



Andrea Tooley M.D.
Oculoplastic &
Aesthetic Facial Surgery



INNOVATIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY

www.seebetterpaducah.com
1130 Lone Oak Road
Paducah, KY
(270) 415-0245



Barbara Bowers M.D.
Cataract & LASIK Surgery

MEMORIAL DAY • EDUCATION

Southern Illinois News



May 2026



River to River Trail Society announces hike for May 9th

Megan Henderson
River to River Trail
Society

The River to
River Trail Society
announces its 10th
public hike of the

2026 spring hiking
season on May 9th.
Hiking: Horse Creek
Trail (Alexander
County). This hike is
free and open to the
public. This will be
a very difficult loop

hike for experienced
hikers, very hilly,
approximately 6
miles in length, 3.5
hours hiking time.
The leader of this
hike can be reached
at 708-471-7500 for

more information.
Hikers should meet at
10:00 am at the Horse
Creek Trailhead. This
hike is intended for
people in very good
health who have
done some hiking.

Hiking sticks and
boots or sturdy shoes
are recommended.
Hikers should bring
their own water and
snacks. No dogs
please. Check the
post on the River to

River Trail Society
website www.rivertorivertrail.net
for more information
including driving
directions to the
meeting area for this
hike.

Nearly 2,100 students will be honored at SIU commencement

By **Pete Rosenbery**

CARBONDALE, Ill. — The academic achievements of nearly 2,100 Southern Illinois University Carbondale students will be celebrated during spring 2026 commencement exercises May 8-9.

Festivities start with the SIU Simmons Law School commencement on Friday, May 8, at Shryock Auditorium. On Saturday, May 9, Banterra Center will host two commencement ceremonies (see the schedule, below).

As of mid-April, there are 2,087 candidates for degrees and certificates, including 1,402 candidates for bachelor's degrees, 432 candidates for master's degrees, 98 candidates for doctoral degrees, 87 law degree candidates and 68 candidates for associate degrees. The graduating candidates represent 19 different countries.

Some interesting facts — this commencement will feature 60 20-year-old students who will earn bachelor's degrees. The oldest candidate is a 79-year-old military veteran and online university

studies student who first became a Saluki in 1974 in cinema and photography. There are also two 21-year-old aviation management students earning master's degrees.

“Commencement is a powerful reminder of what Salukis can achieve,” said Chancellor Austin A. Lane. “Each graduate represents years of hard work, determination and support from those who believed in them along the way. At Southern, we take great pride in celebrating these moments together. Seeing our



students walk across that stage, surrounded by the energy and encouragement of their loved ones, is what makes this day so special and so meaningful.”

There is no ticketing for guests, and guest

seating for all of the ceremonies is on a first-come, first-served basis. The ceremonies will also be livestreamed at commencement.siu.edu/videos. The video stream will begin 15 minutes before each ceremony

begins May 9.

Here is the ceremony schedule and honorary degree and distinguished service award recipients where applicable.

Saturday, May 9

9 a.m. — College of Agricultural, Life, and Physical Sciences; College of Arts and Media; College of Business and Analytics; College of Liberal Arts, and the School of Education.

J. Phil Gilbert, who has more than five decades of legal experience as a private attorney, state and federal judge, and higher

education leader, is a lifelong resident of Carbondale. Gilbert was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois in 1992, served as chief judge from 1993 to 2000, and continues as senior judge, where he maintains a substantial caseload. Gilbert will receive an honorary Doctor of Law degree in association with the SIU Simmons Law School.

Michael “Mike” Glenn, is a scholar-athlete and one of SIU's most celebrated men's basketball players. The

see **COMMENCEMENT**
page 8

In Business for



1225 Jefferson St.
Paducah, KY 42001-2562

270-442-2023

Website: www.allenautosales.com
Facebook: Allen Auto Sales Inc.

The

Original

**ALLEN
AUTO
SALES**

PADUCAH, KY

How rising food demand is affecting farming

The population is growing and so is its demand for food to fuel those extra bodies. Harvard Business Review reports the global population has quadrupled over the last century. It's predicted that, by 2050, the population will exceed nine billion people.

The world is not able to feed all of its inhabitants, according to Penn State. There are more than one billion people who are estimated to lack sufficient food, and two billion who do not receive adequate nutrition.

Researchers from the Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota concluded that, to feed the world by 2030, yields on maize, rice, wheat, and soybeans will have to rise by 60 to 110 percent. At the start of 2025, projections show them only increasing by 45 to 60 percent. There are a few reasons why food supply may not meet up with demand.

• **Climate change:** Climate change is predicted to cause issues to crop yields, especially in portions of the world where

the population is growing the fastest. For example, a recent NASA study published in the journal Nature predicts that high greenhouse gas emissions may cause corn output to decline as early as 2030, but wheat output would increase. Farmers may need to roll with the punches and shift operations to cope with the environmental changes.

• **Decreased commercial farming interest:** Fewer people are working in farming. Land prices for expansion, new

government mandates and regulations, and the impact of immigration and trade policies have made farming less attractive than it once was. Fewer commercial operations result in a diminished food commodity output.

• **Consumer waste:** Food loss and waste (FLW) is a widespread issue, posing a challenge to food security. The World Bank estimates 30 percent of all food across the globe is wasted, amounting to 1.3 billion tons of food per year. The average global household wastes 74 kg of food

each year, according to the United Nations Environment Programme's 2021 Food Waste Index. Food waste is an issue that needs a solution as the world looks for ways to feed an expanding population in the decades to come.

In order to improve output, farmers have to make some changes. These can include investment in tools and technologies that enable farmers to apply nutrients more precisely and at lower cost, advises the Environmental Defense Fund. Seeds that need less water and fewer

nutrients, as well as new fertilizers that are less likely to be lost to air and water, are some additional ideas. Farmers also may want to employ green practices, such as hydroponics and drip irrigation, if they haven't already, to improve efficiency and cut costs. The public also may need to petition their lawmakers to make it easier for farm workers arriving on working visas to man the fields.

Food demand continues to rise, and it has become challenging for agricultural operations to keep up.



ONLINE | NO RESERVE

AUCTIONS



Construction Equipment

THURSDAY, MAY 7



DU0446 '20 Mack Anthem
dump truck



EF1038 '19 Sakai SV544T
single drum vibratory roller



FH7018 '17 CAT D6N XL
dozer



NK9072 '18 Doosan DX140L-5
mini excavator



DT0097 '22 CAT 299D3
tracked skid steer



DT0096 '21 Case SV280B
skid steer



FC5570 '18 CAT 963K
track loader



YA2234 '19 Mack GR64F
dump truck



EF1039 '19 Sakai SW654
double drum vibratory roller



EU4832 '20 CAT 395
excavator

OWENSBORO

DT0128 '17 Mack Granite
GU713 dump truck



675+ ITEMS SELL NO RESERVE!

purplewave.com

Fast Turnaround. Proven Success.



Throw a Memorial Day party to remember

Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial kickoff to summer. It's a time for cold beverages and poolside enjoyment, all the while reflecting on the meaning behind the holiday. People across the country will host Memorial Day gatherings over this long weekend. Throwing an event that hits all the right notes and is enjoyed by all comes down to proper planning.

Lean into Americana

When establishing the theme and decor for the party, opting for a strong Americana theme should be a no-brainer. Enhance tablescapes by choosing classic looks. Opt for a navy or red tablecloth with white ceramic plates and then a red or blue napkin. Fill small silver buckets or mason jars with white hydrangeas and red carnations for a timeless feel. Patriotic aluminum stars and country classics can be purchased at nearby hardware centers.

Respect the flag

Any American flags used for decor at the party should be handled with respect. Flags should never touch the ground, be worn as clothing or used as tablecloths.

Elevate the menu

Give a classic grilling menu an upgrade with a few touches that can make the experience more special. Consider a "build-your-own" bar with various gourmet toppings that can add extra flavor to burgers and hot dogs. Swap potato salad and cole slaw sides for lighter, gourmet options that won't spoil in the heat. Watermelon paired with feta or palm hearts paired with cherry tomatoes is light and refreshing. Create a signature drink that offers a nod to the red, white and blue. A batch of lemonade with blueberries and strawberries appeals to all ages. Adults can opt to spike theirs with a favorite spirit.

Classic lawn games

Guests can be treated



to some entertainment that goes beyond the pool or sitting barside. Popular lawn games, such as cornhole, Spikeball, bocce, and more encourage guests to get up, move and mingle. Think about having classic activities that can harken back

to simpler times. Turn music on and off for a game of "freeze dance." Or let kids play a friendly game of dodgeball or Red Rover so they stay off of their devices.

Secure the soundtrack

It's important to keep a steady playlist of songs going to maintain the vibe. Tailor the list to feature softer songs when guests are arriving or eating. More upbeat songs can be featured later in the day after people have become comfortable mingling.

Use a combination of songs that blend classic summer pop and rock with some patriotic hits.

Write down your task list

Writing down tasks and when to do them can keep a party host on track. Invitations should be sent at least three weeks out. With such a popular entertaining day, sending the invitations earlier might be smart. Shop for non-perishable items a week before. Save food shopping for two or three days before Memorial Day and prep make-ahead items the day before. The grill should be lit and preheated about 30 minutes before guests arrive if the plan is to cook immediately; otherwise, let guests stream in and enjoy chips and dips until the bulk of the cooking will begin.

Memorial Day festivities are nearly here, and preparing for this unofficial summer kickoff can lead to a more organized, fun and enjoyable party.

5 facts about Memorial Day

Memorial Day is celebrated at the end of May each year to honor those who lost their lives while serving in the Armed Forces. Memorial Day, the origins of which can be traced to the aftermath of the American Civil War, holds deep historical significance, and the following are five interesting facts about the holiday.

1. The holiday began as Decoration Day. Before the official establishment of Memorial Day, communities began holding spring tributes to fallen soldiers, decorating soldiers' graves with flowers to pay respects. In 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for northern Civil War veterans, officially proclaimed May 30 as Decoration Day. War.gov says that graves at Arlington National Cemetery continued to

be adorned in the same fashion they were back in the 1860s.

2. Memorial Day became an official holiday in 1968. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Memorial Day into law on June 28, 1968, officially marking Memorial Day as a national holiday. However, two years prior, he signed a proclamation officially declaring Waterloo, New York, as the birthplace of Memorial Day. The town was the first to honor fallen soldiers, and has been featuring a formal, community-wide event since May 5, 1866.

3. Blooming flowers have a place in Memorial Day history. Historians believe that the original choice of May 30 for Decoration Day was not due to any specific battle. Rather, it was a day when no particular conflict had taken place and was the time of year when flowers would

be in full bloom. So on May 30 there would be plenty of flowers across the country to decorate soldiers' graves.

4. All fallen veterans were eventually honored on Memorial Day. Many early Memorial Day iterations honored those who died during the American Civil War. After World War I, however, the Memorial Day holiday was expanded to honor all American military personnel who died during any war.

5. The Uniform Monday Holiday Act changed when Memorial Day is commemorated. Memorial Day once was commemorated on May 30 regardless of the day of the week. In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, moving Memorial Day to the last Monday in May to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. This change went into effect in 1971.

How to prepare outdoor spaces for Memorial Day

Memorial Day weekend is a popular time to entertain. For many, the weekend marks the first outdoor entertaining opportunity of the year, which is certainly something to look forward to.

As outdoor entertaining season begins, homeowners can take these steps to prepare their outdoor living spaces for the first big backyard get-together of the year.

- Break out the power washer. Pressure washing is an important component of spring home cleanup. The warmer temperatures of spring allow water from power washing to dry more quickly, which can decrease the chances that mold and mildew will grow on surfaces like siding. A freshly power washed home also makes for a welcoming entertaining space. A power washer also can be used on outdoor entertaining spaces to remove dirt and debris that built up over the winter. Just make sure to

read manufacturer instructions before using a power washer to clean paving stones, decks and outdoor furniture.

- Inspect outdoor furniture. Now is a good time to inspect outdoor furniture if the task was not performed in late fall or early winter before items were moved into the garage or placed in storage. Check to make sure furnishings are still safe to use, addressing any issues before guests come over for a Memorial Day weekend gathering. Wash cushions for outdoor furniture and replace any that might be showing their age.

- Clean the grill. A thorough cleaning of the grill also is in order prior to summer entertaining season. Many homeowners do little or no grilling during winter, so now is the time to give grilling surfaces and the interior of the grill a deep cleaning. Check for leaks if using a gas grill, and scrub the interior of any grease that accumulated last

season. Many grilling experts advise lighting a grill and letting it burn for roughly 20 minutes prior to putting any foods on the grates for the first time. Such a strategy allows residual fluids like soap, vinegar and de-greasing products used when cleaning the grill to burn off before food is placed on the grates.

- Inspect the landscaping, too. It's not just seating areas like patios and decks that need some investigation prior to outdoor entertaining season. Take a walk around the landscape and make sure there's no potentially dangerous spots where people could be injured when playing backyard games. Fill in any holes with soil and fresh grass seed, and inspect trees to see if any branches need to be pruned.

Summer entertaining season begins each Memorial Day weekend. Homeowners can take various steps to ensure their outdoor entertaining spaces are comfortable and safe.

To advertise call
270-442-7389
www.ky-news.com

SIC receives Can-Am defender through statewide giveaway program

HARRISBURG, Ill. — Southeastern Illinois College has received a 2026 Can-Am Defender HD11 side-by-side through the Can-Am for a Cause program, made possible by a nomination from Car Corral of Carmi.

The annual initiative by Can-Am, a brand of Bombardier Recreational Products (BRP), selects organizations across a chosen state to receive equipment that supports community needs. Illinois was selected for the 2026 giveaway, with two vehicles awarded statewide.

Car Corral nominated SIC based on the college's need for additional training equipment and its role in preparing technicians for the powersports industry.

Ryan Brown, District Sales Manager for BRP, said the program is designed to support both local communities and workforce development.

"Our dealers are



Representatives from Southeastern Illinois College, Car Corral of Carmi, BRP's Can-Am brand, and Hucks Market gather with students in front of the 2026 Can-Am Defender HD11 side-by-side donated to the college's PowerSports Technology program. The equipment will be used for hands-on training in current and emerging technology.

always looking for skilled technicians," Brown said. "Programs like Southeastern's help prepare students for those roles, and we're proud to support that effort through Can-Am for a Cause."

The side-by-side, valued at approximately \$24,199, will be used in SIC's PowerSports

Technology program to provide students with hands-on training using current industry equipment. Students will gain experience working with engines, transmissions and electronics, as well as newer features such as a 10.25-inch touchscreen display with self-diagnostic capabilities.

Ralph Boots, SIC PowerSports Technology Instructor, said the addition will enhance learning opportunities in the program.

"This gives our students the opportunity to train on current equipment and technology they'll see in the field," Boots said. "They'll be able to

work with everything from engines and transmissions to advanced electronics and diagnostics."

SIC's PowerSports Technology program is in its eighth year and continues to partner with local dealerships, including Car Corral, to help meet workforce needs in the region. Graduates of the

program have gone on to work at area dealerships and within the industry.

Boots said the donated equipment will be used across current and future classes, helping ensure students are prepared for careers in a growing field.

SIC also received additional support during the event through Hucks Market's Caring for Kids Initiative, which provided \$1,000 in gas gift cards to support students in the Powersports Technology program. Chad Hughart, Director of Field Marketing for Hucks, attended the presentation.

For more information about the SIC PowerSports program, visit sic.edu/powersports. Registration is open for fall semester. Advisors can be reached at advising@sic.edu or 618-252-5400, ext. 4130.

Suspect in 42-year-old homicide case pleads not guilty; brought back to Southern Illinois

By Mike Mohundro
wevv.com
Special to Southern Illinois News

METROPOLIS, Ill. (WSIL) -- A suspect in connection to a 42-year-old homicide case out of Massac County has pleaded not guilty and is now being held behind bars in southern Illinois.

George Bradfield, 77 of Owensboro, is accused of killing Lisa Ann Carnes in Massac County in 1984. On April 22, a Massac County Grand Jury returned a five county indictment, charging George Bradfield with five counts of murder. Bradfield was arrested in Owensboro and later extradited from Daviess County Detention Center in Owensboro and brought to Southern Illinois.

According to court records on Thursday, Bradfield pleaded not guilty on April 30, 2026, in Massac County. Court records stated



George Bradfield

Bradfield was advised of the charges, rights, penalties and advised Bradfield, due to the age of the case, the range of penalties may differ from the law in 1984 and the law in 2026. The state will also submit a sentencing memorandum.

As of April 30, Bradfield is now being held in the Tri-County Detention Center in Ullin, Illinois, where he is awaiting the next court hearing.

Bradfield is due back in court for a detention hearing on May 6, at 1

p.m., in Massac County in front of Judge Thurston.

According to a ViCAP (Violent Criminal Apprehension Program) alert issued by the FBI, Carnes' body was discovered on March 30, 1984, in a rural field south of County Road 1150 North and east of U.S. Route 45 in Massac County, Illinois. Officials stated an autopsy conducted the following day determined that Carnes died from bleeding out caused by a gunshot wound to the chest.

Investigators also stated there were signs of blunt force trauma to her head. Several items of clothing were recovered near the scene.

Carnes, described as a white female with brown, collar-length hair and brown eyes, was 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighed approximately 105 pounds. She was born on September 20, 1957.



Carbondale Chamber of Commerce hosts ribbon cutting for Bandana's BBQ

Carbondale, IL – The Carbondale Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the return of Bandana's BBQ to Carbondale on Thursday, April 30th at 309 E Main St, Carbondale IL 62901

This special event marked the official grand re-opening and welcoming of Bandana's BBQ.

Chamber

leadership, city officials, and community members were present to welcome the Bandana's team.

"We were excited to host this ribbon cutting and officially welcome Bandana's BBQ back to our community," said William Lo, Executive Director of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce. "The return of this

restaurant is a great addition to our city, and we encourage everyone to come out and show their support for our local business community."

"Hello Carbondale! We are so excited to be back and once again have the opportunity to become a part of this wonderful community!" said Bandanas BBQ, District manager Jeff Hannick

Sabrina Stout named SIC's 2026 Outstanding Teacher of the Year

HARRISBURG, Ill. — Southeastern Illinois College announced that Sabrina Stout has been named the recipient of the Loren P. and Velma Dallas Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award for 2026. The honor recognizes excellence in teaching, commitment to students, and meaningful impact on learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Stout serves as a nursing instructor at SIC and brings more than 20 years of healthcare experience to her role as an educator. A graduate

of SIC's associate degree nursing program, she later earned a Master of Science in Nursing from Frontier Nursing University and is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She also continues to practice in the field, helping ensure her teaching remains grounded in current clinical experience.

Known for her high standards, strong mentorship, and deep commitment to student success, Stout is respected for helping students build confidence, critical thinking skills, and professionalism as



Sabrina Stout, nursing instructor at Southeastern Illinois College, has been named the recipient of the 2026 Loren P. and Velma Dallas Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award.



Nursing instructor Sabrina Stout demonstrates hands-on patient care techniques during a maternal health lab at SIC.

they prepare to enter the nursing workforce. Her work also extends beyond the classroom through community engagement and support of student service opportunities.

Dr. Tyler Billman, Executive Dean of Academic Services, praised Stout's impact on students and the college.

"Sabrina represents the very best of what it means to serve as a nursing educator at Southeastern," Billman said. "Her impact reaches far beyond the classroom - it is felt in the confidence of her students, the strength of our healthcare

partnerships, and the reputation of our institution."

Dr. Emily York, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, also commended Stout's dedication to her students and the profession.

"Sabrina leads with both excellence and compassion," York said. "She challenges students to meet the high standards of the nursing profession while also supporting them every step of the way. Her dedication to student learning, clinical excellence, and service to our region makes her exceptionally deserving of this

recognition."

In her educational philosophy, Stout emphasizes connection, mentorship, accountability, and preparing students for careers in nursing. She draws on extensive clinical experience to help students connect theory to practice and believes strongly in creating a supportive environment where students can grow into confident, capable professionals.

"Preparing students for the real-life responsibilities of nursing is at the heart of what we do," Stout said. "I want

them to leave SIC ready to provide safe, compassionate care in our communities."

The Loren P. and Velma Dallas Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award honors individuals who exemplify excellence in teaching and dedication to their field while making a lasting difference in the lives of students. Established in 1996 by Lorna Dallas-Brown and the late Ellen Wiggins, daughters of Loren and Velma Dallas, the award reflects the Dallas family's enduring commitment to education in Southern Illinois. Each year, the Dallas endowment through the SIC Foundation awards \$500 to the recipient.

As recipient of the award, Stout is also eligible for the 2026 Illinois Community College Trustees Association Outstanding Faculty Member Award. The nomination materials note her leadership in program development, accreditation efforts, faculty mentoring, and preparing students to meet healthcare workforce needs in rural communities.

SIC to offer electric vehicle course

HARRISBURG, Ill. — Southeastern Illinois College will offer a new Electric Vehicle Essentials course this summer, providing students with hands-on experience in electric vehicle technology.

The course, titled Electric Vehicle Essentials (Building a Switch EV), begins

June 7 and runs for eight weeks. Classes will meet Mondays and Tuesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Diesel Technology Shop on SIC's Harrisburg campus.

The three-credit-hour course (AUTO 136) is open enrollment

with no prerequisites and has a maximum capacity of 14 students.

Students will gain practical experience working with electric vehicle systems, including high-voltage safety, electrical components, and diagnostic procedures. The course will also include hands-on learning opportunities where students will help build, test, and drive a Switch electric vehicle.

"This course gives students a chance to work directly with emerging vehicle technology," said Robbie Lindhorst, EV and Diesel Technology Instructor at SIC. "They won't just learn the theory — they'll build, test and drive an electric vehicle,

which is where the real understanding happens."

The course is part of SIC's Diesel Technology program and reflects the

growing demand for skills in electric vehicle systems and maintenance.

Enrollment is limited, and interested students are encouraged to

register early.

For more information or to enroll, contact SIC Admissions at admissions@sic.edu or call 618-252-5400, ext. 4120.



SIC Diesel Technology Students Allison Prentice (Ortonville, Michigan) and Nicholas Neal (Crossville), work on a class assignment using a Switch electric vehicle.

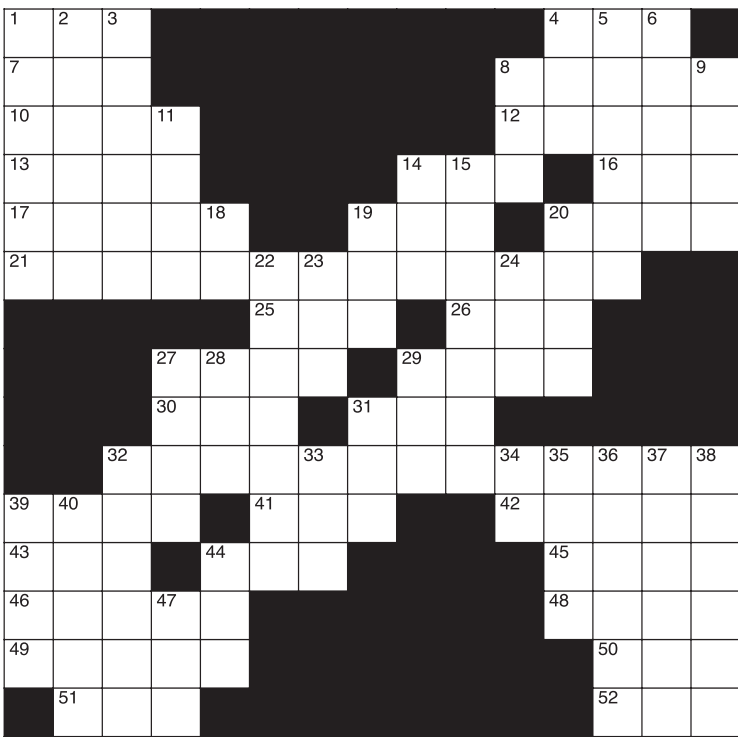
**LESS TIME.
SAME
CREDIT.**

Finish a class in 8 weeks or less this summer! Online classes available.

Enroll now!
SIC.EDU/SUMMER



Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Purchase
- 4. British news organization
- 7. Midway between northeast and east
- 8. Language specialist group
- 10. Fancy automobile
- 12. Small loop or series of loops
- 13. Exploiter
- 14. Don't know when yet
- 16. Group of languages
- 17. One who's finished
- 19. After B
- 20. Angled
- 21. A place to adopt pets
- 25. Swiss river
- 26. Young boy
- 27. Unexciting
- 29. American comedian Vidale
- 30. Peyton's little brother
- 31. Corporate higher-up
- 32. "All in the Family" star
- 39. Strike something forcefully
- 41. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 42. Clay earth pigments
- 43. Means to record brain activity
- 44. Small constellation
- 45. Embraces
- 46. Brief description
- 48. Exclude
- 49. White (French)
- 50. Insect
- 51. A major division of geological time
- 52. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of whale
- 2. In tune
- 3. A citizen of Yemen
- 4. Actress Ling
- 5. One who supports
- 6. Circus performer
- 8. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 9. Quantitative fact
- 11. Utah city
- 14. Where a golfer begins
- 15. Attendant
- 18. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 19. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 20. Benedictine monk
- 22. Not turbulent
- 23. Car mechanics group
- 24. Buffer used in chemistry
- 27. Fall heavily
- 28. Pie ___ mode
- 29. The Brits love it
- 31. Children's TV channel (abbr.)
- 32. Jacksonville footballer
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. ___ and behold
- 35. A way to resemble
- 36. Fingers
- 37. Excessive indulgences
- 38. You might be an "empty" one
- 39. "How the West Was Won" writer
- 40. European river
- 44. They begin the alphabet
- 47. The body's messenger

Word Search

LOTS OF LAUGHS WORD SEARCH

Y S C H Y B Z I N W P A N H W V G Y M V
 N L M H S Y N H A Q D J O C U L A R Q Y
 O R N Q O A O N P P U N C H L I N E H
 R I G C V Y T S N I C K E R D D Y P F G
 I Y K O N B F I G I S V A V P V P S I Y
 Q S H A S U O I R A O R P U W Z M M A P
 Z A Z G M Z I I V E C U R E H G U S Z N
 G U F F A W J G Z C H U C K L E M L J Y
 P C K T A M U S I N G Q Y T I R A L I H
 A M S I C I T T I W Q R D L F D G E Y S
 Z O U Q U I P H N W G J D A V C P F T I
 A O W T U B O Z D N T D C Y I Z I N I S
 W T B N G R D K I E S E F C P R R A V L
 J I W E J L R T D O T Y J E N U E C E A
 W C M M P I S I A I L M Y P O F T A L P
 L K D I A E U N O T K D S A O U N W Q S
 E L A R J M A U K G C R R A N A Y Q T
 J E E R T L S S V M L K L O J N B S Q I
 B J H E K T H E O R U S I D P Y C C P C
 E P J M B F M C B T N Y R Y P V N B I K

ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

WORDS

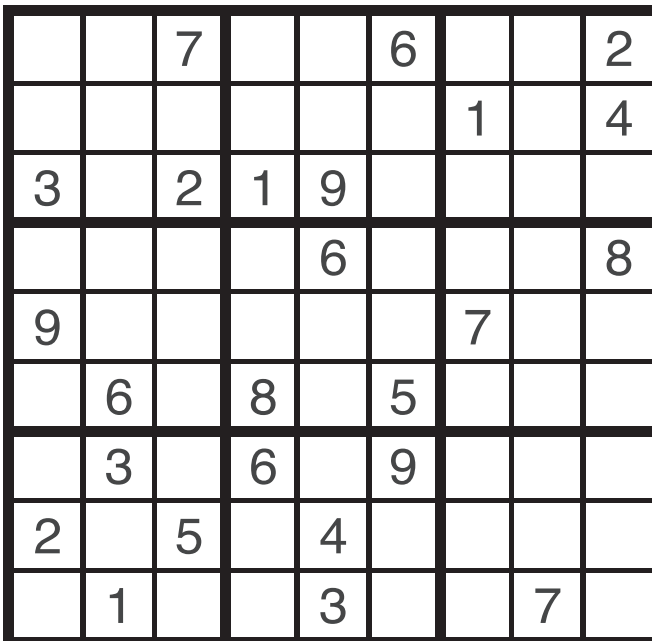
- AMUSING
- BANTER
- CHUCKLE
- COMEDY
- FACETIOUS
- FUNNY
- GUFFAW
- HILARITY
- IRONY
- JESTING
- JOCULAR
- LEVITY
- MERRIMENT
- PARODY
- PUNCHLINE
- QUIP
- SATIRE
- SLAPSTICK
- SNICKER
- TEDIUM
- TICKLE
- UPROARIOUS
- WITTICISM
- ZANY

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

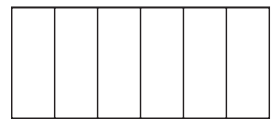
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! Good Luck! **ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE**



Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to humor.

ILSESM



Answer: Smiles

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am a football player born in New Orleans on April 27, 2004. I am the grandson of a longtime New Orleans Saints quarterback and two of my uncles each won a pair of Super Bowls. I was a highly coveted recruit coming out of high school, and I ultimately chose to play for the Texas Longhorns.

Answer: Arch Manning

COLORING FUN

APRIL SHOWERS



BRING MAY FLOWERS

PUZZLE SOLUTION



VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

Why “built a tower” should bring you comfort —

Teresa LeNeave –
leneave2@comcast.net

Peter, Jesus' loud and energetic disciple, once said, “He (God) has given us everything that pertains to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). That's a powerful statement because “everything” means “everything” ... not just some of what we need to live in this world. When you're going through a battle, it may not feel like He's given you everything but even though we can't see it, it's still true.

There's a parable in the Bible, told by Jesus, in Matthew 21:33 where He describes God's investment into humanity. In the parable, after planting a vineyard, the Landowner (God), builds a hedge, digs a winepress, then builds a tower. When the vineyard is carefully set up with provision and protection, He rents it out to tenants then goes away.



The people understood the parable because vineyards were valuable and, in those days, they were vulnerable to thieves and wild animals.

The Landowner (God) knew there would be dangerous things coming to try to destroy the vineyard, but I

believe the focus here is not the danger, but that before leaving, He provided all they needed. “Nothing was missing. Everything needed for success was already given”.

Then, there comes a twist in the story. When harvest time comes, He sends servants to collect his share. The tenants

beat, stone, or kill them. He sends more servants, but with the same result. Finally, he sends his Son, thinking they'll respect him. Instead, they kill the Son to try to seize the inheritance.

The landowner is God and the parable assures us He is watching, but He's

also returning. The vineyard is God's people. The hedge, the winepress, and the tower is everything God provided for success: protection (hedge); purpose/productivity (winepress); added protection, a place to watch over and protect the vineyard from predators and

thieves (the tower). That's why “built a tower” should bring us comfort. He refused to leave us defenseless against evil.

In short: nothing was lacking. The setup was complete. God gave leaders responsibility over His people. Those leaders failed and abused that responsibility. They rejected God's messengers again and again and finally, they rejected (and killed) His Son. The Good News is that even after killing his Son, God made provision: His Son rose from the grave and currently is in heaven making intercession for us.

That's a good God. A good Landowner. And, no matter what anyone believes, God is the Landowner. He created it all. He created you and He cares about you. Trusting God's love and provision is the best arsenal we have against evil.

He's still waiting

By Gary Miller

That morning I had located what turned out to be four toms and some hens. They were still on the roost. And even though they had not been pressured, I made sure to do minimal and only light calling. A soft yelp on my slate call was enough for all the ears within 100 yards to hear me. So, I laid down the call, got my gun ready, and began scanning the top of the hill in front of me. I knew pretty much what any older tom would do. He would not come directly in line with my call. He would show up to one side or another.

These birds know not to trust their ears as much as their eyes. I also knew that any other tom that might be with him would follow. Sure enough, in just a few minutes, two hens and four gobblers showed up about 100 yards to my right – which is a terrible place if one is right-handed like myself. Two of the toms began to perform in full strut. The other two shortly followed suit. The hens were not impressed. I thought about how I might go about getting a shot without being seen. Nothing came to mind other than “be patient.” Soon the hens moved

within 35 yards of me, and two big toms were following. The problem, however, remained. They stayed to my right. How would I rearrange my seating, raise my gun and aim without them seeing me and flying away. I couldn't. So, I decided once again to just be patient. Before too long, all those toms began coming my way and moving perfectly in front of me. The biggest one came to about 40 yards. When he moved behind a tree, I raised my gun, got ready, and waited (patiently again) for him to clear the tree. When he did, I

aimed carefully and pulled the trigger. I ate smoked turkey breast for lunch the next day. He was a big bird. Eleven inches of beard. One and a half inch spurs. It was a fun hunt.

When you look at the subject of patience in the Bible, you will quickly notice that God thinks it is important. There are several reasons and many of them have to do with our everyday circumstances and situations. But I think when it comes to relationships, I see three things. First, God is patient with us. A synonym of patience that describes His

dealings with us is the word long-suffering. God is longsuffering with us. I sure am glad He is. Secondly, since He is patient with us, He wants us to be patient with other people. Or be long-suffering with others. Yes, this is the hard part. But here's the third piece. It's the job of the Holy Spirit to produce in us the patience we need to deal with others. And in this I think is where people see Jesus in us. It's when our patience with others is seen as coming from a place beyond us. So, the next time you're struggling with patience with others, ask God to remind

you how many times He has waited for you to get it right. For me, I think He's still waiting.

Gary Miller
gary@
outdoortruths.org
Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 23 years.

He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at Outdoortruths.org

COMMENCEMENT
from page 1

two-time Academic All-American, whose Saluki jersey was retired in February 2026, played 10 years in the NBA and founded the nation's first and only free basketball camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing athletes — a program that continues more than 40 years later. An accomplished author, historian and curator whose exhibitions and lectures illuminate the contributions of Blacks to sports, civil rights and culture, Glenn has written five books, including "My Next Shot Goes In: Ten Sacred Characteristics of NBA Players That Lead to Success." Glenn will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in association with the College of Liberal Arts.

Cheryl F. Green is a double alumna, earning both her master's and doctoral degrees in counseling psychology. During her 30 years in higher education, she served as Governors State University's sixth president from July 2020 until her retirement in 2025, one month before her death following a lengthy illness. Green will be awarded a posthumous Distinguished Service Award in association with the School of Education.

1 p.m. — College of Engineering, Computing, Technology, and Math; College of Health and Human Sciences, and School of Medicine.

James J. Miller, a three-degree SIU alumnus, is senior program manager to the chief executive of General Atomics Global Corp. He is an internationally recognized leader in aviation, aerospace and navigation policy and was founding director of the National Spaced-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing Advisory Board appointed by NASA. He facilitated sponsorship of the NASA Wings program through SIU Aviation, introducing underrepresented students to aviation and aerospace careers. Miller earned his associate degree in aviation flight, bachelor's degree in aviation management and Master of Public Administration in aviation administration. Miller will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree in association with the College of Health and Human Sciences.

Russell Franklin

Bartmes, is a distinguished leader in finance and philanthropy whose support helped launch SIU Carbondale's nursing program and other initiatives. Over a career spanning more than four decades, Bartmes held senior leadership positions at prominent investment firms and foundations in Chicago until his retirement. Bartmes will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in association with the College of Health and Human Sciences.

Kathleen Pericak-Spector, a retired professor of mathematics, spent more than four decades at SIU advancing mathematics education throughout the region through outreach and service with a commitment to STEM education. Retired in 2017 and now living in Michigan, Pericak-Spector returns to SIU repeatedly — entirely at her own expense — to support key SIU and regional outreach initiatives, including Southern Illinois Regional Science Fair, Math Field Day, Expanding Your Horizons and the Science in the South Conference. Pericak-Spector will receive a Distinguished Service Award in association with the College of Engineering, Computing, Technology, and Mathematics.

Medallions, honor cords and veteran's cords reflect achievement

A total of 653 students who are participating in commencement exercises will wear special medallions and honor cords during the ceremonies that reflect significant academic achievement.

Among the students earning recognition:

310 will receive cum laude distinction, signifying a cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 3.749.

180 will receive magna cum laude distinction, signifying a cumulative GPA of 3.75 to 3.899.

163 students will receive summa cum laude distinction, carrying a cumulative GPA of 3.9 to 4.0.

35 students will earn degrees with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

82 University Honors Program students will receive a certificate for completing 18 honors credit hours while maintaining a 3.3 GPA.

16 Saluki student-athletes will earn Latin honors, and one student-athlete will also receive an honors program certificate.

Honor veterans this Memorial Day

Memorial Day often is celebrated with the excitement of a long weekend and the prospect of firing up the grill for a backyard barbecue. But Memorial Day also is a time to reflect on the men and women who gave their lives to defend American freedom.

Memorial Day was established to honor individuals who died while serving the United States in the Armed Forces. Memorial Day is a time to reflect on the sacrifices of the fallen heroes who dedicated and lost their lives in the pursuit of service. The following are some ways to honor those sacrifices this Memorial Day.

- Observe the National Moment of Remembrance. The National Moment of Remembrance is an annual one-minute moment of silence that takes place at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day. Established by Congress in 2000, this unifying moment encourages Americans to pause



their activities and reflect on the high cost of freedom. The time is significant, as it is a period when most people are enjoying Memorial Day festivities that were made possible by the sacrifices of Armed Forces personnel.

- Honor the American flag. Memorial Day features a unique flag protocol. To properly honor the fallen, the flag should be flown at half-staff until noon. Afterwards, it should be raised to the top

of the staff for the remainder of the day, according to the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. The transition marks the nation's mourning in the morning hours and then the legacy of fallen veterans later in the afternoon.

- Coordinate flag placement for cemeteries. Organizations like Flags for Fallen Vets and scouting groups make an effort to place small American flags at the grave sites of deceased

veterans. Many cemeteries feature sections exclusively for veterans. Similarly, families can visit cemeteries and leave a penny or a stone on the headstone of a veteran, which shows others that someone visited to pay their respects.

- Talk to the next generation. To ensure that the memories of fallen soldiers do not fade into obscurity, living veterans can speak with youth about their service experiences and those of their fallen friends. Schools or local municipalities can organize speaking engagements.

Memorial Day is much more than sales at the furniture store or a day spent manning the grill. It is a day to remember and honor service members who never made it home to see their great country again. Ensuring that their efforts are remembered, and giving thanks to all veterans, is a great way to commemorate Memorial Day.

GRAND OPENING

RANCHER'S CHOICE

RESERVE YOUR CUTTING TIME

150 lb

OF PREMIUM MEAT

INCLUDES 30 lb of PORK & POULTRY

3 EASY PAYMENTS OF \$99

✓ NO MEMBERSHIP FEES
✓ NO SERVICE AGREEMENTS
✓ ALL ORDERS ARE CUT TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

10 FREE RIBEYE STEAKS TO THE FIRST 100 CUSTOMERS

FRESH – NEVER FROZEN – NEVER BOXED

CUSTOM CUT • WRAPPED TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS • WATCH YOUR MEAT BE CUT

✓ WESTERN GRAIN-FED BEEF

FREE FREEZER
WITH PURCHASE OF A YEAR-ROUND FOOD PLAN

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY
TWO FREE STEAKS
CALL OR STOP BY FOR DETAILS

LOCATED NEXT TO THE SMOKE SHOP
2300 NORTH EIGHT STREET
PADUCAH, KY 42001
270-391-1777

All beef cut on premises. All total dollar prices based on minimum weight. Examples are examples only. All free items with purchase. Beef weight will vary as beef is not a manufactured item. All beef sold hanging weight, subject to trim loss. Final take-home weight varies based on cutting preferences. Small processing charge may apply. Examples 120lbs USDA Choice Beef @ \$2.49/LB=\$2.99.00 Plus Bonus Pack, Absolutely No Charge Avg weight 160-360 Lbs. 1B, 1 C, 2 Es, 2Fs, 2 Gs'