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Friday  
 March 24, 2023  
 Vol. 20, No. 7

# The Prairie News

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## Solar panels saved Stark County schools 8% in first year

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – A cost comparison of fiscal years July to December of 2022 to 2023 shows that the Stark County School District Elementary School solar panel grid saved the district 8% during its initial year of use.

Superintendent Brett Elliott discussed the savings at Monday’s Stark County School Board meeting, saying, “We are saving because we are producing our own (energy) based upon solar, so we are paying for

**Inside**  
 • Bradford Village Board ?????? Page 6.  
 • Styrofoam containers may be illegal in Illinois if a new bill passes. Page 11.

less kilowatts based on the solar produced.”

Bus bids from three companies were presented. The board accepted extending leases on five buses with Midwest Bus Sales: three 65-passenger, two-year lease extensions at \$16,690 per bus per year; one 2020 14-passenger two-year lease exten-

sion at \$13,350 per year; and one 2019 14-passenger, one-year extension at \$14,135.

Elliott said the new Junior-Senior High School building library was set for a grand opening on Thursday, March 23. He said painting of the athletic complex gym has commenced and the Junior High parking lot project will begin next week.

Spring Break is April 3-10, graduation is May 14 at 1 p.m., and 8th grade promotion is May 17 at 6 p.m. Last day of school is May 26 with 11 a.m. dis-

missal.

The board approved an increase to \$60 for officials’ pay for spring softball/baseball games and to \$120 for double-headers.

The board also approved hiring M&M Lawn Service from April 1 to Nov. 1 for lawn care of the football field and surrounding areas’ properties at a rate of \$45 per hour. This is the same rate as last year.

Also approved was: using 8-12 Career Link student workers through Aug. 11; hiring a summer technology worker; and

an annual IHSA membership.

After executive session, the board announced resignations of K.C. Singer as custodian, Caitlin Meaker as elementary music teacher, Savannah Potter as Kids Care supervisor, Gayle Grundstrom as cheer coach and Laura Coyle as English teacher.

Approved were: John England as paid assistant JH track coach, Kasey Juskiv as custodian, David Hatfield as a bus aide, Katie Allen for lunch supervision and Amy Sierra’s maternity leave.

### GALVA SCHOOL BOARD

## Galva school OKs 5-year bus contract

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Galva School Board unanimously approved a low bid from Midwest Transit for \$702,225 for six buses for a five-year lease.

The deal includes five 71-passenger buses and one 53-passenger bus. The district will turn in the current buses when the lease expires.

The transportation committee met and heard that House Bill 2287 would require that all buses purchased, leased or contracted after 2028 would be electric-powered. The bill had not passed through the House at press time. The board heard that questions remain with regard to bus travel range, and the availability of compatible charging



Superintendent Joe Becker presented Galva students with the Wildcat Pride award at Monday’s school board meeting. Pictured above (left to right) are Shelby Charlet, Layla Anderson, Isabelle Wigant, Bella Fones and Landon Yelm. Evelyn Weber is pictured in front. Photo by Carole Townsend.

stations. And Superintendent Joe Becker said the electric buses cost up to \$400,000 apiece and said a new battery can cost “six figures.”

Athletic Director Adam Norway reported spring sports have fewer participants this year.

It was also reported that the chair

lift at the Elementary School needs to be replaced and that the window project is not complete. Window installers will return over spring break and it is hoped they can complete the project.

The board also heard that the

*Continued on Page 2*

## Wyoming approves recycle rate increase

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – Eagle Enterprises will raise its recycling collection rate for Wyoming households over the next five years by 90 cents per year, on average.

For the next five years, the recycle rate will equal \$4.73 a month. Adam Jaquet, of Eagle, reported to Wyoming’s City Council on Tuesday that his company has realized increased costs for operating across the board.

Jaquet said he is merely passing on some of those increases to the consumer for items such as increased diesel fuel prices, labor prices, increased salaries, insurance costs up 110% and others.

Over the past five years, Wyoming residents have

paid \$3.82 per month per household for recycling.


The city council approved the increase of 90 cents to \$4.73 per month by a resolution.

The council passed two other resolutions dealing with resurfacing Wyoming’s streets and disbursing funds for the waste-water treatment plant project work performed.

The resolution allocating Motor Fuel Tax funds totaling \$180,000 was passed in order to rock and oil the majority of streets in Wyoming this year.

The resolution authorizing a \$511,578 payment to Leander Construction, Inc. for work performed in association with the aeration equipment at Wyoming’s


*Continued on Page 2*




**5 FACTS ABOUT THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY**

1. There are 22 million people employed in the agriculture sector

## National AG Week



2. Today every farmer feeds 144 people as compared to the one farmer for 25 people in the 1960s.
3. The average time a farmer operator spends on the farm in a lifetime is 58.3 years.



4. The average farm size in the U.S. is about 434 acres.
5. 11% of the farmers in the U.S. previously served in the army.



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The family of L. Lynn Newton would like to thank everyone for their condolences, memorial contributions, the helpers for the funeral dinner, and for all the food. Also to Pastor Ross Wyman of the First Congregational United Church of Christ.

# GALVA: Board OKs girls locker room renovation

*Continued from Page 1*  
 school play held last weekend was a success.  
 The district is looking into refurbishing high school and junior high lockers. Becker and a maintenance employee will travel to Mercer County High School to assess work done by a com-

pany that Galva is considering.  
 The board approved an estimate from V&M Mechanical Services of Galva for \$8,478 to refurbish the girls locker room at the elementary school. Several new toilets, a sink and a hot water heater will be installed.  
 The board approved a school calendar which shows Aug. 18 as the first day of school for 2023-24 and Dec. 25 through Jan. 5 as winter break.  
 The April board meeting

has been changed from April 17 to April 24 due to the election results.  
 The following personnel items were approved:  
 • Assignment of first-year probationary teacher Whitney Fahner to first-year probationary status for 2023-24  
 • Assignment of first-year probationary teacher Jennifer Maertens to second-year probationary status for 2023-24  
 • Assignment of first-year probationary teacher Stephanie Humphrey to

second-year probationary status for 2023-24  
 • Assignment of second-year probationary teacher, Emily Dulla to third-year probationary status for 2023-24  
 • Assignment of fourth-year probationary teachers, Holly Wangelin, Heather Sellers and Jessica Dean to tenured status for 2023-24  
 • Accepted the resignation of Brandon Owens as junior high school baseball coach.

**APRIL 2ND, PALM SUNDAY HAM DINNER**  
**4 - 6:30 p.m.**

**GALVA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 214 NW 2nd Ave. (corner of NW 2nd Ave. & 2nd St.)

**DINE-IN, CARRY-OUT, OR DELIVERY**

**Serving: Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Apple Sauce, Rolls w/butter, Drink (dine-in only) & Homemade Dessert.**

To Request Delivery of Dinners, Call: 932-2460 by Fri. Noon, March 31st, and leave a message stating how many dinners you will need delivered with your name, address w/apt. number, & phone number.

If you didn't get your delivery order in by Friday, Noon, March 31st, no problem, just call the day of the dinner from 2 - 3:30 p.m. to 932-3255 or (309) 507-2284

Invite your family and friends to join you!

Money raised will be used to pay for carpet replacement throughout the church - Galva First UMC, 214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL  
 Cost of Dinner is Free Will Donation!



# WYOMING: Mexican restaurant opens

*Continued from Page 1*  
 waste-water treatment plant received council approval.  
 Wyoming's Economic Development Advisor Denny Rewerts presented the council with a written report that stated 111-Taco opened as a new Mexican-style restaurant on March 21 in the former 111 Coffee building.  
 Land for the new Family Dollar-Dollar Tree store is being prepared and has a target date of April 1 for its completion.  
 The former Curry's Pizza building was a topic of discussion and progress on its renovation is expected, which to date hasn't occurred. The city wants to utilize three

parking spaces currently unavailable due to the building's exterior possibly collapsing.  
 Police Chief James Tiller reported one arrest, three investigations, three medical citizen assists and seven calls for service (fire/reports/complaints) for the month of February.  
 Water/Sewer Manager Greg McCauley said he will obtain quotes for the reverse-osmosis water plant membranes in the water filters, plus the end caps for those replacements. McCauley stated that it will be expensive to replace the membranes and end caps, if he can even find the parts.  
 Spoon River Days will be held on June 10 this

year according to Jon Knoblauch, the event spokesman. He said many activities are planned for the event, plus vendors will be present. A resolution was passed by the council donating \$1,500 to this event.  
 Peg Gray and Connie Osborne addressed the council and requested \$800, not the \$1,000 donation indicated on a resolution for the Stark County Fall Festival this year. The Fall Festival is scheduled for Sept. 16-17 at Thomas Park. The council amended its resolution to donate \$800.  
 Finally, Mayor Pat Maher changed the date for the May meeting from May 16 to May 23.

**NEW LISTING!**



**403 SE 6th Ave. Galva - \$59,000**  
 One story / big lot / storage shed.  
 2 bedroom / 1 bath.

**NEW LISTING - PENDING!**



**313 NW 1st St. Galva - \$24,900**  
 2-bedroom / 1 bath duplex.  
 Close to business district.

**PENDING!**



**815 SE 1st St Galva - \$95,000**  
 Completely remodeled home! 3-bedroom  
 1 bath / Huge Yard / Shed

**OPEN HOUSE!**  
 Sunday, March 26th  
 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.



**204 SE 1st Ave., Galva - \$85,000**  
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**PUBLIC RECORD**

**Incidents & Accidents  
Stark County**

**3-16** – Ryan C. Snider, 43, Wyoming, was involved in a deer-related vehicle accident at 800E and 300N. No injuries reported. The driver was charged with driving while his license was suspended.

**3-16** – A domestic problem was reported in the 300 block of Peoria St. in Bradford. The incident was investigated by the Stark County Sheriff's Department.

**Galva Report**

**Officer dispatched:**

**3-13** - to Wiley Park for a complaint of a loose dog. Officer was not able to locate it.

**3-14** – to speak with a subject by telephone about a trespass notice that had been placed against him.

**3-15** - to the 600 block of SE Industrial Ave. to remove an unwanted customer.

**3-15** - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a trespassing complaint. As the result, Donna Bergesch, 57, Galva, was arrested for criminal trespass to state-supported property. She was transported to the Galva Police Department and later released with a required court date.

**3-15** - to the 00 block of SW 2nd St. for a gas drive-off that occurred earlier. Officer was not able to locate the suspect vehicle.

**3-15** - to the 200 block of NW 3rd Ave. to assist a pedestrian who was homeless and needing assistance. Arrangements were made for subject to go to the rescue mission in Galesburg. Officer transported her to Altona, where Knox County met and gave her a ride the rest of the way.

**3-15** - to the 200 block of NW 4th Ave. for a complaint involving juveniles playing football too close to the roadway. The juveniles were spoken to.

**3-17** - to the 00 block of SW 9th Ave. to remove a very intoxicated subject who was being combative. The subject ultimately was transported by ambulance due to his intoxication.

**3-17** - to the 500 block of SW 3rd St. for a complaint involving an unlocked vehicle possibly being tampered with. Nothing was reported missing.

**3-17** - to the 100 block of SW 4th St. for a 9-1-1 open line call. It was determined to be a misdial.

**3-17** - to the 300 block of SW 6th Ave. for a possible trespassing complaint/neighborhood dispute.

**3-17** - to meet with a subject at City Hall who had questions about being arrested in Stark County several months ago. Officer assisted her



and referred her to Stark County with any further questions.

**3-17** - to the 100 block of NE 4th St. for a city ordinance violation. After taking photos, officer cited two subjects for the violations. As the result, Jason Dailey, 38, Galva, and David Dailey, 63, Piedmont, Mo., were each issued administrative warning tickets (AWTs) for failure to maintain property/accumulation of junk. Tickets were placed in the mail.

**3-17** - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. for a 9-1-1 hang up call. It was determined to be a medical call. Stark County Medic was paged.

**3-17** - to the 500 block of SE 2nd St. for a subject having a mental-health crisis.

**3-18** - to assist Stark County with a physical domestic dispute several miles east of Galva.

**3-18** - to check a residence on NW 4th St. after a subject told hospital staff they may have set their house on fire before leaving earlier. The house appeared fine.

**3-18** - to the 500 block of NW 3rd Ave. for a 9-1-1 hang up call. It was an accidental pocket dial.

**3-18** - to a residence on SE 2nd St. to remove an unwanted subject.

**3-18** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 200 block of SE 4th Ave., Kathleen Becket, 58, Galva, was arrested for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured vehicle. She was released with a required court date.

**3-19** - to 300 block of NE 1st St. for several 9-1-1 hang up calls. It was determined to be a 6-year-old kid playing Minecraft on a parent's phone.

**3-19** - to the 100 block of NE 6th St. for a complaint involving a subject beating a dog and screaming. Officer spoke to subject and verified the dog was fine.

**3-19** - to the 300 block of Front St. for a physical disturbance. Everyone involved had left prior to officer's arrival. This remains under investigation.

**3-16** - Wyatt King, 19, Galva, was issued a citation for having expired registration in the 700 block of SW 4th St.

**3-17** - Ian Dulla, 40, Galva, was is-

sued a citation for having expired out-of-state plates in the 00 block of Morgan Rd.

**3-18** - A 16-year-old from Kewanee was issued a citation for speeding in the 1200 block of SE 2nd St.

**3-19** - Hillary Rollins, 25, Knoxville, was issued a citation for having expired registration in the 1000 block of SW 2nd St.

**Peoria County Report**

**EDELSTEIN** – An Edelstein man was arrested after he was accused of attacking his live-in girlfriend. Peoria County Sheriff's Office deputies were summoned about 8 p.m. March 7 to a residence in the 19300 block of N. Hakes Rd. There they found Jeffrey R. Ryan, 49, inside the residence and the 50-year-old victim outside.

Accounts differ, but the victim sustained multiple injuries, including bleeding and swollen red marks on her lower-left side, according to a sheriff's-office report. Ryan was charged with aggravated domestic battery and transported to the Peoria County Jail.

**Knox County Report**

**ABINGDON** – A Galva woman was uninjured in a two-vehicle collision in Abingdon. About 10:45 a.m. March 3, Victoria L. Cortes, 31, was driving a 2011 Toyota Camry south on Monroe Street and preparing to make a left turn at Monmouth Street when a 2016 Buick Enclave struck the front bumper, according to a Knox County Sheriff's Office report.

The Enclave driver was Catherine P. Boyer, 76, of Abingdon. Boyer said she stopped at the intersection and was turning left onto northbound Monroe Street. Boyer was cited for failure to yield at an intersection.

**Property Transfers**

**3-13** - Shafer Family Farms LLLP to EJJNP Properties LLC - Und 1/2 Int Pt Sect 22-13-5 SE & Und 1/2 Int Pt Sect 22-13-5 SW - Consideration = \$1,413,104.

**3-17** - Benjamin J., Blake D., Brent R. and Bruce W. Graham, Darlene B. Herrmann, Deanne K. Knobloch, and Doreen J. Leuthold to Graham Family Farms, LLC. - Pt 23-12-7 NW - Consideration = \$0.

**3-17** - Wells Fargo Bank to John Ruppert - John Wrigley's Add'n Lot 2 - 412 N. Main Ave., Wyoming - Consideration = \$20,000.

**3-17** - Terri Henderson and Jennifer Osbourne to Chad and Selina Hartweg - Pt 6-14-6 SW - 17171 Township Road 650E Kewanee - Consideration = \$132,000.

**3-17** - Harsh-Nakul, Inc. to Simpson Schott Properties, LLC. - Original Town of Toulon Pt Block 6 Lots 6,7,10 - 213 & 221 W. Main St., Toulon - Consideration = \$40,000.

**Traci McCLINTIC**  
for Mayor  
**Working for the People**

Goshen Township is now accepting mowing bids for the Township Building property, located on Rt. 17 West of Toulon.

**Bids should be submitted to:**  
Goshen Township/Bids  
104 Hodgson St.  
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Bid deadline is April 11, 2023

Goshen Township reserves the right to accept or reject any bid. Proof of liability insurance required. Must be age 18 or older.

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9 1 6 5 4 7 8 2 3  
5 7 8 1 3 2 6 4 9  
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2 8 9 4 1 3 5 7 6  
6 5 3 7 2 9 4 8 1  
7 4 1 8 6 5 3 9 2  
1 9 5 3 8 4 2 6 7  
8 3 2 9 7 6 1 5 4  
4 6 7 2 5 1 9 3 8  
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i It is all very well to copy what one sees, but it is far better to draw what one now only sees in one's memory.  
- Edgar Degas

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**NOTICE**  
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, April 2, 2023 if relatives wish to save them. No more flowers should be placed on the graves until after Thursday, April 6, 2023.  
Galva Cemetery Board

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## The Prairie News

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## GUEST VOICES

**WE WERE RIGHT ABOUT HUNTER'S LAPTOP!**

**WE WERE RIGHT ABOUT FALSE CLAIMS OF RUSSIAN COLLUSION!**

**WE WERE RIGHT ABOUT THE ORIGINS OF COVID!**

**SO WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO STOP CALLING US 'CONSPIRACY THEORISTS'?**

**THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT AN EXTREMIST WHITE SUPREMACIST TRUMP SUPPORTER WOULD SAY!**

## Galva Park District

### Get Ready for summer!

### April Pool Membership Special:

### Extra family members at no additional charge.

Membership applications are available at both Galva school offices, Porter Hay Insurance-Galva office, the Galva Park District Facebook page, or by sending an email request to galvaparkdistrict@yahoo.com

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## MOWING/TRIMMING BIDS

The Village of LaFayette is accepting bids for mowing and trimming of the village park. Term will be for the 2023 season and should specify cost per time. Contractor must provide proof of insurance with written bid, and supply their own equipment.

Bids must be received by March 31, 2023.

Please mail bids to: Village of LaFayette  
 P.O. Box 116  
 LaFayette, IL 61449

Any questions feel free to contact Chris Smith at (309) 509-2522.

## Got Ants?

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## MOWING BIDS And WEED CONTROL BIDS

Bradford Park District is accepting bids for mowing and/or weed control of park district property.

Bids due by April 2nd, 2023  
 For info, call:  
 Tom Ryan 238-3767  
 Mail Bids to:  
 Bradford Park District  
 Box 77  
 Bradford, IL. 61421

## Of a Price is Right visit & crab-walking cars

Rambling through central Illinois, pondering the latest headlines outlining the end of our world.

Reporter **John Ballentine** let me know that **Julie Kenney** of Toulon can be seen on the Price is Right Monday, March 27. No, she wasn't a contestant, but Kenney is in the audience directly behind the contestants along with her son and his friend. They attended the show Jan. 29 in Los Angeles and it is just now airing.



Jeff LAMPE

Two veterinarians have expressed their unease to me about House Bill 1533, which would make it illegal to declaw cats in Illinois and establishes fines for those who violate the law. Only New York and Maryland currently ban declawing, according to Springfield's State Journal-Register.

The Illinois bill passed through the House last Thursday, 67-38, and is now before the Senate. In addition to comments from vets, I've heard from one person who thinks it is barbaric to declaw cats and says the bill is a good idea. As in most things, there are opinions on both sides. What I do find very ironic is that if HB 1533 passes, people will have to cross state lines to get their cats declawed, since that practice is still legal in all neighboring states. At the same time, Illinois is advertising itself as the go-to state for women seeking abortions.

The wife was wondering out loud why all the males in her house were excited about watching the NCAA college hoops tournament. So she sat down for four minutes, watched Furman pull off a thrilling upset of Virginia and said, "Well that was fun." She hasn't watched again but has left the TV to the hoops-heads in the house. ... During sports seasons, it's hard not to see a lot of commercials. Some are enjoyable, but now and then there's one where the product is

clearly flawed. Like those flip-phone cellphones. "No way that screen won't crack," I yell to anyone who will listen. Satisfyingly enough, the techs at our Verizon store confirmed that hunch. While they say the "second generation" is a good product, the first generation screen was not. How quickly did things go bad? "Usually a few months." ... Well, my Spidey Sense has been tingling ever since seeing **LeBron** drive a Hummer EV that can crab walk. Can that possibly work without huge problems? So far, Googling uncovers no problems (except for issues with the electric batteries and the \$80,000 base price for those bad boys). A lack of recalls makes me smile, since you can't help but like that little crab riding next to LeBron with a seat belt on. ... Parting shot: For all the NCAA upsets, there's too many familiar faces in the Sweet 16. Here's hoping Alabama, UCLA, Texas, UConn and Gonzaga get waxed and an upstart takes it all. Just not Princeton.

Contact Jeff Lampe at (309) 231-6040 or jeff@wklypost.com

## Grange and Dyer for Black Hawk trustees

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in hopes that your readers will consider voting for Samantha Gange and David Dyer in the April 4 election for Black Hawk College Trustees.

Henry County is fortunate to have Black Hawk College East Campus sitting among the corn fields between Galva and Kewanee. In addition to being a beautiful facility that offers an affordable, quality education for local college and dual-credit students, BHC helps our local economy. East Campus hosts many competitive high school and collegiate events and the strong reputation of East Campus draws student enrollment from across the nation.

Sadly, over the last eight years, there have been several changes in leadership and administrative structure, as well as a significant decline



in enrollment. During this time there has been a trend of increasing administrative control and micro-managing the actions and input of those "doing the work." This needs to change.

Now, more than ever, we need trustees who value teamwork and back the passion and vision of Black Hawk College's faculty, staff, students and community members.

Candidates Gange and Dyer are excited for the opportunity to make a positive impact on both campuses

of the Black Hawk College district. It is my hope and belief that, as trustees, Gange and Dyer will do whatever they can to move the college toward, once again, embracing unique/visionary ideas and be willing to take some risks for the good of students and increasing enrollment.

The upcoming election for BHC Trustees is very important. Please give Samantha Gange and David Dyer your vote on April 4. These candidates are excited and willing to dig in and make positive changes.

- **Jeanine Peterson**,  
 recent BHC retiree

The Prairie News welcomes letters to the editor. Email your letter to jeff@wklypost.com or mail to: The Weekly Post, PO Box 745, Elmwood, IL 61529 We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length.

## NOTICE

CITY OF TOULON IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMERTIME HELPERS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE WITH A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE PERFORMING MANUAL LABOR ACTIVITIES AND A VARIETY OF CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AS NEEDED AND/OR REQUIRED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. PLEASE PICKUP AN APPLICATION AT TOULON CITY HALL LOCATED AT 122 N. FRANKLIN STREET. HOURS ARE MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 TO NOON AND 1:00 TO 4:30 PM.

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# Mendota man pleads guilty to Toulon burglary

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

TOULON – A 54-year-old Mendota man has pleaded guilty in a negotiated disposition to a burglary he committed last Dec. 11 at the Toulon Tap business.

Circuit Court Judge James A. Mack then sentenced John P. Malik to eight years in prison under the extendable term sentencing provision this past March 17 in Stark's Circuit Court.

Malik had a second count of criminal damage to property, a Class A

misdemeanor, dismissed by the State in exchange for his guilty plea to the felony charge of burglary. He received 85 days credit for being incarcerated in the Stark County Jail.

Last Dec. 11, Malik broke the glass out of the entry door to the Toulon Tap and entered the premises. Video surveillance of the business showed an individual identified as John Malik removing items from the establishment.

Toulon police discovered some of those items at the place where Malik was staying. He was later ex-

tradited from LaSalle County after turning himself in to authorities there.

His sentence was extendable due to a 2000 Class X felony conviction in his past criminal history.

In court last Friday, Malik made a statement, "I accept my actions of this crime. I've served 20 years in prison – I need help. I want to go into a substance abuse program in prison."

Malik will get day-for-day credit while in prison, so his eight years will actually be four years served.

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Chris Baumann  
Toulon, IL  
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**MOWING BIDS**

Bids are now being accepted for the mowing of the LaFayette Cemetery which includes the McClenahan Cemetery, south of LaFayette and the Himes Cemetery, north of LaFayette for a total of (3) Cemeteries.

Proof of insurance is required. Must be age 18 or older, Bids should be submitted to:  
LaFayette Cemetery/Goshen Township  
104 Hodgson St.  
LaFayette, IL 61449  
Deadline is April 11, 2023  
The board reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
An Anything But Household live public auction will be held at 7642 Grain Bin Road Toulon, IL: **SATURDAY, APRIL 1 AT 10 AM**

Items to be sold include: 2003 Road King Classic 100 year anniversary Harley Davidson with 12,741 miles (nice bike well maintained), Hammerhead Titan 500 side by side w/ winch, 4x4, and windshield, pneumatic tools, 12' aluminum walk pick, 16' aluminum walk pick, large assortment of block planes, cordless tools, 12'x16' open face livestock shed, 1985 Chevy Corvette w/ t-tops aluminum rims automatic and V-8, Mayrath 10-60 pto auger, 3 point bale mover, John Deere 5 bar dolly wheel hay rake, poly water tanks, used cattle panels, fertilizer applicator, single axle sprayer, 3 section harrow, Hiniker V blade truck plow, shop tools, Cub Cadet 3X 28" HD snowblower, metal box barge wagon, running gear, IH 6000 chisel plow, Agri Fab Mow-N-Vac pull behind leaf vac, pressure washers, 6' 3 point mower, 50 square bales of 2 nd crop alfalfa, pushmowers, Keen Kutter 3 point seeder, 14' hay rack, 6 bale round bale wagon, 16' double axle car trailer w/beavertail, moisture tester, set of scales, bachtold weed mower, H&S pto drive hay inverter, 60' galvanized swing away auger, 3 compartment beer cooler, cordless tools, Bostitch framing gun, tile saw, flooring tools, bar clamps, Rigid Mobil Air air compressor, shop vac, NIB laminate flooring, Hesston 3 point round bale mover, 850 gallon poly tanks, 1000 gallon poly tank, 100 gallon poly tank, New Holland Hayliner 270 baler, New idea pto drive manure spreader, Frontier RC 2048 3 point mower, Behlen Country 3 point spreader, trailer hunting blind, Timber wolf 150cc four wheeler, 50cc mini quad, Columbia gas powered golf cart, several zero turn mowers.

Much more by sale day so call early so we can get your items advertised. There will be online bidding, a loader tractor will be onsite. Restrooms and lunch stand are always available. We accept cash, check and credit card with a 3% convenience fee.




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**What About High-Pressure Carbon Dioxide Pipelines and Our Creeks?**

In 2020, a CO2 pipeline broke at a water crossing weld joint due to ground erosion from heavy rains. White dry ice forms from the CO2 release to air. A cloud of CO2 travelled a mile to Satartia, Mississippi, with 200 being evacuated and 45 going to the hospital ER.

- How many creeks will the CO2 pipeline cross in our county?
- How much damage to creek sides will be done by construction?
- Will the creek banks be inspected regularly?



Aerial photo shows a pipeline rupture that occurred on Feb 22, 2020.

For more information Contact the Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines <https://noillinoisco2pipelines.org>

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**Stark County Athletic Program**  
**BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UP**  
 Saturday, March 25, 9 - 11 a.m. - State Bank of Toulon  
 Saturday, April 1, 9 - 11 a.m. - Wyoming Paramount Theatre

**FEES:** T-Ball & Coach Pitch – \$20 (These teams will play in hometown)  
 Boys & Girls 9/10, 11/12, 13/14/15 – \$50 (1 player), \$75 (2 players), \$90 (3 players)  
 Number of teams determined by numbers signed up in each age group.

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact Phil Daum at 309-525-2000 or Trisha Berchtold at 309-361-0259 or Janelle Down at 309-238-6115

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# Lincoln Day luncheon draws more than 100

TOULON – More than 100 people attended the Stark County Republican Lincoln Day luncheon in Toulon last Saturday.

Attendees included: Rhonda Belford of Cave-in-Rock, chair of the Illinois Republican County Chairs Association; U.S. Rep. Darin LaHood of Peoria; Sen. Neil Anderson of Moline; Illinois Appellate Judge Amy Lannerd of Quincy; Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lisa Holder White; Mike Bigger of Wyoming, chair of the Stark County Republican Party; Illinois Appellate Court Judge Gene Doherty of Rockford; Rep. Travis Weaver of Brimfield; Sen. Win Stoller of Germantown Hills; David Dyer of Galva, candidate for Black Hawk College Trustee. Congressman LaHood was the featured speaker,



Picture above, from left to right, are some notable attendees at the Stark County Republican Lincoln Day Luncheon in Toulon: Rhonda Belford, Darin LaHood, Neil Anderson, Amy Lannerd, Lisa Holder White, Mike Bigger, Gene Doherty, Travis Weaver, Win Stoller and David Dyer. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

introduced by Don Tracy of Springfield, chair of the Illinois Republican Party. Illinois House Republican Leader Tony McCombie of Savanna was also present. As a member of a new congressional committee on China, LaHood declared that “China wants

to replace us, and we have to be vigilant and strong.” LaHood also said we had to take control of our border with Mexico, noting that “four million persons have come across the border in recent years.” Republican leaders traveled from as far as Cave-

in-Rock on the Ohio River, largely as a testimonial to Mike Bigger. Bigger retired recently as GOP state central committeeman and also secretary of the Illinois Republican Party. Many kind words were spoken about Bigger at the gathering.

# Bradford board OKs buying cameras

By JEFF LAMPE  
 For The Prairie News

BRADFORD – The Bradford Village Board approved the purchase of four security cameras at its March 13 meeting.

Board members voted unanimously to approve the purchase. Two cameras are to be placed at the police department and two more will be placed at the Bradford Senior Citizen Center.

Prior to the meeting, Candice Gill was sworn in as a trustee. She will serve the final two years of the term of Steve Scott, who is moving out of town.

Also sworn in was part-time police officer Justin Peterson of Kewanee.

The board voted unanimously in favor of a resolution approving the Bradford Betterment Committee’s Saturday Market events in Elsie Hodges Park. The first date for the Saturday events is May 13 from 7 a.m. to noon, with other dates set for May 27, June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 9 and 23 and Oct. 14.

Mayor John Cler read a letter that, in part, explained why the village is now requiring groups to

have their own insurance policies to hold events on village property. Cler’s letter also praised the BBC for its efforts.

The board scheduled a heavy trash pickup date for April 24-28. Residents who want to participate must pay a \$30 fee at village hall before April 23. Heavy trash can then be placed at the curb for crews to pick up.

In other business, the board heard that March 28-29 will be cemetery clean-up date.

And there was discussion of the village receiving a donation of 15 oak trees from the Stark County Soil and Water Conservation District. Approval and locations for the trees will be voted on at the April meeting.

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BRIEFS

10th Judicial Circuit to allow electronic devices

PEORIA – As the result of a new ruling by the Supreme Court of Illinois, visitors to the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court facilities will be permitted to bring portable electronic devices into the courtroom.

Chief Judge Katherine Gorman recently issued Administrative Order 2023-03, which modifies current court practices to comply with the new Supreme Court policy.

Court visitors will be permitted to bring smartphones, tablets, computers, smartwatches and e-books into Tenth Judicial Circuit Court facilities in Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark and Tazewell county courthouses (and all branch court facilities) effective this week.

The order does restrict the time, place, and way such devices may be used. All devices brought into court facilities must be put on “silent” mode. Within common areas of court facilities, visitors will be able

to use portable electronic devices if they are not causing a disruption to court facility operations or to others within court facilities.

However, the taking of photos, audio recordings or video recordings –whether in the courtrooms or in common areas – is strictly prohibited.

“Electronic devices such as cell-phones and tablets have become essential tools today, and the courts must adapt to the times,” Gorman said.

Russo to perform at Songbag concert April 2

GALESBURG – The 2023 Carl Sandburg Songbag Concert Series continues with a performance by Lojo Russo on Sunday, April 2. Playing an eclectic style of blues, roots, and Americana music, Lujo offers a one-woman show.

The concert begins at 2 p.m. at Carl Sandburg State Historic Site 313 E Third St. Galesburg. Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

USDA says food prices will keep increasing

Food costs will continue to eat away at consumers’ pocketbooks this year. USDA estimates food price inflation could increase another 8% this year after racing to its highest level last year (9.9%) since 1979.

“In the next year, we expect prices to continue to increase, although substantial uncertainty exists,” said Matthew MacLachlan, economist at USDA’s Food Economics Division.

Grocery purchases, or food at home, could experience the highest inflation this year at 8.6%, down from 11.4% in 2022. Meanwhile, prices of food away from home could increase 8.3% in 2023, up from 7.7% last year.

Higher prices will continue to affect pretty much anything shoppers put in their carts or order out. No segment of the food market will be spared from historically high inflation again this year, according to USDA.

– Dan Grant, FarmWeek

Red Apple RESTAURANT 607 N. Main St., Kewanee (309) 856-8020 Visit us on your Birthday for a FREE Birthday Surprise! \$2.00 OFF Dinner Purchase and Free Drink! COUPON

Stark County Genealogical Society presents: The Emotional Scars of War By Mitchell Young Mitchell Young was a Marine combat veteran in Vietnam. He suffered from PTSD and was homeless several years. Later he earned a Ph.D. in psychology from Purdue University and ran a practice counseling other combat veterans with PTSD. Join us for this taped interview on March 25 at 1:30PM at the Toulon Public Library Community Room.

VOTE Tuesday, April 4, 2023 VOLKERT For Mayor

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AG-LAND FS Full Time Operations Lead at Ag Land FS Grain Elevator Adding 3-4 Fall Harvest Helpers Duties include general maintenance, running grain dryers, loading and unloading trucks. Previous experience is preferred, must be a self-starter and be dependable. Must have reliable transportation. Night time drying. Duties include taking moisture samples and operating the dryer overnight. Must have reliable transportation and be very dependable. Please apply in person at the Elmwood Office. For questions call 1-309-742-2711 office or Clay's Cell 1-217-652-2021.

“12 Communities - 12 Months” Event! Friday, March 31 9-11am State Bank of Toulon, Toulon, IL FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS HEALTH INFORMATION FREE GIVEAWAYS FREE COVID-19 HOME TESTS Henry & Stark County Health Department Public Health March is National Nutrition Month! FIRST CHOICE HEALTHCARE

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK APRIL 3-9, 2023 CELEBRATING CULTURES IN HEALTH April Clinic Specials \$50 General Health & Lipid Panel (includes CBC/CMP/TSH & Lipids) \$5 Lipid Panel (5 Results) CASH ONLY! No Insurances Billed Appointments Only Fasting Recommended For Optimum Results KEWANEE 309-852-5272 COLONA 309-792-4011 FIRST CHOICE HEALTHCARE



LEGAL ADS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS STATE BANK OF TOULON, Plaintiff, N CHANCERY v. DEBRA SUE JOHNSON; UNKNOWN OWNERS; AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. Case No. 2023FC13

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned mortgage foreclosure action was filed on March 9, 2023, and is now pending.

- 1. The names of all Plaintiffs, the Court in which this action was brought, and the Case Number are identified above. 2. The name of the titleholder of record is: Debra Sue Johnson 3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: Lot Twenty-Five (25) and the South Half (S 1/2) of Lot Twenty-Four (24) of Hi-View Acres (Section 1) Subdivision of the City of Galva, situated in the County of Henry in the State of Illinois. PIN: 24-28-252-015 4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 504 NW 10th Street, Galva IL 61434 5. An identification of the Mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: a. Names of Mortgagor: Debra Sue Johnson b. Name of Mortgagee: State Bank of Toulon c. Date of Mortgage: January 28, 2022 d. Date of Recording: February 8, 2022 e. County Where Recorded: Henry County, Illinois f. Recording Document Identification: 20-2200842

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants, file your answer to the Complaint for Foreclosure in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the

Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Henry County, Illinois, Henry County Courthouse, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, Illinois, on or before April 18, 2023, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a Judgment for Foreclosure may be entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint for Foreclosure. /s/ Terilyn A. Motley Circuit Clerk

Barash & Everett, LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 211 W 2nd St Kewanee IL 61443 Phone: 309/852-5555 justin@barashlaw.com Published 3/17, 3/24, 3/31/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF: RICK A MUGRAGE, No. 2023PR15 Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication) Notice is given of the death of Rick A. Mugrage. Letters of Office were issued on February 27, 2023, to Charlene Mugrage as Independent Administrator whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before September 13, 2023. Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit efile.illinoiscourts.gov/serviceproviders.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor P.O. Box 165 Galva, IL 61434 (309) 932-2001 everett@barashlaw.com Published 3/17, 3/24, 3/31/23

TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES Notice is hereby given To the Legal voters, residents of the Township of Milo in the County of Bureau and the State of Illinois that the regular meetings of the Board of Trustees are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the hour of 8:00 PM during April, May, June, July August, September and October and at 7:00 PM during November, December, January, February, and March at the Town Hall for the transaction of miscellaneous business of the said town. Dated March 17, 2023 Thomas D. Ashby Township Clerk

Published 3/24/23

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, residents of the Township of Toulon in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the Toulon Township Building, Toulon, Illinois for the transaction of miscellaneous business of the said town; and after 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; and especially to consider and decide the following: Review annual reports, transfer of funds and any other business to come before the voters. Regular monthly meeting to be held immediately following the Annual Town Meeting. Dated: March 24, 2023. Barbara Allen, Toulon Township Clerk

Published 3/24/23

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 11, 2023 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 24, 2023. Johanna Mueller, Penn Township Clerk

Published 3/24/23

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING To the legal residents of the town of Walnut Grove Township in the County of Knox and the State of Illinois, that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of said Town will take place on

APRIL 11, 2023 being the second Tuesday of said month.

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said town will be held at the hour of 6:00 o'clock p.m. on said day at Walnut Grove Township Building in Altona, IL and a Moderator having been elected will proceed to hear and consider report of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting: and especially to consider and decide the following: Year end report.

Dated at Walnut Grove Township, this 21st day of March, 2023.

Ruth Ann Andrews Supervisor

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AGENDA APRIL 11, 2023 6:00 PM Clerk will

Call meeting to order Elect a moderator Hand out financial report Discussion of financial statement Adjourn meeting Published 3/24/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF LUZ MORADO AVILEZ, Deceased No. 2023PR18

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication) Notice is given of the death of Luz Morado Avilez. Letters of Office were issued on March 15, 2023, to Omar Favela as Independent Representative whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of

court, Henry County Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 25, 2023. Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit: http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit: http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor 211 W. 2nd St. Kewanee, IL 61443 (309) 852-5555 Published 3/24, 3/31, 4/7/23

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Township of Cambridge in the County of Henry, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2024 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Cambridge Township Building from 7am-3pm Monday-Friday.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 7pm on the 3rd day of April, 2023 at Cambridge Township Building in this Town and that final action on this ordinance will be taken by the Board of Township Trustees at the meeting to be held at 7pm on the 3rd day of April, 2023.

Dated this 6th day of March 2023 David Dobbels, Supervisor Cheri Vincent, Township Clerk

Published 3/24/23

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for road purposes of the Cambridge Township Road District, in the County of Henry, State of

Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2023, and ending March 31, 2024, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Cambridge Township Building from 7am-3pm Monday-Friday.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 7pm on the 3rd day of April, 2023 at Cambridge Township Building in this Cambridge Township Road District and that a final hearing and action on this ordinance will be taken at a meeting to be held at Cambridge Township Building at 7pm on the 3rd day of April, 2023.

Dated this 6th day of March 2023 Cheri Vincent, Township Clerk

Published 3/24/23

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of LYNN, in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023.

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7:00 P. M. on said day at the LYNN TOWN HALL, 2727 Illinois Route 17, Galva, Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, 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 and especially to consider and decide the following:

- Call Meeting to Order; • Nomination/Election of the Moderator; • Moderator's Oath of Office; • Approval of minutes of previous Annual Town Meeting; • Annual report of Supervisor; • Annual report of Road District Treasurer; • Audit of Accounts; • Permanent Fund Transfers; • Determine time of the next Annual Town Meeting; • General Business; and, Adjournment.

DATED this 14th day of March, 2023.

TIM THULINE, Lynn Township Clerk. Published 3/24/23

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIM THE BEAR IT



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. A 9x9 grid with some numbers filled in. Below the grid are instructions: 'Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.' Difficulty: Moderate to Challenging.

Answers on Page 3

CryptoQuote. A word puzzle where one letter stands for another. Example: 'AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW'. Below are several words with one letter replaced by 'X'. Answer: 'XIXBCW. - IPYVC PIYVH'.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. AD SLOGANS: What company advertises its clothing with the ad slogan, "Quality never goes out of style"? 2. SCIENCE: What is the tallest grass in the world? 3. MOVIES: What is the name of the camp in "Friday the 13th"? 4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the term when two water streams join to form a larger stream? 5. INVENTIONS: What is Tim Berners-Lee credited with inventing? 6. ANATOMY: Where are the quadriceps located? 7. LITERATURE: Which poet wrote a six-volume biography of President Lincoln? 8. TELEVISION: Timothy Lovejoy is a minister on which animated TV series? 9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Yaks are native to which region? 10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Before he was elected president, which of the founding fathers attended the coronation of Napoleon at Notre Dame Cathedral?

- Answers 1. Levi's. 2. Bamboo. 3. Camp Crystal Lake. 4. Confluence. 5. World Wide Web. 6. Thighs. 7. Carl Sandburg. 8. "The Simpsons." 9. Tibet, China. 10. James Monroe and his wife Elizabeth.

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- TOP 10 MOVIES 1. Scream VI (R) 2. Creed III (PG-13) 3. 65 (PG-13) 4. Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania (PG-13) 5. Cocaine Bear (R) 6. Jesus Revolution (PG-13) 7. Champions (PG-13) 8. Avatar: The Way of Water (PG-13) 9. Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (PG) 10. Operation Fortune: Ruse de Guerre (R)



# Toulon man guilty of domestic violence

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE  
For The Prairie News

TOULON — Scott A. Petty, 35, of rural Toulon, accepted a proposed disposition in his domestic violence Class A misdemeanor case.

Petty pleaded guilty to the charge of domestic battery/(makes) physical contact on March 17 in front of Circuit Court Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher.

Sentencing and possibly a probation hearing will be held on May 19 at 11 a.m. in Stark County's Circuit Court.

Petty could receive up

to a year in Stark County Jail, a fine of up to \$2,500 in addition to mandatory court assessments.

He could possibly receive probation as a penalty.

Court documentation shows that Petty caused "bodily harm to Angela Thompson ... in that he struck her with a closed fist while at 16119 County Road 925E, Toulon."

This isn't Petty's first brush with the law and court system.

Petty was convicted in 2017 in Stark County Circuit Court for aggravated

DUI with an associated death. In that case, Petty was sentenced to nine years prison in 2017 for causing the death of Gina M. Masters, 51, of Henry.

He drove his large van on Route 40 south of Bradford approaching the Route 17/40 junction. Petty crossed the centerline and crashed nearly head-on into Masters' small SUV a mile north of the junction causing her death on Nov. 9, 2015.

Petty appealed his conviction arguing that the State (1.) "erred in failing to suppress State's evidence (2) the State's ev-

idence was insufficient to sustain his conviction and (3) section 5/11-501(a) is unconstitutional."

The Appellate Court overturned Petty's conviction on Jan. 8, 2020, which was slightly over two years after Petty was incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections, in Nov. of 2017.

He was released from prison in April of 2020.

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# No resentencing for Bradford arsonist

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE  
For The Prairie News

TOULON — A former Bradford man, who is incarcerated at Joliet prison, lost his request to reconsider his sentence by Circuit Court Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher Friday, March 17 in Stark County's Circuit Court.

John H. Cramer, 59, filed a motion, through his public defender, Robert M. McBride, to have Fehrenbacher reconsider and reduce his 12-year prison sentence that he received last Nov. 14 for his guilt in setting a Bradford residence on fire while someone was present in the house.

Fehrenbacher stated later when asked, "The defense offered no new evidence why I should re-

consider the sentence I originally imposed."

During the motion hearing Fehrenbacher said, "I'm going to deny both motions on these cases."

Stark County State's Attorney Caroline Borden Campion dismissed the

misdemeanor two count violation of an order of protection case at this hearing. Cramer must serve 10.2 years of his 12 year prison sentence because he was convicted of a Class X felony aggravated arson charge.

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Helena Agri Enterprises LLC  
7064 Township Road 1300 E  
Wyoming, IL, 61491  
Attn: Scott Libby  
libbys@helenaagri.com

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EEO/AA/M/F/Disabled/Veteran

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- **TRUCK:** 2003 Ford F250, 4x4, diesel, have \$12,000 in it, lots of new parts, need to sell quick, \$5,000. (309) 657-7155.
- **RABBITS/DUCKS:** For Sale: Rabbits, different breeds. Ducks, 6 mo. to 1½ yrs. old. (309) 678-9163, leave a message or text please.

### FOR RENT

- **TOULON:** For Rent Toulon Upstairs 1 BR Apartment in Toulon. Call (309) 678-1831.
- **TOULON:** Available May 1, 1 bedroom apartment, fully furnished, utilities paid. No pets, non-smoking. Possible work opportunity to offset

the rent. Must have references and deposit. Indian Creek Vineyard (309) 525-5302.

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• **MOWING/CLEANING:** Lawns to mow and houses to clean up in Toulon. Call (309) 525-3505.

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• **SALVAGE:** Buying junk autos, farm equipment, grain bins, and also doing total farm clean up. Call Doug Lofgren at Spoon River Salvage (309) 299-8531.

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### NOTICE

• **AA MEETINGS:** Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m. at the St. Dominic Parish Hall located at 208 S. Galena in Wyoming.

Answers on Page 3

## Super Crossword

STUDY OF GENESIS

<b>ACROSS</b>	1 Downhiller's headwear	8 Mexican beach resort	14 Island home of Odysseus	20 University of Wyoming's city	21 Moon-landing program	22 Had to have	23 They appear before a film's first scene	25 Viewed to be	26 Cakes of combread	27 Indy units	28 Lichen — (white dog)	30 Stitch's cartoon friend	31 Bleating females	32 Speedy plane	33 It turns a computer on	35 Always, to birds	36 Vintage auto	38 Active Sicilian volcano	39 Holders of emergency supplies	43 Women with babies on the way	47 Puccini work	51 Galls after a presidential oath	54 Cutting noise	55 Quadrilobed: Prefix	56 — epic scale	57 Musical insensitivity	59 Sets for viewing	60 Perform by	61 Lured	63 "You Gotta Be" singer of 1994	65 Graduation address deliverer	71 Keyless, musically	72 Many a Netflix show	73 "— Dinka Doo" (Jimmy Durante tune)	75 Candy in collectible dispensers	76 "Ice" or "ice," but not "ice"	81 Blowout, e.g.	82 Look for prey, as a lion	83 Cyber-addresses	85 Membership ceremony	88 Phony: Prefix	90 Camera item for a long or short view	91 Down Under dweller	92 "Me? Never!"	94 — Cruces	95 Says "yes" to	96 Celebratory event for a rollout	102 Sewing tool	103 Green gem	107 Prefix with directional	108 Cosmetician	109 Saintry	111 Birds-and-bees class	112 Stick together	114 Bible's first words (apt for this puzzle's theme)	117 Actress	118 Quarterback	119 Flow out	120 Smallish sofa	121 Slip away	122 City in Arizona or Mexico	<b>DOWN</b>	1 Inclined land	2 "Bam!"	3 Singer Cars	4 Lion features	5 French buds	6 Moral failure	7 Bowler, informally	8 Kol, e.g.	9 Clumsy sorts	10 Signal "yes"	11 Actor	12 Radical sort	13 GI's "Uh-uh"	14 Owning money	15 PGA peg	16 Shoe lifts	17 Grant entry to	18 Singer/trapper	19 Attach	24 Putting pet	29 "Remington —"	32 Bach's "—, Joy of Man's Desiring"	33 Medico	34 108-card game	35 Frozen waffle brand	36 Move in circles	37 "Lose Yourself" rapper	39 Natural ability	40 Many short plays	41 Hoodwink	42 One of the four seasons	43 Wildly excited	44 Blast stuff	45 Sapporo sash	46 Prohibit	48 Just between us	49 Stream in the title of 1957's Best Picture	50 Church area	52 Horse color pattern	53 Fills with freight	58 Irish actor	61 Lawyer	68 Bridal gown features	69 Grain towers	70 Hammer's striking end	71 Since Hector was —	74 Everybody, in Essen	77 Starts to remove a jacket, say	78 — de Janeiro	79 — Z (total)	80 Fashion designer	81 Philip —	82 Name shared by 12 popes	84 Least cloudy	86 Join forces	87 Fall lawn tool	89 Rx writer	90 A flirtatious look	95 Element #8	96 Safe secures	97 Love, in Italy	98 Not stricken	99 — or two (on occasion)	100 Kidney-related	101 "Neon" fish	102 Schooner #8	103 One of the and maxis	104 Around a line of symmetry	105 AI — (a bit firm)	106 Knife features	109 Brats sitting on clutches was —	110 Conical-bore woodwind	111 Hosiery flaw	113 GPS display: Abbr.	115 Trendy	116 "It seems to me," online
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Toulon, LaFayette & West Jersey United Methodist Church

Rev. Leon D. Pomeroy  
229 W. Main St., PO Box 538, Toulon, IL 61483  
(812) 698-9294  
Sunday Worship: LaFayette - 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday (Pastor), 2nd & 4th Sunday (Lay Speaker); West Jersey 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday (Lay Speaker), 2nd & 4th Sunday (Pastor); Toulon 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: 105 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491  
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.  
Mail: PO Box 322, Wyoming, IL 61491  
email: [info@thegathering.life](mailto:info@thegathering.life)  
web: <https://www.thegathering.life/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

## 1st Congregational Church of Toulon

(309) 286-4901  
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Email [fcctoulon@gmail.com](mailto:fcctoulon@gmail.com)  
website: [firstcongregationaltoulon.org](http://firstcongregationaltoulon.org)

## Galva Congregational Church

Pastor Marshall Jones  
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](http://GalvaBaptistChurch.com)

## Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491  
309-695-4523 leave message  
Sunday School: 10:00, All ages  
Sunday Worship: 11:00  
Wednesday Night TBD  
Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

## First Congregational United Church of Christ

Pastor Ross Wyman  
204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491  
(309) 695-4091  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Check us out on Facebook  
First Congregational UCC of Wyoming, Illinois

## Toulon First Baptist Church

110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon  
(309) 286-4611  
Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.  
Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.  
Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.  
Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.  
Email: [pastor@toulonbaptist.com](mailto:pastor@toulonbaptist.com)  
[www.ToulonBaptist.com](http://www.ToulonBaptist.com)  
[www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon](http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon)  
Call us for Salvation Army Assistance

## St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491  
[threesaints.org](http://threesaints.org)

## Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL  
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Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Contact: [messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com](mailto:messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com)  
1-309-932-3346  
Facebook: Messiah Lutheran—Galva, IL

## Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart  
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434  
(309) 932-2460  
[preachinghope@gmail.com](mailto:preachinghope@gmail.com)  
[galvafirst@gmail.com](mailto:galvafirst@gmail.com)  
Sunday Worship: 9:00

## Wyoming United Methodist Church

Pastor Rebecca Klemm  
302 North Main Street PO Box 287 Wyoming, IL, 61491-0287.  
309-606-9027  
Email: [WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com](mailto:WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com)  
Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

## The Oaks Community Church

1868 Congregational Road, Dahinda, IL  
(309) 879-2042  
Pastor Marty Briney and Pastor Dean Lane  
Worship Service 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.  
Website [www.theoakscommunitychurch.com](http://www.theoakscommunitychurch.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheOaksCommunityChurch](http://www.facebook.com/TheOaksCommunityChurch)

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# OBITUARIES

## Donald E. Bloom

LA MESA, Calif. – Don Bloom, 80, of La Mesa, Calif., died suddenly on Jan. 15, 2023.

Donald Eugene Bloom was born April 29, 1942, in Galva, Ill. He was the middle child born to Frank "Bud" and Bernice Bloom. He moved to San Diego, Calif., in 1968.

Don was married to Katie Williams Bloom and had two children, Cindy L. Martinez of Santee and Doug Bloom of Sacramento, Calif. In addition, he had two stepchildren, Ramsey Williams of San Francisco and Whitney Ginter of San Diego. Don had eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Don also had two sisters, Mary Ann Spiegel of Galva and Linda Burnett of Harker Heights, Texas.

Don was a contractor in San Diego for over 50 years and was well known in the County as President of WestStar Contractors. He had a tremendous gift for renovation and most of his work came from word of mouth. He had also established three successful businesses in the past, including Bardon Enterprises. Don loved working and worked to the very end.

When not working, Don enjoyed being with his family, music, being at the Ranch in Potrero, Calif., going to San Diego Padres games, concerts, travelling and great Mexican food or a good steak!

Don was a fine man always looking out for his family. He was kind and generous, never angry, always looking for the best in people. He will be greatly missed.

## Jeffrey D. Peterson

WYOMING – Jeffrey David "Jeff" Peterson, 48, of Wyoming, Ill., died at 6:25 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at his home.

Graveside services were to be held at 1 p.m., Monday, March 20 at Princeville Township Cemetery in Princeville, Ill. Visitation was to be held from 2-4 p.m., Sun-



Bloom



Peterson

day, March 19, at Rux Funeral Home in Kewanee. Memorials may be directed to his family.

He was born Feb. 1, 1975, in Peoria, the son of Ronald and June (Cain) Peterson.

Survivors include his parents of Wyoming, his two brothers, Ethan Peterson of Wyoming and Matt (Jen) Peterson of Itasca, Ill.; his sister, Rebecca Heck of Kewanee; 10 nieces and nephews, Jacob, Allie, Nate, Andy, Ethel, Lexy, Simon, Benjamin, Matthew Jr. and Michael; a great-niece and nephew, Lila and Chad Jr.; and his special friend, Bob Heck.

He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents; two brothers in infancy, Nathaniel and Jacob; a sister, Ginger; and two nephews, Zachary and Daniel.

Jeff graduated from Kewanee High School Special Education where he participated in both summer and winter Special Olympics, earning several medals and awards. He was a high-scoring member of the KHS Cougars team where he made the winning shot in a basketball game vs. Chicago. He had also worked at Bob Evans Restaurant.

He was a member of the Princeville Presbyterian Church and was an avid fan of the Chicago Cubs and Bears and enjoyed following NASCAR and his favorite driver, Jeff Gordon. He also enjoyed traveling and eating, especially spaghetti, pizza and ice cream.

Most of all he loved and enjoyed his greatest passion, his music. His country and Christian praise music is what brought him closest to his greatest love, his love for Jesus. Jeff was the most humble, selfless man whom never, ever, knew a stranger. He always put others first.

This obituary may be viewed and private condolences left at [www.ruxfuneralhome.com](http://www.ruxfuneralhome.com).

## Carol B. Routh

EDELSTEIN – On Feb. 15, Carol Bridgman Routh broke free from the hold of Alzheimer's and joined Heaven's chorus.

Carol was born at home in rural Blue Ridge on Dec. 22, 1938, to James Bridgman and Maxine Williams Zapf. In 1947, she joyfully welcomed Edward Zapf as her father when he wed her mother.

She married Orlyn Routh on

March 30, 1957, at Blue Ridge Church in rural Edelstein. He preceded her in death on Aug. 30, 2015.

She was also predeceased by 3-year-old sister, Joan.

She is survived by their children, Deb (Mike) Snyder of Edelstein, Rich (Debbie) of Colorado, Gloria (Terry) Giosta of Varna and Ron (Anita) Routh of Edelstein; 10 grandchildren, Bryce (Holly) Snyder, Sandy Snyder, Karen (Don) Strickler, Briana (Sam) Porter, Rachel, Tara, Andrea, and Erin Giosta, Dan (Kristina) Routh and Kayla Routh; nine great-grandchildren, Nathan, Nora and Logan Strickler, Alec, Phin and Imogen Snyder, Grayson and Lukas Routh and Micah Porter; a sister, Linda (Duncan) Lawrie of Colorado; and a brother, Lynn (Esther) Bridgman of California.



Routh

Carol never met a stranger and loved children. She treated them all as if they were her own. She graduated from Chillicothe High School in 1956 and loved attending their reunions. She worked at Foster & Gallagher, then retired from Alcoa in Princeville after many years.

She kept busy with grandchildren and grand-animals in later years, along with some traveling to visit various family members.

A graveside service will be at Blue Ridge Cemetery in rural Edelstein at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, 2023, with a Celebration of Life open house following at Blue Ridge Church until noon.

The family would like to extend special thanks to her caregivers at Legacy and Serenity memory care along with Compassus Hospice for their loving attention as her memory and health faded.

Memorial contributions can be made to Blue Ridge Church, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or The Ark in Lacon.

Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Princeville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be left for Carol's family on her tribute wall at [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).

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Toulon	309-286-2461	Kewanee	309-751-4355

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Princeville, IL 61559

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Galva | 309-932-2400  
Williamsfield | 309-639-4221

[www.ruxfuneralhome.com](http://www.ruxfuneralhome.com)  
[ruxfuneral@yahoo.com](mailto:ruxfuneral@yahoo.com)

**PEKIN**

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Veronica Haskell, Certified Funeral Celebrant/Licensed Pre-Need Agent  
Nicole Reed, Funeral Director/Licensed Pre-Need Agent/  
Certified Funeral Celebrant



# Ban on styrofoam containers heads to Senate

By Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois House passed 41 bills to the Senate Tuesday ahead of a scheduled Friday deadline.

The measures, among others, included a ban on polystyrene food containers, bills focusing on gender inclusivity in state law and a requirement that expectant parents have a “duty” to split pregnancy-related costs, including for abortions. Below are a few of the measures that passed, all of which will require Senate approval and a signature from the governor to become law.

A bill that would ban polystyrene disposable food containers – commonly referred to by the brand name Styrofoam – passed the House by a 67-43 vote.

After Jan. 1, 2024, House Bill

2376 would prohibit retail establishments from selling or distributing containers made of polystyrene foam.

“I think this is a reasonable measure that starts with just carry-out food containers, promotes responsible stewardship for our planet,” Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz, a Democrat from Glenview and the bill’s lead sponsor, said on the House floor.

The bill would provide temporary exemptions for certain establishments including food pantries, soup kitchens, non-profits, and federal, state, or local government agencies that provide food to “needy individuals” at no or nominal charge. A ban would take effect for those entities beginning in 2025.

The long-debated idea of build-

ing a cargo-oriented airport and shipment center in Chicago’s south suburbs could get another look under one bill that passed the House.

House Bill 2531, by Rep. Will Davis, D-Homewood, calls on the Illinois Department of Transportation to establish a process for pre-qualifying entities that could offer a public-private agreement to develop such a project.

The bill passed 72-40 and now heads to the Senate.

The House also approved a bill requiring state agencies to track the number of state employees “who identify as non-binary or gender non-conforming.”

House Bill 2297, the first bill sponsored by Rep. Kevin Olickal, D-Chicago, was approved 72-39.

# Galva recognizes new Eagle Scout inductees

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Five young men received their Eagle Scout awards Saturday night at the First United Methodist Church in a ceremony for family and friends.

The Eagle Scout inductees included Dylan Tucker, Jonas Porsche, T.J. Conner, Aidan Moore and Wade Rachel.

T.J. Conner is the son of Joe and Victoria Conner; Aidan Moore is the son of Dan and Tina Moore; Wade Rachel is the son of Marland and Nicole Rachel; Jonas Porsche is the son of Adam and Amanda Norway and Dylan Tucker is the son of Cory and Rachel Tucker.

The award is the highest rank of scouting.

The Galva Troop is 143.



In the front from left are Galva’s newly inducted Eagle Scouts, Dylan Tucker, Jonas Porsche, T.J. Conner, Aidan Moore and Wade Rachel. In the back row are the scout leaders present and past, from left to right, Nate Nyday, assistant scoutmaster; Wayne McInire, past scoutmaster; Jeff Olson, past scoutmaster; Dan Rux, past scoutmaster; and Regan Ahlgrim, current scoutmaster. Photo by Carole Townsend.

# SPORTS: Stark County bats hot in season opener

Continued from Page 12

at bats. Connor Wagenbach was a perfect 2-for-2.

Kieser hit 2-for-4 that included a double. Steelman hit a single in three trips to the plate. Hillan was 3-for-4, including a double.

“We hit very well, 10 runs, 9 earned. It was a good start of the season for our offense,” Stark County Coach Scott Paxson said.

“Our pitching was OK. Our fielding is still a work in progress, but improving as we can each day.

“We played aggressively, especially at the plate. We are looking forward to our upcoming games and good weather to play.”

The Rebels were scheduled to make a non-conference trip to Morrison Thursday.

**NOTICE TO STARK COUNTY VOTERS**

Early voting for the April 4th Consolidated Election will begin February 23rd and end April 3rd at the office of the Stark County Clerk  
130 W. Main, Toulon.

Voting hours are Monday-Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

We will also be open Saturday, April 1st from  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. for early voting.

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# The Prairie News Sports

## Stark Co. softball starts season 0-2

By **NICK VLAHOS** and **PHIL JOHNSON**

For The Prairie News

Stark County softball has a new coach this season.

Amy Wise inherits a team that returns five starters: junior infielder Payten Hillier, junior catcher Olivia Orwig, junior infielder Hailey Peterson, junior pitcher Shanna Peterson and senior third baseman Lauren West.

Senior Hayley Gillam is expected to provide a boost in the outfield, according to Wise. Sophomore Aubri Stahl is to complement Shanna Peterson in the pitcher's circle.

Wise also expects contributions from sophomore Emily Demetreon, junior Katie Grinnell, sophomore Kenna Newton, junior Anissia Rucker and senior Haven Self.

"The team has done a great job adjusting to new leadership ... we are anxious to play," Wise said. "We know we have our work cut out for us but are up to the challenge. We are focusing on fundamentals and being more competitive in conference play."

Last season, Stark County won a Class 1A regional opener before it lost 4-1 to Sterling Newman Central Catholic.

Stark County lost its first two games this season. Putnam County broke a fifth-inning tie March 15 and won 10-3.

On Monday, host Bureau Valley scored seven runs in the first inning and won 10-0 in five innings.

The Rebels are to play a doubleheader

Saturday at West Central.

• **Galva** – Galva Coach Brad Jackson has 15 players out for this year's softball team. The Lady Wildcats were 3-21 last spring, according to the GameChanger website. No other statistics were made available prior to press time.

Galva was scheduled to open its season Wednesday at Monmouth-Roseville. Games also were scheduled Thursday at Bushnell-Prairie City and a doubleheader Saturday at Kewanee.

• **Stark County Baseball** – Stark County (0-1-1) lost to Farmington on Monday, 10-6, despite jumping to a 3-0 lead in the top of the third inning.

The Rebels had five hits but also collected 11 walks against Farmington and stole six bases, with Kieser swiping three and Ryne Hillan nabbing two. Dillon Steelman led Stark County with two hits, Daniel Kieser had a double and scored twice and Tim Giesenhagen and Cameron Watson each had hits.

Giesenhagen pitched a six-inning complete game, yielding seven hits. He fanned five and walked three, but also hit four batters and had a wild pitch. Farmington posted five runs in the bottom of the third and added five more in innings four through six.

The Rebels had opened their season March 15 with a 10-10 tie vs. Lincoln Trail rival Monmouth-Roseville at home.

The Rebels registered 11 hits. Braden Lindley went 2-for-4 with three RBI. Charlie Rouse knocked a double in two

*Continued on Page 11*



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