



Talk around Town

MADISON COUNTY NEWSLETTER



GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT MADISON COUNTY

MAY 2023



May 5 & 6
St. Jacob City-Wide Garage Sale 2023
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
St. Jacob



May 6
IBSC Horse Soow-Barrel Racing and Pole Bending Jackpot
9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Illinois Boots and Saddle Club Arena
3043 Harris Lane, Alton

ALN Alton Little Theater presents...
Ding Dong
By Marc Camoletti and Tudor Gates
Directed by Lee Cox
Published by Concord International

Evenings:
May 5, 6, 10,
11, 12 & 13
Matinees:
May 7 & 14,
2023

2450 N. Henry Street, Alton



May 6



Kentucky Derby Party at Mac's Downtown Alton
Derby Day at 1818 Chophouse in Edwardsville
Derby Day at Faimont Park Race Track in Collinsville

May 5
Cinco De Mayo



May 6
Mother's Day Market Route 66 Creamery
Noon to 4 p.m.
11 South Old Route 66, Hamel



CLIMB THE ROCK WALL | DISCOVER OUTDOOR FUN | TRY OUT ARCHERY

RAIN OR SHINE

THE NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS MUSEUM
REC FEST
RECREATION • EXPLORATION • CONSERVATION

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

SATURDAY
MAY 13
10 AM - 4 PM
NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS MUSEUM
ALTON, ILLINOIS

QR CODE | SCAN

20+ OUTDOOR/SAFETY ACTIVITY STATIONS
TOURS OF HELVIN PRICE LOCKS AND DAM

FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT
PIASA HARBOR NEW ISLAND NAMES ANNOUNCED

May 29



ANA POPOVIC - The Power Tour
Heartsfield
THOMAS JEFFERSON "The Man and the Legacy" live
starring Colonial Williamsburg's Kurt Smith
WILLIAM LEE MARTIN - Comedy Stampede Tour
ZEBRA
Brooklyn Charmers - The Music Of Steely Dan
LEO KOTTKE



Out & About

in Madison County

Madison County Board member Alison Lamothe and Chairman Kurt Prenzler too part in an Earth Day Event on April 22 where they picked up litter along the roadways near the Roxana Landfill.



Madison County Board members Matt King and Robert Pollard attended a ribbon cutting on April 18 at 14th Street Park in Wood River for the new pickleball courts.

The Wood River Park and Recreation Department with partial funding by the **Madison County Park Enhancement grant** installed 4 new pickleball courts at the Park.



Madison County Child Advocacy Center held the Riverbend Growth Association's Member Mingle on April 12 in Wood River.

The morning event brought out more than 50 RBGA members, who toured the CAC to learn what it is the department does within Madison County.

The CAC is celebrating its 20th anniversary as well as recognized April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.





FARMER'S MARKET List



Alton Farmers' and Artisans' Market

<https://downtownalton.com/events/alton-farmers-artisans-market/>

Bethalto Market in Park

<https://www.bethaltomarketinthepark.org/>



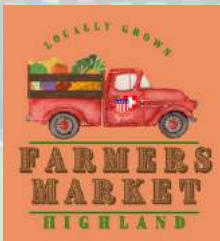
East Alton Farmer's Market

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/26387591029>
1318/



Land of Goshen Community Market

<https://www.goshenmarket.org/>



Highland Farmer's Market

Maryville Farmer's Market

<https://www.facebook.com/MaryvilleILFarmersMarket/>



New Douglas Farmer's Market



Wood River Farmers' Market

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wood%20River%20Farmers%20Market/38387623500>
1597/



Granite City Melting Pot Market

https://www.facebook.com/MeltingPotMarket/?ref=page_internal

EAT FRESH, EAT LOCAL



Madison County recognizes Mental Health Awareness Month

According to Mental Health America, while one in five people experience a mental illness during their lifetime, everyone faces challenges in life that can impact their mental health.

Each year during May, Madison County highlights the importance of mental health in every aspect of our lives and our communities.

“May is Mental Health Awareness Month,” Director of the Madison County Mental Health Board Deborah Humphries said. “The Mental Health Board joins the national movement to raise awareness about mental health and more importantly encourage acceptance of those who struggle with a mental health disorder.”

Humphries said mental health disorders are one of the top three public health issues in Madison County.

“Mental health is an important part of our overall health,” she said. “Mental health will affect millions of individuals this year. The reality is locally we are seeing a significant increase in individuals seeking mental health services, and youth and adults in crisis and/or contemplating suicide.”

In 2022, one of Madison County’s community mental health centers reported receiving 190,366 calls, an average of 15,800 per month, and admitted 6,118 new individuals. The two providers of mobile crisis services responded to 3,180 crisis events with 147 youth presenting in crisis in one month and close to 100 every month. There were 44 reported deaths by suicide.

“Each year we fight against stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for legislative policy that support persons with mental illness and their families,” Humphries said.

She said the Mental Health Board provides funding for 17 local mental health, substance use, and intellectual/developmental disability providers and a multitude of mental health trainings, specialty camps, support groups and other behavioral health services.

“With the growing number of individual’s experiencing mental health issues, we want to encourage everyone to prioritize their mental health and help spread the word there is help and resources available,” she said.

Check out the Madison County Mental Health Board Resource Directory for local resources. Visit

https://cms4files.revize.com/madisoncountyilus/document_center/MentalHealth/Resource%20Directory%20Revised%202.3.23.pdf or

click the QR code.



In 2022 Madison County's

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DID YOU KNOW?



21%

of adults are experiencing a mental illness. Equivalent to over 50 million Americans.

15%

of adults had a substance use disorder in the past year.

93.5%

did not receive treatment.

The percentage of adults reporting serious thoughts of suicide is

4.8%

– over 12.1 million adults.

11%

of adults who identified with two or more races reported serious thoughts of suicide.

16%

of youth report suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the past year.

More than 2.7 million youth are experiencing severe major depression.

55%

of adults with a mental illness receive no treatment – over 28 million individuals.

11%

(over 5.5 million) of adults with a mental illness are uninsured.

60%

of youth with major depression do not receive mental health treatment.

In the U.S., there are

350

Individuals for every one mental health provider.

28%

of all adults with a mental illness reported that they were not able to receive the treatment they needed.

Most reported they did not receive care because they could not afford it.

23%

of adults who report experiencing 14 or more mentally unhealthy days each month were not able to see a doctor due to costs.

1 in 10

youth with private insurance do not have coverage for mental or emotional difficulties – over 1.2 million youth.



Madison County State's Attorney releases annual report

The Madison County State's Attorney's Office released its 2022 Annual Report last month as part of his ongoing commitment to being accountable and transparent.

State's Attorney Thomas A. Haine said the report shows his office prosecuted a record number of felony cases in 2022, as well as showing a significant reduction in vehicle thefts in Madison County. The report shows the State's Attorney's Office prosecuted 4,451 cases to conclusion in 2022, topping the previous high mark of 4,320 cases resolved in 2021.

"I could not be more proud of our fantastic team at the State's Attorney's Office," Haine said. "One of our primary goals for the year was to reduce a case backlog that developed during Covid's restrictions on the court. This achievement is a testament to the hard work of our prosecutors and staff, and to our collaboration with judges, police agencies and all the other entities involved in our criminal justice system in Madison County."

As a result of that effort, the number of open felony cases at the end of 2022 stood at 4,749. That is a year-to-year decrease of nearly 1,000 open felony cases. There were 5,694 open felony cases at the end of 2021.

The report notes that resolving cases in a timely manner is of paramount importance in the criminal justice system, because for the victims of crime, justice delayed is justice denied. In addition, if cases languish, they become more difficult to successfully prosecute. The memories of witnesses can fade, and some witnesses or parties to a case can become impossible to locate, or possibly even pass away.

Another highlight from the report was that vehicle thefts in Madison County dropped 12.1 percent in 2022, and have dropped 23.7 percent since 2020. The number of vehicle thefts reported in Madison County fell to 486 in 2022, the lowest number since 2018. There were 553 vehicle thefts reported in 2021. Vehicle thefts peaked in 2020, when 637 were reported in the county.

This downward trend is reflected in the number of charges filed by Haine's office in relation to vehicle thefts: a record high of 255 in 2021, then a decrease to 191 in 2022.

"Vehicle thefts have plagued our region and are a growing concern across the country, but I'm happy to report that we seem to be bucking that trend," Haine said. "My hope is that a message is being sent: That police and prosecutors in Madison County take car thefts seriously. We will continue to keep the pressure on criminals and reduce crime wherever we can."

The report is hopeful that the creation of the **Cross-River Crime Task Force** and increased implementation of Automated License Plate Readers have contributed to the reduction in car thefts.

2022:
By the Numbers

\$5.489 million

Total Budget, including state grants

\$78,000

Amount under budget

\$3.7 million

Opioid settled secured for Madison County

20,349

New Misdemeanor, Traffic, DUI charges filed

4,451

Felonies prosecuted to conclusion

3,231

New Felony charges

35

Full and Part-Time Assistant State's Attorney's (all divisions)

20

Assistant State's Attorney's (FT AND PT) Felony Division

12

Defendants charged with murder, attempted murder, involuntary manslaughter or combo

3

Lawsuits against governor

1

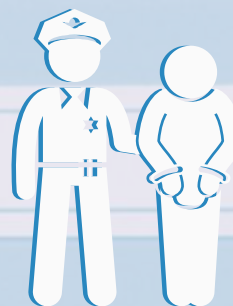
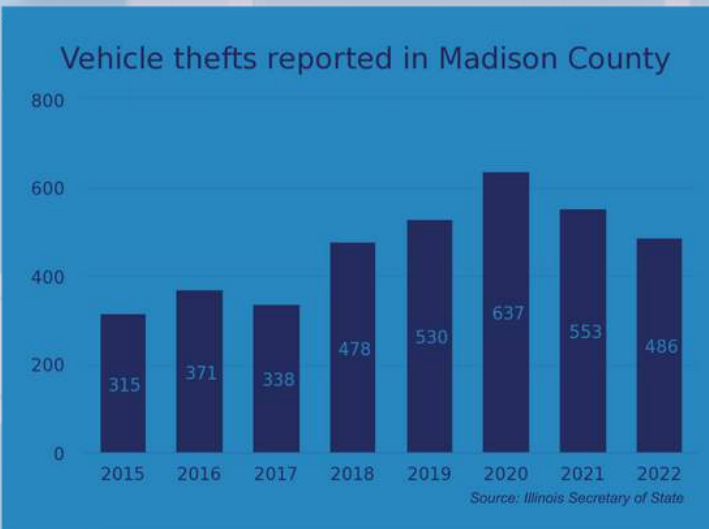
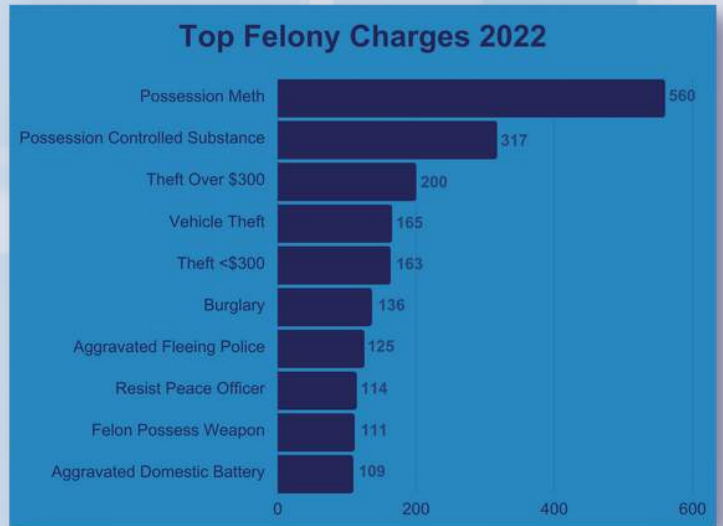
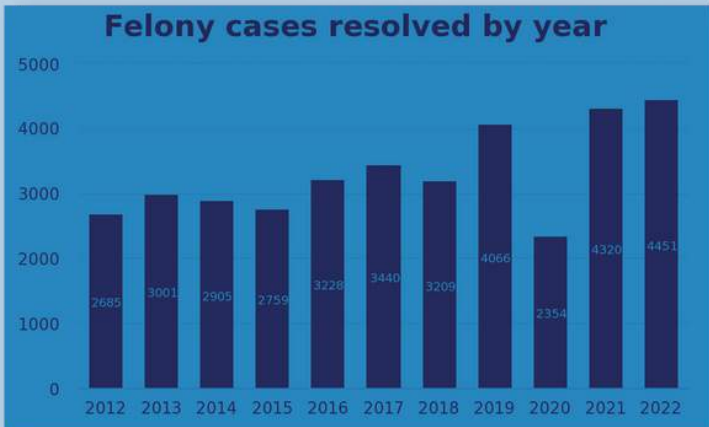
Support dog Fltz

Other highlights from the 2022 report include:

- Murder convictions for defendants in two separate cases involving deaths of police officers. One defendant received a life sentence in connection with the death of Pontoon Beach Police Officer Tyler Timmins. The other defendant received a sentence of life in prison, plus 13 years, for the death of Brooklyn Officer Brian Pierce Jr.
- Three separate lawsuits filed against the Governor's office. The suits involved: the SAFE-T Act, a months-long backlog of County Jail inmates awaiting transfer to state facilities after being declared unfit to stand trial, and the political gerrymandering of Madison County's judiciary into geographic sub-circuits.

- The county's \$3.7 million share of a settlement in a lawsuit against opioid distributors.'

"It is an honor to serve as State's Attorney, and work with so many incredible professionals every day," Haine said. "These are public servants, dedicated to fighting for victims and supporting the rule of law. I'm grateful that the Madison County Board, and the citizens of Madison County, view public safety a top priority, and support the efforts of this office. My pledge is that the State's Attorney's Office will continue to work hard to earn their confidence and support as we fight for a safer community for everyone in the years ahead."





Madison County recognizes National Nurses Month in May

Madison County is celebrating nurses countywide during the annual recognition of National Nurses Month in May.

As the largest group of healthcare professionals, nurses make vital contributions to individuals, families, and communities around the world. Nurses bring a vast knowledge and expertise to every health care setting across a wide range of specialties, serving patients and communities throughout the continuum of life and care.

The American Nursing Association's 2023 theme "You Make a Difference" is to honor the varying nursing roles and the positive impact they leave on everyone's lives. The month-long celebration is divided into four weekly focus areas — Self-Care, Recognition, Professional Development, and Community Engagement.

Madison County would like to recognize the 12 nurses and two medical assistants who work at the Health Department and the County Jail.

Public Health Administrator Doug King said there is a team of 10 nurses who work for the Health Department. He said nurses provide more than routine immunizations, although they are an important part of clinic activities, they also perform lead screenings, infant hearing screenings, fluoride applications, STI testing and treatment, TB testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, blood draws for titers, and more.

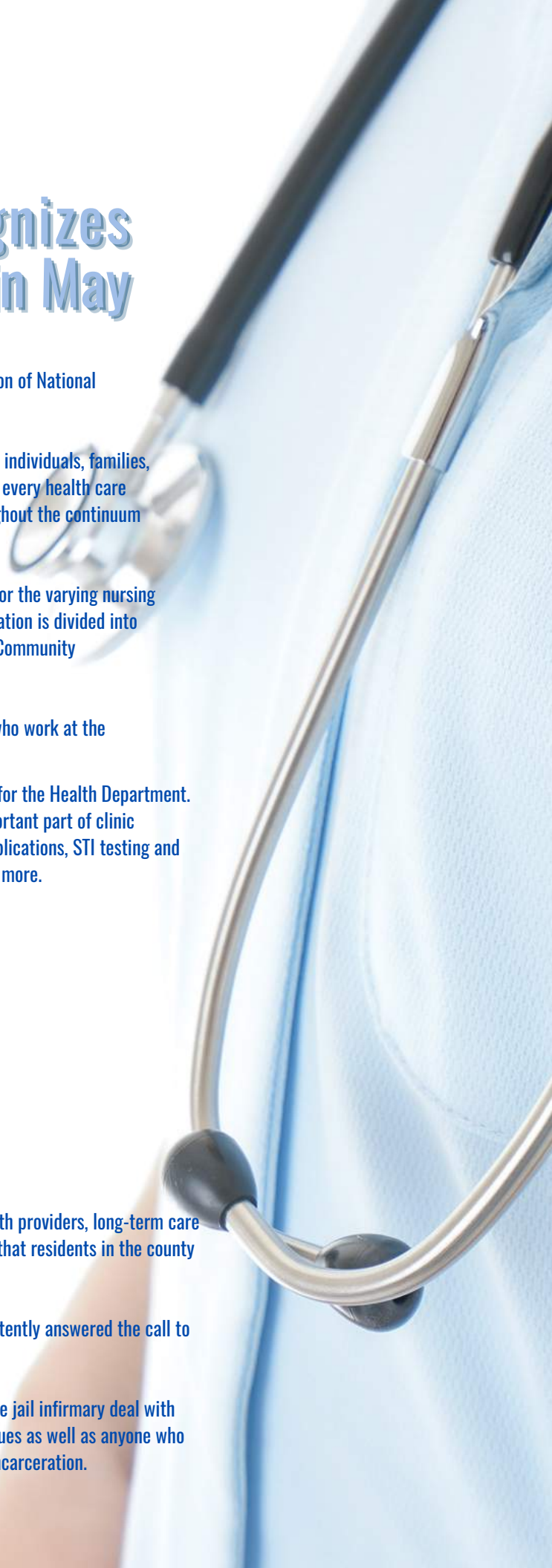
In addition to clinic activities nurses manage programs including:

- Lead case management for children with lead poisoning
- Hearing and vision screenings in preschools and daycares
- Breast and Cervical cancer screening and case management
- Communicable disease surveillance and control
- HIV Prevention
- International travel consultations
- Referrals for genetic disorders or developmental delays
- Home visits
- Offsite clinics

King said the nurses collaborate with community partners like schools, mental health providers, long-term care facilities, community based organizations and more to provide services and assure that residents in the county can access needed services.

"During these past several years nurses faced challenging times, but they've consistently answered the call to serve," he said.

Sheriff Jeff Connor agreed. He said the two nurses and two medical assistants at the jail infirmary deal with lots of challenges. He said beside COVID the staff deals with preexisting health issues as well as anyone who may need medical attention or experiences an illness or injury that occurs during incarceration.





Ten Ways Public Health Nurses (PHNs) Improve Health

Optimal health is largely the result of a person's social and physical environments. As the largest segment of the health care workforce and the most trusted profession, nurses are leading the way to transform health and health care by focusing on the social determinants of health and the places where people live, learn, work, worship and play.

PHNs advance the health of individuals, families and communities using a distinct skill set. This skill set includes consistent utilization of the nursing process; application of critical thinking skills; and decision-making informed by science and evidence. These unique skills overlay all of the "Ten Ways" that PHNs improve health as described below.

1

Prevent

PHNs work inside and outside clinic walls to prevent conditions such as obesity, diabetes, injuries, school absenteeism, infant mortality, and spread of communicable diseases.

2

Educate

PHNs educate individuals, families, communities and stakeholders about healthy behaviors, environments, and policies that make the healthy choice the easy choice.

3

Coordinate

PHNs coordinate and integrate care and services across the lifespan to improve individual and population health outcomes, improve health equity and reduce costs.

4

Protect

PHNs protect people by educating about environmental hazards, preparing for emergencies and mobilizing during disasters.

5

Lead

PHNs lead evidence-based quality practice and policy changes. They lead cross-sector and transdisciplinary collaborations that impact communities.

6

Promote

PHNs promote health equity and health as a shared value through individual and community engagement and inclusion.

7

Advocate

PHNs advocate for community assets that lead to healthier people such as safe and affordable housing, healthy school meals, tobacco prevention policies, safe places to walk and bike, access to healthy food, appropriate behavioral health treatment services, violence prevention and trauma informed care.

8

Care

PHNs care for people, families, and communities. They understand the importance of culture, language, literacy, and how these shape health, well-being and equity.

9

Integrate

PHNs recognize that health is a function of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. They assist individuals and communities in integrating a variety of needed services through collaborating, mobilizing and leading interdisciplinary teams, partners and consumers.

10

Research

PHNs use research to inform their practice and do research to improve health of the individual, family and community.



County is updating website for improved accessibility

The Madison County Board Office is making upgrades to its website and the changes are aimed at making it easier for residents to get to know their county board members as well as navigate County Department pages.

One of the new changes include bios of County Board members and maps of their districts.

Madison County officials invite residents to explore the website and encourage them to provide feedback and suggestions for future improvements. The website can be accessed at www.madisoncountyil.gov.



 Fred Michael	 Stacey Pace	 Frank Dickerson
DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3
 Bobby Ross	 Michael (Mick) Madison	 Vafarie Doucleff
DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5	DISTRICT 6
 Michael Turner	 Michael "Doc" Holliday, Sr.	 Bill Stoutenborough
DISTRICT 7	DISTRICT 8	DISTRICT 9
 Shawndell Williams	 Dalton Gray	 Robert Holland
DISTRICT 10	DISTRICT 11	DISTRICT 12
 Matthew King	 Michael Babcock	 Jerry Laker
DISTRICT 13	DISTRICT 14	DISTRICT 15
 Robert "Bob" Meyer	 Victor Valentine, Jr.	 Alison Lamothe
DISTRICT 16	DISTRICT 17	DISTRICT 18
 Nick Petrillo	 Denise Wiehardt	 John Janek
DISTRICT 19	DISTRICT 20	DISTRICT 21
 Ryan Kheeder	 Paul Nicolussi	 Skip Schmidt
DISTRICT 22	DISTRICT 23	DISTRICT 24
 Chris Guy	 Jason Palermo	
DISTRICT 25	DISTRICT 26	



Sheriff honors man who saved a couple from a house fire

Sheriff Jeff Connor and Deputy Sheriff Marcos Pulido presented Michael L. Brown with a certificate of recognition at the April 19 County Board meeting.

Connor praised Brown for his heroic efforts on Feb. 23 at the scene of a house fire in the 8600 block of Dustman Road in Worden. He said Brown was going to work when he saw a house fully engulfed in flames and called 911.

"I want to thank Mr. Brown for his extraordinary commitment and excellent performance," Connor said. "His actions were instrumental in getting two people to safety as well as keeping them safe."

He said Brown was the first call made to 911, even though other cars were driving past the scene.

Brown approached the house and saw a woman coming out and she said her husband was still inside as he was on crutches.

"He took the initiative to get them both outside to safety," he said.

Connor said Brown went out of his way to save the lives of two people he did not know and the Sheriff's Office is appreciative of it.



Sheriff Jeff Connor (left) and Deputy Sheriff Marcos Pulido (right) presented Michael L. Brown with a Certificate of Recognition for his heroic efforts at a house fire.

Madison County holds Prescription Drug Take Back Day



Coroner Stephen Nonn, Sheriff Jeff Connor and State's Attorney offices held a Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 22. Employees from each office took part in the event, which collected 111.6 pounds of prescription drugs.

Let's Talk

A Message from Our Site-Based Therapists



TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

By CAC Site-Based Therapist Cyndee

Teen Dating Violence is a problem that effects families, schools, and communities around the nation, and in our own backyard. "Let's Talk" about how we can help keep our children safe.

Raising awareness is an important first step in addressing this problem, and it's never too early to start the conversation with your child. Even when they are young, teach them how to identify and express their thoughts and emotions, how to say no, how to be assertive and set boundaries. Developing these skills early in life, will help them to be mindful and confident, when finding themselves placed in a difficult situation, or in a problematic and unhealthy relationship.



TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

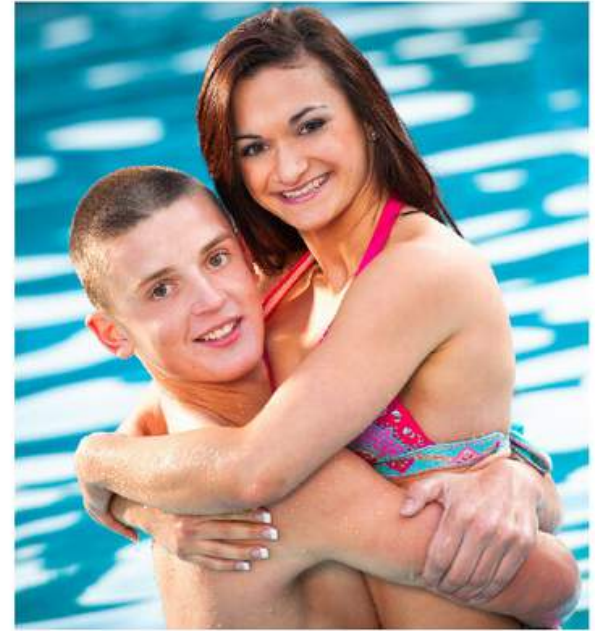
Become a member of the CAC Monthly Giving Society, Rooted in Hope today!

You can help grow programs like therapy services at the Madison County Child Advocacy Center by making monthly contributions. Rooted in Hope donations help give hope and healing to the children and families who utilize the Center throughout the year. Learn more about our Rooted in Hope Monthly Giving Society by visiting our website, madco-cac.org

There are 4 different types of dating/partner violence:

- Physical- e.g. hitting, kicking, slapping, pushing, punching, grabbing, shoving.
- Emotional- e.g. name-calling, shaming, threatening, scaring, blackmailing, isolating.
- Sexual- forced to participate in sexual contact without consent, sending and posting sexual pictures online or via text, rape.
- Stalking- unwanted attention and contact from a former or current partner that causes fear, and safety concerns for the victim, and even their friends and families.

Youth who have experienced dating violence often struggle with self-harm, suicidal thoughts, drug & alcohol abuse, eating and sleep disorders, and symptoms indicative of post-traumatic stress disorder. They may also carry their experience into future relationships, believing that controlling, jealous, threatening abusive behaviors from a partner are either “normal” or “showing love” for them. It’s also not uncommon for a teen to feel they deserve the abuse or believe it is their fault.



The following signs may indicate that your child may be in an abusive relationship:

- Unexplained marks, bruising, or injuries.
- Dressing differently. Wearing scarves, baggy clothes, and hoodies more than usual.
- No longer spending time with family and friends, and loss of interest in their favorite activities.
- Constantly “checking in” with their partner or making excuses for them.
- Significant changes in sleep, appetite, mood, and school performance.

There are many ways you can talk to your child about your concerns:

- First, be sure to focus on the behaviors and not the person.
- Be mindful that your child may still feel attached to this person.
- Gently point out changes you have noticed in your child’s daily activities.
- Listen calmly and without judgment to what they share.
- Reassure them that they are not responsible for the behaviors of others.
- Plan to talk to them in an informal setting, like in the car or while watching a show.
- If your child is willing, help them to develop a safety plan for ending the relationship.

Things to keep in mind when developing a safety plan:

- If any injuries are reported or noted, seek medical care right away.
- If danger risk is imminent, contact law enforcement and involve your child’s school.
- Develop a code word or phrase your child can use in a call or text if feeling unsafe.
- Utilize phone apps that allow you to monitor your child’s location.
- Encourage them to not walk alone and avoid isolated spaces and old hangouts.
- Be aware that abusive behaviors will often exist within a social media presence, in online gaming chat rooms, and on social networking sites.

If you need additional information or support; please reach out to these resources:

·National Domestic Violence Hotline @ 1-800-799-7233

·Teen Dating Abuse Helpline @ 1-866-331-9474

·National Sexual Assault Hotline @ 1-800-656-4673

·Call 988 (Suicide and Crisis Lifeline)

Sign-up for Madison County's e-waste recycling events



Madison County is planning to help residents “e-erase” their e-waste.

Madison County Building and Zoning is once again working with with CJD E-Cycling, an Edwardsville recycling company, to host free electronics recycling events in 2023.

Did you know? Illinois banned electronic waste “E-Waste” from landfills in 2012? Why? Because the items contain hazardous chemicals such as cadmium, lead and mercury.

“If not properly recycled, these chemicals can make their way from landfills into our soil, water and air,” Building and Zoning Administrator Chris Doucleff said.

Doucleff said electronic waste does not belong in residential trash bins. He said instead the public can register to bring their items to one of Madison County’s Electronic Recycling collection events.

“It’s FREE to all Madison County residents,” Doucleff said. “If it has a cord, we will take it.”

Residents can bring computers and accessories, cellphones, iPads, DVD players, VCRs, small appliances, washers, dryers, dishwashers, air conditioners and more. All items, including older-model CRT televisions, are free for residents to recycle.

Items not accepted include business and contractor waste, paint, hazardous waste, batteries, oils, fire extinguishers, propane tanks, oxygen tanks, DVDs, VHS tapes, CDs, cassette tapes, transformers or ballasts; and devices containing mercury, including smoke detectors.

The collection event is open to all Madison County residents. These collections are part of the Building and Zoning Department’s regular programming to provide residents with comprehensive waste disposal and recycling services.

“We want people to **RECYCLE RESPONSIBLY** and keep electronic waste out of the county’s two landfills,” Doucleff said.

Book an appointment for the next collection event on June 17 or for the Sept. 16 or Oct. 21 event. Register @ <https://recycleresponsibly.as.me/CJDEcycling>.

An advertisement for a household hazardous waste collection site. At the top left is the Madison County Illinois logo. To its right, the text reads "FREE DROP OFF FOR ILLINOIS RESIDENTS" and "*APPOINTMENT REQUIRED*" with the URL "https://RecycleResponsibly.as.me/hhwaste". Below this is a photograph of a tan industrial building with the number "249" on its side. Underneath the photo, the text says "HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SITE" and "OPEN EVERY MONTH - 1st Saturday & 3rd Friday". At the bottom, there are four small images showing various hazardous waste items like paint cans, oil containers, and other household chemicals. The address "249 N. Old St. Louis Rd. Wood River, Illinois" is printed at the very bottom.

An advertisement for e-waste recycling events. At the top left is the Madison County Illinois logo. The main text reads "E-WASTE RECYCLING EVENTS" in large green letters. Below this, the dates "June 17", "Sept. 16", and "Oct. 21" are listed, each accompanied by a green recycling symbol. The time "8 a.m. to 2 p.m." and the name "CJD Ecycling" are also included, along with the address "5257 N State Route 157, Edwardsville, IL". At the bottom, there is a green banner with the text "FREE for Madison County Residents" and "Registration required" on the left, a QR code in the center, and "Will take anything with a cord" on the right, accompanied by a white power cord icon.

Madison County awards more than \$1.3 million in Park and Recreation Grants

Madison County is awarding \$1.3 million in funding for various park and recreational projects in communities throughout the county.

The County Board voted Wednesday night to authorize the \$1,308,765 in Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grant funding.

“Since its establishment the funds have been used to improve parks and recreational facilities across the county,” Chairman Kurt Prenzler said.

The PEP grants range between \$15,000 and \$138,000 and include funds for projects such as, ADA equipment, playground equipment, pickleball courts, fencing, bike/pedestrian trail, landscaping, sporting equipment, lighting, senior center renovations, picnic tables, outdoor fitness equipment, barbecue grills, portable scoreboards, mowers and more. The funding is combined with city, village, township and park district funds to finance projects.

Prenzler said the PEP grants are successful thanks to the taxpayers. He said voters approved a 1/10th of one percent sales tax in 2000 under the Illinois Metro-East Park and Recreation District Act and Madison County’s Community Development Department administers the PEP funding through Madison County Park and Recreation Grant Commission.

In the program’s 23 years, municipalities, townships and park districts received more than \$25 million in funding. The grants are applied on an annual basis.

County Board member and Grants Committee Chair Denise Wiehardt of Granite City said the program benefits taxpayers countywide. She said taxing districts are able to maintain and improve parks and recreational facilities with the PEP funding.

“We have a vast network of parks and recreational facilities within the county and these things enhance the quality of life for all our residents,” Wiehardt said. “People in every community can go to their local park and point to something that was built with the sales tax funding.”

Circuit Clerk Tom McRae, who serves as a member of the Parks and Recreation Grants Commission, said not only do residents enjoy the amenities at all of the county’s parks and recreational facilities but so do the people who come to visit Madison County.

“This contributes and enhances the quality of life throughout the county,” McRae said. “People can go to any park and point to something that the PEP grants funded.”



Municipalities

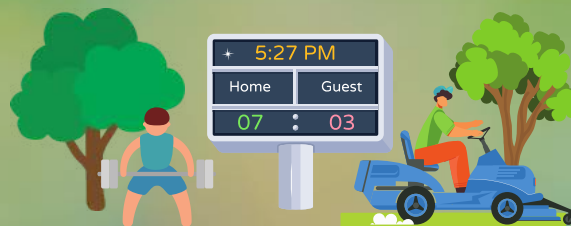
Alton	\$126,275
Bethalto	\$46,395
Collinsville	\$108,415
East Alton	\$29,150
Edwardsville	\$133,850
Glen Carbon	\$69,385
Godfrey	\$89,035
Hamel	\$15,000
Hartford	\$15,000
Highland	\$49,945
Livingston	\$15,000
Madison	\$15,000
Marine	\$15,923
Maryville	\$41,325
New Douglas	\$15,000
South Roxana	\$15,000
Williamson	\$15,000
Wood River	\$52,320
Worden	\$15,000

Townships

Alhambra Township	\$15,000
Choteau Township	\$26,295
Collinsville Township	\$15,000
Edwardsville Township	\$15,000
Foster Township	\$15,000
Nameoki Township	\$15,000
New Douglas Township	\$15,000
Wood River Township	\$26,645

Park Districts

Granite City Park District	\$138,395
Roxana Community Park District	\$15,000
St. Jacob Park District	\$15,000
Tri-Township Park District	\$88,895
Venice Park District	\$15,000



Scholarships

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

Madison County Community Development is offering college and occupational training scholarships for low-income students who plan to attend school during the upcoming school year starting this fall.

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) scholarships will be awarded to low-income students who are or will be attending an accredited Illinois university, community college, technical or vocational school. The CSBG will select five students to receive a \$4,000 scholarship (\$2,000 per semester) for the 2023-2024 school year.

Those interested in applying for the scholarship should contact the college's financial aid offices, their high school guidance counselor or visit Community Development's website at https://www.madisoncountyiil.gov/departments/community_development/community_services.php.

To be eligible, students must meet the block grant income guidelines as well as the other requirements as follows:

To be eligible, students must meet the block grant income guidelines as well as the other requirements as follows:

- Candidates must provide proof of Madison County residency.
- Candidates must meet the criteria for poverty income for the entire household (attached for one month) and complete the intake/family member information forms and college application. In addition, the candidate's entire household for those 18 years of age must provide proof of (gross) income for the last 30 days, along with verification documents such as check stubs or printouts of income statements.
- Candidates must complete the College Application and CSBG Intake form.
- Candidates are required to submit a copy of college transcripts, or if just entering college, high school transcripts.
- Candidates are required to submit a letter of recommendation from a high school or college official at the institution they are attending or will be attending. Letters of recommendation must be submitted on official letterhead.
- Candidates must submit a one-page essay describing themselves, their college plans, and career goals. The essays should communicate something that is not stated in the application, which sets apart their scholarship application from others. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Hobbies, special interests and unique skills.
 - Volunteer work and involvement with organizations in the community.
 - When and what type of awards or special recognition.
 - Goals and ambitions the scholarship committee should know about.
 - How would receiving this scholarship impact your life?
-
- Previous scholarship recipients may apply for the scholarship again.
 - The amount of each scholarship will be \$4,000. Scholarships will be disbursed in two, \$2,000 increments at the start of each semester.
 - Scholarships will be awarded to the college.

Deadline to submit applications and support documents will be 4:30 p.m. Friday, June 23. The CSBG Advisory Council Scholarship Committee will review all applications; make final selections and announce the scholarship recipients in July.

The CSBG program was created by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981. The CSBG program is designed to provide a range of services to assist low-income people to attain skills, knowledge and motivation necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

Completed applications should be dropped off or mailed to Madison County Community Development, Attn: Amy Lyerla, 157 N. Main St., Suite 312, Edwardsville, IL 62025. Community Development offices are open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For questions, contact Amy Lyerla at allyerla@madisoncountyiil.gov or (618) 296-4382 or Sherry Gross-Gremer at smcross@madisoncountyiil.gov or (618) 296-6177.

INCOME GUIDELINES

Family size	30-day Income
1	\$2,430
2	\$3,287
3	\$4,142
4	\$5,000
5	\$5,857
6	\$6,713
7	\$7,570
8	\$8,427



For families with more than eight members, add \$857 for each additional member.

Madison County ends Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance program

Officials announced that Madison County's Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance (ERAP) program ended after more than two years.

"The program helped thousands of people with their rent and utility bills who were impacted by COVID," Chairman Kurt Prenzler said.

Since March 2021, Madison County Community Development (MCCD) administered more than \$11.6 million in ERAP assistance to more than 2,500 households. The program will end at the end of the month.

MCCD Director Chris Otto commended the staff for all their hard work on ERAP.

"This group routinely put in 10-hour-plus days to keep up with the work flow and flood of applicants," Otto said.

Board member Denise Wiehardt and chair of the Grants Committee said the pandemic was hard on everyone, especially for those who lost their jobs and couldn't pay their rent or utility bills. She said that ERAP helped people from being evicted.

"We saw a real need for this program," Wiehardt said. "The individuals the county helped are appreciative, but wish they had never been in the situation in the first place. No one wants lose their job or not be able to pay their bills."

Although ERAP is ending, the county will continue to offer utility and water assistance and food pantry support to low-income customers, as well as Homeless Services.

Contact MCCD at (618) 296-4386 to inquire about the programs. The Referral Hotline for those at risk of losing housing is (618) 296-5300.

SUMMER HELP NEEDED

The Madison County Highway Department's Maintenance Department is hiring six summer help positions

- ✓ \$15/hr
- ✓ Full-time/7 a.m. to 3 p.m. M-F
- ✓ Minimum 2 years driving experience
- ✓ Pre-employment (non-CDL) drug screen and agility test required



PLEASE CONTACT ADAM WALDEN @ AJWALDEN@MADISONCOUNTYIL.GOV FOR MORE INFORMATION



WE ARE HIRING

Visit madisoncountyil.gov to search for job opportunities online

RISE UP WITH THE CAC

SHINING LIGHT ON CHILD ABUSE EVERY FOURTH FRIDAY

Come tour our child-focused facility, meet our team of forensic interviewers and case managers, step inside the forensic interview and waiting rooms, and learn first-hand how the Madison County Child Advocacy Center fights to end child abuse in our community every day.

Rise UP is hosted monthly at the Madison County Child Advocacy Center on the 4th Friday of the month. Registration is required and can be found on our website, madco-cac.org.

2023 Tours will be held from 8-9am on the fourth Friday of the month:

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| • January 27 | • May 26 | • September 22 |
| • February 24 | • June 23 | • October 27 |
| • March 24 | • July 28 | • November 17 |
| • April 28 | • August 25 | (week early due to holiday) |
| | | • December 22 |



Please reach out to Fund Development Specialist, Caroline Livingstone, with any questions you may have about our Rise UP tours:
celivingstone@madisoncountyil.gov
 618.296.5398



We Are Hiring!

Become an Assistant State's Attorney

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www.madisoncountyil.gov/jobs

- Entry Level State's Attorney
- Child Support Division
- Felony Division



Madison County
State's Attorney's Office
 Thomas A. Haine



NEED HELP LOOKING FOR A JOB?



Visit Madison County Employment & Training

Check out the Citizens Guide on the county's website to find out more on the operations of Madison County Government and its departments.



Madison County Board Meetings



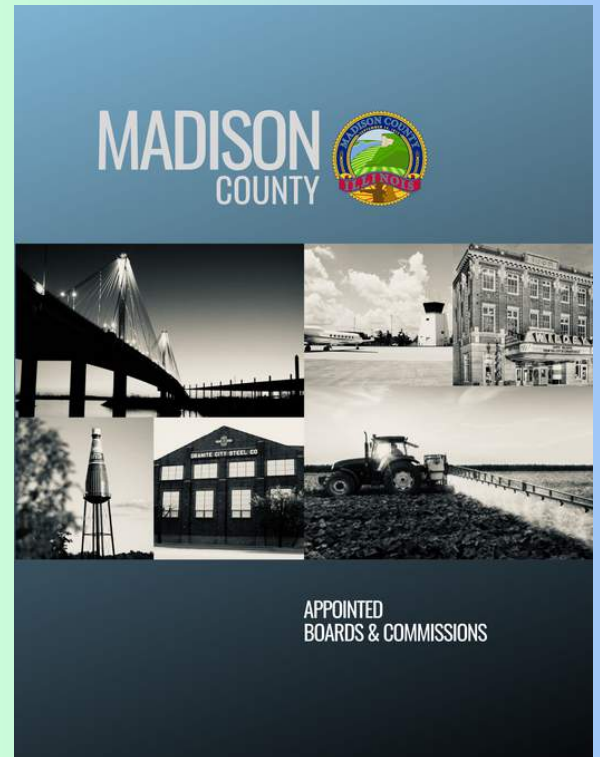
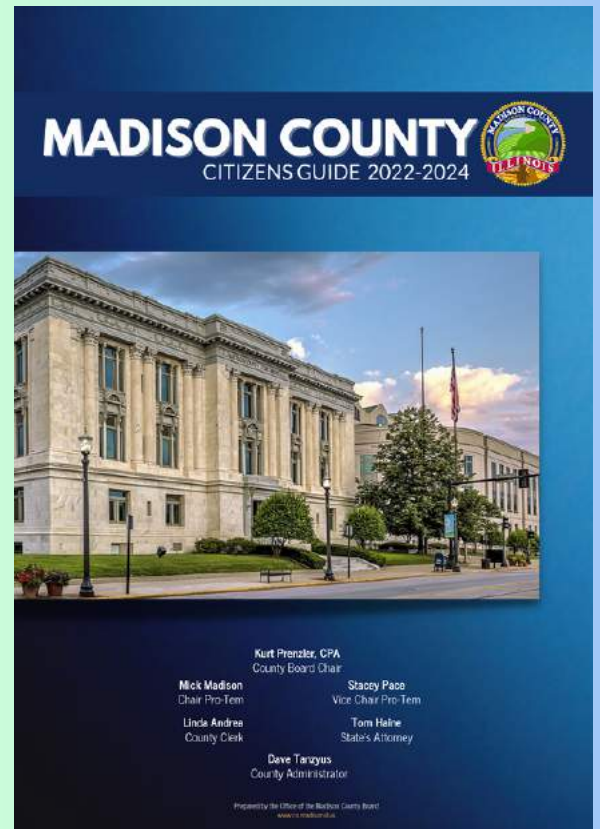
Check out the calendar to view upcoming County Board and Committee meetings.

The public is invited to attend County Board meetings, which are held in the Board Room at the Madison County Administration Building, 157 N. Main St., Edwardsville, Ill.

Visit www.madisoncountyl.gov for more information.



The Madison County Board Chairman appoints individuals to more than 70 boards and commissions with the advice and consent of the County Board. Click on the booklet to find out more.



Madison County Board —



618-296-4341 —



coboard@madisoncountyl.gov