

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Anna, Illinois

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\$1.00

Volume 168, Number 20

News Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area.



Maybe we've had too much water: a "gator" was spotted last Friday evening in Union County. (The "critter" was at the Great American Culture Night at Cobden Elementary School.)

With the arrival of May, 2017 graduation ceremonies are just around the corner at Union County schools.

Shawnee Community College's spring commencement ceremonies are planned May 12. Ceremonies will be at the college's main campus near Ullin. The ceremony will be streamed live on YouTube.

An honors night program is set for 6 p.m. May 5 at Shawnee Community College.

An ADN pinning ceremony is planned at 6 p.m. May 11 at Shawnee Community College.

Jana Fear is planning to retire as director of Union County's E-911 program. Fear has offered dedicated service to the program for many years.

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Mississippi, Big Muddy rivers on rise after heavy rain; more precipitation possible

Major flooding in forecast for region

Union County officials were hoping for the best as major flood conditions were in the forecast this week for the Mississippi and Big Muddy rivers in Southern Illinois.

The hopeful outlook came even as forecasts were calling for the possibility of more heavy rain on

Wednesday and Thursday, today.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah issued a special weather statement early this week which was alerting area residents to the possibility of "more rainfall heading into the region."

"Another strong, slow-

moving storm system will bring more moderate to heavy rainfall to the region Wednesday through Thursday," the weather service office posted on its website.

The forecast was calling for 1 to 3 inches of rain, with the heaviest rains expected over areas from Perryville, Missouri, through Pinckneyville, Mt. Vernon and Fairfield in Southern Illinois.

Much of the rain was expected to fall from Wednesday night through Thursday morning, today.

"While these rainfall amounts pale in comparison to the heavy rains that fell over the weekend, they will serve to aggravate existing flooding and possibly lead to new flooding problems," the weather service advised. "Many river forecasts across the area will be impacted, at least with a prolonged flood wave, if not new or higher crests."

More Than 11 Inches of Rain

The possibility of even more rain falling came after the Union County area received more than 11 inches of precipitation during the period of April 26 through April 30.

Weather observer Dana Cross measured 11.18 inches of rain in Jonesboro, in-

cluding 2.19 inches on April 26, .01 of an inch on April 27, 1.69 inches on April 28, 4.75 inches on April 29 and 2.54 inches on April 30.

The heavy rain caused river levels to rise significantly throughout the region. The weather service issued flood warnings for many of the area's rivers.

Union County is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River. Northwestern Union County is bordered by the Big Muddy River. Flood warnings were in effect this week for both of the rivers.

River Flood Warnings

A flood warning was in effect for the Mississippi River at Cape Girardeau and Thebes. The warning included Union County.

The weather service stated at midday on Tuesday that river flood crests at both Cape Girardeau and Thebes remained on track.

The Mississippi is expected to crest at 48.5 feet at Cape Girardeau on Saturday evening. A crest of 47.0 feet is expected Saturday evening at Thebes. River levels are expected to begin falling by Saturday evening.

At 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, the Mississippi River's stage at Cape Girardeau was at 40.9 feet. Flood stage is 32.0 feet.

Moderate flooding was occurring and major flooding was in the forecast.

At 48.9 feet, the flood would exceed the highest stage on record, the weather service reported.

The weather service reported that the stage of the Big Muddy River at Murphysboro was 36.4 feet at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. Flood stage is 22.0 feet.

Major flooding was occurring on the Big Muddy, and was expected to continue.

The river was expected to continue rising to near 39.8 feet by early Thursday morning, today, and then begin falling.

The past week's downpours swamped streets and roads throughout the Union County area.

No Evacuations

The Union County Sheriff's Office in Jonesboro reported that as of Sunday afternoon, there had been no evacuations as a result of flooding.

Union County Sheriff Scott Harvel said in an updated report on Tuesday morning that no evacuations had been reported due to high water.

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Water at state forest

Water rushed over a ford at the Trail of Tears State Forest last Saturday morning following a night of very heavy rain fall.



Through the water

A truck made its way through water and debris which covered part of the State Forest Road in Union County last Saturday morning.

Youth entrepreneurs highlighted at trade show

Students from Union County joined in showcasing their entrepreneurial spirit and start-up businesses at a program which was held last week in Carbondale.

The Southern Illinois Youth Entrepreneur Trade

Show was held Tuesday evening, April 25, at the Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Young entrepreneurs from Union, Jackson, Perry and Williamson counties

were featured in the trade show.

Six students who are participating the 2016-2017 Union County CEO program participated in the show, which was sponsored by SIU.

The local students rep-

resented Anna-Jonesboro Community High School and the Shawnee Hills Christian Academy in Anna.

CEO program students from Union County, their schools and their businesses included:

Jessa Bond, Shawnee

Hills Christian Academy, Modern and Modest Fashions, makes jean skirts out of jeans.

Erin Dillow, Shawnee Hills Christian Academy, Southern Soul Soap Company, makes soap out of local products like goats' milk and lavender.

Jessica Glasco, A-JCHS, Bathtime Blitz, makes bath bombs and sugar scrubs in a variety of scents.

Aaron Lence, A-JCHS, True South Outdoor Company, sells shirts promoting Southern Illinois, such as Inspiration Point.

Julian Smith, A-JCHS, Tech Fusion, website design and hosting, technology repair and installations.

Shad Turner, A-JCHS, Pokey the Clown, provides roaming clown entertainment for children and families.

Evelyn Bailey serves as facilitator for the Union County CEO program.



Local students

From left are Union County CEO program students Aaron Lence, Julian Smith, Shad Turner, Erin Dillow, Jessica Glasco and Jessa Bond.



THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT
THE TALK AND COBDEN REVIEW
 Serving Union County Since 1849
 (USPS 215-290)
 112 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 529
 Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Phone: 618-835-2158
 Fax: 618-833-5815
 Email: news@gazette-democrat.com

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

PUBLISHED THURSDAY

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Union County.....\$25.00	12 months out of state.....\$40.00
Elsewhere in US Zip Code.....\$27.00	12 months (international).....\$46.00
Out of state.....\$45.00	Anniversary.....\$46.00
12 months in county.....\$25.00	Single copy.....\$1.00
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News Notes

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The Union County Ambulance Service hosted a retirement celebration for Carrell O'Daniell last Friday. O'Daniell was honored for 24 years of service.

Illinois Humanities hosted a program titled "The Future of Public Schools" Wednesday evening, April 26, at Cobden Junior-Senior High School. More on this to come...

An exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birthday of John F. Kennedy is scheduled to open May 13 at the Union County Museum in downtown Cobden.

New ball field bleach-

ers have been installed at Jonesboro School.

The Jonesboro School District is accepting bids through May 19 for a surplus, 1998 school bus.

Lots of yard sales are scheduled this Saturday in the Village of Cobden.

A spring clean up day is planned May 10 in Cobden.

Fire hydrants are being flushed in Cobden.

The fountain on the Jonesboro Square is in operation for another season.

One last thing: In honor of Star Wars Day, May the Fourth be with you.

Major flooding

(continued from page 1)

Harvel said that a deputy rescued a motorist Friday night on Lick Creek Road. The motorist's vehicle became stranded in high water.

The sheriff's office reported Saturday and Sunday mornings that parts of some roads in the county were either under water or washed out.

Roads which were impacted by the flooding included Morgan School Road between Jonesboro and Ware, Refuge Road near Ware, Kaolin Road between Anna and Cobden, Belcher Road near Ware, and Kornthal Church Road and Old Cape Road, both south of Jonesboro. Fox Hollow Road in northeastern Union County was reported to have been washed out.

Sheriff Harvel said that as of Tuesday morning, Old Cape Road, which is between Jonesboro and Reynoldsville, was the only road which remained closed due to high water.

Monitoring Situation
 The Union County Sheriff's Office, the Union County Highway Department and local levee district officials were continuing to monitor the flood situation early this week.

Harvel said that water levels had dropped in many locations on Tuesday, which was sunny and mild.

Cobden to host yard sale day

A community yard sale day is planned Saturday, May 6, in the Village of Cobden. The event will be held rain or shine.

Nearly 20 yard sales are planned throughout the village.

Maps with locations of yard sales will be available starting at 7 a.m. on the day of the event at Cobden Village Hall. Village hall is located on East Maple Street.

However, officials were concerned about the possibility of more rain falling on Wednesday and Thursday. Officials are hoping that they do not see a replay of flood conditions which occurred in the area during December 2015 and January 2016.

Officials in the Shawnee School District also were keeping a close eye on the flood situation.

The district is located in river bottomland areas in Union, Jackson and Alexander counties.

Approximately 20 of the district's students could not make it to school early this week due to flooding. In some locations in the district, students have to travel by boat during high waters.

Flash Flood Warnings

Flash flood warnings which included parts of Union County were issued last Saturday morning, Saturday night and Sunday morning.

The warnings were issued by the National Weather Service office in Paducah.

Northern Union County was included in the flash flood warning area.

Numerous reports of flash flooding in the region had been received early Saturday morning, the weather service reported.

"Some major roads in the warning area have been closed in spots," the weather service stated.

A lane of Route 13 in Carbondale was closed due to flooding. Water rescues were reported in Herrin, where some roads were impassable.

The Union County area received a break in the rain Saturday afternoon. By Saturday night, heavy rain had started again. More heavy rain fell Sunday morning.

Sunday's services at Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church east of Anna were cancelled due to flooded roads.



Press conference

Union County State's Attorney Tyler R. Edmonds, center, at podium, joined law enforcement leaders and legislators at a press conference in Springfield April 24, to support passage of HB 2663, a bill aimed at reducing the expulsion of kids from pre-school programs. In the front, from left, are State Sen. Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood; State Rep. Juliana Stratton, D-Chicago; Union County State's Attorney Tyler R. Edmonds; State Sen. Karen McConnaughay, R-St. Charles; and State Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Raymond. Photo provided.

Programs for children that prevent crime

State's attorney calls for state funding

Union County State's Attorney Tyler R. Edmonds joined prosecutors, police chiefs and sheriffs from throughout Illinois last week to meet with leaders in Springfield about the impact of the ongoing state budget impasse on programs for children that prevent crime.

"We know investing in our youth not only leads to better social outcomes, it saves taxpayers money," Edmonds said in a news release.

"We see kids that are abused and neglected: those kids often end up behind in school and end up in juvenile delinquency and ultimately end up in criminal court.

"That is costing taxpayers in our communities tremendously. We really know that in the short term and in the long term, this is a very good investment in taxpayer dollars and also leads to much safer and healthier communities throughout the state."

The group met with Gov. Bruce Rauner and three legislative leaders last week:

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, Senate President John Cullerton and Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno.

The group also met with several other legislators who play a key role setting the state budget.

The law enforcement leaders represented over 300 law enforcement leaders who are members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois, an anti-crime organization that advocates for evidence-based investments in programs for kids that are proven to cut crime and violence.

The officials noted that a lack of a state budget has forced dozens of non-profit agencies across Illinois to cut back significantly on staffing and important services, and many have already gone out of business.

Included are many programs for kids and youth: programs that law enforcement leaders consider key to protecting public safety:

•Redeploy Illinois, which provides cheaper and more effective alternatives to prison for juvenile

offenders and significantly reduces recidivism. The steady decline in the state's juvenile prison population is in jeopardy, as 24 counties have been forced to drop out of Redeploy.

•Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services, which provides crisis-intervention and family-reunification help for about 7,000 youths, including runaways, kids deemed beyond parents' control, and those in immediate physical danger. During the budget impasse, more than half of these programs have cut staff and/or access to services. Law enforcement depends on these agencies as safe places to refer unaccompanied at-risk youth.

•Teen REACH after-school programs represent safe and educational alternatives to the streets. Without a full-year budget 15,000 at-risk youth will lose access to safe spaces during the "prime time for juvenile crime."

•"Parent-coaching" programs, which offer help for the new parents of at-risk infants and toddlers, reduc-

ing child abuse and neglect, among other positive results. These home-visiting programs are shutting down statewide, risking the loss of \$40 million in federal funding for services helping 6,000 families statewide.

Edmonds and other Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois members also voiced support for legislation pending in Springfield which would reduce the expulsion of at-risk kids from pre-school.

The legislation, HB 2663, would create uniform statewide standards regarding pre-school expulsion and ensure that educators have the resources and information to help all kids thrive in early learning classrooms.

Edmonds serves as co-chairperson of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois, the state office of a national, non-profit, bipartisan, anti-crime organization of more than 5,000 police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, leaders of law enforcement organizations and victims of crime. The program has more than 300 members in Illinois.

County commissioners cover wide range of topics at Friday meeting

Topics ranging from an August solar eclipse and storage space to barking dogs, trash on local roads and finances were discussed at last week's regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners.

The meeting was Friday morning, April 28, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Solar Eclipse

Union County officials are gearing up in a variety of ways as they prepare for a total solar eclipse which will occur on Aug. 21.

Union County, and other nearby areas in Southern Illinois, will be key viewing points for the event.

Thousands of visitors are expected in Southern Illinois for the event. Union County officials are among those preparing for the large influx of visitors.

Union County Ambulance Service director Grant Capel and Union County Sheriff Scott Harvel both shared updates about their plans at Friday's meeting.

Officials are uncertain at this time about exactly how many people might come to Southern Illinois, and Union County, to view the eclipse.

Capel said the ambulance service is working on work schedules and acquiring supplies in anticipation of the event.

The ambulance service director said that he expects costs to be "very expensive" in terms of meeting such costs as overtime for staff.

Harvel said he is planning to implement 12-hour shifts for the sheriff's office's enforcement personnel.

"My biggest concern is traffic control," the sheriff noted.

County Finances Update

Union County Treasurer Darren Bailey shared a regular update about the county's finances at Friday morning's meeting.

He shared that the county's general fund cash balance for April was \$843,204. General fund expenses totaled \$391,415.

The treasurer said that the state's budget impasse continues to have an impact on the county. Bailey said that he does not see a state budget happening any time soon.

Bailey also noted that the county continues to work to establish a reserve fund. The hope is that such a fund would allow the county to operate for a year.

Trash, Spending Concerns

The county's finances also were addressed in relation to concerns about trash along county roads during comments voiced by county resident and business person Ron Garner.

Garner leads efforts to pick up trash along roads in the Anna area. He said that since January, 500 bags of trash have been picked up.

"There's trash everywhere," Garner said.

Garner addressed several factors which he said have an impact on resources which could be used to clean up rural roads, along with working on infrastructure and supporting the Union County Highway Department.

Garner questioned the county's utilization of outside help for labor negotiations, as well as the allocation of nearly \$300,000 to fund the costs of four staff members. He contended that there is a "lot of dissension in this courthouse"

due to such actions.

Other Business

In other business at Friday's meeting:

Local attorney John Bigler addressed concerns on behalf of a client regarding guidelines related to barking dogs.

Bigler asked that the county consider amending existing guidelines so that they are more clearly defined regarding such issues as volume, frequency and boundaries.

County officials agreed that they would look further into the matter. County board chairman Bobby Toler Jr. said the matter would be discussed with Union County State's Attorney Tyler R. Edmonds.

Commissioner Danny Hartline addressed concerns about the county run-

ning out of storage space at the courthouse for papers, equipment and other items.

"We're just running out of room at the courthouse," Hartline said.

Hartline said he would lead plans to look into a solution to the challenge. County board chairman Toler said he would help.

New county human resources director Angela Knupp attended the meeting.

Knupp shared positive comments about completing her first week of work in the post.

The commissioners approved a \$500 hotel/motel tax tourism funding request from organizers of the upcoming Annabelle Street Festival. The festival is planned June 9-10 in Anna.

Mental Health Awareness Month activities scheduled

Research shows that in a given year, one in five adults experience symptoms of a mental illness.

Since 1949, May has been designated as Mental Health Awareness Month.

In observance of Mental Health Awareness Month, Union County Counseling Services, UCCS, is planning several activities.

A viewing of "Unlisted, a Story of Schizophrenia," and a discussion are planned at UCCS from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 16. UCCS is located at 204 South St. Light refreshments will be served.

Members of UCCS plan to have a bake sale Friday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of Walmart in Anna.

Homemade baked goods

will be sold, with the proceeds used to offset costs of client's social events. Information about mental illness will be available at the sale.

The Community Support Residential Program at 311 W. Vienna St. in Anna plans to host an open house from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, May 26.

For more information about the upcoming events, contact UCCS at 833-8551.

Garden club plant sale set

The Anna-Jo Garden Club plans have a perennial plant sale Saturday, May 6.

The sale is planned from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Anna-Jo Garden Club Park in east Anna.



Anna-Jonesboro National Bank retirees luncheon

Anna-Jonesboro National Bank hosted a luncheon to honor retired employees and retired directors on Thursday, April 27. In the first row are, from left, Janis Shannon, Jeannie Parr, Nadine Rider, Katherine Fox, Wanda Perry and Doris Whiteside. In the second row are Wilburn Capel, Carol Hileman, Don Rich, Delano Mowery, Donald Ray, Martha Dillow, Dorothy Hileman, Sue Wright, Martha Rhodes, Maggie Musgrave, Kathy Hazel, David Gould and Margaret Williams. Photo provided.

‘Turn Around, Don’t Drown’ message noted

With major flooding possible in the region, Illinois State Police District 22 interim commander Lt. Michael Alvey is issuing a safety reminder: “Turn Around, Don’t Drown.”

Alvey reminds motorists “to be safe when traveling through areas experiencing flooding.”

“Motorists are urged to reduce their speed, drive

National Day of Prayer service set

Union County’s National Day of Prayer service is planned this evening at the band shell in the Anna City Park in Anna.

The service is scheduled to begin with a concert at 6:30 p.m., followed by a program and prayers beginning at 7 p.m.

The observance is being planned by the Union County Alliance of Churches and sponsored by the City of Anna.

Organizers said everyone is encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket and join in praying for children, the community and the nation.

Participants in this year’s service are scheduled to include local musicians, government officials, law enforcement and emergency services personnel, schools personnel, scouts, 4-hers and veterans organizations and community members.

Project deadline approaching

Organizers of a special project planned at a Union County school are noting an upcoming deadline.

Shawnee School District No. 84 in Wolf Lake is welcoming the submission of names for inclusion on a Shawnee Veterans Memorial Wall.

Veterans, living or deceased, with ties to the Shawnee School District, can have their names added to the memorial.

The school district notes that names need to be submitted by May 5.

To submit a name, call Becky Glodo, secretary of the Shawnee Veterans Wall committee, at 618-833-5307.

with caution, and allow for extra time for travel. Excess water on the roadways can cause hazardous conditions,” Alvey said in a press release.

He said that the National Weather Service has posted a public service announcement, PSA, video called “Turn Around, Don’t Drown” to remind motorists of the dangers of crossing flooded roads.

The PSA video and other flood-related information can be found at <http://tadd.weather.gov/>.

Alvey also shared driving tips for motorists to remember during flood conditions. Check road conditions prior to trip. (The website and phone

number to call follow.)

Avoid driving through water that is over the roadway even if it seems shallow enough to pass through.

Be aware of debris on the roadway caused by flooding both during the flood and after water has receded.

If your car stalls, do not attempt to push it out; seek higher ground.

Alvey said that motorists are reminded to use extreme caution when approaching stationary authorized emergency vehicles with their lights activated on the roadways.

Authorized emergency vehicles include police, fire, EMS and other emer-

gency vehicles.

“It is the law to proceed with due caution, change lanes if possible, and reduce your speed. Move over and slow down. This law also includes motorists sitting on the side of the road with hazard lights flashing,” Alvey stated.

The District 22 interim commander said that motorists should monitor the road conditions before driving, and remember to keep emergency items inside the vehicle.

A complete list of road closures can be found on the Illinois Department of Transportation website at www.gettingaroundillinois.com or by calling 1-800-452-4368.

State Emergency Operations Center activated by governor

A State Emergency Operations Center, SEOC, in Springfield was activated May 1 to ensure that state personnel and equipment are ready to be quickly deployed if needed to help local emergency responders with flooding-related public safety issues in several areas of the state.

“Several inches of rain has caused our rivers to swell, which has caused flooding in some communities,” Gov. Bruce Rauner said when he activated the center.

“In order to expedite any state assistance to protect residents and critical infrastructure, I activated the State Emergency Operations Center with personnel from several key agencies to quickly react to any requests.”

Representatives from

the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, IEMA, Illinois State Police, ISP, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, the Illinois Department of Corrections, IDOC, the Illinois Department of Transportation, IDOT, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the American Red Cross, ARC, have reported to the SEOC.

The representatives will work together to coordinate deployment of state resources and personnel to assist communities preparing for or already battling floodwaters.

State resources already deployed include inmate crews from IDOC to assist with sandbagging in Murphysboro and De Soto; delivery of sandbags and plastic to Dawson, Grand

Tower and the Menard Correctional Center in Chester by IDOT; and traffic support from ISP.

In addition, the ARC has a shelter in Marion with others on standby if needed.

The SEOC will remain activated as long as necessary.

“While the heavy rainfall and flash flood risks have subsided, we’re now focusing on river flooding that will increase in several areas throughout the week,” IEMA director James Joseph said.

“We have been in close contact with our county emergency management partners for the past several days in order to best support their needs.”

For updates visit the Ready Illinois website at www.ready.illinois.gov.

Edgar to deliver keynote address for policy institute

Former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar will reflect on 20 years of Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Paul Simon Public Policy Institute next week.

Edgar is scheduled to deliver the keynote speech of the institute’s spring 2017 event schedule at 6 p.m., Thursday, today, in the SIU Student Center auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the institute’s founding in 1997.

Edgar, the 38th governor of Illinois, signed the documents creating the institute at SIU Carbondale on Sept. 18, 1995, prior to Simon’s retirement from the U.S. Senate in 1997.

At the time, Edgar said of Simon and the institute: “He will bring a strong commitment to public service, a thoughtful approach to confronting the vital issues of the day, a fundamental decency and unshakable integrity to this important, exciting venture.”

Jak Tichenor, interim institute director, said it was only appropriate that Edgar be the keynote speaker. Edgar and Simon knew each other from their time in Springfield, and more importantly, “both valued bipartisan consensus on tackling some of the tougher issues back in the day,” Tichenor said.

Prior to serving as governor from 1991 to 1999, Edgar, a Republican from Charleston, was Illinois secretary of state from 1981 to 1991.

He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1976 and re-elected in 1978 but resigned in 1979 to serve as legislative liaison to then-Gov. Jim Thompson.

Tichenor said he anticipates Edgar will also discuss bipartisanship and consensus building today in the state.

Tichenor notes one important accomplishment early in the institute’s history while Edgar was governor was passage in 1998 of the first significant campaign finance reform legislation in Illinois in more than 20 years.

A bipartisan coalition was able to gain passage of

a law prohibiting political fundraisers in Springfield on days the legislature was in session, Tichenor said.

When he became governor, Edgar inherited what at the time was the largest deficit in the state’s history, but was able to eliminate a backlog of \$1 billion in unpaid health care bills.

During his two terms, Edgar pushed through income tax relief provisions, property tax caps and adequate school funding.

He was re-elected in 1994 by the widest plurality of any incumbent Illinois governor and won 101 of the state’s 102 counties, including Cook County.

He left office in 1999 with \$1.5 billion in the state coffers for his successor.

Edgar “was one of the most popular Illinois governors in recent times,” Tichenor said.

“It’s obvious that a lot of people will be interested to hear what his thoughts are on the Simon Institute’s work on public policy and student education.”

After leaving office, Edgar was a resident fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

He is a distinguished fellow at the University of Illinois’ Institute of Government and Public Affairs, and spearheads the Edgar Fellows program.

He is president emeritus of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation and serves on several corporate and non-profit boards.

A-JCHS plans academic awards event

An annual academic awards program is planned Wednesday, May 10, at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

The program is set for 7 p.m. in the school auditorium.

A-JCHS students will be recognized for their academic and leadership achievements.

Representatives from the community plan to be in attendance to award scholarships to members of the 2017 graduating class.

Meet your Banker BROCK GOFORTH



Brock Goforth joined the staff of Anna-Jonesboro National Bank as a part-time teller in June, 2014. He is also a full time student at Southeast Missouri State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Biomedical

Science. After graduating in 2018, Brock intends to continue furthering his education in the medical field. AJNB is proud of Brock for his accomplishments with the bank and his education. Keep up the good work!



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20GP

Spring MATTRESS SALE

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SPORTS

A-J girls' track team competes at two invitationals

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' track team competed in two recent invitational meets.

Nashville Invitational: 1st: Nashville 87.25; 10th: A-J 22.

The Lady Wildcats' Julia Lasley won the pole vault with an A-J school record vault of 10-9 at the invitational on Thursday, April 27. She broke the old mark of 10-6 set in 2015.

A-J's Addison Osman finished in second place in the 100-meter hurdles with a 16.82 finish. She also finished in 7th place in the high jump with 14-10.

Fifth place efforts for A-J were Brooke Miller in the high jump with 5-0

and the 300-meter hurdles in 51.52.

Eighth place efforts for the Lady Wildcats were the 4x100-meter relay team of Brayden Fitzgerald, Osman, Ashley Detering and Brooke Miller in 53.87; the 4x200-meter relay team of Fitzgerald, Detering, Jade Marks and Lasley in 1:57.04; 4x400-meter relay team of Brooke Miller, Fitzgerald, Marks and Lasley in 4:36.73 and the 4x800-meter relay team of Cair Boget, Kenzi Boget, Kait Holshouser and Mad-die Lingle in 11:52.

Tenth place finishes for A-J were Marks in the triple jump with 29.08.75

and Alivia Miller in the 100-meter hurdles in 18.84.

Lady Wildcats softball team 2-2 in recent play

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School softball team posted a 2-2 record in recent action.

Du Quoin 5, A-J 3: The visiting Lady Indians scored 4 runs in the 7th inning to post the win in a Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division game Friday, April 28.

Britni Helton was 2-for-3 to lead A-J. Mackenzie Carter was 1-for-2. Morgan Wendling and Lexi Macy were each 1-for-3. Katie Williams was 1-for-4.

Losing pitcher Carter scattered 9 hits to go with 5 strikeouts.

Herrin 7, A-J 3: Hailley Abernathy was 2-for-2 with 2 RBIs to lead host A-J in the loss Thursday, April 27.

Carter was 2-for-3. Williams was 2-for-4. Kenzie Conway was 1-for-3. Wendling and Macy were each 1-for-4.

Pitchers Carter and Helton combined to scatter 10 hits in the loss.

A-J 10, Carbondale 9: Williams was 3-for-4 with 2 doubles to lead visiting A-J to the non-conference win Tuesday, April 25.

Wendling was 3-for-5. Macy was 2-for-4 with a home run. Jasmin Foster was 2-for-4. Abernathy was 2-for-5 with a home run and 3 RBIs. Smith was 1-for-2 with 2 RBIs. Conway was 1-for-4. Carter was 1-for-5 with a home run.

Carter was the winning pitcher, scattering 9 hits.

A-J 7, Sparta 0: Carter pitched and hit the visiting Lady Wildcats to the conference win Monday, April 24.

Carter pitched a one-hitter through 6 innings and was 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles at the plate.

A-J's Helton earned the save, pitching the final inning.

Smith was 3-for-4 for the Lady Wildcats. Macy, Williams and Payton Alsip were each 2-for-4. Conway was 1-for-3 and Wendling was 1-for-4.

A-J, 10-12, is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at home against Massac County.

Trico scores win over Cobden

Megan Rhodes was 2-for-2 to lead the visiting Cobden High School softball team at the plate in a non-conference 14-4 loss to Trico on Monday, April 24.

Inna Kinsey was 2-for-3 for the Appleknockers. Jamison Cowert was 1-for-1. Harleigh Braden, Meredith Flamm, Lauren Sweitzer and Lexi Miller were each 1-for-3.

Flamm was the losing pitcher, scattering 17 hits to go with 3 walks and a strikeout.

Cobden, 5-9, is scheduled to play again Tuesday, May 9, at Pope County.

Du Quoin Invitational: 1st: Du Quoin, 145; 5th: A-J 49.

Lasley led the way for the Lady Wildcats with a first place finish of 10-03 in the pole vault at the invitational on Tuesday, April 25.

Marks had 4th place finishes in the triple jump with 32-01 and the 400-meter run in 1:09.15 and Addison Osman in the 100-meter hurdles in 17.63.

Fifth place efforts for A-J were Brooke Miller and Osman a tie for 2nd place in the high jump with 4-10; Brooke Miller in the 800-meter run in 2:48.19 and the 300-meter hurdles in 53.48; the 4x400-meter relay team of Fitzgerald, Lasley, Marks and Brooke Miller in 4:40.12; the 4x800-meter relay team of Kenzi Boget, Clair Boget, Lingle and Holshouser in 12:25.15 and Kenzi Boget in the 1600-meter run in 7:01.6.

Sixth place efforts were the 4x100-meter relay team of Fitzgerald, Addison Osman, Detering and Lasley in 54.96; the 4x200-meter relay team of Fitzgerald, Olivia Wilkins, Detering and Carsen Clements in 2:02.13 and Abby Sartin in the 100-meter hurdles in 18.79.

Seventh place efforts for A-J were Brooklyn Keene in the 200-meter dash in 31.70; Madison Goins in the 1600-meter run in 7:30.60; Heidi Mitchell in the shot put with 29-04.50 and Meghan Smith in the discus with 81-04.

Eighth place efforts for the Lady Wildcats were Mitchell in the 200-meter dash in 33.94; Alivia Miller in the 300-meter hurdles in 56.08; the 4x100-meter relay team of Andersyn Frick, Clements, Wilkins and Brooklyn Keene in 58.46; Clements in the high jump with 4-06 and Frick in the pole vault with 6-0.

Ninth place finishes for A-J were Wilkins in the 100-meter dash in 14.76; Clements in the 300-meter hurdles in 56.95; Holshouser in the pole vault with 5-06; Lasley in the long jump with 14-09.50 and Connor Hadley in the shot put with 29-02.

Tenth place efforts for the Lady Wildcats were Alivia Miller in the 100-meter hurdles in 19.16 and Jaycee Woodward in the discus with 79-07.

Lick Creek hosts invitational

Lick Creek School eased past rival Goreville to win the 65th Lick Creek Invitational Track Meet April 28.

It was a soggy day due to wet weather but the track was solid, but slick with some falls during the relays.

The meet started with the running events. The running events attracted 168 runners from eight schools. The excitement ran high as the young athletes anticipated their upcoming event.

Here's how the Lick Creek participants scored by event:

Kindergarten boys: Cooper Knueven, 1st place 50 yard dash.

Kindergarten girls: Millie Morris, 2nd place; Emily Hunter, 4th place, 50 yard dash.

1st grade boys: Jace Holshouser, 4th place, 50 yard dash.

1st grade girls: Jennah Harrel, 1st place; Sophie Vaughn, 3rd place, 50 yard dash.

2nd grade boys: Hunter Craft, 4th place, 75 yard dash.

2nd grade girls: Jadyn Gerardi, 1st place; Kylee Myers, 5th place, 75 yard dash.

3rd grade boys: Chris Wright, 1st place, 75 yard dash.

3rd grade girls: Emily Kacinski, 4th place, 75 yard dash.

4th grade boys: Chris Wright, 2nd place; Luke Vaughn, 5th place, 100 yard dash.

4th grade girls: Kaitlyn Matuszewich, 5th place, 100 yard dash.

5th grade boys: J.J. Gerardi, 2nd place; Evan Hall, 3rd place, 100 yard dash.

4th grade boys: Luke Vaughn, 3rd place; Paxten Roberts, 4th place, 200 meter.

4th grade girls: Kayla Matuszewich, 5th place, 200 meter.

5th grade boys: Evan Hall, 3rd place; Payton Denny, 4th place, 200 meter.

5th grade girls: Meranda

Wright, 1st place; Matti Houseman, 2nd place, 200 meter.

4th grade boys: Henry Hoehner, 5th place, 400 meter.

4th grade girls: Jadyn Gerardi, 2nd place, 400 meter.

5th grade boys: J.J. Gerardi, 1st place, 400 meter.

5th grade girls: Hailey Wright, 1st place; Matti Houseman, 4th place, 400 meter.

4th grade girls: Lick Creek 400 m relay, 3rd place, Brinley Corbit, Kenzie Stover, Macie Hoehner, Kaitlyn Matuszewich, 1:17.88.

4th grade boys: Lick Creek 400 m relay, 1st place, Luke Vaughn, Henry Hoehner, Paxten Roberts, Chris Wright, 1:14.24.

Team Scores

5th grade girls: Lick Creek 400 meter, 2nd place, Meranda Wright, Matti Houseman, Kaitlyn Matuszewich, Hailey Wright, 1:14.78.

5th grade boys: Lick Creek 400 meter, 1st place, Payton Denny, Lucas Hoehner, Evan Hall, J.J. Gerardi, 1:11.80.

4th grade co-ed: Lick

Lick Creek girls win invitational

The Lick Creek School girls' track team won the rain shortened Anna Invitational Track Meet April 21.

There were no team scores available. The meet was called due to rain.

The following teams participated: Anna, Century, Cobden, Cypress, Egyptian, Goreville, Jonesboro, Lick Creek, Massac County, Meridian, Shawnee.

Here are the Lick Creek results:

Hurdles: Addison Denny, 3rd, 19.45. Miranda Miller, 4th, 19.53.

400 m relay: 3rd, 1.00.34.

400 m: Brodie Denny, 2nd, 1:07.21. Kristen Edmonds, 3rd, 1:10.52

1600 m: Kyleigh Matuszewich, 1st, 6:18.59. Julia Hall, 2nd, 6:21.27

7th 100: Kristen Edmonds, 3rd, 14.56.

8th 100: Jaiden Foster, 6th, 15.01

800 m: Brodie Denny, 1st, 2:44.93. Kyleigh Matuszewich, 2nd, 2:53.01.

The field events and the 200 m and 1600 m relays were rained out.

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Saluki Sports Update

By Fred Huff

It's hardly breathtaking, but I've remembered for almost 70 years a fellow staff member at the Du Quoin Evening Call telling me one day: "Nothing is simple." And, he could have added, "Nor forever."

SIU's tennis programs discovered that last week.

The once-proud Saluki men's tennis team went out in a blaze of glory as it finished second in the Missouri Valley Conference season-closing meet. And, as SIU's tennis program has been year-in, year-out, that was a memorable finish.

The happening caused us to do a little research, particularly regarding SIU's former nationally-recognized head coach, John Richard LeFevre. To all who knew him well, he was just "Dick."

Dick took over SIU's tennis program in 1956 and developed it into more than just a respectable program, although obviously it never attracted a strong following.

With LeFevre leading the way and scheduling many of the finest teams in the country, as well as all of the top clubs in the Big Ten Conference, the Salukis did gain some positive national publicity. Fans simply did not flock to the courts to see the team in action.

Without doubt, LeFevre's biggest achievement, at least in our mind, was in 1967... the same year the basketball Salukis won the National Invitation Tournament basketball championship. It was a memorable year.

With LeFevre leading the way, SIU had been given the NCAA national tennis championship meet the previous year.

And the Salukis, as a team, responded as well as possible by defeating such powerful clubs as Notre Dame, Purdue, Wisconsin, Illinois and Murray State. All were nationally recognized teams. They lost just one dual match, to Indiana, 5-to-4.

The NCAA championship tournament did attract a good crowd. Not perhaps as large as LeFevre had hoped for, but a good-sized crowd. And well it should have as the finest collegiate teams in the nation were in Carbondale, Ill.

Southern California, led by two standouts who later became top professional stars, Stan Smith and Bob Lutz, won the title over UCLA. The Salukis finished 16th.

We remember the week well, as it was hot, hot, hot. And keep in mind that 1967 was prior to the reporting conveniences of later years...computers. Yes, it was memorable largely because of LeFevre's professional administrative skills.

LeFevre continued as SIU's men's tennis coach for another 16 years, his last season being in 1993, and he produced winning teams year after year.

We had to check the records to be certain of the date, but LeFevre died in 2010 in Florida, where he had moved with his family. And, no doubt, to be closer to tennis country.

Food drive scheduled during May

A stuff-a-truck food drive is planned by WIBH radio in Anna during May.

Items which are collected during the drive will help to support food pantries at Bethany Village and Shawnee Development Council, both in Anna.

Non-perishable food items can be brought to the following locations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the scheduled dates for the drives:

May 3, Walmart. May 10, Kroger. May 17, Save-A-Lot. May 24, Anna-Jonesboro National Bank, South Main Street branch. May 31, Coad Chevrolet, Buick Ford.

River to River plans dinner

River to River Assisted Living Center plans to host a Cinco de Mayo dinner at the Anna facility on Friday, May 5, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Set during the Mexican-themed dinner is entertainment from a capella group Blend and Jennifer Hosman, who works in the facility's accounting department.

A silent auction will feature donated items from local businesses and handmade items from River to River residents. A raffle will also run.

The dinner cost will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

Reptile program set at Giant City

Reptiles will be featured at a program which is planned Saturday morning, May 6, at Giant City State Park near Makanda.

The program is set from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the park's visitors center.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources natural heritage biologist Scott Ballard is set to present the program.

For more information, and to register for the program, call 618-457-4836.



'Scenes from Alice'

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council/Anna Arts Center presented its fourth annual children's production, "Scenes from Alice," April 28-30. The play is an adaptation of two Lewis Carroll books, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Alice Through the Looking Glass." Dr. Lynn Steveson directed the production and members of the community made up the cast. Alice, played by Jossilin Needling, prepares to play croquet with a flamingo and a hedgehog with the Knave of Hearts, played by Anthony Jimenez. Trinity Sweet and Pete Housman played the Queen and King of Hearts. Photo by Amber Skelton.

A-J baseball tops Sparta, outscored by Carbondale

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team split in recent action.

Carbondale 4, A-J 3: Jake Wright was 1-for-2 with a stolen base to lead the visiting Wildcats in the non-conference loss Tuesday, April 25.

Bryce Osman was 1-for-2. Conner Jerolds was 1-for-3 with a double and an RBI. Sean Plott was 1-for-3 with a stolen base. Damian Chrisp was 1-for-4 with a stolen base. Ross Pinnon and Carson Reynolds were each 1-for-4.

Osman and Hunter Ralls

pitched. Osman pitched 4 2/3 innings and allowed 4 hits to go with 2 walks and 10 strikeouts. Ralls pitched 1 1/3 innings and allowed 3 hits to go with 2 walks and a strikeout.

A-J 8, Sparta 4: Ralls was 4-for-4 with a stolen base and 2 RBIs to lead visiting A-J to the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division win Monday, April 24.

Jerolds was 2-for-3. Osman was 2-for-4 with a stolen base and an RBI. Wyatt Johnston was 1-for-2. Pinnon was 1-for-3. Chrisp

was 1-for-4 with a stolen base and an RBI. Wright was 1-for-4 with an RBI.

Plott, Kylen Grant and Kyle Clover pitched in the win. Plott pitched 4 2/3 innings and allowed 3 hits to go with 2 walks and a strikeout. Grant pitched an inning and allowed 3 hits to go with 2 walks and a strikeout. Clover pitched 1 1/3 innings and didn't allow a hit, walk or strikeout.

A-J, 8-7, is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at home against Massac County.

Trail Society guided hike set

The River-to-River Trail Society announces a guided hike which is planned Saturday, May 6, at Beech Hollow, Sally Hollow and Williams Hill, the highest point in Southern Illinois, in Saline and Pope counties.

Those who want to go on the hike are advised to meet at 10 a.m. at Rudement Church, which is located along Route 34 in Rudement.

The hike is free and open to the public. The trail society stated that the hike will be moderately strenuous and is intended for people in good health who have done some walking.

Boots or sturdy shoes are strongly recommended by the trail society.

The society advises hikers to bring their own water and a snack, and to not bring dogs.

For more information directions, call 618-499-2337.

Mount Vernon edges A-J 3-2

Raegan Cruse and Emma Butterfield-Kocher scored a goal each for the visiting Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls' soccer team in a 3-2 loss to Mount Vernon Thursday, April 20.

MiKayla Bundren added an assist.

Goalie Chelsea Reinier had 16 saves, 11 shots on goal.

A-J fell to 6-5 overall with the loss.

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The City of Jonesboro will be flushing fire hydrants starting at 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 11th.

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HELP WANTED: In-home caregiver for disabled young man. Monday-Friday, some weekends are available. Must have driver's license and car and be dependable. Call Bev Gibbons, (618)-893-4456.

HELP WANTED: Case Manager/Counselor with Bachelor's or Master's degree in social work or rehabilitation counseling for Substance Use Disorder treatment in Residential Rehabilitation and Outpatient Programs. Send resume to The Fellowship House, P.O. Box 682, Anna, IL 62906. EOE.

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YARD SALE

3 FAMILY YARD SALE: Saturday, May 6, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. 405 Sycamore Street, Anna. Rain cancels.

CARPORT SALE: 205 Court Street, Anna. Thursday, Friday & Saturday, May 4, 5 & 6, 8 a.m. to ??? Old record albums, antiques & collectibles, books & clothing.

COBDEN COMMUNITY YARD SALE DAY: Saturday, May 6. Over 20 sales. Maps at Village Hall on E. Maple at 7 a.m. Held rain or shine.

GARAGE SALE: 100 E. Fireside Court, Anna. Saturday, May 6, 8 a.m. Nice birdhouse decor, vintage items (dresses, hats, gloves, fox fur), table linens, antique rockers, lamps, some furniture, fishing lures, cake decorating supplies, bowling balls with bags, and much more.

GARAGE SALE: Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain or shine. 152 Lucas Hap Avenue, Anna, behind Whop's Swap Shop, 1 1/2 miles from intersection of Rt. 146 and Rt. 51 South. Recliners, upholstered chair, rear-tine tiller, 26" men's bicycle, household items, and much more.

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CAMPBELL'S POWER WASH & PAINT: House & Deck Washing, Soft Rinse Roof Washing, Gutter Cleaning, Exterior Painting/Stain. Call (618)-202-0507.

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

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

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

ROGERS ROOFING & SEAMLESS GUTTERS: 25+ Colors, Licensed & Insured, Free Estimates. Call (618)-697-3188

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

IN THE INTEREST OF TEMPEST VANDEGRAPH, a minor NO. 2013-JA-15

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that at 1 p.m. on May 18, 2017, I will present a Petition in the said Court praying for the change of my name from Tempest Vandegraph to Tempest Williams pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: this 13th day of April, 2017.

J. Jeremy Lloyd
Attorney for Petitioner

J. Jeremy Lloyd
Attorney at Law
Guardian ad Litem
P.O. Box 455
Vienna, IL 62995
(618)-658-2889
18-20g

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

ESTATE OF STEVEN M. HAFERTEPE, DECEASED. IN PROBATE NO. 2017-P-9

NOTICE OF DEATH INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION, AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Steven M. Hafertepe, of

A-J Services

• Tree Trimming • Tree Removal
• Stump Grinding • Bush Hogging
Lawn Mower & Small Engine Repair

EQUIPMENT RENTAL
Skid Steer, Backhoe, Trencher, etc.

"Professional, well insured, fast." - M. Finch
"Tremendous trust in A-J Services." - J. Poulas
"Fast, dependable, very professional." - B. Adams

CD 300 E. Davie • 618-697-1174 16GTF



Cobden, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 11, 2017, to Marina Newberry, of 101 Bainbridge St., Cobden, Illinois 62920, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL UNKNOWN OR ALLEGED HEIRS THAT LETTERS OF OFFICE WERE ISSUED ON APRIL 11, 2017, FOR THE ESTATE OF STEVEN M. HAFERTEPE, UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS, CASE NO. 2017-P-9.

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, 311 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before October 20, 2017, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: April 12, 2017.

MARINA NEWBERRY

CAMERON LAW FIRM, LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
18-20g

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

In re the Estate of: ELIZABETH DEE MERKLEY, Deceased. No. 2017-P-8

NOTICE OF DEATH. INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND CLAIM DATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of ELIZABETH DEE MERKLEY of 4 Fairview Avenue, Anna, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued to Brooke Miller whose address is P.O. Box 492, Cobden, Illinois, on April 12, 2017, as Independent Executor of the estate, whose attorney is H. Wesley Wilkins, 602 South Main Street, P.O. Box 691, Anna, Illinois 62906.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that an Order was entered by the Court on April 12, 2017, admitting the Will to probate. Within six (6) months after the effective date of the original Order of Admission of the will, you may file a Petition with the Court to contest the Will and/or the appointment of

the Independent Executor, pursuant to Sections 6-21 and/or 8-1 of the Illinois Probate Act.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, pursuant to Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 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 of Elizabeth Dee Merkley must be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court at 309 West Market Street, Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before October 20, 2017. Any claim not filed on or before that date is forever barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: April 17, 2017.

Tiffany Busby
Union County Circuit Clerk

Law Office of
H. WESLEY WILKINS
Atty. Reg. No. 3127822
Attorney for the Executor
602 South Main Street
P.O. Box 691
Anna, IL 62906
(618)-833-7725
(618)-833-7727 (FAX)
18-20g

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

ANNA-JONESBORO NATIONAL BANK, an Illinois Banking Corporation,

Plaintiff,
v.
MARY O. RANDOLPH, DECEASED,
WILLIAM RANDOLPH, DECEASED,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE,
STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Case No. 2015-CH-25

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale Amended and Nunc Pro Tunc, entered in the above captioned matter on February 10, 2017, the Sheriff in Union County, will by public sale on the **17th of May, 2017 at 9 a.m.** in the Union County Courthouse, in Jonesboro, Illinois, sell at public venue to the highest and best bidder, for cash, or cashier's check drawn on a federally or state chartered bank or savings and loan, the following described real estate:

EXHIBIT A PARCEL NO. 1:

THAT PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION THIRTY (30), TOWNSHIP TWELVE (12) SOUTH, RANGE TWO (2) WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE TO STATE ROUTE NUMBER 146, SUCH LINE BEING 50 FEET NORTHERLY OF THE SURVEYED CENTER LINE OF SAID ROAD, AND THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION THIRTY (30), FROM WHICH THE NORTH-WEST CORNER THERE-OF BEARS NORTH 1000 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 84 DEGREES 22 MIN

UTES EAST ALONG THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 1476 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 84 DEGREES 22 MINUTES EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 105.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE DEPARTING FROM SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE IN A DIRECTION NORTH 9 DEGREES 28 MINUTES EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 210.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES 22 MINUTES WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 105.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 9 DEGREES 28 MINUTES WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 210.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SITUATED IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS, CONTAINING 0.505 ACRES;

PARCEL NO. 2
THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 14 FROM WHICH THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION BEARS EAST 3831.7 FEET; THENCE NORTH 87°-37' WEST, 676.77 FEET; THENCE NORTH 3°-01' EAST, 817.0 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF A 0.617 ACRE TRACT HERETOFORE CONVEYED TO ROLLA E. BAKER BY DEED RECORDED IN DEED RECORD 102, PAGE 42, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS FOR UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS; THENCE

NORTH 5°-29' WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT, 139.47 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER THEREOF; THENCE NORTH 14°-48' WEST 458.2 FEET FOR A PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 32°-16' WEST 201.3 FEET; THENCE NORTH 58°-54' EAST, 156.7 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 32°-15' EAST, 176.9 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 50°-04' WEST, 157.9 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS, CONTAINING 0.680 ACRES, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF ILLINOIS. ALSO, THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST OD THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 14 FROM WHICH THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION BEARS EAST 3831.7 FEET; THENCE NORTH 87°-37' WEST 676.7 FEET; THENCE NORTH 3°-01' EAST, 817.0 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF A 0.617 ACRE TRACT DEEDED TO ROLLA E. BAKER (BOOK 102, PAGE 42); THENCE NORTH 5°-29' WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT, 139.47 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER THEREOF; THENCE NORTH 14°-48' WEST, 458.2 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AT THE MOST SOUTHERLY CORNER OF A 0.680 ACRE TRACT ORIGINALLY CONVEYED TO JACK BAKER FOR A PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 50°-04' WEST, 312.65 FEET TO AN IRON ROD SET IN A DITCH; THENCE NORTH 3°-57' WEST ALONG SAID DITCH, 178.54 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE NORTH 11°-02' EAST ALONG SAID DITCH, 121.89 FEET TO A CORNER IN SAID DITCH FROM WHICH AN IRON ROD BEARS NORTH 58°-54' EAST, 12.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 58°-54' EAST, 141.6 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AT THE MOST WESTERLY CORNER OF SAID JACK BAKER TRACT; THENCE SOUTH 32°-

16' EAST, 201.3 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALL SITUATED IN UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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

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

Tiffany Busby
Circuit Clerk

Document prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER
& FERRELL, L.L.C.
212 North Main Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Telephone: (573)-335-3300
Facsimile: (573)-335-1978
www.johnsonschneider.com
18-20g

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

**FIRST SOUTHERN
BANK,
Plaintiff,
vs.
KATIE GOSS
A/K/A KATIE D. GOSS
F/K/A KATHIE DUTY
F/K/A KATHIE SHORT
A/K/A KATIE DUTY
A/K/A KATHIE SHORT,
UNKNOWN OWNERS
and NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No. 2017-CH-8**

**NOTICE OF
FORECLOSURE BY
PUBLICATION**

The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, ALL NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS and ALL UNKNOWN OWNERS, defendants in the above-entitled cause, that the above-entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on February 3, 2017, and is now pending.

1. The names of all Plaintiffs and the Case Number are identified above.

2. The Court in which said action was brought is identified above.

3. The name of the titleholder of record is Katie Short.

4. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

Lot Number Twenty-Seven (27) in McElhaney's Heirs Third Addition to the City of Jonesboro; also a strip of land beginning at the Southwest corner of said Lot No. 27, thence running South 34 feet; thence East 87 feet; thence North 34 feet to the South line of said Lot Number 27; thence West 87 feet along the South line of said Lot No. 27 to the point of beginning, situated in Union County, Illinois;

Permanent Index Numbers: 14-00-07-529 & 05-19-03-472-Z.

5. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 502 East Heacock Street, Jonesboro, IL 62952.

6. An identification of the Mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

a. Names of Mortgagors: Katie Goss a/k/a Katie D. Goss f/k/a Kathie Duty f/k/a Kathie Short

b. Name of Mortgagee: First Southern Bank

c. Date of Mortgage: June 7, 2013

d. Date of Recording: June 20, 2013

e. County Where Recorded: Union County, Illinois

f. Recording Document Identification: Document No. 2013R1173.

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, ALL NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS and ALL UNKNOWN OWNERS, defendants, file your answer to the complaint for foreclosure in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit, Jackson

County, Illinois, held in the Jackson County Courthouse, 1001 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois, on or before the 19th day of May, 2017, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a judgment for foreclosure entered in accordance with the prayer of the complaint for foreclosure.

Cindy R. Svanda
Circuit Clerk

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT IT IS REQUIRED THAT WE STATE THE FOLLOWING TO YOU: THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Lawler Brown Law Firm
Adam B. Lawler
#6283341
David W. Lawler
#6303793
Nick Brown
#6302494
Joshua Shirley
#6317486
Catherine K. Nevicosi
#6284748
1600 W. Main St/
P.O. Box 1148
Marion, IL 62959
Telephone: (618) 993-2222
Facsimile: (618) 731-4141
18-20g

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

**IN THE INTEREST OF:
QUANEZ TOWNSEND,
A Minor.
NO. 2016-JA-31**

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

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

TAKE NOTICE that on Thursday, December 15, 2016, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Tyler R. Edmonds, Union County State's Attorney, by his Assistant State's Attorney, Heather Heaslett in the Circuit Court of Union County entitled "In the interest of QUANEZ TOWNSEND, a minor," and that in Judge Charles Cavaness' courtroom at Union County Courthouse, 309 West Market Street, Jonesboro, Illinois on Thursday, the 25th day of May, 2017, at the hour of 1 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a youth in care under that Act. The court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, (and if the petition prays for the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption) and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption of the minor.

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

Tiffany Busby
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Dated: April 26, 2017
20-22g

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

**IN RE THE MATTER
OF:
JESSILYN SHAYNE
BROWN,
minor child.
2017-MR-68**

**NOTICE OF FILING
OF PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

Notice is hereby given to the public and Heather Seabaugh that Petitioner Charles Estel on behalf of himself and his daughter Jessilyn Shayne Brown, has filed a Petition for Change of Name in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, and shall appear in

the **Union County Circuit Court at 309 West Market St. Jonesboro, IL at 1:00 P.M. on the 7th day of June, 2017**, before the Judge assigned to hear said matter and present his petition requesting the name of Jessilyn Shayne Brown be changed to Jessilyn Elaine Estel. Failure to appear and contest said Petition will be considered a waiver of objection to said name change, Petitioner will seek a final order after giving publication notice for three consecutive weeks of his Petition for Change of Name.
Date: April 2, 2017

William B. Ballard, Jr.
Attorney at Law
Atty. Reg. #00103640
500 South Main Street
Anna, IL 62901
Tel: (618) 833-6432
Fax: (618) 833-5488
20-22g

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

**ANNA-JONESBORO
NATIONAL BANK
f/k/a ANNA NATIONAL
BANK,
an Illinois Banking
corporation,
Plaintiff,
vs
WILLIAM P.
WASMUND, JR.,
UNKNOWN OWNERS
and NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No.: 2017-CH-14**

**PUBLICATION
NOTICE**

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

**EXHIBIT C
TRACT I:**

A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, ALL LYING WEST OF ILLINOIS STATE HIGHWAY 3, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST; THENCE NORTH 1322.13 FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A COUNTY ROAD; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY, EAST 53.74 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF ILLINOIS STATE HIGHWAY 3; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY, SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 923.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY, SOUTH 65°-08'-22" WEST, 150.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 75.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 65°-08'-22" EAST, 150.0 FEET TOT HE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID HIGHWAY 3; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY, NORTH 24°-51'-38" WEST, 75.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PER "TRACT I" ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY DAVID L. HARRISON, ILLINOIS REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 3092, RECORDED NOVEMBER 20, 1995, IN RECORD BOOK 126 AT PAGE 807 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS FOR UNION COUNTY.

TRACT II:
A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, ALL LYING WEST OF ILLINOIS STATE HIGHWAY 3, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE

SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, SAID POINT ALSO BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF SAID TRACT; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE QUARTER LINE OF SAID SECTION 20, 1322.13 FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF A COUNTY ROAD; THENCE EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID COUNTY ROAD 53.74 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ILLINOIS STATE HIGHWAY 3; THENCE SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 923.0 FEET; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY, SOUTH 65°-08'-22" WEST, 150.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 75.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 65°-08'-22" EAST, 150.0 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID HIGHWAY 3; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 4.0 FEET TO A 4"X4" CONCRETE RIGHT-OF-WAY MARKER; THENCE SOUTH 62°-43'-32" WEST, 5.0 FEET TO A 4"X4" CONCRETE RIGHT-OF-WAY MARKER; THENCE SOUTH 24°-51'-38" EAST, 452.64 TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 20; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, WEST 660.85 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING,

PER "TRACT 2" ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY DAVID L. HARRISON, ILLINOIS REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 3092, RECORDED NOVEMBER 20, 1995, IN RECORD BOOK 126 AT PAGE 807 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS FOR UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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

Now, therefore, unless you, the said Defendant, William P. Wasmund, Jr. Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, file your answer to the Complaint in the suit, or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, in the County Courthouse in the City of Jonesboro, Illinois, on or before the **8th day of June, 2017**, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after

that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

Tiffany Busby
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Prepared by:
JOHN R. SCHNEIDER
JOHNSON, SCHNEIDER
& FERRELL, L.L.C.
212 North Main Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Tel: (573)-335-3300
Fax: (573)-335-1978
20-22g

**IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE FIRST
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**UNION COUNTY,
ILLINOIS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
DAVID KARL
MACLEOD
No. 17-P-18
Deceased.**

**NOTICE OF DEATH,
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION
AND CLAIM DATE**

NOTICE is given of the death of David K. Macleod, of Cobden, Union County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on 25th day of April 2017, to Patricia Currey, 114 Watson St., Gallatin, TN 37066, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is listed below.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN to Dana Macleod, heir at law of Decedent, whose address is not stated in the Petition, that the Last Will and Testament of Decedent dated April 4, 2014, was filed with the Union County Circuit Clerk, on 25th day of April 2017.

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 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 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 Court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jones-



Check out the yard sales in this weeks paper!

boro, IL 62952, or with the Independent Executor on or before 15th day of November 2017 or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, 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 Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: 26th day of April 2017.

Independent Executor:
Patricia Currey
114 Watson, St.
Gallatin, TN 37066

Bigler Law Office
John Bigler
Attorneys for Independent
Executor
407 E. Vienna St.
P.O. Box 481
Anna, IL 62906
20-22g

**IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE FIRST
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**UNION COUNTY,
ILLINOIS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
PENNY LEA SOUTH,
Deceased.
No. 17-P-17**

**NOTICE OF DEATH,
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION
AND CLAIM DATE**

Notice is given of the death of Penny Lea South, of Cobden, Union County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on 25th day of April 2017, to Kelly Renee Hand, 1 East McGuire, Makanda, Illinois, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is listed below.

The Estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 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 Court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St, Jonesboro, IL 62952, or with the Independent Administrator on or before 15th day of November 2017, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Administrator is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, 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 Administrator and to the Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: 26th, day of April 2017.

**Independent
Administrator:**
Kelly Renee Hand
1 East McGuire
Makanda, Illinois,

Bigler Law Office
John Bigler
Attorneys for Independent
Administrator
407 E. Vienna St.
P.O. Box 481
Anna, IL 62906
Office: 618-833-4777
Facsimile: 618-833-4770
20-22g

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

**ESTATE OF
JEANETTE D.
WUYSTER,
IN PROBATE
DECEASED.
No. 2017-P-1**

**NOTICE OF DEATH
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION,
AND CLAIM DATE**

NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Jeanette D. Wuyster, of Dongola, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 25, 2017, to Duane Hoffner, 1895 Mt. Zion Road, Dongola, IL 62926, 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 November 3, 2017, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: April 25, 2017.

DUANE HOFFNER
CAMERON LAW FIRM,
LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR
INDEPENDENT
EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
20-22g

BID NOTICE

The County of Union, Illinois is requesting sealed bids for the purchase of a new Type I ambulance. Prospective suppliers must comply with all KKK-A-1822F Federal Ambulance Specifications or updated regulatory requirements as well as all Illinois Department of Public Health directives. Prospective companies can obtain bid specifications and drawings by contacting Director Grant Capel at the Union County Ambulance Service located at 204 West Mississippi Street, Jonesboro, Illinois. Questions can be directed to our business office phone (618)-833-2871 during regular business hours. Sealed bids will be received until 4 p.m., Thursday, May 11, 2017, in the Union County Clerk's office located at 309 West Market Street, Room 116, Jonesboro, Illinois 62952, care of Mr. Terry Barttruff, County Clerk. Sealed Bids should be marked "B-2017-Ambulance" and include your company name. Bids will be opened during a regularly scheduled Union County Commissioners meeting on Friday, May 26, 2017, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Union County reserves the right to award the lowest responsive bid, accept or reject any or all bids, waive technicalities, and make an award deemed in its best interest.

19-20gp

Notice for Bid

The Dongola Unit School District #66 is accepting bids for milk for the 2017-

2018 school year. For more information or bid specifications, please contact Dr. Paige Helm Maginel at (618)-827-3841. Bids need to be submitted to Dr. Paige Helm Maginel, Dongola Unit #66, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois 62926. Sealed bids will be accepted until May 15, 2017.

19p-20g

Notice for Bid

The Dongola Unit School District #66 is accepting bids for lawn services (mowing) for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information or bid specifications, please contact Dr. Paige Helm Maginel at (618)-827-3841. Bids need

to be submitted to Dr. Paige Maginel, Dongola Unit #66, 1000 High Street, Dongola, Illinois 62926. Sealed bids will be accepted until May 15, 2017.

19p-20g

**ILLINOIS
CLASSIFIED
NETWORK**

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

Real Estate/Personal Property May 6th 8:30AM 137 W. Bond St, Worden IL 2-3 Bed-

room 1144sqft Mobile Home Furniture, Antiques, Vintage Glassware, Furniture, More! www.a-nauctions.com

May 6, 9:00am 14051 White School Rd South Beloit IL 61080 HUGE Lionel collection, Railroad, Firearms, woodworking, slot cars, Celebrity 180 boat, household, tools, Antiques and more www.KitsonAuctions.com

Antique & Collectible Auction Saturday May 6th 9am 259 North Engle St. Greenview, IL Ephemera, Stoneware, Quilts, Newspapers Magazines, Wall Map, Books, Dolls, MORE! www.sanertauctions.com

ESTATE AUCTION MAY

6TH 10AM 102 SIOUX COURT LAKE IROQUOIS, LODA, IL 2002 Chevy Blazer*Jewelry Tools*Coins*Dolls Furniture*Lawn/Garden Antiques*MORE! www.strebeckauction.com

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Save On A Metal Roof 60-60-60 Sale. 60% Off Installation 60 Months No Interest \$60 Gift Card with Estimate 1-800-784-2150 www.1866GetAPro.com

Public Record From the files at the Union County Courthouse

Realty Transactions

The following real estate transactions were recorded at the Union County clerk's office in Jonesboro:

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Candace K. Linton, Matthew R. Linton. Grantee: Jason William Hall, Jennifer Ann Hall. Name: Smoke Rise Subdivision, Lot 2.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Equity Trust Company, Gregg McMillen, Kevin McMillen. Grantee: Jesse R. Mann, Laura M. Mann. Tract Section 22 Township 11S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Equity Trust Company, Kevin C. McMillen. Grantee: Corey Matthew Anstedt, Patrick Neal Travois. Tract Section 15 Township 11S Range 1E.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Richard L. Russell. Grantee: Nancy R. Russell, Richard L. Russell. Tract Section 6 Township 12S Range 1E.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Britany Newman, Pamela Newman, Tony J. Newman, Tony Joe Newman II. Grantee: Tony Joe Newman. Tract Section 33 Township 11S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Rebekah S. Chick, John Chick II. Grantee: Kenneth Kabat, Theresa S. Kabat. Name: E. Leavenworth's 1st Add. of Dongola, Portion 107.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Carolyn K. Rothschild, Charles Eugene Rothschild, David Jerl Rothschild, Paula Kay Rothschild, Phyllis Carlene Tweedy, Richard Leroy Tweedy. Grantee: Sandra L. Gowan, Stewart E. Gowan. Tract Section 20 Township 12S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Joyce Sanders, Oscar Sanders. Grantee: Brian Sanders, Joyce Sanders, Oscar Sanders, Scott Sanders. Name: Purcell Heights Sub. of Anna, Lots 59, 60.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Debra K. Laster, Richard O. Laster. Grantee: Crystal D. Jerrell, Kerry S. Jerrell. Tract Section 36 Township 12S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Harbour Portfolio VII LP. Grantee: KI Consulting Group LLC. Name: Village of Dongola, Lots 32, 33.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Matthew R. Plummer. Grantee: Jason Clutts. Name: Miller Heights Sub. of Anna, Block 1, Lot 5.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Rick Ellis, Estate of the Estate of Glen Richards Ellis. Grantee: Whitetail Trophy Tracts LLC. Tract Section 21 Township 12S Range 1E.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: James D. Brown, Irma Kelley-Brown, Irma Kelley-Rogers. Grantee: Joshua Kragan Kelley. Tract Section 10 Township 12S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Evelyn C. Davis, Larry J. Davis. Grantee: Adam P. Ralls, Andrew P. Ralls, Harry P. Ralls, Kasie M. Ralls. Tract Section 1 Township 13S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Deutsche Bank National Trust Company. Grantee: Candace Lytle, Jeremiah T. Lytle. Tract

Section 30 Township 13S Range 1E.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Michael Hathy. Grantee: Mark Hathy. Tract Section 25 Township 13S Range 1W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Michael Hathy. Grantee: Mark Hathy. Tract Section 25 Township 13S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Harold G. Sharp. Grantee: Andrew Sharp. Tract Section 23 Township 11S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Randal D. Charles. Grantee: Heather D. Charles, Randal D. Charles. Tract Section 9 Township 13S Range 2W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Grantee: Jason Oliver. Name: P.E. Hileman's 1st Addition Jonesboro, Lots 1, 2.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Candace B. Kelley, Coty Kelley. Grantee: Capaha Bank. Tract Section 20 Township 12S Range 2W. Tract Section 29 Township 12S Range 2W.

Quit Claim Deed. Grantor: Leida M. Bourgeois, Leroy T. Bourgeois. Grantee: Leida M. Bourgeois. Tract Section 29 Township 11S Range 1W.

Warranty Deed. Grantor: Lisa Marie Hartline, Steven Curtis Hartline. Grantee: Carrie Hartline, Mathew Hartline. Name: Applewood Estates, Lot 2.

Traffic Citations

The following people were cited for speeding and were assessed \$120 in fines and court costs as recorded at the Union County circuit clerk's office in Jonesboro:

Jakayla M. Roper, Carbondale. Buffy A. Bastien, Murphysboro. Margaret R. Flanagan, Makanda. Alexander Ray Mathis, Ellis Grove. Gary L. Little, Grand Chain. Alex J. Camacho, Park Ridge.

Justin M. Pol, Paducah. Casundra L. Hastings, Sikeston, Mo. Hannah N. Langhi, Benton, Ky. Zoe E. Dismore, Anna. Shelby Morgan Sokolik, Paducah.

Emily J. Gregge, Herrin. Neil Alexander Carr, Columbia, Mo. Mandy L. Edmonds, Jonesboro. Robyn E. Hopson, Carterville. Chelsea E. Walker, Carterville. Lupe Baca, Marion. Blair C. Jones, Chicago.

William M. Betts, Carbondale. Kelvin D. Dixon, Oshkosh, Wis. Kristopher M. Plencner, Homer Glen. Chaquita L. Brinson, Cairo. Michael Thomas, Ullin. Claire Elizabeth Arnold, Portage, Mich.

Robert D. Shepard, Grand Chain. Raul F. Torres, Cobden. Kuo Zhen, Cape Girardeau. Alexis Danielle Peterman, Evansville, Ind. Brian K. Simelton, Carbondale. Sandra K. Schenk, Murphysboro.

Derrick A. Brandt, San-

doval. Arnold Junior Brewer, Cape Girardeau. Generoso Trombetta, Rosellee. Ronald P. Mick, Valier. Jasmin M. Porter, Marion. Joanne L. Jamieson, Carbondale.

The following people were cited for the indicated violations and were assessed the accompanying fines and court costs as recorded at the circuit clerk's office:

Amy T. Smith, Anna, fail to reduce speed, \$120. Joseph J. Surdyk, Carbondale, electronic communication device, \$120.

Justine D. Pyle, Anna, unlicensed, \$120. Lindsey N. Gore, Anna, electronic communication device, \$120.

Tiana A. Span, Carbondale, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$200. Gregory B. Kohler, Jonesboro, electronic communication device, \$120.

Kenneth L. Jarchow, Indianapolis, Ind., seat belt required/driver, \$60. Rebecca Joanne Moore, Cape Girardeau, following too closely, \$120.

Roger G. Smith, Jonesboro, fail to obey stop sign, \$120. Clinton E. Moreland, Anna, seat belt required/driver, \$60.

Carly N. Gaffney, Carlinville, driving under influence of alcohol, \$2,637. Joseph Michael Schneider, Cape Girardeau, overweight on axle, \$500.

Brandi L. Cain, Buncombe, seat belt required/driver, \$60. Mandy Ann Jarvis, Jonesboro, electronic communication device, \$75.

Paula Jean Flannigan, McKinney, Texas, improper merging into traffic, \$120. Travis L. Stewart, Cobden, unsafe backing on a roadway, \$120.

Angela R. Rohan, West

Frankfort, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$200. Marcus Antonio Marable, Tamms, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$200.

Benjamin A. Suhling, Jonesboro, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$200. Clint G. Russell, Anna, electronic communication device, \$120.

William G. Ferguson, Percy, speeding, 21-25 mph above limit, \$140. Cale D. Smith, Cobden, fail to reduce speed, \$120. Chelsi C. Poole, Wolf Lake, seat belt required/driver, \$60.

Marriage Licenses

The county clerk's office issued a marriage license to:

Casey Joel Bloodworth, 29, of Marion, and Jennifer Nicole Taylor, 28, of McClure.

Michael Brandon Calhoun, 23, of Wolf Lake, and Kayla Marie Treece, 19, of Wolf Lake.

Donald James Ayers, 49, of Randolph, and Norilyn Mantuerto Mondragon, 27, of Randolph.

Schuyler R. McCarty, 33, of Evansville, Ind., and Tiffany M. Kincade, 33, of Evansville, Ind.

Steven Bradly Fry, 24, of Dongola, and Josie Ann Rutland, 24, of Dongola.

Sean Randall Davis, 27, of Jonesboro, and Holly Leanna Bryant, 23, of Jonesboro.

Mark L. Corzine, 57, of Dongola, and Angela S. Bunch, 47, of Anna.

Brandon Michael Geier, 32, of St. Louis, and Elizabeth Anne Shaw, 29, of St. Louis.

Michael Edwin Newell Jr., 44, of Jackson, Mo., and Ashley Marie O'Kelly, 30, of Jackson, Mo.

Kyle Wayne Kissiar, 22, of McClure, and Coralee Darlene Laymon, 23, of McClure.



Shawnee students of the month
Shawnee Elementary School at Wolf Lake has announced its most recent students of the month. The students include Rusty Smith, pre-kindergarten; Riley Shelton, kindergarten; Sterling Livingston, 1st grade; Keaton Carmack, 2nd grade; Daisy Taylor, 3rd grade; Cole Pender, 4th grade; and Mercedes Moser, 5th grade. Photo provided.



Obituaries

Clara M. Bowie

Clara Bowie, 82, of Carbondale, died at 7:20 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at the Shawnee Christian Nursing Center in Herrin.

She was born on Oct. 27, 1934, in Pisgah, Md., the daughter of Richard and Jenny Bowie.

She is survived by her daughters, Lydia (Arthur) Hazel of Makanda and Hope (Nathan) Silkwood of Carbondale; six grandchildren, Jessica Thomas, Sarah Dreppard, Sherry Taylor, Jim Ratcliffe, Tony Hazel and Christy Hazel; three great-grandchildren, Bella Thomas, Addison Thomas and Alyssa Phelps; one sister, Joan (Glen) Dichiera of Baltimore, Md.; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers and two sisters.

Due to her increased vision loss from Retinitis Pigmentosa, she entered the Baltimore, Md., School for the Blind in 1947 and graduated in 1953.

Due to the generosity of the Indian Head, Md., Lions Club, she was able to attend the State Teachers College of Towson, Md., where she graduated with a bachelor of science degree in June of 1957, the first of her family to obtain a higher education.

She then worked as a rehabilitation teacher for the blind with the Illinois Department of Human Services, from which she resigned in 1958 upon marrying Alvin Roberts of Carbondale.

She spent the next 18 years as a homemaker, after which she returned to the work force in a variety of occupations, including food service manager in Springfield, management trainer in Chicago, IRS information specialist in Chicago, salesperson for Ann Morris Enterprises in Chicago and itinerant teacher of Braille for the Center for Independent Living in Carbondale.

During retirement, she became an accomplished writer, self-publishing books of poetry and personal memoirs, and freelancing as a columnist for various publications on health issues.

She committed her life to Christ at the age of 10, to whom she was ever faithful. She offered her beautiful singing voice in service to His church from that time forward. Up to her last months in the nursing home, she sang at the services there and for her roommates to help soothe their troubles during the night. Her greatest desire was to give glory to God for the sake of others in all that she did. She was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden.

Funeral Mass for Clara M. Bowie will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 13, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden, with Father Uriel Salamanca officiating. Interment will be in the Rowan Cemetery in Makanda.

Friends can call from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden. The Rosary will be said at 6:30 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Lions Club.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Funeral Homes Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Cobden is in charge of arrangements.

News from

First Christian Church, Anna

On Sunday, April 30, senior minister Dee Armes preached a sermon titled “Opened Eyes, Burning Hearts,” based on scripture from Luke.

The message asked “Why do we struggle to see Jesus? We’ll see Jesus when...we beg him to stay, enjoy deep relationships and can’t wait to tell someone about Him.”

Birthdays: Bryce Osman, April 17; Kelly Bow-

ers, April 21; Louis Denny and Kathleen Trexler, April 22; Alyssa Earnhart, April 30; Bill Brimm, May 3; Bradley Isaacs, May 6.

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

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

her of Carbondale visited Saturday with Shirley Miller. Bob and Elaine Edwards of Wellsville, Mo., visited Shirley on Sunday.

Happy birthday to our son, Brian Eudy of Jackson, Mo., whose birthday is Tuesday, May 9.

Thank you to whoever renewed their subscription to The Gazette-Democrat and gave me the credit. I’m sorry I didn’t get your name.

Dolores and Jack Reynolds of Reynoldsville visited last Wednesday with Lucille Choate at Lake of Egypt.

Dolores and Jack Reynolds and Barb and Edwin Livesay of Anna enjoyed eating at McAllisters in Cape Girardeau on Saturday night.

Hunter and Gracie Wilson of Cape Girardeau visited Sunday with their great-grandparents, Dolores and Jack Reynolds.

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

Pearl J. Harvell

Pearl J. Harvell, 97, of rural Carbondale, and formerly of Anna-Jonesboro, died at 12:35 p.m. Thursday, April 27, 2017, at her home.

She was born on March 31, 1920, in Elco, the daughter of Ira James and Grace Ellen Shaffer Bridges.

She married Thomas Noble Harvell on Dec. 10, 1936, in Tamms. He preceded her in death on May 11, 1987.

She is survived by her children, Dale (Dorothy) Harvell of Jonesboro, Wilma “Jackie” Hoyle of Anna, Melvin (Clara) Harvell of Jonesboro and Kimberly (Curt) Guetersloh of Carbondale; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren and one on the way; lifelong friend Lesley “Buz” Prather; other relatives and many friends. She had a furry companion, Clemmie.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Thomas Noble Harvell; a son, Norman Douglas Harvell; three brothers and four sisters.

She was a member of the Elco Baptist Church. She loved cooking and spending time with her family. Her family said her chicken and dumplings will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Monday, May 1, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro, with the Rev. Randy Morgan officiating. Interment was in the Jonesboro Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to PAWS.

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

RENDLEMAN & HILEMAN Funeral Homes Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro was in charge of arrangements.

Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus performs musical



The Carbondale Chapter of the Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus performed its annual musical April 29 at the Herrin Civic Center in Herrin. The theme of the program was “Heritage of Harmony” and focused on barbershop music from its beginning in the early 1900s to the innovative harmonizations of today.

In answer to “Why do we do it?” the participants say they love to sing and they do it for fun. “Singing allows you to share something you enjoy with others, they say.

Pictured in a section of the chorus are Norm Bauer of Anna, Herb Beattie of Steeleville, Neth Haas of Anna, Al Terry of Carterville and Gerry Boehne of Cobden.

Men who would like to sing with the chorus can contact Norm Bauer at 833-3228 for more information. Photo provided.



Barb Bauer, Norm Bauer and LuAn McGinnis: Barb Bauer and her guest LuAn McGinnis from Hattiesburg, Miss., visited with barbershop singer Norm Bauer at the Little Egypt Barbershop Chorus annual show last weekend. Photo provided.

News from

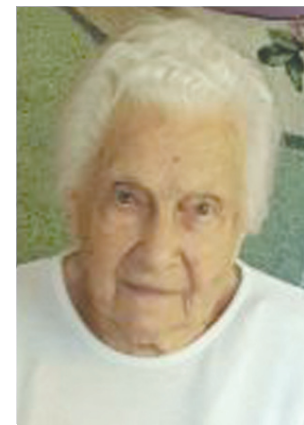
Trinity Lutheran Church, Anna

The pastor’s sermon for April 30 was a reminder that “we need to trust in Jesus’ freeing ransom and delight to serve our neighbor in love.”

April 30 was the fifth Sunday of the month. Holy Communion was celebrated.

The pastor served at the Shawnee Correctional Center with a service of prayer and praise. He also plans to serve there in May and June.

Next Sunday’s Bible study will feature slides



Ann Harvick

Ann Harvick, 94, of Mesa, Ariz., and formerly of Anna, died at 9:43 p.m. Sunday, April 30, 2017, at her son’s home in Arizona.

She was born on Sept. 27, 1922, in McClure, the daughter of Frank and Lucille Moore Crissip.

She married Harvalee D. Harvick on Jan. 3, 1946, in Metropolis.

She is survived by her husband, Harvalee D. Harvick of Mesa, Ariz.; a son, John Mark (Marla) Harvick of Mesa, Ariz.; two grandsons, Shawn Harvick of Maryland Heights, Mo., and David (Allie) Harvick of Nashville, Tenn.; two great-grandchildren, Preston Harvick of Nashville, Tenn., and Jaydn Richardson of Maryland Heights, Mo.; many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Thomas Crissip; five sisters, Pauline Frogg, Louise Mayer, Catherine Goettyn, Mildred “Judy” Crissip and Lucille “Susie” Patton.

She loved to sew and made many quilts that will be passed down through the generations. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Anna and as a recent member of the Desert Sand Church of Christ in Mesa, Ariz.

Funeral services for Ann Harvick will be at noon Saturday, May 6, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna, with Brian McAlister officiating. Interment will be in the Christian Chapel Cemetery.

Friends can call after 11 a.m. Saturday, May 6, until the service hour at noon.

Memorials can be made to the Church of Christ in Anna or to Hospice of Southern Illinois.

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

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



Blessing of the Bikes

In spite of very rainy weather, folks still made it to the Cross of Peace on Bald Knob Mountain near Alto Pass for the annual Blessing of the Bikes on Sunday, April 30. The event was sponsored by the Christian Motorcyclists Association. Blessing of the Bikes serves as an official kickoff to the spring and summer riding season. Prayers are offered and food is shared. Photo courtesy of Lars Whiteside.

THANK YOU

The family of David L. Harris would like to correct the mistake that was made concerning the Cobden Masonic Lodge number.

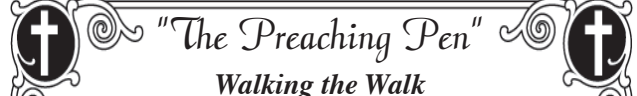
We are so thankful to Cobden Masonic Lodge #466 members and their families for all the love, donations and many hours of work they all put into making this benefit possible for their Brother, David L. Harris.

Again, we can never say thank you enough to everyone in the community who made this event possible.

Thanks to all of you, David and his family were blessed on the day of February 19, 2017.

May God Bless everyone of you,
The family of David L. Harris

20GNC



"The Preaching Pen"

Walking the Walk

Have you ever known someone – maybe a friend or coworker – who rarely ever missed a church service and exuded Christian behavior and goodwill on the Lord’s Day, but was indistinguishable from the rest of the world the other 6 days of the week? Perhaps he or she cursed frequently, told dirty jokes, visited bars often, and did any number of things inconsistent with Christianity. Sadly, this is an all-too-common occurrence.

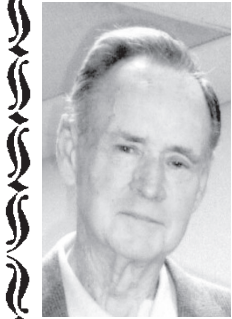
How many of us profess to be Christians but don’t let our “lights shine before men?” (Mt. 5:14-16). How many of us, by our speech, our actions, our clothing, our choices of recreation, etc., appear worldly in the eyes of others instead of Godly?

The Bible places great emphasis on “walking the walk” as we often put it. In three passages, Paul instructs Christians to “walk worthy.” Eph. 4:1: “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called...” Col. 1:10: “...walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work...” and to the saints in Thessalonica, Paul wrote, “As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, 12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.”

Are those of us who profess to be Christians “walking worthy?” Are we living up to the standard God has set? Have we obeyed the Gospel call? Can people look at us and see how important it is to us that we be pleasing unto God? Have we chosen to “come out and be separate?” (II Cor. 6:17). If not, come study with us at the Anna church of Christ. You’re welcome any time.

R.W. McAlister, Minister
Anna church of Christ

20G



In Loving
Memory
William D.
"Bill" Stover

July 27, 1943 - April 29, 2011

Much loved and missed by
your family

20Gc

May 2-8 is Be Kind to Animals Week



Looking for a family

Ruby, a puppy who is approximately eight months old, is housed at the Union County Animal Control located outside of Anna. Ruby, along with the other animals pictured on this page, was available for adoption at the time of printing. Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.

Union County Animal Control works to end animal abuse

By Lindsey Rae Vaughn

The Union County Animal Control, located between Anna and Cobden, deals with animals in several ways, such as abuse cases, relocation and adoption.

UCAC officer Dirk Wright said that animal abuse is not a major problem in Union County, but it does occur, most being repeat offenders.

He said if someone witnesses or is suspicious of animal abuse or neglect, they should call UCAC at 833-4915 with information and an address.

Since July 1, 2016, UCAC has had about 75 cats and 125 dogs adopted. In addition, they have sent

160-180 animals to rescues.

All the rescues that UCAC animals are taken to are in cities like Chicago. They have to be licensed and a no-kill shelter. They also run background checks and get updates on the animals.

Wright said UCAC is almost always at capacity, but they can always find room. They currently have 11 cats, 16 dogs and one horse available for adoption.

They also have a feral cat release program for anyone who wants to help decrease the mice population. These cats are fully vetted, neutered or spayed and are free.

Wright, along with Mitchal Spaulding and Brandi Wheeler, are the only

employees at UCAC and are part-time, though Wright said they usually work over 40 hours a week.

They also have several volunteers. Ashley Trexler, who helps with day to day chores, also helps train and rehabilitate dogs. Lisa Thompson manages their Facebook page, "Rescue Me, Dogs and Cats of Union County, IL. Animal Control," and arranges transport to the rescues.

Mary Huspon, who is a volunteer out of Chicago, helps with transports and reposts Facebook posts UCAC makes. Dr. Ray Heinrichs is UCAC's veterinarian and he, with his wife Debbie, have fostered animals.

Wright also gave praise to the county board members.

"They are wonderful to work with," Wright said. "Without volunteers, we wouldn't have an animal control program."

UCAC always takes donations, like puppy pads, pine sol, bleach and soft food. They currently need dog houses, straw, training treats, beds, Natural Balance Dental Chews and cat toys.

Monetary donations are also welcome and have paid for new smaller buildings, like the fairly new cat building, medicine and food.

Since July 1, 2016, about \$32,700 was collected in donations for their valentine fund. The valentine fund specifically aids the animals with vetting costs, including getting the animals spayed and neutered and vaccinations. To donate to the valentine fund, send a check to 386 Kaolin Rd. Cobden, Illinois, 62920. If there is a specific animal the donor wants to help, the animal's name should be mentioned in the memo line.

The adoption rate for dogs is \$50, which does not include the cost of \$25 for a microchip and \$7 for a one year rabies tag. The adoption rate for cats is \$30, with an additional \$25 for a microchip and \$7 for a one year rabies tag.

UCAC has rescued and adopted several other animals, including pigs, llamas and chickens. They also have saved and relocated small wild animals.

UCAC has been working on getting a new building for a while. Currently, they are waiting for property to become available.

If someone finds an animal, they need to call UCAC 833-4915 and leave a message. If they are the owner, they need to sign a relinquish form. If someone cannot bring the animal to UCAC, they can arrange transport.

UCAC is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.



Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.



Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn.

No-kill animal shelter's mission continues after 'devastating loss'

By Amber Skelton

Though it's recently taken a very large blow in the loss of longtime facility manager Penny South, PAWS Place Adoption Center in Anna hasn't give up on its mission to provide a safe place for animals and a chance to find a loving, permanent home.

PAWS, which stands for Pets Are Worth Saving, is a no-kill animal shelter that has been serving the community for 23 years, and in its current building at 139 E. Vienna St. since August 2001.

The shelter was founded by a small group of women who worked at Union County Animal Control.

Karee Sweitzer, one of the founding members, said they were eating lunch at Dairy Queen in Anna and looked across to the building where they are now located and asked, "Why don't we start a no-kill?"

Sweitzer said that PAWS was the first no-kill shelter in Southern Illinois, though it is no longer the largest. The shelter is a non-profit and receives no government assistance. All funding is provided by donations.

The founders of PAWS still run the organization, with the help of about eight "almost daily" volunteers and the help of many others.

Those volunteers make all the difference at PAWS, Sweitzer explained.

Earlier this year, Penny South, the facility manager of over 16 years, was hospitalized with illness. Sweitzer, who manages the PAWS 2nd Chance Resale Shop four days a week, was with South for the duration of her stay.

"That was my best friend," Sweitzer said. "Penny was PAWS."

The situation left two central roles to the organization vacant.

But Sweitzer said that the remainder of the PAWS staff and volunteers "didn't miss a beat. These guys, like you would not believe, pulled together."

However, more volunteers are always in need to maintain the facility and care for the animals. "Come in and love them," Sweitzer said.

Volunteers can clean, walk the dogs, work the resale shop, give baths and more. Sweitzer stressed the need for volunteers to learn how to adopt animals out.

Donations are always welcome, with a particular

need of Dry Purina Puppy Chow.

Many of the pets available for adoption are posted on the PAWS Facebook page and website at pawspaws.org. Those interested in adopting should fill out the application online or in person. The application will be reviewed, and if accepted, the new owner will pay the fee and take home their pet.

The adoption process can last as a little as a day, but is often completed the next day. PAWS reserves the right to perform a home visit to ensure animals will be well-cared for.

Sweitzer said that though mistakes happen, she is very happy with their screening process. She said their track record is "really good."

Sweitzer also expressed pride in the work PAWS has done to provide for homeless animals in the community. "There's 6,000-plus we've sent home."

She described the state in which many of the animals arrive at the shelter. Some come because their owner has passed away or the family can't care for them. "Most of the time, [they come] in very bad shape."

Mona Lisa, a pug who spends her days keeping Sweitzer company at the resale shop, is a clear example. When she was found, she was covered in fleas, unable to walk and could hardly move. The PAWS staff worked with her tirelessly and now, years later, no lasting damage can be seen.

Due to their no-kill status, the shelter takes in animals they are aware may never be adopted out. The animals are cared for all day, every day of the year. "We commit to them for life. But that's all they ask for, a little love and kindness."

Because of the attachments that form from working with the animals regularly, many of the staff have adopted more than one into their own homes.

Sweitzer said that with the work PAWS does comes "a lot of heartache, but, oh my God, so much joy."

Since December 2015, PAWS has been raising money to build a new, larger facility than the current 1,100 square foot building.

The plans for the new building include runs for the dogs, a quarantine area to contain animal illnesses, puppy and cat intake rooms, a free-roaming feline room, a community area and more.

The organization has raised approximately \$135,000 of the initial \$800,000 goal.

"It seems like a long way away," Sweitzer said, "but we're getting there."

Donations of time and building materials have been given as well, potentially chipping away at the cost.

Several fundraisers this year are planned to help out with that goal, as well as maintain the current facility and care for the animals.

A plant sale is running now at the shelter. Stop by during regular hours, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and until 6 p.m. on Fridays to see what is available.

Alto Vineyards in Alto Pass plans to host the fifth annual Dawg Daze of Summer on Sunday, June 11 from noon to 7 p.m. The event has raised over \$30,000 in previous years for animal rescue organizations in the area. The radio station 100.7 KGMO is slated to broadcast live and bands will play for the rest of the afternoon. Adults are \$10 per person and children under 12 get in free.

The shelter hosts an auction each year in November with a number of donated items from the community up for bid. The auction has been held at Blue Sky Winery for several years. More information will be available later this year.

Raffle tickets are available for a quilt created and donated by Jane Nimmo and Sue Ann Zimmerman. The winner of the quilt will be announced at the November auction.

Funds are also raised for the shelter at the PAWS 2nd Chance Resale Shop, which is located at 101 Springfield Ave. in Anna. The shop opened in Nov. 2013 and sells 100 percent donated items, which range from clothes and accessories to furniture and household items to the occasional car or motorcycle.

"People are very generous," Sweitzer said.

The shop is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sweitzer said that she and the many others will continue to help animals in need in accordance with the late Penny South's motto, "I can't save 'em all, but I can save the one that's in front of me today."



The current facility for PAWS Place Adoption Center, pictured above, is located 139 E. Vienna St. in Anna, across from Dairy Queen. The 1,100 square-foot building has represented hope for the more than 6,000 animals who have found homes through PAWS. Funds are being raised for the construction of a new, larger facility. Photo by Amber Skelton.



Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds, Jonesboro

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

The Gazette-Democrat

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History presentation

Historian and author Darrel Dexter, standing, shared some stories about the Union County area's history during a presentation held last Sunday afternoon at Stinson Memorial Library in Anna.

'Pioneer Sketches' reception, book signing held at Stinson

A new edition of a book about Union County history was featured during a presentation held last Sunday afternoon at Stinson Memorial Library in Anna.

Local historian and author Darrel Dexter has written a new edition of the book titled "Pioneer Sketches of Union County, Illinois."

The PAST organization of Union County hosted a reception and book-signing at the Anna library. PAST, which stands for Promoting Appreciation for Structural Treasures, works to preserve, protect and promote Union County's history.

The author shared a little bit of Union County history during the event at the library, which was attended

Governor, students connect

Gov. Bruce Rauner on April 27 hosted a Facebook Live to connect with students across Illinois for an interactive, virtual school visit.

"By far, my favorite thing to do as governor is visit with students and teachers across the State of Illinois," Rauner said in a news release.

"Thanks to technology and social media, we were able to connect with more classrooms than ever before."

The governor took questions from students and teachers from Rockford, Mokena, Channahon and Murphysboro, among others.

Additionally, 3rd graders from Riverton Elementary School joined the governor at the State Capitol in Springfield as part of the Facebook Live.

Intercollegiate art show winners noted

Local college students competed at an intercollegiate art show which was hosted April 8 by Shawnee Community College near Ullin.

Categories in the art show included drawing, painting, photography/graphic design, ceramics and sculpture.

Shawnee Community College students who received honors at the show included, by category:

Drawing: Emily Rogers, first place. Tia Whitaker, honorable mention.

Painting: Morgan Bunch, third place. Mark Crippen and Alexis Pye, both honorable mention.

Photography: Emily Rogers, first place. Morgan Bunch, second place.

Sculpture: Jerald Long, honorable mention.

by more than 30 people.

The 200-plus page book is an edited and annotated update of the work Dexter published in 1986.

The book features a collection of articles written by Dr. Sidney Smith Condon that were originally published as a weekly series in the Jonesboro Gazette newspaper in 1871.

The 1986 book was no longer in print, so PAST encouraged Dexter to update the content for a new edition.

The author has added pictures and many footnotes from his many years of research about Union County and its early families.

He expanded on Condon's original pioneer biographies, with detailed family ancestries that provide generations of information.

Dexter is the author of more than 30 historical and genealogy books that make historical data readily available to everyone. He teaches history at Egyptian School in Tamms.

The new edition of the book is dedicated to the memory of the late Geneva Davie Wiggs.

Wiggs was a local photographer who not only shared many historical photos with Dexter, but also bequeathed her historical photo collection as a legacy to all of the people of Southern Illinois.

Dexter praised Wiggs for the generosity she

showed in sharing the history of Union County.

The publication of the new edition was made possible with the support of a donation from Friend of PAST LuAnn McGinnis of Hattiesburg, Miss., and the help of many other Friends of the PAST.

McGinnis was in attendance at Sunday afternoon's program in Anna.

Also in attendance were Mary Kay Wiggs Sullivan and Billie Kay Wiggs Hamlin, the daughters of the late Geneva Wiggs. Sullivan and Wiggs both live in Cape Girardeau.

The publication of the book is seen as a first step as plans are being made for the 2018 bicentennial celebrations of the State of Illinois, Union County and the City of Jonesboro.

PAST presented a copy of the new book to Stinson Memorial Library prior to the start of Sunday afternoon's program.

The book, which costs \$25, is available at PAST's Heritage House in Jonesboro, as well as at locations in the area.

The book also can be ordered by sending a check for \$25 made to "P.A.S.T." and mailed to Linda Hileman, 1370 Kaolin Rd., Cobden, Ill. 62920.

PAST noted that those who order the book by mail are asked to add \$3 to the amount of your check if you would like the book mailed to you.

Southern Illinois legislator passes first bill in State Senate



State Sen. Paul Schimpf

With a 57-0 vote, State Sen. Paul Schimpf, R-Waterloo, passed his first bill through the Illinois Senate on April 26.

"It is an honor to represent the constituents of the 58th Senate District and today I was fortunate to pass my first bill which makes life a little easier for small businesses," Schimpf said in a news release.

Senate Bill 1433 gives small entities which self-report non-compliance issues to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency the ability to seek a 100 percent reduction in the portion of penalties.

This provision applies

only to penalties assessed that are not associated from the profits tied to non-compliance.

The legislative measure was supported by the Illinois Farm Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, the National Federation of Independent Business and several other business and trade organizations.

Senate Bill 1433 went to the Illinois House of Representatives for consideration.

Anna Fire Department responds to 10 calls from Friday to Tuesday

The Anna Fire Department responded to 10 calls during the period from late Friday night, April 28, through early Tuesday morning, May 2.

One of the calls was related to stormy weather which swept through the region. Another incident may have been related to the bad weather.

Anna Fire Chief Gary Rider shared the following account of the calls:

Friday, 9:30 p.m., the fire department was called out to monitor stormy weather.

Friday, 10 p.m., the department responded to a call after a residence on North Lime Kiln Road near Anna was struck by lightning. The roof of a double-wide mobile home was damaged.

The fire was extinguished by about midnight. However, firefighters were stranded at the scene until about 3 a.m. due to high water in a nearby creek.

Saturday, 11:30 a.m., a cooking fire was reported at a residence on Knupp School Lane near Anna. Firefighters were at the scene until about noon.

Saturday, 12:30 p.m., an alarm was reported at Lincoln Elementary School in Anna. When firefighters arrived at the scene, there was no sign of a fire.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m., firefighters responded to the scene of a traffic accident on old U.S. Route 51 at

Hess Lane, which is between Anna and Cobden.

The accident involved a car which slid off the road and struck a natural gas line. The gas supply to the line was shut off.

A rain-slickened highway may have contributed to the cause of the accident. The driver sustained minor injuries. Firefighters were at the scene until about 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, 3:30 a.m. firefighters were called out to monitor stormy weather.

Sunday, 10 p.m., firefighters responded to a report about a fire in a dryer at a resident on East Avenue. Damage was confined to the dryer. Firefighters were at the scene until 11 p.m.

Monday, 5:30 p.m., firefighters responded to a report about a fire in a car which occurred on Big Creek Road south of Anna. The fire apparently began in the vehicle's engine compartment. Firefighters were at the scene until 6:30 p.m. The car was a total loss.

Tuesday, 1 a.m., a fire was reported at a residence on East Chestnut Street in Anna. The Jonesboro Fire Department assisted on the call.

The fire appeared to have been related to the use of a gasoline-powered generator which was being used indoors. Minor damage was reported to the one-story frame structure. Firefight-

ers were at the scene until about 3 a.m.

Tuesday, 5 a.m., the Anna Fire Department assisted the Dongola Fire Department on a call about a fire involving a fifth-wheeler which was located on Nimmo Road.

The cause of the fire was not determined. The fifth-wheeler was a total loss. Firefighters were at the scene until about 6:30 a.m.

Coalition opposes rollback

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan joined a coalition of 16 attorneys general in urging Congress to reject the rollback of critical protective ozone air quality standards.

In letters to the chairmen and ranking members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, the coalition detailed its opposition to the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017.

The coalition stated that such action would substantially delay the ozone standards promoted by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2015.

The coalition said that the action would mark a major step backward in efforts to combat pollution and its negative impact on public health.

Flute choir, studio concert set in Carbondale

The Southern Illinois Flute Choir and SIU Flute Studio plan to present a spring concert Friday night, May 5, in Carbondale.

The concert is set for 7:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 214 W. Main St. Admission is free.

The choir and studio are under the artistic direction of Dr. Douglas Worthen and assistant conductor Katrina Walczyk.

Members come from throughout Southern Illinois and the Southern Illinois University community to rehearse weekly, with a goal to provide a unique musical experience for the general public through semi-annual concerts.

The concert will feature selections by J.S. Bach, Jean-Baptiste Faure, Arthur Frackenpohl, Lisa Duke Lamb and others.

Legislator visits college

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, visited Shawnee Community College near Ullin on Friday, April 21.

Fowler discussed the state budget impasse and what the state is doing to resolve funding issues.

Following the discussion, Fowler was guided on a tour of the college's main campus.

Weather

April rainfall totals more than 15 inches

The Union County area received more than 15 inches of rain during the month of April.

Much of that rain fell during the period of April 26 through April 30.

Local weather observer Dana Cross recorded a total of 15.54 inches of rain in Jonesboro during the month.

Precipitation measured April 26-30 included 2.19 inches April 26, .01 of an inch April 27, 1.69 inches April 28, 4.75 inches April 29 and 2.54 inches April 30. A trace also was recorded on May 1.

During the downpours which fell during the past week, Cross recorded statistics which showed the rate of rain as it was falling on a per-hour basis.

Some of those rates included: 7.68 inches per hour at 10:30 a.m. on April 28. 9.93 inches per hour at 12:30 a.m. on April 29. 6.47 inches per hour at 4 a.m. on April 30.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, April 25	80	50
Wednesday, April 26	79	58
Thursday, April 27	61	49
Friday, April 28	71	50
Saturday, April 29	85	63
Sunday, April 30	70	57
Monday, May 1	57	51

April Weather

Weather observer Dana Cross recorded the following statistics for April in Jonesboro:



A-JCHS prom planned

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School's 2017 spring prom is planned Saturday, May 6. The prom will be at John A. Logan College in Carterville. Prom begins at 6:30 p.m. Coronation of the queen and king will be at 7:30 p.m. King and queen candidates are, from left, Orlando Arreola, Elle Basler, Izzy Markovich, Madisyn Bigler, Dylan Fox, Alivia Miller, Caleb Clover, Alaina Pinnon, Austin Dillow, Ashley Oliver, Aaron Lence and Kenzie Boget. Photo by Tiffiny Dillow for The Gazette-Democrat.

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, May 4, 2017

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Section B

Southern Illinois Children's Choir receives gold rating

The Southern Illinois Children's Choir, a community outreach program of the Southern Illinois University Carbondale School of Music, earned an exclusive gold rating at the recent WorldStrides OnStage in St. Louis Festival.

The festival is an educational program that brings young performers to major venues on American and international stages.

The children's choir, under the direction of Alice Berry and with piano accompaniment from Mike Arthur, performed at the Chaminade College Preparatory School in the Skip Viragh Center for the Arts Theater.

The adjudicated festival included performance critiques and awards.

The Southern Illinois Children's Choir was the only group to receive gold.

The choir also earned a designation as outstanding choral group and was the only choir invited to perform at a 2018 WorldStrides National Invitational Festival of Gold.

Girl Scouts plan day camps

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois organization has planned a full slate of day camps for this summer.

One of the day camps is planned June 12-16 in Cobden. The camp will have a theme of "Let's Travel with the Movies."

Day camp directors will be Teresa Cavaness and Marci Malnar. Debbie Penrod is co-director.

Information about the camp is available by contacting Malnar by phone at 618-697-3738.

The Southern Illinois Children's Choir was the youngest choir in attendance at the festival.

The choir includes children from 2nd through 8th grades. The other choirs at the festival were high school students. Choirs from Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri and Oklahoma attended the festival.

The Southern Illinois Children's Choir is part of the SIU School of Music Community and Preparatory Program for the musical enrichment of area children and the enhancement of musical life in Southern Illinois.

Children in the choir this year are from Cambria, Campbell Hill, Carbondale, Carterville, Du Quoin, Makanda and Murphysboro.

Paisley Casey born April 13



Paisley Rae Casey

Paisley Rae Casey was born at 12:52 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

Paisley is the daughter of Jake Casey and Ashton Crews.

Paisley weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long.

She has a sister, Aliyah Casey.

Maternal grandparents are Lane and Deanna Cruse of Anna and Collin Crews and Lori Williams of Anna.

Paternal grandparents are Ted and Lesley Johnson of Anna.

Maternal great-grandparents are Fred Crews and Diann Hickam of Anna, Bill and Connie Childers of Buncombe, Donna Sadler of Jonesboro and Gerald and Janet Cruse of Dongola.

Paternal great-grandparents are Linda and Carroll Casey of Anna.



Shawnee School District No. 84 teacher honored

Shawnee School District No. 84 teacher Jamie Nash-Mayberry has received special recognition from the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. From left are VFW 15th District senior vice commander Clarence Caraker, Post No. 3455 commander Mark Haddick, Auxiliary members of Post No. 3455 Sherry Haddick and Linda Jackson, Jamie Nash-Mayberry, Post No. 5222 member Rick Lanham, Auxiliary member of Post No. 5222 Pat Oliver, JoLynn Altvatter and 15th District President Lynn Smith. The picture was taken when Nash-Mayberry learned that she had won the Smart-Maher Citizenship Teacher of the Year Award. The Shawnee School District teacher also was invited to a VFW event which is planned in June in Springfield. Photo provided.

Illinois Emerging Writers Competition welcomes entries

Entry forms are available for the 13th annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award.

"We created the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition to promote creative writing and provide an outlet for talented writers," Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White said.

"Great poems have the ability to enrich and enhance our lives, and I am looking forward to celebrating talented poets with this year's competition."

The competition is named in honor of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks.

The competition is co-sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and Kevin Stein, who succeeded Brooks as Illinois Poet Laureate.

Touch of Nature to host open house, paddling event

Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Touch of Nature Environmental Center plans to host a free open house and community paddling event.

Breaking the Surface is scheduled May 6 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the center, which is located about 8 miles south of Carbondale on Giant City Road.

Visitors can venture onto Little Grassy Lake aboard various people-powered watercraft or participate in

The competition is open to Illinois residents age 18 and older.

The entry deadline is June 30. Cash prizes will be awarded for first (\$500), second (\$300) and third place (\$100).

Winning poems will be submitted for possible publication in the Ninth Letter, RHINO and Quiddity journals and Poetic License Press publications.

Winners will be invited to read their poems at a ceremony planned later this year at the Illinois State Library in Springfield.

Entry forms can be found online at http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book.

For more information, contact Illinois Center for the Book Coordinator Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065 or bmatheis@ilsos.net.

the other amenities offered at the experiential learning facility.

Activities include the climbing wall, the zip line and a hike along Rocky Ledges Trail.

Canoes, paddle boards and paddle boats will be available for use throughout the day at no charge.

Paddlers may also bring their own boats but must have a current Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge sticker before launching; day passes will be available for purchase at the event.

Refreshments will be available to purchase at the open house and paddling event.

To learn more about Touch of Nature Environmental Center or Breaking the Surface, visit www.ton.siu.edu, call 618-453-1121, or email tonec@siu.edu.



School hosts special event

America's culture was featured at an event hosted last Friday evening at Cobden Elementary School.

Cobden Elementary School hosts Great American Culture Night

The United States took center stage at an event held last Friday evening at Cobden Elementary School.

The school welcomed many visitors for its presentation of Great American Culture Night 2017.

Information made available to visitors shared that students and teachers at the Union County school worked "very hard into turning Cobden Elementary into a great representation of what the United States has to offer."

For the program, the United States was divided into five regions; Alaska and Hawaii were represented as their own region. The regions and the classes which worked on them included:

Hawaii: pre-kindergarten, Head Start and kindergarten. The Southwest: 1st grade. The Northeast: 2nd grade. The Southeast: 3rd

grade. The Midwest: 4th grade. The West: 5th grade. Alaska: TRT class.

Visitors were given an opportunity to "learn many things about the country we live in."

Presentations featured "the 'culture' of each region and...a taste of what food that region is known for."

Students learned about the various regions through hands-on projects and classroom discussions.

A cake walk, dunk tank and book fair also were part of the evening's activities.

The school's administration, faculty, staff and students voiced their appreciation to all of those who took part in the Great American Culture Night.

Evening walk planned at Heron Pond

An evening walk is planned May 9 at the Heron Pond Nature Preserve in Southern Illinois.

The walk is planned from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will feature a search for spring migrants, breeding songbirds and wading birds.

The trail begins at a parking lot at the end of Heron Pond Lane, which is north of Belknap Road near Highway 45.

There is no charge for the guided tour. Registration is required and can be made by calling the Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge at 618-634-2231.

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**Anna-Jo Garden Club
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at the
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Corner of E. Vienna and Old 51 S

*Hostas, lilies, irises, ferns, shrubs, and
Annabelle hydrangeas. Gloves, aprons and
other items to help with your spring planting.*
19P.20G

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

On Sunday morning, April 30, Sarah Elkins, NMI president, presented a Memorial Roll certificate to the family of the Rev. Michael Ice, a former pastor of Anna First Church of the Nazarene.

Family members present were his wife, Joan Ice, and sons, Feron Ice, Christon and Jackie Ice and children, Lauren, Taylor and Braylon, Kylon and Kathleen Ice and daughter Abby.

Kind words of expression about his ministry here at Anna were voiced by Joyce Johnson and Larry Fuller.

Testimonies were given from Curly Ralls, Yvonne Graham and Leonard Sadler of the Ice family's influence on their life. Jessica Elkins shared a song, "The Lighthouse," in memory of Rev. Ice.

Music for the morning worship service was led by Randy Wright and Abby Barlow and accompanied by Johnathon Cauble.

The offertory was provided by Johnathon Cauble. Matt Macy, Curt Lyerla, Curly Ralls and Terry Wiseman Sr. served as ushers.

The morning message, "Having A Want, Getting A Need," was brought by Rev. Jamie McBride, with scripture from I Samuel.

The sermon shared that "sometimes God's best is the least seen unless we have the right lens to look through. And when the right opportunity arises, God will bless it and make it known to you. When you are following the right path, you will feel the Spirit of the Lord come over you powerfully."

A potluck was held in the fellowship hall following the service in honor of the Ice family.

The first "Fellowship Connect" was held Sunday evening in the fellowship hall, with Pastor McBride giving a devotional, followed by a night of fun as Anna Nazarene celebrated January-April birthdays, with Larry Fuller leading the "Happy Birthday" song. A birthday cake was provided by Carla Ramage for the occasion.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Due to flooded roads, Camp Ground did not have services Sunday.

The "clean up day" at church scheduled for last Saturday has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 6, beginning around 8 a.m.

Camp Ground encourages all readers of this column to attend the Union County observance of the 66th annual National Day of Prayer service Thursday, today, at 7 p.m. at the Anna City Park.

The community is invited to join Camp Ground Sunday for donuts and coffee at 9:30 a.m., Sunday School classes at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m.

News from

First Baptist Church, Anna

In the Sunday morning service, Pastor Sinks' sermon was titled "Rabbit Trails Instead of Highways," with scripture from Jude.

Next Sunday's sermon is scheduled to be about divisions, with scripture from Jude.

The next Soup and Serve is planned from 4:30 p.m. Monday, May 8, in the fellowship hall. The menu will feature meatloaf.

The Talleys are scheduled to perform in concert at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 20. Admission is free.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, April 30, Pastor Mike Turner continued his series, "Malachi: Confronting Complacency in Marriage, Money and Ministry," with a message titled "The Real Truth About Church Leaders," which was based on scripture from Malachi.

Music was directed by associate pastor of worship Paul Lemon. Kiel Lemon presented special music.

The River to River Sunday School class plans to meet Thursday, today, at 9:45 a.m.

The National Day Of Prayer service, cosponsored by the Union County Alliance of Churches and the City of Anna, is set at the pavilion in the Anna City Park. Pre-service music begins at 6:30 p.m., with the prayer service at 7 p.m.

A school ministry meeting is planned Friday, May 5, at 8 a.m.

The Titus 2 ladies plan to meet Saturday, May 6, at 9 a.m. at Hebrewz Coffeehouse.

Birthdays: Silas Turner, May 1; Matella Tucker, May 6; and Ginger Kelley, May 7.

The schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist includes three services on Sunday at 8:15 a.m., 10:35 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Men meet for Bible study on Mondays at 7 p.m. Adult Bible study/prayer meeting and youth is on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. All are welcome.

News from

Immanuel Praise, Worship Center

Sunday's message shared that "Jesus made up His mind to complete the task at hand given by His father, even though Satan mocked and tried to change Jesus' mind and path that He alone could walk. Jesus died for your sins, souls and for our salvation."

Bible study is planned at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. A youth class is scheduled at the same time.

News from

Walnut Grove Church

On the second Sunday of Easter the congregation sang "Happy Birthday" to Carolyn Moore, and it was also Gary Hartline's birthday but he was home ill. The men's choir sang "The Old Rugged Cross."

Prayers were requested for Karen Lamer, Marvin Lamer, Mary Winn and Gerry Brown.

Rev. Ray Long read scripture from the gospel of John and asked, "Who Will You Love?" He asked, "is it possible that if others don't believe the same things as we do or have different lifestyles, can they still be Christians? Judgment is up to God, who loves all people and gives us all a choice about how to love Him and other people."

Last Sunday, Greg Randles was guest piano player. He and Loren Herold on flute accompanied the Rev. Ray Long and Keith Herold in a special song, "Peace in the Valley."

The altar candles were

lit by Katie and Layleigh.

Prayers were requested for Mary Winn, Karen Lamer, Gerry Brown, Rev. Long's family for the loss of his cousin Beverly, and for all the people who suffered damage and loss due to flooding.

Rev. Long read scripture from John and asked, "What would Jesus have done after the Resurrection? What has each of us done since Easter to breathe fresh life into our faith in Jesus?"

The next ladies' lunch is planned Friday, May 5, 11:30 a.m. at the Dinner Bell Too in Anna.

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

The Gazette-Democrat on line at annanews.com

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Daily Devotional Reading						
Romans	Hebrews	Hebrews	Hebrews	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms
15:1-13	6:13-20	7:1-14	7:15-28	78:1-31	78:32-55	78:56-72

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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Book signing held last Saturday afternoon

Coach Ron welcomes special guests for event at Lick Creek

Union County school's state champion cross country, softball teams honored during ceremonies held in school gym

The special achievements of local student athletes and the publication of a local author's second book took center stage last week at a special event held at a Union County school.

Coach Ron Fulenwider's second book signing fundraiser was held last Saturday afternoon at Lick Creek School April 29.

The event took place in the gymnasium at the school, with about 100 people in attendance, including some very special guests.

Prior to Saturday's community celebration, Coach Ron shared that he has been inspired by the recent success of the Lick Creek Lady Eagles Southern Illinois State Champion Cross Country team.

The decision was made to do a second book honoring the cross country team.

"Cross Country and How to Succeed in Sports and Life" is the second book authored by Fulenwider.

The book highlights Lick Creek School's 2016 state champion girls' cross country team and the training which was required for the team's success, starting the first ever cross country team at the school, the track program, testimonials by the girls on the team, the media and mentors, and quotes from the top cross country runners in the world, plus the conclusion.

Members of the title-winning cross country team were in attendance and were saluted during Saturday's event.

Tribute also was paid to Lick Creek School's 1983 state champion softball team. Members of the team were in attendance at the event.

Coach Ron also welcomed two other special guests: Olympic gold medal athlete Willie Smith and former NBA player Bernard Thompson.

Smith, who is a frequent visitor to Union County for Coach Ron's annual summer speed camps for young people,

wrote the foreward to the new book.

During his remarks, Coach Ron recognized the achievements of the Lick Creek cross country team's members.

He also recognized all student athletes who ever played at Lick Creek. He also noted the achievements of former Lick Creek student athletes who experienced further success as they continued their education and careers.

Coach Ron also paid tribute to the many people who have helped to support him during his career. Such support, he said, gave him an opportunity to work with young people.

The school's success in athletic competitions can be seen on banners which line the walls of the gymnasium at the school.

Lick Creek cross country coach Matt Denny was one of the guest speakers at Saturday's event. Denny paid tribute to the dedication of the girls on the team. Coach Ryan Vicenzi joined Denny at the event.

"Lick Creek is a special place," Denny added. "Lick Creek is super special. It's amazing what you have here." The coach voiced his appreciation to parents of the student athletes for their continued support.

Vicenzi said that for the girls' cross country team to have won a state title "was the most amazing thing I've ever seen in my life."

Special guest Willie Smith emphasized the hard work and dedication which is needed to be successful.

Smith recalled how he trained for 12 years for a very special moment at the Olympics – to be a part of a track competition which lasted for about 44 seconds.

"There's a price to pay for a little bit of reward," he said.

Following the presentations, copies of Coach Ron's new book were made available to those in attendance, along with an opportunity to have the books signed by the special guests who were in attendance. Refreshments were served.

Celebration Scrapbook: The accompanying pictures were taken at last Saturday afternoon's event at Lick Creek School. The pictures feature special guests, the cross country team and the book signing.



Special guests Willie Smith and Bernard Thompson.



Cross country team members sang the National Anthem.



Coach Ron listened as cross country team members asked guests Bernard Thompson and Willie Smith special questions.



Members of the state champion cross country team.



The book signing.

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Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

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

Special Thanks

Thanks to V. Mueller and four other subscribers. There was no name with those that gave me credit when they renewed their subscription to The Gazette-Democrat. I really appreciate you thinking of me.

Visitor From St. Louis

Stephen Burns was leaving St. Louis to travel to Anna for the book signing event for "Pioneer Sketches" at the Stinson Memorial Library Sunday. He said that he was approaching the bridge to cross the Mississippi River when he witnessed a car skidding on the highway and running into a flooded ditch.

He said the car landed upright and by the time he could stop and cross an area to get to the car, the lady driver got out of the car and also was taking out her small child.

Stephen helped the lady and child into his truck and drove them to a nearby location where family came to assist them.

Stephen Burns, Barb Bauer and LuAn McGinnis took a trip out by McGinnis Cemetery and down Burns Road, where Stephen used to visit his grandparents and family. He brought along flags to place on the graves of family members.

They went on a "pilgrimage" from Anna to Dongola, to Balcom and back checking our sites of their past and the rain and flood affects to the area.

Burns, who is a friend of PAST, also brought along a wooden wall rack for quilts that he donated to the quilt room at Heritage House.

He visited with several friends while here.

Trip

Jane Bauer and Pat Fahlberg went to Northern Illinois and Indiana visiting their sisters in St. John, Ind., and Morris. Jane went to St. John and Pat to Morris.

Jane attended a bridal shower for Katherine Drablos and Spencer Anderson whose wedding will be the first week of June in Virginia. The shower was held in the basement of Lake Hills Baptist Church in Schererville, Ind.

Jane went to the wedding of Amanda Anderson and Stephen Herrmann in Lowell, Ind., on Saturday, April 22.

Jane's family took her to the Texas Roadhouse to celebrate her May 3 birthday since she wouldn't see them then.

Pat and Jane enjoyed visiting with their sisters.

Visit

It was good to see Virginia (Ginny) Hickam of Pomona when we were shopping in Carbondale. A family member, Carolyn Taylor of Granite City, was visiting with Virginia in Pomona. They were enjoying the day shopping.

Guests

Guests of Clara and Gaylon Cates for a week were their friends Paul and Stephanie Heinz from Channahon.

They enjoyed the many beautiful places in Union County and also visited the home of Martha Ann Webb to view the many colors of irises in her yard and other flowers and her beautiful dogwood late-blooming tree.

Guest

Guest of Barbara and Norm Bauer was LuAn McGinnis from Hattiesburg, Mis.

27th Wedding Anniversary

Karen and Roger Gardner celebrated their wedding anniversary May 1.

Snow in Denver

Good luck to Braden Rider, who is in the police academy in Denver, Colo. His grandmother reported it was snowing in Denver and Braden said it was a blizzard. A special thanks to Braden for working with our fire department here and all he has done for our community.

Kornthal Church

Kornthal Church is open now for visiting every day during daylight hours.

Welcome Back

Terry Nimmo with Weight Watchers meets at United Methodist Church fellowship hall every Thursday with weigh-in at 5 p.m. and a meeting at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Congratulations to Hortencia Swink on getting her American citizenship last week. She has been working on getting this for five years.

Sunday morning was a great day of singing. Call to worship was by Barbara House. Barbara also led the singing.

During time with the children, Rev. Carl Johnston told the children how we can learn by singing. He learned to sing our states in alphabetical order when he was 14 and sang them for the children.

Maggie Johnston sang the books of the Bible for the children. The children picked Jesus Loves Me to sing.

Special music was by the ladies' choir, "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho."

Amanda Boreup and Teri Goldsberry sang "You Are Enough," and Clara Cates sang "They'll Never Take Jesus from My Heart."

Favorite hymns were chosen by the congregation. Rev. Carl Johnston's sermon was "The Reasons We Sing." He asked everyone to tell how many songs they knew that had the blood of Jesus in them.

The scripture lesson was from 1 Peter. Rev. Carl told everyone about the legend of why we put the flowers on the cross on Easter. He said it dated back to the 6th century. Like the little drummer boy in a legend, the legend about the cross is that after Jesus died the cross burst into beautiful flowers representing Jesus is coming back for us and we will have a new life.

After church, there was a potluck in the fellowship hall.

Monday yoga meets at 5 p.m. On Tuesdays, the United Methodist women meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at 7 a.m., there is a men's Bible study. Tai Chi meets at 5 p.m. Thursday. The prayer group meets at 5 p.m. Friday is game night at 6 p.m.

April's mission focus was collecting food items for the Jesus es el Senor Hispanic Church in Cobden.

Next Sunday will be Native American Sunday. There will be a special offering taken for Native American seminary students.

Cache River District United Methodist Women's spring meeting was at the church Saturday.

Rev. Carl Johnston welcomed everyone to the church and did the invocation. Welcome was also by Jane Bauer, president of the United Methodist Women in Anna.



"Finally, a dream come true. Thank you to God and my family," Hortencia Swink said when she became a United States citizen last week. Hortencia worked for five years to get her citizenship.



Choate Mental Health Center held their third annual Bring Your Kid to Work Day with a group of 23.



Cousins and friends of Gerald Bauer came from several states to help him celebrate his 80th birthday.

There were several guest speakers and awards given for faithful work during the year. Mike Bledsoe was the pianist. Special music was "The Three Rusty Nails" with Barbara Bauer singing and Martha Ann Webb playing the piano. Barbara also led the singing. The ladies of the church were hostesses and fixed a breakfast and dinner.

Plant Sale

The United Methodist Church Anna will have its annual mission fundraiser plant sale May 13 from 8 a.m. to noon in the fellowship hall, just in time for Mothers Day.

VFW

Friday, May 5, will be the monthly fish fry from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public is welcome and carry-outs are available. Star Karaoke with Peggy will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

National Day of Prayer

The City of Anna and the Union County Alliance of Churches plan to host a service to observe National Day of Prayer tonight, Thursday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m. at the Anna City Park.

Class of 1967

A-JCHS Class of 1967 will celebrate their 50th class reunion the weekend of Oct. 13-14. They are still looking for some class members they do not have information for, so if you have not received anything from them, please give Joan Dallas a call at 833-8316.

Pioneer Sketches

Books by Darrel Dexter are now available at Jonesboro City Hall, as well as This 'N That Flea Market in downtown Anna.

And All That Jazz

Mrs. Bushno, the Jonesboro Grade School band teacher, invited everyone to come Thursday, today, at 6 p.m. to hear their concert.

Mrs. Bushno is very

proud of her band. She is once again amazed by the band program at Jonesboro. They have worked very hard this year. They have worked harder than any group she has had so far.

They have spent time after school, before school and at home preparing music that she knew was just tough enough to push them to the next level.

Each year, Mrs. Bushno encourages them and challenges them to be better musicians and they always rise to meet those expectations.

Most of their band is 5th graders who have only been playing their instruments for a year and a half.

They were given compliments by the judges at both district and state on their professionalism and presentation. The judges have

been amazed at their sound for such a young band.

Mrs. Bushno could not ask for a better group of kids. They are well mannered, helpful to one another, talented and have learned an excellent work ethic that she hopes will transfer to all aspects of their lives. What a great way to represent Jonesboro School.

Congrats Jonesboro 5-8 band on an amazing year. Three Division 1 ratings at district contest, two superior ratings and a Division 1 rating at state.

Anna-Jo Garden Club

Members of the club will bring their flowers to sell Saturday, May 6, for their annual fundraiser to help care for the parks and places they care for. The plant sale will be at the-

(continued on page 5)



The Enchanted Garden of Anna is celebrating their 10th anniversary. Lisa Lowe is the owner. She started the business on March 17, 10 years ago. Lisa's daughter Sienna Morrison helps her in the florist shop on East Davie Street in downtown Anna.



Seated are Billie Kay Wiggs Hamlin and Mary Jane Wiggs Sullivan, both from Cape Girardeau. The ladies, daughters of the late Geneva Davie Wiggs, were delighted to hear and to share stories of their mother's historical life, career and devotion to Union County. Barbara Bauer was just one of those attending the book signing of Darrell Dexter at Stinson Memorial Library Sunday, who spoke about the mentoring Wiggs did in her community. Barbara Bauer, representing PAST, welcomed LuAn McGinnis from Hattiesburg, Miss. A descendant of the McGinnis family was in Union County a couple of years ago in search of ancestral roots. She was disappointed to not be able to purchase the first "Pioneer Sketches" book, compiled by Darrell Dexter, because it was out of print. She wanted to support the historical and preservation projects of PAST, so she donated funds for the purpose of reprinting the popular Union County historical book.

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Anna News

(Continued from page 4)

Anna-Jo Garden Club Park in Anna by McDonald's.

Red Hat Ladies
The Little Egypt Red Hat Ladies will meet at Hebrews Coffeehouse in Jonesboro May 17 at 11 a.m., hosted by Lillian Milam.

If you have not turned in your reservations, please give Lillian a call. She will need to turn them in a couple days before the meeting.

A-J Women's Club
Members of the Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club met at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna to play bingo with our veterans. They took them snacks and drinks. They had a short meeting afterwards.

Anna Star Chapter No. 522

Barbara File and Brenda Allen attended Grand Lodge School in Zeigler.

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

State Retirees Meeting
AFSCME Retirees Chapter 90 meets at Anna Heights Baptist Church at 100 Turner Ave. in Anna the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. They encourage other state retirees to join them.

Spark Ministries
The nondenominational church meets at the old McClure Grade School at 11 a.m. Sunday mornings.

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

Free Community Dinners
Anna First Baptist

Church serves a free community meal the second Monday of each month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Loaves and Fishes, a free community meal, is on the third Tuesday of each month from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the United Methodist Church of Anna fellowship hall.

Salem Lutheran Church's free meal is on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Harvest Church serves a free meal every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Century School District superintendent Varble receives recognition

Leslie Varble, superintendent of Century School District No. 100 at Ullin, has been named as a 2017 Superintendent of Distinction by her colleagues in the Shawnee Region of the Illinois Association of School Administrators, IASA.

Varble was honored at an awards luncheon which was held April 24 in Springfield. Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Smith was the featured speaker at the luncheon, where 21 IASA regional Superintendents of Distinction were honored.

"It is a tremendous honor to be selected by one's peers. This is a very humbling recognition. I understand the amount of time and effort that administrators provide to their districts. The results they generate are remarkable," Varble said in a news release.

She has been an educator for 25 years, the last seven years as superintendent of the Century School District in Ullin.

Prior to becoming a superintendent, Varble was a teacher and then an elementary school principal. Those nominating Varble noted a number of successes during her time in the Century District. Her accomplishments include:

Increasing dual credit course offerings with Shawnee Community College, with nearly half of the 2016 graduating class having 30 or more college credit hours.

Initiating a One-to-One program for all freshmen and sophomores to increase interpersonal interactions.

Creating an iSTEM/Project Based Learning class for junior high and high school students.

Increasing curriculum offerings.

Gospel singing set
A gospel singing is planned Saturday, May 6, at Shiloh Baptist Church in Villa Ridge.

Singing begins at 7 p.m. The Liberty Boys from Kentucky and the Gloryroad Travelers from Mounds will be featured.



Ribbon cutting held
The Union County Chamber of Commerce sponsored a ribbon cutting on Sunday afternoon, April 23, at Jessica Pearson Photography in Cobden. The new business is located at 215 N. Appleknocker St. and had a grand opening April 23-26. Owner Jessica Pearson said the business, which offers a variety of photographic services, is scheduled to be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday, and by appointment.

Shawnee Hills Pottery Trail event planned

The second annual Shawnee Hills Pottery Trail event in Southern Illinois is set Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Ten potters will be featured. The self-guided driving/biking trail will include seven stops and go through Union and Jackson counties.

The event is open and free for everyone and will give the public a chance to interact with potters, to see studios and to view demonstrations. There will also be pottery for sale at each stop.

A Pottery Trail Passport is available, and if completed with a stamp from each stop will give the holder a

chance to win free pottery. The Pottery Trail is partially funded by a grant from the Murphysboro Tourism Commission.

A link for the Shawnee Hills Pottery Trail website, which includes information on the potters and maps of the trail can be found at <http://potterstrail.wix.com/>

pottery-trail and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PotteryTrail/>.

The potters featured on the trail include Dan Johnson, Steve Grimmer, Karen Fiorino, Harris Deller, Sam Bates, Stephanie Dukat, Darby Ortolano, Gene and Beth Smout and Rob Lorenz.

Television Listing

THURSDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA Countdown (Live)	" Empire Strikes " (80)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	" 6th Sense " Tonight	(4:55) " Constantine " (05)	" Pet " (16) A lonely man.
7 PM :30	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	Big Bang Indoors	MasterChef Junior (HD)	Superstore	2017 NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	" Star Wars: Episode VI: Return of the Jedi " (83) Mark Hamill. <i>The last stand.</i>	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Stuck Mid. Good Luck	" Victor Frankenstein " (15) Innovative research. (HD)	" The Forest " (16) Woman searches.	Guerrilla (HD)
8 PM :30	(011) Scandal "The Box"	(011) Mom Pieces (HD)	The Mick	Chicago Med (HD)	2017 NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Conan (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover		" Point Break " (15) Edgar Ramirez. <i>Extreme crimes.</i>	Billions A lot at stake. (HD)
9 PM :30	The Catch "The Cleaner"	Amazing Race (HD)	Local Programs	The Blacklist (HD)			Inside the FBI: New York	Liv Maddie BUNK'D	Real Sports - Gumbel	Dark Net B.S.J (HD)	Gigolos
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local			Mod Family	Jessie (HD)	Canelo (HD)	★★½ " Mission: Impossible II " (00) (HD)	Dark Net Circus (HD)
11 PM :30	(35) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)		Seinfeld	Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	" Suicide Squad " (16)		Billions (HD)
11 PM :30	Nightline	(37) Corden		Late Night		Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Andi Mack			

MAY 4, 2017

FRIDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA Countdown (HD)	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Law & Order: SVU "Dirty"	Undercover	Faceoff	(4:55) "Black Mass" (15)	"Out of the Furnace" (13) Desperate search. (HD)
7 PM :30	The Toy Box (HD)	Undercover Boss (HD)	You the Jury "Hollywood Party House; Twitter Tales"	First Dates (HD)	2017 NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Seinfeld Seinfeld	2017 NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live)	Stuck Mid. Andi Mack	Sil Valley "Babylon A.D." Orphan is escorted.	"The Take" (16) Pickpocket helps. (HD)	Al Madrigal: Shrimpin'
8 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)	Hawaii Five-0 (HD)		Dateline NBC (HD)	2017 NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Conan Mexico City. (HD)		Disney Channel Presents Pop musicians.		(3:35) "Carlito's Way" (93. Crime) A drug dealer tries to go straight.	★★★½ "The Hateful Eight" (15) Group encounters betrayal and deception. (HD)
9 PM :30	(011) 20/20 (HD)	Blue Bloods (HD)	Local Programs Local info.			ELEAGUE "Street Fighter V - Group C" (HD)	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Andi Mack	Real Time w/Bill Maher		
10 PM :30	Local (35) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	Local (35) Late Show (HD)		Local (35) Tonight (HD)			Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Stuck Mid.	Animals		
11 PM :30	Nightline	(37) Corden	Local Programs	Late Night	"The Heartbreak Kid"	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Liv Maddie Liv Maddie	Real Time w/Bill Maher	"Scarface" Crime story.		

MAY 5, 2017

SATURDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Chicago Cubs from Wrigley Field (Live) (HD)	(1:15) 2017 NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live)	NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live)	2 Broke (HD) 2 Broke (HD)	" Couples Retreat " (09) Troubled couples.	Stuck Mid. Liv Maddie	" Now You See Me 2 " (16)	(4:55) " Everest " Violent storm.	Billions "Golden Frog Time"
7 PM :30	NBA Count	NCIS "Willoughby" (HD)	You the Jury "Hollywood Party House, Twitter Tales"		Sports (HD)	Big Bang	★★½ " Fifty Shades of Grey " (15) Student explores her own desires. (HD)	Bizaardvark	(20) "Sully" (16) Pilot faces investigation after landing.	" Man on the Moon " (99) Jim Carrey. Man's road to fame.	" I Am Number Four " (11) Alex Pettyfer. Teen-age aliens.
8 PM :30	2017 NBA Playoffs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Training Day (HD)			30 for 30 "One and Not Done" (HD)	Big Bang		★★★ " Alvin and the Chipmunks " (07) (P-G)			
9 PM :30		48 Hours	Local Programs Local info.	Saturday Night Live (HD)		Big Bang		Chris Gethard: Career Suicide (HD)	" Dumb and Dumber " (15) Group encounters betrayal and deception. (HD)	★★★½ " The Hateful Eight " (15) Group encounters betrayal and deception. (HD)	
10 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local programming information.	Kicking & Screaming (HD)	Local (2:29) Saturday Night Live Sketch comedy.	SportsCenter (HD)	Frontal (HD)	★★½ " The Ugly Truth " (09, Comedy) Reluctant love. (R)	Undercover			
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.		SportsCenter (HD)	" Tower Heist " (11) (HD)		(35) BUNK'D	Sil Valley	(5:00) " The Take " (16) Pickpocket helps. (R)	Guerrilla
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.					Liv Maddie	Veep (HD)		
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.					Liv Maddie	C Gethard		

MAY 6, 2017

SUNDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Funniest Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Bob's Bgr	Little Big Shots (HD)	Baseball (Live) (HD)	★★½ " Man of Steel " (13) Superman battles alien invaders.	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Stuck Mid. Andi Mack	(20) " Sully " (16) Pilot faces investigation after landing.	" Zoolander " Model killer.	Billions "Golden Frog Time"
7 PM :30	Once Upon a Time (HD)	NCIS: L. A. "Uncaged" (HD)	Simpsons History (HD)	Little Big Shots (HD)	MLB Baseball New York Yankees at Chicago Cubs from Wrigley Field (Live) (HD)	Big Bang	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	" Man on the Moon " (99) Jim Carrey. Man's road to fame.	★★★ " Romancing the Stone " (84) (HD)	Circus (HD)
8 PM :30	The Last 100 Days of Diana Summer's re-traced. (HD)	Madam Secretary (HD)	The Last Man on Earth	Chicago Justice (HD)		Big Bang	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Bizaardvark	The Leftovers (HD)	" The Jewel of the Nile " (85) Famed gem sought.	Guerrilla Shocking alliance.
9 PM :30		Elementary (HD)	Local Programs Local programming information.	Shades of Blue (HD)		Big Bang	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	Veep (HD)	(5:00) " The Jewel of the Nile " (85) Famed gem sought.	Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
10 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	SportsCenter (HD)	" Money Talks " Con artist must trust flashy newsman. (R)	Mod Family	Bizaardvark	Oliver (HD)	" Minority Report " Future crimes seen.	Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Dateline NBC (HD)	SportsCenter with Scott		Mod Family	(45) Mickey	Sil Valley		Circus (HD)
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.				Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	Veep (HD)		Guerrilla
11 PM :30	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.	Local Programs Local info.				Mod Family	Andi Mack	Leftovers		

MAY 7, 2017

MONDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	MLB Baseball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Family Guy	Mod Family	Undercover	Oliver (HD)	" Our Brand Is Crisis " (R)	" Royale "
7 PM :30	Dancing with the Stars An elimination. (HD)	Kevin Wait Man Plan	Gotham (HD)	The Voice "Live Top 10 Performances" (HD)		Family Guy	Mod Family	Bizaardvark	Tonight		Circus (HD)
8 PM :30		Superior Indoors	Lucifer Control emotions.			Family Guy	WWE Monday Night Raw (HD)	Stuck Mid.	" The Boss " (16) Struggling mogul. (HD)	" The Sum of All Fears " (02) A nuclear explosion.	Guerrilla (HD)
9 PM :30	Quantico "RAINBOW"	Scorpion "Maroon 8" (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	The Wall (HD)	Baseball Tonight (HD)	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	Making of	Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)	
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Am. Dad	Law & Order: SVU (HD)	Undercover	The Leftovers (HD)	(05) " Black Mass " (15) Johnny Depp. <i>Corrupt deals.</i>	Guerrilla (HD)
11 PM :30	(35) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local (3:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan (HD)	Friday Night Tykes. Steel	Bizaardvark	Oliver (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
11 PM :30	Nightline	(37) Corden		Late Night	SportsCenter with Scott	A. Tribeca	(16) CSI: Crime (HD)	Stuck Mid.	Veep (HD)	(10) " Body of Lies " (08)	Circus (HD)
11 PM :30						Conan (HD)		Andi Mack	Leftovers		" Royale "

MAY 8, 2017

TUESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	E-60 (HD)	Seinfeld	NCIS "Cover Story" (HD)	Undercover	Real Time	(5:15) " Coyote Ugly " (00)	" Out of the Furnace " (13) Desperate search. (HD)
7 PM :30	The Middle	NCIS "Something Blue"	Brooklyn Nine-Nine (HD)	The Voice (HD)	Featured	Big Bang	WWE SmackDown (Live) (HD)	Bizaardvark	Tonight	★★½ " Leatherheads " (08) Hollywood heroes. (HD)	Guerrilla (HD)
8 PM :30	Housewife				Featured	Big Bang		Stuck Mid.	" The Sweetest Thing " (02) (R) (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
9 PM :30	Fresh Off Imaginary	Trill Benny's trial. (HD)	Prison Break "Phaicia"	Great News	ESPN Films "Catching Hell" (HD)	Big Bang	Good Luck	Undercover	Veep (HD)		Guerrilla (HD)
10 PM :30	Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.	NCIS: New Orleans (HD)	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago Fire "Sixty Days"		Big Bang	Team Ninja Warrior (HD)	Undercover	Making of	(05) " Black Mass " (15) Johnny Depp. <i>Corrupt deals.</i>	Guerrilla (HD)
11 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Liv Maddie BUNK'D	Oliver (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
11 PM :30	(35) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local (3:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter with Scott	Seinfeld	Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	Veep (HD)	(10) " Body of Lies " (08)	Circus (HD)
11 PM :30	Nightline	(37) Corden		Late Night		Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Andi Mack	Leftovers		" Royale "

MAY 9, 2017

WEDNESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	MLB Baseball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Seinfeld	NCIS Escaped patient.	Undercover	★★½ " Victor "	(5:05) " Point Break " (15)	(5:30) " Lincoln " (12) Daniel Day-Lewis. <i>Civil War.</i>
7 PM :30	Goldbergs	Survivor (HD)	Shots Fired (HD)	Blindspot "Mom" (HD)		Seinfeld	NCIS "So It Goes" (HD)	Bizaardvark	Tonight		Guerrilla (HD)
8 PM :30	Speechless					Big Bang	WWE SmackDown (Live) (HD)	Stuck Mid.	★★★ " The Sweetest Thing " (02) (R) (HD)	★★★½ " Leatherheads " (08) Hollywood heroes. (HD)	Guerrilla (HD)
9 PM :30	Mod Family black-ish	Criminal Minds (HD)	Empire "Absent Child"	Law & Order: SVU (HD)		Big Bang	Good Luck	Undercover	Veep (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
10 PM :30	Designated Survivor (HD)	Criminal Minds: Borders	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Baseball Tonight (HD)	Big Bang	Team Ninja Warrior (HD)	Undercover	Making of	(05) " Black Mass " (15) Johnny Depp. <i>Corrupt deals.</i>	Guerrilla (HD)
11 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Liv Maddie BUNK'D	Oliver (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
11 PM :30	(35) Jimmy Kimmel (HD)	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	Local (3:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter with Scott	Seinfeld	Mod Family	Stuck Mid.	Veep (HD)	(10) " Body of Lies " (08)	Circus (HD)
11 PM :30	Nightline	(37) Corden		Late Night		Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Andi Mack	Leftovers		" Royale "

MAY 10, 2017

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	SHOW
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	MLB Baseball "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Seinfeld	NCIS Escaped patient.	Undercover	★★½ " Victor "	(5:05) " Point Break " (15)	(5:30) " Lincoln " (12) Daniel Day-Lewis. <i>Civil War.</i>
7 PM :30	Goldbergs	Survivor (HD)	Shots Fired (HD)	Blindspot "Mom" (HD)		Seinfeld	NCIS "So It Goes" (HD)	Bizaardvark	Tonight		Guerrilla (HD)
8 PM :30	Speechless					Big Bang	WWE SmackDown (Live) (HD)	Stuck Mid.	★★★ " The Sweetest Thing " (02) (R) (HD)	★★★½ " Leatherheads " (08) Hollywood heroes. (HD)	Guerrilla (HD)
9 PM :30	Mod Family black-ish	Criminal Minds (HD)	Empire "Absent Child"	Law & Order: SVU (HD)		Big Bang	Good Luck	Undercover	Veep (HD)		Billions "Ball in Hand" (HD)
10 PM :30	Designated Survivor (HD)	Criminal Minds: Borders	Local Programs Local info.	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Baseball Tonight (HD)	Big Bang	Team Ninja Warrior (HD)	Undercover	Making of	(05) " Black Mass " (15) Johnny Depp. <i>Corrupt deals.</i>	Guerrilla (HD)
11 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Conan (HD)	Mod Family	Liv Maddie BUNK'D			

Opinion and Commentary

Brief editorial comment

The Olney Gazette

Reppert Publications has added The Olney Gazette to its growing list of publications. The first issue hit the street last Thursday in Richland County with an initial circulation of 6,500.

Reppert Publications, headquartered in Anna, now has 17 weekly publications, with a circulation of more than 100,000. And, the newspapers serve more counties than any other group.

Former Union County resident Rick Campbell is publisher for the Olney newspaper, as well as three other publications. – JLR

Illinois State Police share safety message

Spring is a season for celebration as proms, graduations and other special events are held at area schools.

The Illinois State Police are reminding young drivers to think responsibly as they celebrate during the upcoming prom and graduation season.

The primary safety message is in the word PROM, which asks teens to “Please Return On Monday.”

Now that prom and graduation season is here, area high school students will be participating in celebrations that occur not only at school, but at private locations.

Illinois State Police Lt. Michael Alvey reminds everyone to celebrate responsibly. Alvey is interim commander of state police Districts 13/22 in Southern Illinois.

“It only takes one bad decision to turn a celebration into a tragedy," Alvey stated.

"Everyone should stay away from drugs, don't drive distracted, and if you are under the age of 21, please, refrain from alcohol."

The state police are focusing concerns on teen driving behaviors, which include distractions, carelessness, fatigue and inexperience.

These behaviors, when combined with drugs or alcohol, can be lethal, Alvey said.

"Car crashes kill more teens during the weekends of prom and graduation season than any other time of year," Alvey stated.

Page from the Past

From the files of The Gazette-Democrat
50 Years Ago, May 4, 1967

The County Board of Commissioners passed a Resolution Monday, May 1, calling for an addition to the Union County Court House. The purpose of the addition will be for the expansion of the County Collector's and County Clerk's offices, due to a shortage of space for the records and working space for the records and working space for the personnel. The new addition will cost the county approximately \$16,000 and will be paid out of the Building Fund and the Excess Officer's Fees.

With a temperature recording of 36 Wednesday morning, May 3, and reports of 31 in lower areas of Union County, it certainly doesn't seem as though spring had officially arrived.

Southern Illinois strawberries, which have been retarded by cool, wet weather began ripening last week and are expected to reach their peak in about two weeks.

Three Union County men left for induction into the Armed Forces on Thursday, April 27th.

The Seventh Annual Arts and Crafts Show will be held in the Community Center on Saturday and Sunday, May 13-14.

An estimated 1,300 area residents visited the Anna State Hospital Sunday. The visitors toured all living areas as well as special treatment facilities.

The Anna-Jonesboro Business and Professional Women's Club celebrated its 35th anniversary at the April meeting held at the Whitehouse Coffee Shop.

A Music Program will be presented by the Cobden High School Band and Chorus and the entire Grade School on Friday, May 5, in the Cobden gymnasium.

Members of World War I Barracks and their Auxiliary will meet at the American Legion Hall at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 10, for a basket dinner and fish fry to be held at Horseshoe Lake.

Letters to the editor

The Gazette-Democrat welcomes letters to the editor. Any letter which is submitted to the paper must be signed by the person who wrote the letter. We ask that letters be of local interest and must be as brief as possible.

Each letter must include an address and phone number for the person who wrote the letter. This information is needed so the identity of the person who wrote the letter can be verified. Letters which do not include this information will not be used.

The deadline to submit a letter to the editor is noon on Thursday. Letters which are submitted after the deadline will be held for the following week.

The newspaper reserves the right to edit all letters. Please limit the length of letters to 300 or fewer words. The newspaper reserves the right to reject letters which are deemed inappropriate for any reason. Personal attacks are not allowed.

Political campaigning is accepted as paid advertising only; letters used for campaign purposes will not be published.

Letters can be submitted in several ways. Letters can be mailed to the paper; send them to The Gazette-Democrat, P.O. Box 529, Anna, Illinois 62906. Letters can be sent by fax at 618-833-5813. Letters also can be emailed to news@annanews.com.

Please read this. . .

by Geof Skinner



Bad combination? A squirrel and wires. Lots of wires. This bushy-tail was kind enough to pause for a photograph, and then scampered off to do whatever squirrels do during the day. Some, apparently, make bad decisions when it comes to wires, electricity and high-voltage situations. This image was "solarized," as opposed to a squirrel in our hometown which may have been "energized" as the result of a bad decision which had nothing to do with a pink, drum-playing bunny rabbit.

World Penguin Day bad for squirrel

First up this week: We had a Chuck spotting one day during the past week or so. You may recall, or you may not, from a previous colyum that we mentioned our buddy Chuck.

Chuck is a woodchuck, or groundhog. Yours truly had spotted Chuck a number of times, but hadn't seen him in a while. Then, during a break in our downpours, there was Chuck.

Chuck, as noted, is a woodchuck (groundhog), as opposed to a penguin. Or a squirrel. Which leads us to our next step or two...

World Penguin Day did not start well for yours truly. Apparently the day also did not start well for a four-legged furry critter in your writer's hometown.

You probably already knew this: World Penguin Day was Tuesday, April 25. National Geographic is kind enough to remind us that while World Penguin Day is April 25, Penguin Awareness Day is observed on January 20. Seems to me that it might make sense to become aware of penguins on World Penguin Day, but what do I know?

And, FYI, there's also a National Squirrel Appreciation Day, which is celebrated on January 21. Information posted online about National Squirrel Appreciation Day shared that the "holiday," (yes, it was called a "holiday") began in 2001. The same posting noted that "squirrels are far smarter than most people realized." Except, maybe, for one squirrel in Cobden, that is.

During the early morning hours of the 2017 World Penguin Day, yours truly was stumbling through the start of another day's journey which would take me to The Paragraph Factory.

As I have noted many times, I am not a morning person. I don't start functioning well until, well, about 10 or 11 o'clock in the morning time.

Anyway, on World Penguin Day, I made my way to the kitchen, and proceeded to get the coffee machine going. Got to have coffee/cafeine. Just got to.

Poured the water into Mr. Coffee. Put the coffee filter in the coffee filter holder. Put the coffee into the coffee filter holder part of Mr. Coffee. Flipped the switch.

Nothing happened. Hmmm, I thought. Flipped the switch again. Nothing happened. Again. Ditto.

Then, I think, I heard The Other Half, who was in her Other Half's Official Chair in the Other Room, say something like: "That's interesting." I don't know what she really said, but I'm pretty sure it had to do with the fact that my Mr. Coffee switch-flipping was not having the kind of success that was expected.

Turned out that the reason that Mr. Coffee was not functioning was because we did not have a properly functioning electrical system. The power was out. No caffeine jolt for yours truly on World Penguin Day. (Fortunately, a fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life showed some sympathy and shared some of her coffee when I got to The Paragraph Factory.)

The Other Half ended up calling the folks who share their electricity with us to report the power outage. We eventually learned that the power outage apparently involved a small animal.

I'm guessing that the small animal resembled a squirrel. On my daily walkabouts through our hometown, I often see squirrels wandering around on power lines. They do not seem to have much sense about such things. Of course, these would be the same creatures that like to run out in front of automobiles, seemingly without a care in the world about the possibility of being flattened.

I'm guessing that on World Penguin Day, a squirrel had a very, very, very bad start to its day. One minute, the squirrel is wandering around on some wires that happen to be carrying about a bazillion volts of electricity, and the next minute: ZAP. I just hope that St. Peter had some peanuts around when the critter showed up at the Squirrely Gates.



Chuck on the ground. Ground chuck? Nah. Your intrepid photographer was glad to see Chuck the woodchuck (groundhog) one day during the past week. Like the rest of us, Chuck may have been looking for some dry ground.

Raise Your Hand in show of support for 4-H

Raise Your Hand if you or someone you know is a 4-H alum from Illinois.

4-H, the largest youth development program in the nation, is calling on all alumni to raise their hands to help bring 4-H to 10 million youth by 2025.

Currently 4-H empowers nearly 6 million young people in every county across America, including 26,500 4-Hers in Illinois.

For more than 100 years, the 4-H impact on young people has been immeasurable.

“Having experienced our programs first-hand, our alumni know best what a positive impact 4-H had on

them growing up, which is why we’re reaching out to them to support the next generation of true leaders,” said Lisa Diaz, University of Illinois assistant dean and 4-H director.

“Whether they’re running Fortune 100 companies, performing to sold-out crowds, leading community programs or volunteering to empower local youth, 4-H alumni are the epitome of true leadership,” said Jennifer Sirangelo, president and CEO of the National 4-H Council.

“Our remarkable alumni now have the perfect opportunity to pay it forward, ensuring that the next generation has the opportunity to benefit from the 4-H experience.”

As part of the Raise Your Hand call to action through June 30, 4-H is asking the millions of 4-H alumni across the nation, including 4-H alums in Illinois to “Raise Your Hand” and pay it forward in support of providing the hands-on learning that empowers kids across America.

Organizers note that joining is easy: alumni can go online to www.4-H.org/raiseyourhand and fill in their details.

Raising a hand in this way is a vote towards a \$20,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000 award for the states with the most alumni hands raised, including Illinois.

Alumni can then support the activation by tweeting, posting and sharing their #4HGrown experience, or support and tag fellow alumni by asking them to raise their hands for their state.

“4-H gives kids the opportunity to learn by doing, to grow from not only the encouragements brought by success, but also through challenges and failures, as these skills will help them to handle whatever life may throw their way,” explains Jennifer Nettles, a Grammy-award winning musician, actress and 4-H national spokesperson.