The Gazette-Democrat

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Thursday, October 22, 2026 | **Anna, Illinois** | **$1.00** | **Volume 179, Number 43**

Support for Veterans Honor Flight



The Carroll P. Foster Post #3455, VFW and its Auxiliary hosted Glo Bingo with a portion of the proceeds being donated to the Veterans Honor Flight. President Phillip Wright and Tricia Samuels presented a check for $1700 to the Honor Flight.

Halloween season health fair planned

Rural Health Inc. in Anna is planning to host its annual Night of the Living Health Fair from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23. The Halloween season event will be held at Rural Health Inc.'s Anna health center, 513 N. Main St. in Anna.

This year's theme is "Movie Monsters and TV Terrors." Everyone is invited to come dressed as their favorite horror or thriller movie or TV character for a night of healthy, spooky fun. Admission is free for all ages.

This is the fifth year Rural Health Inc. has held its annual trick-or-treat event. On average, 250 children and their families attend each year. The evening will feature trick-or-treating with local healthcare providers, playing games and learning about the many healthcare services and programs in Southern Illinois. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The Health Resources and Services Administration, HRSA, Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, provided financial support for this event. The award provided 100 percent of total costs.

For more information about this year's Night of the Living Health Fair, contact Shawnna Rhine at 618-833-4471, extension 1036.

Rural Health Inc. serves Union, Johnson and Massac counties and provides medical, dental, mental health and pharmacy services.



Stinson Memorial Public Library receives Jeffris Family Capital Campaign Grant

Stinson Memorial Library Public Library in Anna, 409 S. Main St., a landmark structure considered to be an international architectural treasure, has been awarded a Capital Campaign Grant through the Jeffris Family Foundation.

The grant, in the amount of $250,000, was awarded at the end of August. The grant comes with a two to one fundraising matching requirement over the next three years. After the fundraising period, the library will complete $750,000 in restoration projects to the building.

The library shared on its website that those who drive by the structure will see "a rough cut limestone building rising out of the landscaping, with stained glass clerestory windows surrounding the upper rim of the building. The inside of the building shows historic features such as fused wooden beams, geometric designs, and terrazzo staircase. The building, while needing extensive restoration, has stuck true to the Prairie Style architecture in which it was designed."

The library was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 for national architectural significance. The library's architect, Walter Burley Griffin, was one of the leading designers in Prairie Style architecture and went on to design structures internationally. Griffin has a strong architectural following based in the Midwest, as well as in Australia and India.

Stinson Memorial Public Library had previously received a Heartland Fund Grant through the Jeffris Family Foundation in 2024. With that support, the library was able to complete a comprehensive study of the property, building composition, and design, which gave us a comprehensive Historic Structure Report to utilize in restoration, planning and upkeep of the building. The library was noted to be in overall fair condition, though immediate issues need to be addressed, which is what the Capital Campaign funds will be designated to address.

Over the next three years, the library will be working to raise $500,000 towards the grant matching requirement. The total of $750,000 which is to be raised will allow for much needed restoration projects to be completed.

The Jeffris Family Foundation mission is to aid in the preservation and restoration of Midwest architecture and historic sites. Stinson Memorial Public Library was awarded the grant based on the significance of its historical legacy.

The library detailed the proposed restoration work which is planned through the Capital Campaign Challenge:

Building moisture control: Moisture infiltration investigation. Repairing failed external concrete sealants. Internal downspouts drainage improvements.

Masonry, concrete repairs: Repairs to exterior cracked and spalling limestone, already identified. Repointing of mortar joints and stucco repair in North Wall. Surface subgrade drainage system and water barrier project.



Stinson Memorial Public Library

Stained glass window restoration: Restoring and re-cementing 33 leaded stained-glass windows. Replacing broken sidelight panels. Replastering and painting window repair area.

Interior finishes updates: Replacement of all lower-level flooring and refinishing. Plaster stabilization, repair and refinishing. Clean and polish terrazzo stairs. Prepare and paint all interior wall finishes.Reconstruct stained glass light covers.

Other projects which are in need of funding include:

Accessibility projects: Installation of accessible lower level entrance. Accessible restroom renovations. Chair lift or ramp to upper level.

Window, door restoration: Restoration of functionality and replacement of the non-stained glass windows throughout the building. Restoration of exterior doorways. Installation of automatic door openers.

Mechanical, electrical, plumbing upgrades: Upgrades to mechanical heating and cooling systems. Electrical updates and expansion. Update plumbing in kitchen and restrooms.

Lighting systems: Replace fluorescent uplights with an efficient lighting system. Replace incandescent uplights. Fix lighting style features in the auditorium. Add walkway lighting to the exterior. Replace exterior lights with energy efficient options.

Support welcome: Stinson shared on social media that it has begun the process of fundraising for the major restoration work. Those who want to help support the effort can make a donation online by visiting https://www.zeffy.com/.../donate-to-preserve-stinson-library.

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Weather Review

Colder weather arrives to Southern Illinois

Sharply colder conditions were expected to follow behind a cold front which moved through late last week in the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky region. The National Weather Service office in Paducah reported that frost was looking likely last Saturday night.

Temperatures were expected to drop between 25 and 30 degrees from highs in the 80s to near 90 forecast on Thursday, Oct. 15. High temperatures last Friday, Saturday and Sunday were expected to be in the 60s. Lows were forecast to range from the mid to upper 30s to the low 40s.

The arrival of colder conditions followed unseasonably warm weather which occurred last week in the region. The Weather Service office reported on Monday, Oct. 12, that a combination of record-high temperatures and elevated humidity levels would produce near all-time heat index values in the upper 90s to lower 100s on Tuesday, Oct. 13, in much of southwest Illinois, Southeast Missouri and far Western Kentucky.

Some much-needed rain fell in the region last Wednesday and Thursday. An Oct. 15 update from the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that all of Union, Jackson and Williamson counties were experiencing moderate drought conditions. Moderate drought conditions also were reported in most of Johnson County and in extreme northwestern Alexander County. Abnormally dry conditions were reported in all of Pulaski and Massac counties, most of Alexander County and extreme southeastern Johnson County.

Union County Weather Review

Temperatures for the period of Oct. 5-11 in the Union County area ranged from a high of 86 degrees to a low of 44. No precipitation was recorded.

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

Monday, Oct. 5: high 78, low 49.

Tuesday, Oct. 6: high 79, low 44.

Wednesday, Oct. 7: high 84, low 44.

Thursday, Oct. 8: high 86, low 52.

Friday, Oct. 9: high 87, low 47.

Saturday, Oct. 10: high 74, low 51.

Sunday, Oct. 11: high 83, low 51.

ANNA CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Loving as Jesus Loved…..Giving as Jesus Gave…..Ephesians 5:25

OCTOBER 18, 2026

The morning worship service was held at 10:35 a.m.on October 18, 2026. Announcements were given by Jessica Elkins. The worship service was led by Pastor Wright and the worship team.

The message "The Book of Joshua: The People You Never Expected" was brought by Pastor Wright with the Primary Text: Joshua 2:1–21 and the Supporting Scriptures: Joshua 6:22–25; Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25; Matthew 1:5 sharing that we may see a person's past. God sees the life that can still unfold through His grace and may we never become so focused on where someone has been that we overlook what God can do in their life.

Celebrating birthdays this week are: 23rd Silas Wright

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 25, 2026

Breakfast - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship Service 10:35 a.m. with Communion being served

No Evening Service

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 28, 2026

Wednesday Night Service will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

Youth Group in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

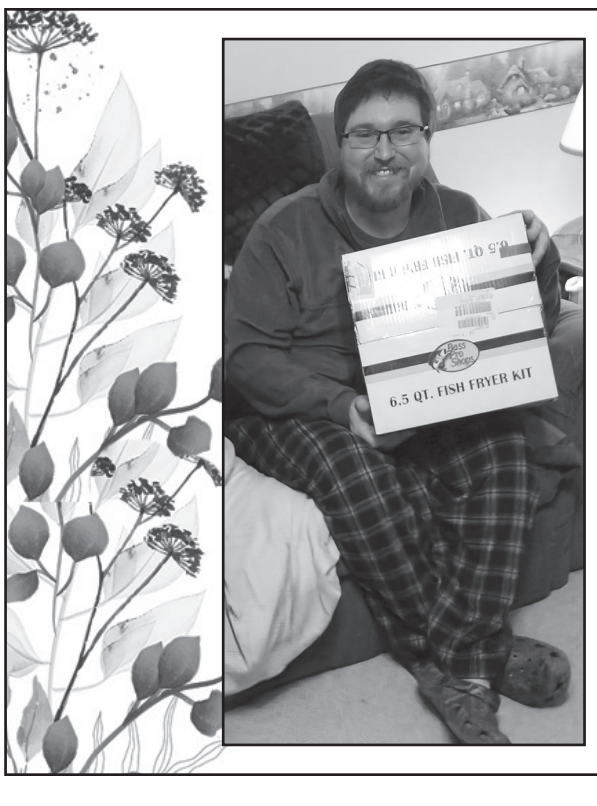
You may contact the church by calling the church office at 618-833-6702 and leaving a message or by calling Pastor Wright at 618-534-7103.

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CEMETERY INFORMATION

Ground arrangements may be placed starting November 2, 2026 and stay down until March 1, 2027. Remember: no glass or Shepherd's Hooks and do not block the aisles. If you walk your dog, please clean up. The Cemetery is open from dawn until dusk.

For questions, call the Anna City Garage at 618-833-8528.



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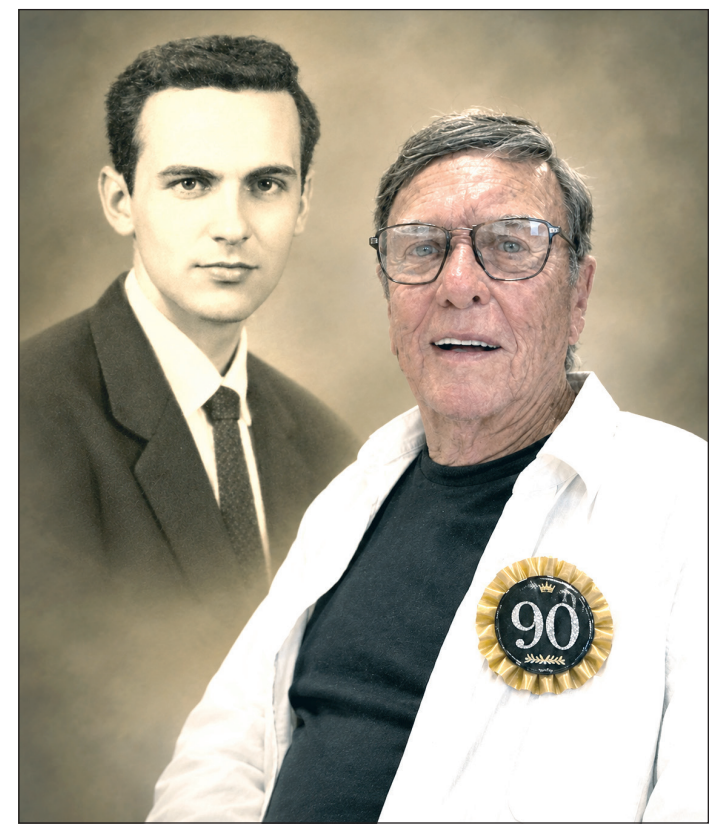
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Obituary



Ralph "Chico" Travis

Ralph "Chico" Travis, age 94, of Anna, passed away on Thursday, October 15, 2026 at Century Assisted Living in Carbondale.

He was born on June 4, 1932 to Herbert Adam Travis and Bobbie (McCoy) Travis in Smithville, Kentucky. On March 23, 1957, he married Carol F. Mertz and they shared over 56 years together.

Ralph served in the United States Army from 1954 until 1956 where he was stationed in Germany. He retired in 1990 from the State of IL Dept. of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities as the Administrator of Lincoln Facility. Ralph was a member of Mount Moriah Lutheran Church and held civic memberships in the VFW and Elks. He enjoyed flower Gardening and gourd painting

Survivors include his nephew, Lyle Smith; and son-in-law, Ron Prather; along with many friends.

Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Carol; and daughter, Sarah Prather.

A Family Hosted Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2026 at 1:00 PM at Mount Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna.

A Private Inurnment will be held at Anna City Cemetery.

The cremation of Ralph "Chico" Travis will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

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

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Hebrews 12

The Chastening of the Lord

121 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, 6 because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."[1] 7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8 If you are not disciplined-and everyone undergoes discipline-then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! 10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Warning against Rejecting God's Grace

12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 13 "Make level paths for your feet,"[2] so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. 14 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. 16 See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. 17 Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.

18 You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; 19 to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, 20 because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death."[3] 21 The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."[4] 22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. 25 See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens."[5] 27 The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken-that is, created things-so that what cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29 for our "God is a consuming fire."[6]

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NEWS FROM VIENNA, ILLINOIS

Vienna High Choir to perform at local senior living communities

Vienna High School choir students, under the direction of Connor Windings and Diamond Talley, performed at Autumn Ridge and Hillview Senior Living and Rehab. These performances were open to the public

Earlier this year, the choir also performed at the park, bringing music to the community. Students will continue sharing their talents at Vienna High School's Veterans Day flag-raising ceremony as well. More information will be posted closer to time.

If your business, organization or community group would like to have the choir perform at an upcoming event, email Windings at joshuacwindings@viennahighschool.com.



Vienna students benefit from GEAR UP college support

Vienna High School's participation in the Illinois GEAR UP program provided members of the Class of 2026 with significant financial support as they continue their education.

Each Class of 2026 graduate who attended an Illinois college or university received $5,952.38 through the GEAR UP program because of their participation in a GEAR UP school. With approximately 50 Vienna graduates attending Illinois colleges or universities, the opportunity represents nearly $300,000 in financial support for Vienna students.

The funding is an example of the opportunities available to Vienna students as they prepare for life after high school. Through GEAR UP, students receive support and guidance as they plan for college and learn how to take advantage of financial and educational opportunities.

"This is exactly why programs like GEAR UP are so important for our students.," superintendent Dr. Joshua Stafford said. "It is one thing to talk about preparing students for life after high school, but it is another thing to see an opportunity like this directly benefit our graduates. Nearly $300,000 in support for our students is a significant impact."

Laura Hosfelt is the GEAR UP coordinator Vienna. She serves alongside Leslie Bradley, who is the director of student career services, and Rhi Slife and Rosa Sparks, who serves in the school guidance office working to prepare students for opportunities after graduation.

"Vienna is focused on real life preparation and the GEAR UP program has been a great addition to our Career Connected Life Ready work," Stafford said.

Learn about Vienna's Career Connected Life ready work at www.viennahs.com/cc.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE By Dixie Terry

As we await the changing of the foliage, which is a bit late this season, there will be umpteen activities to enjoy across Southern Illinois.

Here are some special October days to recognize, such as: Oct. 22--Make A Dog's Day and Coloring Day. Oct. 23--National Nut Day. Oct. 24--Media Appreciation Day. Oct. 24--Pumpkin Day. Oct. 27--Black Cat Day.

Take in "Boo at the Slough" on Oct. 25, 1-3pm, with a trick or treat adventure for kids and their grownups, at the Cache River Nature Center, south of Cypress on Route 37.

The "Brawl-O-Ween" with the So. Il. Roller Gremlins, will be underway on Oct. 24-25 at 8am at The Marion Pavilion.

My great-granddaughter, Rehgen Castellano, was one of fourteen students from across the country who was selected to attend the National Alternative Education Day on Oct. 8 in Washington, D. C. She, her mother, Ashleigh, and three instructors of Mary Lincoln High School of John A. Logan College spent 4 days touring the city before flying back to Marion. Rehgen is now a nursing student at JALC.

It's Happy Birthday time! Oct. 15--Brenda Vaughn! Oct. 16--Donna Wetherell, Larry Clendenin, Karen Foster, Jim Rouse, Julie Faulkner! Oct. 17--Ella June McCree! Oct. 18--Janis Kling, Jenene Martin, Preston Harner! Oct. 19--David Macak, Katie Dillman, Karsyn Lory Yandell! Oct. 20--Greg Cavitt, Rodney Pritchett, Mike Helton, Savannah Duringer, Chance Duringer! Oct. 21--Glenda Bennett, Owen Lee Webb, Troy Potocki, Anita Etheridge, Doris Throgmorton! May you all have many more!

Owen Lee Webb, rural Vienna, celebrated with a big party on Saturday, at the Vienna High Commons, with family and friends, for his 100th birthday. And, we wish him a great year!

Volunteers at the Goreville Ministerial Alliance Thrift Shop will be members of the Goreville First Baptist Church and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Buncombe. Shoppers are welcomed each Tuesday and Thursday, 9am to 4pm and on Saturday, 9am to noon. They offer quality merchandise at bargain prices.

It was good to hear from George Stanley of the VHS class of 1953, who with Pat Gray Kitner, is planning the class reunion for Memorial Day weekend of 2027. This will be a lunch at The Vienna Diner for the classes of 1953-54-55. For more, call George at 618-530-2520.

A "Fall Fun Day" will take place on Oct. 25, at the "Litttle Leaves Learning Center" at 101 Oliver Street in Vienna. This is free and open to the public.

The second session of the after-school art program will be on Nov. 3-Dec. 8, at the Vienna High School.

"Frozen" will be presented onstage at Shawnee Community College on Nov. 5-7, with local students performing.

The Tunnel Hill State Trail Ten-Mile Run will take place on Nov. 15-16, beginning at the Vienna City Park.

The Johnson County Home and Community Education (HCE) of the University of Illinois Extension has planned two coach trips for the public for 2027. The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in the Cincinnati area, June 21-25. Washington, D.C. on April 22-27. Pigeon Forge and the Smoky Mountains, Nov. 29-Dec. 3. Call Faye Mize for information or reservations at 618-771-0066 or famize@hotmail.com.

The Nov. 15 meeting of the Jo. Co. Genealogical and Historical Society will feature a program on Paul Powell, at 2:30pm in the Community Room of the Vienna Public Library. The public is urged to attend.

The open hours of the Historical Society Research Center and Library will be discontinued until Spring. To arrange an appointment, text 937-479-3246.

Our granddaughter, Leah Sadlo, and her 5-year-old daughter, Jemma, have returned home to Orange Park, Florida, after spending some fun-filled days with family and friends in So. Illinois.

My daughter, Pam Montgomery, of Marion, returned with her daughter for some days on the beach,during her Fall break from Jefferson School. En route to Florida, they spent the night in Chattanooga and visited Ruby Falls and an underground cavern and rode the train to the top of Lookout Mountain. They highly recommend that stop.

Doris Miller Throgmorton of Vienna made the news last week after achieving the placing of a monument to her late uncle, Lory Price, near the family's property in Marion, where a roundabout has been built. Price, a state policeman, and his wife, were murdered by a notorious gang way back when ... My rose bush is blooming!

Looking Back: In the Oct. 20, 1993, edition of the Goreville Gazette was this: "Again the Fall Festival of Goreville was canceled because of adverse weather and again, our grand kids were all set to go on the Haunted Hay Ride."

Send your newsy items to my email at dixieterry85@yahoo.com or call 618-422-2086.

Have a great remainder of the week and enjoy all that October has to offer.

State youth deer hunt record set

Young hunters in Illinois set a youth deer season harvest record with a preliminary total of 4,852 deer taken Oct. 10-12. The total surpassed the previous record of 4,714 deer harvested in 2025.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) reported that the top harvest counties were Randolph with 278 deer; Jefferson, 166; Pike, 150; Fayette, 145; and Marion, 125.

Youth hunters with unfilled, valid youth deer permits may use those permits during the upcoming firearm deer seasons Nov. 20-22 and Dec. 3-6, IDNR noted. This is the first year youth deer hunting permits were sold as a combination that includes one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only permit.



IDNR shared the following preliminary harvest totals for the 2026 youth deer hunting season in area counties, with comparable totals for 2025 and 2024:

Alexander County: 121 in 2026, 155 in 2025 and 147 in 2024. Jackson County: 108, 94, 77. Johnson County: 54, 42, 48. Massac County: 25, 16, 24. Pulaski County: 29, 22, 18. Union County: 84, 64, 57. Williamson County: 64, 57, 48.

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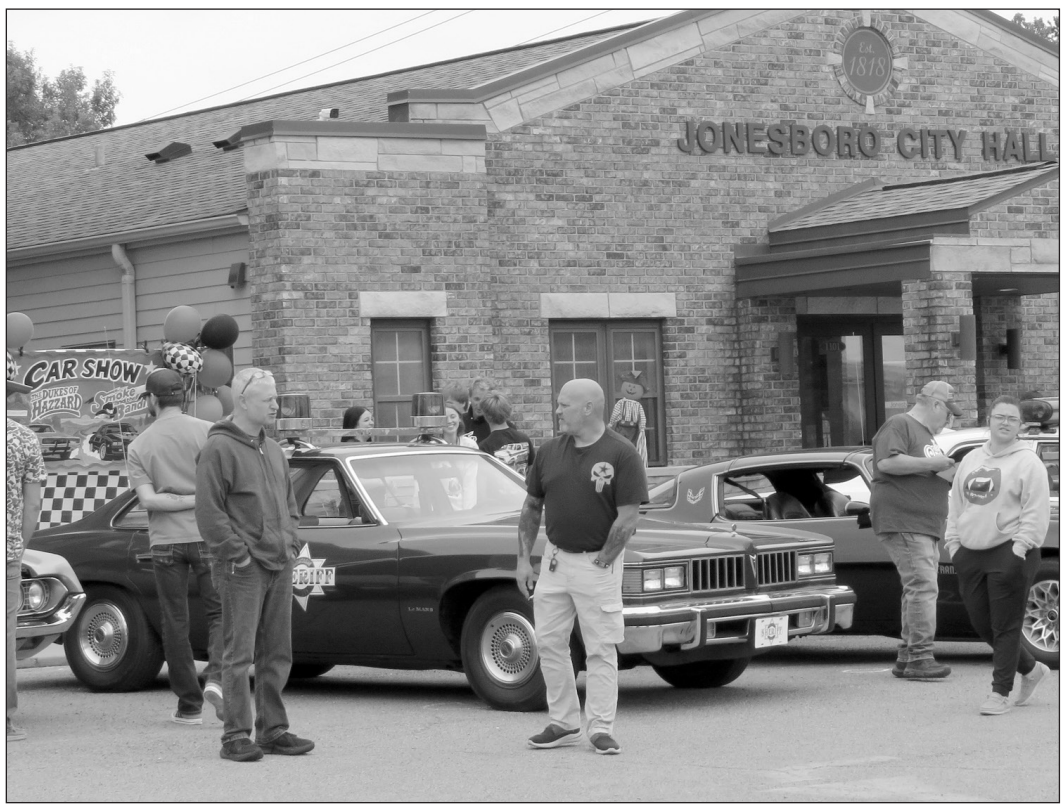
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Anna celebrates ColorFest



Vendors lined East Davie Street in Anna for the City of Anna's ColorFest celebration. Anna hosted a wide range of ColorFest activities on Saturday, Oct. 10. Activities were held in the downtown Anna area and at the Anna City Park. The day featured music, children's activities, live music and a circus.

ColorFest car, truck show held on Jonesboro Square



A car and truck show was one of the many activities featured at Jonesboro's 2026 ColorFest celebration. The car show was presented Saturday, Oct. 10, on the Jonesboro Square. Classic, antique, sports and luxury cars and trucks, as well as bikes, were invited to be a part of the show. Prizes were awarded.

Feed the Need Food Drive



No student should have to worry about where their next meal will come from while working toward their educational goals.

That's why Shawnee Community College established Bernie's Place, our student food pantry and snack locker, to provide groceries, snacks, and other essentials to students who need a helping hand.

For the past two years, thanks to our community's generosity, SCC has ranked fifth statewide in the Illinois Community College Board's annual Feed the Need Food Drive. This year, we're hoping to build on that success!

The 2026 Feed the Need Food Drive runs October 19 through November 30, and we're encouraging SCC students, faculty, staff, and community partners to get involved.

Donations of nonperishable food and other needed items will help keep Bernie's Place shelves stocked. Every donation stays right here at SCC and supports students from Alexander, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski, and Union Counties.

How Can You Help?

Individuals, churches, businesses, and community organizations are encouraged to collect and donate items throughout the campaign.

For information about needed items, donation locations, or how to organize a collection, contact Jacqueline Smith at jacquelines@shawneecc.edu.

Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks may be made payable to the Saints Foundation of Shawnee Community College and mailed to:

Shawnee Community College 8364 Shawnee College Road, Ullin, IL 62992.

County commissioners discuss flock cameras at latest meeting

Concerns about the presence and use of Flock surveillance cameras in the community again were addressed at a recent regular meeting of the Union County Board of Commissioners, on Friday morning, Oct. 9, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro.

Two community members shared their concerns about the cameras. Tim Crosby has been attending recent county board meetings on a regular basis to voice his concerns about the cameras. Crosby said his view is that the information being gathered by the cameras is for control, and not protection, of people.

"The board should be protecting our rights," Crosby said, who again said he supports law enforcement. Crosby said it would be "awesome" if Union County said no to the use of surveillance cameras.

Community member Andrea Hahn said the cameras are a civil rights issue and involve a matter of trust. She said "our civil rights are very important" and encouraged the elimination of mass surveillance tools.

As discussion continued about the cameras, Union County Sheriff David Wilkins said he anticipates that the Illinois General Assembly will be addressing surveillance cameras and that regulations will be forthcoming.

The sheriff acknowledged that there has been abuse of the cameras by some of those in law enforcement. He said that those who abuse the system "don't need to be a cop." No such abuse of the system has occurred locally, the sheriff said.

The sheriff reported that the Flock system had proved beneficial by being utilized in the recent return of a girl with special needs from Union County who was safely picked up in Minnesota.

Other Business

Sheriff Wilkins reported that the county is assisting Pulaski County with dispatch services. Pulaski County is shorthanded with dispatch personnel. Union County is providing assistance on weekends through a contract which is in place through Nov. 30. Pulaski County is working to train dispatch personnel to meet its needs.

A local public agency engineering services agreement for the replacement of a wood deck bridge on the Alto Waterworks Road was approved by the board. The project is planned to be done several years from now.

Board of commissioners vice chairman Kent Pitts reported that numbers had been down at the Union County animal control shelter. The shelter is located along Kaolin Road between Anna and Cobden. As he often does at board meetings, Pitts again praised the work done by the staff at the animal control shelter and thanked the community for continued support shown through donations of dog food and monetary resources.

NEWS NOTES

The Union County Sheriff's Office announced in a message on social media that Bauer Road south of Jonesboro was scheduled to be closed beginning Oct. 19 for bridge work between Illinois Route 127 and Rhodes Lane. The closure is expected to last four to six weeks. A detour is planned on nearby Ebenezer Church Road.

***

The sheriff's office is grateful for all of the support it received for the department's Jonesboro ColorFest bake sale. Proceeds will support the department's Shop with a Deputy Christmas program for children in the community.

***

The sheriff's office has announced that it is hiring dispatchers. Details can be found on the sheriff's office's Facebook page.

***

The City of Jonesboro shared on social media that the city council has passed an ordinance which increases utility cut-off fees to $50 per utility. The increase will start for utility cut-offs on Nov. 3.

***

Congratulations to all of the student athletes (and their families) at Union County schools who have enjoyed successful fall seasons as teams and individual competitors.

***

A busy month of October continues in the Union County area.

***

A Halloween season tradition is scheduled to continue Oct. 24 in Anna and Jonesboro. Trick-or-treating is planned from 4 to 6 p.m. in the downtown Anna and Jonesboro Square areas.

***

The Anna-Jonesboro Community High School National Honor Society is planning to have a trick-or-treat event from 4 to 6 p.m. Oct. 24. Treats, games and prizes will be offered on the patio at the school, 608 S. Main St. in Anna.

***

Mill Creek Baptist Church is planning to have trunk-or-treat starting at 5 p.m. on Oct. 24. Hot dogs and chips will be served before trunk-or-treat starts. The church is located along Illinois Route 127 S in Mill Creek.

***

A Military Ball is planned from 5 to 10 p.m. Nov. 14 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post 3455 near Anna. Guest speaker is scheduled to be past state and national commander Matthew "Fritz" Mihelcic. A dinner will be served. Details are available by contacting the post.

***

Lincoln Elementary School in Anna is planning to host a Literacy Night from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22. The evening will feature a short performance by kindergarten students at 6 p.m., hands-on reading activities, read-alouds and informational sessions.

***

Fall Buffalo Day is planned Saturday, Oct. 24, at Bison Bluff Farms, which is located at 1320 Bethel Church Road east of Cobden. An announcement on social media reported that the day begins at 8 a.m.; ending time is not a set time.

***

A Fall Colors celebration is planned Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 24-25, at the Cross of Peace on Bald Knob Mountain near Alto Pass. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Music, food trucks and children's activities are planned. Parking will be $10 per car.

***

The City of Jonesboro is making plans to host its first Holiday Gift Parade on Saturday, Dec. 5. The parade, set for 10 a.m., will offer the community an opportunity to donate gifts to make the holiday season brighter for children in need. The parade will be part of Jonesboro's Smalltown Christmas festivities.

***

"Christmas on the Farm" is the theme for this year's Christmas in the Village celebration in Cobden, which is planned Saturday, Dec. 5. The day is scheduled to include a 5K run and fun run at 9 a.m., lots of vendors, food trucks, a lights parade at 5 p.m., lighting of the village Christmas tree and more.

***

The Cobden Junior High School boys' and girls' cross country teams were scheduled to run at last Saturday's state meet in Du Quoin. The boys' team advanced to state after winning first place at regional competition last week. The girls' team took second at the regional. The teams received a welcome home escort from the Cobden Fire Department.

***

Anna Junior High School's girls' and boys' cross teams also qualified for state competition. The Anna girls won a regional championship. The boys' team took third place at the regional.

***

Bat Night 2026 is planned from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at the Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds at 521 N. Main St. in Jonesboro. Bat Night will feature a bat cave, a bat craft, a bat story walk, bingo and more. Bat Night is being presented by the U.S. Forest Service/Shawnee National Forest and community partners as a way to share information about bats.

***

Boo at the Slough! is scheduled from 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Henry N. Barkhausen Cache River Wetlands Center, which is located at 8885 State Route 37 S near Cypress. The Halloween season event is being presented by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and University of Illinois Extension.

***

Enrollment is underway for Shawnee Community College's occupational therapy assistant program. The deadline to enroll is April 5, 2027. Details can be found on the college's Facebook page.

***

Snake Road near Wolf Lake was highlighted in a CBS News Chicago story dated Oct. 14. The story, which could be viewed online, was headlined "Snake Road in Illinois' Shawnee National Forest is only known road in U.S. to close for reptile migration."

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Former Gander mayor Claude Elliott to share 9/11 memories at SIU Carbondale

Former Gander, Newfoundland, Mayor Claude Elliott will share his firsthand memories of Sept. 11, 2001, and the extraordinary generosity shown by his community during a free public event at noon Thursday, Oct. 22, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Tedrick Welcome Center.

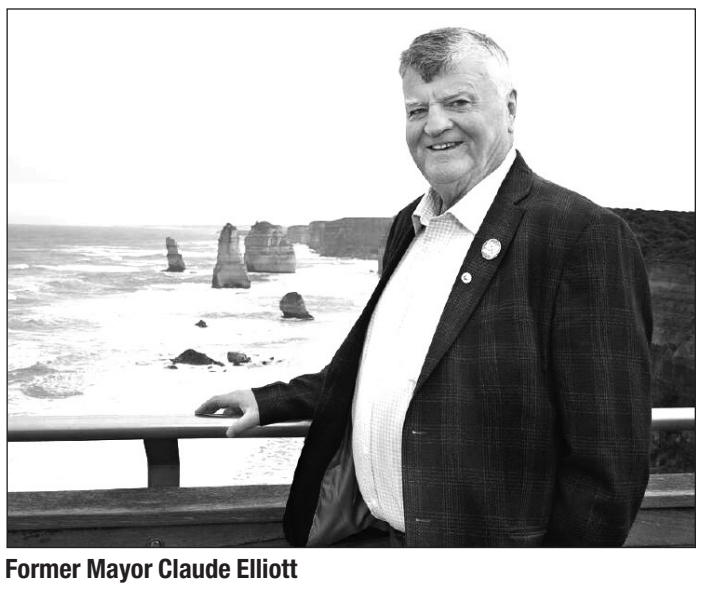
The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and SIU's School of Theater and Dance will host Elliott for a special edition of the John and Muriel Hayward Lecture Series. His presentation, "Lend a Hand, Do What You Can: Remembering the Generosity of Gander on 9/11," will recount how residents of the small Canadian town welcomed nearly 7,000 airline passengers whose flights were diverted following the terrorist attacks.

"Claude Elliott's story reminds us what is possible when people put compassion and service ahead of themselves," said Linda R. Baker, institute interim director. "In a moment of tremendous uncertainty, the people of Gander responded with extraordinary generosity. Their example continues to demonstrate the power of community, civic responsibility and simple acts of kindness."

As mayor, Elliott was at the center of Gander's response as residents opened their homes, schools and community spaces to thousands of unexpected guests. His presentation will offer a personal perspective on the people, decisions and acts of kindness behind a story that captured the attention of the world.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Registration is not required, but attendees are encouraged to register in advance to help organizers ensure there are enough boxed lunches for everyone.

The event also provides an opportunity to hear the real-life story that inspired SIU's upcoming production of "Come From Away," the acclaimed Broadway musical about the stranded passengers and the people of Gander. Performances are Saturday through Sunday, Oct. 22-25, in SIU's Shryock Auditorium. Online tickets for those shows are available and can also be purchased by phone at 618-453-5741 or in person at the venue the night of the performance.



Former Mayor Claude Elliott

SIU Theater, Dance, Music production tells story of 9/12 in 'Come From Away'



PHOTO BY JOHN MICK

Cast members rehearse for the upcoming performances of "Come From Away." The collaboration between SIU's School of Theater and Dance and the School of Music runs Oct. 22-25 in Shryock Auditorium.

BY PETE ROSENBERY
SIU UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

A story of love and compassion in the immediate aftermath of one of the world's deadliest terror attacks is coming to Southern Illinois University Carbondale's Shryock Auditorium.

"Come From Away" tells the story of how Gander, Newfoundland, Canada, population 9,651, found itself unexpectedly hosting nearly 7,000 people whose flights were diverted there in the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

SIU is one of the first universities to present the musical and will welcome a special guest to the audience. Claude Elliott, mayor of Gander from 1996 to 2017 and coordinator of the community response to the arrivals at Gander International Airport, is visiting SIU for the musical, and is scheduled to attend each performance.

Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 22-24, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25. The production is a collaboration between SIU's School of Theater and Dance and the School of Music.

For director Matthew C. Williams, assistant professor of performance and movement, the seven-time Tony Award-nominated production is not about the tragedy of Sept. 11, but rather the humanity and compassion shown on Sept. 12.

"One of the main themes in this production is the notion of paying it forward, hospitality and choosing to love your neighbor, the person who is in distress, and inviting the stranger into your home because the reward and return is exponential," he said.

Williams and Angela Shultz, the production's musical director, note that since licensing rights recently made the production available to university and community theaters, SIU is one of the first universities to perform the musical. The production played on Broadway from 2017 to 2022.

Shultz, an assistant professor of practice in musical theater and voice, fell in love with the show when she was living in New York City and saw it on Broadway. The production is "like a documentary set to music," she said.

"The show is truly gorgeous in every way: the music, the story and the people at the heart of it," she said.

"In the time of Sept. 11th, which was cloaked in tragedy, the people of Gander generously poured into the 'come from aways' who were stranded in their town by providing not only shelter and food, but medicine, supplies, communication and listening ears," Shultz said.

Abbie Eads, assistant lecturer, directs the pit orchestra and Anita Hutton, an accomplished local pianist and retired assistant to the dean in SIU's College of Liberal Arts, takes the piano. In addition, Joel Goldes, a dialect coach who worked with the original Broadway production, is providing online assistance to students.

Williams connected with Elliott through mutual friends who attend Williams' church. As the performance director and choreographer, Williams invited Elliott to attend the performances and to provide insight.

"Claude Elliott is an incredible person who is very generous with his time," Williams said.

While on campus, Elliott will speak at a luncheon at noon on Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Tedrick Welcome Center. Elliott's presentation, "Lend a Hand, Do What You Can: Remembering the Generosity of Gander on 9/11," is part of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute's John and Muriel Hayward Lecture Series.

Shultz said the cast, which includes 10 student performers and two community members, "blends together beautifully." Three additional students serve as understudies.

Some of the student performers are from Southern Illinois communities. The cast, with characters listed in parentheses, includes:

Rheannon Bohlman, sophomore, Rockton (Diane/Crystal/Brenda). Parker Bradshaw, sophomore, Marion. (Kevin T./Garth/President George W. Bush). Eden Kaszubski, sophomore, Cobden (Bonnie/Martha). Lilie Lim, junior, Hot Springs, Ark. (Beulah/Delores). Yasmin Martinez-Powell, junior, Springfield (Hannah/Margie/Mickey).

Rayden Meyer, junior, Springfield (Oz/Joey/customs officer/Rabbi/head cardiologist). Katie Polk, sophomore, Milford, Mich. (Janice/Britney/flight attendant). Eli Rafe, sophomore, Marion (Kevin J/Dwight/Ali). Abby Zirkelbach, junior, Marion (Beverly/Annette/reporter). Jamaal "JJ" Jones, sophomore, Cairo (Bob/Muhhmuza/Capt. Bristol).

Cast understudies include Kyla Hunt, junior, Millington, Tenn.; Marcelina Johnson, freshman, Richton Park; Ayden Price, sophomore, Harrisburg.

Community members in the cast are Derek Hamblin, musical director and director for local organizations (Claude/Derm/Brother Eddie); and Brandyn McGhee, director and lighting designer for local organizations (Nick/Doug/Officer Stephenson).

Individual tickets are $25 for adults 21 and older, $20 for senior citizens 60 and older, $10 for students 13-21, and $8 for children 12 and younger. The online ticket website is onthestage.tickets/siuc-school-of-theater-and-dance. Tickets can be purchased online, by phone at 618-453-5741 or in person at the venue on the night of the performance.

Season tickets are available online and at the School of Theater and Dance office, Communications Building, Room 1033. The subscription series is $100 for adults and $80 for senior citizens 60 and older. There is also a "Pick-Three" season-ticket option.

PRE-FILING NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the office of Goreville Village Clerk will be open 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM beginning November 16, 2026 through November 23, 2026 for the purpose of accepting candidate petitions or certificates for the Consolidated election to be held on April 6, 2027 for the following offices.

LIST ALL OFFICES TO BE VOTED UPON:

Goreville Village Trustee

Goreville Village Trustee

Goreville Village Trustee

Kaylee Chrisman
Local Election Official

JOHNSON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATIONS

To all persons of legal voting age who own or reside on land located within the boundaries of the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District. Beginning on November 23rd nominations will be accepted for the two-year term of the office of Director of the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District at the District's Office at 807 North First Street in Vienna, during our normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To be considered for nomination as a candidate for the office of Director, nominees must provide proof of residency or ownership of land located within the boundaries of the District. Interested persons must respond by 4:30 p.m. on January 4, 2027. If you have any questions, or need further information, please call us at 658-3411 ext 3.

Drinks and interruptions: Pritzker, Bailey meet in only governor debate of election cycle



CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS FILE PHOTOS

JB Pritzker and Darren Bailey, pictured in file photos, met on the debate stage Tuesday, Oct. 14.

BY BEN SZALINSKI
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker and Republican Darren Bailey spent an hour talking over and accusing each other of stretching the truth in their only planned meeting of the campaign on October 13.

The WTTW forum was supposed to be a question-and-answer session, but Bailey quickly revealed his strategy to interrupt Pritzker on nearly every question, launching the event into a full-blown debate. The candidates were asked about their plans on a variety of policy issues and Pritzker often listed his previous accomplishments while Bailey used his time to slam Pritzker's leadership.

"I wish you'd stop interrupting," Pritzker said midway through the debate. "I do think people ought to hear what we have to say."

The pair met for two debates in 2022 ahead of Pritzker's 12-point victory. Four years later, many of the positions for the two candidates remained the same, and the relationship remained heated.

candidates sparred on state spending, education funding, safety net hospitals, the SAFE-T Act, the Chicago Bears, Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center and more.

But much of the debate centered on the relationship between the federal government and the state. Bailey urged the audience to "fill up your glass of water or your iced tea or your lemonade" and "take a drink" every time the governor mentioned President Donald Trump. He reminded them to do so each time the governor invoked the president.

Bailey, who has spent the campaign trying to appeal to moderate voters in the Chicago area, tired of several federally focused questions.

"I think we're all ready for the tariffs to end. I think we're ready for the war in Iran to end," Bailey said when asked how he'd respond to Trump's tariffs. "But these questions, this sounds like this is a debate about the presidency of the United States with President Trump. That's something the president deals with. We need to be focused on what we can do here in Illinois."

Bailey, a farmer, also punted on a question about what he'd like to see in the next federal farm bill, saying "I'm not running for president like JB Pritzker is."

"I'm flattered that you think I could get elected president of the United States," Pritzker retorted at one point.

Instead, Bailey said Illinois lawmakers should lower the estate tax. When challenged by Pritzker to endorse the Family Farm Preservation Act that would cap that tax, Bailey said "I need to read it," pointing out that Democrats haven't passed it despite controlling all levers of state government.

Budget issues

The candidates spent considerable time debating education funding. Pritzker listed Illinois' improvement in various rankings of test scores and public school funding. But he said more money is still needed, despite the fact Illinois has increased funding education funding by about $3 billion in his tenure under the Evidence-Based Funding model.

"The very question from Jackson County schools suggests that we're not up to par like JB just said that we were," Bailey said in reference to a southern Illinois reporter's question. "The point's made clear: Evidence-Based Funding is not working because Evidence-Based Funding suggests that more money is the answer."

"More money is not always the problem," he said, instead suggesting the state should reduce unfunded mandates. He also pledged to replace the entire State Board of Education if he's elected.

Pritzker wouldn't commit to meeting Chicago Public Schools' demand more funding during this fall's veto session.

"We can't just magically come up with $150 million when one school district or another asks for it," he said.

More broadly on the budget, Bailey has pledged to institute a DOGE-style (Department on Government Efficiency) review process if he's elected.

"At two in the morning, you're given this budget, 5,000 pages, and you're told to pass it," Bailey said. "Even the Democrats themselves don't know what's in there. It's time for a forensic audit."

Pritzker sidestepped a question about putting a millionaire's tax on the ballot and instead criticized Bailey for voting against the budget when he was in the legislature.

"If we continue to tax the rich, that's a socialist mentality and we can't afford to do that," Bailey said.

Public safety

The candidates also dove into public safety issues. Bailey said Pritzker's decision to significantly reduce available care at Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna will limit mental health services in southern Illinois and put pressure on law enforcement.

Pritzker defended the decision for the abuse-plagued facility.

"I said at the very beginning-that if we could not fix it because the personnel weren't fixing themselves, or being fired, or laid off, then we needed to close that facility," Pritzker said. "And I followed through on my promise."

The SAFE-T Act, the 2021 law that included the elimination of cash bail in Illinois, also got another vetting four years after it was a dominant issue in the governor's race.

Pritzker said he is "always open" to amending the law, which puts the onus on state's attorneys and judges to determine whether a defendant is jailed while awaiting trial. but the governor didn't elaborate when asked to assess how the law is working and instead brought up Bailey's support for lessening gun restrictions.

Bailey pointed to recent crimes in Chicago involving people on electronic monitoring. The law allows people on monitoring to have two free roaming periods each week, which Bailey said needs to change. Democratic Cook County State's Attorney Eileen O'Neill Burke has also called on lawmakers to amend electronic monitoring laws.

But Bailey also said the whole SAFE-T Act should be repealed, prompting Pritzker to retort that Bailey's solution was returning to a cash bail system "where the most violent criminals can buy their way out of jail."

Bailey also criticized Pritzker for having an Illinois State Police security detail.

Bears and other issues

There was only brief discussion about the Chicago Bears' stadium plans. Pritzker reiterated how the Bears are a private business and the state isn't in the business of subsidizing them, though it could fund related infrastructure projects.

"I'm just glad I'm not going to be known as the governor that lost the Bears," Bailey said when asked to explain his plan to facilitate their move to Arlington Heights. He accused Pritzker of delaying engagement with the team until Indiana stepped in with a massive subsidy package.

On housing, Bailey suggested Illinois needs to lower property taxes before he

see **DEBATE** page **9**

Illinois Conservation Police Officers recognized for service

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, recently recognized conservation police officers across the state for acts of bravery, compassion and distinguished service to the people of Illinois during the 2025 calendar year.

IDNR presented awards in several categories. Among those who were honored was Conservation Police Officer Austin Priest, who was named officer of the year for the second year in a row. Conservation police officers from IDNR's Southern Zone also were among those receiving recognition.

"One of IDNR's greatest strengths is our conservation police and support staff, and I am proud and honored to work alongside them," IDNR Office of Law Enforcement director Jed Whitchurch said in a news release. "Public outreach, excellence in performance and leadership are the ethos these honorees live by. Thank you to all who serve the public and protect Illinois' wildlife and natural resources."

Conservation Police Officer

Conservation Police Officer Austin Priest, who serves in District 9, Central Zone, was recognized as the Illinois Conservation Police Officer of the Year for exceptional enforcement work, including 49 field reports, 100 citations, 144 warnings and multiple felony drug, driving under the influence, operating under the influence, and warrant arrests.

In addition to major deer investigations and search-warrant assistance, Priest twice responded to lifesaving incidents while off duty and has earned numerous honors, including 2025 Officer of the Year, the Award of Merit, Lifesaving Award and the Illinois State Police Director's Award.

Awards of Merit

Awards of Merit also were presented. The awards recognize sworn law enforcement personnel who have made outstanding achievements as public ambassadors for IDNR and conservation police, and who consistently perform their duties with skill, diligence, productivity, judgment and responsibility. Seven conservation police officers received awards of merit. Those in the state's Southern Zone who received awards of merit included:

Officer Amanda McKune, District 13, Southern Zone: McKune issued more than 240 citations in 2025 and developed significant enforcement cases resulting in substantial civil penalties. She also supports statewide investigations through permit-system research, search-warrant guidance and data-extraction expertise.

Officer James Olroyd, District 12, Southern Zone: Olroyd conducted a four-month investigation that uncovered more than 100 wildlife violations involving a Florida resident illegally hunting in Illinois, along with felony resource-theft and permit-fraud offenses. His investigation resulted in numerous charges and citations against the suspect and affiliates.

Officer Dustin Taylor, District 15, Southern Zone: Taylor led Illinois' largest environmental crime investigation, coordinating a multi-agency response to a major oil spill and uncovering repeated environmental violations. His investigation resulted in search warrants, the discovery of radioactive dumping and a grand jury indictment charging 16 felonies.

Officer Steven Vasicek, District 16, Southern Zone: Vasicek has spent 25 years specializing in nighttime wildlife enforcement and is recognized for his expertise, productivity and sound judgment. He mentors new officers and trains conservation police academy recruits in specialized investigative techniques used statewide.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
JOHNSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
BOBBIE G. HARPER,
DECEASED.
CASE NO. 2026PR16
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
Notice is given of the death of Bobbie G. Harper, of Tunnel Hill, Johnson, Illinois, on September 1, 2026. Letters of Administration were issued on October 07, 2026 to Kathy Stevens and Bob Kelly Harper as Co-Administrators, whose attorney is Evan W. Taylor of Lawler Brown Law Firm, 1600 W. Main Street, Marion, Illinois 62959.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Johnson County Courthouse, Vienna, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before April 22, 2027, or three months from the date of mailing or delivering notice pursuant to 755 ILCS 5/18-3(a), whichever is later, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Notice is given to all persons, including all heirs whose names and/or post office addresses are unknown and are not stated in the Petition for the Issuance of Letters of Administration filed on October 5, 2026, that on October 7, 2026, the Circuit Court of Johnson County, Illinois entered an Order Appointing Independent Co-Administrators naming Kathy Stevens and Bob Kelly Harper as Independent Co-Administrators.
KATHY STEVENS AND BOB KELLY HARPER,
INDEPENDENT CO-ADMINISTRATORS
BY: /S/ EVAN W. TAYLOR
LAWLER BROWN LAW FIRM
ADAM B. LAWLER #6283341
DAVID W. LAWLER #6303793
NICK BROWN #6302494
ZACHARY S. WALSTON #6331559
EVAN W. TAYLOR #6305093
JARROD WIGGS #6350317
1600 W. MAIN ST
P.O. BOX 1148
MARION, ILLINOIS 62959
TELEPHONE: (618) 993-2222
FACSIMILE: (618) 731-4141
SERVICE EMAIL: SERVICE@LBLF.COM
8221-970381

ORDINANCE NO. 26-01
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SANDUSKY-ELCO-TAMMS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, ALEXANDER COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SANDUSKY-ELCO-TAMMS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION I. That the following is an estimate, by source, of the expected receipts of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District for all funds for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:
Cash on Hand and Anticipated Receipts - All Funds
Cash Balance at July 1, 2026 $ 7,388.00
Anticipated Real Estate Tax Receipts 35,956.00
Refuge Revenue Sharing Act Funds 1,800.00
Foreign Fire Insurance License Fees 2,300.00
Total Anticipated Receipts and Cash on Hand $ 47,444.00
SECTION II. That the following sums of money be and hereby are budgeted and appropriated for the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District, a Fire Protection District in Alexander County, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 for the following purposes:
Administrative Expenses:
Legal Services $ 1,325.00
Publication of Notices and Ordinances 900.00
Contingency for Unforeseen Expenses 500.00
Liability Insurance 325.00
Association Dues 150.00
Trustee Education 400.00
Treasurer's Surety Bond 200.00
Office Supplies 50.00
Postage 50.00
PO Box Rental 92.00
Total Administrative Expenses $ 3,992.00
Fire Protection Services Expenses:
Fire Protection Services $ 39,000.00
Total Fire Protection Services Expenses $ 39,000.00
TOTAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION $ 42,992.00
ESTIMATED CASH ON HAND JUNE 30, 2027 $ 4,452.00
SECTION III. The Trustees shall have the power and authority during the aforesaid Fiscal Year from time to time, as in their judgment may be necessary, to make transfers among the various line-item appropriations for the purpose of meeting exigencies that may arise during the year, as permitted by law. To the extent permitted by applicable law, all unexpended balances of any item or items of any general appropriation made by this Ordinance may be expended in making up any deficiency in any item or items in the same general appropriation made by this Ordinance. The sums herein appropriated are appropriated from all sources of income, including but not limited to all sources of income from property taxes, and all other revenues of the Fire Protection District received from all sources of revenue. Should a deficiency exist in any fund or line item other than the General Fund for a purpose for which money may be legally appropriated and spent from the General Fund, that deficiency may be made up from the General Fund. The amount of any such deficiency in any such fund or line item other than the General Fund is hereby appropriated from the General Fund.
SECTION IV. If any section, subdivision or sentence of this Ordinance is held invalid, it shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.
SECTION V. This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No. 26-01 and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District, Alexander County, Illinois, within thirty (30) days of the date hereof. The newspaper shall furnish a certificate of publication to the Secretary of the Fire Protection District, which certificate shall be placed in the official records of the Fire Protection District and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after ten (10) days of its publication.
PASSED by the Board of Trustees of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District of Alexander County, Illinois this 9th day of September, 2026, and filed with the Secretary of the said Fire Protection District the same date.
Ayes: 3
Nays: 0
Janice Parker
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection
District
Approved by the President of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection
District Board of Trustees, this 9th day of September, 2026.
Shannon L. Dakin
President
CERTIFICATE
The undersigned Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District, a Fire Protection District organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois, certifies that on the day and date hereof, she was the duly appointed, acting and qualified Secretary of the said Fire Protection District; that in her capacity as Secretary she is the official keeper of the records, minutes and resolutions of the said Fire Protection District; and that the document attached hereto is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance No. 26-01 entitled:
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SANDUSKY-ELCO-TAMMS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, ALEXANDER COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027
the original of which is part of the official records of the said Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District.
Dated this 9th day of September, 2026.
Janice Parker
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire
Protection District
The undersigned certifies that on the day and date hereof, he was the duly appointed, qualified and acting President of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District; that on the day and date hereof JANICE PARKER was the duly appointed, qualified and acting Secretary of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District and in such capacity was the keeper of the official records, minutes and resolutions of the said Fire Protection District.
Dated this 9th day of September, 2026.
Shannon L. Dakin
President of the Board of Trustees of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire
Protection District
The undersigned, being the duly appointed and acting Treasurer of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District, as chief fiscal officer of said District, certifies that the estimate of receipts set forth above in Ordinance No. 26-01, being the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of the Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 correctly states the revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the said Fire Protection District for the fiscal year indicated. This certification is made in compliance with the provisions of 35 ILCS 200/18-50.
Dated this 9th day of September, 2026.
Janice Parker
Treasurer, Board of Trustees
Sandusky-Elco-Tamms Fire Protection District
8221-970378

IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, FIFTH DISTRICT
ALEXANDER COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TRAILHEAD VENTURES, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
OLD NATIONAL BANK, successor-by-merger to First National Bank and Trust Co. of Carbondale, Illinois, et al.
Defendants.
Case No. 2026-CH-4
NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
TO: UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
ESCANABA TIMBER, LLC
1. A request affidavit for publication having been filed in the above-stated action and subsequently granted, notice is hereby given to both of you – Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants and Escanaba Timber, LLC – that Plaintiff Trailhead Ventures, LLC ("Trailhead") has commenced an action for reformation and quiet title against you and others in the Circuit Court of Alexander County, Illinois, 2000 Washington Avenue, Cairo, Illinois, 62914, Case No. 2026-CH-4.
2. The object and general nature of Trailhead's action is to (a) reform various deeds that have been recorded in Alexander County, Illinois; and (b) quiet title to the following-described real estate, which exists in Alexander County, Illinois:
a. "The 92-Acre Tract"
BEING A 92.65 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SOUTH HALF (S 1/2) OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 15 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AND IN THE NORTH HALF (N 1/2) OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 16 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AND ALSO BEING A PORTION OF CLAIM NO. 681, SURVEY NO. 526 AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE CENTER OF A COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF A STRIP OF LAND 40 FEET IN WIDTH TO ALEXANDER COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 4 IN BOOK 33, PAGE 528, SAID POINT BEING LOCATED SOUTH 52° 42' 00" WEST, 2970.00 FEET FROM A 2" IRON PIPE AS FOUND IN THE EAST BOUNDARY LINE OF CLAIM NO.
681, SURVEY NO. 526 AND ALSO BEING LOCATED SOUTH 58° 40' 17" WEST, 844.28 FEET FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 3 AND RUNS: NORTH 37° 18' 00" WEST, 40.00 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET; THENCE NORTH 52° 42' 00" EAST, 711.40 FEET, TO A POINT AT THE EDGE OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, SAID POINT BEING LOCATED IN THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO CAIRO & THEBES RAILROAD COMPANY (DEED BOOK 59, PAGE 472); THENCE NORTH 50° 06' 52" WEST, 979.87 FEET, WITH THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE CAIRO & THEBES RAILROAD COMPANY; TO A POINT
IN THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE EASTERN ILLINOIS & MISSOURI RAILROAD COMPANY; THENCE NORTH 61° 28' 57" WEST, 1077.84 FEET, THE CHORD OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE
WITH DELTA: 16° 09' 50", RADIUS: 3833.31'; 1081.42', TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS SET; THENCE SOUTH 52° 42' 00" WEST, 329.49 FEET, PASSING A 48" COTTONWOOD AT 267.19 FEET, TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS SET ON THE BANK OF A SLOUGH; THENCE SOUTH 68° 00' 00" WEST, 2521.62 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET IN THE CENTER OF A ROCK DIKE; THENCE SOUTH 68° 00' 00" WEST, 233.28 FEET, TO A POINT AT THE LOW WATER MARK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER; THENCE SOUTH 22° 00' 00" EAST, 654.90 FEET, TO A POINT AT THE LOW WATER MARK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER; THENCE NORTH 68° 00' 00" EAST, 212.08 FEET, WITH THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE WESTVACO BURNHAM ISLAND TRACT TO A POINT IN THE CENTER OF A ROCK DIKE; THENCE NORTH 68° 00' 00" EAST, 2073.52 FEET, WITH SAME, TO A POINT IN THE SANTA FE CHUTE; THENCE SOUTH 37°18' 00" EAST, 1281.00 FEET, WITH SAME, TO A POINT IN THE SANTA FE CHUTE; THENCE NORTH 69° 39' 50" EAST, 650.84 FEET, TO A POINT IN THE SANTA FE CHUTE; THENCE NORTH 52° 42' 00" EAST, 189.76 FEET, TO A 1/2" IRON PIPE AS FOUND ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE SANTA FE CHUTE; THENCE NORTH 52° 42' 00" EAST, 90.24 FEET, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
b. "The 8-Acre Tract"
BEING A 8.04 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF SECTION 34 AND THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF SECTION 35, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 15 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AND BEING A PORTION OF
CLAIM NO. 681, SURVEY NO. 526 AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD AS SET IN THE SOUTH MARGIN OF A COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD AND IN THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF A STRIP OF LAND 40 FEET IN WIDTH AS CONVEYED TO ALEXANDER COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 4 IN DEED BOOK 33, PAGE 528, SAID IRON ROD BEING LOCATED 20 FEET FROM THE CENTERLINE OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD AND ALSO BEING LOCATED SOUTH 67° 08' 30" WEST, 160.73 FEET, FROM A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS FOUND AND NORTH 75° 26' 17" WEST, 213.61 FEET, THE CHORD OF A
CURVE TO THE RIGHT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE WITH DELTA: 11° 07' 35", RADIUS: 1101.72', ARC: 213.94 FEET, TO A POINT OF TANGENCY, THENCE NORTH 69° 52' 30" WEST, 1144.93 FEET, WITH THE SOUTH MARGIN OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, TO A POINT OF CURVATURE; THENCE NORTH 60° 27' 16" WEST, 302.50 FEET, THE CHORD OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE WITH DELTA: 18° 50' 28", RADIUS 924.06', ARC: 303.87', TO A POINT OF TANGENCY; THENCE NORTH 51° 02' 02" WEST, 50.49 FEET, WITH THE SOUTH MARGIN OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, TO AN IRON ROD SET IN SAME; THENCE SOUTH 52° 42' 00" WEST, 143.02 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET; THENCE NORTH 63° 30' 00" WEST, 58.50 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET; THENCE NORTH 53° 15' 00" WEST, 298.49 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET IN THE MARGIN OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 74° 11' 42" WEST, 30.35 FEET, WITH SAID SOUTH MARGIN, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET IN THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE CARIO & THEBES RAILROAD COMPANY (DEED BOOK 59, PAGE 472); THENCE SOUTH 50° 06' 52" EAST, 856.66 FEET, WITH THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE CAIRO & THEBES RAILROAD COMPANY, TO A POINT IN THE NORTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE EASTERN ILLINOIS & MISSOURI RAILROAD COMPANY (DEED BOOK 32, PAGE 372); THENCE SOUTH 80° 48' 25" EAST, 1344.68 FEET, THE CHORD OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE WITH DELTA: 20° 51' 48", RADIUS: 3713.31', ARC: 1352.14', TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS SET IN THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF A STRIP OF LAND 40 FEET IN WIDTH AS DEEDED TO ALEXANDER COUNTY ROAD
DISTRICT NO. 4, DEED BOOK 33, PAGE 528; THENCE NORTH 52° 42' 00" EAST, 42.65 FEET, WITH THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID 40' STRIP, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
c. "The 21-Acre Tract"
BEING A 21.18 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SOUTH HALF (S 1/2) OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 15 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AND ALSO BEING A PORTION OF CLAIM NO. 681, SURVEY NO. 526 AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINNING AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT SET IN THE SOUTH
BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE EASTERN ILLINOIS & MISSOURI RAILROAD COMPANY (DEED BOOK 32, PAGE 372), SAID MONUMENT BEING LOCATED 60 FEET FROM THE CENTERLINE OF THE TRACKS AS PREVIOUSLY LOCATED AND RUNS: SOUTH 52° 42' 00" WEST, 329.49 FEET, PASSING A 48" COTTONWOOD AT 267.19 FEET, TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS SET ON THE BANK OF A SLOUGH; THENCE SOUTH 68° 00' 00" WEST, 2521.62 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD SET IN THE CENTER OF A ROCK DIKE; THENCE SOUTH 68° 00' 00" WEST, 233.38 FEET, TO A POINT AT THE LOW WATER MARK OF THE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER; THENCE NORTH 22° 00' 00" WEST 305.30 FEET, WITH SAID LOW WATER MARK, TO A POINT IN SAME; THENCE NORTH 68° 00' 00" EAST, 243.31 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD SET IN THE CENTER OF A ROCK DIKE; THENCE NORTH 68° 00' 00" EAST, 2477.52
FEET, TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AS SET ON THE BANK OF A SLOUGH; THENCE NORTH 37° 08' 13" EAST, 204.36 FEET, TO A POINT IN THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE EASTERN ILLINOIS & MISSOURI RAILROAD COMPANY; THENCE
SOUTH 50° 38' 50" EAST, 368.27 FEET, THE CHORD OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE WITH DELTA: 05° 30' 24", RADIUS 3833.31', ARC 368.41', TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
d. "The 1-Acre Tract"
BEING A 0.95 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SOUTH HALF (S 1/2) OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 15 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AND PORTION OF CLAIM NO. 681, SURVEY NO. 526 AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD SET IN THE SOUTH MARGIN OF A COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE TRACT HEREIN BEING DESCRIBED AND RUNS: SOUTH 52° 42' 00" WEST, 143.02 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE NORTH 63° 30' 00" WEST, 58.50 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD SET; THENCE NORTH 53° 15' 00" WEST, 298.49 FEET, TO AN IRON ROD AS SET IN THE SOUTH MARGIN OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 77° 22' 12" EAST, 367.64 FEET, THE CHORD OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, BOUNDARY BEING THE ARC OF SAID CURVE WITH DELTA: 52° 40' 20", RADIUS: 414.35', ARC: 380.92', TO A POINT OF TANGENCY; THENCE SOUTH 51° 02' 02" EAST, 59.86 FEET, WITH THE SOUTH MARGIN OF SAID COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
3. The names of all parties in this action are listed in the Complaint that Trailhead
filed with the Court on April 6, 2026.
4. The name and address of the attorney who represents Trailhead is Shawn T. Briner, 390 S. Woods Mill Road, Suite 125, Chesterfield, Missouri 63017.
5. This action currently pends.
6. Summonses via publication have been duly issued out of the court against you as
provided by law.
7. Unless you file an answer to Trailhead's Complaint or otherwise make your appearance in the action on or before November 18, 2026, default may be entered against you at any time after that and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer that Trailhead included in its Complaint.
Carey L. Simmons
Circuit Clerk
Date: 9/23/2026
8221-970246

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
UNION COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
IRLEEN H. JORGENSEN,
DECEASED.
NO. 2026-PR-21
IN PROBATE
NOTICE OF DEATH
INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION,
AND CLAIM DATE
NOTICE IS GIVEN to creditors of the death of Irleen H. Jorgensen, of Buncombe, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on October 5, 2026, to Sheila Dillow, 1575 Texas Eastern Road, Buncombe, IL 62912 as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Elvis C. Cameron, 205B N. Main St., Anna, Illinois. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of admission, you may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses in open Court or other evidence, as provided by Section 5/6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21.)
You also have the right, under Section 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1), to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the Court within six (6) months after admission of the Will to probate.
Notice is further given to any unknown heirs at law as the rights afforded by the Illinois Probate Act.
The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless, under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, Par. 5/28-4), any interested person terminates Independent Administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk of this Court.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of this court at the Union County Courthouse, 309 W. Market St., Jonesboro, Illinois, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before April 15, 2027, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Executor is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of the State of Illinois, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the Executor and to the attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
Dated: October 6, 2026.
SHEILA DILLOW
CAMERON LAW FIRM, LLC
ELVIS C. CAMERON
ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR
205B N. MAIN ST.
ANNA, ILLINOIS 62906
PHONE: 618-833-2220
ARDC# 6244394
8221-970166

TAX DEED NO. 2026TX37
FILED October 5, 2026
TAKE NOTICE
TO: ZACHARY PRICE, ALEXANDER COUNTY CLERK; FILL-UP MART INC.; SUDHIRKUMAR PATEL; FIRST STATE BANK OF OLMSTED; MITESHKUMAR PATEL; CONOCO; OCCUPANT; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED; AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS.
This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property:
Part of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) and the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4), in Section Thirty-two (32), Township Fifteen (15) South, Range Two (2) West of the Third Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows:
Commencing at an iron pipe, the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4), Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of said section, thence North 00 degrees 05' West, 382.3 feet, thence North 38 degrees 49' East, 195.3 feet, thence North 63 degrees 48' East, 241.17 feet, thence North 00 degrees 05' West, 8.7 feet, thence South 85 degrees 41' East, 672.2 feet, thence on a curve to the left, having a radius of 2154.9 feet for a distance of 267.2 feet, thence South 17 degrees 13' West to the Northeast corner of the Childers lot, 197.7 feet for the place of beginning, thence North 65 degrees 16' West, a distance of 124.90 feet, thence North 01 degrees 08' 31" East, a distance of 106.33 feet to the Southerly right-of-way line of Illinois State Route No. 3, thence South 85 degrees 35' 41" East along said right-of-way line, a distance of 157.18 feet, thence 17 degrees 13' 00" West, a distance of 153.36 feet to the place of beginning, in the County of Alexander and State of Illinois.
AND
Also, a perpetual easement of ingress and egress over the following described land for the purpose of keeping and maintaining a septic tank thereon, more particularly described in Deed of Easement dated June 26, 1990 to Cairo Foods, Inc., and recorded in Book 272, page 368 of the Alexander County Recorder's Office as follows:
Commencing at an iron pipe at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter-Southwest Quarter of Section 32; thence North 00 degrees 05' 00" West, 382.3 feet; thence North 38 degrees 49' 00" East, 195.3 feet; thence North 63 degrees 48' 00" East, 241.17 feet; thence North 00 degrees 05' 00" West, 8.70 feet; thence South 85 degrees 41' 00" East, 672.20 feet to the beginning of a curve concave to the Northwest having a radius of 2154.90 feet; thence in a Northeasterly direction along said curve 267.20 feet; thence South 17 degrees 13' 00" West, 197.70 feet to the Northeast corner of the "Childers Lot", being the true point of beginning; thence North 69 degrees 31' 02" West, 125.62 feet; thence North 27 degrees 03' 00" East, 9.32 feet; thence South 65 degrees 16' 00" East, 124.90 feet to the point of beginning.
Property Index Number 06-32-100-029
On February 10, 2027 at 1:00 p.m. the Petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on January 9, 2026 for general taxes of the year 2024. The period of redemption will expire February 8, 2027.
Stuart E. Morgenstern, Attorney for Petitioner
(618) 357-5315
Cert. # 2024-0106
8221-970144

Notice of Sale
Goreville Self Storage
Located At 725 S. Fly Ave.
Goreville IL, 62939
Is hereby giving Notice to Clay Dunn
and other concerned parties that on OCTOBER 30 2026
Goreville Self Storage is selling or otherwise deposing of contents of UNIT #44
8221-970164

Assumed Name Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, October 8, 2026, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of UNION County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting, and transacting the business known as:
RIVTARK
207 CHURCH ST.
JONESBORO, IL 62952
Dated this 8th day of October, 2026.
Stephanie L. Cox
COUNTY CLERK
No. ABN2026-7926
8221-970233

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PULASKI COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:
JOSE MANUEL ROMAN, JR.,
Petitioner,
v.
MARGARITA ROMAN,
Respondent.
Case No. 2026-DN-3
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Notice is given to you, MARGARITA ROMAN, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief.
Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Pulaski County, Courthouse, Mounds City, Illinois, on or before November 12, 2026, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition.
Stephanie L. Crain
CIRCUIT CLERK
8221-969877

TAX DEED
NO. 2026-TX-34
FILED: 09/25/2026
TAKE NOTICE
TO: KAREN ODUOLA, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS, OR PARTIES INTERESTED and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:
PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-07-664
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Union County in Jonesboro, Illinois on February 17, 2027, at 11:00 AM. On that date the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on February 7, 2024, for general taxes of the year 2022. The period of redemption will expire on February 3, 2027. Redemption may be made by applying to the county clerk at the office of the county clerk in Jonesboro, Illinois.
AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD
Purchaser or Assignee
8221-969924

TAX DEED
NO. 2026-TX-35
FILED: 09/25/2026
TAKE NOTICE
TO: ZEBULON K. MOLTER, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL, ANNA STATE BANK, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS, OR PARTIES INTERESTED and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:
PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-08-488
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Union County in Jonesboro, Illinois on February 17, 2027, at 11:00 AM. On that date the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on February 7, 2024, for general taxes of the year 2022. The period of redemption will expire on February 3, 2027. Redemption may be made by applying to the county clerk at the office of the county clerk in Jonesboro, Illinois.
AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD
Purchaser or Assignee
8221-969921

TAX DEED
NO. 2026-TX-36
FILED: 09/25/2026
TAKE NOTICE
TO: AMANDA Z. HOUSEMAN, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS, OR PARTIES INTERESTED and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:
PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-08-534
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Union County in Jonesboro, Illinois on February 17, 2027, at 11:00 AM. On that date the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on February 7, 2024, for general taxes of the year 2022. The period of redemption will expire on February 3, 2027. Redemption may be made by applying to the county clerk at the office of the county clerk in Jonesboro, Illinois.
AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD
Purchaser or Assignee
8221-969923

TAX DEED
NO. 2026-TX-37
FILED: 09/25/2026
TAKE NOTICE
TO: KIMBERLY A. TREXLER, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, UNKNOWN OWNERS, OR PARTIES INTERESTED and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the Petition for Tax Deed on the following described property in Union County:
PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 14-00-08-733
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Union County in Jonesboro, Illinois on February 17, 2027, at 11:00 AM. On that date the petitioner intends to make application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on February 7, 2024, for general taxes of the year 2022. The period of redemption will expire on February 3, 2027. Redemption may be made by applying to the county clerk at the office of the county clerk in Jonesboro, Illinois.
AS-IS PROPERTIES, LTD
Purchaser or Assignee
8221-969922

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 1ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PULASKI COUNTY - MOUND CITY, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff,
-vs-
TAMMY HUSTON, Personally and as Executor of the Estate of Nora Isabelle Baker; DONALD BAKER, JR.; JAMIE ROBERTS; JOHN ROBERTS; TONY BAKER; CITIMORTGAGE, INC.; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF NORA ISABELLE BAKER;

UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE
Case No. 2026FC1
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-entitled cause on August 6th, 2026, the Pulaski County Sheriff will, on November 10, 2026, at the hour of 10:30 AM, at 500 Illinois Avenue, Mount City, IL 62963, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOTS 4, 5 AND 6 IN THE WEST SIDE ADDITION OF THE VILLAGE OF KARNAK, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF A PART OF THE WEST ONE-HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH, RANGE 2 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PULASKI, STATE OF ILLINOIS
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 871 W. Washington St., Karnak, IL 62956
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NO: 03-15-300-006
The improvement on the property consists of a Single unit dwelling.
Sale terms: cash in hand.
The Judgment amount was $65,944.31
The property will NOT be open for inspection.
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN EVICTION ORDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information: Contact Brendan McClelland, Esq. of Noonan & Lieberman, Ltd, Plaintiff's Attorney, 33 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL 60602. 312-605-3500 ext. 3327.
8221-969898

REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 1ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PULASKI COUNTY - MOUND CITY, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff,
-vs-
TAMMY HUSTON, Personally and as Executor of the Estate of Nora Isabelle Baker; DONALD BAKER, JR.; JAMIE ROBERTS; JOHN ROBERTS; TONY BAKER; CITIMORTGAGE, INC.; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF NORA ISABELLE BAKER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE
Case No. 2026FC1
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-entitled cause on August 6th, 2026, the Pulaski County Sheriff will, on November 10, 2026, at the hour of 10:30 AM, at 500 Illinois Avenue, Mount City, IL 62963, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 871 W. Washington St., Karnak, IL 62956
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NO: 03-15-300-006
The improvement on the property consists of a Single unit dwelling.
Sale terms: cash in hand.
The Judgment amount was $65,944.31
The property will NOT be open for inspection.
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN EVICTION ORDER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
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As Illinois hunters head into the field, know the warning signs of heart attack and stroke



Weather conditions, physical exertion and time spent in remote areas are among the conditions that make hunting season rewarding, yet these same factors can make a medical emergency more dangerous when every minute matters. Understanding the warning signs of heart attack and stroke and knowing how to respond, can help hunters act quickly if symptoms occur, according to the American Heart Association.

As hunters across Illinois prepare for the season, planning should include more than equipment and safety gear. Understanding personal health risks and knowing how to get help can be just as important when spending long hours outdoors. In rural settings where EMS responses can be delayed and minutes matter, it's important for hunters to be ready to respond in a cardiac or stroke emergency.

Few recreational activities combine strenuous exertion, changing weather conditions and distance from medical care the way hunting can. For people who are not accustomed to that level of physical activity, those conditions may place additional strain on the heart. Cold temperatures can cause blood vessels to narrow, which may raise blood pressure and make the heart work harder, while sudden or vigorous activity can add to that strain.

"You don't have to have a known heart condition to experience a medical emergency in the field," said Meta Rask, local Heart Association volunteer and manager of cardio/pulmonary rehab, medical exercise and the OSF Weight Loss Center at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL. "Preparing for hunting season should include understanding the warning signs of heart attack and stroke, knowing what to do if symptoms occur and discussing an emergency plan with the people you're hunting with."

Preparation is as important as packing the right gear

Talk with a healthcare professional about whether strenuous activity is appropriate, especially if you have heart disease or risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes or a history of smoking.

Build up physical activity gradually before hunting season rather than relying on the hunt as your first strenuous activity in months.

Avoid attempting to move heavy game alone. Use appropriate equipment or ask others for help.

Know the location of the nearest emergency services and whether cell service is available.

Know the warning signs of a heart attack

Chest discomfort: Pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or goes away and returns

Discomfort elsewhere in the upper body: Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach

Shortness of breath: This can occur with or without chest discomfort

Other possible signs: A cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness

Some heart attacks are sudden and intense, but others begin slowly with mild pain or discomfort.

"Hunters often expect to be tired or sore after a long day outdoors, but symptoms such as chest discomfort, shortness of breath or sudden weakness should never be ignored," Rask said. "If something doesn't feel right, stop what you're doing and seek help immediately."

Recognize warning signs of stroke with B.E. F.A.S.T.

B = Balance loss: Sudden trouble walking, dizziness or loss of balance or coordination

E = Eye (or vision) changes: Sudden vision loss or trouble seeing in one or both eyes

F = Face drooping: One side of the face droops or feels numb

A = Arm weakness: One arm feels weak or numb or drifts downward when raised

S = Speech difficulty: Slurred speech or trouble speaking

T = Time to call 911: If any of these symptoms occur, even if they go away, call 911 immediately.

Be prepared to respond to cardiac arrest

Cardiac arrest is different from a heart attack. In cardiac arrest, the heart suddenly stops beating. A person may be in cardiac arrest if they are unresponsive and not breathing normally or are only gasping. If a teen or adult suddenly collapses:

Call 911.

Push hard and fast in the center of the chest until professional emergency medical services arrive.

Learning Hands-Only Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, or CPR, before a hunting trip can help someone respond if a member of the hunting party experiences cardiac arrest.

For information about heart attack and stroke warning signs, Hands-Only CPR and ways to support cardiovascular health, visit heart.org and stroke.org.

About the American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives. Dedicated to ensuring equitable health in all communities, the organization has been a leading source of health information for more than one hundred years. Supported by more than 35 million volunteers globally, we fund groundbreaking research, advocate for the public's health, and provide critical resources to save and improve lives affected by cardiovascular disease and stroke. By driving breakthroughs and implementing proven solutions in science, policy, and care, we work tirelessly to advance health and transform lives every day. Connect with us on heart.org, Facebook, X or by calling 1-800-AHA-USA1.

Senators respond to IDHS update on Choate Center

Two Southern Illinois state legislators shared a joint statement last week in response to an update from the Illinois Department of Human Services, IDHS, regarding the future of the Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna.

The joint statement was issued by State Sen. Paul Jacobs, R-Pomona, and State Sen. Terri Bryant, R-Murphysboro.

The legislators said that IDHS has announced it will retain 25 inpatient psychiatric beds at the Choate Center. The department previously had announced major cuts in staffing and services at the Anna facility.

The joint statement issued by Jacobs and Bryant was posted on social media and follows:

"We appreciate that IDHS is recognizing the importance of maintaining mental health services at Choate rather than eliminating them. However, keeping just 25 of the facility's 75 psychiatric beds is still wholly inadequate and falls far short of meeting the mental health needs of Southern Illinois.

"SIU Medicine's own study recommended expanding psychiatric services at Choate, not cutting them. While this announcement is a step in the right direction, it is not enough. Southern Illinois families deserve access to mental health treatment close to home, and the dedicated employees at Choate deserve a commitment to preserving these important services."

Debate

continued from page 7

ripped Pritzker about the state's lackluster population growth.

On lowering utility prices, Pritzker repeated he will push lawmakers to pass the POWER Act in November — a bill many advocates believe will help reduce energy costs by requiring data centers to supply their own power.

Bailey criticized the state's two major climate and energy bills passed under Pritzker, which aim to take fossil fuels offline by 2045. Critics say that deadline disincentivizes coal and gas plants from investing in the state, driving up prices and reducing available production.

"We're phasing out reliable energy far too soon," he said. "I have no problem with bringing on what we suppose is clean energy, but we all know the wind doesn't always blow, and the sun doesn't always shine."

Pritzker's latest energy plan has focused on battery storage as a means of increasing reliability.

On Medicaid funding and struggles many Illinois hospitals are facing because of federal funding cuts, Bailey suggested lawmakers "reprioritize spending" while Pritzker called for universal health care and faulted cuts at the federal level — prompting Bailey to call for a "drink."

Independent candidate Collin Corbett was not on the stage Tuesday night, garnering only a brief mention.

"The good news is there is an alternative to the two party circus you saw on display tonight," he said in a statement. "My running mate, Carolyn (Schofield), and I have developed common sense plans to get our state moving in the right direction. Send a message to the broken two party system by voting for a mainstream Independent for Governor."

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Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

Groundhogs… gobblers… and lots of time in waiting rooms…

So…The Other Half finally got a bit of a break in her attempt to grow a garden this year…just in time for it to get nice and cold…

A quick wander through the garden one warm afternoon last week revealed lots of blossoms on what was left of a few tomato plants, a cucumber vine or two, and several pepper plants as well. The peppers appeared to be particularly prolific. I even harvested a couple of small cukes and peppers. I'm guessing that all came to an end in the cold which was in the forecast for last weekend. After high temperatures climbed into the 80s and 90s last week, we were looking at the possibility of frost over the weekend. At least there was no mention of snow.

The imminent arrival of cold weather meant that we had to move The Other Half's "jungle" from out on the front porch into a warmer, safer place. All of the plants will brighten up our humble abode during the chill of autumn and fall…and we can look forward to moving them back outside next spring.

Meanwhile…

Up until this past week, The Journey Through Life had not included an opportunity to craft a column, or at least get one started, while sitting in a waiting room. Now, thanks to modern technology, that can be checked off the bucket list, which, by the way, does not "officially" exist but ought to be at this point on The Journey.

Both of the times spent in waiting rooms involved "routine maintenance"…in one case, something of a mechanical nature and in the other case something of a yours truly nature.

The waiting room involved with something of a mechanical nature was a very nice place to be waiting while hanging around for a while in the Show Me State. The wait lasted a whole lot longer than I was expecting. Such things happen.

As mentioned, while waiting, since I had taken my laptop along for the ride, I was able to get a little bit of "work" done. However, since I am "retired," "work" is not a real word anymore. Then again, I've never really considered writing stories and taking pictures to be "work." A summer spent in a factory where recycled copper was melted down for future re-use was work.

One of the amenities in the waiting room was a big screen television. After I finished a little bit of "work," I pretended like I was doing some reading while watching what was on the television. I did notice that a fair number of folks in the waiting room were intently viewing something exciting on their phones. That seems to be the way of the world these days.

Whoever chose what to watch on the television picked a channel which aired several episodes of a program about adventures of folks living in the great outdoors. "Reality" TV I suppose. Most of the folks were of the male persuasion. (I subsequently learned that all of them were "rugged individuals.") Most of them appeared to be of a "certain age." I am familiar with that age, since I have arrived at the same point on The Journey Through Life. Given their situation, I wasn't quite sure why they were spending so much time out in the cold, the snow and the occasional icy river. No thank you. I will stick with going for a walk on a cold day in January when I come back home and crawl under a nice warm quilt.



Turkeys were seen one morning last week in a field along Mountain Glen Road not far from metropolitan Cobden. The gobblers did not seem to be particularly excited about having their picture taken.

Viewers also were treated to some up-close and personal interactions involving very sharp knives, deceased beavers and badgers and the removal of fur from such critters. Again. No thank you. Been there. Done that. I will stick with watching such things on a television in the waiting room.

Meanwhile…

Recent Critter Sightings have included critters of the furry and feathered kinds…

The furry kinds included our "pet" groundhog, an occasional squirrel, a pitiful cat (not ours), a rabbit, some turkeys and a great blue heron.

We can't be sure exactly how many groundhogs are running around in our backyard. The ones we see quite frequently appear to be very well fed. As of last week, they were really enjoying acorns which had fallen from a stately oak tree next to our house. They should be in good shape for the winter.



One of our backyard groundhog buddies was enjoying an acorn or two, and maybe some fresh green produce, right outside the back door one day last week.

The squirrels also have been enjoying the acorns, as well as pecans from a tree in a nearby yard. We have been seeing squirrels squirreling away acorns for their winter parties. They have been keeping themselves quite busy.

The pitiful cat was seen being pitiful while I was on a daily walk. I'm guessing it was either hungry or just waiting to be petted. The rabbit scampered away when it was spooked during my visit to The Other Half's Garden.

The turkeys were seen in a field along Mountain Glen Road not far from Cobden. They were wandering through a field which had been harvested for the fall. I think soybeans may have been growing in the field. The turkeys wandered back and forth in the field, gobbling and doing their best to avoid having their picture taken. Pretty soon, they vanished into a nearby tree line.

The great blue heron was seen in a truly unexpected place: Standing in an open field in a highly developed commercial area in Cape Girardeau. A picture would have been nice; stopping in traffic at that point would not have been a wise move.

While traveling back and forth to the Show Me State, I was hoping to see a bald eagle or two or three along Illinois Route 3. No such luck. I did see a few turtles in water in a ditch along Route 3 at the Union County State Fish and Wildlife Area, also known as "the refuge." There actually was not a lot of water to be seen at the refuge.

Perhaps the most exciting recent critter sighting was the backside of a raccoon, which paid, what I am assuming, was a return visit to our front porch. As is often the case, the raccoon's visit was accompanied by noisy commotion out on the porch. I grabbed a flashlight and headed out into the dark. As I walked to the east side of the porch, I caught a glimpse of Rocky's backside as he/she exited the porch. I'm pretty sure the critter will be back…



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