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Serving the River Bend since 1836

Friday, August 3, 2012

## Alton man charged with murder

By LINDA N. WELLER  
The Telegraph

### Accused in shooting death of teen

ALTON — Five days after a teenager was shot dead as he drove away to escape a barrage of gunfire, authorities Thursday charged the

suspected gunman with three counts of first-degree murder. The Madison County

State's Attorney's Office filed the charges against Marcus Anthony Baldwin, 20, of the 1000 block of Alton

Pointe, Alton, in the fatal shooting Saturday night of Dantavier M. Thompson, 19, of the 2200 block of Elizabeth

Street in Alton. Associate Judge Janet Heflin set no bond for Baldwin, who Alton police took into custody about 3 a.m. Wednesday.

See **MAN**, Page A9



Baldwin

### FIELD OF FIRE



The Telegraph/JOHN BADMAN

Capt. Kendal Nolle, of the Alton Fire Department, uses a grass flap Thursday to beat out advancing flames from a grass fire that burned about two acres of dead, dry grass from the soccer practice fields on the north side of Gordon Moore Park in Alton. Five firefighters and the fire chief worked to extinguish the flames that left the area blackened. The U.S. government added 220 counties in a dozen states suffering from the drought to a list Wednesday of natural disaster areas, including all but four counties in Illinois.

## Teachers issue notice of intent to strike

By KATHIE BASSETT  
The Telegraph

EDWARDSVILLE — Members of the Edwardsville Education Association rejected the school district's last, best and final offer and voted to authorize a 10-day notice of a strike.

The union's secret ballot votes Wednesday night followed the declaration of an impasse in successor contract negotiations at the conclusion of the parties' last bargaining session held on July 26.

"After members rejected the proposal from the board, we took a strike vote," said Association Co-President Sallie Clark. "We had to have 75 percent to authorize a strike, and 77 percent voted

See **TEACHERS**, Page A9

### HANDS-ON APPROACH

## Volunteers do mission work in River Bend

By KATHIE BASSETT  
The Telegraph

ALTON — Members of an area church have discovered that mission work done close to home is just as rewarding as traveling far around the globe.

In collaboration with Dale Neudecker of Bucket Brigade and the city of Alton, volunteers with Calvary Cares, members of Calvary Baptist Church, 1422 Washington Ave. in Alton, spent much of this past week working on 14 homes in the River Bend.

"We've been involved in short-term missions all around the world," said Calvary Baptist Church's pastor, Rick Patrick. "We decided we wanted to do something on a large scale locally."

The group took a hands-on

approach to their ministry by volunteering their time to paint homes, build decks, make repairs and do yard work. On average, more than 60 church members volunteered to help in some capacity on each of the four days of ministry.

"People enjoy worship, but they are also very interested in reaching outside," Patrick said. "This experience allows people to take what Christ has done in life and share with others."

Carol Wheaton and her two children, Tori, 11, and Nate, 14, braved the heat Thursday to paint trailer homes at Enchanted Village, off Fosterburg Road in Alton.

"I believe it's very important to teach young people about

See **VOLUNTEERS**, Page A9



The Telegraph/JOHN BADMAN

Carlos Anderson, 16, a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Alton, helps paint a mobile home Thursday in the 200 block of Rainbow Drive in Alton. Several church members were at different addresses in the Enchanted Village mobile home park, painting the mobile homes, as part of the church's volunteer group called Calvary Cares.

## Megabus crash kills at least one

More than three dozen hurt

LITCHFIELD (AP) — A packed double-decker Megabus slammed into an Illinois interstate bridge support pillar Thursday, hurtling screaming passengers from their seats and leaving at least one person dead and more than three dozen injured, officials said.

Illinois State Police Trooper Doug Francis said the passenger who died was female, but he would not disclose her name or age. He did not

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WEATHER D6

DRAWING BY CHLOE BAZZELL, NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIFTH-GRADER



PARTLY SUNNY 97 | 75

AREA A3,5,8 CLASSIFIED C3 EDITORIAL A4 LOTTERY A9

SPOTLIGHT A2 SCOREBOARD D2 STOCKS D5 TELEVISION B3

OBITUARIES A6

Becker, Coakley, Clauser, Crabtree, Dana, Kokos, Schmidt, Stamm, Stevens, Valsoano



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