

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, July 31, 2025

Anna, Illinois

\$1.00

Volume 178, Number 34

News Notes

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

August arrives on Friday, bringing with it many community events, including the Cobden Peach Festival, the Union County Fair in Anna, the start of a new school year and accompanying fall sports seasons...and much more.

Ten young women are participating in this year's Cobden Peach Festival queen pageant. The festival is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Aug. 8-9, in Cobden. The Cobden Lions Club once again is sponsoring the community celebration.

The website for the National Weather Service office in Paducah posted a headline early Tuesday morning which read: "Fabulous Weekend Weather Ahead." High temperatures in the 80s and lows in the 60s are expected Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Weather Service reported that by early Monday afternoon, the air temperature in the Union County area had reached 91 degrees and the heat index was 109.

The local weather observer who shares valuable information with the newspaper recorded a "wind chill" in Union County on July 23 of 92.5 degrees. That was on a day when the heat index reached nearly 118 degrees.

Rural Health Inc. is welcoming two new health care provider at its clinics in Johnson County: Blake Cain, MD, MS and Emily Finke, DMD. Cain, who started July 21, comes to Rural Health Inc. from Southern Illinois University and will perform family medicine services out of Rural Health's Vienna and Goreville clinics. Finke, who starts Aug. 4, comes from the University of Louisville and will be practicing general dental services out of the Goreville clinic. On Thursday, Aug. 14, Rural Health plans to host a meet and greet event at the Goreville clinic, which is located at 211 N. Broadway, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., which will offer an opportunity for the public to come out and meet the new providers.

The Anna Police Department early this week was seeking the public's assistance in locating two children's BMX bikes which were stolen last weekend. Information can be shared by contacting the police department or the Union County Sheriff's Office.

Friday, Aug. 1, is a free swim day at the Anna City Pool sponsored by New Beginnings Community Worship. Pool hours are scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. New Beginnings Community Worship plans to give away free bags of school supplies to the first 150 guests, first come, first serve.

The last day for the Anna City Pool to be open for the summer is Friday, Aug. 8.

(continued on page 2)

Florida men convicted of poaching deer in county



Unlawfully taken deer

A mount of a white-tailed deer buck is on display at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro. The deer was taken unlawfully on Dec. 8, 2013, in Union County. A subject was arrested by Illinois Conservation Police in connection with the unlawful taking of the of the deer.

Three Florida residents have been convicted and sentenced for poaching white-tailed deer in Union County after an extended investigation and arrests by the Illinois Conservation Police.

Union County State's Attorney Tyler E. Tripp reported in a news release that charges included myriad serious wildlife law violations related to the unlawful taking of multiple antlered white-tailed deer in November 2024 in the county. Charges filed against the suspects included spotlighting wildlife from a motor vehicle, unlawfully hunting between one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, transport of loaded rifles within vehicles, shooting from the roadway, hunting from the roadway and unlawful taking of multiple white-tailed deer bucks.

The state's attorney identified those who were charged as: Aaron D. Holmes, 30 of Lakeland, Fla., who pleaded guilty to seven Wildlife Code violations, with fines totaling \$11,697.

Parker J. Bell, 27 of Lakeland, Fla., who pleaded guilty to three Wildlife Code violations, with \$11,197 in fines.

Scott L. Adams, 30 of Lakeland, Fla., who pleaded guilty to four Wildlife Code violations, resulting in \$6,597 in fines.

The combined fines of \$29,491 included civil penalties for the unlawful harvest of white-tailed deer bucks, the state's attorney said. A portion of the fines will support the Illinois Conservation Police operations fund.

The poachers are also subject to 11 1/2 years of combined revocation effective in 48 states due to reciprocal recognition through the Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact which will be enforced.

Tripp said the three men traveled to Illinois in possession of a semi-automatic rifle equipped with a night vision scope and a gun-mounted infrared spotlight. The state's attorney said the three men drove around for hours at night to locate deer to shoot from their vehicle. The subjects shot deer from the roadway, recovered the deer and loaded entire carcasses into their rental truck.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, Conservation Police Officers began

investigating the group and discovered evidence consistent with poaching. Sgt. Teas and CPO Vasicek executed a search warrant late at night as a vehicle returned to a dwelling the subjects had rented for the week. Three unlawfully taken and possessed white-tailed deer bucks were discovered and seized, along with firearms used in the commission of the crimes.

"This successful investigation and prosecution highlight the commitment of local IDNR officers and the Union County State's Attorney to holding non-resident hunters and others accountable for blatant and intentional violations of the Illinois Wildlife Code and protecting the many law-abiding hunters and outdoor enthusiasts in the area who follow the law," Tripp stated.

The state's attorney addressed the poaching case during last week's regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners. The meeting was Friday morning, July 25, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro. Tripp said he has heard from local residents who are frustrated with the kinds of actions taken by hunters who blatantly violate the law.

Weather Service: 'Heat wave ends Thursday'

After an extended period of extreme heat and humidity in the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky region, some relief may be on the way. A headline on the website for the National Weather Service office in Paducah early this week declared: "Heat Wave Ends Thursday."

A cold front was expected to usher in much cooler temperatures and more comfortable humidity levels from Thursday, today, through the upcoming weekend. High temperatures are expected to be in the middle to upper 80s. Heat index values are forecast to be around 90 or lower.

The cold front also may have brought isolated severe storms to parts of the region Wednesday night. Damaging winds were expected to be the main threat. Torrential downpours also may have been possible.

The milder weather in the forecast would be a break from recent conditions which the Weather Service characterized as a "dangerous heat wave" which included high temperatures, humidity levels and heat index values.

High temperatures on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week were forecast to be the upper 90s in parts of the region. Heat index values as high as 116 degrees were possible on Tuesday in Carbondale and Cape Girardeau. The Weather Service reported that the high heat index values which were in the forecast early this week would have been highest numbers seen in the recent extended heat wave.

The Weather Service issued an extreme heat warning which was in effect from noon Monday through 8 p.m. Tuesday. An extreme heat watch was in effect from Tuesday evening through Wednesday evening. Warning and watch areas included parts of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

For the extreme heat warning, dangerously hot conditions with heat index values in the range of 115 degrees were expected. For the extreme heat watch, similarly hot conditions with heat index values up to 110 degrees were possible.

The Weather Service repeated a message advising that heat related illnesses increased significantly during extreme heat and high humidity events.

As of July 25, the Weather Service reported that Paducah



Hinting at rain

Clouds in the sky over Union County hinted at the possibility of rain early Thursday evening, July 24. No rain developed.

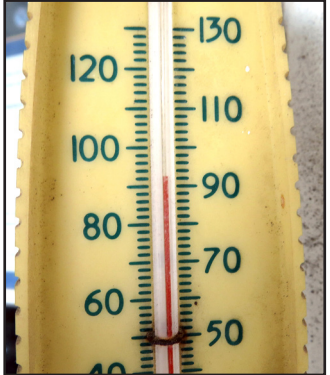
had officially witnessed the longest streak of 105-plus degree heat index readings since 1999. July 25 was the eighth straight day when the threshold was reached.

"This is only the 5th time on record (1949-2025) and first time since 1999 in which we've experienced a stretch of 8 or more days of a heat index this high," the Weather Service office posted on July 25, adding: "Phew, what a rough stretch of summer we are enduring."

The Weather Service also reported that July 24 marked the 42nd consecutive day that the dew point temperature had reached 70 degrees in Paducah. The streak began on June 13. The dew point is a measure of humidity (the temperature at which air needs to be cooled to reach saturation). A high dew point means more moisture is in the air and it will feel very humid with readings above 70 degrees.

The Weather Service asked on July 24: "Have you noticed every time you walk outside it feels like a sauna? And it's largely been this way for the past month and a half with no breaks. ... We are experiencing an unusually long duration of high humidity levels this summer. The above normal rainfall is a primary driver of this."

Long durations (two to three



Still hot

The air temperature was still 92 degrees at around 5 p.m. Thursday, July 24, when the photograph was taken at a shady spot in Union County.

weeks) of this level of humidity are common in July and August. Typically, brief breaks allow for dew points to drop into the 60s for a few days. As of July 24, 920 hours of dew points at or above 70 degrees had been recorded since June 1, which was the most on record for the period between June 1 and July 23.

Paducah tied the highest dew point on record in July. At 4 p.m. on July 23, the dew point was 82 degrees. This tied the all-time highest dew point in Paducah, which had been set multiple times in the month of August.

The Weather Service expected that the record would be broken for the most consecutive days with a dew point of 70. The record of 47 days was set during the period of July 3 through Aug. 18, 1958, in Paducah.

Heat index 117.8 degrees on July 23

Local weather observer Dana Cross recorded heat index values well over 100 degrees during the recent heat wave in the Union County area. Here's a look at some of the recordings:

July 28: 115.3 degrees at 12:30 p.m. The air temperature at the time was 92.2 degrees.

July 26: 111.2 degrees at 3:30 p.m. Air temperature 91.9 degrees.

July 25: 114.7 degrees at 3 p.m. Air temperature 92.7 degrees.

July 24: 114.4 degrees at 5 p.m. Air temperature 91.7 degrees.

July 23: 117.8 degrees at 11:30 a.m. Air temperature 92.5 degrees.



Davie Street Plaza project in Anna

The City of Anna reports that progress is continuing on the Davie Street Plaza project in the downtown Anna area. The plaza is located along East Davie Street. The city shared on social media that the foundation has been poured, structural elements are taking place and work is "one step closer to bringing this vibrant community space to life." The city, working in collaboration with the Shawnee Hills Arts Council, continues to welcome sponsors for the project, including naming rights for key features of the plaza. Details about becoming a sponsor can be found online at www.shawneehillsart.com/davie-street-project/ or by contacting Anna City Hall at 833-8528.



THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

THE TALK AND COBDEN REVIEW

Serving Union County Since 1849

(USPS 215-280)

ISSN 2834-6165 (Print)

2834-6173 (Online)

Published weekly on Thursdays

by Southern Illinois LOCAL Media Group, LLC

112 Lafayette St.

Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

618-833-2158

news@annanews.com

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Southern Illinois Editorial Association

150th Anniversary 1849-2019

Southern Illinois Press

150th Anniversary 1849-2019

Benjamin Marxer.....Editor

Miguel Paredes as Trustee of the Paddock Publications, Inc.

Employee Stock Ownership Trust

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year • July, 2022

In Union County.....\$54.00

Elsewhere in 629 Zip Code.....\$56.00

Out of Area.....\$64.00

Per Copy.....\$1.00

E-edition.....\$54.00

MasterCard

VISA

Discover

Discover

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

The Gazette-Democrat

112 Layfayette St.

Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Advertising rates given on application.

The Gazette-Democrat | Monday’s Pub.

www.annanews.com

facebook.com/gazettedemocrat

Health centers celebrated

Rural Health Inc. is planning to join in the upcoming celebration of National Health Center Week 2025, which is taking place Aug. 3-9. The annual event highlights the essential role Community Health Centers, CHCs, play in improving public health and providing Americans with an equal opportunity for health. CHCs represent the nation’s largest primary care network, serving 32.5 million patients nationwide.

This year’s NHCW celebration, launched by the National Association of Community Health Centers, NACHC, focuses on the theme: “America’s Health Centers Celebrating 60 Years of Improving our Nation’s Health.”

CHCs across the country join the celebration through a host of scheduled events that include resource fairs, back-to-school drives, health screenings and visits to CHCs by local, state and national leaders.

Rural Health Inc. is planning to host free snow cone days Aug. 4-6 at its locations in Southern Illinois. The events will feature giveaways, access to health resources and more at all five of its clinics.

The schedule for the cele-

bration at Rural Health Inc. clinics includes:

Monday, Aug. 4: Goreville, 10 a.m. to noon. Vienna, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 5: Anna, 10 a.m. to noon. Dongola, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 6: Metropolis, noon to 2 p.m.

With a mission to make high-quality, affordable care available to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status, CHCs work to save lives and healthcare costs on the front lines of the nation’s most pressing public health challenges. They are powered by a workforce of over 310,000 dedicated professionals who reach beyond the walls of the exam room with effective services that not only prevent illness but also address the factors that may cause it.

Those served by more than 1,500 CHCs across the nation include one in five uninsured persons, one in three persons living in poverty, one in five rural residents, 9.4 million children and 419,000 veterans. CHCs serve 10 percent of the U.S. population but represent roughly 1 percent of total annual healthcare spending in the United States.

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

Southern 7 Health Department has confirmed one new positive test for West Nile virus in mosquitoes for the southern seven county region of Illinois. This is the first positive case of West Nile virus in mosquitoes documented by the health department in 2025. No human cases of West Nile virus have been reported so far this year in the region. On July 24, Southern 7 Environmental Health Services confirmed the positive case was collected from mosquito traps set in Massac County. Traps were placed in each of the lower seven counties in May and are tested weekly through mid-October.

A traffic accident led to the closing of the northbound lane on Interstate 57 for part of the day on Thursday, July 24. Traffic also was slowed in the southbound lane.

The last “Feed the Kids in the Park” event for the summer is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, today, at the Anna City Park. The event is hosted by the Union County Alliance of Churches. Free hot dogs and prepackaged snacks are served to school-age children.

A block party which had been scheduled for Aug. 8 in Downtown Anna has been postponed. The City of Anna shared on social media that plans are being made to reschedule the

event for sometime in September. The new date will be posted.

Anna School District 37 student registration is scheduled July 31 and Aug. 1. Hours are from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Anna Junior High School office.

A “Back to School Bash” is planned from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, at Lick Creek School.

Cobden Unit School District 17 has opened online registration for the upcoming academic year.

Cobden School District 17 is planning to host a “Back to School Open House” from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12.

Shawnee School District 84 registration is scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, today, in the high school library.

The Lick Creek Education Foundation’s 15th annual four-person golf scramble is planned Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Union County Country Club in Anna.

A Stinson Memorial Public Library summer reading program pool party is planned Thursday, today. The party begins at 6 p.m. at the Anna City Pool.



Park project brings changes to pond
A major improvement project which is underway is bringing some big changes to a pond at the Anna City Park. The accompanying photographs were taken while work was being last week at the park. Dirt was being dropped by a truck along the edge of the pond on July 23. The water level in part of the pond had dropped when another photograph was taken July 25.

Weather

High 94, low 73

High temperatures were in the 90s each day during the period of July 22-28 in the Union County area. Lows each day were in the 70s.

Following are highlights for the period as recorded by local weather observer Dana Cross near Jonesboro:

Tuesday, July 22: high 94, low 73.

Wednesday, July 23: high 94, low 74.

Thursday, July 24: high 94, low 75.

Friday, July 25: high 93, low 74.

Saturday, July 26: high 92, low 75.

Sunday, July 27: high 91, low 76.

Monday, July 28: high 93, low 74.

A Lawyer in the Library session with attorney Gene A. Turk is scheduled from noon to 2 p.m. Aug. 20 at Stinson Memorial Public Library in Anna. Sign in will be available at the library’s front desk.

“Tech Times” are scheduled from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays at Stinson Memorial Public Library. Assistance is provided for those who may need some help with technology.

Seventeen Shawnee Community College student athletes have earned recognition on the NJCAA All-Academic Teams.

Shawnee Community College is celebrating the recent pinning of its 1,244th ADN. The college’s first pinning ceremony was held in 1975.

Shawnee Community College reports having an “incredible summer” with its Saints’ Camps programs.

Demolition is scheduled to begin in August as work begins on construction of the new Saluki Village student housing project along the former Greek Row on the campus of Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

A new SIU Credit Union Trailhead has been opened at the Touch of Nature Outdoor Education Center near Carbondale. The project represents the first new construction at Touch of Nature in decades.

Anna Blue Dolphins host regional swim league championships

The Anna Blue Dolphins hosted the Southern Illinois Swim League Championships at the Anna City Pool on Saturday, July 26.

Eight teams and 200 swimmers from the region participated in the event, including Harrisburg, Marion, Carbondale, DuQuoin and Salem. Anna finished fourth overall with a combined team score of 280.50 points for the day.

The DuQuoin Swimming Indians finished in first with 460.50. Marion Marlins Swim Team came in second with 421.50 points, and the Herrin Tigersharks finished third with 372.50.

Blue Dolphin swimmers who finished in the top five in events include:

Axel Barnet, 2nd place in 100 meter medley relay, 4th place in 25 meter backstroke, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Wyatt Sullivan, 2nd place in 100 meter medley relay, 4th place in 25 meter freestyle, 5th place in 25 meter breaststroke.

Naphtali Harvel, 2nd place in 100 meter medley relay, 5th place in 25 meter butterfly, 3rd place in 25 meter backstroke, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Joey Chamness, 2nd place in 100 meter medley relay, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Brenna Carter, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 4th place in 25 meter backstroke. Nora McDowell, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 3rd place in 25 meter butterfly, 2nd place in 25 meter breaststroke, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Sasha Guzman, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Flynt Brumleve, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Fritz Mobeley, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 4th place in 100 meter individual

medley, 2nd place in 50 meter freestyle, 3rd place in 25 meter breaststroke, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Owen Jiter, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 3rd place in 100 meter individual medley, 4th place in 25 meter backstroke, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Liam Hess, 4th place in 100 meter medley relay, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Val Butler, 5th place in 100 meter medley relay, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Kaylee Smith, 5th place in 100 meter medley relay, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Havilah Harvel, 5th place in 100 meter medley relay, 3rd place in 25 meter backstroke, 5th place in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Henry Moberley, 3rd place in 200 meter medley relay, 5th place in 50 meter freestyle.

Jay Marggraf, 3rd place in 200 meter medley relay, 2nd place in 100 meter individual medley, 3rd place in 50 meter backstroke, 5th place in 50 meter breaststroke.

JJ Dallas, 3rd place in 200 meter medley relay, 4th place in 50 meter butterfly, 3rd place in 50 meter freestyle, 4th place in 100 meter freestyle.

Holden Baity, 3rd place in 200 meter medley relay.

Peacelyn Benefield, 4th place in 200 meter medley relay, 4th place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Kendall Sweitzer, 4th place in 200 meter medley relay, 3rd place in 50 meter butterfly, 2nd place in 100 meter freestyle, 5th place in 50 meter breaststroke, 4th place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Niah Chotner, 4th place in 200 meter medley relay, 3rd place in 50 meter butterfly, 2nd place in 100 meter freestyle, 5th place in 50 meter breaststroke, 4th place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Katryna Borders, 4th place in 200 meter medley relay, 4th place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Luke Dallas, 5th place in 50 meter butterfly, 4th place in 100 meter individual medley, 5th place in 50 meter breaststroke, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Aden Lingle, 3rd place in 50 meter butterfly.

Hadassah Harvel, 4th place in 50 meter butterfly, 3rd place in 100 meter freestyle, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Ben Marggraf, 5th place in 50 meter butterfly, 5th place in 50 meter freestyle, 3rd place in 100 meter freestyle, 3rd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Leia Kell, 3rd place in 25 meter freestyle, 5th place in 25 meter backstroke, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Mac Marggraf, 3rd place in 50 meter freestyle, 1st place in 100 meter freestyle, 4th place in 50 meter breaststroke, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Ava Boreup, 3rd place in 50 meter freestyle, 2nd place in 50 meter backstroke, 2nd place in 100 meter freestyle, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Ava McDowell, 3rd place in 100 meter individual medley, 3rd place in 50 meter breaststroke.

Aden Lingle, 4th place in 100 meter individual medley, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Knox Sweitzer, 5th place in 25 meter backstroke.

Owen Pickel, 5th place in 50 meter backstroke, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Adam Clark, 4th place in 100 meter backstroke, 4th place in 100 meter breaststroke, 3rd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Drue Teske, 5th place in 100 meter breaststroke.

Dallas Carson, 3rd in 100 meter freestyle relay.

Trystan Borders, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Jaida Smith, 2nd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

Jacob Roberts, 3rd place in 200 meter freestyle relay.

August Is
Back-to-School
Month



School safety checklist

Summer has ended and children are back in school. It's important to remember, and share with your children, some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Transportation Safety

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions.

Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walkers

Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.

Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic.

Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming.

Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections.

Stay alert and avoid distracted walking.

Bike Riders

Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child.

Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in a single file.

Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street.

Stay alert and avoid distracted riding.

Make sure your child always

wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing.

Bus Riders

Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.

Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus.

Teach your children to stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb.

If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other.

Driving Your Child to School

Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.

Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure.

Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street.

Never pass a bus loading or unloading children.

The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus.

Teen Drivers

Car crashes are the number one cause of death for teens. Fortunately, there is something we can do.

Teens crash because they are inexperienced; practice with new drivers every week, before and after they get their license.

Set a good example; drive the way you want your teen to drive.

Sign a New Driver Deal, an agreement that helps define expectations for parents and teens. (Details are available online at cloud.safe.nsc.org.)

School Safety

Many school-related injuries are completely preventable. Follow these steps to ensure your child's safety at school.

Backpacks

Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.

Ask your children to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders.

Don't overstuff a backpack; it should weigh no more than 5 percent to 10 percent of your child's body weight.

Rolling backpacks should be used cautiously since they can create a trip hazard in crowded school hallways.

Playgrounds and Sports

To reduce strangulation hazards on playgrounds, have your child leave necklaces and jackets with drawstrings at home.

A few bumps and bruises can be expected when your child plays sports, but head injuries should never be ignored.

From the National Safety Council.

Slow down: Back to school means sharing the road

School days bring congestion: School buses are picking up their passengers, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work.

It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

If You're Dropping Off

Schools often have very specific drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids.

The following apply to all school zones:

Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.

Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.

Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.

Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians

According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking.

They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic.

In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.

Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign.

Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.

Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way.

Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.

Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way.

Sharing the Road with School Buses

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

Never pass a bus from behind, or from either direction if you're on an undivided road, if it is stopped to load or unload children.

If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop.

The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to

ignore hazards and take risks.

Sharing the Road with Bicyclists

On most roads, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles, but bikes can be hard to see.

Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

When passing a bicyclist, proceed in the same direction slowly, and leave 3 feet between your car and the cyclist.

When turning left and a bicyclist is approaching in the opposite direction, wait for the rider to pass.

If you're turning right and a bicyclist is approaching from behind on the right, let the rider go through the intersection first, and always use your turn signals.

Watch for bike riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling; children especially have a tendency to do this.

Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods.

Watch for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars.

Check side mirrors before opening your door.

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.

From the National Safety Council.





Anna-Jonesboro
National Bank

Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community

201 South Main • Anna, IL • 618-833-8506 • 512 E. Vienna St. • Anna, IL • 618-833-2922
151 Leigh Ave. • Anna, IL • 618-833-4546 • 1002 Public Square • Jonesboro • 618-833-4547

Member
FDIC

Union County
Abstract Office, Inc.
Jonesboro • 833-6521



RURAL HEALTH, Inc.
We specialize in you

Five Sites for Your Healthcare Needs:

Anna
513 N. Main Street
(618) 833-4471
Metropolis
1003 E. 5th Street
(618) 524-7499

Dongola
318 U.S. Hwy. 51 N
(618) 827-3545

Goreville
400 S. Broadway
(618) 995-1002
Vienna
803 North 1st Street
(618) 658-2811



138 E. Vienna
Anna
833-2171



Your Local News
Weather • Sports Authority
Anna, IL
www.wibhradio.com

SOUTHERN FS INC.
400 S. Main St. • Jonesboro, IL • 833-2494

City of Anna
MAYOR,
COMMISSIONERS AND
CITY EMPLOYEES



Schaefer
Enterprises

www.sewlparts.com

800-626-6046 • 618-833-5498
P.O. Box 136, Wolf Lake, IL 62998

MasterCard

VISA

Brad's Collision
Works & Towing LLC

24/7
Towing



511 East Vienna, Anna
833-3102



ASB Anna
STATE BANK

100 E. Vienna • 833-2151

Member
FDIC



Obituaries

Larry Joe Lamburth

Larry Joe Lamburth, age 87, of Tamms, passed away on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at Hunter Acres Caring Center in Sikeston, Mo.

He was born on May 24, 1938 to Henry S. and Ida Bonnell (McKee) Lamburth in Paducah, Ky.

Larry had worked as the manager at Associated Lumber in Tamms for 22 years and then worked for Valspar for five years.

Prior to retirement he worked in sales for Marvin Windows for 22 years ultimately becoming a Territory Manager.

He was a member of Tigert Memorial United Methodist Church in Cairo, Ill. and a former member of the Egyptian School Board.

Survivors include his wife, Pat Lamburth; one son, Bryan (Rebecca) Lamburth; sister, Cathy Lamburth; nephew, Steve Sims, Jr.; grandchildren, Jamie Lamburth and Ashley (Justin) Williams; several great-grandchildren and great great-grandchildren; and great-niece, Stevie Ray Sims.

Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his two sons, Craig Lamburth and Brent Lamburth.



Funeral services will be held on Friday, August 1, 2025 at 3 p.m. with Rev. Doug Atkins officiating at Crain Funeral Home in Tamms with visitation being held prior to service from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the funeral home.

Interment will follow the service at Green Lawn Memorial Gardens in Villa Ridge, Ill.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to Reach Rescue or to your favorite animal shelter.

The family lost all their photos in a fire in 2021 and would greatly appreciate any photos of Larry to be sent to crain@crainsonline.com

Crain Funeral Home in Tamms is in charge of arrangements.

Janet (McIntosh) Brooks

Janet (McIntosh) Brooks, age 84, of Anna, passed away on Saturday, July 26, 2025 at her home.

She was born on Oct. 25, 1940 to Charles E. and Irene C. (Casper) McIntosh in Anna, Ill..

On Oct. 28, 1961, she married Dale Brooks and together they spent over 63 years and he survives.

Janet earned her nursing degree at Barnes Jewish Hospital and worked as an RN for 41 years with the last 25 years in surgery at Union County Hospital serving her community.

She enjoyed her Pink Flamingos Bridge Club for 35 years. In her younger years she was a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and was a lifetime member of Anna First Baptist Church where she cooked and handled the floral arrangements for many years.

Survivors include her husband; one daughter, Tracy (Larry) Roberts; one son, Matt Brooks; four grandchildren, Kelly Roberts, Ashley Roberts-Horn (Taylor), Bryan (Abby) Roberts, and Lindsey Roberts; one great-grandson, on the way; brother, Larry (Trish) McIntosh; niece, Kim (Nathan) Menees and their children.

She is preceded in death by



her parents.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at 2 p.m. with Rev. Bobbi Schultz at Crain Funeral Home in Anna with services concluding at the funeral home.

Visitation will be held the day of the service from 12:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Inurnment will be held at a later date at the Anna City Cemetery.

The cremation of Janet (McIntosh) Brooks will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Crain Funeral Home in Anna, Illinois is in charge of arrangements.

Arthur Art A. Lodge

Art Lodge, age 71 of Anna, passed away Wednesday, July 23, 2025, in St. Louis, Mo.

He was born on Jan. 25, 1954, in Carmi, the son of Vernon and Patricia (Thomas) Lodge.

Art is survived by a brother, Gary (Vickie) Lodge of Franklin, N.C.; nieces and nephew, Katie, Amanda, and Ryan; lifelong friends, though more like family, Mike & Marilyn Meisenheimer, Casey & Lindsay Johnson and Lance & Hillary Meisenheimer and their families; other relatives, and many, many friends.

Handling and taking care of horses came naturally to Art. He loved horses and worked with them for many years, truly taking pride in his work.

Art was a two-time reserve world champion in the groom class at the Racking Horse World Celebration and loved showing and trail riding horses at Meisenheimer Stables.

Art also enjoyed fishing, especially with his brother Gary during his summer trips in Florida.

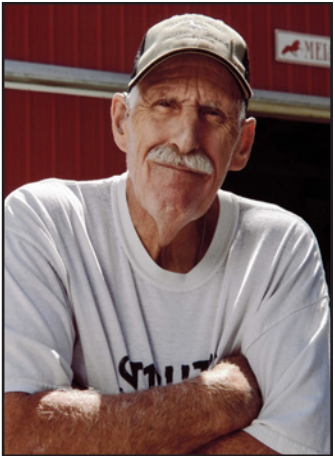
He knew how to have fun and enjoy life, especially when it came to karaoke and wrestling. He never missed a karaoke night, a professional wrestling match or an A-J Football game. He was loved by all who knew him and his big smile and heart will forever be missed.

Memorial services for Art will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, 2025, at the Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Anna with Bill Littrell officiating. Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. until the service time at 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Art Lodge Memorial Fund which will help sponsor the RHBAA Grooms World Championship Class winnings and trophies for all of Art's fellow grooms so that his memory can live on in the Racking Horse Family, with checks made payable to Racking Horse Breeders Association of America, or the donor's charity of choice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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

Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Anna in charge of arrangements.



Myrtle Martin

Myrtle Martin, age 102 of Jonesboro, passed away peacefully with her family at bedside, Saturday, July 26, 2025.

She was born at home May 13, 1923 in Marion, the daughter of Ezra and Lora (Allen) Lambert.

She married Ernest Martin Oct. 5, 1940 in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

He preceded her in death on March 31, 1995.

Myrtle is survived by her loving children, Red and wife Beth Martin of Jonesboro, Marti Martin of Jonesboro, Judy Martin of Owensboro, Ky., Tee and husband Ken Kinchius of Sellersburg, Ind., Maggie and husband Darrel Kline of Ballwin, Mo.; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; other extended family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Ernest Martin; son, Keith Martin and four siblings.

Myrtle taught sewing and tailoring courses at John A. Logan College and was the manager for Fashion Fabrics in Carbondale until her retirement.

Her delicate hands turned ordinary fabric into beautiful handmade quilts and works of art. She was part of a quilting ministry that donated their quilts to those in need.

Myrtle loved tending to her flower and vegetable gardens.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 31, 2025 at the Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro with Pastor Mark Hasty officiating. Interment will be in New Zion Cemetery in Ozark.

Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until the service hour at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 31, 2025 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are preferred to the Food Pantry at Salem Lutheran Church. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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

Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro in charge of arrangements.



Jeffrey Louis Starr

Jeffrey Starr, age 61 of Anna, passed away Friday, July 25, 2025 at Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

He was born Feb. 20, 1964 in Cape Girardeau, Mo. the son of John "Jack" and Janet Sue (Carter) Starr. He married Linda Webb on June 27, 1981 at the Elco Baptist Church.

Jeff is survived by his loving wife, Linda Starr of Anna; two sons, Brandon (April) Starr and Jacob (Amanda) Starr, both of Anna; grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Kaleb (Erin), Kiley, Daultan, Hailey, Gavin, Caleb, Samantha, and Madison; great-grandchildren, Jessie James, Braeleigh, Nova, and baby Isabella Rose on the way; mother, Janet Sue Starr; brothers, Kevin (Michele) Starr of Anna and Ceasar Treece of Dongola; sister, Dorinda Treece of Anna; sisters-in-law, Ruth (Jerry) Richardson of Anna and Sherry Stoner of Jonesboro; numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, John "Jack" Starr; brothers, Richard and Ron Chapman, and sister-in-law, Donna Webb.

Jeff was a member of Mill Creek Baptist Church, where he began serving as a deacon in 2010. He loved going to church and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Jeff was well-known for his acting debut playing the little league catcher in the 1976 film The Bad News Bears in Breaking Training, as well as his appearance in the 1978

film The Bad News Bears Go to Japan.

Jeff was a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild and a longtime member of the Moose Lodge #1346 in Anna.

He spent many years running the G & W Motors car lot in Cobden and Starr Auto in Anna. He was formerly a member of the Laborers' International Union Local 227 chapter.

He loved to build model cars and watch Gunsmoke. He will be dearly missed.

Funeral services were on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at the Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro with Bro. Bobby Richardson officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home to assist with funeral expenses. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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

Rendleman and Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro in charge of arrangements.



Hess News

By Glenn Heisner

Glenna and Allen Harris recently visited us for several days. From here they went on a business trip to Ohio. The Texas floods were south of their home.

We celebrated my 89th birthday with cake and ice cream.

Danny and Sam Heisner are here for the 9-day trail ride and a visit.

Danny gave the devotion and Kevin Ralls provided the music at the 9-day church service. The first one I've missed in a long time.

For several years Steve Hanson did the preaching on horseback.

The farm where the ride

News from Anna First Baptist Church

Anna First Baptist Church met for worship on July 27 with Pastor Perry doing our Opening Prayer.

Our Call to Worship was on Evangelism and Missions. "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male or female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." These Scripture were taken from John and Galatians in the Bible.

Our Worship Team led in three songs, "Every Praise," "Freedom Reigns" and "Holy Forever."

Pastor Lupe's sermon title was "The Book of Romans." The Book of Romans, written by the Apostle Paul, is a theological masterpiece that explains the righteousness of God and the way of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. It addresses both Jews and Gentiles, showing that all have sinned and fall short of God's glory, but are justified freely by His grace.

Paul emphasizes that salvation is not earned by works, but is a gift received through faith. The letter outlines how believers are to live transformed lives, led by the Holy Spirit, in unity and love, Romans ultimately declares the power of the gospel to save and calls the church to live as a holy witness to God's mercy.

After our Worship Service, everyone shared a "Birthday

was held for over 50 years was sold this year, so the event was moved to Buck Creek campground near Herod . Pretty primitive this year because of limited electricity.

Union County members were taking generators.

Some July birthdays are Fred Schlenker the 4th, Edna Goddard and myself 15th, Rachel Bonner and her mother Donna Williams 22nd, and Wayne Miller 24th.

Fred and Wanda celebrated their 70th anniversary 21, Alexa and Jeremiah Migas July 11.

Due to Hardee's closing our Thursday morning breakfast group had to find a new place.

View Obituaries Online at
annanews.com

Union County Alliance of Churches
Recommendations

1

"Feeding Kids in the Park," (FREE) TUE & THR, 1-3 pm, shelter near playground – Anna.

2

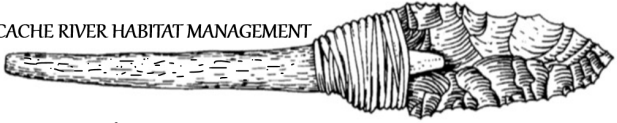
"The Closet" clothing for everyone at your price, next door to Dollar General – Anna.

3

"The Old Depot" 6 pm. Free dinner, live praise, fellowship, everyone welcome, come as you are.

Alliance of Churches (618)-614-2974

CACHE RIVER HABITAT MANAGEMENT



Bush Hogging

Food Plots

Brush Control

Trail Mowing

Pond Clearing

Seeding

John Wingate Owner/Operator

618-697-2479

Give us a call for all your land management needs.

Senator Fowler Honors Term Limit Pledge, Will Not Seek Re-Election

Illinois State Senator Dale Fowler announced today that he will not seek re-election as State Senator of the 59th district fulfilling a commitment he made when first elected in 2016.

"During my campaign in 2016, I ran on a pledge of term limits not to serve more than ten years in office, said Senator Fowler. "Today, I am honoring that pledge."

Senator Fowler expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve the people of Southern Illinois and shared plans for the next chapter of his public service.

"I look forward to the next chapter of my life, as well as remaining committed to continuing the work of my 24-year-old foundation, the Fowler Bonan Foundation Clothes for Kids, which provides children in need with a brand-new wardrobe to begin the school year," Fowler said. "I will also focus on growing our foundations Heaven's Kitchen Food Pantry, which helps address food insecurity throughout Southern Illinois."

Throughout his time in office, Senator Fowler has been a strong advocate for tourism, economic development, infrastructure improvements, and vital support services for children and families, as well as the elderly, citizens with disabilities, and our veterans.

"To everyone who has supported my journey and continues to believe in my God-driven mission: I will forever be thankful," Fowler added.

Senator Fowler has represented the 59th District since 2017 and has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all residents of Southern Illinois through community engagement and public-private partnerships.

Anna-Jonesboro High School sets registration dates

Registration for Anna-Jonesboro High School's 2025-2026 school year was held in the high school cafeteria July 30 for juniors and seniors.

Registration for freshmen and sophomores will take place Thursday, July 31, today, in the cafeteria.

Freshmen can register from 7 to 11 a.m. Sophomores can register from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

On registration day, students will need to bring proof of residency for all fees and proof of residency if they have not

already provided. All incoming freshman and new district enrollees must present proof of a physical exam, a current immunization record, and proof of residency before they can be registered. New district enrollees should contact the Student Services Office as soon as possible to begin the registration process.

If you have any questions concerning any of the above information, please contact Niki in the Student Services Office at (618) 833-8502 ext. 108.

News from Camp Ground Church, Community

Sunday's sermon was the third in Bro. Brad Easton's series "The Characteristics of God."

The focus this week was "God's Holiness" based upon Isaiah 6, God's commissioning of the prophet Isaiah.

God's holiness forces us to face our sinfulness. The more we focus on God, the more our lives will be transformed.

How will we feel in the presence of our holy God? One day, when the rapture occurs, we will stand before God; will we be ready?

Only through the blood of Jesus Christ, will we be cleansed and ready to meet the Lord and behold Him in all His holiness.

Tanner Roach rang the bell to commence Worship. Tanner, and Rodney Miller received the tithes and offerings Sunday.

Those having birthdays since our last column have been Tony Gerard, 20th, Tanner Roach, 21st, Donna Williams and her daughter Rachael Bonner, 22nd, Wayne Miller, 24th, and Linda Brown, 30th.

Rachael Bonner has been our lead elder during July, and Karen Vaughn will be during August.

In lieu of Bible Study the

20th, we had a farewell fellowship with member Mary Robinson who is relocating from Anna to upstate Illinois to be nearer her family.

Andrew and Sophia Boaz spent a recent week with their grandparents, Dwight and Sandra Boaz, and Aunt Amanda and Chad Batts.

The joint birthdays of Donna Williams and Rachael Bonner were celebrated with a family dinner the 20th.

The children, most grandchildren, and great grandchildren of Wayne Miller joined him at the Miller Lake of Egypt home Saturday to celebrate

Wayne's birthday.

Steve and Penny Coffman, Naperville, spent last Monday night with Dwight and Sandra Boaz to attend the funeral of Carmen Coffman. Joining them following the funeral Tuesday for lunch and visiting were Michael and Julie Coffman, Metamora, Scott and Jennifer Love, Amarillo, Texas, and Irma Brown.

We invite you to join us each Sunday, beginning with fellowship and coffee at 9:15 a.m., Bible study for all ages at 9:30 a.m. followed by Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

The church is located at the intersection of Camp Ground Road and Tunnel Lane east of Anna, north of Route 146.

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



618-893-2861 • 618-534-2391

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



5565 St. Rt. 146E
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-5986

Jason Martin, Owner
Visit our website:
triplemeats.com

Duty's Auto Glass
Windshields • Door Glasses
Back Glasses • Chip Repair

*Serving All of Southern Illinois
Over 30 Years Experience*

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



Anna-Jonesboro National Bank
Dedicated to our customers, committed to our community

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



SOUTHERN FS
JONESBORO LOCATION
400 SOUTH MAIN ST JONESBORO, IL 62952
618-833-2494

YOUR FULL SERVICE DEALER!

- BAG FEED/DULK FEED
- FERTILIZER/CHEMICAL
- SEED
- CUSTOM SPRAYING/SPREADING
- PROPANE
- PETROLEUM/LUBRICANTS
- GPS SOIL TESTING
- PRECISION FARMING



Josh's Heating & Cooling

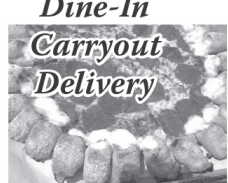
P.O. BOX 775
Jonesboro, IL 62952
618-697-8490

joshuahathy@gmail.com



Pizza Hut

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



Cardinal Corner

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

GROSS BUSTERS
Exterior Cleaning

Pressure Washing • Deck Staining • Gutter Cleaning
618.697.5968



Giving & Receiving



Photo Credit Istockphoto.com/skynesher

Spiritual wealth is ours to share. When we invest our love and joy with others, we receive it in return... and then some. If we keep God's love locked within us, we may wonder why we aren't happier. God instructs us in 1 Peter 4.9-10... "Practice hospitality ungrudgingly to one another. As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." We must give in order to receive. Give an hour of your time to God this week; your return will be priceless!

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Isaiah 41.1-20	Isaiah 42.1-17	Isaiah 43.1-21	Isaiah 54.1-17	Isaiah 55.1-13	Galatians 5.1-26	Galatians 6.1-18

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

©2025 Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnews.com



GIVE US A CALL....WE CLEAN IT ALL
618.697.7030
618.697.9502



BEUSSINK, HICKAM & KOCHEL P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

139 W Vienna St – Anna, IL 62906
(618) 833-2721

Serving the area for over 35 years
Gurley & Son Heating & Air Conditioning

INSTALL CONFIDENCE
1540 Old Hwy. 51N • Anna, IL
(618) 833-5211
"Hope to see you in church Sunday"



Schaefer Enterprises
Website: www.sewlparts.com

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



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



WINTERS ROLL-OFF
Michael Winters • Owner
618-614-0885
Unwanted Clutter Hauling Service
Dumpster Rentals

Serving the community since 1979!
DUTCH GUTTERING
CALL FOR SUMMER SPECIALS!
618-351-1881
Seamless Aluminum Guttering
Gutter Clean Outs • Leaf Guards
Roof Repairs • Home Improvement
Service and Repair • Siding & Overhang



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





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

Community Integrated Living, Inc.
Improving the lives of the individuals we serve.

201 E. Chestnut St. • Anna, IL
618-833-2500
www.communityintegratedliving.com



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





109 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
833-8755



You're Invited!
CrossPointe Church
409 S. Green St, Anna, IL 62906 (Corner of West Spring and S. Green St)

Sunday
Worship Service
10:30am

Wednesday
Bible Study
7pm



THE FIRST STATE BANK OF DONGOLA
Old and Reliable, Established 1906
108 SE Front Street • Dongola, IL 62926
618-827-3451





MIDWESTERN PROPANE GAS CO.
Anna, IL • 833-6300
Mike Jones, Manager



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

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

The Gazette-Democrat
Classified Section

Anna Office
618-833-2158
classifieds@annanews.com
AD DEADLINE IS 3 P.M. MONDAY

CLASSIFIED RATES
Classifieds35¢ per word
\$8.00 minimum for each paid ad per week

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES
Per inch\$14.00

YARD SALE

Yard Sale Aug 1-3 8:30am
106 Orchard Dr., Anna

MISC.

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY AND SUFFERED AN INFECTION between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-57

Send Classified
Ads
and Legal Notices
to
classifieds@
annanews.com

State building named in honor of Jesse White

A state building in Chicago has been named in honor former Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White.

Gov. JB Pritzker, state leaders and community members from throughout the Chicago area gathered Thursday, July 24, to officially rename 115 S. La Salle St. as the Jesse White State of Illinois Building, honoring Illinois’ longest-serving Secretary of State and a legendary public servant. The event followed unanimous votes in both the Illinois House and Senate last year to rename the building after White, who turned 91 in June.

“As the longest serving Secretary of State in our history, Secretary White spent his career doing something good for the people of Illinois every single day,” the governor said in a news release.

“He championed good and honest government at a time when our state needed it the most – putting us on a path to progress by rooting out the corruption and insider dealing that had defined our institutions. I cannot think of a more appropriate name than the Jesse White State of Illinois Building, which will serve generations of Illinoisans and stand as a symbol of strong, effective government for years to come.”

Jesse White, who was born in downstate Alton, served as Illinois Secretary of State from 1999 to 2023. His leadership introduced nationally recognized traffic safety laws, improved customer service through tech-

nological innovation and advanced organ and tissue donation efforts across Illinois.

White also served 16 years in the Illinois House of Representatives and six years as the Cook County recorder of deeds. At the event, he was also presented with a proclamation signed by the governor in recognition of the announcement.

“I am proud to have a State of Illinois building named in my honor,” White said. “I hope that the Jesse White State of Illinois Building will inspire future generations of all backgrounds to serve with honor and excellence.”

The newly renamed building houses more than 15 state agencies and Constitucionals, including Chicago offices for the Illinois Secretary of State and the Illinois attorney general. Rising to 37-floors, the building currently accommodates nearly 2,300 employees.

“Jesse White’s name belongs on a building where progress, equity and service intersect, because that’s what he stood for every day during his 43 years of public service to Illinois,” said Raven A. DeVaughn, director of Illinois Central Management Services. “We’re proud to have one of our largest state buildings symbolize his legacy for generations to come.”

The Jesse White State of Illinois Building is the home to the Secretary of State Flagship Center, a state-of-the-art two-story DMV, which opened in April 2025.

Union County Board makes reappointments

Reappointments to local governing bodies were on the agenda at last week’s regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners. The meeting was Friday morning, July 25, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

The commissioners approved the reappointments of Chris Boyd, Brad Donna and Mike Stegle as Union County Hospital District directors.

The commissioners also approved the reappointments of Martha

Ann Webb, Chris Clark, Ryan Dodd, Danny Hartline, Kent Pitts, Neil Poole and Paula Stairs as Union County Housing Authority commissioners.

In other business at Friday’s meeting: Board vice chairman Kent Pitts shared that the county’s new animal control facility has been a “blessing” during the recent extremely hot and humid weather which the region has experienced. The new facility, located along Kaolin Road between Anna and Cobden, is air-conditioned.



Butterflies
Students at Southern 7 Dongola Head Start learned about butterflies this month complete with raising and releasing them. Fall enrollment is going on now at Head Start. Learn more on the Southern 7 app or call 618-634-2297.

Photos sought that capture spirit of Illinois agriculture

Entries are being accepted for the 2026 Seasons of Strength calendar from North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center and University of Illinois Extension 2026 Seasons of Strength calendar.

The calendar will highlight the strength, beauty and everyday moments of farm life in Illinois while also including important resources for mental health and stress relief.

“Farming is a challenging but rewarding livelihood,” says Josie Rudolphi, assistant professor and Extension specialist, in the University of Illinois College of ACES. “As people flip through the calendar, they will visualize what it means to be an Illinois farmer and experience a bit of their lives month-to-month.”

Illinois Extension is asking Illinois farmers to submit photos to be considered for the 2026 calendar. Photographers whose submissions are accepted will receive five copies of the calendar and a gift card.

Specifically, the de-

signers are looking for:

- Landscape, equipment and livestock photos that show the realities, possibilities, or beauty of agricultural work and life. Please refrain from including photos with people unless they are in the background and not recognizable.
- Quotes and testimonials that are three to five sentences describing what the photo means to you and what it represents.
- Photos that are at least 1650 by 1275 pixels, 150 pixels per inch, 6 MB.

The deadline to submit photos for consideration is Sept. 1. By submitting a photo, permission is granted for it to be used in the calendar. All notifications for featured photos will be sent out by Oct. 1. Get started by visiting the submission form at go.illinois.edu/FarmCalendar.

The project is funded by the USDA Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, under agreement number: 2020-70028-32728.

Union County Fixin’s

Easy Fruit Cookie Slices

1 stick of butter at room temperature, plus extra for greasing cookie sheet

1/4 cup sugar

1 teaspoon sugar

1 1/4 cup all-purpose flour, plus extra for dusting

1/4 cup fruit jam (raspberry, apricot, etc.)

2 ounces white chocolate, chopped

In large bowl mix butter, sugar, and vanilla until smooth.

Stir in flour and then beat with mixer until a dough comes together.

Divide dough into three sections. On a floured surface, use the palms of your hands and form each section into a 9-inch-long rope about an inch thick.

Place the three ropes about 3 inches apart on buttered extra-long cook-

ie sheet.

Press your finger into dough of each rope about every inch to make ½ inch indentions.

Spoon about ¼ teaspoon of jam into each indentation.

Bake in 350-degree oven for about 12-15 minutes or lightly browned.

Let cool on pan.

Place white chocolate into a sandwich sized plastic bag, pushing it into a corner. Secure the bag with a twist tie just above the chocolate.

Place corner with chocolate into a bowl of hot water until chocolate melts. Dry the bag and snip of the tip. Drizzle chocolate over each rope.

Chill until chocolate is firm.

Slice each rope diagonally into 12 pieces.

Union County Museum to extended hours for Peach Festival



The Union County Museum is conducting an exhibit on the First National Bank of Cobden. This photo shows bank staff from around the mid-1960s. Staff members: Wallace Rich, Glenda Veal Myers, Roger Gray, Catherine Cerny Gibbs, Carrol Rendleman, Faye Lamer Balance, and Lawrence Keller.

The Union County Museum, located in downtown Cobden on South Appleknocker St., will operate extended hours during the Cobden Peach Festival.

The hours will be Friday and Saturday, Aug. 8 and 9, 10 a.m. to 5p.m.

The museum will continue its exhibit on the First National Bank of Cobden which was founded in 1900. A variety of photos and documents highlight the 125 year history of the bank. There are advertising

pieces from the early 1900s and information on pre-1900 banking history in Cobden.

Photos include staff members and past presidents of the bank. The bank played an important part of Cobden’s development.

Another exhibit will be the bird egg collection of Farrell Trumbley of Thompsonville. Trumbley amassed a unique collection of bird eggs that includes a variety of species. The eggs will be displayed with information on

each bird.

The museum will also have a display photos of previous Peach Queens as well as photos of Peach Festivals from 2002-2004.

The Shop for the Benefit of the Museum will be open featuring a variety of newly stocked merchandise such as fall/Halloween decorations, glassware, and collectibles.

The Museum will return to their regular hours of Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. after the Peach Festival.

County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco) By Suzan Harvel

We made a trip Saturday to Sparta to honor a nephew’s 40th birthday. It was a surprise and he was thrilled. Happy Birthday, Jon D!

Quite a few folks drove in from all over Illinois and Missouri. The drive up there was interesting as we didn’t know parts of Route 4 were closed. Several of us found that out the hard way. Thankfully, there are lot of ways to get there. We chose a different route back and had no problems at all.

On the way up, we stopped for coffee in Murphysboro and my husband took my photo to with the Big Muddy Monster. I sent it on to a friend in Georgia that loves the bizarre, odd legends, lore and wacky stuff from throughout the United States. I have several other places in mind to visit and send photos to him from, as Illinois has plenty of those to offer.

My nephew in South Carolina also had a 40th birthday last week. Happy Birthday Skyler! I spoke to him on the phone that day and he was having a fairly good time. I think men take those decade birthdays better than women. My son-in-law, Erik, in Canada, is the last this year to hit number 40 and I’ve already got that card bought and prepped to send out. Given its classification as “overseas” mail I’ll have to send it out four weeks in advance.

Mill Creek Baptist Church acknowledged two with birthdays this week: Dalton Cobb and Katherine Meirndorf. We wish them many more! Brother Bobby Richardson brought a message came from the book of Jonah this past

Sunday. Jonah didn’t want to listen to what God was telling him until God made him listen. We all get hardheaded and think we can dodge that, but He never relents, and we are better off doing what He wants in the first place.

The second chapter of Jonah holds the prayer of the backslidden and we all certainly need to use it on occasion. Restoring our walk with God is vital. This allows us to set aside the hurts, slights, anger, jealousy, and anything else that lets Satan in. As Bro. Bob said, he wants God’s children... he already has the unbelievers. Remember, no matter what he does, he can never take our salvation.

Mill Creek Baptist Church honored this Sunday, as well as mourns the loss of, one of its beloved members, Jeff Starr. Jeff is forever immortalized on film as a child actor in two movies, but that wasn’t all there was to Jeff. He had a larger-than-life personality, plus he loved the Lord and his church. He led the church as its music director and “built” a choir for many a year, as well as singing specials with his wonderful voice. He served as a deacon, drove the church bus, and he was a presence at all church events, ours and others, as he loved revivals and church singings.

Jeff led many to the Lord, and no greater compliment can be paid. He was a servant of God that has now gone to God for everlasting life, peace, and good health. He will be missed here by his family, friends, and most especially members at Mill Creek Baptist Church.

On our prayer list are: Jeff Starr’s family as they mourn his loss and deal with what comes next; Sue Starr for health issues and the loss of her son; the family of Art Lodge, who passed from a car accident this past week; two others injured in the same car accident and are still recovering; Dean Short as he recovers from surgery; and Ginger Bowman for ear surgery and recovery. Praise reports are lifted for Maddie Keller as she welcomed baby AJ into the world and as she recovers from some unexpected health issues. I also have a praise that a nephew, Asher, gave his life to God this past week. God is at work and the faithful are preparing themselves.

In a note of the bizarre...we had all of our tomatoes stolen this past week. They were ready to be picked that morning when I left for work and before my husband could get out there and get them, someone else helped themselves. I reported it to the police, and the dispatcher was equally shocked...who does that? I guess they had a serious need for a whole lot of BLTs.

Later. I heard that someone in Anna also got hit. I just don’t know about folks anymore. Too lazy to grow their own, I guess. They won’t get away with it again though at our house. That was pretty much the end of the crop. Other areas of the garden are dead or dying. It’s just been a sad year for vegetables. Too wet and then too hot, but we enjoyed what we got and put away some for next year, which we hope will be a lot better.

Pritzker signs bills addressing gun storage, tracing of firearms

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois

Gun owners in Illinois will soon be required to take additional measures to keep their weapons out of the hands of children under a new law signed Monday, July 28, by Gov. JB Pritzker.

In addition, law enforcement officers in the state must now start tracing the ownership of any firearm that is recovered from a crime scene, used unlawfully or is believed to be associated with a crime.

Pritzker signed those bills into law at a time when federal courts are growing increasingly skeptical of state and local efforts to curb gun violence. A federal court of appeals is preparing to hear arguments in a challenge

to Illinois’ most significant recent gun restriction – a ban on assault-style weapons and large capacity magazines.

“I’m tired, frankly, of treating something completely preventable as inevitable,” Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony in Chicago. “I’m tired of forcing our children to duck and cover because too many politicians are ducking and covering for the gun industry’s money. I’m tired of hearing thoughts and prayers and then nothing gets done.”

Safe Storage Requirement

Senate Bill 8, known as the Safe Gun Storage Act, prohibits gun owners from storing their weapons in an unsecured manner at any location where they know, or

reasonably should know, that the gun could be accessed by a minor, a person at risk of harming themselves or others, or by a person who is prohibited under state or federal law from possessing a firearm.

To secure the weapon, under the law, owners will be required to keep them in a locked container so that they are inaccessible or unusable by anyone other than the owner.

Gun owners who violate the law could be subject to civil fines of \$500. But those fines could go up to \$1,000 if a minor, at-risk person or prohibited person obtains the firearm, and as high as \$10,000 if such person uses it to kill or injure someone in the course of committing

a crime.

In lieu of those fines, courts could instead order the gun owner to perform community service or pay restitution for violating the law. The new law also provides that gun owners could also be subject to civil liability in private lawsuits.

However, the law also provides that gun owners will not be found in violation of the law if a minor, at-risk person or prohibited person obtains their firearm by unlawfully entering the premises.

In addition to the new storage requirements, SB 8 also requires gun owners to report a lost or stolen firearm to law enforcement within 48 hours of discovery, as opposed to the previous 72-

hour requirement.

Supporters of the bill pointed to recent statistics showing firearms are now the leading cause of death for children under 18, surpassing motor vehicles and cancer.

“For far too long, we have witnessed the tragic consequences of unsecured firearms in homes,” Sen. Laura Ellman, D-Naperville, the lead Senate sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. “Firearms, if left unaccounted for and unsecured, pose risks to those who shouldn’t have access to them. Firearm owners can help prevent gun-related incidents by ensuring their guns are securely stored and away from others.”

The bill passed 33-19 in the Senate and 69-40 in the House.

The law takes effect Jan. 1.

in the House and 43-11 in the Senate. It takes effect immediately.

Legal Landscape

Since taking office in 2019, Pritzker has signed numerous bills into law that impose new restrictions on the sale, ownership and possession of firearms. The most significant of those was a 2023 ban on assault-style weapons and large capacity magazines, known as the Protect Illinois Communities Act.

During that same time, however, the U.S. Supreme Court has adopted a more expansive view of the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms and imposed new legal standards that make it more difficult for state and local gun control measures to pass constitutional muster.

Most recently, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday, July 24, struck down as unconstitutional a California law requiring background checks for people to purchase ammunition. The court found the law was not consistent with the nation’s “historical tradition” of firearms regulation, a standard the Supreme Court established in 2022, less than a year before Illinois passed its assault weapons ban.

Gun rights organizations are using a similar argument in challenging the Illinois law.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Football America (HD)	Wolves "Episode 3"	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Descendant	(5:56) The Gilded Age	(5:05) "Barbie" (23)	"Gasoline A" (25) ★★★★★ "Gladiator" (00, Drama) Russell Crowe. (HD)
7 PM :30	Family Feud (HD)	Big Brother (HD)	Bob's Burgers (HD)	NFL Preseason Football <i>Los Angeles Chargers at Detroit Lions</i> (Live)	Wolves "Episode 4"	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"The Rise of Red" Kylie Cantrall.	"Cleaner" (25) Daisy Ridley. (HD)	"The Sitter" (11) Jonah Hill. (HD)	
8 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	Marriage Ghosts	The 1% Club (HD)		X-Games	Bang (HD) Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric	(40) "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" (16)	(22) ★★ "Role Models" (08) (HD)	Dexter: Resurrection
9 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	(01) Matlock (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>			Jokers Jokers	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous Miraculous		"Good Time" Robert Pattinson.	(10) "Four Brothers" (05) Mark Wahlberg.
10 PM :30	Local	Local			Local	"Hot Tub Time Machine" (10) John Cusack.	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie			
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	"A Minecraft Movie"	"Mars"	
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night				Bluey			

JULY 31, 2025

FRIDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Banana Ball Team vs Albuquerque (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	(5:15) "Movie"	★★ "Couples Retreat" (24)	"Your Monster" (24)	"Staten Island" (15)
7 PM :30	Celebrity Jeopardy!	Fire Country (HD)	The Fixer "Topsy Tie Dye; Kreme & Krumb"	Place Place		★★★ "San Andreas" (15, Action) Dwayne Johnson. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric	Marc Maron (HD)	"Notting Hill" (99, Romance) Julia Roberts.	Dexter: Resurrection
8 PM :30	(01) 20/20 <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	Fire Country (HD)		Dateline NBC <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	Fighters League (Live)		Law & Order: SVU	Wizards	FL Man		(10) The Chi (HD)
9 PM :30		Fire Country (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>			"Tomb Raider" Alicia Vikander.	Law & Order: SVU	ZOMBIES	Real Time with (HD)	(05) ★★ "Speed" (94, Action) Keanu Reeves.	★★½ "Sleepless" (17) Jamie Foxx.
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Electric	Marc Maron (HD)		(45) "Hostage" (05) Bruce Willis.
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	"Gemini Man" (19)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric		(01) "Getaway" (13)	
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night				Big City	(15) Real Time with		

AUGUST 1, 2025

SATURDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	MLB Baseball "2025 MLB <i>Speedway Classic</i> " (HD)	Local Programs	UFC Fight Night Prelims "Albazi vs. Taira"	★★½ "Just Go With It"	Law & Order: SVU	"Movie"	"Destination 5" (11)	(5:04) "Triple 9" (16)	"Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit" Chris Pine.
7 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	FBI: International		The Wall (HD)		★★★ "Barbie" (23, Comedy) Margot Robbie. (PG-13) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Phineas	"Movie"	★★★ "Traitor" (08, Drama) Don Cheadle.	"The Internal Machine" (22) Guy Pearce. (R)
8 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	48 Hours (HD)		Dateline NBC <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	UFC Fight Night from <i>UFC APEX, Las Vegas, NV, USA</i> (Live)		Law & Order: SVU	Phineas			
9 PM :30	Press Your Luck (HD)	48 Hours (HD)	Local Programs			★★½ "Just Go With It" (11, Comedy) Adam Sandler. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric	(52) Marc Maron (HD)	(55) "The Accountant" (16) Ben Affleck. (HD)	Dexter: Resurrection
10 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Next Level Chef (HD)	Local			Law & Order: SVU	Wizards	(07) "Sinners" (25) Michael B. Jordan. (HD)		
11 PM :30	Local Programs		Local Programs	Saturday Night Live (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Wizards	(15) Real Time with	(01) "Dredd" Karl Urban.	(10) The Chi (HD)

AUGUST 2, 2025

SUNDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Secret Service (HD)	American Ninja Warrior "Semi-finals 3" (HD)	MLB Baseball (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	"Movie"	Gilded Age	The Knick "Whiplash"	Dexter: Resurrection
7 PM :30	Videos	Big Brother (HD)	Simpsons			Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU		The Gilded Age "If You Want To"		
8 PM :30	(33) ★★½ "Freaky Friday" (03, Comedy) Jamie Lee Curtis.	Tracker (HD)	Animal Dutch	America's Got Talent "Auditions 8" (HD)		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric	The Gilded Age "Ex-communicated" (HD)	"Tuesday" (24, Fantasy) Arinze Kene. (R)	Dexter: Resurrection
9 PM :30		Tracker "Bloodlines"	Local Programs		SportsCenter (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Electric		"Janet Planet" (24) Zoe Luegler.	The Chi "Rebirth" (HD)
10 PM :30	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	SportsCenter (HD)	★★★ "National Lampoon's Vacation" (83) (R)	Law & Order: SVU	ZOMBIES	Last Week		Dexter: Resurrection
11 PM :30		Local Programs	Local Programs		Sports		Law & Order: SVU	ZOMBIES	(43) The Gilded Age	★★★ "Gloria Bell" Julianne Moore.	Dexter: Resurrection

AUGUST 3, 2025

MONDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Little League World Series (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	(5:56) "Movie"	★★½ "Teen Spirit" (19)	"Sleepless" (17) (HD)
7 PM :30	Bachelor in Paradise (HD)	Neighbor.	The 1% Club (HD)	American Ninja Warrior "Finals 1" (HD)		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	The Gilded Age (HD)	★★½ "Blue Beetle" (23) Xolo Maridueña. (HD)	Dexter: Resurrection
8 PM :30		FBI <i>Protect America.</i>	The Quiz with Balls		Little League World Series (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU		(01) "I Love You Forever" (25)		The Chi "Rebirth" (HD)
9 PM :30	(02) Match Game	Watson	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Survival Mode		Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	To Be Announced	"Death of a Unicorn" (25) Jenna Ortega. (R)	(08) ★★ "Speed" (94, Action) Keanu Reeves.	Dexter: Resurrection
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Jokers	Law & Order: SVU	Announced		"Shutter Island" (10) Leonardo DiCaprio. (R)	
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)		Dad (HD)	Resident Alien (HD)	Announced		(04) "Cut Bank" (15)	
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night	Sports	Dad (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	"Movie"		

AUGUST 4, 2025

TUESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Little League World Series (Live)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	(5:05) "Movie"	"The Hunger Games"	"Jupiter Ascending"	★★★★ "The Godfather" (72, Crime) Marlon Brando. (R) (HD)
7 PM :30	High Potential (HD)	NCIS "Humburg" (HD)	The 1% Club (HD)	America's Got Talent "Auditions 9" (HD)		MLB on TBS	Law & Order: SVU	(05) "Movie"	Jennifer Lawrence.	★★★ "The Accountant" (16) Ben Affleck. (HD)	
8 PM :30	Will Trent (HD)	NCIS: Origins (HD)	(02) The Snake (HD)		Little League World Series (Live)	MLB Baseball (HD)	Law & Order: SVU		Hard Knocks (HD)		
9 PM :30	Will Trent (HD)	NCIS: Sydney (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Destination X (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	(05) "Movie"	(57) "Movie"	(08) ★★ "Dredd" (12) Karl Urban.	Dexter: Resurrection
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	MLB on TBS	Law & Order: SVU		Hard Knocks (HD)	(44) "Drag Me to Hell" (09) (HD)	"Limitless" (11) Bradley Cooper.
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)		Family	Law & Order: SVU	(50) TBA			
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night	Sports	Family	Bluey	Bluey	(57) The Gilded Age		"Point"

AUGUST 5, 2025

WEDNESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	Little League World Series (Live)	Bang (HD)	Chicago Fire (HD)	Big City	(5:03) "Babygirl" (24)	★★½ "Mortdecai" (15)	★★★ "The Lincoln Lawyer" (11) Drama) (HD)
7 PM :30	Who Wants to Be a	Big Brother (HD)	MasterChef (HD)	Chicago Med (HD)		All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite	★★★½ "John Wick" (14) Keanu Reeves. (HD)	Big City	Hard Knocks (HD)	(17) Woody Harrelson.	
8 PM :30	Match Game (HD)		(02) Secret Service	Chicago Fire (HD)	Little League World Series (Live)			StuGo	(57) "Movie"		★★★★ "A Time to Kill" (96, Thriller) Sandra Bullock. (R) (HD)
9 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)	Hollywood	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Chicago P.D. (HD)		Jokers	(01) "John Wick: Chapter 2" (17) Keanu Reeves. (HD)	Kiff		(50) ★★★★★ "Parasite" (19, Drama) Song Kang-ho. (R) (HD)	
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Jokers		Miraculous		"My Cousin Rachel" (17) (HD)	"The Killer Inside Me" (10) (HD)
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(35) Tonight (HD)		Family		Jessie			
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night	SC (HD)	Family	"John Wick"	Bluey			

AUGUST 6, 2025

Firearm Tracing

Pritzker also signed a bill Monday, July 28, requiring law enforcement agencies to trace the ownership of every weapon recovered from a crime scene or that they seize because it was possessed unlawfully, used for an unlawful purpose or they reasonably believe to have been used in a crime.

House Bill 1373, an initiative of Attorney General Kwame Raoul, requires agencies to check those weapons through a web-based system known as eTrace, which is operated by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Prior to the new law, participation in the eTrace system was voluntary.

“We know now that approximately half of shootings nationwide never get solved. Only about a third do here in the city of Chicago,” said Sen. Bill Cunningham, D-Chicago, the lead Senate sponsor of the bill. “We also know that the same gun can often be used again and again in multiple shootings, multiple killings. We need to do something about that. That’s what this bill does. It ensures that all law enforcement agencies report all information they have on a gun anytime they recover it at the scene of a crime.”

The bill passed 75-40

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

This past Sunday, July 27, Pastor Perry Williams spoke in our morning service.

His message addressed the creation story and how God created Adam and Eve. His text was found in the Old Testament book, Genesis, in the second chapter.

Dee Rose, Music Director, led in worship accompanied by The Praise Team: Connor Benbrook, Isabel, Megan and Lucas Tehandøn. Our pianist was Debbie York. Our Praise Team sang a special, “Praise the Lord, O, my Soul.” Chris Rose sang a solo, “I’m Saved to the Uttermost.”

Our service was sent via transmitter station 87.9 FM for those who want to listen via the radio. The service was also live streamed on Facebook, so if you missed it, you still have an opportunity to view it. Please check our Facebook page, Jonesboro FBC, for the videos and latest info on church events.

This week’s activities in-

clude a Men’s Bible Study at 6 p.m., Monday, July 28.

Recent birthdays: Terry Elzey and Pastor Perry Williams, both born on July 28; Judy Johnson, born July 30; David Whitaker, born August 1; and Michael Freeman, August 2. Happy birthday to all!

Recent Anniversaries: Daniel and Regina Osman married 48 years on July 29; and Roger and Connie Wilkins married 59 years also on July 29. Congratulations!

Currently, our regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist includes Sunday School classes on Sundays at 9 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m.; Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m.

Youth meet both at 6-7 p.m. on Sundays, and 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Our Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study also meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Summer is a good time for a yard sale

To advertise your yard sale, just call 833-2158!

Opinion and Commentary

Staying up to date with routine vaccinations highlighted in August

August is National Immunization Month. As part of this year’s Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, Back-to-School vaccination campaign, Southern 7 Health Department, S7HD, is reminding families it’s not too late to schedule a child’s school shots and to make sure everyone in the family is up to date on routine vaccinations.

Public health officials noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDC reported a concerning drop in routine immunizations for children and adults, from which the nation has yet to fully recover. Vaccination rates among kindergarteners have remained high and stable for decades in the United States. However, during the two years following the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, coverage dropped from 95 percent to 93 percent, which is the lowest level in the last decade.

Many children who experienced delayed vaccination during the pandemic are still behind schedule. This is seen as especially concerning given that this year’s kindergartners were born at the beginning of the pandemic.

S7HD encourages parents to plan early to avoid any delays in the vaccination process.

“Vaccination is the best defense against many life-threatening illnesses. But we understand that while the majority of vaccines have been around for decades, parents often have concerns,” S7HD community outreach coordinator Shawwnna Rhine said in a news release.

“By scheduling their child’s vaccination appointment early you’ll have more time to talk with their provider about your concerns, collect necessary paperwork, confirm needed vaccines, and ensure there are no delays at your child’s vaccination appointment.”

S7HD provides the recommended vaccinations for all ages at each of their seven clinic offices. These include MMR (measles, mumps and rubella), Varicella (chicken pox), D-TaP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, aka whooping cough), Hib (Haemophilus influenza), Hepatitis B, pneumococcal disease and polio.

Other vaccinations including COVID-19, flu and HPV (human Papillomavirus) are also recommended, but not required, for school admission in Illinois.

Children and adults can also schedule their flu and COVID-19 shots at the department as needed.

To help make the process a bit easier for kids, children immunized through S7HD will receive a coupon, while supplies last, for a free ice cream cone through the department’s annual “Ice Cream for Vaccines” program. The program is sponsored by Dairy Queens in Anna and Vienna and McDonald’s in Metropolis.

To find out if a child and/or other family members are current for routine vaccinations, or to schedule an appointment at a S7HD public health clinic, call 618-634-2297, visit southern7.org or download the Southern 7 app.

The Cat’s Meow

by Cobden Spay Neuter Coalition

Cobden Spay Neuter Coalition (CSNC) is a group of dedicated volunteers who began their work in an attempt to manage the significant cat overpopulation problem in Cobden.

Their approach of trap, neuter, return is the only humane way to address the issue. Cats are humanely trapped, spayed or neutered by a local veterinarian, then returned to the owner or caretaker. In the case of stray cats, many have also been rehomed through the kindness of local residents or the assistance of animal welfare groups. This TNR approach to managing cat overpopulation is widely accepted across the country.

More information will be presented as we go along, but the costs associated with this project have been covered 100% through the extraordinary generosity of local donors and the support of various fundraising events. Since the coalition has also obtained 501c3 status as a not-for-profit organization, those donations are tax-deductible.

As the situation improved in Cobden, CSNC has been able to expand its efforts to more of Union County. The group’s representatives recently met with the Anna City Council

to discuss the organization’s goals and make a request for funding to purchase additional multi-cat traps. The Council granted that request, promptly provided the funding, and the traps have been purchased. The city council was most welcoming and acknowledged the need for this program in the Anna area.

CSNC is in ongoing need for donations to fund the spay/neuter surgeries, volunteers to assist with various aspects of the operation such as trapping, transport, and fundraising. Contact is currently through the organization’s Facebook page.

Procedures and requirements for cat owners or caretakers to participate in this program, updates on progress toward the coalition’s goals, and information regarding fundraising events will be shared in this article and on Facebook.

Please Spay/Neuter/Adopt companion animals. Meanwhile, if you see a companion animal in need, in trouble, or suffering, please, please call someone before it’s too late for them. Call your local animal control office, the police, or the Sheriff’s Dept. It IS your business if an innocent being who cannot speak for himself needs your help!

pickled cucumbers, onions, pickles and dessert. Meals will be available for dining in and for carry out.

Those coming to the fish fry will be able to nominate a Union County school club or organization to support. At 7 p.m., a drawing will be held. One of those nominated will receive 25 percent of the net proceeds plus all tips.

VFW fish fry helps support local schools

Please read this...

Just for the sake of knowing such things...

Monday, in the alleged “cool of the evening,” yours truly decided to get in a daily walk. I had waited until the sun was starting to go down, thinking that conditions might be a little more comfortable. Nope.

I started my walk at around 7:15 Monday evening. By the time the walk came to an end, yours truly was pretty much soaked. And not because a sudden rain shower had popped up.

Just for the sake of knowing such things, The Other Half was kind enough to look up current weather conditions at the time of my walkabout. She found the gruesome details on the internet, so they must have been true.

The air temperature at the time was 89 degrees. Still 89 at 7:15 in the evening...go figure. The humidity was 76 percent. Add those two numbers and you get 165, which, if it happened to be an actual temperature on a thermometer of some sort, while not an accurate meteorological possibility, is pretty much what it felt like Monday evening in the great outdoors.

Then there was the dew point, which was 80 degrees. We seem to have been hearing a lot about dew points during our heat wave. The National Weather Service office in Paducah shared on its website July 24 that the dew point is “a measure of humidity (the temperature at which air needs to be cooled to reach saturation). A high dew point means more moisture in the air and it will feel very humid with readings above 70 degrees.” Indeed it has felt very humid.

While 70 is considered very humid, the dew point reached 75 to 80 degrees on many days during the heat wave. Matter of fact, the Weather Service reported that a record-tying dew point of 82 degrees was recorded after 4 p.m. on July 23. If I looked at my calendar correctly, that was a Wednesday. I usually go for a walk much earlier in the day on Wednesdays. When there is a wind chill.

Taking the air temperature, the humidity and the dew point numbers into consideration, the “feels like” temperature was 118 degrees when I decided to go for a walk Monday evening. I like 165 better. Actually, if you add 89 and 76 and 80, you get 245, which, if that happened to be actual temperature, would be warm enough that wouldn’t be snow or ice. Or much of anything else for that matter.

Speaking of wintry precipitation...The Other Half found when she looked up the weather conditions on Monday evening that the snow depth at the time was zero...

And speaking of other winter sorts of things: our local weather observer recorded a “wind chill” of about 93 degrees on July 23. The heat index was close to 118 degrees that day.

Meanwhile...

Goodness. How is possible that we have already arrived at the last day of July? August 2025 is about to make its debut...and with it comes the usual abundance of events in Union County. Hopefully, the new month will be accompanied by a break in the wonderful heat and humidity (and dew points) we’ve been enjoying this summer. Actually, the weather forecast was calling for such a nice change. Keep your fingers crossed. Unless, of course, you happen to like the weather we’ve been having.

Meanwhile...

The weather, as might be expected, has wrought havoc on The Other Half’s garden. Tomatoes are slow. Potatoes are tiny. Weeds, on the other hand, are doing very well indeed.

Meanwhile...

Bob and I some time last Sunday enjoying our porch swing together. The first couple of times, a nice breeze was blowing, which made the heat and humidity at least somewhat bearable.

The third, and final, and shortest time was Sunday evening. Bob’s human decided to head back indoors after some sort of tiny hypodermic needle with wings paid a visit to my right arm. Enough was enough.

Meanwhile...

A couple of rather rambunctious squirrels were among recent Critters Sightings...and Sounds...

Other recent Critter Sightings included...

Two squirrels...zooming their way along a utility wire just across the street from our humble abode. One of the Critters was running upright. The other one was running upside down...and keeping pace with its running mate along the entire wire.

A great blue heron flying along, and then over, a tree line at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro.

An owl, hooting, perhaps voicing its displeasure with the heat and humidity, Monday evening.

Also on Monday evening, a black swallowtail butterfly paying a visit to some bright orange flowers in a garden I passed by on my aforementioned walk.

Lots of dragonflies fluttering over a grassy field in Cobden. And lots more along some nearby running water.

For the most part, though, Critters seem to have been staying someplace cool. At least during the day time hours.

Enough for this week...



Sure has been hot around here lately...so hot that water in a puddle in the street started boiling one afternoon last week. Well...not really. The bubbles were generated by heavy rain which was falling into the puddle from the saturated sky above.



Squirrels just want to have fun...which what these two Critters were doing one morning recently at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds in Jonesboro. Even in the heat.



Parking lot project progress
One of a number of improvements which can be seen at the Anna City Park is a new parking lot. The parking lot is located at the site of a former playground. Paving work was followed last week by the painting of stripes on the new lot.