

# THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

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## News Notes

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

Memorial Day will be observed Monday, May 26. Special events are planned throughout the area in commemoration of Memorial Day.

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A map posted online by the National Weather Service office in Paducah showed that 11 tornadoes occurred May 16 in Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky. EF-1, EF-2, EF-3 and EF-3 tornadoes were reported.

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Stinson Memorial Public Library in Anna is planning to host a program titled “Forest Park Owls: Hiding in Plain Sight” at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 24. The presentation will be given by naturalist Mark Glenshaw, who has documented the lives of great horned owls in Forest Park in St. Louis.

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The City of Anna shared on social media that the city pool is set to open Monday June 2, weather permitting. Hours are scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The city is welcoming sponsors for free swim days.

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Lincoln School in Anna welcomed special guests for a Career Day that was organized by 1st grade teacher Autumn McMahan-Falgout. Guests included Rolly Farms/Mark Glasco, Union County Farm Bureau/Kenzie Dillow, Illinois State Police/Rodger Goines, Anna State Bank/Jon Vicenzi, First Class Cookies/Sharon Laster, Illinois Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer Steve Vasicek, author Mike Jackson, Anna Fire Department/Brian Miller and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

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Anna-Jo Garden Club members talked about gardening during a visit with Anna School District 37 6th grade students.

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Shawnee School District 84 teacher Dee Rose was honored at the recent Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel banquet last in Bloomington. She received the Award of Special Recognition in the teacher category.

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Semester exams are set for Friday, May 23, and Tuesday, May 27, at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

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The Lick Creek Education Foundation’s 15th annual golf scramble is set for Sept. 13 at the Union County Country Club in Anna. Registration information is available by contacting Lick Creek School.

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Lick Creek School shared that its Our BookBlast campaign provided 278 new books to every student in preschool through 8th grade. The school thanked all of those who helped to support the program and said students were excited to receive books.

(continued on page 2)

## Memorial Day events scheduled



### Memorial Day banner

Memorial Day banners are on display in the Village of Cobden. Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 26.

The annual observance of Memorial Day is Monday, May 26. In commemoration of Memorial Day, special events are planned in the area in the coming days.

#### Alto Pass Ceremonies

The Alto Pass Area Veterans Memorial Organization plans to conduct at Memorial Day ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 24. The ceremony will be at the veterans memorial in downtown Alto Pass. The ceremony will include a brief presentation and a three-volley salute.

The Alto Pass veterans group also plans to conduct Memorial Day ceremonies on Monday, May 26, at two area cemeteries. A ceremony is set for 10 a.m. at the Alto Pass Cemetery. A ceremony is planned at 10:30 a.m. at the Dutch Ridge Cemetery near Alto Pass.

#### Anna VFW Post

A Memorial Day ceremony is planned at 11 a.m. Monday, May 26, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 near Anna.

#### Cobden Services

A Memorial Day service is planned at 9 a.m. Monday at the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Cobden.

A service is set for 9:30 a.m. Monday at the Cobden Cemetery.

#### Mound City National Cemetery

A Memorial Day commemoration is planned at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 24, at the Mound City National Cemetery.

Organizers said that a free shuttle bus service will be available at the former St. Mary’s Church, located at the corner of Diamond and Walnut Streets in Mound City, to and from the cemetery beginning at 9 a.m. The program will include patriotic music, and a Roll Call of Honor that will honor deceased veterans from all wars, beginning with the Civil War.

The guest speaker is scheduled to be retired U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Edward L. Ellis, who grew up in Mound City. Ellis graduated from Meridian High School in Mound City in 1986 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. He is a highly decorated military veteran with five deployments to include operations in Bahrain, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, Iraq and Afghanistan. He retired from active duty on Nov. 1, 2009, after 23 years of distinguished service. He continues to serve as an Air Force Junior ROTC Instructor at Marion High School.

The public is invited to help place flags on all the graves at the national cemetery starting at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, today.

### EF-4 tornado reported in Williamson County

## Severe weather strikes region Friday



### Storm clouds over Union County

Storm clouds were seen in the sky over Union County Friday evening, May 16. Northwestern Union County was under a tornado warning shortly after 4 p.m. Friday.

The region experienced another round of severe weather on Friday, May 16. In Union County, tornado warning sirens sounded, strong winds blew, hail and heavy rain fell and frequent lightning and thunder occurred.

Ahead of the arrival of the severe weather, the National Weather Service office in Paducah advised that the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky region was at a moderate risk for severe and potentially dangerous weather on Friday.

Supercells were expected to form into an intense line of storms late Friday afternoon and early in the evening. Strong tornadoes, widespread and locally intense damaging winds and very large hail were possible. Very heavy rain and localized flooding were possible. Frequent lightning was expected to accompany strong storms as well.

The weather service reported that a devastating tornado struck southern Williamson County during the early evening hours of last Friday. Northeast Union County shares a border with Williamson County.

A National Weather Service survey and analysis by structural engineering experts found EF-4 tornado damage occurred in southern Williamson County on Friday. With estimated peak winds of 190 miles per hour, this tornado was the strongest to impact the area of responsibility for the weather service office in Paducah since the long-track EF-4 tornado that impacted Western Kentucky on Dec.



### Hail Friday afternoon

Small hail fell for a short time Friday afternoon in the Cobden area.

10, 2021. Friday’s tornado in Williamson County left seven persons with injuries.

Deadly tornadoes also struck Southeast Missouri, the St. Louis area and central Kentucky on Friday.

Union County was included in a tornado watch which had been issued by the National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla. The watch was in effect from mid-afternoon Friday until 10 p.m. that night.

Northwestern Union County was under a tornado warning that was issued by weather service at around 4:20 p.m. Friday. The warning area also included northeastern Cape Girardeau County in Missouri.

The weather service reported that at 4:22 p.m. Friday, a severe thunderstorm capable of producing a tornado was located over the Trail of Tears

State Park. The storm, described as “dangerous” by the weather service, was moving east at 40 miles per hour.

Faced with the possibility of severe storms, 2025 graduation ceremonies which had been scheduled in the area were postponed.

Cobden High School moved its graduation ceremony from Friday evening to Saturday morning.

Shawnee Community College announced Friday morning that its 2025 commencement ceremony would be moved to 6 p.m. Monday, May 19, at the college’s main campus near Ullin. The ceremony had been scheduled for Friday evening, May 16.

“We are very sorry for any inconvenience this causes. We are considering our students’ safety, families, faculty, staff, and community members,” the shared on social media.



### Cobden High School graduation ceremony held Saturday morning

Cobden High School’s 2025 graduation ceremony was held Saturday morning, May 17. The ceremony took place in the high school gymnasium. The ceremony honoring the 2025 graduating class originally had been scheduled for Friday evening, May 16. The ceremony was postponed until Saturday morning due to a high chance for severe weather. School officials shared on social media that the action was taken with the safety of graduates and their families in mind.





## A-J softball team wraps up regular season with big win

After a rainy season, the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School softball team is closing in on the end of regular season play. Several games have been rained out over the past few weeks, but the stormy weather held off long enough for the Lady Wildcats to score a big win over Trico at home on Wednesday, May 14.

### A-J 15, Trico 0

A-J shut out Trico from Campbell Hill at home after 3 high-scoring innings of play.

Kansas Craig hit another home run for the Wildcats, her 23rd of of the season and the 40th of her career. She was 1-for-1 for the day with 1 RBI and 3 runs.

Jayci Needling hit her 13th home run of the season, batting 1-for-3 with 4 RBIs and 2 runs. Ruby Yates had a big day at the plate as well, hitting a home run and a

double while batting 3-for-3 with 4 RBIs and 1 run.

Senior Ariana Turner had 2 RBIs in the game, batting 1-for-1 with a double. Ariana Turner has also earned her 50th home run of her varsity career.

Jayda Shepard was 1-for-3 with an RBI, Emma Craig was 1-for-3 with an RBI and Molly Roach was 2-for-2 with 1 RBI and 2 runs off of a double.

Ruby Yates earned her 19th pitching win of the year, the 4th most in the state of Illinois. She pitched 3 shut-out innings with 1 walk and 1 hit and 7 strikeouts.

Freshman Macayla Nance pitched 1 inning, facing 3 batters and striking out all 3.

The regional tournament was scheduled to start on Tuesday, May 20 in Benton. The regional championships are scheduled for Friday, May 23 in Benton.

## Softball milestones



**A-J softball players Kansas Craig and Ariana Turner (not pictured) have continued to put up big numbers for the Wildcats. Craig has earned 40 home runs and 150 runs in her career, and Turner has reached the 50 home run mark as a player for A-J**

## Southern Illinois Music Festival events planned at area venues

Operas by Italian master composer Gaetano Donizetti, along with a celebration of the first two of Austrian composer Joseph Haydn’s “London Symphonies,” are among the highlights for the 21st Southern Illinois Music Festival, SIFest, which is scheduled to begin May 23 and continues through June 8.

Over 12 days, the nationally recognized festival will offer the region an opportunity to enjoy the finest professional singers and instrumentalists from the United States and Europe, along with a mix of select Southern Illinois University Carbondale faculty and students. The festival will once again feature orchestral and chamber music, opera, jazz and educational programs that promote the region’s cultural activity on a national scale.

Edward Benyas, SIFest artistic director and founder, and professor emeritus of oboe and conducting with the SIU School of Music, is looking forward to presenting this year’s festival.

The Southern Illinois premiere of Donizetti’s “Anna Bolena” will be outdoors. Recounting the tragic tale of Anne Boleyn and King Henry VIII’s new love, Jane Seymour, the opera will be presented in a rare outdoor venue in the shadow of Altgeld Hall on the SIU campus at 8 p.m. May 31, with a June 1 rain date. The festival is scheduled to close with Donizetti’s opera, “Elixir of Love,” at 7 p.m. June 6 and 2 p.m. June 8, both in Shryock Auditorium.

“Both works are chock full of beautiful melodies, arias and choruses, and feature internationally acclaimed singers and the Meredith Young Opera Artists,” all of whom

will appear at an “Opera Teasers” semi-outdoor concert scheduled at Alto Vineyards in Alto Pass at 7 p.m. May 30, Benyas said.

Benyas noted the festival will present the first two of Haydn’s 12 London Symphonies this season with the goal of completing the cycle of all 12 by 2032, in the time for the 300th anniversary of Haydn’s birth. Haydn composed the symphonies between 1781 and 1795.

In addition to Haydn, the orchestral programs will feature the music of Austrian composers Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Schubert and German composer Ludwig van Beethoven and others. Several longtime festival artists will be featured instrumental soloists, including violinist, Amelia Korbitz, cellist David Peshlakai, and flutists Kelly Sulick and Abby Simoneau.

Other festival highlights include:

An orchestral program with music by Haydn, Mozart and German composer Max Bruch at 7 p.m. June 3 at John A. Logan College’s O’Neil Auditorium.

The final orchestral program at 7 p.m. June 7 at Carterville High School features Beethoven’s violin concerto with Korbitz as soloist, Domenico Cimarosa’s Concerto for Two Flutes featuring Simoneau and Sulick and Schubert’s 2nd Symphony.

Two exclusive evening chamber music soirées, with drinks and hors d’oeuvres, are scheduled to open the festival May 23-24. The events will feature violinists Michael Barta and Kiril Laskarov and the ensemble Some Strings Attached.

Cairo Concert

A free chamber music concert featuring piano and string quartet music is set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, at the Harold Jones Fine Arts Center in Cairo.

Artist biographies, ensembles and the full schedule of concerts are available on the festival website, sifest.com.

Jive with Jazz in Anna

The festival’s Klassics for Kids and Jive with Jazz performances, which feature events in Anna, Carbondale, Ina, Marion and Murphysboro for children of all ages, are free, and reservations are not needed. Klassics for Kids and Jive with Jazz are interactive concerts, designed to expose children to the joys of live classical music and jazz.

Jive with Jazz is set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, at the Shawnee Hills Arts Council (the Anna Arts Center).

There also will be numerous chamber music performances at Artspace 304, First United Methodist Church of Carbondale, SIU’s Morris Library, Anna Arts Center, the Harold Jones Fine Arts Center in Cairo, the Rend Lake Event Center in Ina and other venues.

Tickets Available

Tickets to many festival events are \$25 for general admission and \$10 for students of any age. A season pass is available for \$150 (excluding the May 23 and May 24 soirées) and includes an SIFest program booklet. Tickets and festival passes will be available at the door.

Benyas, who is executive director of the Cascade Symphony Orchestra in Edmonds, Wash., said he is grateful for the continued support of sponsors for contributing to the festival’s success through the years.

## Advocates push for mandatory minimum nurse staffing ratios at Illinois hospitals

**By Grace Friedman and Medill Illinois News Bureau**

SPRINGFIELD – Health care unions continue to rally for legislation to address understaffing they say strains hospitals and threatens both patient safety and staff well-being.

Lawmakers are considering the Hospital Worker Staff and Safety bill, which would establish mandatory nurse-to-patient staffing ratios and increase support for underfunded hospitals.

The proposed legislation, Senate Bill 21 and House Bill 3512, aims to establish minimum staffing ratios in hospitals and fund critical safety-net hospitals across the state. Advocates with health care worker unions have been holding a series of rallies at the Capitol in support of the legislation in recent weeks.

“Our hospitals are staffed unsafely,” Kawana Gant, a certified nursing assistant at UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial Hospital in Harvey, said at a recent Statehouse rally. “I have worked short shifts where there are 30 patients and only one CNA on the floor. How can you give quality care? It is not safe.”

Gant, who has worked at Ingalls Hospital for nearly 30 years, says she has watched many of her colleagues quit due to the mental and physical toll the short staffing has had on their bodies.

“This is an opportunity for legislators to hear us, to know that these hospitals are not safe,” Gant said.

But similar versions of the proposed legislation have been introduced at the Statehouse for recent years and have failed to gain traction. Generally backed by unions representing nurses, such as the Service Employees International Union, previous staffing ratio measures have run into opposition from hospital groups that say they’re unworkable.

The proposed legislation filed this year has yet to receive a hearing in a substantive committee, meaning it will be an uphill battle for it to move by the time the legislature adjourns at the end of the month.

Like previous versions, it would mandate that hospitals “employ and schedule sufficient staff to ensure quality patient care and safety.” In addition, hospitals would have to share annual staffing metrics with the Illinois Department of Public Health to help ensure they are at proper staffing levels.

“This bill gives you a real voice,” Rep. Kam Buckner, D-Chicago, said to rallygoers. “It gives you a way to speak up when things are unsafe for you and the people who you care for.”

However, not all lawmakers are convinced that now is the right time to implement staffing ratios.

“You can mandate the staffing ratios, but if those professionals don’t exist, what have

you really done?” said Rep. Norine Hammond, R-Macomb. “We’ve been trying for years to get more people into the health care field, especially after COVID, and we’re just not there yet.”

Hammond expressed concern that enforcing strict staffing requirements without enough qualified workers in the pipeline could place unrealistic burdens on hospitals. She warned that such mandates might unintentionally strain facilities already struggling with labor shortages and lead to adverse financial consequences, especially for smaller or rural hospitals.

Hospital trade groups echo those concerns, calling the legislation unworkable, burdensome and an ineffective way to solve a problem that should be addressed by the specific needs of each hospital or care center. The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, the Association of Safety Net Community Hospitals and the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network issued a statement saying they strongly oppose HB 3512.

They said it was introduced “as a backdoor effort pushed by organized labor to impose unworkable, government-imposed health care staffing ratios in Illinois.”

“This proposal would relegate the essential, complex and nuanced protocols established to safely and efficiently staff a hospital 24/7/365, to a series of burdensome forms and onerous paperwork that hospitals would be required to submit to the (IDPH) to establish minimum staffing standards for every hospital worker, in each hospital unit,” the groups said in the statement.

Still, according to a recent Service Employees International Union survey of Chicago area hospital workers, 70 percent of respondents reported understaffing, and over 25 percent reported unsafe or unmanageable workloads. Additionally, in the same survey, 47 percent of the respondents stated an intent to leave their jobs soon.

To help enforce safety standards, the legislation introduces “assignment despite objection forms” that give hospital workers the opportunity to document and report any assignments that they believe are unsafe. Hospitals are then required to provide this information to IDPH, which would have to publish an annual report on all these staffing metrics. The legislation would also require IDPH to “make recommendations for minimum staffing standards for hospital workers in each hospital unit.”

In addition to protecting staff, advocates said this bill would allocate proper essential resources to underfunded hospitals around the state, including Mount Sinai Hospital on Chicago’s West Side, a Level 1 trauma center that helps underserved and violence-impacted communities.

“Mount Sinai saved my son’s life,” said Sonya Brown, who traveled from Chicago to Springfield recently to advocate for the safety-net hospital that treated her son after he was shot seven times in 2020.

“He was shot in the head, he was shot in the neck, he was shot in the chest, the abdomen and shoulder, and the arm,” Brown said. “If they wouldn’t have gotten to him in time, he would have died.”

Mount Sinai serves as a health care provider for communities on both the South and West sides of Chicago, areas that experience some of Chicago’s highest rates of gun violence. If the hospitals are not protected by measures in this legislation, advocates said, the victims in these neighborhoods risk longer travel times to alternative trauma centers.

They said the bills would help allocate essential resources and enforce staffing standards at safety-net hospitals to continue effectively serving vulnerable communities.

“All of our staff is overworked,” said Jessica Mendoza, a nursing assistant at Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital in Hines. “A lot of our veterans are coming into the VA to get help with their health, but we do not have the staff to provide it.”

Mendoza, who has worked at the Hines VA Hospital for nearly two years, said that due to the low number of staff, they rarely get a break. She noted that the lack of sufficient staffing makes it difficult to provide the level of care that the veterans need.

The health care workers and advocates gathering in Springfield at the recent rally emphasized that without sufficient staffing and resources, the quality of patient care throughout Illinois hospitals will continue declining, and worker burnout will escalate.

“They expect you to do the job of five or six people but pay you for one,” Sen. Lakesia Collins, D-Chicago, said at the rally. Prior to joining the General Assembly, Collins was a CNA in nursing homes.

As the legislation stagnates at the Capitol, hospital workers and advocates said they plan to keep organizing and sharing their stories. They said they’re calling on lawmakers to prioritize frontline health care workers and the patients who depend on them.

Grace Friedman is a student in the Medill Illinois News Bureau, a program at the Medill School of Journalism that provides local news outlets with state legislature and government coverage. She can be reached at [gracefriedman2025@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:gracefriedman2025@u.northwestern.edu).

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*



### Summa Cum Laude

Twelve students from Anna-Jonesboro Community High School’s senior class graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors by achieving a grade point average above 4.3. Pictured are, from left, Zoe Sadler, Zoe Jones, Ruby Yates, Kenzie Stover, Chesnee Marks,, Brooklyn Eastman, Brinley Corbit, Tess Wilkins, Logan Abernathy, Lucas Salazar, Cash Hodges, Ben Hauser.



Every year at Anna-Jonesboro Community High School’s commencement ceremony, special recognition is paid to graduating seniors who have enlisted in the United States military. The lone senior of the class of 2025 joining the armed services is Wyatt Bird.

# Obituaries

## William D. “Billy” Burkeen Jr.



William D. “Billy” Burkeen Jr., beloved father, devoted outdoorsman, and life-long friend to many, passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by his family on Friday, May 16, 2025.

He was born on Aug. 29, 1970, in Santa Ana, Calif., to his cherished mother, Christina Harper DeFaria, and late father, William Darrel Burkeen, Sr.

Billy was of the Methodist faith. He was a man of great character and spirit, known for his whit and love for life.

A longtime member of Teamsters Local 236 and a dedicated 20-year employee of UPS.

Billy was also a skilled real estate appraiser in Western Kentucky, at Burkeen Appraisals for the past two decades, alongside Melanie Burkeen Petter.

Billy had a passion for the outdoors; he loved hunting and camping but mostly he loved the camaraderie that came with it.

He especially found joy in the time spent mentoring young hunters, and was most proud to see his kids harvest a deer or turkey. Billy cherished the brotherhood found around hunting camps, on golf outings, and in the everyday bonds he built with friends and family.

He had a love for playing the guitar, a heart full of music, and a voice like an angel; surely heaven is filled with his song today.

Billy was an adventurous old soul who loved to live life to the fullest and lived each day with passion that life wasn’t to be wasted, rather enjoyed. This he did.

He is survived by his pride and joy, twin children Harper Burkeen (fiancé Amanda Tippet) of St. Charles, Mo. and Livie Burkeen (fiancé Curry Haydon) of Crestwood, Ky.; his mother, Christina Harper DeFaria and his second father, Greg DeFaria of Paducah, Ky. and his sisters, Cindy Burkeen Taylor (Trevor) of Crestwood, Ky.; Amy Dukes Scott (Neal) of Paducah, Ky.; and Kim DeFaria DeAnda (Dylan) of Whitefish, MT. He also leaves behind his longtime, devoted and loving girlfriend, Tonya White of Paducah, Ky.

Billy was a proud uncle to Koby, Hannah, Sawyer, and Lilly Taylor; Kendall Mclean Scott; Trip Scott; Bailey, Brady and Dagny DeAnda; Callie Dodson; Toxey and Weston Rudd.

His legacy as the cool “Uncle Billy” will live on through the stories they tell and the laughter they share.

He is also survived by his aunts, Patricia Robinson and Sheila Garrett, and a large extended family of cousins and close friends who were like family to him.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Darrel Burkeen; paternal grandparents, William J. “Doodle” Burkeen, Inez Burkeen, and Betty Burkeen; maternal grandparents, Raymond and Thelma Harper; his cousins, Shannon and Seth Cross; and uncles, Jimmy Ray Harper and Phillip Burkeen.

A memorial visitation will be held from 12–2 p.m. on Friday, May 23, 2025, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah.

A service will follow at 2 p.m., with a Celebration of Life immediately after to be held at Rolling Hills Country Club.

In lieu of flowers, Billy’s wishes were to direct any expressions of sympathy to the Cody Cooper Memorial Scholarship Fund. Contributions may be made at any Truist Bank location. Checks may also be mailed to, Cody Cooper Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 27 Tiline, KY 42083.

Share a memory or leave a message for the family at [www.milnerandorr.com](http://www.milnerandorr.com).

**Donnie W. Hurford**

Donnie W. Hurford, age 80 years, a resident of Vienna, Ill., passed away Thursday morning, May 15, 2025, at 3:13 a.m., at Hillview Senior Living and Rehabilitation Center in Vienna.

Donnie was born Sept. 1, 1944 in Anna, Ill. He was the son of Thomas W. and Helen (Bloodworth) Hurford.

Donnie is survived by: two sisters – Dale (Mike) Miller of Buncombe and Loretta Archey of Jonesboro; a brother – Steven Meier of Grantsburg; as well as nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives and many dear friends.

Donnie especially cherished his faithful canine companion, Cry Baby.

Donnie was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Helen Hurford; two sisters – Juanita Bell Watkins and Shirley Meier; and a brother – Raymond Bell.

Donnie had been employed in the agriculture industry and assisted in the installation of grain bins. He had also worked as a laborer at the former Cobden Box Mill.

Donnie enjoyed fishing. He was very artistic and was a talented artist. Donnie enjoyed painting and sketching.

He was of the Baptist faith.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, May 20, at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Donnie’s brother-in-law, Pastor Mike Miller, officiated.

Burial was in the McGinnis Cemetery in Union County Illinois.

Memorials may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, Kentucky 41076 or online at [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

To share a memory of Donnie or to leave an online message of comfort for his family, please visit [www.baileyfh.com](http://www.baileyfh.com)

Arrangements have been entrusted to Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

## Ruthanne Carter Young

Ruthanne Carter Young  
Born: Wednesday, March 11, 1942.  
Died: Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2024.

Ruthanne Carter Young, age 82, of Jonesboro, Ill. passed away in her sleep on Sept. 4, 2024.

She was preceded in death by her husband David G. Young, mother Wilma F. (Combs) Carter and father Harold W. (Nick) Carter, stepsister Connie J. Gappa of Grand Island, Neb., stepbrothers Harold R. (Bob) Kelly of Airway Heights, Wash. and David L. Kelly of. Papillion, Neb.

Ruthanne was born March 11, 1942 in a farm house occupied by her grandparents Clarence and Eva Combs near Bluford, Ill.

She enjoyed reading, traveling and loved spending time with family and friends.

She was a 1960 graduate of Cumberland High School in Toledo, Ill. In August of 1960 she began nurses training at Julia F. Burnham School of Nursing in Champaign, Ill.

In August of 1963 Ruthanne was one of thirteen young ladies dressed in nurses uniforms and caps who received pins indicating they were graduate nurses.

Later, the graduate nurses traveled to Chicago where they took their State Board Exam to become licensed RNs. She was employed at Burnham City Hospital, Emergency Room working 3 to 11 p.m.

Ruthanne craved adventure, so in Feb. of 1965, Ruthanne and two girlfriends loaded her 63’ Ford Galaxy 500 and a small U-Haul trailer and moved to Ventura, Calif. They found a place to live near the beach and went to work at the Ventura County Hospital.

On Sept. 17, 1967 Ruthanne married David G. Young in a ceremony at the Toledo United Methodist Church with Reverend Clarence Collier officiating.

David was in the U.S. Navy and retired in 1976. Ruthanne lived in Ventura for 18 years, ending her career as a Mental Health Supervisor in 1979. Now, both retired, with their two sons; David Jr. age 8 and Steven age 5, they started on a year-long vacation traveling the United States, seeing the sights and homeschooling the boys.

In 1983 Ruthanne and her family moved to Jonesboro, Ill., Ruthanne was very active in the Jonesboro, Ware and Wolf Lake United Methodist Church.

Surviving are her two sons David G. Young Jr. of Jackson, Mo. and Steven C. Young of Jonesboro, Ill., siblings Mike Carter of Missoula, Mont., Bill Carter of Palm Desert, Calif., Mary Kaye (Carter) Swinford of Lusby, Md. and Phil Carter of Pontono Beach, Ill. She was blessed with grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, many cousins.

A very special thanks to Lori Mayberry, Alice Clover, and Kim Freeman who took such wonderful care of her. It was Ruthanne’s wish to be cremated.

A graveside service will be held at the National Cemetery in Mounds City, Ill. Friday, May 23 at 2 p.m.. Also, a Celebration of Life will be held at the Anna-Jonesboro Elks Lodge on Saturday, May 24 at 12:30 p.m. This will be a potluck event so bring a dish if you can.



### News from

## Anna Nazarene Church

The morning worship service was held at 10:35 a.m. on Sunday, May 18.

Announcements were given by Jessica Elkins. The worship service was led by Pastor Wright and the worship team.

The message “Jesus Promises The Holy Spirit” from John 14:15-26, Genesis 1:2, Acts 5:3-4, Acts 1:8, John 16:13, Romans 8:26, Galatians 5:22-23, John 15:1-8, John 15:26-27, Romans 8:1-17 was brought by Pastor Wright.

Celebrating a birthday this week is: 24th Jessica Elkins. Celebrating their anniversary is: 21st Ian & Jenna Capogreco.

The evening service on May 18 at 6 p.m. was our annual meeting with a potluck and annual reports given by Verna Fuller, church treasurer, Stanley Elkins, NDI President, Jessica Elkins, NMI President and Secretary Of the Church Board, Trey Morrison, NYI President and Pastor Randy Wright.

Sunday, May 25  
Breakfast, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Morning service, 10:35 a.m. No evening worship service.

Wednesday, May 28  
A Wednesday night service is planned at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A youth group meeting is planned at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Saturday, May 31  
A teen party will be held at the Fellowship Hall from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday, June 1  
Graduate Sunday to honor 8th grade, high school and college graduates

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

## Union County Fixin’s

### Beignets

1 envelope (1/4 ounce) active dry yeast  
3 Tablespoons warm water  
3/4 cup milk  
1/4 cup sugar  
1/4 cup shortening  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 large egg, beaten  
3 cups all-purpose flour  
2 1/2 to 3 quarts vegetable oil  
Powdered sugar

Combine yeast and warm water in a large bowl. Let mixture stand 5 minutes.

Heat milk in a small saucepan over medium heat. DO NOT BOIL. Stir in sugar, shortening, and salt. Cool to lukewarm.

Add milk mixture, egg, and 2 cups of flour to the yeast mixture, stirring well. Gradually, stir in enough remaining flour to make a soft dough.

Turn dough out onto a floured surface and knead 8-10 times or until dough is smooth and elastic. Place in a well-greased bowl, turning to grease top.

Cover and let rise in a warm place, out of drafts, for 1 hour, or until doubled in bulk.

Punch dough down and turn it out onto a floured surface. Roll dough into a 12x10 inch rectangle. Cut into 2-inch squares (or other shapes). Place on a floured surface, cover, and let rise, out of drafts, for 30 minutes or until doubled in size.

Pour oil in a Dutch oven to the depth of 2 to 3 inches. Heat to 375 degrees. Fry beignets in batches, 1 minutes one each side or until golden. Drain on paper towels; sprinkle with powdered sugar.

### News from

## Anna First Baptist Church

Anna First Baptist Church met for worship on Sunday, May 18 with opening prayer given by Bro. Perry Wright. Announcements were given and prayer requests were said.

Menda Cash presented the Library Scholarship Award to Trinity Evans to help with her college schooling.

Menda Cash also delivered the Call to Worship which was on Prayer and Fellowship with God. “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.” Matthew 7: 7 – 11

The Worship Team led the congregation in three songs, “Here I am to Worship,” “Goodness of God” and “Living Hope.”

Pastor Lupe’s sermon was titled The Book of Revelation “Locust & Dragon”

Highlights from his sermon included, Revelation chapters 10 – 11, leading into the introduction of the dragon in chapter 12, mark pivotal transition in the apocalyptic narrative emphasizing God’s sovereignty, prophetic witness, and the spiritual conflict behind human history. Chapter 10 presents a mighty angel and a little scroll, symbolizing the completion of God’s mysterious plan and the bittersweet reality of prophetic ministry.

## County Line News

### By Suzan Harvel

Severe storms moved through our area this past Friday...which incidentally, was my birthday. In addition to birthday greetings, I also received texts checking to make sure we were okay. I had received the warnings on my phone while I was still at work, but the area had barely gotten rain by the time I got home. The wind would pick up and then die down and then the blue skies came back.

We figured it was clear enough to head out to dinner, down at Tom’s Place in Tamm. It was getting cloudy again by the time we arrived, but still no rain. They had the television on so we were receiving updates throughout our meal and heard about the storms in Sikeston, Scott City and that a new round was headed for the Marion area.

We left about the time the rain decided to get ugly again and then ran into a bit of hail a scant half mile from home. By the time my husband dropped us off at the patio and then parked the car it had quit again. Later, we heard about just how bad the storm damages were and that it had hit in St. Louis and in Kentucky, where a cousin had damages at her vacation place at Lake Barkley.

We headed to Cape Girardeau on Saturday to celebrate our granddaughter’s third birthday. Her other grandparents came in from Eminence, Mo. They told of the damages along the way that they saw. They were shocked. We all saw some damages in Cape, also. A huge tree came down in the Catholic cemetery hitting many rows of headstones and taking down power lines. I imagine there were damages elsewhere, too. Our sincere prayers go out to all those affected and the families who not only lost everything, but loved ones as well.

Spring can be pretty scary around here and next month we move into hurricane season. Don’t think that hurricanes don’t affect us inland... it sure can...and quite some distance. Just ask those folks in the mountains of North Carolina. They are still dealing with the damages. If you don’t watch television or have alerts set up on your phone you need to make sure to get a weather radio. These alerts can save lives. Sirens don’t sound in all places and that alert may be the only heads-up you get. We all need to be storm spotters at times.

Bon Kohler is entertaining guests this week. His son, Dalton Kohler, and daughter, Cheryl McKinney, are visiting from California. I know he’s delighted and it was good to see both him and Cheri in church this past Sunday. Cheri brought stickers with the church name on them and said to expect bumper stickers soon. We thank her and Bon for those gifts.

There have been a lot of graduations already this month and I’m sure more to come. Congratulations to all the graduates from Pre-School to the PhD’s! We have two from our church: Dalton Cobb and Xavier Richardson. Congratulations fellas! Now it’s on to the next thing.

We received a bridal shower notice in the mail for Lindsey Carter on Friday and are thrilled for her. Congratulations...we’ll be there!

Mill Creek Baptist Church met Sunday to hear Brother Bobby Richardson give his sermon from the book of Daniel. We’ve all probably heard the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, and the fiery furnace they were thrown into, as well as the outcome of that. What it boiled down to for them and for us is the strength of our faith. They told the king their God would save them and if they did perish it wouldn’t be because of lack of faith.

How strong is your faith? Could you say the same as these men? Paul reminds us in Philippians 4:13 that “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Our Lord will be with us in the midst of all our trials and tribulation. He will provide us with strength, comfort, guidance, love, a host of other needs. All we have to do is have faith in Him and His promise to never leave or forsake us. Each morning, when we wake, we need to give him thanks for a new day and a new chance; before the devil has time to twist us up with things of the world.

Those added to our prayer list are Samantha Cates as she recovers from her hospital stay; Allison Austad for health and personal issues, Brother Bobby Richardson for health; Jack Richardson for health; Terry Bell for pneumonia. Please keep these folks in prayer.

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Memorial Day

Our Time To Remember

Memorial Day events scheduled

The annual observance of Memorial Day is Monday, May 26. In commemoration of Memorial Day, special events are planned in the area in the coming days.

**Alto Pass Ceremonies**  
The Alto Pass Area Veterans Memorial Organization plans to conduct at Memorial Day ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 24. The ceremony will be at the veterans memorial in downtown Alto Pass. The ceremony will include a brief presentation and a three-volley salute.

The Alto Pass veterans group also plans to conduct Memorial Day ceremonies on Monday, May 26, at two area cemeteries. A ceremony is set for 10 a.m. at the Alto Pass Cemetery. A ceremony is planned at 10:30 a.m. at the Dutch Ridge Cemetery near Alto Pass.

**Anna VFW Post**

A Memorial Day ceremony is planned at 11 a.m. Monday, May 26, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Carroll P. Foster Post No. 3455 near Anna.

**Cobden Services**  
A Memorial Day service is planned at 9 a.m. Monday at the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Cobden.

A service is set for 9:30 a.m. Monday at the Cobden Cemetery.

**Mound City National Cemetery**  
A Memorial Day commemoration is planned at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 24, at the Mound City National Cemetery.

Organizers said that a free shuttle bus service will be available at the former St. Mary's Church, located at the corner of Diamond and Walnut Streets in Mound City, to and from the cemetery beginning at 9 a.m.

The program will include patriotic music, and a Roll Call of Honor that will honor deceased veterans from all wars, beginning with the Civil War.

The guest speaker is scheduled to be retired U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Edward L. Ellis, who grew up in Mound City. Ellis graduated from Meridian High School in Mound City in 1986 and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. He is a highly decorated military veteran with five deployments to include operations in Bahrain, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, Iraq and Afghanistan. He retired from active duty on Nov. 1, 2009, after 23 years of distinguished service. He continues to serve as an Air Force Junior ROTC Instructor at Marion High School.

The public is invited to help place flags on all the graves at the national cemetery starting at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, today.



**Memorial Day banner**  
Memorial Day banners are on display in the Village of Cobden. Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 26.

MEMORIAL DAY ORDER

Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic,  
Washington, D.C., May 5, 1868.  
GENERAL ORDERS No. 11

I. The 30th day of May, 1868 is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized, comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose, among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers, sailors and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains and their deaths the tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of a free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remains in us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the nation's gratitude – the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the commander in chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope that it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use every effort to make this order effective.

By Command of - John A. Logan, Commander in Chief  
N.P. Chipman, Adjutant General

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(Editor's note: the Memorial Day Order was posted on the website for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration.)

Thebes Courthouse News

The 1848 Thebes Courthouse will be open on Saturday, May 24th from noon to 3 PM.

The Thebes Historical Society will host its annual Memorial Day weekend event on Sunday, May 25th from 10 AM to 3 PM. We will be serving Kentucky Hillbilly BBQ sandwiches on site as well as chips, ice cream, sodas and bottled water. A community worship service will be held inside the courthouse at 10:30 AM

with Reverend Ray McAfee of Thebes 1st Baptist Church bringing the message and Julia Duff Thrower of Thebes leading worship. The winning ticket for the quilt raffle will be drawn at 2 PM.

The Thebes Historical Society is a small group of volunteers and we depend upon the generous support of the public to accomplish our mission. We welcome new members who are interested in joining and we are always in need of volunteers during

our work days and any events that we host.

Following our opening event, we will be open for the 2025 tourism season. Regularly scheduled hours are Sundays from 12:30 to 3 PM. Otherwise, contact us on our website or our Facebook page to schedule a tour.

For more information or to contact us, visit our website: [www.thebescourthouse.com](http://www.thebescourthouse.com) or our Facebook page: Thebes Historical Courthouse.

Sling Blade Performance



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# The Gazette-Democrat

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AD DEADLINE IS 3 P.M. MONDAY

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Classifieds .....35¢ per word

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Per inch .....\$14.00

FOR RENT

YARD SALE

FOR RENT 2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom Country Home Call for further info 618-528-8744

Five family yard sale 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturday, May 24th 145 Walton Ln., Anna Too much to list.

FOR SALE

REUNION

Sweet Potato Slips for Sale Dongola, IL 618-967-5221

The Annual Allen Family Reunion will take place on Sunday, May 25, 2025 at the Shawnee National State Forest.

Large 4 Piece Ashley Livingroom Furniture It is Grey and like new condition. Purchased in 2024 from Patrick Furniture. It has been scratch guarded. No pets, smoking or small kids around it. Paid \$2400 asking \$1250 618-201-5713 Can text pictures if interested.

HELP

WANTED

The City of Anna, IL is accepting applications for the position of a Full-Time Police Chief. The City of Anna seeks a skilled Police Chief with exceptional interpersonal skills and proven leadership and management experience in law enforcement. The Chief must be strongly committed to public service, dedicated to community policing and understanding of the importance of managing crime. The Chief directs the planning, organizing, controlling and budgeting of all Police functions and activities with the City. Eligible applicants must reside within 30 minutes of Anna City limits, have PTI certification. Prefer at least ten years of law enforcement experience, three of those years in a supervisory position. Prefer candidates who also hold an Associate’s degree or Bachelor’s degree, be proficient with MS Office and have experience in a “Bargaining Unit” environment. Salary range of \$65,000+, depending on experience, as well as a full benefit package is offered by the City of Anna. Applications will be available for interested candidates at Anna City Hall or can be downloaded below. Please return resume and employment application to the Human Resources Department at Anna City Hall, 103 Market Street Anna, IL 62906 or by email to mmcreynolds@cityofanna.org. Position will remain open until filled. EOE

Owners: Leslie Roach  
Address: 325 Texas Eastern Rd.  
Buncombe, IL 62912  
Stephanie L. Cox  
Union County Clerk  
8221-953647

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
LEGAL NOTICE  
CERTIFICATE NUMBER 2021-00064**

**To: CAITLYN M MARKS AND/OR UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS  
SHAWN D SILLMAN AND/OR UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS  
CAITLYN M MARKS  
LANCE MEISEN-HEIMER UNION COUNTY CLERK**

, and all unknown owners, occupants, beneficiaries, heirs, devisees or parties interested. A Petition for a Tax Deed on the premise described below has been filed in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, as Case Number 2025-TX-6. On September 3, 2025 at 11:00 am, in Room #1, the Petitioner will make an application to such court in Union County, Illinois, for an Order on the Petition that a Tax Deed be issued if the real estate is not redeemed from the sale. The real estate is described as follows, to wit: LEGAL DESCRIPTION: S10 T11 R2W PT SW SW.

Shawnee Community College is looking for full and part-time Custodian for their Ullin Campus and The Massac County Extension Center. For more information, please Call 618-634-3200 Ext. 3436

**WANTED**

**Want to Buy or Liquidate Estates,** All or by the piece. Clean out attics, basements, and barns. We buy it all and clean out Furniture, Household, Glassware, Cast Iron, Quilts, Costume Jewelry, Old Coins, Barn Items, Tools Old & New, Blue Canning Jars, Arrowheads, Fluorspar, Pocket Knives, Kerosene Lamps. We pay cash on the spot! Over 30 years of experience. Call 270-498-3518. Riverport Antiques, Golconda, IL.

**OFFICER FOR FARMERS STATE BANK OF ALTO PASS**  
**LANCE MEISEN-HEIMER UNION COUNTY CLERK**

, and all unknown owners, occupants, beneficiaries, heirs, devisees or parties interested. A Petition for a Tax Deed on the premise described below has been filed in the Circuit Court of Union County, Illinois, as Case Number 2025-TX-7. On September 3, 2025 at 11:00 am, in Room #1, the Petitioner will make an application to such court in Union County, Illinois, for an Order on the Petition that a Tax Deed be issued if the real estate is not redeemed from the sale. The real estate is described as follows, to wit: LEGAL DESCRIPTION: S29 T12 R1E PT

NE NE PERMANENT INDEX NUMBER: 02-29-01-129-A and was sold on 2/15/23 for general taxes for the year 2021. The period of redemption will expire on 8/22/25.

RAVEN SECURITIES INC PETITIONER 8221-953316

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Television Listings

THURSDAY

|                  | ABC                   | CBS                  | FOX                      | NBC                        | ESPN                         | TBS                                                   | USA                                                                | DISN       | HBO                                        | MAX                                         | PARSHO                                     |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs        | Local Programs       | Local                    | Local Programs             | Sports                       | Bang (HD)                                             | “Harry Potter and Chamber” Daniel Radcliffe.                       | Big City   | “Kong: Skull Island” (‘17) Tom Hiddleston. | “Knight and Day”                            | “Yuma County” (‘24)                        |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 “Buzzkill” (HD) | Marriage Ghosts      | Farmer Wants a Wife (HD) | Transplant “Crete”         | NBA Countdown (HD)           | Bang (HD)                                             | All Elite Wrestling: Collision                                     | Big City   |                                            | “Birds of Prey: And the” (‘20) (R)          | “The Comeback Trail” (‘20) Robert De Niro. |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 (HD)            | (‘01) Matlock (HD)   |                          | Transplant “Sinkhole” (HD) | (‘40) 2025 NBA Finals (Live) |                                                       |                                                                    | Big City   |                                            |                                             |                                            |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 (HD)            | Elsbeth “Tiny Town”  | Local Programs           |                            |                              | Collision                                             | “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban” (‘04) Daniel Radcliffe. | StuGo Kiff | 100 Foot Wave (HD)                         | (‘49) ★★ “Morgan” (‘16) Kate Mara. (R) (HD) | The Chi (HD)                               |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local                 | Local                |                          | Local                      | SportsCenter (HD)            | “Godzilla: King of the Monsters” (‘19) Kyle Chandler. |                                                                    | Wizards    | The Last of Us (HD)                        |                                             | “Hard Truths” (‘24, Drama) (HD)            |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live     | (‘35) Late Show (HD) | Local Programs           | (‘35) Tonight (HD)         | SportsCenter (HD)            |                                                       | “Goblet of Fire” (‘05)                                             | Wizards    | 100 Foot Wave                              | “The Shining” Jack Nicholson.               |                                            |
|                  | Nightline             | Midnight             |                          | Late Night                 |                              |                                                       |                                                                    | Bluey      | Rehearsal                                  |                                             | “Indecent”                                 |

|                  | ABC                                  | CBS                  | FOX                                                              | NBC                                   | ESPN                          | TBS                                                   | USA                     | DISN                        | HBO                           | MAX                                  | PARSHO                                                    |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs                       | Local Programs       | (5:00) Local Programs                                            | Local Programs                        | Sports                        | Bang (HD)                                             | (3:58) “Phoenix” (‘07)  | “Alvin & Chipmunks: Squeak” | “Princess Bride”              | “Veronica Mars” (‘14)                | “Inglourious” (‘09) (R)                                   |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Shark Tank (HD)                      | NCIS: Sydney (HD)    | UFL Football San Antonio Brahmas at St. Louis Battlehawks (Live) | Place                                 | 2025 Stanley Cup Final (Live) | ★★★ “Doctor Strange” (‘16) Benedict Cumberbatch. (HD) |                         | Wizards                     | Pee-wee as Himself (HD)       | ★★½ “Ghosts of Girlfriends” (‘09)    | The Chi (HD)                                              |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | (‘01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD) | Fire Country (HD)    |                                                                  | Dateline NBC Investigative news. (HD) |                               |                                                       |                         | Wizards                     |                               |                                      | Couples                                                   |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  |                                      | S.W.A.T. (HD)        |                                                                  |                                       |                               |                                                       |                         | Miraculous                  | (‘40) Pee-wee as Himself (HD) | “Mike and Dave Need Dates”           | Couples                                                   |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local                                | Local                | Local Programs                                                   | Local                                 | SportsCenter (HD)             | (‘21) “Ram-page” (‘18) Dwayne Johnson. (HD)           | Resident Alien (HD)     | Miraculous                  |                               | (‘20) “The Sitter” (‘11) Jonah Hill. | ★★★ “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” (‘11) Daniel Craig. |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live                    | (‘35) Late Show (HD) | Local Programs                                                   | (‘35) Tonight (HD)                    | SportsCenter (HD)             |                                                       | (‘07) “Fantastic” (‘18) | ZOMBIES                     | ZOMBIES                       |                                      |                                                           |
|                  | Nightline                            | Midnight             |                                                                  | Late Night                            | Sports                        | “The Flash”                                           |                         | Big City                    | (‘42) The Last of Us          | “Role” (R)                           |                                                           |

|                  | ABC                                       | CBS            | FOX                                                    | NBC                                | ESPN                         | TBS                                           | USA                                                              | DISN                             | HBO                                     | MAX                                           | PARSHO                                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local                                     | Local Programs | MLB Baseball “Regional Coverage-Teams TBA” (Live) (HD) | Local Programs                     | College Softball (Live)      | Bang (HD)                                     | “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1” Daniel Radcliffe. | ★★★ “Tangled” (‘10) Mandy Moore. | Last of Us                              | “He’s Not Into You”                           | (5:45) “Patriots Day” (‘17) Mark Wahlberg. (R)       |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Local                                     |                |                                                        |                                    |                              | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  |                                  | (‘40) To Be Announced Info unavailable. | ★★½ “What’s Your Number?” (‘11)               |                                                      |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | NBA (Live)                                | Tracker (HD)   |                                                        | Saturday Night’s Main Event (Live) | College Softball (Live) (HD) | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  | Miraculous                       |                                         |                                               | ★★★ “Gladiator” (‘00, Drama) Russell Crowe. (R) (HD) |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | 2025 NBA Playoffs “Teams TBA” (Live) (HD) | 48 Hours (HD)  |                                                        |                                    |                              | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  | Miraculous                       |                                         | (‘47) “The Boss” (‘16) Melissa McCarthy. (HD) |                                                      |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> |                                           | 48 Hours (HD)  | Local Programs                                         | Dateline NBC (HD)                  | College Softball (Live) (HD) | Bang (HD)                                     | “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2” Daniel Radcliffe. | Miraculous                       | J. Carmichael (HD)                      |                                               |                                                      |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Local Programs                            | Local Programs | Next Level Chef (HD)                                   | Local                              |                              | ★★½ “Shallow Hal” (‘01) Gwyneth Paltrow. (HD) |                                                                  | ZOMBIES                          | Rehearsal                               | “Love & Mercy” John Cusack.                   | (‘35) The Chi (HD)                                   |
|                  |                                           |                | Local Programs                                         | Saturday Night Live (HD)           | SportsCenter (HD)            |                                               |                                                                  | ZOMBIES                          |                                         |                                               | “Spies”                                              |

|                  | ABC              | CBS                  | FOX                 | NBC                                                                 | ESPN                                                          | TBS                                       | USA               | DISN                          | HBO                  | MAX                                      | PARSHO             |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Home Videos (HD) | 60 Minutes (HD)      | Lego Masters (HD)   | Yes, Chef! (HD)                                                     | MLB Baseball Los Angeles Dodgers at New York Mets (Live) (HD) | “House Party” (‘23)                       | Law & Order: SVU  | “Turning Red” Rosalie Chiang. | (‘07) The Last of Us | (‘12) The Knick (HD)                     | “The Comeba” (‘20) |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Home Videos (HD) | 60 Minutes (HD)      | MasterChef (HD)     | “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom” (‘18, Adventure) Chris Pratt. (HD) |                                                               | Bang (HD)                                 | Law & Order: SVU  | (‘45) Kiff                    | (‘52) The Last of Us | ★★★ “Warcraft” (‘16) Travis Fimmel. (HD) | The Chi (HD)       |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | Home Videos (HD) | Tracker “Man’s Best” | Secret Service (HD) |                                                                     |                                                               | Bang (HD)                                 | Law & Order: SVU  | (‘10) Kiff                    | The Last of Us (HD)  |                                          | The Chi (HD)       |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | Home Videos (HD) | Watson               | Local Programs      |                                                                     | SportsCenter (HD)                                             | Bang (HD)                                 | Day of the Jackal | (‘35) Kiff                    | ZOMBIES              | ★★ “Jonah Hex” (‘10) Josh Brolin.        | MobLand (HD)       |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local Programs   | Local Programs       | Local Programs      | Local                                                               | SportsCenter (HD)                                             | Bang (HD)                                 | Law & Order: SVU  | ZOMBIES                       | Rehearsal            |                                          | The Chi (HD)       |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Local Programs   | Local Programs       | Local Programs      | Local Programs                                                      |                                                               | “Barbershop” (‘02, Comedy) Ice Cube. (HD) | Law & Order: SVU  | Wizards                       | The Rehearsal (HD)   | “Need for Speed” Aaron Paul.             | Couples            |
|                  |                  |                      |                     |                                                                     | Sports                                                        |                                           | Law & Order: SVU  | Bluey                         | The Last of Us (HD)  |                                          | Couples            |
|                  |                  |                      |                     |                                                                     |                                                               |                                           |                   | Bluey                         | Last of Us           |                                          |                    |

|                  | ABC               | CBS                        | FOX                  | NBC                                      | ESPN                                                 | TBS       | USA                  | DISN    | HBO                              | MAX                                                      | PARSHO                |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs    | Local Programs             | Local Programs       | Local Programs                           | Sports                                               | Bang (HD) | Resident Alien (HD)  | Phineas | (5:57) The Rehearsal             | “Love Lies” (‘24) (HD)                                   | “Patriots Day” (‘17)  |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Family Feud (HD)  | 2025 American Music Awards | Lego Masters (HD)    | American Ninja Warrior Endurance course. | NBA Countdown (HD)                                   | Bang (HD) | Resident Alien (HD)  | Phineas | The Last of Us (HD)              | ★★★ “The Shining” (‘80, Horror) Jack Nicholson. (R) (HD) | MobLand (HD)          |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | Family Feud (HD)  |                            | (‘02) America’s Most |                                          | 2025 NBA Playoffs “Western Conference Finals” (Live) | Bang (HD) | Resident Alien (HD)  | Phineas | “Companion” Sophie Thatcher.     |                                                          | The Chi (HD)          |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | Family Feud (HD)  | NCIS: Origins “Bugs”       | Local Programs       | Yes, Chef! (HD)                          |                                                      | Dad (HD)  | Resident Alien (HD)  | Phineas | Rehearsal                        | “Mission: Impossible Rogue Nation” (‘15)                 |                       |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local             | Local                      |                      | Local                                    | SportsCenter (Live)                                  | Dad (HD)  | (‘03) Resident Alien | Phineas | (‘31) “The Princess Bride” (‘87) | “The Purge: Election Year” (‘16)                         |                       |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live | (‘35) Late Show (HD)       | Local Programs       | (‘35) Tonight (HD)                       | SportsCenter (HD)                                    | Dad (HD)  | (‘03) Resident Alien | Phineas | (‘12) The Last of Us             | “The Kill Team” (‘19)                                    | “Patriot Games” (‘92) |
|                  | Nightline         | Midnight                   |                      | Late Night                               |                                                      | Dad (HD)  |                      | Phineas |                                  |                                                          |                       |

|                  | ABC                 | CBS                  | FOX                   | NBC                               | ESPN                                                  | TBS                                                     | USA              | DISN             | HBO                               | MAX                                            | PARSHO                                      |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs      | Local Programs       | (5:00) Local Programs | Local Programs                    | Sports                                                | (5:30) MLB Baseball Atlanta vs Philadelphia (Live) (HD) | Law & Order: SVU | Big City         | 100 Foot Wave (HD)                | “Role Models” (‘08)                            | (5:20) ★★½ “Shaft” (‘00)                    |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Celebrity Wheel of  | FBI Protect America. | The Cleaning Lady     | America’s Got Talent search. (HD) | The Point                                             |                                                         | Law & Order: SVU | Big City         | To Be Announced Info unavailable. | “We Are Your Friends” (‘15) (HD)               | ★★ “Nobody’s Fool” (‘18) Tika Sumpter. (HD) |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | Jeopardy! Masters   | FBI: International   | Alert: M.P.U. (HD)    |                                   | 2025 Stanley Cup Playoffs “Playoffs Conference Final” |                                                         | Law & Order: SVU | Phineas and Ferb |                                   | ★★½ “Ghosts of Girlfriends” (‘09)              | “Hard Truths” (‘24, Drama) (HD)             |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | (‘01) The Game Show | FBI: Most Wanted     | Local Programs        | Destination X                     |                                                       | MLB on TBS                                              | Law & Order: SVU | Phineas          |                                   | (‘19) “High Life” (‘19) Robert Pattinson. (HD) | “Last Stop in Yuma County” (R)              |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local               | Local                |                       | Local                             | SportsCenter (HD)                                     | Family                                                  | Law & Order: SVU | Phineas          | The Rehearsal (HD)                |                                                |                                             |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live   | (‘35) Late Show (HD) | Local Programs        | (‘35) Tonight (HD)                | SportsCenter (HD)                                     | Family                                                  | Law & Order: SVU | Phineas          | Last of Us                        |                                                |                                             |
|                  | Nightline           | Midnight             |                       | Late Night                        | Sports                                                | Family                                                  |                  | Phineas          | (‘15) “Mad Max” (‘79)             |                                                |                                             |

|                  | ABC                 | CBS                            | FOX                   | NBC                | ESPN                                                 | TBS       | USA                                                     | DISN             | HBO                                        | MAX                                          | PARSHO                                                    |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs      | Local Programs                 | (5:00) Local Programs | Local Programs     | Sports                                               | Bang (HD) | Chicago Fire (HD)                                       | Big City         | (‘08) The Last of Us                       | “The Flash” (‘23) (HD)                       | “Inglourious” (‘09) (R)                                   |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Celebrity Wheel of  | Survivor Deserted island. (HD) | MasterChef (HD)       | Chicago Med (HD)   | NBA Countdown (HD)                                   | Bang (HD) | ★★★ “Any Given Sunday” (‘99, Drama) Al Pacino. (R) (HD) | Big City         | J. Carmichael (HD)                         | ★★ “Independence Day: Resurgence” (‘16)      | ★★★ “Terminator: Dark Fate” Linda Hamilton.               |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | Jeopardy! Masters   | The Amazing Race World race.   | (‘02) Secret Service  | Chicago Fire (HD)  | 2025 NBA Playoffs “Western Conference Finals” (Live) |           |                                                         | Phineas and Ferb | “Kong: Skull Island” (‘17) Tom Hiddleston. |                                              | (‘15) ★★ “Point Break” (‘91, Action) Patrick Swayze. (HD) |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | Celebrity Jeopardy! |                                | Local Programs        | Chicago P.D. (HD)  |                                                      | Family    |                                                         | Phineas          |                                            | “Under the Silver Lake” Andrew Garfield. (R) |                                                           |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local               | Local                          |                       | Local              | SportsCenter (HD)                                    | Family    |                                                         | Phineas          | “Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire” (‘24)    |                                              |                                                           |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live   | (‘35) Late Show (HD)           | Local Programs        | (‘35) Tonight (HD) | SportsCenter (HD)                                    | Family    | Chicago Fire (HD)                                       | Phineas          |                                            | “Last House” (‘09) (R)                       | “Thunder”                                                 |
|                  | Nightline           | Midnight                       |                       | Late Night         |                                                      | Family    | Fire (HD)                                               | Phineas          |                                            |                                              |                                                           |

News from **First Baptist Church, Jonesboro**

On May 18, Pastor Perry spoke during the morning service. His message told the story of Jesus on his way to the cross and his last time traveling through Jericho where he encountered a blind man who wanted to regain his sight.

The blind man did not let the opportunity when Jesus was passing by go to waste. He wanted to regain something he had lost – his sight. Pastor pointed out not only are people sometimes physically blind, but there are many who are spiritually blind; and when they realize Jesus is passing by, they need to cry out and regain their spiritual sight. His main text was found in the 18th chapter of Luke.

Connor Benbrook led worship in the absence of Music Director, Dee Rose, accompanied by Praise Team: Kim Benefield, Lucas Tehandòn and Isabel Tehandòn. Our pianist was Debbie York. Connor Benbrook and Debbie York sang a duet, “My Chains Are Gone.”

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

This week’s activities include our Ladies’ &

Television Listings

MAY 22, 2025

|                  | ABC                   | CBS                  | FOX                      | NBC                        | ESPN                         | TBS                                                   | USA                                                                | DISN       | HBO                                        | MAX                                         | PARSHO                                     |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs        | Local Programs       | Local                    | Local Programs             | Sports                       | Bang (HD)                                             | “Harry Potter and Chamber” Daniel Radcliffe.                       | Big City   | “Kong: Skull Island” (‘17) Tom Hiddleston. | “Knight and Day”                            | “Yuma County” (‘24)                        |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 “Buzzkill” (HD) | Marriage Ghosts      | Farmer Wants a Wife (HD) | Transplant “Crete”         | NBA Countdown (HD)           | Bang (HD)                                             | All Elite Wrestling: Collision                                     | Big City   |                                            | “Birds of Prey: And the” (‘20) (R)          | “The Comeback Trail” (‘20) Robert De Niro. |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 (HD)            | (‘01) Matlock (HD)   |                          | Transplant “Sinkhole” (HD) | (‘40) 2025 NBA Finals (Live) |                                                       |                                                                    | Big City   |                                            |                                             |                                            |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | 9-1-1 (HD)            | Elsbeth “Tiny Town”  | Local Programs           |                            |                              | Collision                                             | “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban” (‘04) Daniel Radcliffe. | StuGo Kiff | 100 Foot Wave (HD)                         | (‘49) ★★ “Morgan” (‘16) Kate Mara. (R) (HD) | The Chi (HD)                               |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local                 | Local                |                          | Local                      | SportsCenter (HD)            | “Godzilla: King of the Monsters” (‘19) Kyle Chandler. |                                                                    | Wizards    | The Last of Us (HD)                        |                                             | “Hard Truths” (‘24, Drama) (HD)            |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live     | (‘35) Late Show (HD) | Local Programs           | (‘35) Tonight (HD)         | SportsCenter (HD)            |                                                       | “Goblet of Fire” (‘05)                                             | Wizards    | 100 Foot Wave                              | “The Shining” Jack Nicholson.               |                                            |
|                  | Nightline             | Midnight             |                          | Late Night                 |                              |                                                       |                                                                    | Bluey      | Rehearsal                                  |                                             | “Indecent”                                 |

|                  | ABC                                  | CBS                  | FOX                                                              | NBC                                   | ESPN                          | TBS                                                   | USA                     | DISN                        | HBO                           | MAX                                  | PARSHO                                                    |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local Programs                       | Local Programs       | (5:00) Local Programs                                            | Local Programs                        | Sports                        | Bang (HD)                                             | (3:58) “Phoenix” (‘07)  | “Alvin & Chipmunks: Squeak” | “Princess Bride”              | “Veronica Mars” (‘14)                | “Inglourious” (‘09) (R)                                   |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Shark Tank (HD)                      | NCIS: Sydney (HD)    | UFL Football San Antonio Brahmas at St. Louis Battlehawks (Live) | Place                                 | 2025 Stanley Cup Final (Live) | ★★★ “Doctor Strange” (‘16) Benedict Cumberbatch. (HD) |                         | Wizards                     | Pee-wee as Himself (HD)       | ★★½ “Ghosts of Girlfriends” (‘09)    | The Chi (HD)                                              |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | (‘01) 20/20 Investigative news. (HD) | Fire Country (HD)    |                                                                  | Dateline NBC Investigative news. (HD) |                               |                                                       |                         | Wizards                     |                               |                                      | Couples                                                   |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  |                                      | S.W.A.T. (HD)        |                                                                  |                                       |                               |                                                       |                         | Miraculous                  | (‘40) Pee-wee as Himself (HD) | “Mike and Dave Need Dates”           | Couples                                                   |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> | Local                                | Local                | Local Programs                                                   | Local                                 | SportsCenter (HD)             | (‘21) “Ram-page” (‘18) Dwayne Johnson. (HD)           | Resident Alien (HD)     | Miraculous                  |                               | (‘20) “The Sitter” (‘11) Jonah Hill. | ★★★ “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” (‘11) Daniel Craig. |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Jimmy Kimmel Live                    | (‘35) Late Show (HD) | Local Programs                                                   | (‘35) Tonight (HD)                    | SportsCenter (HD)             |                                                       | (‘07) “Fantastic” (‘18) | ZOMBIES                     | ZOMBIES                       |                                      |                                                           |
|                  | Nightline                            | Midnight             |                                                                  | Late Night                            | Sports                        | “The Flash”                                           |                         | Big City                    | (‘42) The Last of Us          | “Role” (R)                           |                                                           |

|                  | ABC                                       | CBS            | FOX                                                    | NBC                                | ESPN                         | TBS                                           | USA                                                              | DISN                             | HBO                                     | MAX                                           | PARSHO                                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6 PM :30</b>  | Local                                     | Local Programs | MLB Baseball “Regional Coverage-Teams TBA” (Live) (HD) | Local Programs                     | College Softball (Live)      | Bang (HD)                                     | “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1” Daniel Radcliffe. | ★★★ “Tangled” (‘10) Mandy Moore. | Last of Us                              | “He’s Not Into You”                           | (5:45) “Patriots Day” (‘17) Mark Wahlberg. (R)       |
| <b>7 PM :30</b>  | Local                                     |                |                                                        |                                    |                              | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  |                                  | (‘40) To Be Announced Info unavailable. | ★★½ “What’s Your Number?” (‘11)               |                                                      |
| <b>8 PM :30</b>  | NBA (Live)                                | Tracker (HD)   |                                                        | Saturday Night’s Main Event (Live) | College Softball (Live) (HD) | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  | Miraculous                       |                                         |                                               | ★★★ “Gladiator” (‘00, Drama) Russell Crowe. (R) (HD) |
| <b>9 PM :30</b>  | 2025 NBA Playoffs “Teams TBA” (Live) (HD) | 48 Hours (HD)  |                                                        |                                    |                              | Bang (HD)                                     |                                                                  | Miraculous                       |                                         | (‘47) “The Boss” (‘16) Melissa McCarthy. (HD) |                                                      |
| <b>10 PM :30</b> |                                           | 48 Hours (HD)  | Local Programs                                         | Dateline NBC (HD)                  | College Softball (Live) (HD) | Bang (HD)                                     | “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2” Daniel Radcliffe. | Miraculous                       | J. Carmichael (HD)                      |                                               |                                                      |
| <b>11 PM :30</b> | Local Programs                            | Local Programs | Next Level Chef (HD)                                   | Local                              |                              | ★★½ “Shallow Hal” (‘01) Gwyneth Paltrow. (HD) |                                                                  | ZOMBIES                          | Rehearsal                               | “Love & Mercy” John Cusack.                   | (‘35) The Chi (HD)                                   |
|                  |                                           |                | Local Programs                                         | Saturday Night Live (HD)           | SportsCenter (HD)            |                                               |                                                                  | ZOMBIES                          |                                         |                                               | “Spies”                                              |

MAY 25, 2025

| ESPN                                                                      | TBS                                             | USA                  | DISN                             | HBO                     | MAX                                               | PARSHO                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| MLB Baseball<br>Los Angeles<br>Dodgers at New<br>York Mets (Live)<br>(HD) | “House Party”<br>('23)                          | Law & Order:<br>SVU  | “Turning Red”<br>Rosalie Chiang. | (:07) The Last of<br>Us | (:12) The Knick<br>(HD)                           | “The Comeba”<br>('20) |
|                                                                           | Bang (HD)                                       | Law & Order:<br>SVU  |                                  | (:52) The Last of<br>Us | ★★★<br>“Warcraft” (‘16)<br>Travis Fimmel.<br>(HD) | The Chi (HD)          |
|                                                                           | Bang (HD)                                       |                      | (:45) Kiff                       |                         |                                                   |                       |
|                                                                           | Bang (HD)                                       | Law & Order:<br>SVU  | (:10) Kiff                       | The Last of Us<br>(HD)  |                                                   | The Chi (HD)          |
|                                                                           | Bang (HD)                                       |                      | (:35) Kiff                       |                         |                                                   |                       |
| SportsCenter<br>(HD)                                                      | Bang (HD)                                       | Day of the<br>Jackal | ZOMBIES                          | Rehearsal               | ★★ “Jonah<br>Hex” (‘10) Josh<br>Brolin.           | MobLand (HD)          |
|                                                                           | Bang (HD)                                       |                      | ZOMBIES                          | The Rehearsal<br>(HD)   |                                                   |                       |
| SportsCenter<br>(HD)                                                      | “Barbershop”<br>('02, Comedy)<br>Ice Cube. (HD) | Law & Order:<br>SVU  | Wizards                          |                         |                                                   | The Chi (HD)          |
|                                                                           |                                                 | Law & Order:<br>SVU  | Wizards                          | The Last of Us<br>(HD)  | “Need for<br>Speed” Aaron<br>Paul.                |                       |
| Sports                                                                    |                                                 |                      | Bluey                            |                         |                                                   | Couples               |
|                                                                           |                                                 |                      | Bluey                            | Last of Us              |                                                   | Couples               |

News from

## Camp Ground Church, Community

It has been a while since we submitted copy to The Gazette-Democrat. Like most families, between Easter and Mother’s Day, family gatherings were numerous. Since then, we’ve witnessed numerous graduations; we wish God’s blessings on each graduate as they move to the next phase of their life whether it be to high school, college, or to a new job. Within our church family, we congratulate Tanner Roach who graduated junior

high school this past week. Our prayers and concern are with all those who have been impacted in any way by the numerous storms last week. May birthdays have been Berna Gerard the 5th, Landon Roach the 17th; and Vanda Gerard the 20th. Best wishes to David and Jhan Miller whose wedding anniversary was May 11. Sunday’s sermon was “His Word Over Ours: A New Name” with Revelation 2:17 as the main scripture selec-

tion. Satan uses lies to keep us down trodden and without hope. But God sees us totally different and His opinion is what really matters. Once we have received salvation, we are given the Holy Spirit to enable us to be victorious over all that assails us through life. After we receive Jesus as Lord and Savior, we must allow the Holy Spirit to fill us and use us as a witness to the world. When God “adopts us”, He

gives us a new name – a child of God, with the promise of Eternal Life. We invite you to join us each Sunday, beginning with fellowship and coffee at 9:15 a.m., Bible study for all ages at 9:30 a.m. followed by Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at the intersection of Camp Ground Road and Tunnel Lane east of Anna, north of Route 146. Our lead elder for May is Rodney Miller.

## Shawnee National Forest welcomes seasonal visitors

The U.S. Forest Service is preparing to welcome an influx of visitors to the Shawnee National Forest in Southern Illinois for the 2025 recreation season. The Forest Service reported that the following campgrounds are open: Lake Glendale, Pounds Hollow, Pharoah at Garden of the Gods, Johnson Creek and Pine Hills. All sites are first come, first serve (with no reservations accepted). Depending on visits, other primitive camping opportunities may be available at Camp

Cadiz, Lake of Egypt, Redbud Campground and Turkey Bayou. Due to debris and/or damage from flooding, Tower Rock Campground and Snake Road were closed as of May 12 until further notice. McClure Road also was closed until further notice at the low-water crossing. All Shawnee National Forest offices will be closed May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. Updates can be found on the forest’s website at fs.usda.gov/r09/shawnee.

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



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# Look More Closely



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We often hurry through our hectic day, rush to finish the evening chores, climb into bed and wake up in the morning to start all over again...all the while wondering where the days go.... Soon it is a week, a month, a year. If we slow down to look more closely at the meaning of our lives might we find that we are missing our most beautiful moments? God has placed us here with a purpose. To discover it, we must look more closely at our spirit. Take the time to visit God’s house...the fulfillment of his purpose will help us discover life’s beautiful moments.

| Weekly Scripture Reading |                  |                  |                 |                  |                  |                 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Matthew 12.1-21          | Matthew 12.22-37 | Matthew 12.38-50 | Matthew 14.1-21 | Matthew 14.22-36 | Matthew 15.21-39 | Matthew 17.1-23 |

*Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society*

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# Opinion and Commentary

## Longtime Chicago friend describes first American pope as ‘very dedicated’

By Beth Hundsdorfer  
Capitol News Illinois

As the red velvet curtains at the Vatican parted, a priest realized that his college pal from the South Side of Chicago that he knows as “Bob” had been elected the first American pope. “Oh, dear God,” the Very Rev. Anthony Benedetto Pizzo, the prior provincial of the Augustinian Order in Chicago, said as he heard the news.

Pizzo knew Robert Prevost could be named Pope, but it was an outside chance. Prevost was just named cardinal in 2023. Pope Francis named Prevost the Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, whose job it is to vet potential bishops. His name had come up a few times to succeed Pope Francis, Pizzo said, but he wasn’t a named favorite.

“We were waiting with bated breath to see what would happen,” Pizzo said, speaking from Southern Italy, in an interview with Capitol News Illinois.

Pizzo watched as his friend was introduced to the world as Pope Leo XIV. It was the same man he knew in college, seminary and throughout his career – a man dedicated to his faith and his friends.

Pizzo planned to travel to Rome on Friday, May 9, but was unsure whether he would see his old friend. He had known Prevost since the men were undergraduates studying at Villanova University in Philadelphia.

Prevost was one of three brothers living in Dolton on the far South Side. One brother remains in Chicago. The other lives in Florida. His father, a World War II veteran, was a teacher and school administrator, Pizzo said. His mother was a librarian.

Young Robert Prevost attended St. Mary of the Assumption Church, located on the Chicago-Dolton border, serving as an altar boy and attending the parish school.

“Bob is such a good friend. He was there throughout my life,” Pizzo said. “He was there when I made my vows, the death of my parents and my installation as a pastor.”

The man who would become pope likes to drive and enjoyed long treks, driving back and forth to college with Pizzo, who described him as very open and an excellent companion.

Pizzo said his friend is down to earth, outgoing and well-rounded.

“He was very dedicated and applied himself in all that he did,” Pizzo said.

The two men attended the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago in 1977. The new pope obtained a Master of Divinity degree.

Prevost began doing missionary work in Peru in 1985, serving in various roles including parish pastor, diocesan official, seminary teacher and administrator. He led an Augustinian seminary for a decade.

From 2001-2013, he served as prior general of the Order of Saint Augustine. He was succeeded by his friend, Pizzo, who continues to serve in the role. In 2014, the young man who grew up in Chicago was appointed Bishop of Chiclayo, Peru.

He became a Peruvian citizen in 2015.

Prevost selected his name after Pope Leo XII, who was famous for his 1891 treatise that outlined rights of workers to a fair wage, safe working conditions and the formation of trade unions.

When Prevost became a cardinal in 2023, Sister Barbara Reid, president of the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, was in attendance. On Thursday, after the announcement, things got hectic at CTU.

Patrick Bittorf, vice president for development at CTU, was fielding calls and requests for media interviews.

“Well, we graduated a pope!” he said.

Pizzo said he hopes his friend receives all the support he needs in his new role and that he continues to be as attentive as he has been, relying on God’s grace.

And does the new pope have a favorite Chicago baseball team? Pizzo said his friend is from the South Side and was likely a White Sox fan, but then demurred.

“I mean, we never went to a game or anything, but I would assume ...”

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

# Please read this...

By Geof Skinner

## A wise person just would have stayed home...



A view from the porch swing...last Friday afternoon...during stormy weather which swept through the region. About 10 minutes after the photograph was taken, a tornado warning was issued for northwestern Union County.

Perhaps the Journey Through Life would be just a little bit less exciting if yours truly would stop attempting to travel when Mother Nature is unleashing drama in the sky...

You may recall that a couple of weeks ago, your writer was attempting to play travel guide for an adventure involving a couple of special folks who were visiting the Midwest. The plan was to head to Cape Girardeau for an up-close look at the Mississippi River.

We made it as far as the Union County State Fish and Wildlife Area (the “refuge”) near Ware, where we arrived just in time to experience a severe thunderstorm warning...complete with a deluge, strong winds, lightning and thunder...all of which pretty much followed us back home. Old Man River would just have to wait.

Fast forward, perhaps assisted by the possibility of hurricane force winds, to last Friday afternoon and evening...and then again in the wee hours of Tuesday morning...

As we tend to do, The Other Half and yours truly kept a close watch last Thursday and Friday on the weather forecast for our little corner of the world. In a word or two, the situation did not look very promising, which seems to be the story so far in 2025. The forecast suggested that we faced yet another round of stormy weather. Severe was not an adequate adjective for what might coming. Dangerous was being used. Again.

Under the circumstances, we did what seemed appropriate to prepare. Plants out on the porch that might have blown around were moved inside, where things would, hopefully, be much safer. A cooler was filled ice packs for food from the refrigerator, if needed. We watched. We waited.

As has often been the case over the years, I decided to sit on the swing on our front porch and watch the weather...come what may. Storms once again brought us heavy rain, lightning, thunder and strong winds...accompanied by a sound track...the wailing of a tornado warning siren. Just like on the afternoon when we tried to journey to Cape Girardeau...without the warning siren.

All the while, I kept an eye on the sky, watching for photo opportunities. At one point, at around 4 o’clock last Friday afternoon, we had a bit of a break in the rain. The sky off to the south looked like it would good for a picture or two. So, I got in the car and headed off to look for a nice place to get a picture of the stormy sky.

At about 4:23 p.m., as I was shooting pictures from a nice vantage point not far from town, a tornado warning alert

sounded on the car radio. Of course it did. The alert included mention of Union County. Of course it did. Once again, I was out on the road in the midst of severe weather. Of course I was.

In the interest of finding someplace safe, I immediately headed back home. After getting home, I checked the website for the weather service office in Paducah. The weather service shared that at 4:23 p.m., a tornado warning was in effect until 5 p.m. for northwestern Union County and northeastern Cape Girardeau. At 4:22 p.m., a severe thunderstorm capable of producing a tornado was located over the Trail of Tears State Park near Cape Girardeau. The weather service warned that “this dangerous storm” would be near Anna, Jonesboro...and Cobden at around 4:35 p.m. The weather service urged: “TAKE COVER NOW!” Those in a vehicle were advised to moved to the closest substantial shelter. At the time I was wandering around in a car out in the storm, something that might be a substantial shelter was not to be seen.

I was grateful to have made it home safely, before the next deluge, and even some hail...but no tornado...arrived in our hometown.

Mention of a possible tornado over the Trail of Tears State Park in Southeast Missouri brought back memories of a visit to that special place not all that many years ago. Similar memories came to mind when we heard about the tornadoes which struck in Williamson County (not all that far from home)...in St. Louis...and in central Kentucky last Friday. Williamson County is our neighbor. What happened there is so close to home. Many of us have been to some of the places in St. Louis that were impacted. And our Journey Through Life has included many visits to the towns in Kentucky that were devastated. In such circumstances, words just are not adequate.

I think we are ready to be done with 2025’s extreme weather...ice...snow...tornadoes...severe thunderstorms...lightning...thunder...torrential downpours...hail...

With that being said...the forecast was calling for you know what Monday night and Tuesday...and that included another tornado watch for Union County...

...and, once again, Mother Nature put on a show, this time in the dark of the night. The tornado warning siren sounded at around 1:30 in the morning Tuesday...I decided to not get in the car and go for a ride...

Oh, by the way...not much when it comes to Critter Sightings this week. Even the squirrels seemed to have been hunkering down in the stormy weather...

## Stinson set to host book sale at Annabelle Festival

A book sale is planned at Stinson Memorial Public Library in Anna as part of the Annabelle Festival weekend.

The sale is scheduled Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 13-15. The library is located at 409 S. Main St. in Anna.

A Friends Appreciation Sale for members of the Friends of Stinson group is planned from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday.

A public sale is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

A bag sale is planned from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.



### May Garden of the Month

Monty and Gail Webb at 100 West Monroe of Anna have been named Garden of the Month for May by the Anna Jo Garden Club. The Webb’s gardens are unique in that they are created in sections, and they even have an oriental garden with walkways throughout. There are hostas, azaleas, iris, roses, grasses, ferns and ground covers among each garden with benches for an afternoon break. Located in the back of their beautiful 2 story house is a garden with a stone fire pit, complete with pink roses, fenced in with an old fashioned white garden fence for a relaxing family gathering. In one garden there is a lovely homemade bird bath made with bricks. Their gardens are a beauty to behold.

Congratulations from the Anna Jo Garden Club!



## \*SAVE THE DATE\*

**Southern Illinois  
Spring Vendor Summit 2025  
June 4th  
The Pavilion, Marion**

Be sure to get your **FREE** ticket by registering at:

**[HTTPS://REGISTRATION.SOCIO.EVENTS/E/  
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