

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

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Anna, Illinois

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News

Notes

Items of interest from throughout the Union County area

April, once again, should be a busy month in the Union County area.

Just Chill concessions is planning to have a grand opening from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the Anna City Park. Music, door prizes and “fun summer foods” are planned.

Palm Sunday is April 10. Easter Sunday is April 17.

The Anna Kiwanis Club plans to have an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 9. The egg hunt is set for 10 a.m. at the Anna City Park.

A worship service is set for 2 p.m. on April 10 at the historic Kornthal Church near Jonesboro.

The 86th annual Easter sunrise service is planned Sunday morning, April 17, at the Cross of Peace at Bald Knob Mountain near Alto Pass.

The 30th annual Blessing of the Bikes is planned Sunday, May 15, at the Cross of Peace.

The Cross of Peace plans to host the annual Blessing of the Jeeps on Saturday, May 21.

An update of voter registration records is going well, Union County Clerk Lance Meisenheimer reports. The county clerk praised the work being done by his staff on the project.

While concerns about animal control again were voiced at last Friday morning's Union County Board of Commissioners meeting, it was stated that “great improvements” have been observed. County officials noted that concerns were being addressed, but time and financial resources are a key consideration. A new shelter is planned.

(continued on page 2)

Child Abuse Prevention Month event planned

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

As the number of unreported child abuse cases continues to rise in Illinois as a result of COVID-19, child abuse awareness advocates in Union County are encouraging people to get involved in awareness and prevention activities this April, starting with the county's annual proclamation day.

At 9 a.m. Thursday, today, child abuse prevention advocates from public and private agencies plan to come together for the 12th annual Union County Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation Day at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Representatives from

Redeploy Illinois and members of the Southern Seven Child Abuse Prevention, CAP, Coalition invite all residents of local and surrounding communities to join them at the event in Jonesboro.

Proclamation Day is the annual kickoff to Child Abuse Prevention Month giving residents an opportunity to learn more about child abuse in the county and to show their support to end the abuse.

“Everyone has a role to play in preventing child abuse whether it involves mentoring a child or parent, advocating or donating to a child serving organization,” said Becky Pearce, the First Circuit Redeploy Illinois program's director. “To-

gether we can make great childhoods happen.”

Speakers at the event will include a local child abuse survivor, representatives from Prevent Child Abuse Illinois and the Children's Medical and Mental Health Resource Network, as well as Union County Board of Commissioners chairman Max Miller, who is scheduled to read the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation.

After the event, guests will be invited to sign the proclamation and then hang a blue ribbon on the designated blue ribbon trees in front of the courthouse.

Both blue ribbons and pinwheels are nationally recognized symbols of child abuse prevention.

The blue ribbon serves as a reminder of the hidden bruises and scars of abused children. The pinwheel symbolizes hope and the promise that every child deserves to be raised in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment.

Reporting suspected

child abuse is a confidential act. Cases of suspected abuse involving a child who has been harmed, or may be at risk of being harmed by abuse or neglect, can be reported by calling the 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at 800-25-ABUSE (800-252-2873).



A reminder...

A sign in Cobden offers a reminder about April's observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

\$4.7 million grant to support internet project

WK&T in Mayfield, Ky., has been awarded a \$4.7 million grant to bring fiber-optic internet to portions of Pulaski and Union counties in Southern Illinois.

WK&T will contribute more than \$5.7 million to the project, bringing the total investment to over \$10.5 million.

“Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become even more apparent how vital access to fast, reliable fiber internet is to our daily lives, as well as our quality of life, especially in rural areas,” Trevor Bonnstetter, WK&T CEO, said in a news release.

“WK&T is pleased to bring fiber-to-the-home technology to residents and businesses in portions of Pulaski and Union counties who don't have access to reliable internet to work remotely, go to school virtually or visit a doctor online.”

The project will provide residents and businesses in the area with up to 1 gig of upload/download fiber broadband speed.

The project will span 187 miles and pass approximately 1,110 unserved premises, including 600 households, 40 businesses,

450 farms and 20 institutions within the communities of Saratoga, Lick Creek, Dongola, Wetau, Ullin and Villa Ridge.

State Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, said the announcement about the project “is great news for a lot of families living in the 118th District. This expansion, and others like it, will provide a more level playing field for many families and local businesses that have not yet had the opportunity to take advantage of reliable high-speed internet access.”

“Improved connectivity will also help broaden the appeal of previously underserved areas in Southern Illinois to younger families that are looking to build a future for themselves. I am confident in WK&T's ability to take on the task ahead and look forward to seeing more and more of our friends and neighbors get the services they need.”

State Sen. Dale Fowler, R-Harrisburg, agreed.

“This investment is another example of great things happening in Southern Illinois,” Fowler said.

“Multi-million-dollar investments like this will continue to put our region



From left are Tony Goodman of WK&T, David Martin of SIEC; Joe Thompson of WK&T; Trevor Bonnstetter of WK&T; Lamar Houston, Randy Rushing, Bill Littrell, Scott Ury, Jerry Thurston, David Johnston, Ron Osman and Scott Miller, all of SIEC. Photo provided.

on the map for future economic growth and business expansion.

“Since the pandemic began, we have seen the critical need for high-speed internet access for both our students and educators. I will continue to advocate for additional opportunities, investments, and broadband expansion that will help navigate the growing technological era.”

In addition to WK&T supplying fiber infrastructure, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative will

partner with them to install and maintain three to five access locations for free Wi-Fi hot spots.

The hot spots will be installed at community anchor institutions in the grant area and provide free internet access to the general public.

“We are grateful to be awarded this grant from Connect Illinois and to partner with Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative to bring free Wi-Fi hot spots to the area,” Bonnstetter said. The hot spots will allow

those who are unserved to have a reliable, fast connection.

“Being able to partner with a trusted cooperative like WK&T to offer Wi-Fi hot spots to these communities is a huge benefit for our service area,” David Johnston, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative executive vice president and general manager, said.

“Our residents, our business owners, and our children can connect. It instantly improves our quality of life.”

Safety

checks

planned

Illinois State Police District 22 is planning to conduct roadside safety checks in Union County during April.

Plans for the roadside safety checks were announced by Capt. Michael Alvey, who is the commander of the district.

Officers working the roadside safety checks detail will be watchful for drivers who are operating vehicles in an unsafe manner, driving with suspended or revoked driver's license and transporting open alcoholic beverages.

Officers most importantly will be watching for the following offenses:

Driving under the influence, safety belt and child restraint use, speeding, distracted driving and all Illinois Vehicle Code and criminal violations.

The detail is funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Ambulance service acquires new unit

An update about the arrival of a new ambulance was shared at last Friday morning's regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners.

The meeting was at the

Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Union County Ambulance Service director Grant Capel said the new unit was delivered last week.

The ambulance service's

newest advanced life support vehicle features a 2022 model chassis with four-wheel drive and a 2010 patient compartment, or “box.”

The patient compartment

was acquired from American Specialty Vehicles, ASV, in Fouke, Ark. The firm specializes in the re-mount and refurbishing of all varieties of ambulances, according to its website.

Capel said the new unit is unique for the ambulance service because it is refurbished.

He said the ambulance service is working to prepare the unit for service. Plans call for the new ambulance to be made ready for a rigid inspection process before it's on the road, hopefully in about four weeks.

Capel thanked the county board for its support in the support of the unit. He had to act quickly to acquire the vehicle.

The cost of the vehicle was \$166,000, including the trade of a 2012 unit with motor issues. Capel told a county board member that acquiring the refurbished unit saved thousands of dollars.

Adding the new unit to the ambulance service is part of a continuing effort to protect the public, Capel said.



New ambulance service unit

Union County Board of Commissioners vice chairman Kent Pitts looks at the new Union County Ambulance Service unit. The vehicle was parked behind the ambulance service offices in a building next to the county courthouse in Jonesboro.



Easter bunny planning several stops in county

The Easter bunny has planned several visits to the Union County area. Easter will be celebrated on Sunday, April 17.

Here's a look at some of the events which are coming up:

City-Wide Event

The Easter bunny is scheduled to be on hand for a city-wide event which is planned Saturday, April 2, in Anna and Jonesboro.

A city-wide Easter egg hunt is scheduled in the Union County communities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Many businesses and organizations will be passing out Easter eggs and/or doing a children's activity for the special event.

The Easter bunny plans to be at C's Bitsy Bees,

which is inside the Annabelle Market at 300 S. Main St. in downtown Anna.

Breakfast

Earlier on Saturday, the Easter bunny plans to be on hand for a breakfast at Cobden Elementary School. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The cost is \$5 per person.

Kiwanis Egg Hunt

Then, on Saturday, April 9, the Anna Kiwanis Club is planning to have an Easter egg hunt for children through 10 years of age.

The Easter bunny traditionally has made an appearance at the egg hunt.

The Kiwanis Club egg hunt is set for 10 a.m. at the Anna City Park. The rain date, if needed, is set for April 16.

Active weather was expected Wednesday

Wednesday was expected to be an active weather day in the region.

By Tuesday morning, parts of the region, including most of Union County, had been upgraded to an enhanced risk for severe weather, the National Weather Service office in Paducah advised.

All of the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky area was under a risk for severe thunderstorms during the day and into the night on Wednesday.

Damaging winds were expected to be the main severe weather hazard. A few tornadoes also were possible.

High winds and gusts outside of thunderstorms were expected, along with locally heavy rain capable of producing flooding.

Widespread rainfall totals of 1 to 1.5 inches were expected, with localized higher amounts possible.

Storm chances were expected to increase throughout Wednesday, including the potential for strong to severe thunderstorms Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Damaging winds were the main severe weather hazard, but isolated tornadoes could not be ruled out.

In addition, high winds with gusts up to 55 miles per hour were possible outside of thunderstorms.

The weather service issued a wind advisory for parts of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky. The advisory was in effect from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The weather service was calling for a 100 percent

chance of showers and then heavy rain on Wednesday in the Union County area.

Temperatures on Wednesday in the area were expected to be in the 70s. Cooler weather was in the forecast for Thursday, today, with a high near 50.

Weather High 61, low 33; 1.21 inches of rain

Cool temperatures and just over an inch of precipitation highlighted weather in the Union County area during the period of March 22-28.

Temperatures ranged from a high of 61 degrees to a low of 33.

Precipitation measured during the period included 1.13 inches of rain on March 22 and .08 of an inch of rain on March 23.

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

	H	L
Tuesday, March 22	55	51
Wednesday, March 23	55	44
Thursday, March 24	49	39
Friday, March 25	61	35
Saturday, March 26	59	39
Sunday, March 27	50	33

Union County COVID Cases Update

March 27: 5,365 total cases. 64 deaths.

March 20: 5,358 total cases. 64 deaths.

March 1: 5,334 total cases. 63 deaths.

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

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News Notes

(continued from page 1) Stinson Memorial Library in Anna is joining in next week's observance of National Library Week. A story walk will be posted around the library starting Saturday, April 2. Lick Creek School is planning field trips to the library. Other activities also are planned.

Coffman's Martial Arts in Anna plans to have its ninth annual "break-a-thon," starting at noon Saturday, April 2. The event will help to support CMMHRN.

A baccalaureate service for the graduating class of 2022 at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School has been set for 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15. Commencement for the graduating class is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 21.

Consideration is being given to naming the A-JCHS soccer field in honor of Derek Harvell.

Students in government classes at A-JCHS have been studying the process which goes into a bill becoming law.

The A-JCHS District No. 81 Board of Education has approved renewal of principal Brett Detering's contract and the hiring of Cody Roberts as a mental health counselor, Tyler Young as a social studies teacher, Dalton Browning as an agriculture teacher and Megan Bauer as guidance secretary.

Sixteen Cobden High School students earned superior ratings and have advanced to state history fair competition.

The Union County Highway Department plans to start oil and chipping work soon. The impact of recent heavy rainfall has kept the highway department busy.

The Anna Arts Center has a busy schedule ahead: photo workshops on Saturday morning, April 2, and Saturday morning, April 16; a performance about Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby Sunday afternoon, April 3; a performance by fiddler Dennis Stroughmatt on Tuesday evening, April 5 (which is a new date from what had originally been announced); and an exhibit featuring the paintings of

artist David Fielding, from April 21 through May 21.

The seventh annual Shawnee Hills Pottery Trail is planned Saturday, April 30, and Sunday, May 1, in Union and Jackson counties. Hours are planned from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Eight potters are planning to participate.

The park in downtown Cobden may possibly be named "Appleknocker Park."

An assumed name notice is appearing in this week's paper for Just Peachy Cleaners in Cobden, which is owned by Tiffany Bowles.

PAWS is planning to have a drive-thru fish fry between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Friday, April 15. Pick-up will be behind Lou's Room in Anna.

Rural King's new store in Cape Girardeau is open.

Local volunteers worked with a local University of Illinois Extension coordinator to remove nearly 700 pounds of trash at the Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge.

An estimated 700 high school students from throughout the region, along with their teachers, were expected to attend an annual Math Field Day event which was scheduled Tuesday, March 29, at the Banterra Center on the campus of Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

With warmer weather on the way (hopefully), Southern Seven Health Department is reminding those who spend time outdoors to take precautions when it comes to ticks.

Spring time in Southern Illinois...at 3:52 p.m. Thursday, March 24, the website for National Weather Service office reported that the temperature in the Anna area was 46 degrees...with a wind chill of 42... Last Sunday morning, the low was 33 in Jonesboro. More cold is in the forecast for tonight.

University of Illinois Extension invites the public to a plant sale which is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 30, May 6 and May 7 at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center.

Low drops to 33 Sunday, cold expected again tonight

The low temperature dropped to 33 degrees Sunday morning in the Union County area.

The National Weather Service office in Paducah on Friday posted a forecast on its website that was calling for a low around 32 Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Chilly temperatures again are in the forecast for Thursday night (today) in the area.

The weather service was calling for a low of around 33 degrees in the Union County area.

The weather service also shared the following information about spring frost and freeze climatology in the Carbondale area:

Average last freeze, 32 degrees: April 13.

Earliest last freeze: March 18, 1929.

Latest last freeze: May 9, 1980.

Average hard freeze, 28 degrees: March 31.

Earliest last hard freeze: Feb. 20, 2012.

Latest last hard freeze: April 26, 1919.

Average last 34 degrees: April 20.

Earliest last 34 degrees: March 19, 2017.

Latest last 34 degrees: May 27, 1961.

Average last 36 degrees: April 26.

Earliest last 36 degrees: March 29, 1941.

Latest last 36 degrees: May 27, 1961.



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Program organizers

Organizers from the Southern Pride Senior Program and the Egyptian Area Agency on Aging took on serving duties at the daily senior lunch program at their new home at Harvest Church in Anna on Thursday, March 24. In attendance were, from left, the executive director for the Egyptian Area Agency on Aging, Becky Salazar; Union County site manager Monica Bellee; executive director for the Southern Pride Senior Program, Dea Ann Crown; executive secretary for the Southern Pride Senior Program, Jessica Ditterline; and Southern Pride Senior Program board member Judy Shoemaker.

Sunshine Inn senior program moves to Harvest Church in Anna

The Sunshine Inn senior assistance program has found a new home at the Harvest Church in Anna.

Organized and supported by the Southern Pride Senior Program and the Egyptian Area Agency on Aging, the Sunshine Inn provides free services to area seniors, including Medicare help,

transportation, health and fitness programs, prescription assistance and home meal deliveries.

The Sunshine Inn also serves lunch at 11:30 a.m. every Monday through Friday. Meals are available free of charge to Union County residents ages 60 and older.

The Sunshine Inn had

been operating out of the Potato Barn in Anna, but moved its operation to the Harvest Church starting on Monday, March 21.

The church plans to host the program for a three-month trial period, with organizers hoping to make the venue the permanent location for the program in the future.

The Sunshine Inn is one of five locations throughout Southern Illinois organized by the Southern Pride Senior Program, with services for seniors being offered in locations in Cairo, Metropolis, Mounds and Vienna.

For more information on the services provided by the Sunshine Inn, call Union County site manager Monica Bellee at 618-833-6734.

Gospel singing set in Villa Ridge

A gospel singing is planned Saturday, April 2, at Shiloh Baptist Church in Villa Ridge.

Singing begins at 7 p.m. Still Water from Hopkinsville, Ky., and the Gloryroad Travelers from Mounds will be featured.

Pumpkin Town 2022
Union County students invited to create flyers with theme for this year's event

Plans are being made for the 2022 Pumpkin Town event in Anna.

Again this year, Pumpkin Town is scheduled to be on display in the fall at the Anna City Park.

Organizers of Pumpkin Town are looking for a theme for 2022 – and they are looking for some help from students in Union County.

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center is sponsoring a Pumpkin Town theme contest.

The arts center outlined the following requirements for those who would like to enter the contest:

Design a flyer on an 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch piece of paper with your theme for Pumpkin Town.

Entries are limited to children in kindergarten through 12th grades; those in all grades are welcome to submit a flyer.

Home-schoolers are invited to submit a flyer.

Please include your name, grade, school or home school and phone number with your entry.

Entries are due to the Shawnee Hills Arts Council May 15.

Entries can be dropped off at the Here & Now Shop at 319 S. Main St. in downtown Anna. Hours at the shop are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

Tuesday through Thursday. Entries also can be mailed to the Anna Arts Center, 125 W. Davie St., Anna, Ill. 62906.

Flyers which are submitted for the contest are scheduled to be exhibited at the Anna Arts Center during the 2022 Annabelle Festival, which is set for June 11. Arts center visitors will be able to vote on their favorite theme entry for Pumpkin Town.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place.

More information is available by contacting Lee Hackney by phone at 904-625-1109 or by email at vabchlee@gmail.com.

Counseling service board to vote on merger

During its regularly-scheduled board meeting on April 28, the Union County Counseling Services Inc., UCCS Board of Directors will entertain a vote on a resolution to merge UCCS with Arrowleaf.

Since 1972, UCCS has been an integral part of the Union County community, serving individuals with mental health needs and challenges of daily living across the lifespan.

The mission of UCCS, "To meet the mental health

needs of the community by providing the most effective prevention, early intervention and recovery services available," has been the agency's driving force.

In this 50th year of operation, UCCS is looking forward to continuing its service to the community by aligning itself with Arrowleaf, a community mental health center with a similar mission that serves multiple counties in Southern Illinois through a diversified set of programs.

UCCS stated in a press release that "We strongly believe this merger will ensure that the mental health needs of the community are met."

The UCCS Board of Directors and staff said they are grateful for the support they have received from the local families, individuals, businesses and communities of Union County over the years.

County officials welcome Shawnee College president

The Union County Board of Commissioners welcomed the president of Shawnee Community College at its regular meeting last week.

The meeting was Friday morning, March 25, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Dr. Tim Taylor, who has served as the college's president for about 18 months, said he hopes to be a regular visitor at county board meetings.

Taylor said he is working to become a good partner and is focusing on engagement with local governing bodies, schools and clubs in communities which are served by the college.

The college's main campus is located near Ullin. The college has an extension center in Anna.

"We want to be a community partner that supports economic development," Taylor said. He offered the college's assistance to Union County.

County commissioner Darryl Harvell thanked Taylor for his offer of assistance.

County board chairman Max Miller said regular visits by the college's president would be welcomed.

Cobden School District announces third quarter honor roll students

Cobden School District No. 17 announces third quarter high honor roll and honor roll students. High school and junior high school students achieved honors.

High School, High Honor Roll

Garrett Basler, Thomas Coleman, Shawnae Eubanks-Burgess, Grace Hawkins, Mackenzie Jackson, Eden Kaszubski, Emma Roberts, Lindsey Windings, Kaylie Adams.

Tess Brummer, Cheyenne Felder, Jada Furlow, Kaylee Hall, Samuel Ingold, Agent Inman, Emma Kilpatrick, Isaac Reiman, Grace White.

Alejandro Zamora, Jesse Carmona, Cresli Carrillo, Miranda Eads, Karleigh Ellis, Tyler Franklin, Kirstin Guardian, Makenzie Hilliard, Wendy Olvera-Amezquita.

Mary Ann Pender, James Pope, Hailey Prieb-Gaines, Alejandra Ramirez Zapata, Rhylee Sauerbrunn, Nicholas Sutliff, Kevin Webb, Olivia Brumleve.

Tristan Brummer, Jade Caraker, Liv Cerny, Kaya Coleman, Melissa del Aguila Beltran, Daniel Demmin, Antonio Fabian, Cooper Flamm, Johnathan Fuhrhop.

Colbey Hartline, Connor Hartline, Maria Hernandez, Makenzi Howell, Jon Ingold, Caleb Kilpatrick, Callie McGee, Leslie Morales, Madison Pitts, Abigail Remsey, Molly Smith, Hannah Stillman.

High School, Honor Roll

Kimberly Adams, Sophie Barnhart, Beatrix Genung, Reese Hand, Chauncy Hilliard, Alyssa Jacobs, Dixie Kaufman, Madison Moreland, Landen Richardson.

Ramsie Sauerbrunn, Zitali Tomas, Patricia Aldridge, Andres Amezquita, Nicole Basler, Steven Brown, Verenize Carmona, Jack Eagle, Dora Funes, Eric Guignon.

Mitchell Howell, Jett Kuhn, Vanessa Rafael, Yadira Rafael, Yanet Romero Hernandez, Anna Staley, Ashley Sutliff, Ashley Ambrocio, Braden Bundren, Drake Campbell.

Rebecka Eubanks-Burgess, Gabriela Flores, Noah

Fry, Jasmine Garcia, Nolan Hand, Gustavo Juarez, Wyatt Lindsey, Sophia Lingle, Echo Neese, Emma Phillippe, Margaret Poirier, Xachary Roberts.

Laritz Roman, Dawson Short, Jake Tally, Hannah Trotter, Abby Clover, Noel Fabian, Kyle Hall, Elliot Lowndes, Katelyn Shad-owens.

Junior High, High Honor Roll

Lucas Aguirre, Scarlett Bergseth, Morgan Cerny, Natalia Godinez, Kee-la Kaszubski, Annabelle Kruse, Asher Miller, Tyler Shoemate, Madge Stevens, Angell Cash.

Matthew Clover, Selena Flores, Dashiell Garrison, Evaline Kaszubski, Alivia Kilpatrick, Natalie Storm,

Zaira Uribe, Layla West, Gabriel Demmin.

James Eagle, Autumn Ebersohl, Alyssa Fabian, Natalie Franklin, Gabriel Haynes, Matthew Howell, Amelia Long, Natalie Marks, Elias Miller, Ava Rothweiler, Daniel Tomas.

Junior High, Honor Roll

Jennie Murillo-Lopez, Isabella Bartolo, Brisa Calderon, Tradon Stroehlein, Guadalupe Zamora, Kenadi Ellis, Gabriel Evans, Christopher Johnson, Kingston Kuhn.

Mason Lyerla, Madeline Merriman, Brooke Mosley, Jansen Nance, Jose Osorio-Barbosa, Juan Osorio-Barbosa, Mariana Palmerin, Tommy Quertermous, Ana Rafael, Cerriana Ward, Victor Zamora.

Union County Museum, Shop scheduled to open

The Union County Museum and the Shop at the Museum in Cobden are scheduled to open this weekend for the 2022 season.

The museum and shop are set to open at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 2. The museum and shop are located at 111 S. Appleknocker in downtown Cobden.

The Union County Historical and Genealogy Society operates the museum and shop.

The Union County Museum will feature an exhibit titled "The Winstead Davie Family Collection, The Early Years."

The historical society has acquired over 200 pieces from a descendant including photos, letters, survey, newspapers and artifacts including a stanhope, early primary school books, children's clothing and Davie family handle knives and forks. Winstead Davie was the founder of the City of Anna.

The centerpiece of the collection is Winstead Davie's handwritten work book from 1814. The handmade book still retains some of its original cover

made of blue and tan homespun. The book, in excellent condition, contains over 200 pages.

Some of the other artifacts on display include a rare set of handmade Civil War era playing cards, surveys of various areas of Union County, baby and children's bonnets and original letters to and from Winstead Davie.

The historical society noted that other parts of the donation, including items from the Perrine family, will be the subject of a later exhibit because of the volume of materials.

The Shop for the Benefit of the Museum has been stocked with new merchandise, including Easter and spring items, artificial flowers, glassware, scented candles, antiques and collectibles.

Regular hours for the museum and shop are scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, as well as Friday afternoons by chance.

Admission is free and open to the public. More information is available by calling 618-893-2865 or 618-893-2067.

We can't wait to see you at the CITY Wide Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Bring your kiddos to our Main Street location to pick up an Easter egg and other goodies!



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Sports

A-J softball improves to 7-2 with recent wins

Cori Turner was 3-for-3 with an RBI to lead visiting Anna-Jonesboro to a 14-3 win over Cobden in high school softball Monday, March 28.

Avery Osman was 3-for-5 with a home run and 3 RBIs for the Lady Wildcats. Jenna Sadler was 2-for-3 with a home run and 4 RBIs. Payton Seip had one hit with an RBI. Hallie Plott was 2-for-4. Shea Thorn was 1-for-2 with an RBI. Abigail Dahmer was 1-for-3.

Abby Clover was 2-for-2 for the Appleknockers. Emma Roberts was 1-for-1. Makenzie Howell was 1-for-2 with 2 RBIs. Karleigh Ellis was 1-for-2 with an RBI. Bianca Vicente was 1-for-2. Kylie Hale was 1-for-3 with a home run. Emma Kilpatrick was 1-for-3.

Dahmer and Chesney Marks pitched for A-J. Dahmer pitched 3 2/3 innings and allowed 7 hits to go with 2 walks and 2 strikeouts. Marks pitched 2 1/3 innings and allowed no hits to go with no walks and 3 strikeouts.

Vicente and Hale pitched for Cobden. Vicente pitched 3 1/3 innings and allowed 10 hits to go

with 3 walks and 4 strikeouts. Hale pitched 2 2/3 innings and allowed no hits or walks and struck out 3.

A-J 9, Herrin 3: Osman was 3-for-4 at the plate to lead host A-J to the win over visiting Herrin Saturday, March 26.

Jenna Sadler was 2-for-4 for the Lady Wildcats. Payton Seip, Ariana Turner, Shea Thorn, Carmin Smith and Scotti Murray added a hit apiece.

Sadler was the winning pitcher, giving up 7 hits to go with a walk and 3 strikeouts.

A-J 18, Meridian 0: Abigail Dahmer was 2-for-2 to lead the host Lady Wildcats in an 18-0 win over Meridian Monday, March 21.

Turner, Seip, Smith and Murray were each 2-for-3. Olivia Schaefer, Brooke Carmack and Thorn were 1-for-1. Sadler and Plott were both 1-for-2. Osman was 1-for-3.

Sadler, Marks and Dahmer pitched in the win, combining for 2 hits to go with no walks and 5 strikeouts.

A-J, 7-2, plays at home Thursday, today, against Massac County.

Wildcat wrestling team wraps up banner season

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School wrestling team recently wrapped up a banner season.

The Wildcats finished with a 21-9 overall record and were the South Egyptian Conference and Class 1A regional champions.

A-J wrestling team head coach Chase Hargrave was named as the Class 1A coach of the year.

Eight members of the A-J squad were named to All-South Class 1A teams.

A-J boys who earned recognition were Drew Sadler, 106 pounds; Daniel Dover, 120 pounds; T.J. Macy, 132 pounds; Blake Mays, 138 pounds,

and Caleb Mays, 145 pounds.

A-J girls who received All-South honors were Zoe Sadler, 115 pounds; Candria Rogers, 120 pounds, and Orié Dover, 125 pounds.

A-J wrestlers also received all-conference honors.

A-J boys who received all-conference honors included Drew Sadler; Joey Sadler, 113 pounds; Daniel Dover; Macy; Blake Mays; Caleb Mays; Drew Sadler, 152 pounds, and Matteo Vaca Diez, 170 pounds.

The A-J girls who earned all-conference recognition were Rogers and Dover.

Sikeston 3, A-J/Cobden 1

The Anna-Jonesboro/Cobden co-op high school girls' soccer team lost 3-1 to host Sikeston, Mo., Monday, March 21.

Savanah Smith scored the lone goal for A-J/Cobden. Kenzie Stover had an assist.

Goal keeper Riley Cruse had 14 saves.

A-J/Cobden, 1-1, is scheduled to play Thursday, today, at home against Harrisburg.

Cobden falls to Elverado

Makenzie Howell was 2-for-3 with a pair of triples for visiting Cobden's only hits in a 12-2 loss to Elverado in high school softball Friday, March 25.

Kylie Hale and Bianca Vicente pitched in the loss and combined for 7 hits to go with 3 walks and no strikeouts.

Cobden, 1-4, plays Thursday, today, at home against Carrier Mills.

A-J baseball posts 1-3 record in recent action

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School baseball team was 1-3 in recent action.

Wauconda 10, A-J 9: The visiting Wildcats lost at Rent 1 Park in Marion Sunday, March 27.

Landon Trammel was 3-for-4 to lead the hitting for the Wildcats. Dylan Harvel was 2-for-4 with a home run and 4 RBIs. Kyle Jerrell was 1-for-1. Dylan Ahlberg was 1-for-3 with an RBI. Hayden Ralls was 1-for-3 with a triple. Ethan Ames was 1-for-3.

Ralls and Aaron Sheffer pitched in the loss. Ralls pitched 3 2/3 innings and gave up 6 hits to go with 3 walks and a strikeout. Sheffer pitched 3 innings and allowed 5 hits to go with 4 walks and 4 strikeouts.

A-J 2, Steeleville 1: Ralls was 1-for-2 with an RBI to lead the hitting for the visiting Wildcats Friday, March 25. Ahlberg and Drake Hartline were each 1-for-3.

Jerrell and Hartline pitched in the win. Jerrell pitched 5 innings and allowed 3 hits to go with 2 walks and 3 strikeouts. Hartline pitched 2 innings and allowed a hit to go with 2 walks and a strikeout.

Murphysboro 6, A-J 5: Trammel was 2-for-3 with



Cobden's Howell signs

Cobden High School student athlete Makenzie Howell has signed to play softball at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, where she has received an academic scholarship. She was recruited in softball at the Division III school, which does not offer athletic scholarships. Those present for the signing included, in the first row, her mother, Diana; Makenzie; and her father, Anthony, who is Cobden's head softball coach. In the second row are Ryan Green, her traveling team coach; Rusty Orsburn, Cobden's hitting coach; and Wally Britt, Cobden's assistant coach.

Pujols rejoins Cards for his final season

Fans of the St. Louis Cardinals will have another opportunity to see Albert Pujols wearing the birds on the bat uniform.

The following announcement was posted early this week on the official St. Louis Cardinals website:

JUPITER, Fla. -- Albert Pujols, who won two World Series titles and three MVP Awards with the Cardinals from 2001-11, announced in a news conference on Monday that it'll be his final season.

Pujols rejoined his former team on a one-year deal on Monday in hopes of helping it win another title. Terms of the deal were not announced, but it's worth \$2.5 million, a source told MLB.com's Mark Feinsand.

Pujols hit .328 with 445 home runs and won World Series titles in 2006 and '11 with the Cardinals. Also, Pujols was a nine-time All-Star and a two-time Gold Glove winner during his stint with St. Louis.

Pujols, just 21 home runs shy of 700 for his career, will most likely serve as a right-handed designated hitter against lefties and a power-hitting pinch-hitter, with four-time Gold Glove Paul Goldschmidt locked in at first base.

Team president John Mozeliak spoke prior to the start of training camp of wanting internal candidates such as Nolan Gorman, Lars Nootbaar and Juan Ypez to get the first shots at winning the DH job, but clearly the franchise has changed its thinking on the matter and will likely look to lean on Pujols' experience and still powerful bat.

Morel mushrooms, wildflowers featured at Giant City State Park

A presentation about morel mushrooms and spring wildflower walks are planned at Giant City State Park near Makanda.

The events are free and open to the public. Registration is required and can be made by calling 618-457-4836.

Visitors to the park are required to observe current guidance from the CDC and the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding face coverings and social distancing.

Morel Mushroom Program: A morel mushroom program is planned Saturday, April 2. The program

New Cardinals manager Oliver Marmol, who has been with the organization since Pujols starred in St. Louis, said on Sunday morning prior to his team's 7-3 loss to the Mets that the Cardinals wanted their younger players to succeed at the DH slot. It seems like that line of thinking has now shifted with the veteran Pujols in the mix.

Pujols left the Cardinals not long after winning a title in 2011 to sign a 10-year, \$240 million free-agent deal with the Los Angeles Angels.

However, he was nowhere near the difference maker in Southern California that he was in St. Louis, and he earned just one All-Star berth during his time with the Angels.

He was designated for assignment early last season and ended up signing with the Dodgers, where he hit .254 and 12 home runs in 85 games.

Pujols will rejoin former teammates Yadier Molina and Adam Wainwright; the three were franchise fixtures on St. Louis teams that won World Series crowns in 2006 and '11 and captured three National League pennants between 2004-11.

All three will be older than the 35-year-old Marmol, who has been in the organization for the last 1 1/2 decades and is very familiar with the legend of Pujols in Cardinals circles.

Even before the Pujols signing, Marmol said that there is a strong sentiment within the Cardinals that the season will be viewed as a disappointment if they don't contend for a World Series. Pujols figures to strengthen that chase with a powerful right-handed bat that is still feared throughout baseball.

Spring trout fishing season set to open

The 2022 Illinois spring trout fishing season is scheduled to open April 2 at 57 ponds, lakes and streams throughout the state.

Locations in the Southern Illinois area which are scheduled to be open for the spring trout season include: Jefferson County: Mount Vernon Game Farm Pond. Johnson County: Ferne Clyffe State Park Lake.

Massac County: Fairgrounds Pond, Fort Massac State Park. Randolph County: Derby Lake, World Shooting and Recreational Complex, Sparta.

All anglers must have a fishing license and an inland trout stamp unless they are younger than 16, blind or disabled, or an Illinois resident on leave from active duty in the armed forces. The daily catch limit for each angler is five trout.

For more information about trout seasons and other Illinois fishing opportunities, visit <https://www.ifishillinois.org>.

Not all sites open at 5 a.m. on opening day. Anglers are reminded to check the opening time of their favorite sites prior to the open date, IDNR noted.



A-J's Denny signs

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School senior Addison Denny has committed to play basketball for McKendree University. In 2022, Addison Denny was named to the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference Mississippi Division all-conference team after averaging 12.4 points and 11 rebounds per game. Allison, seated at center, was joined for the signing of her letter of intent by her father Tim Denny, left, mother Kendre Denny, right, and brother Payton Denny, back. Photo by Benjamin Marxer.

A-JCHS District No. 81 Board of Education meeting held

Blood drive, service project other student achievements highlighted

A successful blood drive and plans for a community service project were highlighted at a regular meeting of the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School District No. 81 Board of Education meeting. The meeting was March 21 at the school.

Senior class representative Natalee Brown and student council vice president Kamden Richardson shared a report about the blood drive and the service project.

Sixty pints of blood were collected at a Feb. 23 American Red Cross blood drive. Twelve new donors were reported.

The next blood drive sponsored by the student council is scheduled April 27.

During April, the student council plans to collect donations for Pets Are Worth Saving, PAWS.

The student council hopes to collect dog and cat food, paper towels and bleach; monetary donations also will be accepted.

The student council also plans to offer a drawing for a \$25 gift card for the students who bring in items for PAWS.

On March 16, the student council sponsored a PJ/hat day for \$1 donations to PAWS, with \$157 being raised.

Another PJ/hat day is planned to help with the purchase of more products to help feed the animals at PAWS.

A number of other accomplishments and achievements were highlighted at the March board meeting.

The A-JCHS math team participated in a regional competition on Feb. 26.

The Algebra 1 team, geometry team, Algebra 2 team, pre-calculus team, freshman/sophomore eight-person team, junior-senior eight person team, the oral person team and calculator team all earned second place honors at the regional competition.

Chesnee Marks placed third in Algebra I. Eric Chen placed second in geometry. Marks and Chen both qualified for state math team competition, which is scheduled in April.

The math team placed second overall at the regional. The club was scheduled to compete March 29 at an SIU Math Field Day

event. In April, the team is scheduled to compete at SEMO Math Field Day.

FBLA is scheduled to take an overnight field trip on April 1-2 to Springfield to compete at the state conference. Seven students advanced to compete at state.

The FBLA conference will allow students to compete in different events, apply leadership skills, attend trainings and network with other students from throughout Illinois.

The A-JCHS ACES team took first place at its regional competition.

The following students placed as individuals in their specific subject areas:

Andrew Detering, second, math. Bryce Henry, third, English; first, chemistry. Bo Schuetz and Jolie Barger, first, chemistry.

Jake Merriman, second, chemistry. Bo Schuetz and Jolie Barger, second, physics. Avery Osman, third, physics. Beto Vaca Diez, first, biology.

The ACES team competed at sectionals on March 9. At sectionals, Will Keller placed second in biology. Beto Vaca Diez placed third in biology. Both advanced to state competition.

Even though he did not place in the top three, Bryce Henry earned a score that qualified him to advance to state in English.

Seniors in the resource management class prepared resumes and cover letters and had mock interviews conducted by Tasha Faire, Steven Wiseman, Lance Meisenheimer and Angie Rhodes-Smith.

The fashion apparel and

design class has been making softball fan wear and shirts for the musical.

The culinary arts classes catered a boys' basketball banquet. The classes also were planning to cater a wrestling banquet and to make meals for teachers on the nights of conferences.

The student services office announced this year's outstanding seniors.

The outstanding seniors are Addison Denny, Andrew Detering, Gavin Osman, Bryce Henry, Beto Vaca Diez and Marlee Smith.

The outstanding seniors were selected by faculty and staff based on their grade point average, character, leadership, service and engagement.

Alex Little also was recognized. Little was awarded a full ride Chancellor's Scholarship at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

The school hosted 8th grade students in person this year for a short orientation.

Teachers voiced appreciation to the board for the board of education's recognition of the mental health needs of students and the creation of a mental health counselor position. Three candidates were interviewed for the position.

The A-JCHS FFA chapter competed in Section 24 livestock judging on March 12. A-J placed fourth as a team. Hunter Chapman placed seventh as an individual.

Abigail Dahmer interviewed at the District 5 proficiency judging at Mt. Vernon High School. Her project about working at the Shawnee Forest Campground placed third.

Students in civics classes have been learning about the importance of media literacy.

News from

Camp Ground Church, Community

Rev. Curtis Franklin filled the pulpit at Camp Ground Church again on Sunday. His sermon was titled "Was That Really Necessary?" Scripture was from Matthew 16, where Jesus predicts His death.

In the selected text, Peter was stunned by Jesus' words and voiced his concern that this just couldn't happen.

The sermon recalled that "Peter had just confessed his faith that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. Things couldn't have been going better for the disciples as Jesus was 'popular' because He was healing the sick and meeting the needs of the throngs. How could Jesus be talking about dying and all the good things coming to an end?"

"Jesus rebuked Peter; He told Peter that he was a stumbling block to Him. Jesus pointed out that Peter did not have in mind the concerns of God but of man.

"Jesus' death was part of God's divine plan. Was it necessary? Yes. If we are out of touch with God, we are a sinner. Jesus took mankind's sin to the cross, and by His resurrection gives us the opportunity for eternal life.

"Jesus went ahead to say that to be His disciples they/we: must deny self...put God at the center of our life; take up our cross...be obedient to what God calls us to do; and follow Christ...the most important decision we will ever make."

Prior to the sermon, Rev. and Mrs. Franklin blessed the congregation with special music, "Jesus Built a Bridge."

Kayton Crane, assisted by her grandfather, Rodney Miller, rang the bell to start the worship service. Kayton and Rodney also received the offering.

The congregation was happy to have some back in services, but missed others who are sick or traveling.

Camp Ground Church extends sympathy to the family of Karen Johnson, a neighbor to the church, who passed away last week.

All are welcome to services each Sunday at Camp Ground Church. Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

Worship also is available on Zoom. Those who would like to join in worship via Zoom can leave a message on the church phone (833-9000) with their email address or cell phone number and the link will be sent Sunday morning.

Ham bingo games planned

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden is planning to have a ham bingo night on Wednesday, April 6.

Bingo games will be played in the parish hall on the church grounds, located at 101 N. Centennial St.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. Twenty-five games will be played. Game cards will cost \$5 each.

The winner of each game will receive a ham. There will be only one winner per game.

Complimentary dessert, as well as coffee, tea and lemonade, will be served during intermission. All are welcome.

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Worship at Kornthal

The board of Kornthal Memorial is pleased to announce resumption of services. Our first service will be held April 10 at 2:00 p.m., with lite refreshments to follow. The board also changed our regular Thursday night services to the second Thursday of the month. Thursday services will resume May 12th at 7:00 p.m. NOTE DATE CHANGE. We look forward to seeing our supporters again. Kornthal is located 2 miles south of Jonesboro, Ill. just off Illinois Rt. 127.

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News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

On Sunday, March 27, in the morning service, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about the cleansing of the temple and "the fact that Jesus said His house shall be called a house of prayer."

The message was based on scripture from Matthew and John.

The service was sent via transmitter for worshippers who stayed in their cars on the church's lower parking lot while tuned in to their radios on station 87.9 FM.

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

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

Music director Dee Rose led

worship. Debbie York was the pianist. Chris Rose sang the song, "I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary."

Men's Bible study was planned at 7 p.m. Monday.

On Friday, April 1, the youth plan to host a movie night at 6:30 p.m. Donations for camp will be accepted. Nachos and hot dogs will be served.

On Saturday, April 16, at 10 a.m., the church plans to host an Easter egg hunt for children from birth to 6th grade. Free train rides and treat bags are planned. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

Birthdays: Carol Ann Ralls, March 28; Gerry Smith, April 2.

The regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist Church includes Sunday School classes on Sunday at 9

a.m., Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. and Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m.

The Dig-In Children's program and a youth group meeting are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Prayer and Bible study are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Intended for Last Week

On Sunday, March 20, in the morning service, Pastor Perry Williams spoke about the story of the betrayal and arrest of Jesus. He asked the question: Are you firm enough in your faith that you would not deny Christ? The message was based on scripture from Mark.

Music director Dee Rose led worship. Debbie York was the pianist. The Tehandon sisters, Megan and Isabel, sang a special, "Scars in Heaven."

Birthdays: Andrew Dial, March 23.

Anniversary: Larry and Mary Carolyn Rendleman, March 26, 57 years.

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

A Sunday morning worship service was held March 27 in the church and on Zoom.

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

The message given by Pastor Wright was titled "A Heartfelt Prayer." Scripture was from Isaiah.

The message can be found on the church's website at annanaz.com and on the church's Facebook page.

An anointing service was held for special needs of the congregation.

The annual ballot approval for church officers was held immediately following the morning worship service. The annual election for church officers is planned Sunday, April 24.

Birthdays: Bob Kimber, March 29; Phil Ray, March 30;

Rin Ray, April 2.

Fellowship Connect is planned at 6:30 p.m. April 1.

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 3.

Adult and children's Sunday School is planned at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, April 3.

A morning worship service with Communion is planned at 10:35 a.m. Sunday, April 3.

Quizzing is planned at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 3.

A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. on April 6 in the sanctuary and on Zoom, with the youth group meeting and children's Bible quizzing in the fellowship hall. The pastor can be texted prior to the meeting for the Zoom password.

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

Fish dinners set at Cobden church

Lenten season fish dinners are continuing on Fridays at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cobden. Fish dinners are scheduled to be served April 1 and April 8.

Serving will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Friday in the parish hall on the church grounds. The church is located at 101 Centennial St. in Cobden.

Costs for a meal will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children ages 5-12. Children 4 and under will eat free. Carry outs will be available.

Organizers note that due to rising costs, dinners will not be all you can eat, but one trip through the food line.

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Daily Bible Reading

2 Chron. 6:1-11	2 Chron. 6:12-21	2 Chron. 6:22-42	2 Chron. 7:1-10	Job 42:1-17	Psalms 33	Psalms 42
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org
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\$6.50. 12 ft. equals \$10.00.
Large supply, all colors. Call
(618)-827-4737.

gptfn

FORSALE: 2005 PT Cruiser.
Runs, 125K miles, needs
work. \$750.00 obo. Text
(618)-855-0912.

tfm

FOOD TRUCK OPERATION:

**SMALL BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITY.**
IF YOU HAVE ANY
INTEREST IN FOOD
TRUCK BUSINESS,
CALL FOR
INFORMATION ON
HOW TO START UP.
(618)-697-1793

16-17gp

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Looking
for full and part-time Custodians
for Shawnee Community
College in Ullin. Apply at
Main Campus front desk.
Phone (618)-634-3200, ext.
3436.

51gpc tfn

MAINTENANCE PERSON:
Full-time position with
benefits (40 hours per week,
Monday through Friday)
available to do light repair
work. Must have general
working knowledge of re-
pairing, painting, plumbing,
electrical, as well as, basic/
finish carpentry skills. Must
have or be willing to acquire
appropriate license (C) to
drive our box truck. Fill out
application at R.A.V.E., Inc.,
214 West Davie, Anna, IL
62906. EOE.

13g-16p

CITY OF ANNA, PART-TIME GENERAL LABORER

The City of Anna, IL is
accepting applications for
the position of a Temporary
Part-Time General Laborer
for summer help. Candidates
must be at least 18 years of
age; position pays \$12.75
per hour. Applications will
be available for interested
candidates at Anna City Hall
or online at cityofanna.org.
Please return employment
application to the Human
Resources Department at Anna
City Hall, 103 Market Street
Anna, IL 62906 or by email
to agued@cityofanna.org.
Position will remain open
until filled. EOE.

14-16gp

HELP WANTED: Jones-
boro Elementary School
District #43 is accepting
applications for the following
positions:

- Head Junior High Baseball Coach
- 6th-8th Grade Science Teacher

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

15-16gp

HELP WANTED: Anna-
Jonesboro CHSD #81 is
accepting applications for the
following vacancy:

- In-School Suspension Supervisor

Interested applicants
should pick up an application
or print one from our website
at www.aj81.net and return to
Anna-Jonesboro CHSD #81,

Attn: Brett Detering, Principal,
608 S. Main St., Anna,
IL 62906. Please contact the
Principal's Office at (618)
833-8502 for more information.
Applications will be taken
until position is filled.
15p-17g

HELP WANTED: Anna-
Jonesboro CHSD #81 is
accepting applications for the
following vacancies:

- Head Volleyball Coach
- Head Girls Golf Coach

Interested applicants
should pick up an application
or print one from our website
at www.aj81.net and return to
Anna-Jonesboro CHSD #81,
Attn: Rick Livesay, Athletic
Director, 608 S. Main St.,
Anna, IL 62906. Please contact
the Athletic Director's
Office at (618)-833-8502
for more information. Application
will be taken until
position is filled.
15p-17g

HELP WANTED: Anna-
Jonesboro CHSD #81 is
accepting applications for the
following vacancies:

- Assistant Principal

Interested applicants should
pick up an application or
print one from our website
at www.aj81.net and return,
along with letter of interest,
resume and credentials,
to Anna-Jonesboro CHSD
#81, Attn: Rob Wright,
Superintendent, 608 S. Main
St., Anna, IL 62906. Please
contact the Superintendent's
Office at (618)-833-8421
for more information. The
application deadline is April
17, 2022.
15p-16g

HELP WANTED City of Jonesboro

The City of Jonesboro is
accepting applications for a
full-time utility meter reader.
When not reading utility
meters, the employee will
be working with the other
employees doing various
forms of municipality work.
Applications may be picked
up at the Jonesboro City Hall,
Monday through Friday, 7:30
a.m. to 4 p.m. Applications
will be accepted until the
position is filled.
16gp

HELP WANTED: Hiring
Exterior Cleaning Technicians.
Tasks include: pressure
washing, gutter cleaning,
deck staining, etc. Starting
at \$14.00 per hour. Text
(618)-697-5968 for more
information.

**Gross Busters Exterior
Cleaning, Jonesboro, IL.**
16g-18pc

WANTED

ARROWHEADS! Amateur
Archeologist is obsessed with
the hobby. I am building a
museum of artifacts from
Missouri & Illinois, and
would like to buy individual
finds or whole collections.
ALSO, looking for sites to
buy or lease that have a lot
of "flint". Happy to answer
any questions! Call Sean,
(314)-608-2692.
52p-1g tfn

BUSINESS

DUCKWORKS LAWN CARE:

(618)-201-5712
MOWING IS WHAT
WE DO!

Free Estimates!
Other Services:
Landscaping,
Power Washing

www.duckworkslawn.com
gptfn

WEBB'S LAWN CARE LLC:

Mowing, Weedeating,
pressure washing,
general lawn care.

Call today for a
Free Estimate.
(870)-595-4425
4p5g tfn

FROG'S LAWN CARE SERVICE:

Mowing & Other Services
Available.

Call for a Free Estimate,
(618)-309-3120.
8-16gpc

GROSS BUSTERS EXTERIOR CLEANING:

- House Washing
- Roof Cleaning
- Gutter Cleaning
- Deck Staining

CALL TODAY!
(618)-697-5968
Grossbustersil.com
11p-29gpc

K&E HAULING (618)-697-6273 "WE ROCK"

15p-22gc

PUBLIC NOTICE

**IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE 1ST
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
UNION COUNTY -
JONESBORO, ILLINOIS**

**ROCKET MORTGAGE,
LLC F/K/A QUICKEN
LOANS, LLC F/K/A
QUICKEN LOANS INC.,
PLAINTIFF**

vs.

**GARY SHOREY, JR.;
ATHENS DEMARTINI;
UNKNOWN OWNERS
AND NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS,
DEFENDANT
2022FC1 Judge:**

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for
publication having been filed,
notice is hereby given to you,
ATHENS DEMARTINI;
and UNKNOWN OWNERS
AND NONRECORD
CLAIMANTS, Defendant
in the above entitled suit,
that the said suit has been
commenced in the Circuit
Court of the 1st Judicial
Circuit, Union County,
Illinois by the plaintiff
against you and other
defendant, praying for the
foreclosure of a certain
mortgage conveying the
premises described as
follows to wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND
BEING PART OF THE
NORTHEAST QUARTER
OF THE SOUTHWEST
QUARTER OF SECTION
12, TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH,
RANGE 2 WEST OF THE
THIRD PRINCIPAL
MERIDIAN, SAID PARCEL
BEING MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED BY
METES AND BOUNDS AS
FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE
NORTHEAST CORNER OF
THE NORTHEAST QUARTER
OF THE SOUTHWEST
QUARTER OF SAID
SECTION 12; THENCE S.
01 DEGREES 25' 44" W.,
ALONG THE EAST LINE
THEREOF, A DISTANCE
OF 833.36 FEET TO A
POINT; THENCE DEPARTING
FROM SAID EAST LINE,
N. 89 DEGREES 32' 38"
W., A DISTANCE OF 343.94
FEET TO A 1/2" IRON ROD
THENCE N. 01 DEGREES
29' 44" E., A DISTANCE
OF 633.36 FEET TO A 1/2"
IRON ROD ON THE NORTH
LINE AT THE NORTHEAST
QUARTER OF SAID SECTION
12; THENCE S. 89 DEGREES
32' 38" E., ALONG THE
NORTH LINE THEREOF,
A DISTANCE OF 343.94
FEET TO THE POINT OF
BEGINNING.

COMMON ADDRESS:
305 Winstead Road,
Cobden, IL 62920
P.I.N.:
07-12-05-317-A5

and which said mortgage
was signed by GARY
SHOREY, JR., ATHENS
DEMARTINI, Mortgagors,
to Mortgage Electronic
Registration Systems, Inc.,
acting solely as nominee
for Quicken Loans, Inc.,
as Mortgagee, and recorded
in the Office of the Recorder
of Deeds of Union County
as Document

No. 2015R1435; and for
such other relief prayed;
that summons was duly
issued out of the Circuit
Court of Union County
against you as provided
by law, and that the said
suit is now pending.
NOW THEREFORE,
UNLESS YOU, the said
above defendant, file your
answer to the Complaint in
said suit or otherwise make
your appearance therein,
in the Office of the Clerk
of this Court in Union
County in Room 101 at
309 West Market Street,
Jonesboro, IL 62952 on
or before April 18, 2022,
default may be entered
against you at any time
after that day and a
judgment entered in
accordance with the prayer
of said complaint.

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

Johnson, Blumberg,
& Associates, LLC
230 W. Monroe Street,
Suite 1125
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Email: ilpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
Ph. 312-541-9710 / Fax
312-541-9711

JB&A # IL 20 8038
13189590
14-16g

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
CONNIE L. MAYS
Deceased.**

Case No. 2021-PR-1

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

Notice is given of the death
of Connie L. Mays, of Anna,
Union County, Illinois. Letters
of Office were issued on the
18th day of January 2022,
to Sandra K. Pickel, 3035 Big
Creek Church Rd., Dongola,
Illinois, as Executor, whose
attorney is listed below.

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

Claims against the Estate
may be filed in the office of
the Clerk of the Court at the
Union County Courthouse,
309 W. Market St., Jonesboro,
IL 62952, or with the Executor
on or before the 17th day of
September 2022, or if mailing
or delivery of a notice from
the Executor is required by
Section 18-3 of the Probate
Act, the date stated in that
notice. Any claim not filed
on or before that date is
barred.

Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be mailed
or delivered by the claimant
to the Executor and to the
Attorney within ten (10) days
after it has been filed.

Dated: this 17th day of
March 2022.

Independent Executor:
Sandy K. Pickel
3035 Big Creek Church Rd
Dongola, Illinois 62926

Bigler Law Office
Bryan Phillips
Attorneys for Executor
4076 E Vienna Street
Anna, IL 62906

Office:
(618) 833-4777
Facsimile:
(618) 833-4770
14-16g

ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given
pursuant to "An Act in
relation to the use of an Assumed

Name in the conduct or
Transaction of Business in
the State," as Amended that
a certification was filed by
the undersigned with the
County Clerk of Union County.
Filed this 9th day of March,
2022, under the Assumed
Name of Wild Rose Studio
with the place of business
located at 145 Berryville
Road, Jonesboro, Illinois
62952, and that the True
Name(s) and Residence
Address of the sole owner(s)
and Proprietor(s) of said
Business is:

Leneisha Pugh
145 Berryville Road
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
14-16gc

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

**ESTATE OF
CLARENCE L. LANG,
DECEASED.
IN PROBATE
NO. 2022-PR-9**

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

NOTICE IS GIVEN to
creditors of the death of
Clarence L. Lang of 450
Prater Lane, Dongola,
Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on March 14,
2022, to Clarence L. Lang,
Jr., 885 Bartruff Road,
Anna, IL 62906, as
Independent Administrator,
whose attorney is Elvis C.
Cameron, 205B N. Main
St., Anna, Illinois.

Claims against the estate
may be filed in the Office
of the Clerk of this Court
at the Union County
Courthouse, 309 W. Market
St., Jonesboro, Illinois,
or with the Independent
Administrator, or both,
on or before September 24,
2022, or if mailing or
delivery of a notice from
the Independent Administrator
is required by Section 5/18-3
of the Probate Act of the
State of Illinois, the date
stated in that notice. Any
claim not filed on or before
that date is barred. Copies
of a claim filed with the
Clerk must be mailed or
delivered by the claimant
to the Administrator and
to the attorneys within ten
(10) days after it has been
filed.

Dated: March 24, 2022.

CLARENCE L. LANG, JR.

INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATOR
CAMERON LAW FIRM,
LLC

ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY NO. 6244394
ATTORNEY FOR
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
15-17g

ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given
pursuant to "An Act in
relation to the use of an
Assumed Name in the
conduct or Transaction of
Business in the State," as
Amended that a certification
was filed by the undersigned
with the County Clerk of
Union County. Filed this
18th day of March, 2022,
under the Assumed Name
of Main Street Bar and
Billiards with the place of
business located at 336 &
342 South Main, Anna,
Illinois 62906, and that
the True Name(s) and
Residence Address of the
sole owner(s) and Proprietor(s)
of

said Business is:

Terry Foster
170 Burchyett Lane
Jonesboro, IL 62952

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
15-17gc

ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT

State of Illinois
SS
County of Union

Notice is hereby given
pursuant to "An Act in
relation to the use of an
Assumed Name in the
conduct or Transaction of
Business in the State," as
Amended that a certification
was filed by the undersigned
with the County Clerk of
Union County. Filed this
23rd day of March, 2022,
under the Assumed Name
of Just Peachy Cleaners
with the place of business
located at 200 Pine Tree
Lane, Cobden, Illinois
62920, and that the True
Name(s) and Residence
Address of the sole owner(s)
and Proprietor(s) of said
Business is:

Tiffany Bowles
200 Pine Tree Lane
Cobden, IL 62920

Lance Meisenheimer
Union County Clerk
16-18gc

PUBLIC NOTICE

Invitation to Bid School Bus

Anna-Jonesboro CHSD
#81 is accepting bids for the
purchase of a School Bus.
Specifications/bid sheets
may be obtained by
contacting Rob Wright,
Superintendent at Anna-
Jonesboro CHSD #81,
608 S. Main St., Anna,
IL 62906 or at (618)-833-
8421. Sealed bids will be
accepted until 2:00 p.m.
on Wednesday, April 20,
2022, at which time they
will be opened and read
publicly.
15p-16g

PUBLIC NOTICE

MERGER PLANS BETWEEN UNION COUNTY COUNSELING SERVICES, Inc. AND ARROWLEAF

ANNA—The Board of
Directors of Union County
Counseling Service, Inc.
(UCCS) will consider
adoption of a Resolution
to Merge with Arrowleaf,
at its regularly-scheduled
board meeting on April
28, 2022.

Upon the effective date
of the merger, the
corporations will be a
single corporation under
the name of Arrowleaf.

About Union County
Counseling Service, Inc.:

UCCS is a well-established
Community Mental Health
Center originating in
1972 located in Anna,
IL with a mission to "meet
the mental health needs
of the community by
providing the most
effective prevention,
early-intervention, and
recovery services
available". For more
information visit
uccsinc.org

Contact:
Danuta Del Rio,
CRC/LCPC

Executive Director
danuta.delrio@uccsinc.org

(618) 833-8551

To meet the mental health
needs of the community
by providing the most
effective prevention,
early intervention,
and recovery services
available.
16g

*Need some extra cash?
Sell what you don't need
in the classifieds.
To Place Your Ad In
The Gazette-Democrat
Call (618) 833-2158*

County Line News

(Mill Creek and Upper Elco)

Last Day of March

Happy last day of March to everyone. I'm sure we'll all be glad to see warmer and sunnier days ahead.

However, April will probably be just as mixed up as every other month that's come around this year.

As with most of the folks who farm or put out gardens, we deal with what's thrown at us.

We've yet to get anything in the ground. Seed delivery and good weather to plant have both been in short supply.

We certainly don't need a pound of seed for our little garden and we've had to cut down from last year, as we had too many of some items.

Perhaps by the time the weather stabilizes, the garden centers will get in the small packets of seeds we want.

Lots of Work

There has been an abundance of work going on in the area. Road construction is progressing on State Highway 127 South. They now have traffic lights up so that helps.

Sweet Potato Road is blocked off where it meets 127, so folks will either have to go to Mill Creek on the back roads if they are headed south, or they'll need to head up to St. John's Road to get back on 127 headed north. The back roads aren't as bad as I feared.

Liberty Utilities paid us a visit on Friday and were able to get our new natural gas lines and the new meter in before dark. Once things dry out, they said they'd be back to smooth out the mess of the yard.

Special Celebrations

Mr. Harvel and myself celebrated our 44th anni-

versary last Wednesday. We went to Charleston, S.C., for our 40th so, no big trips this time. We'll save up for our 50th.

We did make a trip over to Cape Girardeau and to a popular steakhouse. That's about the only place he likes to eat, besides Chinese and Mexican, and I'm burned out on those. The food was great, but the noise sure doesn't allow for conversation.

Donna and Wayne Ledbetter celebrated their 40th anniversary last week and went to Grand Rivers, Ky. Congratulations to them.

Travel Reports

Several folks I know are traveling and it's always entertaining to hear and see where they go and what they do while there.

Barb and Norm Bauer and Dixie Terry are in Florida and having a grand time.

My cousin Guy Meiron and wife, Brenda, just went to Washington, D.C., for the Cherry Blossom Festival...beautiful photos were posted of that.

Our pastor and his brother are in Louisiana fishing. They've had some nice shots posted too, a lot of fish and a beautiful sunset.

Another in Louisiana is a coworker in New Orleans with his mother. It's been over 20 years, and before Hurricane Katrina, since we were there last. It's nice to see it's back and busy again. Great photos.

My niece Sarah Owen and her husband and children were recently at Vegas, the Grand Canyon, and Sonoma. Talk about wonderful photos.

Lori Runion was blessed with her father and her sisters visiting with her, Jeff, and Big Foot. Nice family photo there. I was going to drop in and con-

gratulate you on all the projects you and Jeff have completed and then noticed all the vehicles. Maybe next weekend.

More sad news in the community: Please keep the families of Paul Pender and Jacob Webb in your prayers. We also have added Lisa Casper Hicks and Linda Keller to our prayer list.

Praise Report, Visitors

A praise report came in that Barb Layman has been told she no longer has Crohn's. What a blessing.

Also, my daughter Allison just landed a new job in Cape Girardeau, so will be moving from Poplar Bluff, Mo., soon. My back hurts already just thinking about it.

Sunday also saw us blessed with several visitors, whom we always appreciate.

New Director

We were further blessed to have Bob Burnett supply the pulpit this past Sunday morning. He is our new Clear Creek Baptist Associational director and we were honored to have him.

His message came from the Book of Isaiah, chapter 49, verses 15 and 16. Brother Burnett gave an example from a television commercial about you being in good hands with this particular insurance company.

God assures us of the same. Think of all the things our hands do: work; hold; guide; comfort; fidget; greet; celebrate; discipline; carry; and for some their hands speak through sign language.

Jesus' hands saved. His hands bore the inscription, with the nail scars, that we will never be forgotten. Even when our faith falters and all seems lost, He is there and ever will be.

Easter is fast approaching and we have a calendar of full weekends already. That's fine though. I'd rather be busy than bored. I get bored and bad things happen...ha ha.

A cousin, Travis Gene Wheaton, has been busy posting photos on social media of quite a few of our mutual relatives.

I love old photos, old movies, old advertisements...the simplicity of the black and white composition gives a clarity I often feel is lacking in color.

When my eldest got married they did part of the photos in black and white and I absolutely loved them. I know color gives us the authenticity of that time, but the black and white still holds my attention.

Color does have its place and it's making that place known now.

Spring Arrives

Spring has finally arrived with those yellows, purples, whites, pinks and assortments of greens.

I'm looking forward to the spring plant sale and the quest I have each year to plant something I've never had before.

My husband focuses on the vegetables and I the flowers, shrubs, bushes and trees.

I've already added more bird feeders this year, but I plan on adding more houses. I'd like a couple of bat houses. I've heard they keep the bugs down, but I want them on the other side of the pond.

Also, I've always liked the look of the butterfly houses. I don't know if they'll actually use them, but they seem so pretty. We'll see...another good thing about spring...there's something fresh and new everywhere you turn.

Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center to host 'Fly Rod' Crosby



Pam Mathews portrays Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby. Photo provided.

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center is planning to host a visit by Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby, the "Champion of Maine."

Crosby, portrayed by Pam Mathews, will share her story at the arts center, located at 117 W. Davie St. in Anna, at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 3. The event is free. Refreshments will be served after the presentation.

An angler, hunter, journalist and early advocate for Maine and its natural beauty, Crosby's story is one of perseverance and the breaking of barriers in the 1800s.

Crosby grew up as a sickly child who, through grit and determination, became a Maine heroine.

Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby accomplished what legions of outdoor sportsmen can only dream of, and she did it in the 1890s: She made a living at fly-fishing and writing about it.

In the process, she attracted thousands of people to the Maine woods to hunt and fish for a uniquely Maine experience, something L.L. Bean would eventually capitalize on.

Crosby was 6 feet tall, scandalized people with her dress, caught 200 fish in a day and became the first licensed Maine guide.

She began to write up stories about her fishing adventures, which she submitted to O.M. Moore at the Phillips Phonograph.

Moore gave her the nickname "Fly Rod," and "Fly Rod's" Notebook was born. It was a chatty account of fishing adventures and mis-

adventures with information about where to stay and what the sporting camps were like.

"Fly Rod's" Notebook became a syndicated column appearing in newspapers in New York, Boston and Chicago.

She organized Maine's exhibit at the first annual Sportsmen's Show at Madison Square Garden in New York in 1895.

At the second annual show she caused a sensation. She wore a Paris-inspired green leather hunting outfit with a skirt that stopped short at mid-calf, matching tall green lace-up boots, a tailored jacket with a red sweater and a peaked red and green hat.

Record crowds came to watch her demonstrate fly fishing and praise the virtues of Maine's forests in front of a log cabin stuffed with deer heads and fish tanks with live Maine salmon and trout.

Mathews wrote an illustrated children's book to bring "Fly Rod" Crosby's story to more people, especially children.

After the presentation, there will be time for questions and answers. Signed copies of the book will be available for \$20 (cash or check).

For more information, contact Lee Hackney by phone at 904-625-1109 or by email at vabchlee@gmail.com.

Anna Arts Center to host 'Hot Fiddle' performance featuring Dennis Stroughmatt



Dennis Stroughmatt

The Shawnee Hills Arts Council's Anna Arts Center is planning to host Dennis Stroughmatt for a performance of that "Hot Fiddle" on Tuesday, April 5.

The performance is set for 7 p.m. at the arts center, which is located at 117 W. Davie St. in Anna. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold at the door.

Presenting the fast swing fiddling and humorous stories of his mentor Wade Ray, Stroughmatt will play his fiddle, lead the audience through the early years of Old Time Radio and share how music brought America through The Great Depression, World War II and more.

Stroughmatt was taught to play fiddle by a mixture of tradition bearing stylists, including Southeast Missouri French Creole fiddlers Roy Boyer and Charlie Pashia in the tradition of their fathers, and the Southern Illinois Western Swing fiddle legend Wade Ray.

He became an adopted son of the French Midwest Creoles who settled near St. Louis and Cahokia by play-

ing at weekly house parties or "bouillons" and later made journeys that have included studies in Louisiana, Quebec and Tennessee.

Stroughmatt says he finds himself in a unique position as one who can speak knowledgeably of and play in a variety of French Creole and Old-time Western musical styles.

With a master's degree in history from Southern Illinois University Carbondale and a certificate of French Quebecois studies from the University of Quebec, Stroughmatt is not only a musician but a passionate educator who entertains and teaches his audiences at the same time.

His speaking engagements, residencies and performances include The Smithsonian Folk Life Festival, The Library of Congress, The Kennedy Center, The Missouri Folklore Society and Festival Acadian in Lafayette, La.

For more information, contact Lee Hackney at 904-625-1109 or by email at vabchlee@gmail.com.

Vape prevention training available to area teachers

As the number of teens using e-cigarettes, also known as vaping, continues to grow in Southern Illinois, several local agencies are partnering to invite educators in the region to participate in a teacher training to help students overcome e-cigarette use.

According to America's Health Rankings (americanshealthrankings.org) in recent years, there has been an increase in popularity of e-cigarettes, especially among youth.

E-cigarettes often contain nicotine and other cancer-causing chemicals, and have been linked to lung injuries, hospitalizations and death.

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, reports that e-cigarette use by high school seniors is higher than cigarette use was 10 years ago.

Between 2016 and 2018, e-cigarette use in Illinois increased from 18.4 percent to 26.7 percent among high school seniors. That's a 45 percent increase in just two years.

Among 8th grade students, IDPH reports a 15 percent increase, and a 65 percent increase among 10th grade students during the same time frame.

A two-hour teacher training program will equip educators to utilize the CATCH My Breath program, which is a peer-reviewed, evidenced-based youth vaping prevention program developed by the University of

Texas Health Science Center at Houston, UTHealth, School of Public Health for grades 5 through 12.

The program provides up-to-date information to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to make informed decisions about the use of e-cigarettes.

CATCH My Breath uses a peer-led teaching approach and meets National and State Health Education Standards.

In addition to training on CATCH, teachers will receive increased knowledge on the current trends of vaping among youth and Professional Development Credits upon completion.

Two virtual options were on the schedule. One session was planned Monday, March 28.

A second option is planned from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Friday, April 1.

Enrollment information is available by contacting Cherie Wright by email at cherie.wright@sih.net or by calling 618-457-5200, extension 67844.

Information is also available by visiting Southern Seven Health Department on Facebook.

The training is presented in partnership with the Southern Illinois Tobacco Prevention Partnership, the CATCH Global Foundation, Catch Onto Health, Southern Illinois Health-care, the Jackson County Health Department, the Egyptian Health Department and Southern Seven Health Department.

Look for Yard Sales in the Classified Ads

'This is what really happened...'

...some thoughts about newspapers from the Oregon Digital Newspaper program's website

"This is what really happened, reported by a free press to a free people. It is the raw material of history; it is the story of our own times." Henry Steel Commager

"Newspapers cannot be defined by the second word—paper. They've got to be defined by the first word—news." Arthur Sulzberg, Jr.

"A good newspaper is a nation talking to itself." Arthur Miller

"The newspaper is a greater treasure to the people than uncounted millions of gold." Henry Ward Beecher

"Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." Thomas Jefferson

"Most of us probably feel we couldn't be free without newspapers, and that is the real reason we want newspapers to be free." Edward R. Murrow

"People don't actually read newspapers. They step into them every morning like a hot bath." Marshall McLuhan

"Every time a newspaper dies, even a bad one, the country moves a little closer to authoritarianism..." Richard Kluger

"I'd love to rise from the grave every ten years or so and go buy a few newspapers." Luis Bunuel

"All I know is what I read in the papers." Will Rogers

Anna School District names honor students

Anna School District No. 37 announces third quarter high honor roll and honor roll students.

8th Grade, High Honor Roll

Jaylen Althoff, Drake Bible, Presley Bierstedt, Dawson Brunner, Zoe Chen, Adam Clark, Kansas Craig, Justin Damian, Kaci Davis.

Jordan Gentry, Maggie Gooden, Alexa Hinkle, Alexis Houseman, Mariel McGrath, Jake Menees, Madison Moore, Danica Morgan, Layne Murray, Foster Needling.

Ethan Plott, Raelynn Sadler, Ally Simmons, Timothy Taylor, Zachary Taylor, Drue Teske, Logan Thompson, Kale Waller, Mason Yates.

8th Grade, Honor Roll

Jayda Benefield, Addison Bonner, Aiden Colson, Gabe Eddings, Emma Edwards, Elias Harner, Anastazia Kerr, Natasha Martin, Dexter Morse.

Aaliyah Prater, Owen Quick, Jayda Shepard, Sam Smith, Saige Street, Nevaeh Walsh, Cole Whitaker.

7th Grade, High Honor Roll

Courtney Brame, Revolution Chaput, Jasmine Garcia-Ledbetter, Liz Hammer, Tyler Haywood, Milla Hunter, Evan Inman, Bodhi Laws.

Dillon Moreland, Zane Plummer, Maxwel Ruddick, Jaron Taliseo, Brian Thompson, Beckett Thorpe, Lizbeth Zamora.

7th Grade, Honor Roll

Levi Alvis, Liam Brown, Lyra Casper, Nicholas Cook, Jimena Flores, Ca-

miah Lowe, Daelan McNelly, Charlie Pierson, Holly Yana.

6th Grade, High Honor Roll

Shooter Belcher, Ava Boreup, Julian Brust, Elina Chen, Joshua Dalton, Ava Frazier, Cobie Hodges, Lera Hoehner, Tyler Jackson, Hayden Keller.

Camryn Kelley, Jozilyn Kerr, Holli Lopez, Madalyn Perez, Elliott Poulos, Reaslyn Shepard, Jaida Smith, Emma Thurston, Ella Whitaker.

6th Grade, Honor Roll Alayna Althoff, Brayden Barnhart, Landon Boyd, Briley Clay, Liam Fowler, Isaiah Lieberman, David Olivera, Aryanna Ozment, Kai VanAlstine, Allie Yana.

5th Grade, High Honor Roll

Ruger Chick, Hayden Craft, Abbey Del Rosario, Gwendolynn Eastman, David Franklin III, Frank Gaddis, Zakira Kerr, Addison Lingle, Ava McDowell.

Lola Pierson, Elijah Revell, Xavier Richardson, Shaylee Sadler, Jersey Shepard, Sophey Spurlock, Ian Sullivan, Sailor Waters.

5th Grade, Honor Roll

Trystan Borders, Drake Bullard, Alison Carrillo, Cristian Carrillo-Garcia, Liberty Cook, Sophie Cooley, Vivienne Gooden, RJ Gottschall, Larry Hernandez.

Taryn Koontz, Merikha Oliver, Owen Pickel, Alysia Schexnider, Marissa Short, Carter Sims, Leah Turner, Blake Williams, Zachary Won.

Kindergarten screening set at Jonesboro School

Jonesboro School has scheduled a day of screening for 2022-2023 incoming kindergarten students.

Children who will be 5 years of age prior to Sept. 1, 2022, and live in the Jonesboro School District are eligible to enter kindergarten.

Screening is scheduled from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on April 4.

The school shared the following information about screening:

Parents are asked to call the school office at 833-5148 to schedule an appointment with secretaries Nancy Pind or Stephanie Hunter.

The school asks that appointments be made as soon as possible to better accommodate schedules. The entire screening process will take about one hour.

Kindergarten teachers Melissa Ellis and Susan Ramsey will be assessing the kindergarten readiness skills of children, such as

letter and number recognition, counting, name writing, cutting and tracing, patterning and color and shape identification.

The teachers will recommend skills on which to focus at home in order to best prepare a child for her or his first year of "big kid" school.

The screening also allows the teachers to meet their new students and parents.

Speech teacher Mackenzie Peck is scheduled to give each student a speech screening.

School nurse Donna Williams is scheduled to meet with each parent to discuss any medical conditions or allergies concerning each incoming kindergarten student.

The nurse will also provide parents with information regarding kindergarten physicals, eye exams. and dental exams.

The following items are

to be brought to the screening:

A copy of the child's birth certificate.

A completed "Student Information" sheet. Extra forms will be available on April 4.

A completed "Screening Policy/Permission Form." Extra forms will be available on April 4.

The school notes that the screening process does not register a child for kindergarten at Jonesboro School.

Parents will have to return to register their child for the 2022-2023 school year. Registration is scheduled to take place over the summer break.

At registration, parents will need to provide two proofs of residency for their child to be enrolled at Jonesboro School. Further information regarding valid proofs of residency will be available at the screening.

Registration dates are to be determined and will be posted on Jonesboro School's Facebook page and on the school's website at jonesboro43.com. Children do not need to attend registration.

Shawnee District 84 screening scheduled

Shawnee Community Unit School District No. 84 has scheduled kindergarten registration and pre-kindergarten screening.

Registration and screening for the 2022-2023 academic year are planned from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, April 1, at Shawnee Elementary School in Wolf Lake.

The school district asks that appointments be made by calling 833-4975.

Kindergarten will assess and register students who will be 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2022.

Pre-kindergarten screening will be for children ages 3 and 4.

In addition to the child, the following items are to be brought to the appointment:

The child's birth certificate and immunization record, a medical/insurance card and two proofs of residency.

Shawnee School District names honor students

Shawnee School District No. 84 announces third quarter high honor roll and honor roll students.

6th Grade, Honor Roll

Eliza Ford, Lillie Griffin, Brody Maeser, Kyle Shirley.

7th Grade, High Honor Roll

Addilyn Clark, Brock Ellet.

7th Grade, Honor Roll

Adyson Choate, Nick Dallas, Olivia Derossett, Sereniti Mefford.

8th Grade, Honor Roll

Lily Ellet, Cindy Price, Landon Smith, Daisy Taylor, Emma Young.

Freshmen, High Honor Roll

Gracie Davisson, Malory Follis, Noah Mayberry, Jaslyn Phelps, Jaeda Qualls.

Freshmen, Honor Roll

Kelci Baber, Alaina Charles, Mylee Mikel.

Sophomores, High Honor Roll

Olivia Clover, Bob Coo-

per, Marissa Harris, Ryan Libbert, Karsynne Livingston, Allie Myers, Elaine Willmore.

Sophomores, Honor Roll

Luke Choate, Kayman Ford, Ethan Smith, Carmen Tapley, Jace Williams, Brody Wills, Chase Woodard.

Juniors, High Honor Roll

Austin Kinder, Calley Sargent, Abigail Smith.

Juniors, Honor Roll

Abbagell Davis, Colton Harris, Grace Robinson, Rylie Wahaib, Dryden Wills.

Seniors, High Honor Roll

Autumn Derossett, Gabby Smith.

Seniors, Honor Roll

Connor Benbrook, Braden Freeman, Kayla Gore, Steven Graham, Alexis Miller, Jordan Robinson, Dustin Smith, Aubrey Walters, Xander Wigley.

Jonesboro School names honor students

Jonesboro Grade School announces third quarter high honors and honors students.

8th Grade, High Honors

Reese Jones, Grant Lingle, Aidan McFadden, Heidi Miller, Kenzie Miller, Kayleigh Wheaton.

8th Grade, Honors

Travis Burgher, Sadie Cross, Graydon Edmonds, Isabella Hawk, Raegan Jones, Jayci Needling, Lucas Tehandon.

7th Grade, High Honors

Blake Abernathy, Mackenzie Barnhart, Hannah Hale, Elizabeth Hill, Kinley Leek, Norah Kelley.

7th Grade, Honors

Emma Craig, Ella Helton, Reese Lofton, Brooke Sheffer, Kayleigh Shepard, Mackenzie Turner, Jaylin Vicory.

6th Grade, High Honors

Melaina Bundren, Seth Cochran, Hayden Staples, Adalyn Suggs, Kaitlyn Sullivan.

6th Grade, Honors

Sophia Hill, Madalyn Moss, Brayden Penninger.

5th Grade, High Honors

June Daniels, Kylie Dillow, Lindyn Eudy, Bowan Graves, Levi Hill, Allison Leek, Hayden Lewis, Trent Miller, Clara Mix, Kynlee Needling, Smith Wilson.

5th Grade, Honors

Jesica Ambrocio, Makayla Black, Caden Gurdley, Brody Heavrin, Nolan Holderfield, Lavada Kester, Emmett Meier, Gabriella Newberry, Mason Reynolds, Kaleb Slusher, Max Toler, Natalie Toler, Zayden Wright.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'Local Programs', 'Grey's Anatomy', 'The Bachelor', etc.

MARCH 31, 2022

FRIDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'Shark Tank', 'WWE Friday Night SmackDown', etc.

APRIL 1, 2022

SATURDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'American Idol Search for a Singer', 'The Bachelor', etc.

APRIL 2, 2022

SUNDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'Simpsons', 'American Idol', 'The Bachelor', etc.

APRIL 3, 2022

MONDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'American Idol', 'NCIS: False Start', etc.

APRIL 4, 2022

TUESDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'The Resident', 'Young Rock', etc.

APRIL 5, 2022

WEDNESDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM to 11 PM) and channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, ESPN, TBS, USA, DISN, HBO, MAX, SHOW). Lists programs like 'The Masked Singer', 'Chicago Med', etc.

APRIL 6, 2022

Anna News

By Martha Ann Webb

Please have news to me by Sunday night. Email me at marthaannwebb@gmail.com, mail to me at 118 W. Monroe St., leave news in the back of the green box at the right of my front door or call me at 833-5717.

A-JCHS Musical

A special thanks to all the students in Sponge Bob the Musical at A-JCHS, director Brad Stamp and everyone who helped with it this last weekend. It was great. It was so good to see everyone together again.

Birthday Celebrations

Willie and Terrie Rhymer of Dongola celebrated their birthdays March 22 and 24. They received many cards and well wishes, a Davis Pastry Ding Dong cake from the Yates family and another cake from the Jordan Rhymer family. They also were taken to Giant City Lodge to eat by Bob and Betty Caraker.

87th Birthday

Shirley West was honored on her birthday with a celebration by her family, Lisa from St. Louis and Brian from Indiana and other family members.

United Methodist Church, Anna

Rev. Tim Gossett's sermon was We Can Always Go Home, with scripture from Luke.

Rev. Tim told the children God forgives us if we ask him and told them the story of the lost son.

Janet Boyd did the Lenten candle litany. Special music was by Ben Twitchell, Marcy Morris and Carla Anderson. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Shirley West.

Anna Heights Baptist Church

Pastor Darryl Williams continued his sermon series questions and answers. This week: When will the

rapture take place?

Anna Heights social platform is at www.annaheights.com, or YouTube and Facebook for up to date Bible studies and other announcements.

March 20 attendance 8 a.m. worship service 92. 10:30 a.m. worship 117. Small group Bible study 225. 6 p.m. worship 22.

Walk through the Bible in the Old Testament event starts Sunday, April 24. The first session will be taught in the morning worship service. The second session will be in the after services.

Preschool egg hunt will be Sunday at 9:15 a.m. Operation Christmas Child March collection is girls underwear.

April 3 wedding anniversary Bob and Teri Dover.

Birthdays: March 30 Ruthanne Kissel, 31 Bob Caraker, April 1 Betty Caraker, 2 Michael Houseman, 5 Joann White, 7 Faith Barringer, 8 Will Halter.

American Legion

Guest speaker at the American Legion meeting was scheduled to be Homer and Janet Hawk's son-in-law Maj. Gen. James Bonner, commanding general at Fort Leonard Wood.

Honor Wreaths for Veterans

A special thanks to Audrey Davis for her donation of Honor Wreaths for Cleetus Davis and Larry Keener for St. John's Cemetery and Henry Davis for VB Holler.

Honor Wreaths are \$15 each. A special thanks to everyone who has bought one to honor the memory

of our soldiers who served our country.

Just Chill Concessions

Grand opening will be this Saturday in our Anna City Park. April 2. There will be live music and hourly door prizes. You must be present to win.

Outing

Martha Ann Webb and Bessie Mae Ellis enjoyed a beautiful day driving to see the beautiful trees and flowers that are blooming.

They went to Cape Girardeau and to the new Rural King grand opening, Sappington Pro Outdoor, Jackson, Mo., celebration, shopping at other places and eating at Lambert's Cafe in Sikeston, Mo.

Anna VFW

Friday, April 1, Peggy will be there with her Star Karaoke from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Women's History Month

On Saturday, March 26, LEAA fiber group leader Marie Samuel spoke in the Southern Illinois University Carbondale University Museum auditorium for Women's History Month. Claudia Broom also spoke about her paintings.

As one of 24 women artists in a collective exhibit juried by Teresa Fix, Women's Voices features six of those women speaking about their work on three separate days.

Marie's topic was "My Quilt Journey" with a slide show from the book edited by Patty Morrison with a few images from the chapbook Patty also edited with art and poetry that is available at LEAA.

Other speakers and their topics: Wil Maring, painting, March 5. Carrie Gibbs, ceramics, March 5. Sandy Shea, April 2, 2 p.m., photography. Lynn Nimtz, April 2, 3 p.m., eco printing.



Sponge Bob the Musical was performed at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School this past weekend. Thanks to everyone who came to see it and for all the hard work by director Brad Stamp, the students and everyone who helped with it.



Congratulations to Luxy Girls ribbon cutting by the chamber of commerce located inside Annabelle Market.

The free exhibit is up until May 7 at SIU. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Groups may contact the museum for a tour or to schedule the artist for a repeat of her 45 minute program about her fiber creations in the auditorium titled "My Quilt Journey from Aprons to Art Quilts."

Florida Day Trip by Barbara Bauer

Folks think of Florida as sunshine, water, beaches and citrus groves. (And of course, traffic.)

A day trip on Highway 60 across central Florida offers quite a different scene. Vast tropical grass lands support hundreds of grazing cattle. I was shocked to learn that the State of Florida ranks 13th in U.S. beef production.

The flat, sometimes arid, sometimes green pasture lands dotted by tropical trees and plants make me think of scene "out of Africa." Sunrises and sunsets are awesome.

Not to go unnoticed is the nearly 300,000-acre Deseret Cattle and Citrus Ranch, owned by a branch of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

Separate from the church's religious efforts, the ranch is a for-profit enterprise, pays taxes as a business and employs a work force of hundreds.

Wikipedia notes that "Deseret" is a term from the The Book of Mormon referring to the honeybee. The name signifies the "hard work and industry" (of honeybees) that the ranch is all about.

That reminds me that we have seen numerous collections of bee hives around central Florida. Perhaps some boxes are brought here for winter and other hives take advantage of the native and/or cultivated plants here.

Traveling east on Highway 60 we arrived at Vero Beach and all its winter holiday population.

There we had a delightful visit with Illinois snowbirds Joe and Dietlinde Sawakitis, parents of our daughter-in-law Ursula Bauer. Joe and Dietlinde are natives of Germany and have so many interesting stories to share. They love to escort us to the beach boardwalk to enjoy the sea breeze.

Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club

GFWC Illinois Anna Jonesboro Women's Club will meet at 1:30 p.m. April 4 in the United Methodist Church Anna Fellowship Hall. The program is education with Cheryl Graff, regional superintendent of schools guest speaker.

The devotion will be by Martha Ann Webb and Barbara Bauer current events. Everyone is invited to attend. The club is always looking for new members.



Phil Ray celebrated his birthday March 30. A special thanks to Phil for serving our country in the Vietnam War and for doing our ceremony at our Honor Wreaths for Veterans program each December.



Shown here Saturday, March 26, at SIU's University Museum "Women's Voices" exhibit before her presentation in the auditorium is Marie Samuel with her friend and artist from Carterville, Suzanne Starchild, on the left. The art quilt shown here is one of the entries by 24 area female artists in the show. "More Water Under Monet's Garden Bridge" is a tribute to Monet's famous painting done at his garden in France. It is from a traveling series about famous artists titled "Inspired by Art & Nature."



The Annabelle Festival committee met Thursday, March 24, at the Anna Arts Center. Those present were Joni Barwick, Tracey Smith, Tanya Loveless, Martha Ann Webb and photographer Lee Hackney. The festival will be in beautiful downtown Anna on Saturday, June 11.



Kenny Ray Swink Jr. and Sharon celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary March 23.



Wedding congratulations to Casey Dalton Nix and Dallas Ann Newman of Alton, daughter of Kevin and Judy Newman of Anna, married March 18, 2022.



Illinois snowbirds in Vero Beach, Fla., Dietlinde and Joe Sawakitis entertain Barbara Bauer of Anna with stories from Germany. Most of their stories of life in Germany in the 1940s are not so happy. I expect Joe is telling us about his early automobile mechanics learning experiences. He enjoys talking about cars with Norm Bauer.



Vero Beach, Fla., resident and friend of the Bauers Joe Sawakitis shared his love for the ocean beach boardwalk with Norm and Barb Bauer visiting there from Anna.



Janet Boyd is very proud of her son Jackson Boyd and his new business Boyd's Excavating.



Stephen Burns proudly shows off his Bald Knob Cross of Peace shirt in St. Louis. A gift he received for Christmas. Stephen said he only wore it for special occasions as he wanted to make it last a long time but with the world the way it is we cannot be silent so is wearing it to work. Stephen hopes to soon be living in Union County and comes from St. Louis to volunteer for the PAST House, Honor Wreaths for Veterans, Anna Arts Center and other places he can help. His help is appreciated very much.



Cynthia Kothe of the SEMO Iris Society will be speaking April 1 on preparing for an iris show. Tips and tricks will be shared as well as American Iris Society show rules and regulations. This will be their first meeting of the year and will be in the basement of the University of Missouri Extension Center in Jackson, Mo., at 5:30 p.m. Bring a plant and take a plant exchange. There will also be a door prize. Hosts will be Cynthia and Jerry Kothe. The SEMO Iris Society annual flower show will be May 7.

Obituaries

Barbara Irene Glasco

Barbara Irene Glasco died at 9:43 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at her home, surrounded by family.

She was born on June 28, 1935, at home in Ashland, Ill., the daughter of Clyde and Lula Mae Clemmons.

She married Keith DuWayne Sr. on March 16, 1957, in Ashland. He preceded her in death on Feb. 16, 2017.

She is survived by her two sons, DuWayne (Vicki) Glasco of Cobden and Tim (Glenda) Glasco of Anna; grandsons Greg Glasco of Cobden and Mark (Amy) Glasco of Cobden; granddaughters Amanda Glasco of Jonesboro, Andrea Glasco of Cobden, Tracy Glasco of Cobden and Lauren (Eric) Myers of Cobden; numerous great-grandchildren; a sister, Karen (Jim) Barnhart; nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by both of her parents and by her brother, Willie Clemmons.

Mrs. Glasco was an active member of the United Missionary Baptist Church for many years. She was a much loved wife, "mom" and grandma to her entire family.

Every person she met has a story to tell about how she touched their life. When she wasn't watching her "kids" or "grandkids" rodeo or play sports, you could find her at her kitchen table on the hill of her beautiful Southern Illinois farm with her loyal dog, Hash.

Funeral services for Mrs. Barbara I. Glasco were at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro, with the Rev. Paul Sadler officiating. Interment was in Ebenezer Hall Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to United Missionary Baptist Church or to Hospice of Southern Illinois.

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

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



Ronald Thomas Simmons

Ronald Thomas Simmons, 73, of Villa Ridge, and formerly of Cairo, died Saturday, March 26, 2022, at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

Mr. Simmons was born in Cairo, the son of Thomas Simmons and Virginia Sneed Allbritten. He was a proud U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam.

Upon returning home from Vietnam, he met and married the love of his life, Mary Ann Rogers. Together, they built a charming life full of nearly 50 years of love and laughter.

Mr. Simmons formerly owned Mack's BBQ in Cairo, before finding his love of the car business. A natural salesman, he was clever, kind and outgoing. He truly never met a stranger and was known for his loyal following of customers for many years. Ron retired from Morlan Dodge in Sikeston, Mo.

Those left behind to cherish his memory include his wife, Mary Ann Simmons of Villa Ridge; three children, Allen (Fitra) Simmons of Broomfield, Colo., Angie Simmons of Mounds and Bree (Bryan) Hileman of Mounds; five cherished grandchildren, Brandon Simmons, Drake Thomas Hileman (Pa's Little Buddy), Thalia Simmons, Aiden Simmons and Allen Simmons; and dear family friend Lonnie Coleson.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Interment will be at a later date in the Mound City National Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the member benefit fund at the Illinois Veterans Home in Anna.

Crain Funeral Home in Cairo is in charge of arrangements.

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



Sandra M. Williams

Sandra M. Williams, 86, of Anna, and formerly of Cairo, died on March 21, 2022, at 4:30 a.m. at her home.

She was born on Sept. 1, 1935, in Cairo, the daughter of Barney and Oma Briney Beard.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James D. Williams Sr., and a daughter-in-law, Linda (Patrick).

In addition to raising three sons, she was a full-time working mother. She managed the Manor Motel in Cairo for many years.

She later worked for Service Master Corporation, working her way up to plant manager. In the latter part of her career, she specialized in institutional startups for Service Master, traveling throughout the southeast United States until her retirement. Upon retirement, she and husband Jimmy Dean settled in Anna.

Even in retirement, she was very active, serving on the board of Southern Pride Senior Program. One of her greatest pastimes was traveling and camping in her motor home.

She is survived by her three sons, Michael W. (Paula) Williams, James D. Williams Jr. and Patrick T. Williams; grandchildren Meghan N. Williams, Lee A. Williams, Cody D. Williams, Micah E. Williams and Jamie Williams; great-grandson Connor and (unofficially adopted daughter) Dawn (Little Girl) Walston.

Her abundant family and friends left behind will always cherish the memory of her kindness, strength, determination and character.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 26, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with the Rev. Jerry Gleason officiating.

Interment followed in Green Lawn Memorial Gardens in Villa Ridge.

Memorials can be made to the Southern Pride Senior Program.

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



Roy Lee Boren

Roy Lee Boren, 74, of Tamms, died Monday, March 21, 2022, at 1:36 p.m. at his residence.

He was born on Nov. 10, 1947, in Mound City, the son of Ralph Wilburn and Virginia Millie Munsell Boren.

He married Shirley Baine on Oct. 1, 1966. She preceded him in death on Aug. 12, 2019.

He was a proud Marine Corps veteran who served in Vietnam. He was a former member of the Cape Girardeau VFW.

In his spare time, Mr. Boren enjoyed hunting and fishing. During his career, he worked as a communications technician and retired from Southwestern Bell.

Survivors include his daughter, Elizabeth "Beth" Havey of Eureka, Mo.; his son, Brent (Wendy) Boren of Tamms; eight grandchildren, Caleb, Cameron (Jordan), Andrew, Courtney, Brent Jr., Luke, Annie and Jenny; three great-grandchildren, Carter, Harper, Coby and another expected; as well as nieces, nephews and many other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; a daughter, Becky Boren; and a sister, Carolyn Best.

A service honoring the life of Roy Lee Boren was held at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at Crain Funeral Home in Tamms, with the Rev. Carl Dillow officiating. Interment followed in McCrite Cemetery, with military honors.

Memorials can be made to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program.

Crain Funeral Home in Tamms was in charge of arrangements.



Donna Faye Pearman

Donna Faye Pearman, 66, of Anna, died Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at her residence.

She was born on Feb. 25, 1956, in Miller City, the daughter of Wilburn and Mary Lee Pettit Farris.

She married Rodney Pearman. He preceded her in death on Oct. 2, 2011.

She enjoyed crafting and gardening in her spare time. She was very outgoing, and never met a stranger. She loved reading her Bible.

Survivors include, her daughter, Shelly Pearman; grandchildren Noah Pearman, Mariah Downs, Drake Ridenhour, Keaton Pearman and Braya Pearman; a sister, Brenda Davis; three brothers, Paul, Dean and Steve Farris; and several other nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Besides her husband, Rodney, she was preceded in death by her son, Patrick Pearman; her parents; two brothers, James Farris and Kenneth Farris; and a sister, Sandra Farris.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, March 29, at 1 p.m. at Rose Hill Cemetery in Thebes, with the Rev. Larry Potts officiating.

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



Karen Lee Johnson

Karen Lee Johnson, 78, of Anna, and formerly of Granite City, died surrounded by her loved ones at home on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

She was born on Dec. 20, 1943, in Granite City, the daughter of Joseph and Leola Wise Harley.

She loved to play bingo in her spare time. She loved spending time with her family, but mostly her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her great-grandchildren loved going to see "Memaw" for candy.

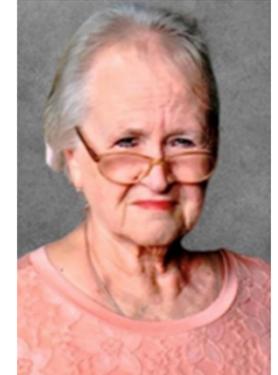
Survivors include her daughters, Tracie Easterly of Carbondale and Dawn (Henry) Hand of Anna; a son, Phillip "Moe" (Nancy) Johnson of Anna; brothers Joseph "Joey" (Margaret) Harley of Decatur and Ricky (Kathy) Harley of Greenville; a sister, Marion Henderson of Collinsville; eight grandchildren, Ashley (Josh), Christopher, Steven, Matt, Bryce, Caleb, Jacob (Emily) and Dakota (Sara); 15 great-grandchildren, Ian, Wyatt, Zoey, Kaden, Karcen, Jaycee, Ana, Makenna, Charlotte, Beckett, Rhett, Heidi, Maci, Harper and Raylynn; and several other relatives and friends.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her sisters, Jeanette Megyese and Geraldine Gavlick; and three brothers, Keith, Leo and Bobby Harley.

A memorial service honoring the life of Karen Lee Johnson was held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 25, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with Joseph Harley officiating.

Memorials can be made to the family to assist with funeral expenses.

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



Kenny Broadway

Kenny Broadway, 61, of Anna, died Monday, March 21, 2022, at Ascension St. Vincent in Evansville, Ind.

He was born on May 22, 1960, in Union County, the son of Jim and Hilda Werner Broadway.

He married Barbara Smith on Sept. 5, 1981, in Anna.

Mr. Broadway is survived by his wife, Barbara Broadway of Anna; brothers Mike Broadway of Cobden and Gary (Shirley) Broadway of Jonesboro; sisters Sandy Carpenter of Tilton, Sheila (Steve) Zinn of Dongola and Linda (Tim) Hanney of Anna; many nieces and nephews, Shawn, Amy, and Janie; many great-nieces and nephews, Aden and Jaycie Hopkins, Nick and Chris James; sisters-in-law Sharon Broadway, Christine Broadway, Rhonda Broadway, Dorris Downs of Granite City, Ella (Ed) Earnhart of Anna, Phyllis (Junior) DuRall of Anna and Pam Smith and Cathy Smith; brothers-in-law Danny Smith of Ohio and Steve (Carol) Smith of Indianapolis, Ind.; his mother-in-law, Rosie Smith; several cousins; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Bill, George and Chuck Broadway; a nephew, David Broadway; and his father-in-law, Clarence Smith.

Mr. Broadway was a jack of all trades and worked various jobs over the years.

He attended Lockard Chapel Baptist Church and enjoyed singing along to gospel music. He loved listening to music and dancing, especially with Barbara.

He enjoyed fishing any time he was able to go. He loved spending time with his nieces and nephews and his dog Chloe.

Memorial services were at 3 p.m. Friday, March 25, at Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Jonesboro, with Jack Richardson officiating.

Memorials can be made to Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home to assist the family with expenses.

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

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



Tony Burton

Tony Burton, 73, of Chaffee, Mo., and formerly of Tamms, died Sunday, March 27, 2022, at 1:11 a.m. at Southeast Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

He was the son of William and Molly Knupp Burton, who both preceded him in death.

He was united in marriage to Mary Ellen Lang, who preceded him in death in 1984.

In his spare time, Mr. Burton loved fishing and gardening.

Survivors include two daughters, Mary Rainey and Tia (Codey) Jordan; three sons, Tony, Jr. (Lana) Burton, Tommy (Shanell) Burton and Joey Burton; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; as well as several siblings, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

In addition to his parents and wife, Mr. Burton was preceded in death by several siblings.

A funeral service honoring the life of Tony Burton will be held Thursday, today, at 1 p.m., at Crain Funeral Home in Tamms, with Steve Pennington officiating. Interment will follow in Fayette Cemetery near Olive Branch.

A time of visitation will be held prior to the service, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Crain Funeral Home to assist with funeral expenses.

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



Richard L. 'Dick' Stewart

Richard L. "Dick" Stewart, 82, of Ullin, and formerly of Elgin, died Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at his residence.

He was born on March 18, 1940, in Elgin, the son of Charles and Irene Anderson Stewart.

He married Linda McMillion on March 3, 1989, and she survives.

Mr. Stewart served in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1962. He was a retired communication technician from Illinois Bell Telephone.

He was a member of Cross Road United Methodist Church in Ullin. He was a member of the NRA for over 30 years.

Besides his wife, Linda, he is survived by two step-daughters, LaDonna Dexter and Sheryl Shelton, both of Anna; a stepson, Steven (Karen) Hubbs of Georgetown, Texas; seven grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Mr. Stewart was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Gladys Bressette and Patricia Stewart; and one nephew, Bobby Stewart.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m. Monday, March 28, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with Pastor Pete Vinson officiating.

Interment followed in Casper Cemetery near Anna. Memorial honors were accorded.

Memorials can be made to Cross Road United Methodist Church.

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



Dr. Harold Franklin Wilkins

Dr. Harold Franklin Wilkins, 87, died from COVID-19 in Baldwin, Wis., on Jan. 7, 2021.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Harley Wilkins, mother Pauline Ruth (Fox) Wilkins; and a brother, John Harley Wilkins II.

Survivors include his devoted partner, Bryan Gjevre; extended family and many colleagues and friends.

Born in Cobden, on Nov. 3, 1933, he loved books, bookstores/libraries, newspapers, poetry, letters and flowers. He enjoyed good coffee, new restaurants, classical music and a good story.

Dr. Wilkins received his horticulture doctorate from the University of Illinois.

He spent his career teaching and mentoring at Cornell University, the University of Florida, the University of Minnesota, Ohio State University, and he consulted all over the world.

A beloved teacher, he was devoted to helping all of his students reach their goals. He proudly "fathered" 11 Ph.D. students.

As the author of more than 200 publications, the recipient of numerous awards, the guest speaker at many seminars and conferences, his impact on the floriculture industry is unquestionable.

He influenced horticulture globally. He traveled to Israel, the Netherlands, Russia, Japan, South Africa and Chile, among other countries, to collect information for his research.

As a retirement project in 2005, he and Bryan purchased a nine-acre property near Baldwin, Wis., and named it Goldfinch Flower Farm.

They grew and sold beautiful and unique flowers to local florists and the Mill City Farmers Market.

In addition to research, Dr. Wilkins taught floral design and his bouquets were always exquisite. He consistently shared his positive energy and concern; he was described by many as unwaveringly sweet and kind.

Shortly before passing, Harold told Bryan he was going "upstairs to recuperate."

Many thanks to all healthcare workers during this pandemic – your dedication is unparalleled.

A graveside memorial service to honor the life of Dr. Harold Wilkins will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, April 4, at the Anna Cemetery. Rendleman & Hileman Funeral Home in Anna is in charge of arrangements.

In his memory, support your local florists and garden centers.

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

RENDELMAN & HILEMAN FUNERAL HOMES



Janelle Eudy

Janelle Eudy, 78, of Jonesboro, was called home quietly on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at Carbondale Memorial Hospital.

She was born on Oct. 28, 1943, the daughter of Leonard and Marie Hines Cooley. She was baptized on March 10, 1957.

She married Lynn Eudy on Dec. 2, 1959. He preceded her in death on March 21, 2022.

Janelle and Lynn loved their two sons; she was deeply involved in their achievements and success throughout their lives. She worked at Rural Health for numerous decades before retiring.

After retirement, she enjoyed reading numerous books from her sister, and discussing genealogy and the Civil War with her brother. Later in life she began to greatly enjoy watching professional football, but spending time with all her grandchildren and great-grandchild was what she loved the most. She will be deeply missed.

She is survived by her two sons, Gregory Lynn Eudy and Michael and Gwen Eudy, both of Jonesboro; five grandchildren, Madelynn Eudy of Cape Girardeau, Lindyn Eudy, Marin Eudy, Ridley Eudy and Seren Eudy, all of Jonesboro; a great-grandchild, Silas Eudy of Cape Girardeau; sisters Marceline (Rev. Bill) Bohannon of Wood River and Venita Brafford of Herrin; a brother, Earl Ray Cooley of Dongola; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Reba Janelle Eudy was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Vurl Deleen Cooley, Lowell Cooley, Larry Cooley, Richard Cooley and Leon Cooley; and a sister, Loretta Evins.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 1, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro. Funeral services will be immediately following visitation. Interment will follow in Jonesboro Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Sunshine Inn Senior Center. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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



Lynn Eudy

Lynn Eudy, 84, of Jonesboro, died Monday, March 21, 2022, at Jonesboro Rehab.

Mr. Eudy was born on Dec. 10, 1937, in Reynoldsville, the son of Clovis Pearl and Virgie Jewell Cain Eudy.

He married Janelle Cooley on Dec. 2, 1959, and she survives.

He grew up working as a farmer. He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school, and served in the Army from 1956 to 1958.

For over 30 years, Mr. Eudy enjoyed helping to run the Union County Fair. He worked in the community until his retirement.

He loved being a grandpa, and spent his time after retirement helping to raise his grandchildren. He enjoyed attending local sporting events for decades.

He was baptized at a young age and a believer of Christ throughout his entire life.

Besides his wife, Janelle, he is survived by his two sons, Gregory Lynn Eudy and Michael and Gwen Eudy, both of Jonesboro; five grandchildren, Madelynn Eudy of Cape Girardeau, Lindyn Eudy, Marin Eudy, Ridley Eudy and Seren Eudy, all of Jonesboro; a great-grandchild, Silas Eudy of Cape Girardeau; a brother, Lyman Eudy; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Mr. Eudy was preceded in death by his parents and by two sisters, Ella Carlton and Janice Rhodes.

Funeral services were at 10 a.m. Monday, March 28, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna-Jonesboro, with Bill Littrell officiating. Interment was in the Jonesboro Cemetery, with military honors accorded.

Memorials can be made to the Union County Fair Association.

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



Reynoldsville News

By Sue Eudy

Our sympathy to the family of Lynn Eudy of Jonesboro who died Monday, March 21. His funeral was held Monday, March 28, at Crain Funeral Home in Anna.

Sunday dinner guests of Dolores Reynolds of Reynoldsville were Greg and Amy Reynolds and Jackie and Jay Jennings and Gracie Wilson, all of Reynoldsville.

Rodney and Vicki Reynolds of Wolf Lake visited Sunday afternoon with Dolores Reynolds.

Sue Eudy of Anna visited Thursday afternoon with Ervina Johnson at The Voyage.

Visiting Sunday with Sue and Steve Eudy for

lunch were Emma Eudy and Jonathan Bohnert of Cape Girardeau. Also visiting were Kyle Eudy of Cape Girardeau and Shirley Miller of McClure.

Penny Hill of McClure visited Tuesday afternoon with Shirley Miller of McClure.

Kacie Gollhofer of McClure visited Thursday afternoon with Shirley Miller of McClure.

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

News from

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Anna



Children's church on Sunday was about the prodigal son and the story of God's grace. Photo provided.

Lent services scheduled:

Wednesday, March 30, Wednesday at 7 p.m., Salem Lutheran Church, Jonesboro, with dinner at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 6, Wednesday at 7 p.m., Mt. Mo-

riah, with dinner at 6 p.m.

An Easter egg hunt and crafts are planned in the parking lot at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church Saturday, April 2, from 10 a.m.

to 1 p.m., during the Anna city wide egg hunt.

William David (Frogg) Elkins

William David (Frogg) Elkins died on Dec. 21, 2021.

A Celebration of Life for Frogg will be held Friday, April 8, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Berryville Community Center, 601 Dr Spurlin Cir, Berryville, Ark.

There will also be a Celebration of Life for Frogg on Sunday, April 10, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Davie School Inn, 300 Freeman St., in Anna.

Couple married 60 years

Dean and Ruth Kessel of Dongola celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 17.

The Kessels were married on March 17, 1962, at St. Peters Lutheran Church in Campbell Hill.

The couple celebrated their 60th anniversary in Tennessee with their family, Randy, Mary and Austin Kessel, Ryanne and Logan Brimm, Melanie and Donny Sanders, Ashley, Chris and Cohen Palmer.

8,039 new COVID cases in Illinois

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, on Friday, March 25, reported 8,039 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Illinois, including an increase of 109 deaths since reporting on March 18.

On March 25, IDPH was reporting a total of 3,061,224 cases, including 33,307 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois, since the start of the pandemic.

As of Thursday night, March 24, 470 people in

Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19.

Of Illinois' total population, more than 76 percent had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, more than 68 percent of the state's total population was fully vaccinated and almost 50 percent had received a booster, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC.

All data are provisional and will change, IDPH reported.



1st Annual

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Thank you to our Campaign Partners!














Monday morning sky

Sunlight was breaking through a cloudy sky early Monday morning in Union County. The photograph was taken between Cobden and Anna.

Shifts in food purchase patterns could be permanent

By Daniel Grant
FarmWeek

The pandemic greatly accelerated online food purchases and created a new revenue stream for many restaurants in the form of curbside sales.

And now, even as masks come off with the lifting of mandates at many locations around the United States, those trends in the food industry are expected to continue or even grow.

Andrew Harig, vice president of tax, trade, sustainability and policy for the Food Industry Association, and Hudson Riehle, of the National Restaurant Association, discussed food industry trends during USDA's 98th annual Ag Outlook Forum.

"2021 was one of the most difficult years we've faced, even more so than 2020, with COVID, supply chain disruptions and inflation that carried into 2022," Harig said.

"Consumers are being remarkably resilient. We've seen a big rise in online shopping, but a real anxiousness to get back to stores to select items for themselves."

A recent survey shows consumers' preferred method of shopping is a combination of in-store and online at 35 percent, followed by 34 percent in-store only and 28 percent online. The remaining 3 percent reported no preference.

These shopping trends are expected to continue with nearly two-thirds of

consumers now purchasing at least a portion of their food online.

The top influencers of food purchases are good value, product quality and overall price, Harig reported.

Meanwhile, the restaurant industry bounced back last year from tremendous losses in 2020, but nowhere near pre-pandemic levels.

Restaurant sales totaled just \$659 billion in 2020 (down from a forecast entering the year of \$899 billion) before recovering to around \$800 billion last year.

"There has been some recovery from the depths of the pandemic," Riehle said. "And (sales) continue to improve, but it looks to be another year of transition."

The food service industry continues to deal with a shift in sales from in-house to takeout, high food and transportation costs, and a lack of available workers. Wholesale food price inflation jumped 7.8 percent last year.

Only six states had as many or more food service workers at the end of February compared to pre-pandemic levels, according to Riehle.

In Illinois, the number of food service workers is still down about 12 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels.

"On-premises restaurant dining is still down significantly," Riehle said. "Drive-through, curbside and delivery has been a lifeline to the industry."

Looking ahead, Riehle foresees more streamlining of menus in restaurants to adjust for supply issues along with the use of more technology and more online orders.

"It's going to be a while before we can make adjustments to get the supply side caught up," Harig said. "Really, for the first time, I think a lot of consumers are beginning to realize just how complex the supply chain can be."

And the situation is even more complex now due to drought in South America and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Those two countries account for about 29 percent of global wheat exports.

"The inflation story is really an energy and food price spike story," Jacob Shapiro, chief strategist for Perch Perspectives, told FarmWeek.

In Europe, for instance, energy prices were up more than 28 percent year over year and food prices increased more than 5 percent while other items increased just 2.3 percent, Shapiro noted.

"The Russia-Ukraine war will only exacerbate that," he said. "Unless (the two sides) reach a settlement soon, expect higher inflation, especially driven by energy and food prices."

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

Sustainable gardening workshops set at SIU

Participants in sustainable gardening workshops which are scheduled to start April 2 at Southern Illinois University Carbondale will learn the tools of the trade and be able to take home what they made in mini greenhouses of recycled materials.

Lindsey Orphan, sustainable farms manager at SIU, said the workshops are the initiative of community outreach in surrounding areas.

Participants, including novice gardeners, will learn how to sustain their own gardens at home.

"Food production and gardening is a lost art," she said. "We want participants to be capable of growing their own gardens."

Orphan said she hopes the workshops will spark interest in people who are not familiar with gardening.

She said the workshops will appeal to many tastes, including heirloom vegetables, seed starting, gardening for pollinators and cut flowers.

The SIU College of Agricultural, Life and Physical Sciences, University Farms and Sustainable Farms are sponsoring these gardening workshops, which will take place at the Agronomy Research Center.

These workshops are open to the public and cost \$25 to \$50.

Organizers plan to offer two workshops per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with a maximum of 10 to 15 people per session.

Workshop topics, costs and information include:

April 2, Heirloom Vegetable (\$25): Compare

State to end operations at community-based COVID-19 testing sites

The Illinois Department of Public Health, IDPH, on Friday, March 25, announced that in response to a sharp drop in the demand for COVID-19 testing services at the 10 community-based testing sites and the anticipated end of federal funding, operations at the locations will end on March 31.

IDPH previewed that operations would be winding down when the mask mandate was lifted and has seen traffic at the sites, which carried out more than 1.5 million tests in total throughout their operation, drop precipitously in recent weeks.

The sites were handling less than 1 percent of the tests being conducted statewide.

The number of daily tests

conducted at the sites is on track to be the lowest on record, with each site seeing fewer than 50 individuals per day, according to IDPH data.

Given the availability of free at-home COVID-19 tests from the federal government, the statewide network of federally qualified health centers and the extensive number of SHIELD saliva testing sites throughout Illinois, there are ample, convenient opportunities for Illinois residents to obtain access to a test if needed.

Officials said the state is currently strongly positioned to respond to a potential surge, with the state stockpile of tests nearly fully replenished. There are more than 1.5 million rapid tests on hand, with a half a million more on the way in the coming weeks.

The state has also instructed hospitals, schools and local health departments to consider their current testing capacity and take all preparations necessary.

The state is also in communication with pharmacies and healthcare providers about increasing their inventory of the various FDA-approved oral BA.2 treatments in case of another surge.

IDPH established the drive-thru community-based testing sites in April, 2020 when there were far fewer options for residents to get tested. The ten locations will stop operations as of their respective closing times on March 31.

Demand for tests at the community-based sites reached a peak of more 1,040 tests per day at each site in November 2020.

Five sites that also provide vaccinations as well, having administered almost 8,800 doses. This is in addition to more than 243,000 vaccinations provided through almost 8,000 mobile vaccination clinics.

heirloom veggies to store bought ones and learn how to grow them. Take home seeds and resources for future gardens.

April 23, Spring Seed Starting (\$30): Learn how to efficiently start seeds for your own garden.

May 14, Celebrating Mom (\$50): The morning workshop focuses on flowers and the afternoon one is about herbs. Plant and take home your container and gift to mom for Mother's Day.

May 24, Gardening for Pollinators (\$25): Learn about the roles of pollinators and how to support them. Take home a native pollinator plant.

June 18, July 2, Aug. 20, Summer Cut Flowers (\$45): Tour the cut flower garden at SIU Center of Sustainable Agriculture and take a bouquet home with you.

More information, and registration are available by visiting the Saluki Gardening Workshops webpage at conferenceservices.siu.edu.

Earth Day in Parks funded

Eleven Illinois park districts will receive nearly \$11,000 to offer Earth Day in the Parks activities, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, and the Illinois Conservation Foundation recently announced.

Earth Day in the Parks has been offered through IDNR since 2007.

The events provide students and teachers with an opportunity to increase the use of native plants in Illinois landscapes while benefiting wildlife species.

IDNR has wanted to expand the reach of such

events by including park districts as host sites.

A recent donation from the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation in Skokie to the ICF allowed the agency to do so for the first time.

The program in cooperation with park districts supports the development of pollinator gardens and planting of native trees and shrubs as wildlife habitat.

For many students, it's the first time they make a connection with their environment and see that they can make positive changes for the world.

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Life in a pineapple under the sea

A-JCHS presents 'The SpongeBob Musical'

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School took a trip into treasured childhood memories with their spring theatre production of "The SpongeBob Musical."

The live-action, musical comedy is based on the classic Nickelodeon animated program "SpongeBob SquarePants," originally created by Stephen Hillenburg.

The A-J cast performed three shows, with evening productions on March 25 and 26 and a matinee show on Sunday, March 27.

Cast members included Jolie Barger, Karina Griffin, Maddy Schnaare, Lucas Salazar, Sophia Dudley, Payton Seip, Logan Abernathy, Jady Samuels, Serena Hasty, Marissa Turner, Emilee Turner, Chloe McFarland, Olivia McHugh, Callysta Borders, Julia Williams, Ian Crunk, Evie Eddings, Matti Houseman, El Lingle, Jayci Hopkins and Sky Williams.

Production directors included Brad Stamp as musical director, Jada Hudson as choreographer/assistant director and Marissa Turner as student choreographer/dance lead.

Stage directors included Tina Vancil, Dale Vancil, Izzy Tehandón, Hallie Black, Sydney Waun, Kosie Tripp, Allison Frick, Genesis Martin, Baley Robinson, Cadance Agne, Kosie Tripp.

Stage crew included Izzy Tehandón, Cadance Black, Kansas Griffin, Connor Richardson, Alexander Meier, Alexis Nekola, Juliana McNelly, Cadance Agne, Kaylina Willey, Jada Buck, Sky Williams, Marissa Turner, Katie Kirk and Seth Turner.

The orchestra director was Rachel Norton, and the musicians included Kelsey Huffman, Ariana Moutell, Rick Brady, Isabel Tehandón, Dee Rose, Spencer Kelley, Cadance Black, Wendy Ronna, Debbie York, Krystal McLane, Jon Hiller, Melissa Brady, Jaxson Smith and Brilea Smith.

The names of those involved in the musical are listed as they appeared in the production program. Pictures were taken at the March 27 performance.



Opinion and Commentary

Spring brings hope amid uncertainty

By Richard Guebert Jr.
Illinois Farm Bureau President

The first day of spring historically coincides with National Ag Day each March.

As a farmer, I view it as the unofficial launch of the approaching planting season for Illinois farmers and those businesses who help get our raw product from field to table.

Farmers of all sizes and commodities are ready to start their growing season and feed our customers locally, regionally, and globally. For those working in agriculture, Ag Day is every day as we continue to grow a crop to feed a growing world.

National Ag Day, which this year was Tuesday, March 22, offered the chance to recognize the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant, and affordable products, along with highlighting the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy and career opportunities that exist in the agriculture, food and fiber sectors.

As Ag Day was happening two years ago, our focus was making sure those of us in agriculture could continue to work as the pandemic unfolded right before our eyes. What transpired over the next two years revealed the resiliency of our American food system while supply chains were challenged.

The food and agriculture industries' vital roles in feeding Americans is well known, but their incredible impacts in feeding and growing the nation's economy is less talked about. While farmers represent less than 2 percent of the population, we provide a tremendous value to the domestic food and economic sectors.

Two years later, our focus is on our fellow Ukraine farmers. Ukrainian farmers are just like us, and we hope and pray they can plant a crop, just like what we are preparing to do.

As the Ukraine conflict began several weeks ago, our commodity markets experienced market volatility, including fuel prices responsible for a large percentage of input costs. I again remind consumers, "farmers are price takers, not price makers."

I continue to take calls from reporters wondering if Illinois farmers will pivot and plant more wheat this spring due to the concerns of the Ukrainian export market. We all took the role Ukraine farmers play in the world wheat export demand for granted. Ukraine farmers and the Black Sea region typically account for about 30 percent of world wheat exports and are a vital supplier of wheat to less-developed nations in the Middle East and Africa, among other destinations.

As for the opportunity for Illinois farmers to plant more wheat, our winter wheat is already in the ground, and the upper Plains would be better positioned to grow more wheat to fill the global demand due to the Ukraine conflict. Friendly reminder, not all climate and soil types are suited for certain crops – and this is especially true for wheat.

So, as we move through the coming days of this 2022 growing season, I want to leave you with this reminder: Agriculture continues to produce what is needed.

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

Political letters to the editor

All letters to the editor endorsing, opposing or pertaining to political candidates must be published as paid election letters. They will be subject to a publication fee of \$50.

A paid election letter must be paid for by the writer. If the letter is paid for by another individual or organization, that information must be stated, according to election laws.

A letter must be signed and must contain the name of the person who wrote the letter, the writer's address and the writer's telephone number. The telephone number will not be published, but must be included for verification purposes.

The deadline to submit a paid election letter, and payment for the letter, is noon on the Thursday prior to publication of the letter. The newspaper reserves the right to edit a letter for clarity, brevity and legal purposes.

Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

'Almost heaven'...and some other places, too

Went for a walk last Sunday afternoon...
Saw a fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life. His pace was much faster than mine, in that he was jogging and I was...not...

Based on previous encounters...his jogging was in terms of miles...while my walking was in terms of...blocks...
Meanwhile...

John Denver came to mind over the weekend...
A fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life was talking about making plans for a journey to West Virginia. As you may know, Mr. Denver, may he rest in peace, had a popular song about the state that used to be a part of Virginia...at least until that little Civil War thing came along...

West Virginia, as you may know from the song, is "almost heaven." We have been to West Virginia. We have not been to heaven. For that reason, I cannot accurately compare West Virginia and heaven. Perhaps, when the time comes, I will have a better idea. In which case, I will get back with you folks.

Back in the day, The Other Half and yours truly heard Mr. Denver sing his song about West Virginia when he performed in concert at the entertainment venue formerly known as the SIU Arena in Carbondale. As I recall, the concert was great. Almost heaven...

The person who was talking about the trip to West Virginia said the adventure was part of a plan to eventually visit all 50 of the states.

That got me to thinking about the number of states yours truly has visited. Turns out it has been quite a few.

This writer's Journey Through Life began in Michigan and has included postings in Indiana, Connecticut (briefly), Massachusetts (even more briefly) and Illinois (twice...it's a long story...perhaps some other time...).

Illinois is home. And, to tell you the truth, I am proud to say that. I often hear about folks who can't wait to get out of Illinois. That's OK. I'm glad to have had a place to stay put...to put down roots, so to speak...and The Other Half has literally put down roots in the Land of Lincoln...

Over the years...as in many of them...states where I have set foot have included...

Missouri...an easy one. It's right next door, in a manner of speaking. Been across the Mississippi River many, many, many times. To St. Louis. Cape Girardeau. Imperial. Potosi. Eldon. Sullivan. Etc. Etc.

Kentucky...another easy one. Paducah (mostly passing through). Lexington (one of my most favorite places of all time). Hazard. Paris. Etc. Etc.

Massachusetts. In addition to living for a very short time in the Bay State, The Other Half and I traveled to Massachusetts many years ago.

New Hampshire. During our visit to Massachusetts, we made a trip to a beach on the Atlantic Ocean in New Hampshire. The water was cold. Very, very, very cold.

New Mexico. Visited New Mexico while I was in college. That was a long time ago. New Mexico might have been a territory at the time. Went to the top of a snow-



Didn't have to travel out of state to shoot this photograph. Didn't even get out of Anna. This is what happens when somebody with a camera is waiting for a loooooonnnnnngggggggg train to finish making its way through the crossing. Might as well do something with the time.

covered mountain... in an open vehicle...a Jeep, I believe...

Alabama...and Florida. Visited Florida long, long, long ago, as a kid. Mostly, I remember rain during that visit. Went to Florida again while spending some time in Gulf Shores, Alabama, during a trip not all that many years ago. Really enjoyed the National Naval Aviation Museum at Naval Air Station Pensacola. Well worth a visit. Gulf Shores was very nice, too. Especially enjoyed walking on the beach with my sweetheart. During our first of two visits to Gulf Shores, we happened to be walking along the beach when the Navy's Blue Angels zoomed through the sky on their way to an appearance at the Super Bowl in Miami, Florida.

California. Near San Francisco. Especially enjoyed a trip we took to the "wine country." And the Pacific Ocean, too. Oh...almost forgot...a late night stop at the airport in the Los Angeles, where I got to take a nap on the floor.

North Carolina. Mixed memories. Long story. Perhaps another time.

Indiana. As noted earlier, lived there for a short time... just in time to experience the Palm Sunday tornadoes in 1965. Visited Indiana much, much later in life, with our daughter...to hunt for fossils...go figure...

Louisiana...New Orleans. Preservation Hall. Music. Food. Really, really good food.

Let's see...there's also...in no particular order...Arkansas...Texas...Oklahoma...Ohio...Georgia...Tennessee... South Carolina...Pennsylvania...Maryland...Mississippi... along with airports in Hawaii...Colorado...and Arizona...

As you can tell, there are still quite a few states left on the list. The Other Half has suggested that at some point soon, we pack our bags...and just kind of go...

...sounds good to me, but I'm not sure what Bob would think about it...

A Page from the Past

from the files of The Gazette-Democrat

Thursday, March 30, 1972

The work stoppage at the Union County Hospital which began Friday, March 24, was continuing Wednesday morning, March 29, with supervisors, nursing staff and volunteers caring for patients in the hospital.

Union Countians will join with Christians around the world in observance of Holy Week and Easter Sunday, beginning tonight, Maundy Thursday, March 30.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, will be held Saturday afternoon, April 1, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Anna City Park playground.

The seventh Interdenominational Laymen's Breakfast held Monday, March 27, at the American Legion Community Center was well attended with 105 laymen from various churches in the county participating.

C. Earl Hughes, past president and current director of the Anna State Bank, performed the honors of cutting the ribbon at the new Anna State Bank on Sunday, March 26. The new facility opened its doors Monday, March 27.

The Southern Illinois Fair Association met March 20 to discuss the program for the 1972 Union County Fair.

Several changes have been made in the set up for the fair program this year. In the past, the Union County Fair Queen has been selected on Thursday evening of the

fair. However, this year the Queen Pageant will be held on Monday evening, the first full day of the fair, and the newly selected queen will reign throughout the week.

The Union County area has experienced typical Easter "squal" weather the past few days. Old-timers identify weather such as the area has been experiencing by this term, as oft-times sunny skies and warm temperatures prevail just prior to Holy Week and then drop, often accompanied by rain.

Saturday evening, March 25, the drop began, with the thermometer reaching a low of 31 and thereafter cooler weather prevailed under cloudy skies for the most part.

The high for the past week was 74, recorded Wednesday, March 22, with the low of 27 recorded Tuesday, March 28.

The Veterans of World War I Barracks and Auxiliary met at the American Legion Hall Sunday, March 26, with 23 members present.

The Selective Service System announced today that 1972 prime induction candidates with lottery numbers one through 15 will be issued induction orders with reporting dates from mid-April through May 31.

Champions of the 1972 City Tournament were announced recently by the Anna-Jonesboro Bowling Association. They are: Del Mowery, singles event, David Elkins and John Hart, doubles, and John Hayden, all events.



Row of daffodils

Bright sunlight was shining on a row of daffodil flowers along a sidewalk in Union County last weekend. Warm, spring-like weather has been coming and going in the Union County area for the past couple of weeks. Even with the fluctuating weather, lots of daffodils have been blooming.