

THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

The Talk And Cobden Review • Serving Union County Since 1849

Thursday, August 21, 2025

Anna, Illinois

\$1.00

Volume 178, Number 37

News Notes

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

A few more days remain at the Union County Fair. The schedule includes Veterans Appreciation Day, a junior livestock auction and championship rodeo action, all on Thursday, and demolition derbies on Friday and Saturday.

A free “Ice Cream in a Bag” giveaway event was scheduled on Wednesday and continuing Thursday, today, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Union County Farm Bureau tent in front of the exhibit building at the Union County Fair.

The Union County Sheriff’s Office shared on social media that it had been contacted by “a good citizen” who found a cell phone “in of all places, Lake Michigan.” The phone, once charged and powered on, showed a local connection. The sheriff’s office was attempting to connect the formerly lost phone with its owner.

A 38-year-old man from Tennessee was reported to have sustained injuries when he fell while climbing on rocks along the Quetil Trail in Alto Pass at about 6:20 p.m. Sunday. Local emergency services agencies, including the Alto Pass Fire Department, the Union County Sheriff’s Office and the Union County Ambulance Service, responded to the scene. The man was airlifted from the scene for medical treatment.

The Union County Sheriff’s Office reported that U.S. Highway 51 at the Union and Pulaski county line was closed for a while late Monday afternoon due to a vehicle accident. Motorists were advised to an alternate route while the highway was closed.

The Union County Sheriff’s Office on Monday night alerted motorists traveling in the area of U.S. Highway 51 North and Vines Road that traffic lights were malfunctioning through a construction zone. The Illinois Department of Transportation was made aware of the issue. Motorists were asked to use caution and to have patience while traveling through the construction zone.

The Anna Police Department plans to host an “Anna City Talk Back Night” on Friday, Sept. 12. The open community forum is scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Anna City Hall.

Anna-Jonesboro Community High School hosted a “Senior Sunrise” event early Thursday morning, Aug. 14. A social media posting showed that the event held on the school’s football field for members of the A-JCHS Class of 2026 was a success. Breakfast was included.

MileSplit Heartland has Anna-Jonesboro as the top-ranked Class 1A girls’ cross country team in the State of Illinois in a preseason poll. MileSplit Heartland covers cross country and track and field in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

(continued on page 2)

Union County Fair continues in Anna

The 2025 Union County Fair continues this week at the Anna City Park in Anna. The fair started with activities on Friday, Aug. 15, and continues through Sunday, Aug. 24.

Here’s a look at the schedule for the rest of fair week, as well as admission prices to events, as posted on the fair’s website:

Thursday, Aug. 21

Veterans Appreciation Day. All veterans showing veterans organization memberships cards or wearing a veterans organization cape will be admitted free to the fair.

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Exhibit building open.

6 p.m. Junior livestock auction, junior show area. Free admission.

6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Carnival open.

7:30 p.m. Championship Rodeo. Presented by Whip-poorwill Rodeo. General ad-

mission tickets: Adults \$10, children \$5.

Friday, Aug. 22

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Exhibit building open.

6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Carnival open.

7:30 p.m. Demolition derby, in front of the grandstand. General admission tickets available: Adults \$20, children \$10.

Saturday, Aug. 23

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Exhibit building open.

5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Carnival open.

7:30 p.m. Demolition derby, in front of the grandstand. General admission tickets available: Adults \$20, children \$10.

Sunday, Aug. 24

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Exhibits to be claimed in the exhibit building.

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Exhibitor checks available in the fair office.

Deputy injured in accident

A Union County Sheriff’s Office deputy sustained minor injuries in a traffic accident which happened Saturday night, Aug. 16.

Union County Sheriff David Wilkins reported that at approximately 8 p.m. Saturday, the deputy was involved in the traffic accident while responding to a domestic battery call.

The accident occurred on Highway 127 North, just south of State Forest Road, when the patrol vehicle struck a deer and left the roadway, coming to rest in a ravine. The deputy was able to exit the vehicle and climb the embankment, where he was assisted by responding emergency personnel.

The deputy was transported to Deaconess Illinois Union County Hospital in Anna for treatment of minor injuries and was later released. The accident is being investigated by the Illinois State Police.

“We are grateful that the Deputy was not seriously injured and thank the emergency responders who provided assistance at the scene,” the sheriff stated.

Highway 127 North was closed for several hours following the accident. Motorists were asked to seek an alternate route.

Following the accident, the Anna Police Department shared

on social media that it was offering “our support and partnership to our Union County family during this time.”

The police department thanked “our EMS crews for the difficult job they do each and every day for our citizens as well as our fellow officers. We also wish the Deputy a safe and speedy recovery.”

Relief expected from extreme heat, humidity

The expected passage of a cold front was expected to bring some relief from the latest round of extreme heat and humidity which were experienced during the past week in the Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky region.

As of Thursday afternoon, Aug. 14, the National Weather Service office in Paducah was reporting that a prolonged period of heat and humidity was “here to stay” in the region. The extreme heat was expected to peak over the weekend and continue into early this week.

The only relief was expected to be in the form of isolated thunderstorms which could have popped up each day. One such storm occurred at around 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, in the Union County area. The storm was accompanied by heavy rain and gusty winds at times.

A heat advisory was in effect for the region over the week-



Newly crowned queens

The winners of the 2025 Union County Fair queen pageant were decided on Friday night, Aug. 15 at the Henry Don Dillow Grandstand at the Anna City Park. Candidates competed in three different age groups. The winners were, from left, 2025 Miss Union County Fair Queen Brooklynn Eastman, 2025 Junior Miss Union County Fair Queen Eleison Baggott and 2025 Little Miss Union County Fair Queen Maggie Roach. Photo by Kasie Dillow.

end and continuing through 7 p.m. Tuesday. The advisory was issued by the Weather Service office in Paducah for portions of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri and Western Kentucky.

High temperatures well into the 90s, and possibly at or above 100 degrees, were in the forecast for the region. Heat index values of up to 108 degrees were expected.

At 1:52 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, the Weather Service reported that the heat index at the Southern Illinois Airport near Carbondale was 103 degrees. At the time, the air temperature was 95. The heat index was 104 degrees at 4:52 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, at the Southern Illinois Airport. The air temperature at the time was 94. At 4:52 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18, the heat index at the Southern Illinois Airport was 106 degrees. The air temperature at the time was 95.

The National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Md., reported early Saturday morning that the high temperatures and humidity would create a major to extreme heat risk for those in the mid to lower Mississippi Valley through the weekend.

The Weather Service office once again was advising the region’s residents that the very hot temperatures and high humidity could cause illnesses related to the heat. People were advised to drink plenty of liquids, stay in an air-conditioned room and check up on relatives and neighbors.

The extreme heat led to the cancellation of several local school sports event. Anna-Jonesboro Community High School shared on social media that a match involving its girls’ golf team which had been scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 19, in Herrin was canceled due to the threat of high

temperatures. The forecast was calling for the high temperature on Tuesday in Herrin to be near 98 degrees, with a heat index as high as 105. Cobden Junior High School softball and baseball games scheduled for Monday were canceled due to the heat.

Isolated thunderstorms were in the forecast for midday Sunday through around sunset. Dry conditions were expected early in the week. Precipitation chances, including the possibility of thunderstorms, returned to the forecast for Tuesday afternoon through at least early Wednesday. The Weather Service reported there was a marginal risk for severe weather Tuesday afternoon.

Milder temperatures were in the forecast for Thursday, today, and continuing into the weekend. The weather is expected to remain dry. A trend toward below normal temperatures is possible Aug. 23-27.



Harness racing at the fair

Harness racing was on the schedule for the opening Saturday at this year’s Union County Fair in Anna. Races took place Saturday afternoon, Aug. 16, on the track in front of the Henry Dillow Grandstand at the Anna City Park, which is the home of the fair. This year’s county fair activities are scheduled to continue through Sunday afternoon, Aug. 24.



THE GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT

THE TALK AND COBDEN REVIEW

Serving Union County Since 1849

(USPS 215-280)

ISSN 2834-6165 (Print)

2834-6173 (Online)

Published weekly on Thursdays

by Southern Illinois LOCAL Media Group, LLC

112 Lafayette St.

Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

618-833-2158

news@annanews.com

Periodical postage paid at Anna, Illinois 62906-0529



Benjamin Marxer.....Editor

Miguel Paredes as Trustee of the Paddock Publications, Inc.

Employee Stock Ownership Trust

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Year • July, 2022

In Union County.....\$54.00

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

Out of Area.....\$64.00

Per Copy.....\$1.00

E-edition.....\$54.00



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

The Gazette-Democrat

112 Layfayette St.

Anna, Illinois 62906-0529

Advertising rates given on application.

The Gazette-Democrat | Monday’s Pub.

www.annanews.com

facebook.com/gazettedemocrat

Cobden High School voices pride in student

Cobden High School is voicing pride in a student’s participation in a special program during the summer.

The school was represented in July when Alyssa Fabian attended the Hispanic National Bar Foundation’s, HNBF, Future Latinos Law Camp. The camp was held July 13-20 in Washington, D.C.

The school shared on social media that during the camp, Fabian “was among the finest and most respected in the field of law.” Camp participants toured law firms, federal government buildings and national monuments.

“She earned first-hand experience of the law system by participating in a mock trial, giving the lead closing statement for the defense,” the school reported.

Fabian was one of 35 young people from 14 states who were selected nationally to attend the camp. “Cobden High School is proud of how she represented our small but mighty school,” the Union County school stated.

The HNBF website said the Future Latino Leaders Law Camp is a week-long transformative experience for

high school students who are interested in learning about careers in law.

Participants had an opportunity to network with current attorneys and legal practitioners, from judges and Congress people to partners at large law firms and in-house counsel.

The students had an opportunity to visit Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Organization of American States and attend the foundation’s annual awards dinner, when outstanding Latino leaders in the legal field were honored.

The program culminated with a mock trial presided over by a federal judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

HNBF said the program is more than a camp: it’s a launchpad for future legal professionals and a celebration of excellence, mentorship and representation.

HNBF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to ensuring that Hispanics meet their potential through access to higher education while creating a strong pipeline of candidates that increases diversity in the legal profession.

News Notes

(continued from page 1)

At “Meet the Teams” event is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, at The Pit at A-JCHS.

School picture days are scheduled Aug. 26-29 at A-JCHS.

Anna School District 37 shared last week on social media that enrollment was underway for a paid after-school daycare program. Sign was available on the school’s website.

As of late last week, Anna School District 37 was looking to hire a junior high boys’ track coach and a 5th and 6th grade cheer coach.

Anna Junior High School’s girls’ softball team posted recent wins over Massac County, Cobden, New Simpson Hill and Goreville. Anna’s opponents scored one run in the four games.

Fresh peaches from Flamm Orchards near Cobden were served last week in Anna School District 37 thanks to access to the Farm to School grant program.

Shawnee School District 84 is welcoming six new teachers and a social emotional wellness coordinator.

Shawnee School District 84 reports that 2025 junior-senior

high yearbooks have arrived.

A Dongola High School volleyball scrimmage set for 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, will pit the girls on the team against parents, guardians or an older sibling who played the sport. Instead of a gate fee, donations of hygiene items for the school’s Care Closet will be accepted.

Sharon Craig is the new children’s coordinator at Stinson Memorial Public Library.

Stinson Memorial Public Library is looking to partner with local businesses to support Library Card Sign-Up Month, which is in September. Information is available by contacting the library in Anna.

A Public Library Outreach Day is planned Sept. 2 by Stinson Memorial Public Library. Activities, including library card sign up, are planned from 8 a.m. to noon at the farmers market in Anna and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Pizza Villa in Anna.

Looking ahead...a discussion about the graphic novel edition of “The Hand Maid’s Tale” is set for 10 a.m. Sept. 20 at Stinson Memorial Public Library in Anna.

Shane Bennett is the new executive director of the Saints Foundation at Shawnee Community College.



Worship service at Union County Fair
A community worship service was held Sunday evening, Aug. 17, at the Union County Fair. The service was held in the Henry Dillow Grandstand at the Anna City Park, which is the home of the fair. The Union County Alliance of Churches sponsored the service.

DOJ demands sensitive Illinois voter registration data after state responds

By Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The U.S. Department of Justice is insisting Illinois election officials hand over the state’s entire computerized voter registration database, including sensitive information such as driver’s license and partial Social Security numbers.

In a letter dated Thursday, Aug. 14, an attorney in the department’s Civil Rights Division rejected the Illinois State Board of Elections’ offer of a partially redacted database, the same data that state law allows political committees and other governmental agencies to access, insisting that federal authorities are entitled to the complete, unredacted data.

“We have received Illinois’s statewide voter registration list (‘VRL’),” Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon wrote. “However, as the Attorney General requested, the electronic copy of the statewide VRL must contain all fields, including the registrant’s full name, date of birth, residential address, his or her state driver’s license number or the last four digits of the registrant’s social security number as required under the Help America Vote Act (‘HAVA’) to register individuals for federal elections.”

The letter indicated DOJ was making the request under a provision of the National Voter Registration Act, also known as the “Motor Voter Act,” a 1993 law that was intended to make it easier for people to register whenever they conducted other government business such as obtaining a driver’s license or renewing their vehicle registration.

“Our request is pursuant to the Attorney General’s au-

thority under Section 11 of the NVRA to bring enforcement actions,” the letter stated.

The letter also cited the 2002 Help America Vote Act. Passed in the wake of the controversial 2000 election between Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore, that law made sweeping changes to the nation’s voting processes, including new requirements about how states must maintain accurate and up-to-date voter registration databases.

“Not Entitled to Demand”

DOJ first requested a copy of the Illinois database in a July 28 letter. That was a few weeks after the agency filed what’s known as a “statement of interest” in a civil lawsuit that the conservative legal activist group Judicial Watch, along with other plaintiffs, had filed against the state board, alleging it was not meeting its duties under HAVA to maintain the voter database.

In that initial letter, DOJ also requested the names of all election officials in the state who are responsible for maintaining the registration list. It also asked the state to identify the number of people removed from the registration list during the 2022 election cycle because they were noncitizens, adjudicated incompetent or due to felony convictions.

David Becker, a former attorney in the DOJ’s voting section who now runs the nonpartisan Center for Election Innovation and Research, told Capitol News Illinois last month that the letter is similar to requests filed in multiple other states and that it goes far beyond the Justice Department’s legal authority.

“The Department of Justice asked for the complete voter file for the state of Illinois, including all fields in that file, which is an absolutely huge file that contains so much sensitive data

about Illinois citizens, including driver’s license numbers, Social Security numbers and dates of birth that the Department of Justice is not entitled to receive and not entitled to demand,” he said in an interview. “They know this. Other states have told them this, and yet they continue to seek to receive this information, citing sections of federal law that don’t apply and don’t require that.”

Illinois’ Initial Response

The State Board of Elections responded to that request Aug. 11 with answers to DOJ’s questions as well as an electronic copy of what it described as the statewide voter registration list.

However, the board also cited a state statute that limits what the agency can disclose from the centralized registration list.

A spokesperson for the board said in an email that the law allows the release of two types of data files. One, available only to political committees or “a governmental entity for a governmental purpose,” includes the voters’ names and addresses, their age at the time the registration was completed, the voting jurisdictions in which they reside, and their voting history. That includes elections in which they voted and, in the case of primary elections, which party’s ballot they selected.

That is the list the state board provided to DOJ. The board also waived the normal \$500 fee it charges for providing the list.

Another version of the file, available to the general public, contains much of the same information, but only the name of the street on which they live, not their exact street address.

But neither file, the spokesman said, contains voters’ personal identification information used to verify voter registrations such as driver’s license numbers or Social Security numbers.

DOJ, Pritzker Respond

In its letter Thursday, Aug. 14, however, DOJ said the list that the elections board provided was insufficient.

“In charging the Attorney General with enforcement of the voter registration list requirements in HAVA and the NVRA, Congress plainly intended that DOJ be able to conduct an independent review of each state’s list,” Dhillon wrote. “Any statewide prohibitions are preempted by federal law.”

The letter directed the board to provide the information by Aug. 21.

The board spokesman said the latest DOJ letter is “under review.”

On Monday, Aug. 11, Pritzker declined to say whether the board’s decision to provide the partially redacted database was the correct one. But he also accused the Trump administration of ulterior motives.

“Well, it’s clear why they’re hunting around for voter data, right? They’re trying to say that in the next election, that there will be fraud because they know they’re going to lose,” he said at an unrelated bill signing. “They are looking, essentially, to say that, well, we found somebody who died who’s still on the rolls, and therefore there’s fraud, and therefore these elections are fraudulent and should be overturned.”

He also defended Illinois’ decentralized election system.

“We have, actually, one of the safest, best systems in the entire country, because it’s run by individual county clerks so it’s unhackable,” he said.

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.

TAKING APPLICATIONS

The Union County Housing Authority is taking applications for (3) bedroom apartments in our Jonesboro development. All Union County Waiting Lists are open now. You may add your name to any waitlist. Rent is based on income.

Quickly apply online at: www.myucha.com. Call 618-833-5129 or email robbin@ucha.email or sara@ucha.email. Union County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Provider.



Union County Alliance of Churches Recommendations

1 Thanksgiving Worship, Kornthal, Sun 8/23 - 2PM

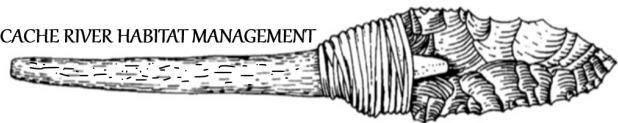
2 Potluck immediately following at Old Depot-Anna

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

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

Alliance of Churches (618)-614-2974

CACHE RIVER HABITAT MANAGEMENT



Bush Hogging

Food Plots

Brush Control

Trail Mowing

Pond Clearing

Seeding

John Wingate Owner/Operator

618-697-2479

Give us a call for all your land management needs.

Governor signs 226 bills into law

By **Andrew Adams**
Capitol News Illinois

The governor signed 266 laws on Friday, Aug. 15, moving closer to finalizing his part in approving, or rejecting, over 430 laws sent to him by lawmakers this spring.

The new laws include measures to make public defenders more independent, tighten safety regulations at warehouses and increase the age for required annual driver tests.

Gov. JB Pritzker also vetoed two bills, a somewhat rare move from a governor of the same party as the legislature’s supermajorities. One veto was somewhat technical – a budget provision already implemented the policy – but the other highlighted a policy disagreement between him and the state treasurer.

Toxic Substance Lawsuits

One of the bills Pritzker signed Aug. 15 invited almost immediate pushback from Republicans and business groups.

The law, outlined in Senate Bill 328, allows lawsuits to continue against companies that operate in Illinois even if the company and plaintiffs are from other states. The law only applies to cases dealing with “toxic” substances under state law.

The law is seen as good for trial lawyers, who might see expanded business opportunities under the new law. The head of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Associations applauded the governor’s approval last week and said that the “sole intent” of the new law is provide justice for people exposed to toxic substances.

But critics, like the Illinois Manufacturers Association, say the measure will be bad for business.

A group of Republican lawmakers filed a lawsuit challenging the bill earlier this summer, criticizing it as legalizing “litigation tourism.”

That lawsuit, focused on the legislative process more than the bill’s contents, could also end the practice of passing “gut-and-replace” bills.

That’s a procedural maneuver where lawmakers modify a bill already passed in one chamber of the General Assembly with an amendment that removes the entire bill and replaces it.

This move is unpopular among some lawmakers who see it as unconstitutional because it limits or precludes substantial debate on a bill’s actual contents. The lawsuit is still pending in Sangamon County.

Pritzker Vetoes Nonprofit Investment Pool

Another measure, this one backed by state treasurer Michael Frerichs, would have allowed Frerichs’ office to create an investment pool for Illinois nonprofits. The treasurer’s office would then invest those funds and provide the returns on those investments back to the nonprofits.

But Pritzker vetoed Senate Bill 246, saying that the measure had harmful unintended consequences.

“It would unfortunately allow Illinois’ financial investments to be used to benefit fringe and extremist groups,” Pritzker wrote. “I cannot sign a bill that unintentionally allows extremist groups to advance their hateful missions by exploiting state services and resources.”

Pritzker pointed to an Indiana nonprofit linked to the Oath Keepers, an anti-government militia that watchdog groups label as an “extremist” organization. Leaders of the group were found guilty of seditious conspiracy for their role in the U.S. Capitol riots on Jan. 6, 2021.

Pritzker said that organization would be eligible for the investment fund program. But the treasurer issued a statement countering that claim.

“I strongly disagree with the governor’s misguided belief that hate groups would use a state investment pool,” Frerichs said in a statement. “The bill specifically requires that to be eligible, a nonprofit must provide a copy of their

audited financial statements. No hate group would ever agree to that. Sunshine remains the best disinfectant for fighting hate.”

Statewide Public Defender Office

Another law signed Aug. 15, contained in House Bill 3363, will create the “Office of State Public Defender” to provide public defender offices throughout the state with more resources. It also reforms the public defender appointment process in an effort to give public defenders more independence from local judges.

An analysis of public defender data from a Northwestern University research team, which supported the bill, found that Illinois had a shortage of public defenders in fiscal year 2023, with only about 56 percent of the needed number currently allocated statewide.

A 2021 report commissioned by the Illinois Supreme Court found similar results in nine counties. None of those counties had sufficient resources to provide defendants with proper legal representation.

The need for public defenders has also increased in years since the state’s abolition of cash bail in 2023. Cases now require more work in the pretrial phase.

Lawmakers appropriated \$10 million for county public defense services in this year’s budget, the same they’ve appropriated since 2023.

Other Bills

Drivers tests for seniors: House Bill 1226 requires drivers age 79 and over to take annual drivers test, an increase from the previous requirement age of 75.

Artificial intelligence professors: House Bill 1859 bans the use of AI as primary instructors in community colleges.

PFAS ban for fire fighters: House Bill 2409 requires that companies selling fire-fighting equipment disclose the presence of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, sometimes called “forever chemicals.” It bans the use of them in clothing used by fire fighters by 2027 and in other equipment by 2030.

PFAS ban in other industries: House Bill 2516 bans, by 2032, PFAS chemicals in children’s products, cosmetics, intimate apparel like sleepwear or underwear, menstrual products and dental floss.

Warehouse tornado safety: House Bill 2987 requires that warehouses provide a tornado safety plan and build new

warehouses with stricter safety standards. The measure follows a lethal warehouse collapse in 2021.

“Chicken bill”: Farmers who process fewer than 7,500 chickens annually will be exempt from state and federal inspections of their poultry operations or from having to send birds to USDA-approved processing facilities, an increase from the previous 5,000-bird threshold. It requires products to be labeled as not-inspected, if processed under this exemption.

Noncitizen representation: House Bill 2436 grants the Cook County public defender the ability to represent non-citizens during immigration proceedings.

Defibrillators in nursing homes: House Bill 1287 requires skilled care facilities to have automatic external defibrillators by 2030.

Home births: House Bill 2688 allows certified nurse midwives to enter a written agreement with a physician to provide or assist with home births. In designated maternity care deserts, they can enter into such an agreement even if the local physicians don’t provide home births.

Baby food safety: Senate Bill 73 requires baby food makers to test their products for arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury at least once per month.

Price transparency at the gym: Senate Bill 314 requires fitness centers to disclose any changes to customer fees at least 60 days before the automatic renewal of a contract.

AI in schools: Senate Bill 1920 requires the state board of education to develop guidance on the use of artificial intelligence in schools.

Scott’s Law update: Senate Bill 1922 expands the law requiring drivers to move over for police vehicles to apply to any authorized emergency vehicle whether or not it is stationary.

Transfer credit requirements: Senate Bill 1958 requires community colleges to facilitate transfer credits between community colleges and encourages them to work with state universities to make transferring credits easier.

Ben Szalinski and Jerry Nowicki contributed research.

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.

New fire chief named for Anna

Business on the agenda at a regular meeting of the Anna City Council held Tuesday evening, Aug. 5, included the appointment of a fire chief and assistant fire chief. The meeting was held at Anna City Hall.

The appointment of the fire chief and assistant fire chief came under the mayoral appointments/reports category on the agenda for the council’s first regular meeting in the month of August.

The council was scheduled to meet in regular session again on Tuesday evening, Aug. 19. Items on the agenda for the meeting included recognition of state championship umpire Greg Harris and recognition of the Anna-Jonesboro Community High School girls cross country team.

At the Aug. 5 meeting, Mayor Steve Hartline proposed that Tim Bowen be appointed as the chief of the Anna Fire Department. Bowen also serves as chief of the Jonesboro Fire Department

and will continue to do so. Chris Clark was appointed as assistant fire chief. Clark had been serving as the Anna Fire Department’s interim chief. The appointments were approved by the city council. The mayor said Bowen brings a lot of experience and knowledge with him to the Anna post.

The action taken by the city council is expected to lead to even more cooperation between the Anna and Jonesboro fire departments. The departments often assist one another on calls. Both departments will maintain their separate identities.

It was noted that having fire departments on both sides of railroad tracks which run through the heart of the downtown Anna area should improve safety considerations in the two Union County communities.

Anna’s mayor said he thinks the action with the appointment of a new fire chief is a very good move for both cities.

SIU stair climb to pay tribute to victims of 9/11

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to pay tribute to the victims of Sept. 11, 2001, with a workout session which is set for 6 a.m. Thursday, Sept.11.

The 9/11 Saluki Stair Climb at SIU’s Banterra Center involves a simulated 110-floor stair climb, representing the 110 floors of the World Trade Center twin towers. This year’s climb includes an increased number of steps to more accurately reflect the journey through the towers that were destroyed that day. The public can participate individually or as a team. Participants should plan to arrive by 5:45 a.m.

Alternatively, participants have the option to walk for 2 miles around the Banterra Center concourse. The distance represents the evacuation from Ground Zero to a site across the Brooklyn Bridge.

The workout, annually carried out by SIU Air Force and Army ROTC cadets, honors first responders, members of the military and civilians who lost their

lives as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and ensuing War on Terror.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration and a waiver are required. SIU departments, colleges and offices are invited to challenge each other on which unit has the largest team. To participate, they need to register in advance and check in at the Unit Challenge station on the day of the event.

Organizers will give away a limited number of t-shirts commemorating the event, which people can pick up or order on site. Food vendors are scheduled to be Cold Blooded Coffee and Dave’s Bagels.

Sponsors of the event include Banterra Bank, Air Force ROTC, Army ROTC, In Sync Mind Body Therapy Center, Silkworm, Saluki Athletics, the SIU Department of Public Safety, SIU Events and Outreach, SIU Veterans Services and the SIU Office of the Vice Chancellor for Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

More information about the event, and registration is available on the 9/11 Saluki Stair Club webpage at universityevents.siu.edu.

Cobden food

pantry serves

community

Cobden families and community members are reminded that a school food pantry is available to serve them. The pantry is located behind the elementary school cafeteria and is scheduled to be open every weekend from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A message on social media shared the food pantry “is available to all families and community members who would like to utilize it – no questions asked. Our pantry is completely run by donations and volunteer help, and we are always accepting contributions to keep our shelves stocked with both food items and hygiene products.”

Donations can be dropped off at any time in a black box which located outside the front entrance of Cobden Elementary School. Monetary donations are also appreciated and can be made by check, payable to Cobden PTO Food Pantry.

Food pantry program organizers thanked the community for its “continued generosity and for helping us take care of one another. Our community is stronger together.”

Fatal

accident

reported

One person sustained fatal injuries in a single-vehicle traffic accident involving a motorcycle which occurred at around noon Sunday, Aug. 17, in Union County.

Union County Sheriff David Wilkins said the victim was identified as Robert Dillon, 50, originally from Williamson County.

The accident happened east of Anna near the intersection of Illinois Highway 146 East and Shawnee Meadows Lane. The driver was reported to have lost control of the vehicle and struck a guardrail. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

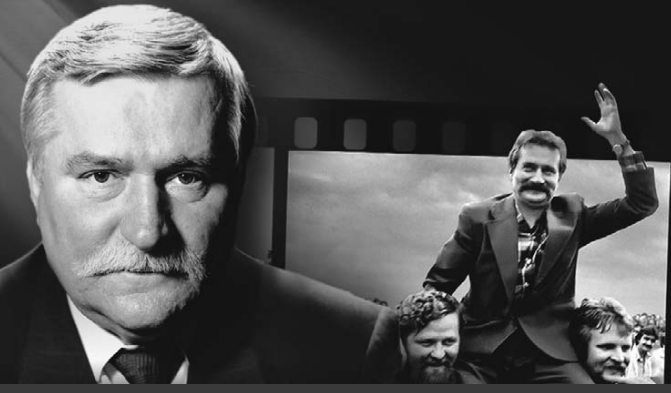
The Union County Sheriff’s Office, the Union County Ambulance Service, the Union County coroner’s office and the Illinois State Police responded to the scene. An investigation is being conducted by the state police.

THE GREATEST CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME

—AN EVENING WITH PRESIDENT—

LECH WALESAP

USA & CANADA LECTURE TOUR | AUGUST 31 – OCTOBER 30, 2025



Meet the Nobel Peace Prize winner and one of the world’s greatest leaders. Lech Walesa will take you behind the scenes of one of history’s greatest turning points - and into the future we must build together.

REGISTER NOW: www.HistoryExplorer.com

Be our guest!

Fall Gospel Meeting

Anna church of Christ
104 Nile Street, Anna, Illinois

September 14-17, 2025

Speaker, Edd Sterchi of Campbellsville, KY

“THE WORDS OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS”

Sunday, Sept. 14, 9:30 a.m.	“Father, Forgive Them” (A study of forgiveness)
Sunday, Sept. 14, 10:30 a.m.	“Today You Will Be With Me in Paradise” (A study of salvation)
Sunday, Sept. 14, 1:30 p.m..	“Behold Your Son/Behold Your Mother” (A study of compassion)
Monday, Sept. 15, 7:00 p.m.	“My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?” (A study of Jesus’ suffering)
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m.	“I Thirst” (A study of Jesus’ humanity and connection to us)
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7:00 p.m.	“It Is Finished” & “Father, into Your Hand I Commit My Spirit” (A study of Jesus completing the heavenly Father’s will)



Edd was born in Olney, Illinois and was raised on a family farm. He graduated Southern Illinois University with an Agribusiness Economics degree. He worked in that field for 10 years. During that time he began preaching and fell in love with it, and for over 35 years has been the full-time pulpit minister for churches in Illinois, Missouri, and Kentucky. His current work is in Campbellsville, KY where he has been for almost 12 years.

Edd has a great love for God’s creation and spends as much time as he can out in it and taking photographs of it.

Edd has been married to his wife Julie for 44 years, and they have three children and five grandchildren.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!

Obituaries

Linda (Duke) Sickling

Linda (Duke) Sickling, age 76, of Dongola, passed away on Thursday, Aug. 14, 2025 at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau.

She was born on Dec. 21, 1948 to Cletus and Pauline (Haines) Duke in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

On Feb. 10, 1968, she married George D. Sickling and they have spent over 57 years together and he survives.

Linda was a homemaker and took care of her family. She was always active in supporting her kids and grandkids activities and she never missed a ballgame.

She was a member of Maple Grove Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; her three children, Richie (Vanesa) Sickling, Delinda (Ethan) Juncker, Angie (Cary) Quick; eight grandchildren, Makayla Snell (Charles Bradshaw), Lauren (Colten) Calvert, Clay Juncker, Carli (Billy) Treat, Darrian Quick, Whitney Quick, Owen Quick, and Logan, Quick; great-grandchildren, Estella, River, Tate, Ivy, Walker, and one on the way; siblings, Randy (Darlene) Duke, Sandra Miller, and Ronnie (Sandy) Duke; one sister-in-law, Jeanie Duke; many nieces, nephews, and many other loved ones.



Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by her brother, Wayne Duke.

Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, Aug. 20, with Rev. Clint Nale officiating at Crain Funeral Home in Ullin.

Interment followed the service at Meisenheimer Cemetery.

Crain Funeral Home in Ullin is in charge of arrangements.



Andrea 'Lynn' Ellison

Andrea “Lynn” Ellison, age 74, of Bakersfield, Calif., passed away on Saturday, Aug. 16, 2025, at the Monticello House in Jackson, Mo.

Andrea is survived by her son Richard, daughter-in-law Crystal and grandson Trae Ellison.

Memorials may take the form of contribution to SEMO Pets at semopets.org or mail check to 180 Weston St. Cape Girardeau, MO. 63701.

Arrangements by McCombs Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Jackson, Mo.



Marla Jean (Lingle) McAdoo

Marla Jean (Lingle) McAdoo, age 87, of Anna, passed away on Monday, Aug. 11, 2025 at Deaconess Heartland Hospital in Marion, Ill.

She was born on Aug. 12, 1937 to Delbert and Violet (Sheffer) Lingle in Cairo, Ill.

Marla had worked as a Case Worker for the Illinois Department of Human Services. She enjoyed computer games, fishing, crocheting, ceramics, and playing bingo.

Marla was a member of the Southern Illinois Country Church.

Survivors include her children, Cathy (Ron) Spurlock, James (Janey) McAdoo, and Jay (Tamarah) Jordan; ten grandchildren, Ashley Bridges, Thomas Cody (Heather) Bridges, Jayce (Carly) Jordan, Tarah (Ethan) Thomas, Caleb McAdoo, Miranda Laman, Josh (Kim) Spurlock, Jason (Trisha) Spurlock, Joshua McAdoo, and Hannah McAdoo; several great-grandchildren and one great-grandson.



daughter.

Along with her parents and husband, she is preceded in death by her daughter, Mary Sue Harvey; and two grandsons, Derek Bridges and Dustin Keith McAdoo.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, August 15, 2025 at with Rev. Ken Wilson officiating at Crain Funeral Home in Anna.

Interment followed the service at American Legion Cemetery in Dongola.

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



Anthropology focus of exhibit at SIU

An exhibition in Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Morris Library explores the early decades of anthropology.

“A Study of Man: The Growing Pains of 19th and 20th Century Anthropology,” in the library’s Hall of Presidents and Chancellors, examines the development of anthropology and the academic study of humanity.

The free, public exhibition is scheduled to end Sept. 19. Exhibition hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The exhibition consists of books from the 1890s and early 1900s on anthropology, sociology and criminology, photographs, excerpts from the Open Court journal and chosen pieces of Open Court Publishing Company correspondence.

The Open Court was a multidisciplinary academic journal published monthly between 1887 and 1936 covering a wide range of fields, including science, philosophy, religion and literature.

County board addressed road issues at meeting

Roads were the focus of discussion at the Union County Board of Commissioners’ first regular monthly meeting for August. The meeting was held Friday morning, Aug. 8, at the Union County Courthouse in Jonesboro. New business on the agenda for the meeting included discussion about several local roads.

Concerns have been voiced to the county about speeding on Hess School Road. A request was made to post a 25 mile-per-hour speed limit sign along the road. A speed study would be required to take such action.

News from

First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

This past Sunday, Aug. 17, Pastor Perry Williams spoke in our morning service.

His message addressed the new wine and the gospel which opened new opportunities to win people for Christ. Each generation has a unique language and culture wherein we can witness about Christ to them. His text was found in the fifth chapter of the book of Luke found in the New Testament.

Dee Rose, Music Director, led in worship accompanied by The Praise Team: Chris Rose, Kerry Shipley, Angie Smith, Marlee Smith, Meghan Smith. Our pianist was Debbie York. Marion Hill sang a solo, “I Know Who Holds Tomorrow,” accompanying himself on the chord stick.

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 a Men’s Bible Study at 6 p.m., Monday, Aug. 18. Dig In Children’s Ministries will resume on Wednesday, Aug. 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. This program is for children ages 3 through the 6th grade. Area children are invited to come join in the fun as we study about The Heart of God.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, there will be a Hospitality Potluck meal immediately following the morning worship service at 10 a.m.

Recent birthdays: Brandon Harvel, Walt Jackson and

News from

Anna First Baptist Church

Anna First Baptist Church met for worship on Aug. 17, with Pastor Lupe greeting everyone in the Sanctuary.

Associate Pastor Perry Wright led in our opening Prayer.

Our Announcements and Prayer List were gone over and our Prayer List was lifted up to our Lord in prayer.

Our Call to Worship was led by Menda Cash and was on the Priesthood of the Believer. “For this is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.”

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.” These verses were taken from 1 Timothy in our Bible.

We then gave Honor and Glory to God by Praising His Name with the 100th Psalm.

Our Worship Team led us in three songs, “Thank you Lord,” “See a Victory” and “Waymaker.”

Pastor Lupe Lopez’s sermon was titled “Romans – None Righteous.”

Highlights included, In Romans 2, Paul confronts the self-righteous attitude of those who judge others while committing the same sins themselves. He emphasizes that God’s judgment is impartial and based on truth, not on outward identity or possession of the Law.

School meals addressed at workshop

More than 60 percent of children in Southern Illinois rely on school meals as their primary source of nutrition. That’s why Southern Illinois Healthcare’s Community Benefits team continues to champion School Lunch Rocks, an annual food service workshop designed to support and inspire school meal innovation.

Hosted at the John A. Logan College Conference Center in Carterville on July 31, the 2025 event welcomed food service staff from 36 districts across 14 counties, many which serve high-need, low-income students.

“By helping school staff improve the quality and appeal of those meals, we’re investing in healthier communities long-term,” said Cherie Wright, SIH school health coordinator.

The workshop featured presentations on scratch cooking, local food sourcing, food safety and creative approaches to improve student participation in school meal programs, a news release on the SIH website shared.

For example, Cobden School District uses a scratch cooking grant to serve locally sourced meals, including fresh vegetables and even bison burgers.

Kinnley Shadowens all have birthdays on August 19; Darrell Pender was born August 20; Connor Benbrook and Tom Wright, both born, August 22; Joyce Hill, August 23; and Todd Clary born on August 24. Happy birthday to all!

Currently, our regular schedule for worship at Jonesboro First Baptist includes Sunday School classes on Sundays at 9 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m.; Sunday evening worship at 6 p.m. Youth meet both at 6-7 p.m. on Sundays and 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Our Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study also meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Both Jews and Gentiles are held accountable for their actions, revealing that no one is inherently righteous by their own merit. The moralist who trusts in their own goodness is just as guilty before God as the openly sinful person.

Ultimately, Paul shows that righteousness cannot come from works or heritage but only through God’s righteous judgment and grace.

Associate Pastor Zack Tomkinson led in our Closing Prayer.

Our Sunday morning begins with Sunday School for everyone at 9 a.m., this is for all ages, then our Worship Service and Children’s Church begins at 10:15 a.m.

Our Wednesday Evening Prayer Time and our Youth Program both begin at 6 p.m. Our bus runs for all of these services and programs. To ask about riding our bus, please call our church office. We have other programs and classes, please if you are interested, when you call, ask, we will be happy to tell you about our other programs.

Our facebook.com/Anna-FirstBaptistChurch. Our email is fbcanna409@gmail.com.

Our church is located at 409 Morgan Street in Anna, Illinois. Our phone number is 618-833-5416.

You are welcome to come by and visit anytime. We would love to pray with you, tell you about Jesus and how He has changed our lives.

Maybe lead you to accept Him as your Lord and Savior. Today would be a great day to begin a new day with Jesus as Lord of your Life. God Bless You is our pray for you and your family.

Endowment protects state parks

The Illinois Conservation Foundation, ICF, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, IDNR, is launching a new endowment to protect, preserve and enhance Illinois state parks.

The new Illinois State Parks Endowment will provide long-term, independent funding for critical park infrastructure, accessibility projects, conservation, and programming. The fund will be housed by ICF, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and the official charitable partner of IDNR. All contributions are permanently restricted to support Illinois state parks and cannot be redirected or swept at any time.

The effort comes at a time when national parks are facing decreased funding, reduced staffing and long-term uncertainty with proposals to sell off public land. In Illinois, state parks remain free to enter and continue to see investments in staffing, access and infrastructure. The endowment will help protect these commitments to access, equity and long-term stewardship. To learn more about the endowment, visit ilconservation.org/stateparks.

View Obituaries

Online at

annanews.com

News from

Anna Nazarene Church

Sunday, Aug. 17
The morning worship service was held at 10:35 a.m. on August 17. Announcements were given by Jessica Elkins. The worship service was led by Pastor Wright and the worship team. The message “God’s Word Doesn’t Change” from Deuteronomy 6:6-7, Joshua 1:8, Proverbs 22:6, Psalm 119:11 was brought by Pastor Wright.
The evening message “A Balanced Life” on Aug. 17 at 6 p.m. was brought by Pastor Wright from Proverbs 16:1-3, Galatians 6:2, Hebrews 10:24.
Celebrating a birthday this week is 19th Bill Wright.
Celebrating anniversaries this week are 21st Marshall & Carla Ramage, Bradley & Madison West.
Sunday, Aug. 24
Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service-10:35 a.m. Sunday Evening Service - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 23
Women’s Ministry Luncheon at KiKi’s Coffee-House at 11 a.m.
Saturday and Sunday, August 23-24
Revival with Rev. Kim Smith, Saturday, August 23 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, August 24 at 10:35 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 27
Wednesday Night Service will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Youth Group in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.
You may contact the church by calling the church office at 618-833-6702 and leaving a message if necessary or by calling Pastor Wright at 618-534-7103.



‘Wonderful season’ at Anna City Pool
The Anna City Pool has closed for the summer season, which made it a quiet place last Saturday afternoon. The City of Anna shared on social media that the pool “had a wonderful season.” The city thanked the pool’s lifeguards, pool manager and assistant manager “for all the hard work they did.” The city also thanked a dozen community businesses, organizations and churches which sponsored free swim days for the community, noting that the support was “very much appreciated.”

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



618-893-2861 • 618-534-2391

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



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

Jason Martin, Owner
Visit our website:
triplemeats.com

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

*Serving All of Southern Illinois
Over 30 Years Experience*

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



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

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

Member FDIC

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

YOUR FULL SERVICE DEALER!

- BAG FEED/BULK FEED
- FERTILIZER/CHEMICAL
- SEED
- CUSTOM SPRAYING/SPREADING

- PROPANE
- PETROLEUM/LUBRICANTS
- GPS SOIL TESTING
- PRECISION FARMING



Josh's Heating & Cooling

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

joshuahathy@gmail.com



**Dine-In
Carryout
Delivery**

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

Cardinal Corner



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

GROSS BUSTERS
Exterior Cleaning

Pressure Washing • Deck Staining • Gutter Cleaning
618.697.5968

The Best Things in Life



Photo Credit Istockphoto.com/jgareri

We are the richest country in the world; we build houses for three that can sleep ten; we warm up our cars in the winter without leaving the living room; our car trunk opens with the push of a button, ready to receive our purchases. The list of conveniences is endless; there is little we cannot buy. Then why are so many of us depressed and unfulfilled? We cannot buy peace of mind. Without the spiritual lift that faith in God brings we try to numb our fears with worldly things – and it doesn’t work. Your Heavenly Father waits in His House to give you peace of mind. Won’t you worship this week?

Weekly Scripture Reading						
2 Thess.	1 Timothy	1 Timothy	1 Timothy	1 Timothy	1 Timothy	1 Timothy
3.1-18	1.1-20	2.1-15	3.1-16	4.1-16	5.1-25	6.3-21

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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

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

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



FARMERS STATE BANK

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

Member FDIC



109 Transcraft Drive
Anna, IL 62906
833-8755



**You're Invited!
CrossPointe Church**

409 S. Green St, Anna, IL 62906 (Corner of West Spring and S. Green St)

**Sunday
Worship Service
10:30am**

**Wednesday
Bible Study
7pm**



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



Schaefer Enterprises
Website: www.sewlparts.com

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



THE FIRST STATE BANK OF DONGOLA
Old and Reliable, Established 1906

108 SE Front Street • Dongola, IL 62926
618-827-3451

Member FDIC



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

Apostolic Lighthouse Church



Breakfast and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship service at 10:45 a.m.
Midweek service Wednesday at 7 p.m.

423 S. Front St.
Cobden, IL 51-3GC



Gurley & Son Heating & Air Conditioning
YORK
INSTALL CONFIDENCE
1540 Old Hwy. 51N • Anna, IL
(618) 833-5211
"Hope to see you in church Sunday"



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

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

Serving the area for over 35 years
Gurley & Son Heating & Air Conditioning
YORK
INSTALL CONFIDENCE
1540 Old Hwy. 51N • Anna, IL
(618) 833-5211
"Hope to see you in church Sunday"



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



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

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



Anna STATE BANK

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

Member FDIC



Union County Abstract Office, Inc.

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

The Gazette-Democrat

Classified Section

Anna Office

618-833-2158

classifieds@annanews.com

AD DEADLINE IS 3 P.M. MONDAY

CLASSIFIED RATES

Classifieds35¢ per word

\$8.00 minimum for each paid ad per week

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES

Per inch\$14.00

HELP WANTED

Paraprofessional 9 month. position benefits include sick, personal and bereavement leave Health, dental and vision insurance is available board paid life insurance policy applicants must be able to: work at a fast pace, lift heavy objects, possess some computer skills for required paperwork, display good organizational skills for required paperwork, display good organizational skills, possess a good work ethic and the ability to develop a positive rapport with students and co-workers. Applicants must submit a letter of interest addressed to Dr. Paige Maginel, resume, valid paraprofessional license and three letters of reference to: James Flores, District Secretary Administrative Building Dongola Unit School #66 1000 High Street Dongola, IL 62926 or emailed to jlflores@dongolaschool.com DUSD #66 is an equal opportunity employer. Positions will be filled as soon as possible

Help Wanted Lawn Person needed to help senior citizen mow and trim. All equipment & gas provided. Hourly Wage 618-614-0317

Wanted: Someone to Finish a Quilt 618-967-5221

WANTED

Looking For Acreage with a large pond 618-614-2777

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR 2025-2026 BUDGET
Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Anna-Jonesboro CHSD #81 in the State of Illinois that the tentative budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, is on file and conveniently available for inspection at the District Office, 608 S. Main St., Anna, Illinois, after 8:00 a.m. on the 19th day of August 2025. Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the 22nd day of September 2025, at the AJCHS Library at the address listed above.

8221-957103

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

SIU CREDIT UNION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
MICHAEL BUILA,
UNKNOWN OWNERS and
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendant(s).
2025-FC-11

PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed herein, notice is hereby given to you Unknown Owners and Non-record Claimants, that this cause has been commenced and is pending against you asking that an order be entered foreclosing Plaintiff's mortgage on the following described real estate, situated in the County of Union, State of Illinois, to-wit:

The Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section 12, Township 11 South, Range 1 West of the Third Principal Meridian, and also the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 7, Township 11 South, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian, except two acres in the Northeast corner of the said last named tract bounded as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of last named tract, -thence South forty (40) rods, thence West Eight (8) rods, thence North forty (40) rods, thence East Eight (8) rods to place of beginning; and also excepting a strip of land for road purposes deeded December 7, 1946, recorded March 15, 1947, in Deed Record 82, page 239, to Elliot Addison, situated in Union County, Illinois.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST

Billboard promoting far-right group Proud Boys springs up in Southern Illinois

By Molly Parker
Capitol News Illinois

BREESE, Ill. – A billboard rising from a Clinton County cornfield near Breese that appears to be a recruiting tool for the Proud Boys, a far-right extremist group tied to the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, has touched off outrage in the small Southern Illinois community.

The sign is located at Old U.S. Route 50 and St. Rose Road, about 1,000 feet from the entrance to Central Community High School. It lists a local phone number for people to call. Repeated calls to a phone number on the recruiting billboard went to a voicemail that is full.

Federal prosecutors secured seditious-conspiracy convictions against top Proud Boys leaders for their roles in the Capitol breach, including former chairman Enrique Tarrio, who received a 22-year sentence; he was pardoned by President Donald Trump along with others involved in the insurrection when he returned to office for a second term in January.

Originally the billboard was sitting atop another sign for Hospital Sisters Health Systems of Springfield, which has hospitals in Southern Illinois, including Breese. At 4 p.m., a worker for Lamar Advertising was moving the Proud Boys billboard to the other side. A spokesperson for HSHS acknowledged that the billboard was placed above its existing hospital advertisement.

“An external company sells these billboards individually and we appreciate that the public and our patients understand there is no connection between HSHS and any message or organization represented on a billboard above ours,” the company said in a statement.

The Southern Poverty Law Center lists the Proud Boys as a hate group, and the Anti-Defamation League describes them as extremist; Canada designated the Proud Boys a terrorist entity in 2021. The United States does not maintain a domestic “terrorist list,” but FBI memos have described the group as an “extremist group with ties to white nationalism,” according to media reports.

After the Proud Boys were found guilty of vandalizing an African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., during a December 2020 pro-Trump rally, the church sued the group and Tarrio for hate crimes, vandalism, and conspiracy. A Superior Court judge in Washington granted the church a \$2.8 million judgment and the rights to the group's trademark. But the far-right group has continued to use the name anyway, according to news reports.

Clinton County Board chair Brad Knolhoff told Capitol News Illinois he'd received calls and emails and had asked the county state's attorney to review what, if anything,



A billboard promoting the Proud Boys, a right-wing extremist group, appears in a cornfield in Clinton County, Illinois. Molly Parker, Capitol News Illinois, photo.

the county can do.

“I have forwarded to our state's attorney just so he can look at it,” he said. The county, he explained, typically regulates “the size and the location” of a billboard, “but the language, we don't...and I would estimate, the reason that that's never been the case is just because we're not really the arbiters of speech. The U.S. Constitution is pretty clear on freedom of speech. I think a billboard really falls in that lane no matter what it says.”

Knolhoff said some residents were expected to raise the issue at Monday night's county board meeting on Aug. 18, though the agenda was already finalized last week. “It's not an action item that we have,” he said. Still, he encourages anyone to speak during the public comment period.

Breese resident Drew Kampwerth, who lives about a mile and a half from the billboard, said she first saw it at the end of last week. “It is sickening that they are

putting it in front of a high school,” said Kampwerth, 30, who has four young children.

She said she's concerned that the billboard “is putting out feelers” to impressionable teenagers in a predominantly white community. “They are letting people know there is a safe space for hate and I think that's wrong,” she said. “This shouldn't be made normal in our community.”

Breese Mayor Kevin Timmermann repeated multiple times that the billboard is on county land, though his city is the closest to it. He said the city's legal counsel has cautioned him to “watch what we are saying about it.”

“For me personally, I am very opposed to this. I am totally opposed to it,” Timmerman said. “I am concerned about it, yes. But right now I have no authority over that sign.”

Bill Freivogel, a journalism professor with a media-law background at Southern Illinois University, said the law gives governments little room to police billboard con-

tent, meaning the county “can't force the Proud Boys to take down their billboard,” he said. That doesn't mean they can't protest the content, he said, adding, “they could buy a competing billboard.”

The U.S. Supreme Court has long set limits on when offensive or incendiary speech can be restricted. In Brandenburg v. Ohio in 1969, the Court ruled that speech is protected unless it is intended and likely to incite imminent lawless action. In that case, Ku Klux Klan leader Clarence Brandenburg invited television cameras to a rally where Klansmen burned a cross, carried weapons and delivered racist, anti-Semitic speeches. That precedent has been tested repeatedly since.

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

New Republican to run for Illinois governor

By Ben Szalinski
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – More Republicans are entering races for statewide office after an initially slow start in announcing candidates for the 2026 election.

Illinois Republicans held their annual events around the Illinois State Fair on Thursday, Aug. 14, with former Illinois GOP chair Don Tracy launching a U.S. Senate campaign and Ted Dabrowski, the president of conservative research group Wirepoints, announcing he will launch a campaign for governor in the coming weeks.

The men enter the 2026 race a week after the window opened for candidates to begin collecting signatures that are due to the State Board of Elections at the end of October.

“For 15 years I've been working on reporting on Illinois, on these problems, suggesting a lot of solutions, and what I've seen is the state continue to go downhill,” Dabrowski told reporters.

Dabrowski's Wirepoints.org publishes research and commentary on state policy issues and advocates for conservative solutions on pensions, taxes, governance and other public policy issues. Before joining Wirepoints in 2017, Dabrowski was vice president of policy for the conservative Illinois Policy Institute think tank after spending nearly 20 years in banking.

He said the state's business climate, tax burden and population growth have gotten worse under Gov. JB Pritzker, who is seeking a third term in 2026. Dabrowski said he is focused on improving

reading scores in schools, making life more affordable and creating jobs.

But a major question Republican candidates will have to answer is where they align with President Donald Trump. Dabrowski side-stepped the question on Thursday.

“Illinois' problems having nothing to do with Donald Trump,” Dabrowski said. “He can't fix the property taxes. He can't fix the gas taxes. He can't fix our outmigration. We have to fix it.”

Mendrick Focuses on Crime

Dabrowski is joined by DuPage County Sheriff James Mendrick in the race, who called Medicaid cuts signed by Trump “unsustainable,” but said he believes the president is doing a good job overall.

“I don't really follow the national, the presidential stuff, a whole lot, but I'll be honest with you: so far what I'm seeing, financially, it looks like he's doing pretty good,” Mendrick said. “I can't think of anything that he's doing right now that I would disagree with.”

Mendrick is leaning into his experience as the only elected official in the Republican primary for governor.

“I know how politics works out there,” Mendrick told reporters, saying that he approaches his job with bipartisanship. “I think I can do a lot better than most other candidates.”

Crime is his top issue – an issue former state Sen. Darren Bailey made the center of his unsuccessful 2022 campaign for governor. But the difference, Mendrick said, is he believes he knows how to address public

safety issues because of his work as sheriff.

Mendrick was elected sheriff in 2018 and did not face an opponent in 2022, allowing him to survive a wave of Democratic victories in DuPage County that year. But he still has to convince other Republican leaders to support him.

“He's done a great job as sheriff, but like any other candidate, you got to get out there, and you got to build a base of support,” Senate Republican Leader John Curran, of DuPage County, told reporters.

Both Dabrowski and Mendrick hinted they have some donors lined up willing to fund their campaigns.

Joe Severino, a Lake Forest businessman who has unsuccessfully run for Congress, has also said he will run for governor.

Tracy to Run for Senate

Tracy is getting back into the political arena after resigning as party chair last summer, citing infighting on the party's State Central Committee. Several other candidates have filed paper work with the Federal Election Commission to run for office, but Tracy is the most notable name to enter the Senate race.

Tracy, an attorney from Springfield who unsuccessfully ran for lieutenant governor in 2010, said he plans to self-fund most of his campaign and believes he can attract voters from all sects of the Republican Party.

“It's a team effort,” Tracy told Capitol News Illinois. “But having been state chairman, having run statewide before in 2010, I know people

throughout the state. A lot of people, I think, will help me, and I'll need their help. I'll need the help of all Republicans.”

Tracy has previously been criticized by some in the party for not being more vocal in his support of Trump. At Tracy's last State Fair as party chair in 2023, Trump was largely ignored. But on Aug. 14 Tracy said he supports Trump's agenda.

“The Trump agenda is peace, prosperity and law and order,” Tracy said. “And I think most Americans, including most Illinoisans, support that agenda.”

Voters' affordability concerns will be Tracy's top issue, he said.

“For working families, it's become unaffordable, especially in Illinois, where we have, on top of inflation, we have high taxes,” Tracy said. “It's going to be hard work, but I'm not afraid of hard work.”

Other Races

The choices of statewide candidates for Republican voters in March's primary are still taking shape. No candidates have emerged for comptroller or treasurer, while Bob Fioretti, a Cook County attorney who has unsuccessfully run for numerous offices in both parties, is planning to run for attorney general.

Diane Harris, a Joliet Junior College trustee who is active in Will County Republican groups and unsuccessfully ran for state senate in 2022, is running for secretary of state. She said lines remain too long at drivers services facilities and new policies putting many services online aren't working for everyone.

“Even though this is an online era, not everybody is online,” Harris told Capitol News Illinois, adding that people shouldn't have to make appointments for services that should be available at the offices at anytime.

In legislative races, the Republican leaders in the General Assembly acknowledged the mid-term election for a Republican president coupled with Pritzker likely spending millions to help Democrats could create a challenging year for Republican candidates. But Curran said he is hopeful

“We're going to be very well positioned defend every seat we have. 2026 is going to be about gains for us,” Curran told reporters as 16 of 19 Republican senators, including himself, are up for reelection next year.

Democrats already have two seats to target in the west suburbs after Sen. Don DeWitte, R-St. Charles, and Rep. Amy Grant, R-Wheaton, announced they will not seek reelection. Both have held their seats in districts that have increasingly leaned Democrat in recent elections.

“Whenever Republicans are on top, the Democrats get activated, and vice versa. However, we're not going to give up. We're going to stay activated,” House Minority Leader Tony McCombie, R-Savanna, told reporters.

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

Send Classified

Ads

and Legal Notices

to

classifieds@annanews.com



Warming up for a race
Harness racing was featured Saturday afternoon, Aug. 16, at the Union County Fair in Anna. The fair takes place each year at the Anna City Park. A major improvement project has been underway this summer at the park. A horse and driver were warming up on the track and passed by two mounds of dirt which have been created during the work at the park.

Television Listings

THURSDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	Local Programs	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	Bang (HD)	(4:00) College Basketball (HD)	Big City	"Babygirl" ('24, Thriller) Nicole Kidman. (R)	"Knight and Day"	"Flags of Fathers"
7 PM :30	9-1-1 "Don't Drink"	Marriage Ghosts	Next Level Chef (HD)	Law & Order (HD)		All Elite Wrestling: Collision		Big City		★★★ "The Flash" ('23, Action) Sasha Calle. (PG-13) (HD)	"Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol" ('11)
8 PM :30	Doctor Odyssey (HD)	(:01) Elsbeth (HD)	Farmer Wants a Wife	Law & Order: SVU	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>		Law & Order: SVU	StuGo Kiff	100 Foot Wave (HD)		
9 PM :30	Grey's Anatomy (HD)	Elsbeth (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Found (HD)		"Get Hard" ('15, Comedy) Will Ferrell. (R) (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	The Last of Us (HD)	"Beowulf" ('07) Ray Winstone.	(:15) "Terminator: Dark Fate" ('19) Linda Hamilton. (HD)
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU <i>Sex crimes.</i> (HD)	Wizards	(:55) 100 Foot Wave		
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	"Vacation" Ed Helms.		Bluey	Rehearsal	"Captain Fantastic"	"Oldboy"
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night				Bluey	100 Foot		

MAY 8, 2025

FRIDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Righteous	"Need for Speed"	"Road to Perdition"
7 PM :30	Shark Tank (HD)	NCIS: Sydney (HD)	UFL Football <i>DC Defenders at San Antonio Brahmas</i> (Live)	Grosse Pointe (HD)		"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" ('17) Chris Pratt. (HD)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (HD)		(:28) The Last of Us	"The Purge: Election Year" ('16)	★★★ "Patriots Day" ('17) Mark Wahlberg. (HD)
8 PM :30	(:01) 20/20 <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	Fire Country (HD)		Dateline NBC <i>Investigative news.</i> (HD)	TBA			(:35) Kiff	(:23) "Friday" ('95) Ice Cube. (HD)		
9 PM :30		S.W.A.T. (HD)			To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	(:49) "Captain Marvel" ('19, Action) Brie Larson. (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	Real Time with (HD)	(:49) ★★½ "Under the Silver Lake" ('19, Drama) Andrew Garfield.	(:15) "Green Book" ('18, Drama) Viggo Mortensen. (HD)
10 PM :30	Local	Local	Local Programs	Local			Law & Order: SVU	Hamster	The Last of Us (HD)		
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Hamster		"The Light-house"	"Gangs"
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night	Sports			Big City	(:55) Real Time with		

MAY 9, 2025

SATURDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local	Local Programs	MLB Baseball "Regional Coverage-Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	Local Programs	(5:00) To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	Bang (HD)	(3:30) IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship (HD)	Big City	"Companion" ('25)	"Ghosts Past" ('09)	"Fear the Night" ('23)
7 PM :30	NBA (Live)	FBI: International		The Hunting Party		Bang (HD)		Chiverse		"Dream Scenario" Nicolas Cage.	★★★ "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" ('11) Daniel Craig.
8 PM :30	2025 NBA Play-offs "Teams TBA" (Live) (HD)	48 Hours (HD)		Dateline NBC (HD)	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	Bang (HD)			To Be An- nounced		
9 PM :30		48 Hours (HD)	Local Programs	Saturday Night Live		Bang (HD)	9-1-1 (HD)	Miraculous	(:40) The Last of Us	"House of 1000 Corpses" ('03)	
10 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Next Level Chef (HD)	Local		Bang (HD)	9-1-1 (HD)	Miraculous	"The Silence of the Lambs" Jodie Foster.	(:11) ★★ "The Devil's Rejects" ('05) Sid Haig.	(:45) "Strange Darling" ('24) Willa Fitzgerald.
11 PM :30	Local Programs		Local Programs	Saturday Night Live (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	"There's Something About Mary" ('98) (HD)	9-1-1 (HD)	Chiverse			"Once"
								Big City	"Civil War"		

MAY 10, 2025

SUNDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Home Videos (HD)	60 Minutes (HD)	Next Level Chef (HD)	The Voice <i>Hopetuls coached.</i> (HD)	MLB Baseball <i>Philadelphia Phillies at Cleveland Guardians</i> (Live)	NHL Pre 2025 Stanley Cup Playoffs (Live)	Law & Order: SVU	"Moana" ('16) Dwayne Johnson.	(:03) The Last of Us	The Knick "Whiplash"	The Chi "Long Live"
7 PM :30	American Idol "817" (HD)	Tracker "Echo Ridge"	Simpsons Family Guy				Law & Order: SVU		(:59) The Last of Us	"Scream" ('96, Horror) David Arquette. (HD)	The Chi (HD)
8 PM :30		Watson	Krapopolis (:31) North	Suits LA			Law & Order: SVU	StuGo	Last of Us		MobLand
9 PM :30	(:01) The Pyramid	The Equalizer (HD)	Local Programs	Dateline NBC (HD)	SportsCenter (Live)	2025 Stanley Cup Playoffs (Live)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(:50) The Rehearsal	(:52) "Scream 2" ('97, Horror) David Arquette.	"The Come-back Trail" ('20) Robert De Niro.
10 PM :30	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local	SportsCenter (Live) (HD)		Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Rehearsal		MobLand
11 PM :30		Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Sports		Law & Order: SVU	Wizards	Last Week	(:53) "Scream 3" ('00)	★★★ "Bad Moms" ('16)
								Bluey	The Last of Us		

MAY 11, 2025

MONDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	Local Programs	College GameDay (HD)	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Last Week	"Purge Year" ('16) (R)	"Yuma County" ('24)
7 PM :30	American Idol "818" (HD)	The Price Is Right at Night	Missing Persons (HD)	The Voice "Semi-Final Performances" (HD)		Bang (HD)	WWE Monday Night Raw (HD)	Big City	Rehearsal	"Beowulf" ('07, Fantasy) Ray Winstone. (HD)	MobLand
8 PM :30		NCIS <i>Military crimes.</i>	(:02) America's (HD)		ESPN Films (HD)	Bang (HD)		Big City	(:48) "The Whale" ('22) Brendan Fraser. (HD)	(:45) "Gangs of New York" ('02, Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio. (R) (HD)	
9 PM :30	(:01) Paradise	NCIS: Origins (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Yes, Chef! (HD)		Bang (HD)		Kiff	Jessie	(:55) "Unstoppable" ('10, Thriller)	
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local	SportsCenter (HD)	Dad (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	(:48) "Showing Up" ('23) Michelle Williams.	"Knight and Day" Tom Cruise.	★★½ "Manglehorn" ('15) Al Pacino.
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Dad (HD)		Wizards			
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night		Dad (HD)	Race <i>Alaska race.</i>	Bluey	Last of Us		

MAY 12, 2025

TUESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	MLB Baseball <i>Boston Red Sox at Detroit Tigers</i> (Live)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	(4:58) "Silence" ('91)	"The Boss" ('16) (HD)	"Gladiator" ('00) (HD)
7 PM :30	Will Trent (HD)	FBI "Devoted" (HD)	The Cleaning Lady	Medical Night (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Rehearsal	"He's Just Not That Into You" Ben Affleck.	"The Girl on the Train" ('16) Emily Blunt.
8 PM :30	The Rookie (HD)	FBI: International	Alert (HD)	The Voice (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	Big City	"Eternal Sunshine of Mind" ('04) Jim Carrey.		
9 PM :30	(:01) Bad Romance	FBI: Most Wanted	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Joan Rivers	To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	MLB on TBS	Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	ZOMBIES	★★½ "Good Hair" ('09) Chris Rock.	★★★ "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" ('11) Daniel Craig.
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Family	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous	Last of Us		
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Family	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	(:15) "Friday" ('95) Ice Cube. (HD)	"The Martian" ('15) Matt Damon.	
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night		Family	Law & Order: SVU	Bluey	"Friday"		"Girl Pool"

MAY 13, 2025

WEDNESDAY

	ABC	CBS	FOX	NBC	ESPN	TBS	USA	DISN	HBO	MAX	PARSHO
6 PM :30	Local Programs	Local Programs	(5:00) Local Programs	Local Programs	NBA (HD)	Bang (HD)	SVU (HD)	Big City	"Means War"	"Morgan" Kate Mara.	"Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol" ('11)
7 PM :30	Celebrity Wheel of Fortune	Survivor <i>Deserted island.</i> (HD)	Dirty Dozen	Chicago Med (HD)	(:43) To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>	Bang (HD)	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	Rehearsal		
8 PM :30	Jeopardy! Masters	TMZ Investigates	Chicago Fire (HD)	Chicago P.D. (HD)		All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite	Law & Order: SVU	Big City	"Lady Bird" ('17) Saoirse Ronan.	"A Cure for Wellness" ('17, Horror) Dane DeHaan. (HD)	"Mission: Impossible Rogue Nation" ('15)
9 PM :30	Celebrity Jeopardy!	The Amazing Race (HD)	Local Programs <i>Local info.</i>	Chicago P.D. (HD)	(:05) To Be An- nounced <i>Info unavailable.</i>		Law & Order: SVU	Kiff	(:35) "Barbie" ('23, Comedy) Margot Robbie.		
10 PM :30	Local	Local		Local		Family	Law & Order: SVU	Miraculous		(:27) ★★ "The Killing of a Sacred Deer" ('17)	(:15) "Cop Land" ('97) Sylvester Stallone. (HD)
11 PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) Late Show (HD)	Local Programs	(:35) Tonight (HD)		Family	Law & Order: SVU	Jessie	Last of Us		
	Nightline	Midnight		Late Night	SC (HD)	Family	SVU (HD)	Bluey	(:18) 100 Foot Wave	"Lighthouse"	

MAY 14, 2025

Illinois jobless rate 4.6 percent in July

The Illinois Department of Employment Security, IDES, reported Aug. 14 that total nonfarm payrolls were nearly unchanged over-the-month in July, down 2,500 to 6,165,600. The June monthly change in payrolls was revised from the preliminary report, from an increase of 9,400 to an increase of 2,300.

Illinois industry sectors with the largest over-the-month jobs increases in-

cluded construction, trade, transportation and utilities, and private education and health services.

The unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in July, unchanged from the previous month, based on preliminary data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS. The revised June unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.6 percent. The July payroll jobs estimate and unemploy-

ment rate reflect activity for the week including the 12th.

The number of unemployed workers was 300,700, down 2.1 percent from the prior month. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment. An individual who exhausts or is ineligible for benefits is still reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

THURSDAY

7:00pm CBS Georgie & Mandy's First Marriage "Ladies Love Brunch" Georgie struggles to balance his mother, his mother-in-law, and Mandy on Mother's Day; Audrey asks to meet Connor's girlfriend. TVPG (HD)
9:00pm ABC Grey's Anatomy "Love You Like a Love Song" Special visitors arrive on Jo and Link's wedding day; Lucas and Simone disagree on how to treat a patient's worsening condition; a familiar face looks for help. TV14 (HD)

FRIDAY

7:23pm HBO Friday ★★ (1995, Comedy) Ice Cube, Chris Tucker. As two friends relax, smoke and drink on a porch in Los Angeles, colorful neighborhood characters try to entice them with crime, sex, drugs and more. R (HD)
8:49pm MAX Under the Silver Lake ★★½ (2019, Mystery) Andrew Garfield, Riley Keough. When a man meets a mysterious woman in his apartment's swimming pool, he embarks on a journey to discover the truth behind her disappearance. R

SATURDAY

7:00pm NBC The Hunting Party "Clayton Jessup" The team races to recapture a serial killer that looks for happy families to attack before it is too late; Bex realizes who she can and cannot trust. TV14 (HD)
10:00pm TBS There's Something About Mary ★★ (1998, Comedy) Cameron Diaz, Matt Dillon. A man who is still obsessing over a girl from high school 13 years later hires a detective to find her, and the detective lies in order to woo her for himself. R TV14 (HD)

SUNDAY

7:00pm MAX Scream ★★ (1996, Horror) David Arquette, Neve Campbell. A year after the murder of her mother, a teen's friends and acquaintances begin falling prey to a killer obsessed with horror movies. R (HD)
9:01pm ABC The \$100,000 Pyramid "Malin Akerman vs Tom Papa and Tori Spelling vs Brian Austin Green" Actors Malin Akerman and Tom Papa compete before a "90210" reunion takes place with actors Brian Austin Green and Tori Spelling facing off. TVPG (HD)

MONDAY

7:48pm HBO The Whale ★★½ (2022, Drama) Brendan Fraser, Sadie Sink. A teacher's depression has led to his morbid obesity; after eight years he decides to reconnect with his estranged daughter in the hopes of making amends. R (HD)
9:01pm ABC Paradise "You Asked for Miracles" Sinatra hopes to keep things steady in Paradise; Xavier and Robinson put their plans into action.

TUESDAY

7:00pm ABC Will Trent "Listening to a Heartbeat" After a domestic terrorist group organizes a mysterious biological attack in Atlanta, Will and the others rush to save lives; Will deals with his family. TV14 (HD)
9:00pm NBC Joan Rivers: A Dead Funny All-Star Tribute The comedy community honors late comic Joan Rivers by adding their own personal spin to her best bits to account for today's social and cultural landscape.

WEDNESDAY

8:35pm HBO Barbie ★★ (2023, Comedy) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling. A woman and her boyfriend from a colorful world get the chance to go to the real world, but they soon discover the joys and perils of living among humans. PG-13 (HD)
9:27pm MAX The Killing of a Sacred Deer ★★ (2017, Thriller) Nicole Kidman, Colin Farrell. A married pair of doctors see their perfect world threatened when an unusual young man, whose father died on the operating table, is taken under their wing. R (HD)

Opinion and Commentary

Back to school safety highlighted

With a new school year underway, the Anna Police Department and the Illinois State Police are sharing some important safety tips.

Slow Down, Stay Focused

The Anna Police Department is urging drivers to Slow Down, Stay Focused and be mindful of children and school traffic. The department’s patrol officers will be increasing patrols in school zones and will be focusing on distracted driving, speeding and seatbelt violations.

The department reminds parents who are dropping off their children to make sure they stay buckled in until you stop at the drop-off line. The Anna Police Department’s goal is to keep school zones as safe as possible for the community’s children during the 2025-2026 school year.

School Speed Zones, Buses

The Illinois State Police remind motorists about school zone speed laws and sharing the road safely with buses as schools around the state open their doors for the new academic year.

Motorists are required to slow down in school zones. Posted school zones have a speed limit of 20 miles per hour and are in effect from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on school days when children are present. Driving while talking or texting on a hand-held cellular device is strictly prohibited and fines are increased within a school zone.

Adults are encouraged to promote safe walking habits with their children, including using sidewalks, crossing the street at designated crosswalks, and not walking in-between cars.

The majority of students transported by bus to or from school are injured or killed while outside the bus. Most children injured in the area around the bus, often called the “danger zone,” are struck by motorists who fail to stop for the flashing red lights and extended stop arm.

Motorists approaching a stopped school bus with its visual signals activated, lights and extended stop sign must stop their vehicle at least 20 feet before reaching the school bus. When a school bus stops on a two-lane roadway and uses its visual signals, vehicles in both directions must stop until the school bus turns off its visual signals. When the school bus stops and uses its visual signals on a one-way roadway, regardless of the number of lanes of traffic, all traffic must stop.

When the school bus stops on a four or more-lane roadway with at least two lanes of traffic traveling in the opposite direction, only those traveling in the same direction as the school bus must stop.

State law requires school buses to stop for railroad crossings. If you are approaching a stopped school bus at a railroad crossing from the opposite direction, you may proceed past with caution. If you are approaching from the rear, in the same direction as the bus, and are within 100 feet from the railroad crossing, the law prohibits driving over the center line to pass the bus.

A first-time violation for failing to stop for a school bus unloading/loading while its lights are activated and stop arm extended can result in a mandatory \$300 fine and a three-month suspension of driving privileges.

Caring for veterans

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, and the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, IDVA, is launching two new public service announcements, PSAs, to raise awareness, spread hope and spark meaningful action around veteran suicide and prevention.

In the new PSAs, IDVA director Terry Prince outlines free and confidential resources veterans can access, including the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Veterans, active service members and their loved ones can reach caring, qualified Veterans Crisis Line responders by calling 988 and pressing 1, texting 838255 or chatting online.

“We all have a role in preventing veteran suicide, and I invite everyone across the state to join the crusade in raising awareness and providing support to veterans in crisis,” Prince said in a news release.

The new PSAs debut at a time when the suicide rate for veterans is 71.8 percent higher than for non-veteran U.S. adults. Since the start of the Global War on Terror, more than 30,000 active-duty personnel and veterans of post-9/11 conflicts have died by suicide, compared to 7,000 U.S. service members who have died in combat.

During Suicide Prevention Month, we take time to remind veterans, service members and their families that they are not alone. When veterans access the right support before a crisis happens, lives can be saved.

For more information about veteran suicide prevention, visit veterans.illinois.gov or mentalhealth.va.gov.

SIU annual library fundraising gala slated

The annual Friends of Morris Library fall fundraising gala, which helps to provide faculty, staff and students with essentials in support of the library’s educational and scholarly mission, is set for Saturday, Sept. 6, in the library’s Hall of Presidents and Chancellors and first floor rotunda.

The gala is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will include live music from SIU School of Music faculty and students and food catered by Hunan Restaurant. The library’s Special Collections Research Center, SCRC, will receive a collection of man-

uscripts for plays about the early years of coal mining in Southern Illinois. SCRC will provide a display of other relevant items in the collection and give a presentation on other materials in the library.

Individual tickets and sponsorships are available online at siuf.org or by checks payable to Friends of Morris Library and mailed to SIU Foundation, Colyer Hall, Mail Code 6805, Carbondale, Ill. 62901. Ticket sales end Aug. 29.

More information about the event is available in the library’s administrative office at 618-453-2522 or by email at adminoffice@lib.siu.edu.

Please read this...

Taking comfort in wind chill of 95 degrees...

The sun was shining bright. A breeze was blowing. Seemed like the perfect time to go for a walk on a Sunday afternoon. Of course, the fact that a breeze was blowing did not seem like anything new. A breeze always seems to be blowing these days.

Oh. Did I mention that the temperature was 94 degrees at the time? And that the heat index was 104 degrees? Given those conditions, a wise person, such as The Other Half, would have stayed indoors, where things were nice and cool. She is wise. She stayed indoors.

Since the weather was so comfy, I headed out for my daily walk. Let’s just say the pace for the walk was, in a word, slow. A fellow traveler on The Journey Through Life suggested that I was crazy to go for a walk in such conditions. Yup. In some ways, it was not much worse than wandering through the tail end of an ice storm we had last winter. Seems so long ago.

Our latest round of Easy Bake Oven temperatures in the great outdoors has been turning what little bit of grass we have in the front yard nice and crispy, with a hint of brown. The Other Half’s tomato plants continue to wilt. She apparently is not the only one facing a challenge with tomatoes this year. Weeds, on the other hand, have not been bothered by the heat.

By the way...on Monday, yours truly actually waited until about the time the sun was setting and went for an evening walk. Conditions were much more comfortable than they were Sunday afternoon. The temperature was a chilly 90 degrees. And the heat index was a mere 101. I put on my coat and headed out. The coat was needed because there actually was a wind chill of 95.5 degrees Monday afternoon. I assume it was even colder by the time I went for a walk.

Meanwhile...

Oh, deer. No deer. Too hot, seemed clear. Or so it seemed last Sunday evening when I took a bit of a drive along one of the country roads in Union County. Truth be told, I did not see much of anything moving about in the “cool of the evening.” Except for a groundhog. Really. In Anna.

Meanwhile...

Ugh. Say it isn’t so...

One day last week, I was catching up on the latest batch of USA TODAY newspapers which arrived in the mail. Sometimes, I will receive four or five of ‘em at a time. I do not know why that happens. And, as I have mentioned in the past, given the publication dates of the paper that do arrive, they would be more appropriately called USA YESTERDAY.

Anyway...I happened to read a Major League Baseball Power Rankings update in the August 5 edition of the paper. The rankings offer a brief look at all of MLB’s teams, in order of their strength at the time.

The Milwaukee Brewers were number one on the list. Fair enough. They have been playing really well. Number two went to the Chicago Cubs. Believe me, that was hard to type. With that being said, good on the Cubbies and their fans.

The St. Louis Cardinals were at...number...18. Sigh. “.500 looking like their destiny,” the paper was kind enough to share. Double sigh. That’s all I’m going to say.

Enough whining...

Meanwhile...

I finally saw one. A bear. Right out there in the backyard. Munching on some sort of tasty tidbit growing in The Other Half’s garden. Well. Not really. The Critter was not a bear. It was what appeared to be a very well fed groundhog.

Rocky Raccoon paid a return visit to our front porch last Thursday night. Hadn’t seen Rocky in a while.

Meanwhile...

Four. Maybe five. In about an hour.

That’s how many meteors I was able to spot last week while standing outside in the dark on a warm and humid night in Southern Illinois.

The Perseid Meteor Shower peaked during the night of August 12 and into the early hours of August 13. If you happen to like standing out in the dark looking for a meteor to streak across the sky, the Perseids are a wonderful opportunity to do just that.

Supposedly, the best time to watch the Perseids last week was between midnight and dawn. That was fine and dandy,

The Cat's Meow

By Cobden Spay Neuter Coalition

Just to give an understanding of the scope of the problem, did you know that the average unspayed cat will give birth to 2-3 litters per year? Average litter size is 4-7 kittens. Half of each litter will also likely be females, able to reproduce at the age of 6 months.

Unchecked, this one cat and her offspring can produce literally hundreds of kittens in just a few years.

The problem and heartbreak goes beyond the numbers. This situation is costly, not just to the municipalities we live in, but also in terms of the suffering and horrible fates many of the unwanted and uncared for kittens and cats endure. Spaying and neutering is the one and only humane solution to these issues. Talk to and educate your family, friends, and neighbors about the enormity of this issue and the importance of spaying and neutering their companion animals.

And hey, let’s give a big shoutout to the animal rescuers and animal care givers out there. There’s no such thing as too hot, too cold, too wet or too difficult to prevent these intrepid,

dedicated volunteers from doing the job at hand. Think how much worse the problem would be without them. So, give them a hand and support them however you can.

Other ways of helping are to like and follow CSNC’s Facebook page, donate to CSNC, and volunteer to assist with various aspects of the effort or to help with and develop fundraising events. Remember, community coming together can humanely and significantly reduce the cat overpopulation problem in the county.

Again, be sure and mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept. 20. The Cobden Community Block Party is slated for that day, and CSNS will be there with some fun fundraising activities.

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



Bear out there? Well. No. Just a big ol’ groundhog looking for a snack in The Other Half’s garden. Guess that’s about as close to seeing a bear as will happen in our backyard. And that, I suppose, is a good thing.



Just thought you might like this photo of two tiger swallowtail butterflies which made a stop on a butterfly bush growing in The Other Half’s garden. I cannot tell you whether groundhogs like to munch on butterfly bushes.

except for the fact that the time coincided with when I like to sleep. So, I went outside between about 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. instead.

I’m pretty sure I spotted four meteors. Maybe one more. One of the meteors was quite impressive, leaving a streak of white across part of the sky.

I also saw lots satellites way up there. Lots of lightning bugs, too. They kind of fooled me, which doesn’t take much, when they streaked through the air...kind of looking like meteors.

And I think I saw a UFO that was traveling through a partly overcast sky, heading south to north. Whatever I saw looked like a tiny oblong light, with filaments coming out of the light. ET? More likely a space groundhog.

That’s about enough for this week...

SIU to showcase programs, offerings at Du Quoin State Fair

Southern Illinois University Carbondale plans to showcase its programs and services to the region and beyond at the 2025 Du Quoin State Fair.

From the Aug. 22 Twilight Parade, the SIU Day/Coal Heritage Day on Aug. 30 and a new feature throughout the 10-day fair, Saluki Central, the roundhouse in front of the main grandstand, fairgoers will quickly know that they are in Saluki country.

The fair runs Aug. 22 through Labor Day, Sept. 1. The fairgrounds are open from noon to midnight.

This year’s SIU attractions are scheduled to include:

Aug. 22 Twilight Parade: Chancellor Austin Lane, the 175-member Marching Salukis, Saluki Spirit teams, Dawg Pound members and WSIU will all be a part of the Twilight Parade that begins at 6 p.m. inside the fairgrounds. Former SIU System president Glenn Poshard will serve as grand marshal.

Saluki Central at the Fair: Adorned with Saluki maroon flags and banners, Saluki Central will be the place to go for information about SIU Carbondale. The SIU

Alumni Association will provide information and swag, University Bookstore will have all Saluki apparel and gifts, Saluki Athletics will feature ticket promotions and sales and information about upcoming seasons and WSIU and the Daily Egyptian student-run newspaper will have giveaways.

Other campus units and departments in the roundhouse at various times will include the Office of Innovation and Economic Development, STEM Education Research Center and University Communications and Marketing.

The STEM Education Research Center plans to host Spaceship Earth, located next to the roundhouse, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Aug. 23, 24 and 30, and from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 29.

Aug. 30 SIU Day: SIU activities will be from noon to 3 p.m. in the air-conditioned Second Heat building, located on Midway Drive across from the walk-in plaza (Gates 5-6) and an adjacent outdoor area. Parking is free for all SIU students, faculty and staff with a valid ID.