements. Youth director Zach Tom-

kinson led in the call to worship and the reading of Psalms 100.

Guest preacher was Pastor Daniel Hiff, whose sermon was God Answers Prayer and talks to us if we only listen. Special music by Daniel singing

and playing his guitar How Great Thou Art, My Help Comes from the Lord and I Lift Up My Eyes to the Lord.

Jean Denny led and played the piano for "I am Resolved" and "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Special prayers for Pastor Lupe Lopez for safety and mission work were said for his mission trip to Mexico.

Please pray that God will stop all forms of cancer and diabetes in Jesus's precious name. Pray for those who have lost loved ones. Those who are sick. Pray for peace in our world, that these shootings will stop. Pray for the lost in families and in our community, the homeless in our community and around the world. Pray that Choate Mental Health stays open.

**United Methodist Church, Anna**

The fourth Sunday in Lent. Greeters were Jane Bauer and Shirley West. Lenten candle litany was by Bonnie Sullivan. Opening hymn was "O Worship the King."

Special music "Please Come Down to Me," by David Pedigo. Hymn "He Leadeth Me. O Blessed Thought."

Sermon by Pastor Tim Gossett, To Make Jesus A King, with scripture from John. Closing hymn "Praise Him! Praise Hymn!"

Anna Arts Center Civil War Weekend  
Friday, March 24, 6

p.m. Blue and Gray Dinner. Saturday, Celebrating Civil War Days 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**PAST House**  
An open house in the afternoon 1:30 p.m. to

3:30 p.m.

**Free Rides to Vote**  
Ron Gorst reported there will be free rides to the polls with Shawnee Mass Transit. To schedule a ride call 1-866-577-6278.



Ron Gorst and Kim Pind with Shawnee Mass Transit District were at the World Kidney Day March 9. Shawnee Mass Transit offered free rides to and from the health fair. Congratulations to Shawnee Mass Transit on their groundbreaking for their new building in Anna March 15.



Chase Hileman, outreach, Morgan Atherton, dietitian, Amanda Harris, case management of Rural Health Inc. were among those at the National Kidney Foundation at SCC March 9.



Miguel Sarmiento, Gisela Rivera, Maria Victoria Vicente, Pamela Nieves from the Illinois Migrant Council attended World Kidney Day at SCC. Along with their handouts they were giving away computers.



During World Kidney Day at Shawnee Community College's extension center in Anna on March 9, free boxes of fruit and packaged chicken were given away by Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance. Those pictured are Carmen Suarez NAACP community health worker, Tiffney Ice, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, and Kelly Garon, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois.



It was so good to see Randy Wheaton with his sister Sherry Pinnon at The Closet Ministries owned by Randy's daughter Andrea Wheaton Saturday. Randy was praising God and giving his testimony to everyone. Randy said, "God still has work for me to do here on this earth." Randy had a mild stroke and seizure. The seizure was what caused the symptoms. Not the stroke. He was flown from Union County Hospital to Deaconess Hospital in Evansville. Praise God for Union County Hospital and the helicopter that comes fast to get people where they need to be for help. Randy praised God and was a witness to the doctors, nurses, everyone in the hospital. He never forgot his Lord and savior through his experience.



The Glory Road Travelers sang at Anna First Baptist Church Saturday night. Raleigh and Cheryl Dunaway, Anthony and Arlene Underwood, pictured with Rev. Lupe Lopez.



A special thanks to Debbie Moore, director of business development at Integrity, for calling bingo at Sunshine Inn in Anna and bringing gifts for everyone last Tuesday.



Anna School District 37 Art Club led by Josh Shearer visited the Rita Blitt exhibit at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council/Anna Arts Center. After viewing the exhibit, the students were inspired to do their own drawing following Rita's style.

# Television Listings

## THURSDAY MARCH 23, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Regional Semifinal"	Local	Local Programs	NHL Hockey Minnesota vs Philadelphia (Live)	2023 NCAA Basketball (Live)	"John Wick" (14) Keanu Reeves.	Hamster & Big City	(5:00) "Tammy" (14)	"Non-Stop" (14) (HD)	Waco "Operation"
7 PM	Station 19 (HD)		Next Level Chef (HD)	Law & Order x (HD)				Big City	"The Menu" (22) Ralph Fiennes.	"Eagle Eye" (08, Thriller) Shia LaBeouf. (HD)	*** "X" (22, Horror) Jenna Ortega. (R) (HD)
8 PM	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Regional Semifinal"	Animal Call Me	Law & Order: SVU x	NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Dallas Stars (Live)	(45) 2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament (Live)	*** "John Wick: Chapter 2" (17) Keanu Reeves. (HD)	Raven Home	(5:50) Perry Mason	"Conan the Barbarian" (11) Jason Momoa.	Your Honor (HD)
9 PM	(01) Alaska Daily (HD)		Local Programs	Organized Crime x				Big City	(45) *** "The Many Saints of Newark" (21)	"Paid in Full" (02) Mekhi Phifer.	ALL ACCESS
10 PM	Local			(35) Tonight (HD)	SC (Live)	NCAA Post (Live)	"John Wick: Chapter 3 - Parabellum" (19)	Miraculous	"Milk" (R)		
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (Live)	Dad (HD)		Miraculous			

## FRIDAY MARCH 24, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Regional Semifinal"	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NCAA Wom. Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	2023 NCAA Basketball (Live)	"Jurassic Park" (195) Sam Neill.	Big City	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	"Breaking" (22) (HD)
7 PM	Shark Tank (HD)		WWE Friday Night SmackDown (HD)	Lopez vs. Grand Crew DateLine NBC				BUNKID	"Movie"	"Movie"	*** "Dead for a Dollar" (22) Christoph Waltz.
8 PM	(01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD)	2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament "Regional Semifinal"	Local Programs		NCAA Wom. Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	(45) 2023 NCAA Basketball Tournament (Live)	*** "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" (97) Jeff Goldblum. (HD)	Saturdays	"Movie"	"Movie"	"Panama" (22) Cole Hauser. (HD)
9 PM	Local		Local Info.				(97) Jeff Goldblum. (HD)	Moon Girl			(35) "The Last Manhunt" (22) (R)
10 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Local		(35) Tonight (HD)		NCAA Post (Live)	*** "Jurassic Park III" Sam Neill.	BUNKID	"Movie"	"Movie"	
11 PM	Nightline	Late Show	Local Programs	Late Night	SportsCenter (Live)	Parker		Jessie			

## SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	UFC Fight Night: Round 1 Main Card "Vera vs. Sandhagen" (Live)	2023 NCAA Basketball (Live)	"Jurassic Park III"	Hamster & Hamster & Louder	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)
7 PM	NHL Hockey	FBI: Most Wanted	The Masked Singer	World Figure Skating Championships (Live)			*** "Jurassic World" (15, Action) Chris Pratt. (HD)	Raven Home	"Movie"	"Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)
8 PM		NCIS: Hawai'i (HD)	Next Level Chef (HD)					Raven Home			Yellowjackets (HD)
9 PM		48 Hours (HD)	Local Programs	Saturday Night Live	Top Rank Boxing on ESPN (Live)		(46) *** "Jurassic World" (15, Action) Chris Pratt. (HD)	Saturdays	"Movie"	"Movie"	"Everything Everywhere All at Once" Stephanie Hsu.
10 PM	Local Programs	Local Info.	Name Tune (HD)	Local		NCAA Post All Elite Wrestling (Live)		Big City	"Movie"	"Movie"	Your Honor
11 PM	Local Programs		Local Programs	Saturday Night Live (HD)		"Fast"		Bluey			

## SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Next Level Chef (HD)	Dateline NBC Investigative news.	Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"A Bug's Life" (98)	(5:40) "The King's Man" (21) Ralph Fiennes.	(5:07) *** "Conan" (11)	Your Honor (HD)
7 PM	American Idol '605 (Auditions) (HD)	The Equalizer (HD)	Simpsons (31) North			Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	BUNKID	"Movie"	"Movie"	The Circus
8 PM		East New York (HD)	Burgers	Magnum P.I. (HD)	Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Saturdays	Succession (HD)		Yellowjackets (HD)
9 PM	Company	NCIS: L. A. (HD)	Local Programs	The Blacklist (HD)		Sil Valley	Law & Order: SVU	Secrets	(05) Succession (HD)	(10) John Cusack.	Waco
10 PM	Local Programs	Local Info.	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (Live) (HD)	(38) *** "Bridesmaids" (11, Comedy) Kristen Wiig. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	BUNKID	(10) Succession (HD)		Yellowjackets (HD)
11 PM	Nightline	Corden	Local Programs	Local Programs	Sports		Law & Order: SVU	Moon Girl	*** "Ghost Ship" (02)	"Six Days, Seven Nights" (98)	Yellowjackets (HD)

## MONDAY MARCH 27, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Chicago Fire (HD)	"Movie"	(5:00) "The King's Man" (21) Ralph Fiennes.	(5:07) *** "Conan" (11)	Your Honor (HD)
7 PM	The Bachelor "Finale and After the Final Rose" (HD)	The Young and the Restless	Fantasy Island (HD)	The Voice Hopefuls coached. (HD)		Bang (HD)	WWE Monday Night Raw (Live) (HD)	BUNKID	"Movie"	"Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)
8 PM		NCIS "Turkey Trot"	Alert (HD)		Women's College Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Saturdays	Succession (HD)		Yellowjackets (HD)
9 PM		NCIS: Hawai'i (HD)	Local Programs	Quantum Leap (HD)		Dad (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Secrets	(05) Succession (HD)	(10) John Cusack.	Waco
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (Live)	Dad (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	BUNKID	(10) Succession (HD)		Yellowjackets (HD)
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (Live)	Dad (HD)	Chrisley x	Miraculous	"Movie"	"Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)

## TUESDAY MARCH 28, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	2023 NIT Basketball Tournament (Live)	Young Young	Law & Order: SVU	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)
7 PM	The Rookie (HD)	FBI Protect America.	9-1-1: Lone Star (HD)	The Voice (HD)		Bang (HD)	WWE NXT (Live) (HD)	"Movie"	"Movie"	"Movie"	*** "X" (22, Horror) Jenna Ortega. (R) (HD)
8 PM	The Rookie: Feds	FBI: International	(02) Accused (HD)	La Brea (HD)	High School Basketball (Live) (HD)	Bang (HD)		Hamster & Louder			Yellowjackets (HD)
9 PM	Will Trent	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs	New Amsterdam (HD)		Bang (HD)	*** "Independence Day: Resurgence" Hemsworth.	Big City	"Movie"	"Movie"	Yellowjackets (HD)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local Programs	SportsCenter (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous			Waco
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (Live)	Young	Chrisley x	Miraculous	"Movie"	"Movie"	"Pleasure" (22) (HD)

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 2023

Time	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	(5:00) "Movie"	Yellowjack
7 PM	Conners	Survivor (HD)	The Masked Singer	Chicago Med (HD)	(45) NBA Basketball Dallas vs Philadelphia (Live) (HD)	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	"Movie"	"Movie"	(45) "Flags of Our Fathers" (06, Drama) Ryan Phillippe.
8 PM	Elementary Not Dead	Lingo "Episode 10"	Farmer Wants a Wife	Chicago Fire (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	BUNKID			
9 PM	A Million Little Things	True Lies "Unrelated"	Local Programs	Chicago P.D. (HD)	(05) NBA Basketball Minnesota vs Phoenix (Live) (HD)	All Elite Wrestling: All	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	"Movie"	"Movie"	*** "Letters from Iwo Jima" (06) Ken Watanabe. (HD)
10 PM	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local		Young	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous			
11 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	Sports	Young	Chrisley x	Miraculous	"Movie"	"Movie"	Yellowjack

# The Gazette-Democrat

## Classified Section

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

### CLASSIFIED RATES

Classifieds ..... 30¢ per word  
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## FOR SALE

### FIBERGLASSFORSALE:

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:

Home grown grain fed Angus beef. Sold by the side (approximately 360 lbs.). Only \$4.00 per lb. plus processing. Going to the butcher May 24. Deposit required. Call 618-614-2912. 12p-16gc

## FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

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

**ANNA STATE BANK, Plaintiff,**  
**v.**  
**GREAT BOARDS OF FIRE, INC. DAVID FOMBELLE, EAST PERRY TIMBER PROCUREMENT, LLC., UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants. No. 2022FC8**

### NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder at public venue.

The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is:

Jonathan D. Vicenzi,  
President  
Anna State Bank  
100 East Vienna  
Anna, IL 62906  
(618) 833-2151

The common address and other common descriptions, if any, of the real estate is:

820 Kratzinger Hollow  
Road  
Cobden, IL 62920

A description of the improvements on the real estate is:

The parcel is improved with a residential home.

The real estate may not be inspected prior to sale.

The time and place of the sale are:

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., inside the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market Street, Jonesboro, IL 62952

The amount due under the judgment is \$93,296.92.

The terms of the sale are: 25% down in cash or certified check and the remaining balance due within seven (7) days, also in certified funds. The bid amount shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale.

The purchaser, excepting the mortgagor, shall also pay a fee to the Abandoned Residential Property Municipal Relief Fund in the amount of \$1.00 for each \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser but not more than \$300.00, if applicable. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, the prior mortgage of Plaintiff and all covenants, easement, restrictions and other matters of record or apparent, and is offered for sale without any

representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will not be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

(I) Title will be conveyed subject to all unpaid general real estate taxes and special assessments, if any, and ordinances, easements, restrictions and covenants of record or apparent, Plaintiff's prior mortgage and all encumbrances not foreclosed herein.

Scott P. Hendricks  
Attorney at Law  
206 W. College, Ste. 12  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
phone: (618) 529-2274  
fax: (618) 529-1638  
shendricks@globaleyes.net  
14-16gc

## 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

**FORRENTANNA:** 5 miles south on U.S. 51. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stove, refrigerator, C/A. \$650.00 per month plus deposit. Call 618-827-4737 or (618-697-6459). 15gpc

**FOR RENT:** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled. References required. No smoking. No pets. First, last month's rent & deposit required. \$750.00 per month. Call 618-697-0664, ask for Mark. 15-20gc

## HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED:** 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, Superintendent, Dongola Unit #66, P.O. Box 190, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois 62926. 13p-15gc

**HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER**

Dongola Unit #66 is seeking a High School English 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. 13p-15gc

**CITY OF ANNA, LIFEGUARD**

The City of Anna is accepting applications for part-time pool lifeguard positions. American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification is highly desirable, candidates must pass pre-employment background check. Applications will be available for interested candidates at Anna City Hall or online at [cityofanna.org](http://cityofanna.org).

Please return employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, IL 62906 or by email to [mmcreynolds@cityofanna.org](mailto:mmcreynolds@cityofanna.org). Applications will be accepted until April 7, 2023. EOE. 15gp-17g

**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

### JOB OPENING COBDEN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Village of Cobden is seeking applications for a full-time Public Works Employee. Contact the Village of Cobden, 112 E. Maple Street, P.O. Box 218, Cobden, IL 62920 (618-893-2425) or email [cobdenvillage@gmail.com](mailto:cobdenvillage@gmail.com). Applications are also available on our website: [www.cobdenil.com](http://www.cobdenil.com). 14-15gp

## WANTED

\*\*\*\*\*  
**WANTED - Your Vote for Martha Ann Webb Anna City Commissioner**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
11-16gpc

## YARD SALE

**BOOK & VINYL SALE:** SIU Morris Library. Friday, March 24, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 25, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hardbacks & vinyl, \$1.00. FREE ADMISSION. 618-453-2522. 14p-15gc

## BUSINESS

**DUCKWORKS LAWN CARE:**  
618-201-5712  
**MOWING IS WHAT WE DO!**  
Free Estimates!  
Other Services:  
Landscaping,  
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11-22gpc

**TREES ARE US TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL**  
Low Price,  
High Quality, for 35 Years!  
Tony Milam, Owner  
618-614-8349

**SUMMER MOWING SEASON IS COMING...**  
List is filling up. Call for a free estimate, 618-697-8978. 14-16gpc

## IN MEMORY

**In Memoriam**

In loving memory of Bobbie Dean Bracken, who was killed March 27, 1962, at the Trojan Powder Plant in Wolf Lake, IL.

It has been 61 years since God called you away, you will always be in our hearts, and missed everyday.

We wait for the day when we all meet again and walk hand in hand in God's Great Land.

Sadly missed by:  
Mildred Bracken Fox and the Bracken children: Helen, Bobbie & Williams  
15gc

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT**

**State of Illinois SS County of Union**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to "An Act in rela-

tion 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 7th day of February, 2023, under the Assumed Name of Kirk & Co. with the place of business located at 85 Lingle Creek Road, Jonesboro, Illinois 62952 and that the True Name(s) and Residence Address of the sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s) of said Business is:

Sarah Kirk  
85 Lingle Creek Road  
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Lance Meisenheimer  
Union County Clerk  
13-15gc

**TAX DEED NO. 2023TX5 FILED March 10, 2023 Certificate No. 2019-00066**

**TAKE NOTICE TO: RENEE WELLS; JUDY JORDAN; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF RENEE WELLS; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED; AND NON-RECORDED CLAIMANTS.**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property:

S3 T13 R2W PT NW SE CLARK LN. JONESBORO, IL 62952

Property Index Number No. 09-03-06-338

On September 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. the Petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued in the Circuit Court of Union County, IL. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire September 3, 2023.

Matthew & Kelly Bliss,  
Petitioner  
14-16gc

**TAX DEED NO. 2023TX4 FILED March 10, 2023 Certificate No. 2019-00038**

**TAKE NOTICE TO: JEFFREY S HOLSHOUSER; ALLISON R HOLSHOUSER; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF JEFFREY & ALLISON HOLSHOUSER; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED; AND NON-RECORDED CLAIMANTS.**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property:

3290 DOGWALK RD. ANNA, IL 62906

Property Index Number No. 05-24-03-815-D2

On September 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. the Petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued in the Circuit Court of Union County, IL. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire September 3, 2023.

Matthew & Kelly Bliss,  
Petitioner  
14-16gc

**TAX DEED NO. 2023TX3 FILED March 10, 2023 Certificate No. 2019-00025**

**TAKE NOTICE TO: VICTOR METZGER; VICTOR METZGER II; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF VICTOR METZGER (II); UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED; AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS.**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property:

601 W SPRING ST. ANNA, IL 62906

Property Index Number

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Housing Authority of the County of Union requests sealed bids for lawn Maintenance for Projects 67-1/67-5 (Cobden), 67-2/67-7 (Jonesboro), 67-3 (Dongola), 67-4/67-6/67-8(Anna), 84-1 (Cobden), 84-2 (Dongola), 84-3 (Wolf Lake) & 84-4 (Jonesboro).

Sealed bids will be accepted until 3 p.m., on April 3, 2023, at the Housing Authority office, 131 Hillside Terrace, Anna, IL. Plans and specifications may be obtained at the Housing Office.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on March 29, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. The Pre-Bid Meeting will include a walk-through of the developments. Bidders are advised that this will be the ONLY time a walk-through will be conducted. Bid opening meeting will be April 5, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions contact Mr. Kelly Carter, Executive Director, at (618) 833-5129. The Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

15GP

No. 05-19-03-355

On September 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. the Petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued in the Circuit Court of Union County, IL. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire September 3, 2023.

Matthew & Kelly Bliss,  
Petitioner  
14-16gc

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

**In the Matter of the Estate of ALLIE JANE DAVIS, Deceased. Case No. 2023-PR-5**

**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Allie Jane Davis. Letters of Office were issued March 7, 2023 to Richard L. Davis, Jr and Tara Davis, whose address is P.O. Box 263, Cobden, Illinois 62920, as Co-Executors, whose attorney of record is Michael R. Twomey, Barrett, Twomey, Broom, Hughes & Hoke, LLP, Attorneys at Law, 100 North Illinois Avenue, P. O. Box 3747, Carbondale, IL 6292-3747. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk's office, Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois 62952, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 18th day of SEPTEMBER, 2023. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

Richard L. Davis, Jr.,  
Tara Davis,  
Co-Executors of the Estate of Allie Jane Davis,  
Deceased.

Michael R. Twomey  
BARRETT, TWOMEY,  
BROOM, HUGHES &  
HOKE, LLP  
Attorneys at Law  
100 North Illinois Avenue  
P.O. Box 3747  
Carbondale, IL 62902-3747  
Tel: (618) 457-0437  
Fax: (618) 457-0411  
email: [mrtwomey@btbhh.com](mailto:mrtwomey@btbhh.com)  
8221-930970  
14-16gc

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

**ESTATE OF JAMES D. ADAMS, DECEASED. NO. 2023-PR-6 IN PROBATE**

**NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION,**

**AND CLAIM DATE**

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of James D. Adams, of Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 9, 2023, to Timothy Adams, 355 County Road 603, Jackson, MO 63755, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois.

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

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

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

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before September 16, 2023, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of James D. Adams, of Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 9, 2023, to Timothy Adams, 355 County Road 603, Jackson, MO 63755, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois.

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Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before September 16, 2023, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: March 13, 2023.

TIMOTHY ADAMS,  
Executor

CAMERON LAW FIRM,  
LLC

ELVIS C. CAMERON  
ATTORNEY FOR  
INDEPENDENT  
EXECUTOR

205B N. MAIN ST.  
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906  
PHONE: 618-833-2220  
ARDC# 6244394  
14-16gc

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

**ANNA STATE BANK, Plaintiff, v. GREAT BOARDS OF FIRE, INC. DAVID FOMBELLE, EAST PERRY TIMBER PROCUREMENT, LLC., UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants. No. 2022FC8**

**NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold

to the highest bidder at public venue.

(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is:

Jonathan D. Vicenzi,  
President  
Anna State Bank  
100 East Vienna  
Anna, IL 62906  
(618) 833-2151

(B) The common address and other common descriptions, if any, of the real estate is:

820 Kratzinger Hollow  
Road  
Cobden, IL 62920

(C) The legal description of the real estate is:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND A PART A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. SAID PARCEL IS A PART OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 128, PAGE 420 IN THE UNION COUNTY COURT HOUSE IN THE NAME OF DAVID FOMBELLE AND PATRICIA FOMBELLE, DATED JULY 8, 1977. SAID PARCEL BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT AN IRON ROD FOUND AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER; THENCE N 89°50'44" E, 1485.42 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER TO A COTTON GIN SPINDLE SET IN THE CENTERLINE OF KRATZINGER HOLLOW ROAD, THIS BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE N 64°26'31" W, 204.29 FEET ALONG SAID CENTERLINE TO A COTTON GIN SPINDLE SET; THENCE ALONG NEW LINES THE FOLLOWING FIVE (5) CALLS: THENCE N 40°33'38" E, 202.80 FEET, PASSING AN IRON ROD SET AT 20.00 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 55°31'11" E, 101.57 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 00°09'16" W, 845.74 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE N 89°50'44" E, 348.52 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE S 00°09'16" E, 1145.37 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET IN THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL TO CONTAIN 10.001 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PER SURVEY BY BILLY J. ABERNATHY, IL PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR NO. 3536, DATED 8/19/2010. SAID PARCEL BEING SUBJECT TO THE EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY OF KRATZINGER HOLLOW ROAD, AND ALL OTHER RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS, RECORDED OR OTHERWISE. ALL SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

(D) A description of the improvements on the real estate is:

The parcel is improved with a residential home.

(E) The real estate may not be inspected prior to sale.

(F) The time and place of the sale are:

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., inside the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market Street, Jonesboro, IL 62952

(G) The amount due under the judgment is \$93,296.92.

(H) The terms of the sale are: 25% down in cash or certified check and the remaining balance due within seven (7) days, also in certified funds. The bid amount shall be paid in certified funds immediately

by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The purchaser, excepting the mortgagor, shall also pay a fee to the Abandoned Residential Property Municipal Relief Fund in the amount of \$1.00 for each \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser but not more than \$300.00, if applicable. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, the prior mortgage of Plaintiff and all covenants, easement, restrictions and other matters of record or apparent, and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will not be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

(I) Title will be conveyed subject to all unpaid general real estate taxes and special assessments, if any, and ordinances, easements, restrictions and covenants of record or apparent, Plaintiff's prior mortgage and all encumbrances not foreclosed herein.

Scott P. Hendricks  
Attorney at Law  
206 W. College, Ste. 12  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
phone: (618) 529-2274  
fax: (618) 529-1638  
[shendricks@globaleyes.net](mailto:shendricks@globaleyes.net)  
14-16g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-6  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: EDWARD E.  
RUMFELT,  
LVNV FUNDING, LLC,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 03-06-01-412

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-7  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: KENNETH L.  
PEARSON,  
CINDY BROADWAY,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 04-16-02-252-A3

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-8  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE**

**TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND DEVEISEES OF  
DOROTHY L.  
GERARDI,  
DAVID L. GERARDI,  
JR.,  
CITY OF JONESBORO,  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTHCARE AND  
FAMILY SERVICES,  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY  
GENERAL,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 05-19-03-461

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-9  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: EDWARD E.  
RUMFELT,  
LVNV FUNDING, LLC,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER(s): 05-19-03-496, 14-00-07-526, 14-00-07-527, 14-00-07-528

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-10  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND DEVEISEES OF  
MERCEDES MULL,  
DONALD E. MULL,  
KEVIN W. MULL,  
TERRY D. MULL,  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE,  
U.S. ATTORNEY  
GENERAL,  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTHCARE AND  
FAMILY SERVICES,  
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY  
GENERAL,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 05-20-03-696-A

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-11**

**FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND DEVEISEES OF  
JANICE E. PEAVLER,  
VICTORIA STOUT,  
SCOTT PEAVLER,  
CHARTER ONE,  
a division of  
RBS CITIZENS, N.A.  
n/k/a U.S. BANK,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-07-905

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-12  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: RUBY SVEJDA  
f/k/a RUBY  
HAMILTON,  
CITY OF ANNA,  
ARDELL F. STARLING,  
JANE R. STARLING,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-08-603

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-13  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: CLAUDE LYNN  
ANDERSON,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-10-750

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**TAX DEED  
NO. 2023-TX-14  
FILED: 03/16/2023**

**TAKE NOTICE  
TO: RUMFELT  
RENTALS &  
DEVELOPMENT, LLC,  
LVNV FUNDING, LLC,  
UNKNOWN  
OCCUPANTS,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS,  
OR PARTIES  
INTERESTED and  
NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS**

This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-11-988-N

On September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on March 3, 2021 for general taxes of the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on September 8, 2023.

AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD  
Purchaser or Assignee  
15-17g

**Notice of Public Hearing  
On Tentative Annual  
Budget  
Of the City of Anna**

A Public Hearing on the Tentative Annual Budget of the City of Anna shall be held commencing at 4:45 p.m. on Tuesday April 18, 2023, in the Chambers of the City Council at the Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, Illinois.

After such hearing or any adjournment thereof, the Tentative Budget, as presented or as revised after Public Hearing, shall be passed without any further inspection, notice, or hearing.

The Tentative Annual Budget is available for public inspection on the bulletin board available in the public area in the Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street, Anna, Illinois commencing March 22, 2023.

Dated March 21, 2023  
  
Dori Bigler,  
Budget Officer  
15g

**REQUEST FOR  
PROPOSAL FOR TWO  
(2) NEW TANDEM  
AXLE DUMP TRUCKS  
AND TWO (2) NEW  
SINGLE AXLE DUMP  
TRUCKS**

Request for Proposal (RFP) packets are available in the Union County Engineer's office and on our website at [www.unioncountyil.gov](http://www.unioncountyil.gov). Questions regarding specifications may be directed to the County Engineer, Jeff Denny via email at [jdenny@unioncountyil.gov](mailto:jdenny@unioncountyil.gov).

Sealed bids should be submitted to the Union County Engineer by 10:00 AM on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at the Union County Engineer's Office.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids received and to waive or not waive any informalities or irregularities in bids or bid procedures, and to accept or further negotiate costs, terms, or conditions of any bid determined by the County to be in the best interest of the County.

Union County Engineer  
316 West Mississippi Street  
Jonesboro, Illinois 62952  
15gpc

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

**IN RE ESTATE OF  
SUSANNA HARTLINE,  
Deceased.  
AMENDED  
2023-PR-2**

**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of Susanna Hartline of Union County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 17, 2023, to Rosiland Sedlacek and Roxanne Smallwood, as Co-Independent Administrators, whose attorney is Edward J. Heller of Reed, Heller & Cannell, LLC, 1100 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois 62966.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Union County Courthouse, Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 25, 2023, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Furthermore, the claimant

shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies. E-Filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk to your local circuit clerk's office.

REED, HELLER &  
CANNELL

BY:  
EDWARD J. HELLER,  
Attorney  
15-17g

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

**IN RE THE ESTATE OF  
BETTY JEAN KING,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.**

**Heirs at law of  
A. Cecil Craft, a/k/a  
Alfred Cecil Craft,  
now deceased;  
Charlotte Craft,  
Jeffrey T. Halterman and  
Teresa Halterman,  
Cletus E. Schram, and  
Heirs at law of  
Mike Batson,  
now deceased,  
or unknown heirs,  
Defendants.  
No. 2022-PR-16**

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
BY PUBLICATION**

Notice of a Hearing is given to Heirs at law of A. Cecil Craft, aka Alfred Cecil Craft, now deceased, Charlotte Craft, Jeffrey T. Halterman and Teresa Halterman, Cletus E. Schram, and Heirs at law of Mike Batson, now deceased, or unknown heirs, and/or its Successors in Interests that a Motion to Determine Rightful Ownership and Approval of Sale of Real Property has been filed by the Estate of Betty Jean King, deceased, requesting that this Court determine rightful ownership of real property and approval of sale of real property, of the following described real property:

General Description:  
A PART OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER (NE 1/4) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

**DETAIL DESCRIPTION:**  
COMMENCING AT A POINT LOCATED WHERE THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.A. ROUTE 2 (AS RELOCATED IN 1939) INTERSECTS THE SECTION LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 19 AND 24 IN TOWNSHIP II SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST; THENCE RUNNING WESTERLY ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID S. A. ROUTE 2 FOR A DISTANCE OF 400 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 10 FEET; THENCE WESTERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 125.53 FEET TO A POINT WHICH IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THIS DESCRIPTION; THENCE SOUTHERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 223.11 FEET; THENCE WESTERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 125.53 FEET TO A POINT WHICH IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THIS DESCRIPTION; THENCE SOUTHERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 223.11 FEET; THENCE WESTERLY WITH AN INTERIOR ANGLE OF 90° FOR A DISTANCE OF 507 FEET, MORE OR LESS; THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID S. A. ROUTE 2 (AS LOCATED IN 1930) FOR A DISTANCE OF 380 FEET, MORE OR LESS. TO A POINT WHERE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.A. ROUTE 2 (AS RELO-

# Obituaries

## Linda Harris Ross

Linda Harris Ross, 79, of Cordova, Tenn., died Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at her home.

She was born on Feb. 15, 1944, in Anna, the daughter of Guy and Muriel Barnhart Harris.

She married Jim Ross on Jan. 18, 1963, in Carbondale.

She is survived by her husband Jim Ross of Cordova, Tenn.; her children, Kevin (Jackie) Ross of Apollo Beach, Fla., Michelle (Craig) Olson of Gig Harbor, Wash., and Jason (Alicia) Ross of Memphis, Tenn.; grandchildren Alex Ross of Dallas, Texas, Noah Ross of Tampa, Fla., Ely Ross of Apollo Beach, Fla., Katheryn and Caroline Mitchell of Charlotte, N.C., Will Mitchell of Gig Harbor, Wash., and Erica Ross of Memphis, Tenn.; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and by siblings Guy Harris Jr. and Ramona Almonrud.

Her greatest achievement was raising her three children into successful, responsible adults. Besides being an excellent mother, wife and homemaker, she volunteered with the Memphis Exchange Club, taught others how to scrapbook, and owned and operated a residential lighting distributor showroom. Mrs. Ross was a member of the First Evangelical Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Graveside funeral services for Linda Ross will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Anna Cemetery. Interment will follow.

Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials can be made to Mid-South Parkinson's Disease Foundation and Support Group; 1512 Pine Shadows Dr., Memphis, Tenn. 38120. Envelopes will be available at the cemetery.

To visit her memorial page and to leave online condolences for the family, visit the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home website at [rendlemanhilemanfh.com](http://rendlemanhilemanfh.com).

**RENDELMAN & HILEMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES



## Raymond (Ray) Brimm

Raymond (Ray) Brimm of Downey, Calif., passed away peacefully on the evening of Saturday, March 11, 2023. He passed away in his home, surrounded by his loving family. He was 88.

Mr. Brimm was born on Feb. 19, 1935, in Anna, the son of Ed and Christina Brimm.

He lived and worked in the Anna-Jonesboro area until 1965 (at the age of 30), when he moved with his wife, Lula and daughter, Debbie to California. He had been a resident of Downey, Calif., for 40 years.

He was born and raised on the Walton Farm in Anna. In his youth he was a farm worker and after marriage he worked at the Bunny Bread factory and the Anna Rock Quarries.

On Oct. 18, 1954, he married Lula Belle Wright (predeceased). They had one child, his pride and joy, Debra Irene Brimm, on May 23, 1957.

In 1965, he and Lula made the bold move to Southern California to pursue the California Dream.

His career spanned several industries in manufacturing. He was a steel fitter. He worked on Navy frigates in the shipyards of San Pedro, Calif., followed by passenger planes at Boeing and McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach, Calif.

Together, with his wife Lula (a real estate agent), they purchased several home properties. Ray used his skills to renovate and maintain the properties while Lula managed the business side of land lordship.

He and Lula both retired early due to Lula's failing health. Ray spent 10 years dutifully caring for Lula until she passed in 2000. In his later years, he enjoyed spending time with his family and visiting Pechanga Casino with his dear friends Janet Johnson and Leota Voshell.

In his spare time, he loved to woodwork and garden. He grew the most luscious tomatoes and helped Lula raise orchids. He built all kinds of things, like gates, ladders, dog houses and gazebos. He even built a pair of stilts for his granddaughters.

He was an animal lover and had many pets over the years. He enjoyed helping his daughter (a single mom) raise his granddaughters and maintain her home.

He is survived by his daughter Debra (Debbie) Gregory, and two granddaughters, Tonya Stonesifer and Julia Santiago; and his son-in-law Chris Santiago. He had three great-grandchildren, Jeremy, Odin and Ostara. He had four sisters, Alice May (predeceased), Betty Grace McCormick, and twins Carolyn Sue (Sue) McKinney and Marilyn Lou (Lou) Curdie. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lula, who passed on Sept. 24, 2000.

Funeral services will be held at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna on Wednesday, March 29. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m. and the service is at noon.

He will be laid to rest next to his wife Lula at the Jonesboro City Cemetery, following the service.

He was a loving, loyal and dutiful man who leaves a legacy of pride and grace. He was very loved by many, and adored by his daughter and granddaughters.

**RENDELMAN & HILEMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES

## Jacob Lee Burton

Jacob Lee Burton, 80, of Tamms, died Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 6:55 a.m. at Integrity Nursing and Rehab in Anna.

He was born on July 16, 1942, in Grand Tower, the son of William H. and Molly Ellen Knupp Burton.

He married Ethel Louise Dover on Dec. 3, 1963, and they spent 59 years blessed years together. She survives.

Mr. Burton was a farmer and loved being outside where he could plant his garden and work up the soil. When not gardening, he enjoyed tinkering and working on the lawn mower.

He also loved the Lord. He was a pastor and evangelist and loved to preach the love and word of God. He was also a music enthusiast and played the guitar when he could.

Along with his wife, Mr. Burton is survived by his sisters, Ruth Ashworth, Edna Rambeau, Lela Davis and Cora Davis; brothers Robert Burton, Bill Burton, Ronald Burton and David Burton; and several other nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Viola Smithey; and brothers Charlie Burton, Floyd Burton, Fred Burton, Tony Burton, Paul Burton, Andrew Burton and Clifford Burton.

Graveside services were at 1 p.m. Monday, March 20, at Fayville Cemetery in Olive Branch. Interment followed the graveside services.

Memorials can be made to Crain Funeral Home. Crain Funeral Home in Tamms was in charge of arrangements.

**Crain**  
Funeral Home



## Sydney Sue Spencer

Sydney Sue Spencer, 86, of Powder Springs, Ga., passed away Thursday, March 16, 2023.

Mrs. Spencer was born on Feb. 28, 1937, in Wolf Lake, the daughter of Percy Clifton Foreman and Violet Esther Miller Foreman.

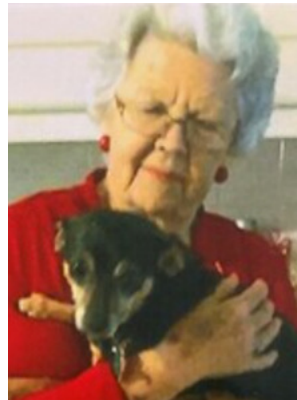
She was a member of Peoples Baptist Church and volunteered for Sweetwater Valley Camp. She was a very giving person.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ronald Delbert Spencer; and her niece, Jeannie Boyd.

Survivors include her son, Dale Gene Spencer (Debbie) of Fayetteville, Ga.; daughter Susan Brown (Michael) of Powder Springs, Ga.; a sister, Alice Boyd (Collin) of Anna; three grandchildren, Ginger Spencer, Travis Spencer, and Frederick Brown (Joie); as well as several cousins, one niece, one nephew and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

Funeral services for Mrs. Spencer were at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Hiram, Ga., with the Rev. Dennis Bellamy officiating. Interment followed at Paulding Memorial Gardens in Hiram, Ga.

Collins Funeral Home in Acworth, Ga., was in charge of arrangements.



## Robbie Dale Turner

Robbie Dale Turner, 56, of Vandalia, passed away on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at his home, surrounded by loving family.

He was born on May 18, 1966, in Cahokia, the son of Jimmy Ray Richardson and Leona Kay Turner.

He married Audrey Yvette Snyrponis in Vandalia on March 22, 2019.

A sharp sense of humor, a quick wit and generally funny is how most people recall his personality. He was very family oriented and protective. His humor and strength often offered a calmness for his family and friends to feel relaxed, safe, and comfortable.

Mayzie, his dog, and long-time companion was Robbie's sidekick. They did everything together, where you saw one, you saw both.

Spending days with the family, especially the grandchildren, who were his pride and joy, were among his favorite things to do. He loved to fish, camp, and go boating, to build memories with whatever friend or family member he was with at the time. He was an artist who enjoyed woodworking, piddling with old cars and old school country music.

He is survived by his parents, Jimmy and Leona Richardson; his wife, Audrey Turner of Vandalia; sons Robert (Lacy) Turner of Salem and Adam Turner of Vandalia; a daughter, Kaitlin Turner of Anna; grandchildren Elijah, Jack, Kambri, Nora, Aubrie and Maddie; and siblings, Peggy (Jerry) Bingaman of Oran, Mo., Jimmie Richardson Jr. of McClure and Patricia (Joe) Williams of Jonesboro.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, today, at the Unity Baptist Church, 716 County Road 1700 N, Vandalia.

Memorials can be made to the Fayette County Cancer Fund, P.O. Box 84, Vandalia, Ill. 62471; and/or to the Warrior Nation Cancer Foundation, 535 Dickey Rd., Vernon, Ill. 62892 or online at [warrionationcancerfoundation.org](http://warrionationcancerfoundation.org).

The family asks that donations be made in lieu of flowers, plants and other gifts, as these organizations were helpful to the family.

Assalley-Young Funeral Home in Greenville was in charge of arrangements.

Visit [www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com) to share memories or to offer condolences to the family.

**RENDELMAN & HILEMAN**  
FUNERAL HOMES

### Classifieds

Continued from page 13

CATED IN 1939) CROSSES THE S.A. ROUTE 2 (AS LOCATED IN 1930); THENCE NORTHERLY FOR A DISTANCE OF 70 FEET ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE; THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR A DISTANCE OF 687 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 4 ACRES, MORE OR LESS;

and declare it to be owned by the Estate of Betty Jean King.

NOW UNLESS you file your answer or otherwise appear in this case on or before April 18, 2023, AT 9 A.M. in the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market

Street, Jonesboro, Illinois, the Plaintiff's prayer for relief requested in the complaint may be granted upon application to the Court therefore.

Dated: March 20, 2023.

THE ESTATE OF BETTY JEAN KING, DECEASED

PATRICK EUGENE KING CO-EXECUTOR  
STEPHANIE (KING) HUNTER CO-EXECUTOR

CAMERON LAW FIRM, LLC  
ELVIS C. CAMERON ATTORNEY AT LAW  
205B N. MAIN STREET  
P.O. BOX 196  
ANNA, IL 62906  
618-833-2220  
ARDC: 6244394  
15g

### Card of Thanks

The family of Larry Lovell want to thank those who visited, called, sent cards and provided us with food during the days following Larry's passing. We especially appreciate everyone's prayers. We appreciate your kindness, comfort and consoling words. It is very evident Larry touched a lot of lives and he will be missed by many. He is now sharing heaven with Our Lord and all of our loved ones who have passed before him.

We also want to thank the staff at Crain Funeral Home for their expert help and for the extra personal touch they showed our family.

Thank you Fr. Uriel for saying the funeral Mass and for your kind and comforting words. Thanks to the ladies of the church for their help with the funeral dinner. We appreciate our parish family for their help and concern before, during and after the funeral.

Family of Larry Lovell

15GC

### City of Jonesboro

### Cemetery Clean-up

The City of Jonesboro will begin cleaning up in the cemetery on March 27, 2023. Please have all arrangements, grave blankets and miscellaneous items removed. Anything left on the ground will be picked up and disposed of by the cemetery department.

14&15G

# Obituaries Online at [annanews.com](http://annanews.com)

## "The Preaching Pen"

### 7 Beatitudes in Revelation - Part 1

The Beatitudes were statements of blessings promised to those who exhibited certain characteristics. Most often, we associate Beatitudes with Christ's Sermon on the Mount. His discussion of humility, penitence, meekness, peacemaking, and suffering were designed to help his disciples increase their spiritual development but also to challenge the scribes and Pharisees to follow God. But in the book of Revelation, we can observe additional statements.

**Beatitude #1: Revelation 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, hear, and keep.** Blessed means joyful, happy, or fortunate. According to this statement, we must not be a forgetful hearer; we must acquire faith all throughout our journey of life. We must continue to refine our faith, correct our faith, and strengthen our faith--these actions exhibit obedience. Obedience to God is always rewarded with spiritual blessings. There is no excuse for disobedience. 1 Timothy 4:16.

**Beatitude #2: Revelation 14:13 Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.** What a marvelous promise of blessing BUT it is contingent upon 2 divine facts. First, one must be in the Lord- Romans 6:3-5; Galatians 3:26-27. Second, one must remain in the Lord until death. Both facts speak of obedience, again a highlighted characteristic of the Blessed. Matthew 24:13 It is only through complete devotion and preparation Mark 13:13 that we can access this blessing. The righteous are blessed because they rest from their labors both physical and spiritual Matthew 11:28, Heb 4:9.

**Beatitude #3: Revelation 16:15 Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments.** The key to this verse is PREPARATION. The implied warning is to remain faithful so as not to be found falling into temptation or to be "in shame" when the time approaches. The parable of the Foolish Virgins echoes a similar warning, Matthew 25. Our definition of "readiness" may not be what our Lord demands. Watching is more than a cursory glance around the spiritual landscape. Watching is noted in Ephesians 5:15. Clothing is figurative language. Matt 22:11 Just as clothing hides our physical immodesty; our spiritual clothing (only the proper set) can cover our spiritual immodesty.

Ryan Thornsberry  
Anna church of Christ

15G

# Anna voters to elect mayor, four city council members

Voters will elect a mayor and four city council members in the 2023 Anna municipal election. The election is Tuesday, April 4.

Incumbent Mayor Steve Hartline is unopposed in his bid for reelection.

The city council election features six candidates, including incumbents Kathy Bryan, Michael Bigler and Martha Ann Webb and challengers Torie Carter, Anthony Edwards and Nathan Guined. Four positions are open on the city council.

Here's a look at each of the candidates who had responded to questionnaires by press time for this week's paper.

Candidates were asked about their goals and why someone should vote for them. Incumbents were asked to highlight their accomplishments.

## Steve Hartline

Steve Hartline has served as mayor of Anna for 22 years. He also served on the Anna City Council for two years.

Hartline is retired from the State of Illinois Department of Human Services/Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna.

The mayor said his goals if reelected include:

To continue to work for the advancement of the City of Anna. To work with the current businesses and future businesses for economic development in the City of Anna. To maintain a balanced budget at all times. To be a strong leader in the office of mayor.

Asked why someone should for him, the incumbent responded:

I have been dedicated to the City of Anna for many years in the roles of police officer, chief of police, city councilman and mayor for the last 22 years. I feel I have the leadership skills and knowledge to continue my position as mayor of Anna. I ask for your support in the upcoming election. Your vote and support would be greatly appreciated.

The mayor cited the following accomplishments while serving in office:

Maintained a balanced budget and worked for the betterment of the City of Anna. To continue to work with other government entities, such as the County of Union and the State of Illinois. To aggressively pursue all series of grants for the advancement of the City of Anna. To be a strong leader as mayor to the citizens of Anna and to the Anna City Council.

## Michael Bigler

Michael Bigler has served for two terms (eight years) on the city council. He is the owner/agent of Bigler Insurance Agency.

If reelected, Bigler said his continued goal will be to work with and support city management and staff as they provide critical services to all the citizens and visitors within our community.

I plan to continue to focus on making much needed improvements to the city park and the ball fields within. I also plan to continue working with city management and the council to enhance and attract new business to the city's downtown area.

The candidate highlighted some of his accomplishments in office:

The following list of items accomplished over the past four years are from a collective team effort of the city's management and staff with support from myself and the rest of the council including the city's mayor.

Codified the city's ordinances, they are now all on our website and easily accessible to the public.

Began hosting festivals and events for our residents and visitors.

Demolished (by April 30, 2023) nine public nuisance properties.

Did not raise the property tax levy the last three years.

Started the SRO Program (School Resource Officer) to keep our children safe.

Supported the starting of the DARE program again.

Flooding on 146 at McDonald's was fixed.

Pickleball courts added to the Anna City Park.

Mural installed on Main Street.

New fire truck purchased, replaced 30-plus year old engine.

New turnout gear purchased for our firefighters.

TIF district started to spur economic growth.

Secured funds for a farmer's market/multi use pavilion in Downtown.

Supported streaming council meetings for greater transparency.

Tree City USA - four years. Planted over 100 trees in city park.

Created an 18-hole disc golf course.

Worked with the Hadley's Haven foundation to successfully procure the needed funds for an all-inclusive playground for children and adults of all abilities. The new playground is set to break ground late summer of 2023.

Commenting on why someone should vote for him, the candidate said:

I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as a city commissioner for two terms now and am asking for your support once again on April 4th. Thankful to be raising my family here and hope to continue to be a part of the town's success.

## Kathy Bryan

Kathy Bryan has served on the city council for four years. She is a business owner.

The candidate shared her thoughts on the goals she has if reelected and what her accomplishments have been while serving in office:

If I am elected, I will continue to help Anna grow to be a place that people want to live. This comes through supporting the beautification and economic expansion of our city.

Since I have been on the council, I have supported the demolition of homes that were declared a public nuisance due to their state of dilapidation.

I have supported park improvements including the use of a state grant to help fund part of Hadley's Haven, an all-inclusive playground set to be put in this year at Anna City Park.

I supported repurposing one tennis court into pickleball courts at the request of Anna citizens and the development of a disc golf course at the park.

I will continue to be an advocate for improving our city park and believe that our park has so much more to offer.

I would like to see the return of a small park district to create programs for the youth in our community. I would also like to see the addition of a dog park within the city limits.

My business has been in our downtown corridor for the last 10 years. Over these 10 years, I have seen it grow into a thriving shopping and dining area.

These small businesses provide not only a place for citizens of Anna to shop and eat, but they also create a destination for people to visit from outside our community.

I will continue to support the growth of our downtown corridor using public grants and TIF grants.

During my time in office, we had a nationwide shutdown due to the covid pandemic. I helped support the city through navigating this unknown territory. The city maintained all necessary infrastructure to keep the city running safely during this time.

For several years, the city did not have leaf and limb pickup. I initiated a return to the city picking up this refuse in the late fall and early winter each year.

During the next term, I would like to work to refine this process and address needed city equipment to make this a faster, more reliable process.

The candidate offered the following reasons why someone should vote for her:

1. I have lived in Anna for 10 years and have come to consider it my home. I ran for the city council last time because I love our city and want it to be the best it can be. It is the same this time. I think that if we want things to continue to improve, we have to get involved in some way. The best way for me to impact our community is through my involvement as a commissioner on the council.

2. I am part owner in three buildings in the downtown area. I am investing personally in this community and want it to not only thrive but continue to grow.

3. My 20 years of working in healthcare and 10 years of owning my own business allow me to bring a different perspective to the council.

4. I have always voted for what I felt was best for the city of Anna with no hidden agenda or desire for my decisions to benefit myself.

## Torie Carter

Torie Carter worked as a therapy director for over 10 years and more recently became an assistant for the family businesses.

If elected to the city council, Carter said her goal will be to serve our community and act as a voice to continue and strengthen the incredible progress being done in our city.

Commenting on why someone should vote for her, the candidate said she is an invested member of the community with a vision for the future.

My husband and I are proud to raise our son in the same community where we were raised. I want to see our city thrive and I want to do whatever I can to make that happen.

## Anthony Edwards

Anthony Edwards is owner/operator of Jordo's Pizzeria in Anna.

If elected to the city council, Edwards said his goals would be to help bring retail/manufacturing business back to Anna and to help create

better paying jobs for skilled and unskilled workers.

Commenting on why someone should vote for him, Edwards stated: "Exodus 18:21 'Look for able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain...' I'm very knowledgeable on the Constitution and will be guided by strict adherence to its original intents and principles."

## Nathan Guined

Nathan Guined works at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

If elected to the city council, the candidate said his goals would include:

Growth in the community. Greater opportunities for our children. Homeless shelter assistance.

Programs and resources for our students. New business development. Park updates.

Improved zoning ordinance. Responsible spending.

Commenting on why someone should vote for him, the candidate said his personal character represents the values of our community.

My leadership will focus on the following attributes:

Christian. Teamwork. Moral judgment. Integrity. Transparent communication. Willingness to learn.

Positive attitude. Dedication. A commitment for positive change. Problem solving. Trustworthy.

I care deeply about our town. I want what's best for the people of Anna. I will listen to your concerns and do anything in my power to make life better for the citizens and local businesses in our community.

## Martha Ann Webb

Martha Ann Webb has served on the Anna City Council for 14 years. She is retired. Webb writes the Anna News column for The Gazette-Democrat.

Webb said her goals, if reelected, are to continue to help make improvements to our beautiful city, park and cemetery.

To continue to work to provide a place for our yard waste and to seek solutions to old infrastructure (drainage) problems. I am and will work to make sure all fire hydrants are working.

I expect to continue to use the health, safety and well-being of Anna citizens as a guide when selecting projects, facing issues and making decisions for the city.

I know budgeting is a top concern for accomplishing project goals and believe we should be prudent with our spending.

I would like to help Shawnee Mass Transit find funds to make local transportation free for our community.

Webb highlighted some her accomplishments while in office:

Some of my accomplishments while I have been elected was a protective barrier and security cameras at Anna City Hall. The Anna City Park has had many improvements. Cameras have been added for security, improvements have been made to the parks beautification. Hadley's Haven is coming soon.

My most rewarding personal project has been to establish and direct the city and county Honor Wreaths for Veterans, a branch off Wreaths Across America. That honor for our veterans continues to grow and develop.

It has been a pleasure to tell the Annabelle Hydrangea history, to encourage people to plant more Annabelle's and participate in the Annabelle Trail I founded.

Webb said that someone should vote for her because it is my honor to represent our city, as well as to support and promote issues that I believe will benefit the most people.

Many Anna citizens are conservative and believe in giving careful consideration

to the use of our tax dollars.

I have considered the health, safety and well being, especially of our youth and older populations in my decision making. I have listened to the voices of those around me and have voted to represent them. Even when my choices have not been popular. I believe I have spoken for those I represent.

I believe it is important for citizens of our community to feel a connection to city government by seeing their elected officials active in the community. I have made it my aim to be present at as many public functions as possible. You can usually see me at most community events. I would appreciate your vote.

## Kindergarten screening set at Cobden

Cobden Elementary School plans to have kindergarten screening on Friday, April 14.

Appointments to have a child screening can be made by calling the school at 893-2311.

To be eligible for screening, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2023, and live in Cobden Unit School District No. 17.


The school asks that the following items be brought to a child's screening appointment:

Proof of parent/guardian's residency in Cobden Unit School District No. 17 (such as a tax bill, utility bill, property deed or lease).

The child's certified birth certificate.

The child's current immunization record.

# ELECT



Nathan Bracken  
District 81 School Board

"Let's Make Change,  
Together"

## Worship at Kornthal

Worship at Kornthal will be held  
at 2:00 p.m. on April 2 (Palm  
Sunday) for the month of April.  
Kornthal is located 2.5 miles south  
of Jonesboro, just off Illinois 127.

## ANNA DISTRICT #37 KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Anna District #37  
will hold Kindergarten  
Screening on March 28th  
from noon to 5 p.m. at Lincoln  
Elementary School.

Please bring the child and their  
birth certificate.

## CUSTOM PROCESSING OF BEEF, PORK, GOAT, SHEEP

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



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### BIDDING CLOSES: Thur, April 27, 8pm CST

PROPERTY INSPECTION  
Sunday, April 2, 12 to 3PM

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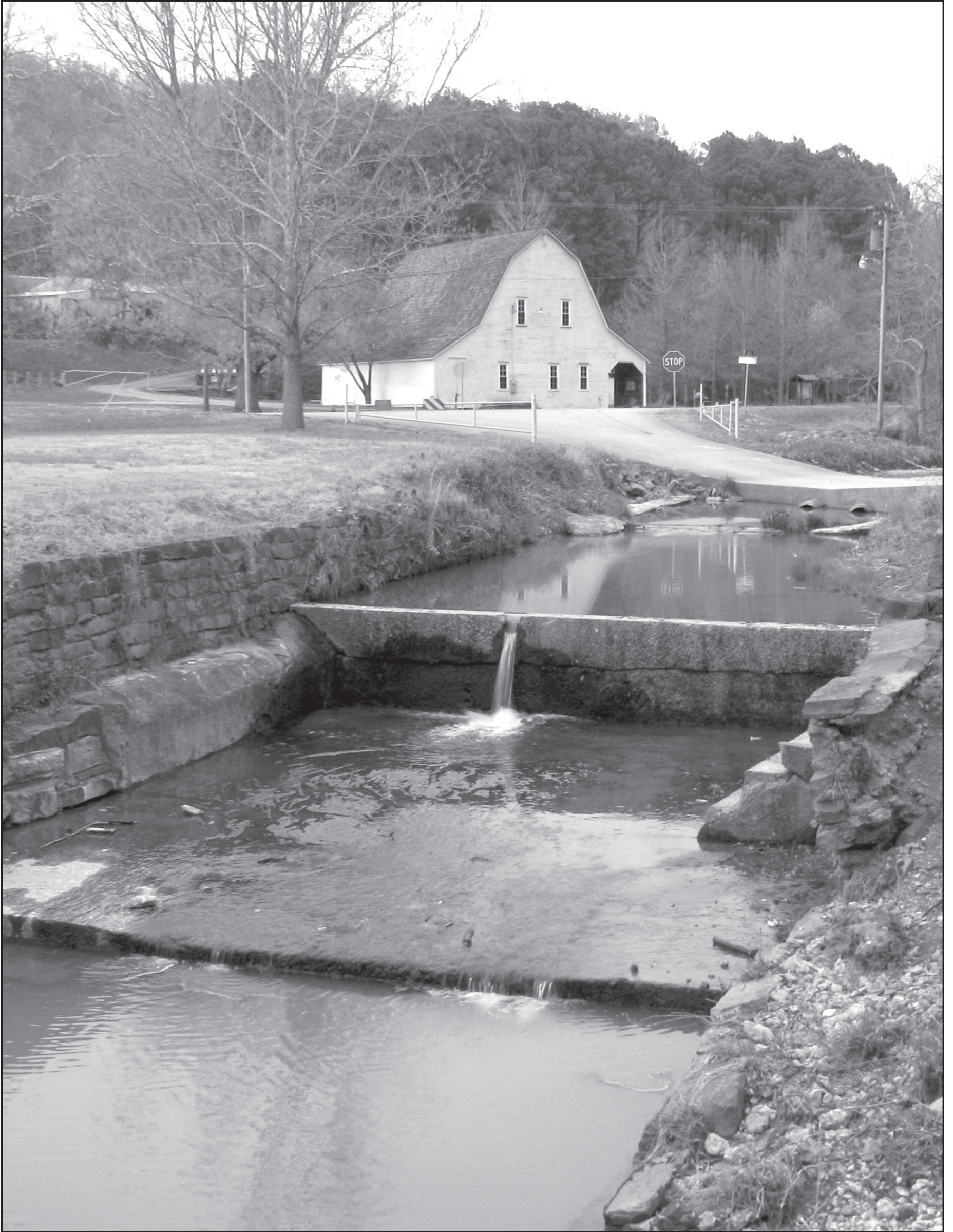
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# One contested race in Jonesboro city election

Voters in Jonesboro will elect alderpersons from three wards in the April 4 election.

Two wards will have incumbent officeholders who are not being challenged.

In Ward 1, incumbent David E. Waun is unopposed on the ballot.

In Ward 3, incumbent Michael S. Stegle also is unopposed in the April election.

In Ward 2, incumbent Beverly K. Schaefer is being challenged by Diana Scherer.

Both candidates in the contested race responded to questionnaires about the election.

Schaefer is a paraprofessional aide. She has served in office for four years.

If reelected, Schaefer said she would work to maintain "hometown" values while ensuring that people/citizens are heard and emphasizing beyond their questions and concerns.

The candidate said that her accomplishments while in office include regular attendance at city council meetings each month, open and effective communication, understanding of city government and public participation, responsible decision making and open mindedness.

Commenting on why someone should vote for her, Schaefer stated:

"My family and I are rooted here in Jonesboro. I am married to Jon Schaefer and we have two grown sons, Jarod and Jacob.

"My husband is currently serving as a volunteer firefighter at the Jonesboro Fire Department with 38 years service. Both of our sons are currently enlisted in the United States Army and proudly serving our country.

"I truly love our town and community. I have hands-on experience, familiarity with what is required of the city council, working knowledge of effectively implementing changes and maintaining efficiency.

"I believe in meeting face to face with people with any questions or concerns. I possess the knowledge and skills needed to continue to serve you as your Jonesboro city alderman with efficiency and cooperatively, with honesty and integrity.

"I appreciate all of the support I have received and would like to ask for your continued support. I have great interest in the City of

## NSDAR Daniel Chapman Chapter meets at PAST Heritage House in Jonesboro

The Daniel Chapman Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, NSDAR, met Monday afternoon, Feb. 13, at the PAST Heritage House in Jonesboro.

The meeting was called to order by regent Suzan Harvel. The Ritual followed, along with the Pledge to the American flag, the American's Creed and the Preamble to the Constitution.

Following the saying of grace, a luncheon, catered by member Julia Mowery, was served. Cohostesses were Carolyn Tripp and Marilyn Meisenheimer.

The program was presented by District VII director Lisa Thomas of Carrier Mills, who shared "The Life and Times of Martha Washington," who was the country's very first "First Lady." She had also used a recipe for First Lady Martha's candy, which was shared for sampling.

A business meeting continued as the president general's message was delivered by Julia Mowery. The national defense report was given by Bonnie Hogue.

Officers reports included a regent's report by Suzan Harvel, a chaplain's report, a registrar's report by Marilyn Meisenheimer, a historian's report given by Lee Hackney and a librarian's report by Debora Simmons.

A recording secretary's

Jonesboro. I would like to see Jonesboro prosper in business and in all aspects."

Diana Scherer said her goal if elected to office is to be a voice for positive change.

She is an active member of the PAST (Promoting Appreciation of Structural Treasures) organization of Union County.

With her role in the organization, the candidate said her historical knowledge and outstanding representation of the city's past and future "bring forth a voice for positive change."

report was given by regent Harvel in the absence of Doda Starkey. A financial report was given by Carolyn Tripp, treasurer. Both were approved for recording. Committee reports also were given.

A Valentine bingo party, traditionally held at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna, was canceled, due to COVID-19 conditions still being in place. However, a monetary donation was delivered by member Sandra Boaz to the home for its own bingo party.

The names of those planning to attend the state conference are to be turned in by March 25.

Any member who wants to attend the Continental Congress in Washington, D.C., in July is asked to let Regent Harvel know as soon as possible.

Vietnam War Veterans Day will be on March 29, when cards will be mailed. Additional names of Vietnam veterans are needed.

The next DAR meeting was planned Monday afternoon, March 13, at the Pope County Historical Society Museum. Chapter member Melodie Penrod was scheduled to present a program about the 150th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park. Hostesses were scheduled to be Jeanne Boglino and Alice Thodoropoulos.

Anyone who would like information about becoming a DAR member can contact membership chair and registrar Marilyn Meisenheimer at mmeisenheimer@frontier.com.

## Kindergarten screening set at Lincoln

Kindergarten screening for the 2023-2024 school year is planned at Lincoln Elementary School in Anna from noon to 5 p.m. on March 28.

In a social media posting, Anna School District No. 37 noted that "all students entering kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year must attend the screening.

"Parents/guardians should bring their child and their birth certificate to the screening. Please contact Mrs. Houseman at Lincoln School (833-6851) with questions."

## Spring clean up campaign scheduled to begin in Cobden

A spring clean up campaign is scheduled to start Sunday, March 26, in Cobden.

Event organizer Shane Bruce said in an email that a minimum of six volunteers are invited to help out over six weeks starting on March 26.

Bruce can be contacted by email at shanebruceoffice@gmail.com or by phone at 323-610-5802.

Volunteers will work to clean up streets in the Union County village.

Clean up campaign activities are planned from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The afternoon will begin at Colors & Spices Cafe, with lunch provided from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be prepared by Color & Spices Cafe owner Danielle Murray.

Live music presented by The Free Range Chicks is planned.

At 2 p.m., volunteers will begin clean up work by covering the first of six sections of town. Work is planned until 4 p.m.

After the clean up work is done, volunteers are invited to return to Colors & Spices Cafe for hot chocolate and fresh baked goodies.

## Cobden High School history fair winners

A history fair was held Monday, Feb. 27, at Cobden Junior-Senior High School. High school students in the history class of teacher Jamie Nash-Mayberry participated. Ten judges reviewed 16 high school projects. The history fair was sponsored by the Union County Historical and Genealogy Society. Cash prizes were awarded. Winners are featured in the accompanying pictures. Photos provided.



High school, first place: The Community of Miller Grove, by Nicole Basler.



High school, second place: Tension and Turmoil in Cairo, Illinois, by Yanet Romero Hernandez, Kylee Clover-Tellor and Dora Funes.



High school, third place (tie): Neil Armstrong's Historical Mission, by Kaylee Hall and Cheyenne Felder.



High school, third place (tie): Elvis Presley, by Emma Kilpatrick, Anna Staley and Sam Ingold.



High school, video category: Apollo 11 documentary, by Isaac Reiman, Eric Guijon and Andres Amezcuita.

### News from

## Anna Nazarene Church

A Sunday morning worship service was held March 19 in the church and on Zoom.

Singing was led by Pastor Randy Wright and the worship team. Special music was provided by Kylee Berry, Rebecca Fuller and Bella Berry.

The pastor's message was titled "Are You Thirsty?" Scripture was from John.

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

A Sunday evening service was held in the church and on Zoom. Special music was provided by Tammy Hagler. The evening message was brought by Pastor Wright. Scripture was from Romans.

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Sunday, March 26.

Sunday School is planned at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, March 26.

Morning worship is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, March 26. Annual church ballot approval is planned following the morning worship service. All active members 15 years of age and older can vote on the approval of the ballot.

Quizzing is planned at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 26.

An evening service is planned at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26.

A Murphysboro and Mt. Vernon zone missionary rally is planned at 7 p.m. on March 27. The rally will be at the Oasis Community

Church of the Nazarene in Harrisburg. The missionary for the spring mission tour is scheduled to be Shashade Twal. The Twal family serves in Germany and Eurasia. The church van is scheduled to leave at 5:45 p.m. for those who need a ride.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. March 29 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.

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.

# Opinion and Commentary

## Letter to the editor Anna District 37 Board member responds to letter

To the editor,

I would like to respond to the letter to the editor, that was published in The Gazette-Democrat on March 16, 2023

There has indeed been a letter of no confidence placed by the Anna Education Association (AEEA) (which is made up of all Teachers and Staff members at District #37). This letter of "No Confidence" was submitted against the Superintendent of Schools of Anna District #37.

I take these allegations very seriously, which is why I recommended that an outside independent investigation be conducted to determine the veracity of these allegations. If the situation were reversed, and allegations were made against a staff member or a teacher, the AEEA would demand an investigation and seek legal remedy to the school if sanctions or loss of position were done without the findings of a thorough investigation. As a school board member, I feel it's my responsibility or any school employee, regardless of their position, to be allotted due process.

However, the AEEA does not want me and other members to wait on the conclusion of this investigation. They would like us to relieve the superintendent of her duties immediately, which would cost the school district and taxpayers \$140,000. We would then have to hire a replacement superintendent, who would likely cost the district at least \$100,000. At minimum, this would constitute a total cost of at least \$240,000 to the school district and taxpayers of Anna District #37.

I am sorry, but I cannot be a party to not providing fair and equal due process that I believe every American citizen is entitled to under the law. I would not do that to a student, staff member, or teacher. It's simply not within me to create a change, costly as this one would be, without having all the facts. If we do this to individuals at random, then I believe we are truly lost as a fair and free society.

Once the results from this investigation are concluded, the board will make a decision. Because this is a personnel issue, and the superintendent's rights are protected under law, discussing this issue publicly before the conclusion of the independent investigation puts the District and taxpayers into a very serious legal situation that could have huge financial consequences.

I respect the AEEA's position regarding this dispute; however, my first and foremost priority is to protect the entire school community as a whole. Therefore, please respect my position regarding this situation and understand these are the principles I have as a school board member.

Sincerely, Dave Sullivan, Anna District 37 Board Member

## Book/vinyl, media sale planned at Morris Library on SIU campus

The Friends of Morris Library and WSIU Radio are planning to host a public sale at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The book/vinyl and media sale is scheduled March 24-25 in the Morris Library basement.

The sale is scheduled to run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 24 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 25. Admission is free both days.

Proceeds of the sale go to purchase materials and support the library's mission and WSIU Radio. Hardcover books are \$1 apiece, paperback books 50 cents apiece and vinyl albums, \$1 apiece.

Prices will also vary on coffee table, art and photography books, as well as boxed set items. Only cash and checks will be accepted.

One of the highlights will be numerous books from the Trovillion Private Press, a Herrin publishing company operated by the late Hal and Violet De Mars Trovillion.

For more information, contact Morris Library at 618-453-2522.

## Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

### A couple of books with local connections...



**The wind was blowing so hard last Friday morning that it caused the entire Jonesboro Square to tilt. Or, maybe the photographer just couldn't hold his camera steady... This week's column makes mention of Mr. Lincoln...and some other good stuff, too...**

Oh. My. Gosh. Did you see snow flurries falling last Sunday morning? At about 8 a.m. in the little corner of the world your writer calls home. The flurries lasted for about 30 seconds...

...and were followed by spring's arrival on Monday...

Meanwhile...

Last Thursday afternoon, I paid a visit to Stinson Memorial Library in Anna. As you may recall, I am a frequent visitor to the landmark library in Anna. Visits to the library go back to when I was younger. Much, much, much younger.

Sometimes, I will head to the library with the goal of finding a specific book. Sometimes, I go to pick up a book which I had requested online. You can do such things in the 21st century, and it's really easy. Perhaps a bit too easy for those of us who are always finding a new book that we "just have to read."

Sometimes, I go to the library just to see what new books might be on the shelves. If something looks interesting, I'll check it out.

Such was the case last Thursday. I actually ended up finding two new books.

One of the books was titled "Sharpshooter," which had a subtitle of "The Life and Times of Tilman Manus." The book was written by a gentleman named Keith Pruitt, who is an educator.

The other book I stumbled upon was titled "Dinner with the President." This book also had a subtitle, "Food, Politics, and a History of Breaking Bread at the White House." This book's author is named Alex Prud'homme. "Sharpshooter" is a novel, a work of historical fiction. I'm a big fan of historical fiction, especially novels with a connection to the American Revolution.

I also enjoy historical fiction which makes a connection with places I've been, or experiences I've had over the years.

Tilman Manus, as some of you may know, spent a good part of his life in Union County. And what a life it was. For one thing, he lived until he was about 106 years old.

Since he lived in Union County, there's a local connection in the novel. The author of the novel, by the way, was identified as a kinsman of Tilman Manus.

The back cover of "Sharpshooter" shared that Tilman Manus was an "eyewitness to some of the great events in history." He attended the Lincoln-Douglas debate in Jonesboro and fought for the Union under General Ulysses S. Grant in the Civil War.

"I want people to know it was people like Tilman Manus who made American history. His story and countless others must be told," the author wrote.

"Sharpshooter" is a quick read. Only about 175 pages. I was able to finish the book over the course of an afternoon and early evening, interrupted only by an unanticipated nap. Such things happen often while I am reading. Care has to be taken to ensure that a particularly long novel does not cause injury if the book happens to fall when a nap sets in.

The Lincoln-Douglas debate in Union County in September of 1858 is featured in "Sharpshooter."

"Them two, Douglas and Lincoln, they come down here to Jonesboro...and had them a debate," Tilman Manus recalls in the fictional account of his life.

Of course, as you know, because you know the history of Union County, that Lincoln-Douglas debate took place at what is now the site of the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro. Which just so happens to be one of my favorite places to visit. That would be one of those local connections I like to find in books.

A couple of other connections showed up in "Sharpshooter." There's mention of the Jonesboro Gazette newspaper. You are reading the successor to that worthy publication.

The other connection would be a mention by one of the characters in the novel who said he was "homesick to get back to Alton." Alton was where yours truly went to high school, back in the day.

"Dinner with the President" has been an unexpectedly fun read.

"Some of the most significant moments in American history have occurred over meals," the front inside cover flap of the book shares...and continues by explaining that the author "invites readers into the White House kitchen to reveal the sometimes curious tastes of twenty-six of America's most influential presidents."

For example, the author revealed that after steak, President William Howard Taft's "favorite dish was roasted possum." I've never tasted possum. Not sure I would want to taste that nasty, hissing critter, but I'm guessing that possum probably tastes like chicken.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates are even mentioned in "Dinner with the President." At one of the debates, Mr. Lincoln made a comment referring to a "soup that was made by boiling the shadow of a pigeon that had been starved to death." Want to know the rest of that story? Check out the book, where you also will find recipes for Martha Washington's Preserved Cherries, Abraham Lincoln's Gingerbread Men and Eisenhower Steak.

Let's close with an unscheduled visit I paid last Friday morning to the aforementioned Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds. Just wanted to see if I could touch base with the ghosts of long-ago visitors Abraham Lincoln and Tilman Manus.

I didn't spot any ghosts. As I was heading back to my car, I happened to look down and saw a penny, face down in the parking lot. I picked up the penny. Saw the familiar image of Mr. Lincoln on the 1987 circle of copper. I figure that Tilman Manus wanted me to find that coin.

## Experiences with deer sought

Researchers at the University of Illinois are asking adults in Illinois to complete an online survey about their experiences with wild white-tailed deer. The survey is part of a larger effort by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's, USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS, to study wild deer in relation to the prevalence and transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 in people.

"We know that people can share diseases with wildlife, like wild deer, but we don't always know how those diseases move back and forth," said Dr. Rebecca Smith, an epidemiologist at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. "We are asking for adults age 18 and above to participate in an online survey so we can learn about the experiences, if any, that the general public has had with wild white-tailed deer in Illinois."

The survey can be found at <https://redcap.healthinstitute.illinois.edu/>.

The online survey may help researchers glean useful information about public health and disease transmission beyond the implications for the COVID-19 virus. "The main purpose of this research is to understand how SARS-CoV-2 could possibly have spilled into the wild deer population, but what we find could help us understand much more about human-wildlife interactions and how they might influence disease spread," Smith said.



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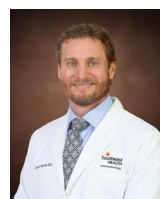
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