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The Prairie News

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: GALVA



These two historic buildings on Front Street in downtown Galva, Liberal Hall to the left and the Loomis Building to the right, face an uncertain future, as they will be sold at a tax auction later this year. Pictured below is an 1873 advertisement for Liberal Hall. Photos by Carol Townsend.

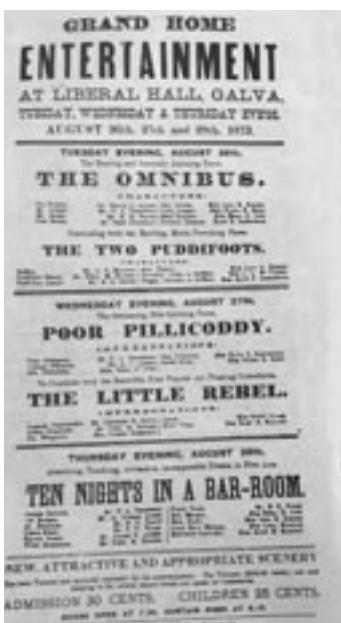
Galva's latest downtown challenge

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**
For The Prairie News

GALVA – Many downtown buildings here have been revitalized in recent years, including the former Opera House, which had a grand reopening in late February for Anderson Family Coffee and the Beatle Box Emporium.

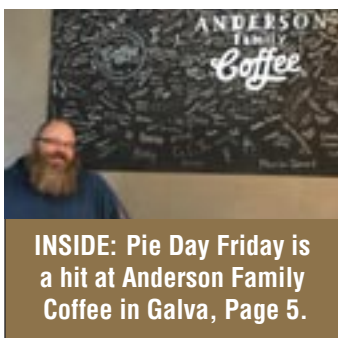
But the City of Galva faces other challenges downtown, including the historic building at 314 Front St., the address given to the former Liberal Hall and the Loomis Building. According to City Administrator David Dyer, back taxes on the building were sold to a Henry County trustee. Dyer said the building will be up for a tax auction after July 31, after which much about its future will be determined. Demolition is an option.

Dyer said nobody has occupied the buildings since Jan. 2, 2018, when the city shut the



water off.

Dyer said the city had an engineer inspect the buildings. While Liberal Hall checked seemed OK at that time, the next door Loomis building did not. Built in 1914, the Loomis Building is not structurally



INSIDE: Pie Day Friday is a hit at Anderson Family Coffee in Galva, Page 5.

sound, according to Dyer, and would need costly renovation.

Both buildings now are in violation of city code and the city hired a company to board up the windows outside the old Liberal Hall. The city has also poured new sidewalks around much of the building, redone the sewer lines and installed new electrical service.

The city even tried to negotiate a sale with present owner, Renae Keysmith, but Dyer said she was “not interested.”

While all of that leaves the
Continued on Page 8

Stark Co. board hears update on new school

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**
For The Prairie News

WYOMING – The Farnsworth Group presented an update on budgeting and scheduling of the proposed new high school building in Toulon at Monday’s meeting.

Speaking to the board were Farnsworth Group representative Scott Burge and CORE Construction director of preconstruction Caleb Wyss. Both agreed that a \$15 million price tag for the project is feasible.

In addition, Burge said that the school district has a “wish list” of items connected with the project. The big ticket item is a new gymnasium at the high school, which is not part of the \$15 million total. Wyss said he estimated the cost of building a new gym would be approximately \$2.4 million and

could be constructed in 2023. The new gym would be located where the existing school building sits.

The existing gym, built in 1960, would still be used, as would the Junior High’s small gymnasium.

Also, the school district has indicated that additional parking spaces are desired beyond those currently planned with the new school building. The new spots would be part of the \$15 million project cost.

There was also discussion concerning heating and air-conditioning systems in the Junior High building, but Wyss said that at this time the estimated cost of \$3 to \$4 million is not feasible.

Highlights from the proposed project timeline includes a bid period from June 21 to July 9, 2021. Construction of the new

Continued on Page 2

Galva returns to five-day school week, seeks grant

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**
For The Prairie News

GALVA – With students headed back to in-person schooling five days, the Galva School board on Monday heard about an Esser II COVID Relief Grant that could bring \$524,000 to the district.

Outgoing Superintendent Doug O’Riley said his successor, Joe Becker, are working on the grant application that is due June 30.

O’Riley said they were applying for cleaning supplies, windows in both buildings, an air conditioner for the weight room, fee waivers for parents, free breakfasts and lunches and replacement of some projectors and smartboards to

make remote learning easier.

The grant would also provide tutors for students to catch up on credits and pay for some student-courses at Blackhawk College.

The board approved Galva students returning to school five days a week starting March 16. The day is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students get a snack about 9:30 a.m. and lunch is sent home. The district hopes to have as many students back as possible for the last nine weeks. Parents can still keep students home for remote learning.

Junior/Senior High School Principal Joe Becker said plans are underway for an outdoor high school
Continued on Page 8

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SCHOOL: Board approves \$15 million in bonds

Continued from Page 1
building would be from Aug. 16 to Aug. 5, 2022. Demolition of the existing school building would be from Sept. 1 to Oct. 1, of 2022.

In conjunction with the Toulon renovation project, there was a public hearing on the issuance of \$15 million funding bonds. There were no comments, as nobody from the public attended the board meeting. There were also no written testimonies.

The board approved a "resolution of intent to issue \$15 million in bonds for the purpose of paying claims against the School District" for the project.

Approval was also given for sev-

eral services provided to the school district: a bus lease with Midwest Bus Sales for \$15,035; a contract with M&M Lawn Service to mow the Wyoming football stadium from April to November for \$35 per hour, up to 200 hours; and for Shirley Striping to paint lines on the football field for \$1,500.

Also approved was the intergovernmental agreement with Black Hawk College for dual credit courses. In addition, approval to post and hire student workers for 2021 was given. There will be seven custodial helpers and one tech-support worker hired.

Discussion without action occurred concerning the April 6 election, in

which several board positions are being voted upon. Board President Ann Orwig said a special meeting may be needed to seat any new members prior to the regularly scheduled April 19 board meeting.

After executive session, the board approved changing the title from Dean of Students to Assistant Principal; gave 3 percent salary increases to elementary principal Jenna Bibb, "assistant principal" of the Junior/Senior High School Anne Snyder, and Tech Director Dale Heinold. Alli Chasteen was hired for fiscal year 2022 as an elementary teacher and Victoria Harmon was hired immediately to be the musical art director.

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The Easter Bunny is social distancing himself from our annual Egg Hunt this year.

He has dropped off some eggs for us to pass out to the kids of Bradford School District.

If you would like us to drop some off at your house, please contact us by Friday, March 26th for delivery on the morning of April 3rd.

Please send your name, address, number of kids and we will leave them in a bag on your porch.

Text: Deb Ryan @ 309-238-8489 or send her a message on Facebook.



More charges possible against Toulon

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

TOULON – Additional charges could be filed against Shawn A.

Slightom, 31, a Toulon man who appeared in Stark's Circuit Court March 12 for a review and bond reduction motion filed by his public defender, Robert McBride.

During testimony, Stark County State's Attorney Caroline Borden-Campion

said two Class A criminal misdemeanor charges of resisting a peace officer could be filed.

For the bond reduction, McBride said Slightom has minor children who he wants to see, but noted that there is currently an outstanding Knox County arrest warrant with a \$10,000 bond pending should his client be released on bond from Stark County.

Borden-Campion argued

Slightom currently has numerous current charges against him in three, possibly four, counties. She said Slightom has violated probation on past charges, refused chemical drug testing mandated for that probation, and missed probation appointments.

"There is a pattern here regarding Mr. Slightom," Borden-Campion said. She said Slightom has missed probation requirements in other counties, as well, and requested that Slightom's bond not be reduced.

"Given the sheer number of offenses while in custody and on other charges, I cannot reduce bond – mo-

tion denied," ruled Circuit Judge James A. Mack.

McBride then entered a not guilty plea to the two recent felonies charged against Slightom, which includes burglary, possession of methamphetamine, driving on a revoked/suspended license DUI, and aggravated battery of a peace officer.

Mack said a jury date would be required in June for a special jury setting because of time related requirements concerning a speedy trial. Slightom remains in custody at the Stark County Jail and has another court appearance scheduled for March 26.

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Super Crossword

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PUBLIC RECORD

**Incidents & Accidents
Stark County**

3-5-21— Kyle J. Jones, 51, Toulon, was cited for disobeying a stop sign and driving without vehicle insurance. He was released with a notice to appear.

3-7-21— Wayne B. Dullin, 57, Toulon, was ticketed for disobeying a controlled access road. He was given a scheduled court date to appear.

3-9-21 — Shawn A. Slightom, 31, Toulon, was charged with two counts of resisting and or obstructing a peace officer. He remains in custody at the Stark County Jail.



Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

3-8-21 — to meet with a sex offender who moved to Galva and needed to register.

3-8 — to the 100 block of SE 1st Street for an attempted phone scam involving Social Security.

3-8 — Officer spoke to a resident in the 00 block of NE 2nd Street about a city ordinance violation involving burning on a non-burn day.

3-8 — Officer attempted to locate a subject wanted on a warrant. Several hours later, Jacob Swearingen, 24, rural Galva, turned himself in at the Galva Police Dept. He was wanted on a Henry County warrant for failure to appear on the charge of sex offender violations. He was given a notice to appear in court and was released.

3-9 — to the 100 block of Market

Street to check a business where the alarm was activated, the door was unlocked and nobody was present. A short time later an employee arrived.

3-9 — Officer spoke to an employee at the Kewanee dog pound about two dogs they received that had belonged to a Galva resident, but apparently had been dumped in Kewanee.

3-9 — Officer responded to a medical emergency on SW 4th Street and drove the ambulance to St. Luke in Kewanee.

3-9 — Officer advised that a resident lost a wallet in the downtown area sometime over the past weekend. They did not want a report done at this time.

3-9 — to the intersection of NW 1st Street and NW 6th Ave. for a dead cat lying in the roadway.

3-9 — to assist Henry County in checking on a motorist assist several miles west of Galva on Route 34. The vehicle was gone prior to the officer's arrival.

3-10 — to an unoccupied house in the 300 block of SE 7th Ave. for a possible burglary in progress complaint. Upon the officer's arrival, he spoke to an employee of a house rehab company that was hired to remodel and or resell the property.

3-10 — to a reckless driving complaint into Galva on Route 34 from the east. The vehicle was stopped. The driver had a dog in their lap that was causing a distraction.

Driver was advised of the com-

plaint.

3-10— As the result of a traffic stop in the 100 block of NW 3rd Ave., Conner Kelly, 23, Galva, was arrested for possession of cannabis with the intent to deliver, as well as traffic citations for driving without headlights when required and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was transported to the Galva Police Department for processing and later released with a notice to appear in court.

3-11 — to a two-vehicle accident with damage only at the intersection of SW 5th Ave. and SW 4th Street. As a result, Kathy Boss, 30, Kewanee, was issued a citation for failure to yield the right-of-way at a stop intersection.

3-11 — to the 600 block of NW 1st Street for a loose dog complaint. The dog was returned to its owner.

3-11 — to the 300 block of SW 7th Street for a complaint involving an attempted unemployment scam.

3-11 — to a suspicious vehicle complaint in the 00 block of NW 4th Ave. Officer located the vehicle and spoke to the occupant. The driver said she had pulled over to use the phone.

3-11 — Officer, along with Stark County Medic, were dispatched to a residence south of Galva for a medical emergency. The subject was found deceased. The Knox County coroner was contacted.

3-13 — to the 300 block of Commercial Street for a suspicious vehicle complaint.

3-14 — to the 00 block of SW 9th Ave. for a loose dog complaint. The dog was returned to its owner.

GROUNDSKEEPER

Stark County is seeking bids for groundskeeper for the 2021 season for the courtyard and county cemetery on Wallace Highway.

Anyone interested may pick up job descriptions at the Stark County Sheriff's Office, 130 W. Jefferson St., Toulon, Illinois. Bids must be returned to Stark County Sheriff's Office marked "Attn: Sheriff Sloan" prior to April 12, 2021.

The position will be on contract for services, and applicants will be interviewed.

We reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

We strongly suggest that you read the job description prior to bidding as some specifications for the job description have changed, which are available at the Sheriff's Office.

The Groundskeeper is classified as an independent contractor and will be required to carry, and provide to the Sheriff, adequate liability insurance & workman's comp. insurance copies.

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PALM SUNDAY

March 28 - 9:00 AM

Boyd's Grove and Leet Memorial United Methodist Churches will worship in-person at Leet Memorial Sanctuary on Palm Sunday.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 4

Boyd's Grove United Methodist Church
7:30 AM and 9:00 AM
Leet Memorial United Methodist Church
10:00 AM

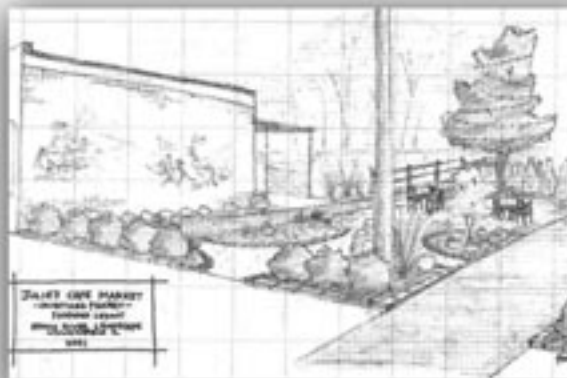
Out of love for our neighbors, we request all persons to wear masks and practice social distancing. Thank you!

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MAKE YOUR IMPRINT ON TOULON!!

**BUY A BRICK
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Julie's
Garden Cafe**



Dear Toulon Booster,

We are out rattling our tin cup for a great community cause—creation of Julie's Garden Café, adjacent to her store.

To be created this spring, the Garden Café will be a delightful, professionally landscaped pocket park where folks can enjoy a coffee, lunch, a glass of wine outdoors under an oversize umbrella, to shade you as you desire, as you catch a refreshing breeze. We are hoping to try such as weekly classic movies under the stars, maybe even a live guitarist; who knows? We are planning to have a couple of lawn games available, which young and old can enjoy.

Next year, we hope to have a mural painted on the wall to the east of the lot, which Julie's owns. We will take a survey of residents to see what scene they would most like to enjoy.

You and/or your business can make your permanent, visible imprint on your community by investing in a handsome engraved \$100 brick emblazoned with your name. The bricks will serve as the edging of the pathway from the Main Street sidewalk to the table area. That way, all can appreciate your support for Toulon.

The Garden Café will cost about \$9,000. Jim Nowlan has donated \$1,000 to get things rolling. We ask you to purchase a brick, or more than one, to note your business, or simply your name and/or that of loved ones, or of notable people you would like to memorialize.

We will be taking an eyesore of a lot and transforming it into a comfortable setting for all to enjoy and appreciate. A nice plus for Toulon.

To make your imprint on Toulon, simply send a check at \$100 per brick, or more if you wish, to Julie Henderson at 114 East Main, Toulon IL 61483, or drop the check off with Julie when you stop by for a meal and groceries.

We will then get back to you to ask for the specific lettering you wish (total of 3 lines, and 20 characters per line).

Thanks for your continuing support for Toulon and community. Please help make Julie's Garden Café a reality. Holler if questions.

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Jim Nowlan
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GUEST VOICES

Who do we blame for not farming right?

The tree-lined streets of the University of Massachusetts (UMass) and hallowed hallways of Yale University are two places most farmers would not expect to find a hot debate over soil erosion.

And, yet, late this winter, staff at both campuses attacked agriculture's ongoing failure to protect farmland. Don't worry, no ivory tower was toppled. The standard Midwestern view of soil loss – that it's a cost of production like seed or fertilizer – took a long-overdue hit, though.



Alan GUEBERT

The examination began in mid-February when Yale Environment 360, an online magazine published by the university's School of Environment, highlighted a December UMass study that showed "more than a third of farmland in the U.S. Corn Belt" – or about 30 million acres – "has completely lost its carbon-rich topsoil due to erosion..."

To anyone needing to eat a generation from now, that's stop-the-presses news.

And it was – but not in the corn-and-soybean Midwest. Instead, the soil loss numbers caught the attention of one-time Iowa farmboy, Verlyn Klinkenborg, a lecturer at Yale and, from 1997 to 2013, a member of the New York Times Editorial Board.

In a March 1 essay titled "How the Loss of Soil Is Sacrificing America's Natural Heritage," Klinkenborg politely chided the UMass geoscientists for narrowing the research's shatter-

ing news on "catastrophic" topsoil loss into the mollifying language of ag economics: soil loss is about today's dollars, not tomorrow's lives.

"Inevitably, the paper goes on to calculate the economic implications of these findings," he writes. "And that's how the agricultural press (which has barely noticed this study so far) has read it: The loss of topsoil on 30 million acres may result in a possible \$3 billion loss to 'Midwestern farmers.'"

It's what we do in agriculture, isn't it: we put prices on priceless items like topsoil, clean water, and clean air so we can continue to abuse these "irreplaceable resources" until we're forced to change.

Besides, \$3 billion isn't that much, right?

If we can do that to "an essential part of our common heritage," topsoil, then it's no surprise that "(t)he narrowness of these assumptions... has made it possible to farm in a way that is little more than slow strip-mining."

In fact, today's obsessive devotion to economics – money – has flipped an "old – and in big ag circles, forgotten – maxim that good farmers don't really think about raising crops: they think about improving soil."

It's also led to industrial farming and "Industrial farming is like holding up the grocer at gunpoint for a head of lettuce – 'efficient' in the short term, but eventually disastrous," says Klinkenborg.

And disaster is where we now are in topsoil, explain UMass researchers. To measure today's soil status, the researchers used high-definition satellite imagery, "soil spectral data,"

and recent soil carbon indexing to measure how much "A-horizon" soil, topsoil, has been lost on intensely-farmed Midwestern land.

What they found, says Klinkenborg, was "shocking:" that "the A-horizon [soil] has been completely removed from 35 percent," plus or minus 11 percent, "of the cultivated area of the Corn Belt."

Plus or minus "11 percent is a large range of uncertainty," he admits. "But its meaning is plain. At best, 24 percent of the topsoil in the Corn Belt has been completely removed by farming. At worst, 46 percent has been lost."

Both numbers are terrible and both point to how "modern" farming must change to remain viable and, simultaneously, regenerative as climate change – not "efficiency" – impacts all farmers. The hopeful part is that we already know what we must do and we know how to do it.

First, however, we'll waste precious time on the blame game.

"It's easy to blame the old farmers," writes Klinkenborg, "...the ones who broke the prairie and their immediate descendants – for not farming in a way that conforms to what we know now. But we ourselves aren't farming the way we now know we should. Who do we blame for that?"

Who, indeed.

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NOTICE
Pleasant Valley & Snareville Cemetery Clean-Up
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 Must be removed by April 15, 2021
Thank you, Penn Township

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Notice to Stark County Voters
 Early voting for the 2021 Consolidated Election begins February 25th and ends April 5th at the office of the Stark County Clerk 130 W. Main, Toulon. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. In addition, the office will be open Saturday, April 3rd from 9-12 p.m. for early voting.
Heather L. Hollis
 Stark County Election Authority

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 Applications must be picked up and returned to the Stark County Sheriff's Office. Wage packets will be available with the applications. Applications should be returned by **April 5, 2021.**

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: GALVA

Pie Day Friday at hit for Anderson Coffee

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Friday Pie Day has been a hit this winter for Brian Anderson.

Earlier this winter, Anderson Family Coffee opened for business in the former Opera House building located at 344 Front St.

Anderson, owner of Anderson Family Coffee, had been operating out of Special Kneads Bakery since June of 2019. But in an effort to expand, he purchased the Opera House building and worked hard for several months with friends and family to get his coffee shop and gift shop open.

Anderson said he had a good day on the Monday grand opening, selling plenty of coffee by the cup and the package. He said several people from out of town stopped by just for the chance to come into the Opera House building and see the historic old brick and tin ceilings.

An even bigger hit has been Pie Day Friday. Anderson sold out all the pies he baked for the first Friday and has had to up his baking since then, with a wide variety of different pies.

Store hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on Sundays.

The shop is open for carry out only at the present time until the restrooms are complete. Anderson has plans for tables and booths for seating when the restrooms are in.

He has a roasting room and kitchen in the back and sells coffee by the bag as well as fresh ground.

Anderson said he also ships all over the world and his coffee products are sold in several other locations, including Entwined and Krans Café in Bishop Hill, Yer Kiln Me and a Few of My Favorite Things in Wyoming, the General Store in Dahinda, Polka Dotted Dresser in Sheffield and at a



The storefronts in the Galva Opera House building look fresh and new and house the Anderson Family Coffee and The Beatle Box Emporium. Photos by Carol Townsend.



Brian Anderson stands in front of the chalkboard he has had all his customers sign since he opened in 2019. The sign now hangs in the former Galva Opera House building.

Wisconsin store, as well.

Coffee sales are located in the building to the east and the middle room is a gift shop called The Beatle Box Emporium. On sale there are items from local artists, including pottery, blankets-quilts, candles, soaps, antiques, home décor, jewelry, Galva items, Galva sportswear and clothing made by Brenda Jeffries. The Plaid Cow, a Galva company, also has interesting items in the shop. Anderson said he expects that more local crafters will be featured in the shop in the months to come.

There is also a room with a couch and a few chairs so that if someone wants to have a small meeting, they

can use that space.

Anderson says he hopes to have the upstairs ballroom going this fall, though plastering the ceiling will be a big job. Anderson said the original stage curtain is still upstairs.

Anderson has more plans for the coffee shop and for the west storefront, where Demarte Enterprises plans to start a magazine and a publication on the history of Galva. That storefront was last home to the now-defunct Galva News.

Anderson hopes to hire more employees when he gets going in full operation, but for now his daughters, Galva High School students Liberty and Ava, help when they can.

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: GALVA

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Three Galva High School FFA members won jackets this year through the GROWMARK Mike Bulta FFA jacket scholarship.

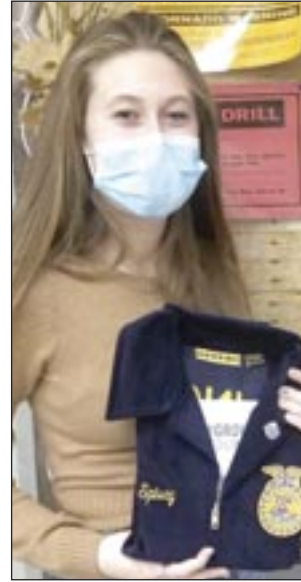
Mike was vice president of GROWMARK and died unexpectedly. His wife Sheila and two daughters Haley and Kelsey wanted to honor him by giving away 100 jackets in the scholarship this year. The three Galva winners are: juniors Alexis Spivey, TJ Conner and Taylor Burke.

Park Board – The Galva Park Board plans to the State of Illinois to see what information is available for opening the pool for 2021.

The board is still taking applications for Superintendent. Applications are available at Porter Hay Insurance on Main Street in Galva. The position pays \$7,500 per year.

Questions concerning the Galva Park District should be directed to Board President Katie Laurin in the absence of a Superintendent.

Supertendent Lou



Spivey

Patty's retirement was effective Jan. 31.

The board had an inquiry from Bev Laramore about her late husband's bench, tree and plaque. The bench is in place and the tree and plaque will be installed when the weather warms up.

Lions Club – The Galva Lions Club is seeking members. Call Kevin at (309) 883-1689. The Lions Club meet the second and the fourth Wednesday evenings each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Galva American Legion.



Conner

Food Pantry – Shelves are well stocked at the food pantry located at First Baptist Church in Galva. Hours fare every Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m.

Face masks and social distancing are required. Two volunteers, Keith and David Haga of Galva make two trips a week to the River Bend Food Bank in the Quad Cities and bring items back to the pantry. Many other volunteers work in the



Burke

pantry and are ready to help when customers come in.

The church is located across from Galva's Wiley Park at 211 North-west Fourth Avenue.

Blood Drive – The Red Cross will have a Blood Drive at the First United Methodist Church in Galva on Tuesday, March 23, from 1-6 p.m. To made an appointment, please call 1-800-733-2767. All blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies. Results will be available in 7-14 days.

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: GALVA

Galva Fire Dept. selling signs

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Galva Fire Department is selling reflective address signs. The signs are about 4 inches by 14 inches and cost \$25.

Signs are painted green with white letters and help emergency vehicles find your home.

The project is helping the firemen raise a little money because they had to cancel their

annual hog roast last August due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fire Chief Nate Byers said the signs fit on rural mailboxes but have been also popular with residents in Galva.

If you would like to order a sign, please call (309) 932-2114 and leave a message or call City Hall at (309) 932-2555 and a fireman will call you back.

Nelson honored by Betas

GALVA – Sally Nelson is being honored by the Xi Kappa Gamma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi in Galva for being in the organization for 50 years.

Sally joined Beta Sigma Phi when she lived in Gallesburg and transferred to Galva's sorority chapter when she married Harlan Nelson and moved near Galva 30 years ago.

She was sent yellow roses by her Galva chapter and received a 50-year golden circle pin.



Nelson

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: GALVA

DOWNTOWN: Building housed many businesses

Continued from Page 1
future very uncertain, past lives of these buildings are certainly colorful.

Prior to Keysmith taking ownership, Wanda and Bill Frisby operated a ceramic shop in both buildings. When they retired and Bill passed away, the building was sold.

That is part of a long history. The Loomis Building was actually the second structure on that property, and was erected in 1914 by H.P. Loomis after a hotel was torn down in 1912.

Many businesses have been in the

buildings over the years. In 1940 the Peterson's purchased the building as headquarters of the Galva Creamery. There were nice apartments on the second floor, with bay windows that have been removed.

The Galva Creamery, which has since been torn down, was located to the right of 314 Front St.

Before the Frisbys ceramics shop, there was a laundromat and a Galva motor and blower business. Other businesses over the years include the A and P store, Brown Lynch Scott,

Bigelow, Hiran Law Office, two banks (First National and Yocum), K and P Lodge Library Theatre, the Galva News and many more.

In Liberal Hall, the auditorium extended across the back or north of the building. The center door is the doorway which leads up to the second floor. There were dances and plays in this building and the stage still remains, as well as an old bank vault.

No question, there is much Galva history in these two empty store fronts just waiting for a new owner.

SCHOOL BOARD: Galva prom set for April 24

Continued from Page 1
graduation on Sunday, May 16, at the football field. Prom is set for April 24 at the River Music Experience in Davenport. It will be a formal affair, masks required, social distancing followed and no dancing.

The board also approved:

- Maternity leave for **Kathryn Bosnich**; **Leslie Rogers** as a volunteer assistant coach for junior-high and high school cheerleading; **Darcy**

- Swanson** as coach for 8th grade girls basketball.; **Sarah Townsend** as coach for 7th grade girls basketball; **Colton Garcia** as volunteer assistant for H.S. baseball; **Shane Kaiser** as boys varsity track coach; and **Caelin Foley** as assistant varsity track coach.

- Assignment of third year probationary status for **Holly Wangelin**, **Heather Sellers**, **Jessica Dean** and **Amanda Dynes**.

- Assignment of fourth year proba-

tionary status for: **Katie Bosnich**, **Rachel Remmert** and **Josh Morris**.

- Assignment of tenured status to **Josh Harris**.

- A formal retirement plan for Principal **Mary Kelly** with a 6 percent pay increase for 2021-22 and another 6 percent increase for 2022-23.

- Approved the golf and cross country co-op with ROWVA and Williamsfield for 2021-22.

- The school calendar.

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LEGAL ADS

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stark County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Encompassed, located at 2529 Township Road 1600E, Wyoming, Illinois.
Dated March 1, 2021
Heather Hollis
Stark County Clerk
Published 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/21

NOTICE OF INTENTION OF COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 100, STARK, KNOX, MARSHALL, HENRY AND PEORIA COUNTIES, ILLINOIS TO ISSUE \$15,000,000 FUNDING BONDS
Public Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of March, 2021, the Board of Education (the "Board") of Community Unit School District Number 100, Stark, Knox, Marshall, Henry and Peoria Counties, Illinois (the "District"), adopted a resolution declaring its intention and determination to issue bonds in the aggregate amount of \$15,000,000 for the purpose of paying presently outstanding and unpaid claims against the District, all of which unpaid claims have been heretofore authorized and allowed for proper school purposes and it is the intention of the Board to avail of the provisions of Article 19 (Sections 19-8 to 19-14, inclusive) of the School Code of the State of Illinois, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, and to issue said bonds for the purpose of paying such unpaid claims.
A petition may be filed with the Secretary of the Board (the "Secretary") within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice, signed by not less than 324 voters of the District, said number of voters being equal to ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of the District, requesting that the proposition to issue said bonds as authorized by the provisions of said Article 19 be submitted to the voters of the District. If such petition is filed with the Secretary within thirty

(30) days after the date of publication of this notice, an election on the proposition to issue said bonds shall be held on the 15th day of March, 2022. The Circuit Court may declare that an emergency referendum should be held prior to said election date pursuant to the provisions of Section 2A-1.4 of the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended. If no such petition is filed within said thirty (30) day period, then the District shall thereafter be authorized to issue said bonds for the purpose hereinabove provided.
By order of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 100, Stark, Knox, Marshall, Henry and Peoria Counties, Illinois. Dated this 15th day of March, 2021.
Elizabeth Rumbold
Secretary, Board of Education, Community Unit School District Number 100, Stark, Knox, Marshall, Henry and Peoria Counties, Illinois and
Ann Orwig
President, Board of Education, Community Unit School District Number 100, Stark, Knox, Marshall, Henry and Peoria Counties, Illinois
Published 3/19/21

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of Penn in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6:30 o'clock p.m. at the Township meeting room, Castleton, Illinois for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The Budget Hearing will be held immediately following the Annual meeting.
Dated March 19, 2021
Johanna Mueller,
Penn Township Clerk
Published 3/19/21

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of Penn in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6:30 o'clock p.m. at the Township meeting room, Castleton, Illinois for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The Budget Hearing will be held immediately following the Annual meeting.
Dated March 19, 2021
Johanna Mueller,
Penn Township Clerk
Published 3/19/21

residents of the Town of Goshen in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the Goshen Township Building for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The regular monthly meeting will be held immediately following the Annual meeting.
Dated March 19, 2021
Pamela Wulf,
Goshen Township Clerk
Published 3/19/21

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Proposed Tariff Changes Electric Service Schedule III. C. C. No. 1
To the Electric Patrons of Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois:
Ameren Illinois (or Company) hereby gives notice to the public that on February 26, 2021, it filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC or Commission) evidence (direct testimony) regarding the reconciliation of revenues collected from its electric customers under the Company's

Hazardous Materials Adjustment Clause (HMAC) Rider, with actual and prudent associated costs from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The HMAC Rider is applicable to Rate Zone III only (formerly Illinois Power Company d/b/a AmerenIP service territory). This reconciliation may result in changes to the Company's rates and charges with respect to electric delivery services in the Company's Rate Zone III service area in Illinois. The changes in rates and charges will take effect after hearings and after the Commission issues its final Order.
The Commission docketed the filing as Docket No. 21-0096. A copy of the evidence may be inspected at Ameren Illinois' offices located at 300 Liberty Street, Peoria, Illinois or online at www.icc.illinois.gov/e-docket/.
All parties interested in this matter may obtain information with respect thereto either directly from Ameren Illinois or by addressing the Chief Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62706.
AMEREN ILLINOIS COMPANY
d/b/a Ameren Illinois
By: Richard J. Mark, President
Published 3/19/21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Annual Treasurer's Report Elmira Township Road District Fiscal Year Ending February 28, 2021		
Revenue Summary: Property taxes - \$39,221.03; Replacement tax - \$2,527.53; Interest income - \$1,272.55; Motor Fuel tax - \$34,910.97		
Total Revenues : \$77,932.08		
Compensation Summary: Day Labors; Cole Bennet - \$2,827.50; Robin Strandberg - \$5,811.00; T. Rashid - \$1,300; K. VanDeRostyne - \$624.00; Cody Bennett - \$1,215.00		
Total Compensation : \$11,778.00		
Expenditure Summary: Purtcher Oil Co. - \$4,374.53; Dwaine Jackson Trucking - \$29,383.54; River Stone - \$1,026.58; Martin Sullivan - \$4,207.83; Hodge's 66 - \$6,356.01; Henry County Hwy. - \$1,602.54; All other disbursements less than \$1,000.00 - \$5,282.49		
Total Vendors : \$53,466.28		
Summary Statement of Condition		
	General Fund	Special Funds
Beginning Balance	\$40,582.74	\$33,940.01
Revenues	\$71,730.37	\$6,201.71
Expenditures	\$65,244.28	\$000.00
Ending balance	\$47,068.83	\$40,141.72
Subscribed and sworn to this 5 day March, 2021		
John Lane, Elmira Township Supervisor		

Estate of WILLIAM H. SWATOS, JR., Deceased – No. 2021-P-41
Notice is given of the death of WILLIAM H. SWATOS, JR. Letters of Independent Executor were issued on March 5, 2021 to Giles S. Swatos, of 9116 Cypresswood Circle, Tampa, FL 33647, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Jordan J. Newell, Massie & Quick, 115 NW 3rd Avenue, Galva, IL 61434.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Henry County Circuit Clerk, Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois 61238, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed with that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
Massie & Quick, LLC Attorneys for the Estate
115 West Northwest Third Avenue Galva IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 3/19, 3/26, 4/1/21

Deceased – No. 2021-P-10
Notice is given of the death of ROSEMARY A. ENTAS. Letters of Independent Executor were issued on January 13, 2021, to Thomas Entas, of 6265 E 2370 St., Kewanee, IL 61443, Elizabeth Bisschop, of 61443, Charles Entas, of 6908 E 2000 St., Kewanee, IL 61443 and Ann Stodgel, of 217 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434 as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Michael E. Massie, of Massie & Quick, 115 NW 3rd Avenue, Galva, IL 61434.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Henry County Circuit Clerk, Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois 61238, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed with that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
Massie & Quick, LLC Attorneys for the Estate
115 West Northwest Third Avenue Galva IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 3/19, 3/26, 4/1/21

**Annual Treasurer's Report
Elmira Township
Fiscal Year Ending February 28, 2021**

Revenue Summary: Property taxes - 57,668.24; Replacement tax - 2093.79; Interest income - 1195.20; Insurance dividend - 991.00; Cemetery Lots - 2600.00; Insurance Claim - 70.00; Election - 100.00		
Total Revenues : \$65,348.23		
Compensation Summary: Road Commissioner, Matthew Bennett - 25,200.00; Supervisor, John Lane - 3640.00; Clerk, Larry Perkins - 1,240.00; Trustees, Ronald Turnbull - 520.00; David Perkins - 520.00; Timothy Shaner - 520.00; Cliff Lane - 520.00; Cemetery Trustees, Denise Wilkinson - 200.00; Steve Loudenburg - 200.00; Carol Lane - 200.00		
Total Compensation : \$32,760.00		
Expenditure Summary: TOIRMA - 6858.00; Social Security & Medicare Tax - 3406.66; Cemetery mowing/ Brock's Lawn Care - 10,997.00; All other disbursements less than \$1000.00 each - 2889.27		
Total Vendors : \$24,150.93		
Summary Statement of Condition		
	General Fund	Special Funds
Beginning Balance	\$23,756.79	\$76,791.37
Revenues	\$38,233.91	\$27,114.32
Expenditures	\$33,199.27	\$23,711.66
Ending balance	\$28,791.43	\$80,194.03
Subscribed and sworn to this 5 day March, 2021		
John Lane, Elmira Township Supervisor		

LTC picks basketball all-conference

By Prairie News Staff reports

Lincoln Trail Conference coaches have picked all-conference basketball teams. Senior Ryan Murphy of Stark County was selected for LTC first-team honors, as were seniors Sam Streitmatter and Cole Daily of Princeville. Senior Tanner Lain of Galva made the LTC second team, as did Princeville senior Chase Williams and ROWVA-Williamsfield sophomore Graham Wight. On the girls side, seniors Olivia Hopps and Kelsey Berchtold of Stark County made the first-team after closing out their senior night with a win over Putnam County. Other first-teamers were seniors Caitlyn Thole and Ashleigh Brawley of Princeville. Sophomore Lexi Stone of Galva made second team along with sopho-

mores Destinee Harwood and Brenna Schupbach of Princeville and senior teammate Elle Schupbach. Sophomore Kali Yelm of Galva was honorable mention. Galva closed its season with a 55-42 win over Midland. Stone had 25, Ava Strom added 13 and Yelm had 9. **IHSA postseason** – The Illinois High School Association Board of Directors has approved dates and parameters for some spring IHSA State Series. • Bass fishing – Sectionals May 6, State finals May 21-22. • Girls track and field – Sectionals June 2-4, State finals June 10-12. • Boys track and field – Sectionals June 9-11, State finals June 17-19. At press time, schedules for baseball and softball had not yet been posted.

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ANSWER ON PAGE 2

Super Crossword

JUMBLE OF TREES

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Item in a place setting</p> <p>6 Duffels, e.g.</p> <p>10 Grand tales</p> <p>15 Hence</p> <p>19 Boundary</p> <p>20 "— Three Ships"</p> <p>21 — Park (Edison's home)</p> <p>22 Took off</p> <p>23 Really big tree?</p> <p>25 Fundamental tree?</p> <p>27 Longs for</p> <p>28 Franz who composed "The Merry Widow"</p> <p>30 Early settler</p> <p>31 "Erin Burnett OutFront" channel</p> <p>32 Passes on, as a story</p> <p>34 French brandy</p> <p>35 Chinese ideology centered around a tree?</p> <p>39 Actor Maheshbala</p> <p>41 "Family Guy" creator MacFarlane</p>	<p>42 Soon</p> <p>43 Two of Henry VIII's wives</p> <p>44 Coagulates</p> <p>46 "Gunga Din" studio</p> <p>47 Recorded digitally, in a way</p> <p>49 LAX datum</p> <p>51 Wharf locale</p> <p>56 Tree-dwelling hooded snake?</p> <p>60 Tree whose trunk curves?</p> <p>62 Cut of pork</p> <p>63 Dutch Renaissance scholar</p> <p>65 Flake part</p> <p>66 Nuances</p> <p>69 Item in a place setting</p> <p>70 Of delicate beauty</p> <p>72 A shot</p> <p>73 Love-struck</p> <p>74 Farm vehicle</p> <p>75 Tree sold at a low price?</p> <p>78 Cantaloupe growing on a tree?</p> <p>83 More flavorful</p> <p>84 Indy circuit</p> <p>86 Auction site</p> <p>87 Union promise</p> <p>88 Slant</p>	<p>90 Millionaire-making game</p> <p>93 Menial type</p> <p>94 Provoke</p> <p>96 Corp. wheel</p> <p>99 Charm exuding from a tree?</p> <p>102 Nancy of the House</p> <p>104 Like sown seeds</p> <p>106 "Aly McBeal" co-star Lucy</p> <p>107 In total</p> <p>109 — Gay (WWII B-29)</p> <p>110 Tea-scenting blossom</p> <p>114 Tree that makes people think like a French novelist?</p> <p>116 Window sections through which trees are visible?</p> <p>118 Richard of "Wicked Woman"</p> <p>119 "Für —" (piano piece)</p> <p>120 Romances</p> <p>121 Florida bird</p> <p>122 Mail in</p> <p>123 Steven of Aerosmith</p> <p>124 Fit of pique</p>	<p>125 Flow inventor John</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Pleased</p> <p>2 Citrus fruit</p> <p>3 Hi-5 parts</p> <p>4 Microchip material</p> <p>5 Ships' rears</p> <p>6 Slant</p> <p>7 Viper variety</p> <p>8 Old warship</p> <p>9 Deary</p> <p>10 Prepare for a pyramid</p> <p>11 Oyster bead</p> <p>12 People with clout</p> <p>13 Applaud</p> <p>14 Asked for</p> <p>15 Nasal singing tones</p> <p>16 Curtis of cosmetics</p> <p>17 Overthrow</p> <p>18 Potato stuff</p> <p>24 Suvari of Hollywood</p> <p>26 Ghostly cry</p> <p>29 "Siddhartha" novelist</p> <p>32 Soul music is a form of it</p> <p>33 — soda (cleanser)</p> <p>35 Singer Cohn</p> <p>36 Jimmy Duran's "— Dinka Doo"</p>	<p>37 "Park" a ship</p> <p>38 Central Georgia city</p> <p>40 Gets bested</p> <p>44 Vivid crimson</p> <p>45 Egg pouch</p> <p>47 Slender woodwind</p> <p>48 CBS military law show</p> <p>50 Fez dangler</p> <p>52 Small and 70-Across</p> <p>53 Chief Nurse god</p> <p>54 Talk wildly</p> <p>55 Deuce taker</p> <p>57 Hackneyed</p> <p>58 Grid of fine lines in an eyepiece</p> <p>59 Franklin of soul</p> <p>61 — -de-sac</p> <p>64 See 71-Down</p> <p>66 Splinter group</p> <p>67 Laugh sound</p> <p>68 Golf coups</p> <p>69 Thurman of Hollywood</p> <p>70 Funny Carvey</p> <p>71 With 64-Down, hostile swimming insect</p> <p>73 Suit fabric</p>	<p>74 Old computer language</p> <p>76 Entertainer Zadora</p> <p>77 Gift for a drawer, perhaps</p> <p>79 Dead! (out)</p> <p>80 In — of (replacing)</p> <p>81 Gas leak giveaway</p> <p>82 Zich</p> <p>85 Suburb of Dallas</p> <p>89 Hack (off)</p> <p>91 Prohibits</p> <p>92 High crime</p> <p>93 Bird feathers</p> <p>94 Gaps</p> <p>95 Mammal's fur</p> <p>96 Comic Tracey</p> <p>97 Poly-poly</p> <p>99 Cavalry soldier</p> <p>100 Actor Ruck</p> <p>101 Talked like Cindy Brady</p> <p>103 Alert at sea</p> <p>105 Car contract</p> <p>108 As is fitting</p> <p>110 Joke</p> <p>111 About (idol)</p> <p>112 — -do-well (idol)</p> <p>113 Punta del —</p> <p>115 1,000 G's</p> <p>117 Luau bowlful</p>
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CONSOLIDATED ELECTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, April 6th at the usual polling places in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, a Consolidated Election will be held. All polling places shall be open from 6:00 am. until 7:00 pm on Election Day at which time the following offices will be elected:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities: Mayor/Clerk/Treasurer/Alderman • Villages: President/Clerk/Trustees • Park District Commissioners • Library District Trustees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Townships: Supervisor/Clerk/ Road Commissioner/Assessor/Trustees • School Board Members • Regional School Board of Trustees • Community College Trustees
--	---

List of addresses of Precinct Polling Places:

East Toulon Precinct 100 N. Main, Wyoming (Wyoming Fire Station)
 Elmira Precinct 10458 W. Osceola Rd, Osceola (Elmira Township Building)
 Essex Precinct 103 S. Third, Wyoming (Essex Township Building)
 Goshen Precinct 3986 State Route 17, Toulon (Goshen Township Building)
 Osceola Precinct 239 W. Main, Bradford (Bradford Fire Station)
 Penn Precinct 304 Concord, Castleton (Penn Township Building)
 Valley Precinct 15005 Township Rd 300 N, Wyoming (Valley Township Building)
 West Jersey Precinct 3019 Sharkey Hwy, Toulon (West Jersey Township Building)
 West Toulon Precinct 617 E. Jefferson, Toulon (Toulon Public Library)

Dated this 19th day of March, 2021
Heather L. Hollis
 Stark County Clerk & Recorder

516 W. First Street, Kewanee

Located close to Irving School, Visitation School and YMCA, this Victorian 3 - 4 bedroom, 2 bath home has kitchen, pantry, dining room, living room, family room and bath on main floor and 3 bedrooms and bath on second floor, appliances (not warranted) that stay, and central air. Updates per Seller: new roof w/complete tear-off (2020) electrical and plumbing (2006) and added insulation (2008)

\$49,000.00

105 E. Third Street • Kewanee
(309) 852-4030

Tracy Interrial

PH: (309) 852-4030
Cell: (309) 854-3801

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<p>13598 Twp Rd 950N, Wyoming</p> <p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>2BR, Walk Out Basement, 2 car detached garage, Machine Shed, Fenced Pasture 4.5 acres. \$185,900</p>	<p>103 W Clinton St, Toulon</p> <p>1 1/2 Story, 3 BR Home, 2 Full Bath, Replacement Windows, Refrigerator and Stove/Oven Stay, 2 Car Detached Garage. \$59,900</p>
--	--

521 N Galena, Wyoming

3BR, 2-Story, 2BA, Beautiful Woodwork, Appliances Stay. **\$75,900**

Ryan Breese

309/339-5034

CLASSIFIED ADS - Call (309) 286-2185

FOR RENT

• **WYOMING:** Two-bedroom at 102 East Elm, living/kitchen downstairs, bedrooms and bath upstairs. \$450/month includes heat and water. No smoking, no pets. Landlord and employer references required. Call (612) 940-5208.

• **RAPATEE:** Two story, 2 BR, large yard, \$450/month plus utilities, deposit and references required. (309) 817-0068.

FOR SALE

• **INCUBATOR:** Incubator - will handle goose and duck eggs, good condition, \$75. Phone (309) 243-5278.

• **GRASS HAY:** No rain, on wagons, \$4 bale, (309) 635-4575.

• **ANTIQUES:** Baysinger's Used & Antique Furniture: Large selection of Shabby Chic all real wood furniture, cottage white w/ finished top. Always buying older wood furniture. Check out Baysinger's Facebook, 1135 Railroad Ave (Rt. 34, East), Kewanee (309) 883-0164.

HELP WANTED

• **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** Stahl Lumber/Ready-Mix, 117 S. Galena Ave., Wyoming. Laborers, concrete finishers, truck drivers (CDL Class B), apply in person.

• **HELP WANTED:** Nutrien Ag Solutions, Princeville, is seeking a temporary full-time Administrative Assistant for the upcoming Spring 2021 season. This position does have the possibility to become permanent. This person will perform office duties assigned to them including, answering phones, filing, product receivers, etc. Please contact Jeff Gehrig at (309) 385-2178 for more information.

• **HELP WANTED:** Spoon River Valley Farms is looking for a full-time farm hand. All duties that

apply to a corn and soybean operation will be required. Some of these duties are planting, harvesting, hauling grain and general maintenance around a shop and grain facility. Experience and a Class A CDL are needed but not required. Spoon River has medical insurance and a retirement plan in place. If you have questions or would like to set up an interview contact Nick at (309) 712-5468.

• **HELP WANTED:** Ag-Land FS, Brimfield, seeking part-time/seasonal drivers and plant help for the upcoming Spring 2021 season. Driver position requires a current CDL "B" License. Contact Jason Bird at (309) 446-3318 or (309) 208-2466.

WANTED

• **JUNK CARS:** Highest price paid for junk cars. Call (309) 932-8220. Will pick up.

NOTICE

FIRST Baptist Church of Wyoming Food Distribution Center is open Sundays only 2:30 -4:30 p.m. at WyHi Community Center, 401 N. Galena Ave., Wyoming. Elderly and disabled persons call (309) 695-5116 for delivery. Bring boxes.

THANK YOU

• **FREE THANK YOU** notes in this space, call (309) 286-2185 or email ads@prairie-news.com.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Toulon United Methodist Church

Rev. Leon D. Pomeroy
229 W. Main St., Toulon
PO Box 538
(812) 698-9294
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m., All Ages.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Check us out on Facebook @
Toulon United Methodist Church

Elmira United Presbyterian Church

Rev. Art Blegen
7874 State Route 93, Toulon, IL 61483
(309) 896-3481
Services each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/Elmirachurch1852>

The Gathering Church

Location: The Ely Barn
2403 Township Rd. 100 N., Toulon, IL 61483
40°59'24" N 89°56'20"W
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
Mail: PO Box 322
Wyoming, IL 61491
info@thegathering.life
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

1st Congregational Church of Toulon

Guest Speaker
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon
309-286-7340 Leave Message.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. in-person or
watch us live at <https://facebook.com/fcctoulon>

Galva Congregational Church

Pastor Josh Ryner
211 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Galva, Illinois 61434
(309) 932-3733
Service Time 10 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

"faith in truth"
211 NW 4th Ave GALVA
Main Service: Sun 10:30
New Preacher! Bryan Griem
(309) 932-2713
GalvaBaptistChurch.com

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Join the directory for \$150 per year. For just \$3 per week, put your information in 7,000 newspapers every Friday. In addition, if you run ads you will automatically be given the lowest rate of \$4.25 per column inch. Please email information to: ads@prairie-news.com or mail it (with a check made out to Lampe Publications LLC) to: The Prairie News; PO Box 240; Toulon, IL 61483-0240.

OBITUARIES

Robert (Bob) S. Caldwell

EDELSTEIN – Robert (Bob) S. Caldwell, 84, of Edelstein, Ill., passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on March 3, 2021, after a three-year battle with lung cancer. He was born June 21, 1936, on a farm near Deer Grove, Ill., to Gerald and Dorothy (Rasmussen) Caldwell.



Caldwell

His family moved to rural Edelstein where he attended the one-room South Hampton Grade School, and where at 6 years old, he met Carol Gronewold who would later become his wife of over 64 years. They both graduated from Dunlap High School in 1954, were married July 1, 1956, and became parents of three sons.

Bob was dedicated to his family and is survived by his wife, Carol; two sons, Craig (Jamie) Caldwell of Edelstein, and Rodney (Vickie) Caldwell of Clancy, Mont.; eight grandchildren, Stephanie, Samantha (Jeremy) Schaub, Sydney (Richard) Heinz, James, Taylor, Abigail, Darcie, and Heath; three great-grandchildren, Waylon, Bexley, Hampton and one on the way; sisters Judy Elwell and Helen (Bernie) Rock; and several cherished nieces, nephews, and cousins. Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brother-in-law Jerome Elwell; and his beloved son, Doug who passed in 2016.

Bob started working for his father at Caldwell Brothers Soil Service, took an apprenticeship at Caterpillar, retired after 34 years at Long Rock Company, and then established Caldwell Trucking with his sons, Craig and Doug. He also farmed nearly his entire life.

Bob loved spending time with his friends and family, taking fishing trips to Canada, hunting, camping, and traveling the U.S. He and his wife enjoyed ballroom dancing at the

Hub and square dancing with the Edelstein Do Si Do club.

Bob was honest, humble and sincere, and we will miss his laughter and guidance. We are thankful for Pastor Ryan Anderson, members of First English Lutheran Church – at which he was a member – and the friends and family who called on him during his final days. The family wishes to thank Dr. Brian Cohen, Dr. J. Crabb, staff at Lincare, Dr. Fishkin and staff at Illinois Cancer Center. A special thanks for the second opinion of Dr. Bond, who saw the value of saving a man's eyesight even as he approached the end of his life. We are especially grateful for Ruby, Jeanette and the staff at UnityPoint Hospice who helped us through this journey.

Cremation rites have been accorded and there will be no public service at this time. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be left for Bob's family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Verna M. Westfall

TOULON – Verna Mae Westfall, 90, of Toulon, passed away peacefully with her family at her side on Saturday, March 13, 2021, at 9:26 a.m.

Verna was born on June 1, 1930, in Galesburg. She was the daughter of Myrl L. "Mike" and Beulah G. (Lundeen) Kenney.

Verna is survived by her 7 children, Susan (Randy) Stewart of Florida, Joanne (Thomas) Bengé of Bishop Hill, Rita Singer of Toulon, John (Pamela) Westfall of Joy, Cindy Adams of Florida, Tom Westfall of Wataga, Lisa (Kevin) Collinson of Galva; 2 sisters, Lois Winkler of Galesburg and Delores Barman of Okla.; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchild-

ren; and 4 great-great grandchild-

ren. She was preceded in death by her parents; two children, Allan Westfall and Theresa Westfall; two grandsons, Caleb and Joshua; and two sisters, Ruth and Leona.

Verna graduated from Altona High School. She also attended Black Hawk East and various other colleges. She had a love to study and could be deemed a "professional student." Verna worked as a custodian for the Stark County School District and also worked for WJRE-FM Keewanee as a receptionist.

Verna loved to tend to her plants, flowers and her Farmville farm. She was a photographer and an artist. She loved to draw and paint local landscaping. Verna was a strong, determined Christian woman, who had a heart of gold. She was always willing to give a helping hand to anyone or any cat that may have needed it. Her grandchildren were her greatest treasure and she took pride in being the "best grandma ever!" She will be greatly missed by everyone who loved her.

Cremation rites will be accorded. Hurd-Hendricks Funeral Homes and Crematory, Knoxville has been entrusted with arrangements.

Online condolences and/or expressions of sympathy may be made at hurd-hendricksfuneralhome.com.

Ruby J. Turnbull

TOULON – Ruby Jean (DeBord) Turnbull died peacefully March 11 at the Toulon Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

Ruby's life will be remembered and celebrated by family at the Toulon United Methodist Church, Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 2:30 pm. Burial will be at Evergreen Memory Gardens, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Toulon United Methodist Church prioritized to Cunningham Home, Toulon Public Library and the Toulon Nutrition Site.

For a full obituary and to leave condolences for the family, please visit www.haskellfuneral.com.



Westfall

Marshall County Lawn Ridge Cemetery
Please remove all flowers from gravesites by March 20th
Thank You for your cooperation,
Lawn Ridge Cemetery Assoc.

NOTICE
Penn Township is accepting mowing bids for Pleasant Valley & Snareville Cemeteries. Bids should be for the whole mowing season. Bids may be for both cemeteries. Bids should be submitted in writing and returned by March 31, 2021 to:
Supervisor Mary Groter
9148 Snareville Rd., Wyoming, IL 61491
Penn Township board has the right to accept or reject any bid.

NOTICE
GALVA Spring Cemetery Clean up week:
All grave blankets, artificial flowers, potted flowers, and all other plants are requested to be removed from the Galva Cemetery by Sunday, March 28, 2021 if relatives wish to save them.
No more flowers should be placed on the graves until after Thursday, April 1, 2021.
Galva Cemetery Board

Cover Law Group, LLP
David L. Cover
Twin Towers Plaza, 456 Fulton Street, Suite 203, Peoria, IL 61602-1220
(P) 309.673.8227 (F) 309.673.4238
107 W. Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483 (P) 309.286.7311
dcover@coverlawgroup.com www.coverlawgroup.com

JAILER/DISPATCHER
The Stark County Sheriff's Office is in the process of updating its list of applicants for the position of Jailer/Dispatcher, both full and part-time.
Applicants must be willing to work any shift assigned, must be willing to work weekends and Holidays.
Must pass a criminal background check. Computer experience is helpful but not a necessity.
Must be able to attend and pass any job related school.
Applications may be picked up in person at the Stark County Sheriff Office, 130 West Jefferson Street, Toulon, IL 61483.
All applications must be returned to the Sheriff's office by April 5, 2021
If you have applied before, you MUST apply again to be considered.

My Backyard
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Shrub Shearing
Stump Grinding
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Certified Arborist
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mybackyard2@gmail.com

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FOOTBALL: More coop participation for Cougars

Continued from Page 12
improve on a 2-7 finish.

Opening day has been delayed, though, as Saturday's game with United was postponed.

Gullstrand took on his first head coaching experience in June of 2019, less than two months before the season opener. In the summer of 2020, instead of learning names, he ran football drills. And he had 50 or more players out for practices, even with the fall season very uncertain.

Now with football finally allowed, Gullstrand hopes to build on that enthusiasm. On offense Mid-County returns Parker Hopping, Denver Weed-

MID-COUNTY
(Games 7 p.m., unless noted)

- March 20 - vs. United (Oneida), 1 p.m., ppd.
- March 26 - at Princeville
- April 1 - at Stark County
- April 9 - vs. Mercer County (Oneida)
- April 16 - at Ridgewood
- April 23 - vs. Ottawa Marquette (Galva)

man, Nathan Welch, Mark Dennis, Seth Johnson, Hunter Ramage and Cal Clucas. Many of the same names started on defense, including Hopping, Welch, Johnson, and Clucas. Other defensive returnees are Chase Davis, Hunter Foglesong and Trevor Bird.

Gullstrand's list of top newcomers includes Logan

STARK COUNTY
(Games 7 p.m., unless noted)

- March 20 - vs. Ridgewood, 1 p.m.
- March 26 - at Ottawa Marquette
- April 1 - vs. Mid-County
- April 9 - at Annawan-Weathersfield
- April 16 - at Princeville
- April 23 - vs. Mercer County

Kuberski (QB/DB), Carson Malek (QB/DB), Parker Somberger (WR/DB), Matthew Sanchez (RB/LB), Josh Dunn (OL/DL) and Jett Olson (RB/LB).

"Team speed is one of our

team's biggest strengths. We may not be the biggest time out there, but everyone has become much faster," Gullstrand said. "Knowledge of schemes will help out as well."

Familiarity also helps with coop communities. Last week, Williamsfield was site for a football practice for the first time in 50 years. That has boosted turnout, with 31 players from ROWVA and 24 from Galva and Williamsfield. In junior high, 16 of 33 players are from ROWVA.

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Got Ants?

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Termite and Pest Control Experts
309-267-PEST (7378)
www.centralillinoispest.com

NOTICE
BRADFORD CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Please remove all items that you wish to keep **Prior to March 22nd, 2021**

All remaining items will be removed by the Village during clean-up which will be on **Tuesday March 23rd, 2021 & Wednesday March 24th, 2021.**

DO NOT PLACE ANY NEW ITEMS IN THE CEMETERY UNTIL AFTER MARCH 24th, 2021!

Certified Organic Farm for Sale

80 acres of pasture, tillable and hunting ground located in West Jersey Township, Toulon. It is located 3 miles south of West Jersey on Highway 78 then east to 500E then south to the farm.

This parcel has 22.7 acres tillable that is currently in hay. There are 10 acres of mixed oaks that were established in 1989. There are CRP acres that is paying over \$400 and improvements include a 45x64 pole barn with concrete and electricity.

This farm would make a great getaway spot or as an addition to someone's livestock operation.

List Price: \$410,000
Daly Realty, Elmwood • Joe Orwig
(309) 361-0397 • 309-742-8910

LaFayette Cemetery
SPRING CLEAN-UP

Please remove any items you wish to keep by **April 13, 2021**

Thank you,
Cemetery Trustees

Marshall-Stark
Public Transportation

Call **309-364-2287** for regular schedule or to arrange individual transports.
Operated by MSW Projects

KEWANEE SALE BARN, INC.

25836 N 800 Ave, Kewanee, IL - Phone: 309-856-8806

SPECIAL GOAT & SHEEP SALE & CONSIGNMENT SALE
Saturday, March 27th, 2021
Consignment at 11:00 a.m.
Livestock at 12:00 Noon
CONSIGNMENT SALE WILL CONSIST OF ONLY FARM RELATED MISCELLANEOUS - NO HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
PAT COQUIT: 309-314-0187
OR MIKE TAYLOR: 309-333-3205
WWW.KEWANEEALEBARN.COM
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Boys, Whatcha Doing this Summer???

If you're the kind of boy that likes to camp on a lake, hike, swim, sail, row, fish, do crafts, learn pioneering skills, sit around a camp fire, learn Indian lore, find your way in the woods with a map and compass, learn bow and arrow, fire rifles, and shoot clay pigeons with a shotgun, climb a 50' climbing tower & slide down on a 350' zip line then Scout Summer Camp is for you!

Troop 1851 sponsored by the Boyd's Grove Methodist Church at the corner of Walnut-Wyanet Road and the Bradford-Putnam blacktop in Bradford is planning to go to **Summer Camp at Camp L. E. Phillips in Rice Lake, Wisconsin from June 13-19.** The cost is only \$285 (if you get involved before mid-May you will earn enough money to go for free) for the whole week including tents, meals, transportation and the adventure mentioned above.

You can go if you're between 11 and 17 and join our troop between now and then. We meet Mondays at 7:30 PM. Call Scoutmaster Tom Ashby at 309-897-8483 (Home), 309-202-4067 (Cell/Text) for details. We are also planning a weekend camp-out at Mississippi Palisades State Park & Galena in April, and Kayaking/Canoeing the Spoon River in May.

Join us! Be a Scout! It's a blast!



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NOTICE OF TESTING

The Henry County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for patrol officer testing and lateral transfer. **Due to the pandemic, those who turned in an application last summer will not need to turn in another.** New applicants will have until April 12, 2021 to get applications in. All testing applicants will be contacted with a date/time and place of physical testing.

Applications may be obtained at the Henry County Sheriff's Office, 311 West Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238 or download an application from henrycty.com (Sheriff's Office then to Employment)

Basic Qualifications: 21 years of age; US Citizen; High School Graduate or the equivalent; or must have two or more years of college with degree or certification from accredited college and/or Honorable discharge from United States Military (copies of all diplomas/certifications and/or DD-214) required with application if you are under 21 years of age; good physical condition; possess a valid Illinois driver license; **MUST NOT** have a criminal record; must reside in Henry County within 6 months of appointment. Components of the testing process include an extensive background investigation, power test, written examination, oral examination, psychological examination, and a pre-employment physical. Those candidates whose applications are accepted will receive notification of the testing dates and times. Attendance and a passing score are mandatory for all phases of the testing in order to be eligible for subsequent testing.

Deadline for applications will be Monday, April 12, 2021 @ 4:00pm. Only fully completed applications will be accepted. Questions can be directed to Captain Kelan Wells @ 309-937-3902.

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Stark on way up

Numbers, talent better for Rebels

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Prairie News

If ever there was a football season to be one year away from fully loaded, this is it. That's good news for fans of Stark County football, as the Rebels will field a much more competitive team, but are still likely a season away from reaching their full potential.

Even so, the six sophomores who started last year are ready to give out more lumps than they take when the season opens Saturday in Wyoming at Gary Johnson Field against Ridgewood at 1 p.m. Ridgewood defeated Stark County 22-14 en route to a 6-4 season last year.

"In 2019 we had six sophomores who started for us, three of them on both sides of the ball," Coach Jade Noard said. "With that experience, and increased depth, we feel like this spring we will be very competitive."

Those six are James Groter (QB/DB), Jack

Mid-County Opener Postponed

Mid-County's season opener Saturday against Monmouth United has been called off for COVID issues at United. A March 22 frosh-soph game is also postponed.

Meinders (RB/LB), 6-foot-4, 290-pound lineman Blake Orwig, Ethan Unhold (DB), Cole Regan (DB) and Avery Whittle (LB). Those sophomores helped Stark County win two of its last five games and be competitive in two of the others.

Senior returnees include wide receivers Raidon Porter and Brenden Gibler, both of whom also play linebacker, and 6-4 offensive lineman Matthew McCauley.

Top newcomers according to Noard include senior lineman Tyson Price, junior WR/DB Keagan Newton, junior lineman Christian Brady, junior RB/LB Tristan Gerber and



Intensity in practice has been good for Stark County, which started several underclassmen last year and looks to improve on a rare sub-par finish for the program. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

sophomores Ethan Baxter (OL/DL) and Camren Watson (LB). Those two are part of a group of 30 freshman and sophomores who have boosted the overall turnout to 49.

"After having two of our smallest rosters in history, our numbers are back up this spring," Noard said.

Noard said Annawan-Wethersfield is "the clear favorite" in the Lincoln Trail Conference, with Princeville and Mercer County also solid.

Spectators should note

that LTC teams agreed to allow 100 visiting fans into games this spring. The rest of the crowd is at the home team's discretion, which in the case of Stark County is 500 home fans who will be admitted for no charge and must wear a mask. Games will also be livestreamed.

Mid-County

With seven starters back on both sides of the ball and a full season to become familiar with Coach Grant Gullstrand's system, Mid-County is poised to

Continued on Page 11

Lady Rebels start VB season with win

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Prairie News

TOULON – With four starters back, the Stark County volleyball team was hoping to show real improvement from a 9-22 finish one year ago. So far so good after one match.

In Monday's season opener, the Lady Rebels topped Galva at home, 25-11, 25-10, behind big nights by some of those seniors.

Middle hitter Kelsey Berchtold had three digs and three kills for Stark County, which also got five digs and two kills from 5-foot-10 senior middle hitter Marley Hillan and three blocks and two kills from senior setter/outside hitter Olivia Hopp. Berchtold and Hopp led Stark County in kills last year while Hillan was tops in blocks.

Setter Karsyn Rewerts is the other senior returnee for the Lady Rebels, who can also rotate senior outside hitters Lexi Davis and Haylee Wilkins.

Against Galva, junior Abi Gosnell showed up big with five digs and two kills.

"We have a great group of motivated girls," said first-year coach Mary Jo Groter, who is being assisted by her sister, Elizabeth Groter. "I believe with hard work and determination we can have a winning season. We're excited to be leading this program and are expecting great things."

The Lady Rebels JV also won against Galva.

Stark County picked up a game Wednesday at West Central and figures to be tested in its next two matches, traveling Saturday to face Annawan and then hitting the road for a Monday matchup at Wethersfield.

Galva (0-1) was set to return to action Wednesday at Wethersfield and Thursday at home vs. West Central. On Galva's lower levels, the 8th grade team advanced to the IESA regional semifinal before losing to Midland.



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