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 Vol. 20, No. 49

The Prairie News

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Borden Champion appointed Stark's circuit judge

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

TOULON – Caroline Borden Champion will be leaving one position in the Stark County Courthouse for another in February.

The Illinois Supreme Court on Jan. 5 appointed Borden Champion as Stark County resident circuit court judge. She will serve as judge until Dec. 2, finishing the term of the late Circuit Judge Bruce P. Fehrenbacher, who died Nov. 22, 2023.

Borden Champion's last day as Stark's state's attorney is Feb. 2

and she will be sworn in as circuit judge on Feb. 13 at the Stark County Courthouse at 9:30 a.m.

She was elected Stark's state's attorney in November 2020, replacing the retired James D. Owens after he served in that position for 28 years.

Borden Champion said she timed her resignation on Feb. 2 because there is no Stark County



Borden Champion

circuit court on Feb. 9 or Feb. 16. It is uncertain if the Feb. 23 court session will be held if there is no state's attorney by then.

Borden Champion is the daughter of retired Circuit Court Judge Stuart Borden, of Wyoming. She became the first woman to hold Stark's state's attorney's office by winning, without opposition, both the March 2020 primary and Nov. 3, 2020, election.

She is a 1997 Stark County High School graduate, a 2001 Bradley University graduate and a 2007 Southern Illinois Univer-

sity School of Law graduate. Borden Champion worked in private business for about four years before becoming an attorney.

Previously, she was an assistant state's attorney in Peoria County from May 2016 to December 2020. Prior to that, she was an attorney for private law firms at Howard and Morris, and at Morris, Hinshaw and Culbertson.

Stark County Republican Party Chair Mike Bigger will recommend a temporary Stark County state's attorney to fill out Borden

Champion's term that ends Dec. 1. There is a Stark County residence requirement for the position and that person must be a Republican.

The Stark County Board has posted on its website (starkco.illinois.gov) an application for the state's attorney's position. County Board Chair Kari Bush said she and vice-chair Robin Nowlan will conduct the applicants' interviews.

"What we've done in the past, is when there's open positions,

Continued on Page 2

CHANGES AT SENIOR CENTER

New director

Follis named to lead Galva Senior Center

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**
 For The Prairie News

GALVA – Carlin Follis has been hired as the new director of the Galva Senior Citizens Center which is located at 106 Front St.

Follis was hired Jan. 3 by the Galva Senior Citizens board.



Follis

The board includes President Steve Johnson, Past President Diana Craig, Secretary Vicki Perkins, Treasurer Vicki Mas-

sie, Betty Grant, Evie Hier, and Howard Brooks. Johnson said he hopes to get more people using the center once it reopens in March. He said the building is handicapped



Carlin Follis is new director of the Galva Senior Citizens Center, which will remain closed through January and February.

accessible and has new handicapped restrooms. A new furnace and air conditioner was also recently added.

Follis will begin her duties on March 1 when the center reopens. Pam Kelly, the previous director, had her last day on Dec.

31. The center is closed the rest of January and all of February. Follis is thrilled to help the Galva Senior Center grow with "more services available and a bigger attendance."

Continued on Page 2

Board retreats, meets

OKs \$6.6 million in bonds for gym, track

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

WYOMING – The Stark County School Board held a mid-year retreat on Jan. 16, followed by a brief monthly meeting.

During the retreat, the board heard an update on plans for construction of a gymnasium and all-weather track being coordinated by the Farnsworth Group.

Then during the meeting, the board approved a bond resolution for the issuance of \$6,600,000 in general obligation school bonds to pay for the new gym and track.

Later, after executive session, the board announced the resignation of Assistant Principal Michael McGovern and approved Sophia Elswick as director for the 2024 spring musical.

The board discussed without action 2024-25 curriculum guide updates. The board discussed

staffing needs, future goals and an innovation lab, as well. Finally, the board conducted a mid-year superintendent evaluation with goals and feedback in executive session.

Elementary School Principal Jenn Bibb reported there will be a Jan. 25, 6 p.m., "One School, One Story" family movie and popcorn night, preschool screenings on March 1 at the Stark County Athletic Complex in Wyoming, the Stark County Elementary School Parents' Club and Education Foundation auction on March 9 and a fourth-grade wax museum April 11 at 6 p.m.

Principal Megan McGann said in her report that the Junior-Senior High School will host a Winterfest: "Hairy for Hegwood" spirit week Feb. 5-9 and Bradford 8th graders will visit the high school on Jan. 18. Parents and families are also wel-

Continued on Page 2

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SCHOOL BOARD: Grant funds new bus barn

Continued from Page 1
 come to attend the Jan. 19 home basketball game for a tour of the high school and free admission.

Superintendent Brett Elliott in his report said Elswick was hired as band, choir and music teacher and Andrew Collins was hired as junior high science teacher.

The district has received a Solar Bus

Grant for more than \$667,375 that will be used to build a new bus barn for two electric buses and to improve the asphalt bus lane at the elementary school.

Also, the school district received a \$5,000 State Bank of Toulon donation and a \$750 donation from the Stark County Historical Society to purchase a touch-screen device, software and yearbook upload from the last 31 years.

In addition, the board had the first reading of the 2024-25 school calendar. The first day of school for students will be Aug. 15, Thanksgiving break is Nov. 27-29, Winter Break is Dec. 20 to Jan. 3, 2025, Spring Break is April 14-21, 2025, and graduation will be May 11, 2025. Eighth-grade promotion is May 14, 2025, with the last day of school May 23, 2025.

BORDEN CAMPION: King seeks vacancy

Continued from Page 1
 we put a notice in the paper and asked for applications," Bush said "We've had an interview committee, which consisted of the (county board) vice-chair

and chair. We interview applicants and make recommendations for appointment to the board and the board would make an appointment to the position."

Wyoming resident Austin King said that he's in the process of completing his application to be placed on the March 2024 primary ballot.

King graduated from

Stark County High School in 2014 and is currently employed in the Peoria County state's attorney's office. He has been licensed as an attorney for two years.

GALVA: More music

Continued from Page 1
 She hopes to bring back "old favorites and new programs."

Some of her plans include, bingo, card playing, having a therapy dog present for a program, knitting, crocheting, meals made available, monthly birthday parties, musical programs and an Irish Dancer's program.

Follis hopes to bring music to the center through grants and also have school groups perform.

The senior center's March 1 newsletter will be mailed out in the middle of February, she said.

Follis also works part-time at the Galva Pharmacy, volunteers with many non-profit music groups and is a board member of the Galva Historical Society.

She is married to Bob Follis and has three grown children, 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic Citations & Ordinance Violations

1-3-24 - Alecia D. Dozard - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.

Misdemeanors & Felonies

12-13-23 - Criminal felony - Riley D. McLean - Aid/abet/possess/sell stolen vehicle and theft between \$500 - \$10,000.

12-16-23 - Criminal felony - Shawn L. Hall - Aggravated assault of a police officer.

12-23-23 - Criminal felony - Stephanie A. Jennings - Aggravated battery.

Peoria County Report

1-16-24 - Carl P. Porter, 46, of Wyoming was arrested at 5:30 p.m. and accused of deceptive practices and financial exploitation of an elderly/disabled person between \$300 and \$5,000, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office. Porter also was being held for another law-enforcement agency.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

1-8 - to the 00 block of NE 4th St. for a subject having a mental-health crisis.

1-8 - to the 1000 block of SE 2nd St. to assist a citizen who left a wallet on a vehicle and drove away. Officer drove around and was not able to locate the wallet.

1-8 - to meet with a subject at the Galva Police Department to answer questions about an impounded vehicle.

1-8 - to a residence just northwest of town for a 911 hang up call. It was determined to be a complaint about a reckless driver.

1-8 - An officer drove around to several residences and requested that they move their vehicles for the snowplows, per city ordinance.

1-8 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. to assist the Kewanee Police Department locate a vehicle owner in reference to an incident in their city. Contact was made.

1-9 - to assist Henry County with a three-vehicle accident about three miles west of town on Illinois Route 34.

1-9 - to several residences to get vehicle owners to move their vehicles for the snowplows.

1-9 - to assist Stark County Medic with a subject who had fallen on ice



at Sentry Estates.

1-9 - While patrolling, an officer located a subject who slid off the roadway in the 00 block of Wallace St. A friend was contacted and pulled the subject out. No damage was reported.

1-9 - to Illinois Route 34 just east of town for a disabled-vehicle complaint.

1-10 - to a residence on NE 4th St. for a welfare check. The subject was located and was fine.

1-10 - to a residence in the 600 block of NW 7th St. in reference to a parking issue, due to the recent snowstorm. The owner agreed to move the vehicle.

1-10 - to two Galva addresses in an attempt to locate a runaway juvenile for Peoria County. Officer was not able to locate the juvenile.

1-10 - to the 200 block of NW 2nd Ave. for a 911 hang-up call. It was determined to be a pocket dial.

1-10 - to assist Henry County with an apparently intoxicated motorist who went into the ditch several miles East of Galva on Route 34. The subject was transported to the Galva Police Department for DUI processing and then taken to the Henry County Jail.

1-11 - to the 700 block of NW 5th Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The owners were warned about the Illinois leash law.

1-11 - to speak with a subject at the Galva Police Department about a residential burglary that occurred recently in the 00 block of NW 3rd St. This is under investigation.

1-11 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. to speak with a subject who appeared to be having a mental-health crisis.

1-12 - to the 400 block of SE 6th Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The dog was located.

1-12 - to assist the Street Department with getting several vehicles moved from the roadways for snow

plowing.

1-13 - to the 500 block of NW 8th St. for a 911 open-line call. It was determined to be a misdial.

1-13 - to check on a snowplow truck that was reportedly in the ditch about three miles south of Galva on Route 17.

1-14 - to complaints about several vehicles stuck in the roadway within a short drive of Galva. Officer was able to assist a few and not able to make it to others.

1-14 - to the NE 2nd St. railroad tracks for a crossing-arm malfunction. BNSF was contacted for repairs.

1-14 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 500 block of N. Center Ave., Morgon McCaw, 25, Cambridge, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for no insurance. He was released with a required court date.

1-14 - to assist Knox County with a single-vehicle rollover accident near the Galva Cemetery. A male occupant was arrested for DUI by Knox County.

1-14 - to the 900 block of SE 2nd St. to check the welfare of a cat that was posted on Facebook outside in the cold weather.

1-14 - to the NE 6th Ave. railroad tracks for a crossing-arm malfunction. BNSF was contacted for repairs.

1-14 - to assist the ambulance service with a juvenile subject who stuck their tongue to a metal pole on SE 3rd St.

Property Transfers

1-8 - James W. and Joel E. Gray to Shafer Farms Enterprises LLC - Pt Sect 10-12-7 SE - Consideration = \$235,000.

1-10 - Gregory C. Kendall II to Gregory C. II and Kristen Kendall - Abram Phenix's Add'n - Pt Lot 6 - 124 Silver St., Bradford - Consideration = \$0.

1-11 - Barbara J. Bauman to Robin L. Berg - Pt Sect 30-12-7 NW - 12375 S. Valley Rd., Princeville - Consideration = \$25,000.

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- You may vote in person at the County Clerk's Office.

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The Prairie News

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BRIEFS

Galva Chamber honors top citizens on Jan. 20

GALVA – The Galva Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting and presentation of the Citizen of the Year and Friend of the Chamber awards.

The meeting will be held Saturday, Jan. 20, at Midland Country Club with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m.

Denny Tarleton has been chosen as Citizen of the Year and **Aaron Kewish** is this year's Friend of the Chamber.

If you plan to attend, please call (309) 932-8181 or email galvaarea-chamber@gmail.com. Please leave your name and how many meals you are reserving. You may pay at the door but must have reservations prior.

– Carol Townsend

College honors

• **Blake Orwig**, a business administration major from Wyoming, has been named to Monmouth College's fall 2023 Dean's list (3.5 gpa or better). He is the son of Steve

and Ann Orwig of Wyoming.

• Several local students were named to the Black Hawk College East Campus fall 2023 Honors list. Recognized for High Honors (3.75 gpa or better) were: **Lillia Atteberry** of Bradford; **Aaron Amick, Calen Braden, Johnathan Chaput, Josey Clem, Ally Cyttrych, Chandra Fiore, Melana Followwill, John Gravitt, Kyrsten Hill, Anne Hohulin, Lea Houston, Leila Interrial, Aaron Kendrick, Lauryn Kuehl, Breanna Lafary, Mackensie Lennartz, Amber Long, Aeryn Mahr, Mia Merkel, Teagan Morley, Jared O'Brien, Eilish O'Rourke, Gabrielle Olson, Jacob Pierce Jr., Caden Rachel, Will Rumbold, Emily Simmons, Halle Tindall, Sadie Wilson and Kali Yelm**, all of Galva; **Blair Snyder** of LaFayette; **Olivia Bessler, Mariah Copeland, Payten Hillier, Emily Hurst and Isabelle Regan**, all of Toulon; **Lauren Best, Madison Bumbalough, Emma Down, Kylee Frisby, Krishna Patel and Kailey Smith**, all of Wyoming. Recognized for Honors (3.50 gpa

or better) were: **Katielynn Clemons, Ana Leu, Kendall Rogers, Jacob Roth, Ava Strom, Haley Thorndyke, Kayla Vandenberg and Paige Wexell**, all of Galva; **Avery Gerber, Cleo Richards, Chase Wright and Jesse Wright**, all of Toulon; and **Peyton Podmolik** of Wyoming.

Et cetera

• **WYOMING** – The Wyoming City Council meeting that was scheduled for Jan. 16 has been re-scheduled for Feb. 6 because the council was not going to have a quorum.

• **KEWANEE** – The Henry and Stark County Health Department and their First Choice Healthcare Clinic in Kewanee, 110 N. Burr Blvd., remind residents they will be conducting Certified DOT Physical Clinics every Wednesday in January from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling the clinic at (309) 852-5272 Kewanee.

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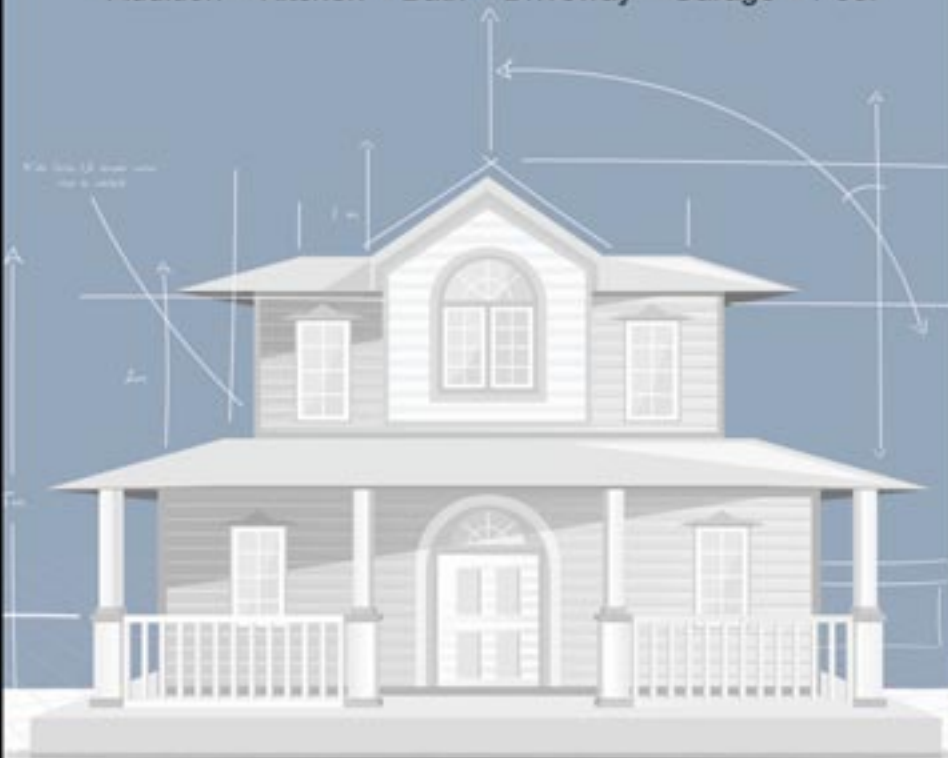


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Stark Co. Board accepts resignation

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
For The Prairie News

TOULON – The Stark County board accepted Caroline Borden Campion’s resignation as state’s attorney and declared a vacancy at a re-scheduled meeting on Jan. 10.

Borden Campion was appointed Stark County resident judge on Jan. 5 by the Illinois Supreme Court. Her last day as Stark County state’s attorney will be Feb. 2.

Borden Campion thanked the county board for its support and for its service to Stark County.

The board has posted on its website (starkco.illinois.gov) an application for the state’s attorney position.

The board passed an annual noxious weed work-plan and approved a special use permit for The Towers LLC for the construction of a Verizon communications tower of 255 feet, in Bradford. Both the zoning and planning boards of Stark County previously approved this project.

Also passed was employee handbook amendment for Stark County Highway Department employees regarding how overtime on holidays is credited so they are not penalized for working on holidays.

In his report, County Engineer Judd Giffin said bridge inspections have occurred and the highway department is plowing snow.

Treasurer Paula Leezer said in a written report there are three pay periods.

There was no Stark County Sheriff’s report.

Senior board member Tom Howes spoke about what he said in December’s meeting concerning the sheriff’s office.

“What are our responsibilities to the sheriff and to the finances? Legally, what are his responsibil-

ities to the people and to the court?” he said.

Howes asked if the county should be “farming our patrol out” and whether the county board should be looking into this?

“That’s why I said that I wanted somebody to come in and help us look at the overall picture,” Howes said. “What I’m trying to do as a good board member – I’m trying to see how we can afford things.

“In all fairness, I want everybody to understand I

have no axe to grind with the sheriff or with his employees – or anybody else.”

Board Chair Kari Bush stated that Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust is “offering to help us out.” Bush requested that Howes pursue that.

“I don’t think anyone’s eyes are closed,” Bush said. “I think that we are all aware and that we all want to work to keep the process of this county that we have in place sustainable.”



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Answers on Page 3 **Super Crossword** **MONEY-CHANGING**

ACROSS

- 1 Combination spear and battle-ax
- 8 Provo native
- 13 Dawn deity
- 16 Some fast autos
- 19 Virtual merchant
- 20 Strong
- 21 Performs a charade of
- 23 This money used to buy a Jacuzzi?
- 25 Height when upright
- 26 Protest at which people lie on the ground
- 27 Bright red Indian money?
- 29 “Madam” counterpart
- 32 “The Dance” painter Henri
- 35 Biceps locale
- 36 Powerful auto engine
- 37 “You missed your chance for lodging over that Korean money?”
- 42 Already-included tips, e.g.
- 43 Lima locale
- 44 “Rapa —” (1994 film)
- 45 Like even scores
- 46 Feel sore
- 48 Refusals
- 51 She sang “Constant Craving”
- 56 Rocker Brian
- 57 Facts, in brief
- 59 Gobble up
- 62 Gal entering society
- 63 Jazz’s Chick
- 66 Cognizant of
- 67 School where students learn about Swedish money?
- 72 Norway’s capital
- 74 — tacias (certain unit)
- 75 Used skillfully
- 76 “— favor, señor”
- 79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape?
- 83 Brain tests, for short
- 84 Suffix with meth-
- 85 Venture out on one’s own
- 86 — Leopard
- 87 Some PC readouts
- 89 Kicked out of the game, for short
- 90 Radio spots
- 92 Bruins’ sch.
- 94 Major shock
- 96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money?
- 103 German auto
- 104 Tampa Bay NFLer
- 105 Over browned bread
- 106 Houston-to-Madison dir.
- 107 Whack some Mexican money?
- 111 Flapper — rhymes
- 113 More intoxicating
- 114 Refuse to contribute
- 120 Getty of TV
- 121 French river
- 122 Asmara’s nation
- 123 Gobbled up
- 124 Airport agency
- 125 Played (with)
- 126 Label on a bargain item
- 13 Use an ax on
- 2 One “A” of NCAA: Abbr.
- 3 Chou En —
- 4 Nest dweller
- 5 “If I Can’t Have You” singer
- 6 Says again
- 7 Five — (Paris’ Right Bank)
- 8 E-address
- 9 Bistro bill
- 10 Unpaid player
- 11 Classic cracker brand
- 12 Tennis-playing guy
- 13 Kodak founder
- 14 Prefix with -genarian
- 15 Pentagonram
- 16 Reach as high as
- 17 Large, deep serving dish
- 18 Painter Jan
- 22 R-X tilers
- 29 Said
- 30 Antiseptic element
- 31 Bucking bovines
- 33 Jr., last year
- 34 Spirited horse
- 38 Eye coverer
- 39 Takeoff strip
- 40 Often-picked veggie
- 41 Phrase “Captain”
- 46 From scratch
- 47 Compelled
- 49 In the lead
- 50 Squelched
- 52 Cat that roars
- 53 “The Piano” Oscar winner
- 54 Cable TV’s — Geo
- 55 Miracle —
- 57 Here, in Lyon
- 58 Election mo. last
- 60 Elected (to)
- 61 Virginia Tech team name
- 64 Cold — (rigid)
- 66 Court pleas, for short
- 70 Rule, in brief
- 71 More than loads up (or)
- 72 Assoc. — Canals
- 73 Great Lakes’ —
- 77 Like a single-guy band
- 78 Traditional Irish brew
- 80 Make laugh uproariously
- 81 Hoopla
- 82 “You Be —” (1986 hit for Run-DM.C.)
- 88 Jargon
- 89 Women’s patriotic gp.
- 91 Secondary field of study
- 93 George who played Danny Ocean
- 94 Mosaic tile
- 95 Long rodent feature
- 96 Most suitable
- 97 Assess again
- 98 Skip over in speech
- 99 Chaise, e.g.
- 100 Hailed the last
- 101 Desert of Mongolia
- 102 Some purple shades
- 103 Mio of films for short
- 108 Piper’s wear
- 109 Twisty fish
- 110 Average
- 112 Comic Johnson
- 115 Uno plus due
- 116 H.S. proficiency test
- 117 Gallery work
- 118 Teachers’ gp.
- 119 Ham-mansköld once of the U.N.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Toulon Methodist Church
229 W. Main St., P.O. Box 538, Toulon, IL. 61483
Phone (309) 286-2224
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (309) 286-2224 or (217) 778-1591
Toulon Sunday School 9:15 a.m., all ages & Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

LaFayette Methodist Church
Illinois Highway 17, P.O. Box 147, LaFayette, IL. 61449
Phone (309) 995-3371
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (217) 425-5707 or (217) 778-1591.
LaFayette Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

West Jersey United Methodist Church
Illinois Highway 78, West Jersey, IL. Rev. Pablo Marty
Phone (217) 425-5707
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

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
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
website: firstcongregationaltoulon.org

Galva Congregational Church
Pastor Marshall Jones
211 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Galva, Illinois 61434
(309) 932-3733
Service Time 10 a.m.

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

First Congregational Church of Christ
Pastor Ross Wyman
204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491
(309) 695-4091
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
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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.
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16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491
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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
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
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
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
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheOaksCommunityChurch

Bradford Leet United Methodist Church

Boyd's Grove United Methodist Church
Leet UMC 118 E. Main St., Bradford, IL 61421
Services on Sundays at 10:15 a.m.
Boyd's Grove UMC 1976 Wyonet Walnut Rd, Bradford, IL. 61421
Services on Sundays at 9 a.m.
Rev Dan Wright
309-897-8113
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Lawmakers clear path for assault weapon rules

By PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – New permanent rules will soon go into effect spelling out how people who own assault weapons and related items that are now heavily regulated in Illinois can register them with the Illinois State Police.

The legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules voted along party lines Tuesday to let the rules go into effect, ending months of negotiations and debate between supporters of the law and gun rights advocates.

"Obviously, this is an issue where there is a difference of opinion on a partisan basis, and I think you saw that play out today," Sen. Bill Cunningham, D-Chicago, a co-chair of the committee, told reporters.

The rules are the result of an assault weapons ban that state lawmakers passed last year. That law, known as the Protect Illinois Communities Act, bans the sale, purchase, manufacture, or possession of a long list of firearms that are defined as "assault weapons," as well as several types of attachments, large-capacity magazines and certain kinds of ammunition.

Under that law, people who already owned such items before the ban took effect are allowed to keep them. But to do so legally, they were supposed to register those items with the Illinois State Police before Jan. 1.

Last fall, ISP published temporary "emergency" rules that went into effect

Oct. 1. But many gun owners, gun rights advocates, and state lawmakers pushed back against the rules, complaining they were too vague in some areas, too complicated in others, and generally impossible to comply with.

Rep. Ryan Spain, R-Peoria, who also co-chairs the committee, said Tuesday he was frustrated by the short time-frame used to adopt the new rules and by the way some issues were handled. He then offered a motion to prohibit ISP from adopting the rules, arguing the rules do not meet a requirement in state statute that they be "simple and clear." That motion failed.

Spain then made a motion to "object" to the rules on the same grounds that they were not "simple and clear." An objection has little practical effect on the rule, except that it requires the agency to respond in writing within 90 days before the rule can take effect. That motion passed on a 6-5 vote.

OBITUARIES

David R. Peterson

LaFAYETTE – David R. Peterson, 91, of LaFayette, died at 8:49 a.m., Monday, Jan. 15, 2024 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Arrangements are pending at Rux Funeral Home in Galva.

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God bless,
Rosabelle Moore

LEGAL ADS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS CITY OF KEWANEE, ILLINOIS, an Illinois Municipal corporation Plaintiff, IN CHANCERY vs.

Case No. 23-OV-109K
ANGELA WALKER, Defendant.
NOTICE OF PROPERTY CLEAN-UP AND LIEN BY PUBLICATION
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Angela Walker, all Non-Record Claimants, and all Unknown Owners, Defendants in the above-entitled cause, that the above-entitled property clean-up and lien action was filed 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: Angela Walker

3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: 23 A part of Lot 122 of the Village of Wethersfield, now annexed to the City of Kewanee, described as follows: Beginning at a point 132 feet South of the Northwest corner of said Lot 122, running thence South 66 feet along the West line of said Lot 122, thence East One hundred Fifty (150) feet, thence North Sixty-six (66) feet, thence West One Hundred Fifty (150) feet to the place of beginning ALSO KNOWN AS Lot 18 in Block 2 of Crabtree's Subdivision of the Original Lots 121, 122, 123 and 124 of the Village of Wethersfield, now a part of the City of Kewanee, and a strip of land Three and One-Half (3 1/2) feet in width adjacent to the North boundary line of Lot 17 in Block 2 of Crabtree's Subdivision of the Original Lots 121, 122, 123 and 124 of the Village of Wethersfield, now a part of the City of Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois.

4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 504 Beach

Street S, Kewanee, IL 61443.
NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Defendants, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, file your answer to the Petition for Property Clean-Up and Lien in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, with the Henry County Circuit Clerk, 401 E 3rd St, Kewanee, IL 61443, on or before 30 days after the date of this publication, or a default may be entered.

/s/ Terilyn A. Motley
Circuit Clerk

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
211 W 2nd St
Kewanee, IL 61443
Phone: 309/852-5555
Published 1/5, 1/12, 1/19/24

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE

WHEREAS, the City of Galva currently owns a parcel of real estate commonly known as 706 S.W. 4th Street, Galva, Illinois, whose PIN# is 24-33-203-002, and which is legally described as:

LTS 2 & 3 & W1/2 VAC ST E & ADJ BLK 59 ORIGINAL TOWN CITY OF GALVA

WHEREAS, the subject property is currently zoned R-1 (Residential); and WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Galva hereby finds that the above-described real estate is surplus real estate and is no longer necessary or useful to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the sale of said surplus real estate would be in the best interest of the City; and

WHEREAS, the value of said real estate has been determined by written appraisal to be \$2,800.00; and,

WHEREAS, a copy of said appraisal is available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Galva during regular business hours; and

WHEREAS, no offer acceptable to the City has been forthcoming after

six months from first publication of a Public Notice to bid for said real estate; and

WHEREAS, the unemployment rate in Henry County, as determined by the IDES is higher than the national unemployment rate as determined by the US Department of Labor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVA, ILLINOIS:

Section 1. Sale of Surplus Real Estate

Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4.1 the real estate commonly known as 706 S.W. 4th Street, Galva, Illinois, shall be sold by the City Administrator to any interested party. Should the City receive more than one offer, the City Council shall direct, by a 3/4ths (three-fourths) majority vote, the City Administrator to accept the offer they deem to be in the best interest of the City of Galva pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4.2.

Section 2. Award

The fee simple interest in the aforesaid real estate shall not be awarded until at least thirty days has passed since first publication of this Resolution Authorizing The Sale of Certain Real Estate.

Published 1/12, 1/19, 1/26/24

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF STARK COUNTY

Renewal forms for the 2024 assessment year are being mailed to all Stark County property owners who had previously signed up for the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze, Homestead Exemption, Disabled Persons and the Disabled Veterans. The deadline for their return is July 1, 2024.

The following is a list of all exemptions. If you have any questions concerning any of the homestead exemptions, or to obtain

applications, contact the Supervisor of Assessments office at 130 West Main St., Toulon, Illinois, or call 286-7172.

Owner Occupied Exemption reduces the final equalized assessed value by the amount the current equalized assessed value exceeds the 1977 equalized assessed value up to a maximum reduction of \$6,000. To qualify a taxpayer must own and occupy a property as his or her principal dwelling on January 1st of the assessment year.

Homestead Exemption is for taxpayers who will be 65 years of age or older anytime during the assessment year and who own and occupy their property. This exemption reduces the equalized assessed value by \$5,000.

Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Exemption is for taxpayers who will be 65 years of age or older during the assessment year, have a total household income of less than \$65,000 for the prior year, and occupy their dwelling on January 1 of the taxable year, own the property and be liable for payment of property tax for the taxable year. Applications must be submitted annually to the Supervisor of Assessments.

Home Improvement Exemption reduces the Board of Review assessed value by the amount of increase in assessed value due to improvements being added to an existing residential structure. The exemption is for four years from the date of completion and is for maximum amount of \$75,000 in market value.

Disabled Persons Homestead Exemption provides a \$2,000 reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying property owned by a disabled person. Applications must be submitted annually to the Supervisor of Assessments office.

Returning Veterans Homestead

Exemption provides a one-time \$5,000 reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying veterans who return from active duty in an armed conflict involving armed forces of the United States. To receive this exemption, the veteran must file an application with the Supervisor of Assessments office upon their return home.

Disabled Veterans Standard Homestead Exemption provided a reduction in a property's EAV to a qualifying property owner owned by a veteran with a service connected disability certified by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs. A \$2,500 homestead exemption is available with a disability of at least 30% but less than 50% or a \$5,000 homestead exemption with a disability of at least 50% but less than 70%, and a disability of 70% or more, the property is exempt from taxation. The veteran must file an annual application with the Supervisor of Assessments office.

Disabled Veterans Exemption reduces the Board of Review assessed value by up to \$70,000 in assessed value for homes especially built or remodeled to suit a veteran disabled while serving in the Armed Forces. Applications are processed by the Board of Review.

Published 1/12, 1/19/24
...
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF: PHYLLIS M. STRAND, No. 2024PR2
Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of Phyllis M. Strand. Letters of Office were issued on January 4, 2024, to Jo Elizabeth Crist and Jill Fincham as Independent Executors 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 July 8, 2024.

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/service-providers.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 Executors P.O. Box 165 Galva, IL 61434 (309) 932-2001 everetr@barashlaw.com Published 1/12, 1/19, 1/26/24

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NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION, ADOPTION AND USE OF VOTING SYSTEM
Notice is hereby given that on March 19, 2024, at all polling locations in the County of Stark an election will be held at which a new electronic voting system, Expressvote handicap accessible voting machines will be used.
Heather Hollis
Election Authority

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Weather impacts games

Rebels shake off rust vs. R-W; LTC girls rescheduled

By **NICK VLAHOS** and **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Prairie News

After not playing last week because of bad weather, Stark County shook its rust all over ROWVA-Williamsfield.

Luke Rewerts had a game-high 24 points and three teammates scored in double figures to lead Stark County to a 67-54 Lincoln Trail Conference victory Tuesday night in Oneida.

Rewerts scored 17 in the first half as the Rebels (9-8, 2-1) led the Cougars 33-24. After halftime, Ross Saner had nine of his 12 points and Connor Wagenbach scored nine of his 11. Will Rumbold had 14 points.

"We executed and played really well," Stark County Coach Dusty Browning stated. "After a shaky start on the road, we really settled in and ran our stuff well."

Talan Hull returned from injury to score a team-high 16, including 12 in the second half, for R-W (9-10, 0-5). Riley Danner had 12 points, Lewis Sams 11 and Dawson Traphagan 10.

Stark County is to play twice this weekend at home – tonight (Jan. 19) against Ridgewood, then Saturday against Wethersfield. The Wethersfield game, which has a 2 p.m. junior-varsity starting time, was postponed from Jan. 9. A game first set for Jan. 12 at West Central has been moved to Jan. 25.

Galva Boys – Also returning from a week of weather-induced competitive idleness Tuesday night was Galva, which lost 63-37

in a Lincoln Trail game at Abingdon-Avon. Blake Stahl had 15 points to lead the Wildcats (6-10, 1-2).

Following a home game Wednesday night against Lowpoint-Wasburn, Galva is to travel tonight to Annawan. A home game postponed Jan. 13 against Princeville was moved to Jan. 22. A game first set for Jan. 10 at Bushnell-Prairie City has been canceled.

LTC Girls – Last week's weather forced a complete reschedule of the Lincoln Trail Conference girls basketball tournament. Games scheduled for last week at West Central High School were called off and the new schedule was based strictly on seedings.

No. 12 seed Stark County was to play No. 9 Ridgewood on Thursday at 6 p.m. and No. 11 seed Galva was to play No. 10 ROWVA-Williamsfield at 7:30 p.m.

The losers in those games were to square off Saturday, Jan. 20, at 1 p.m. in the Elementary School gym. Winners were to play at 2:30 in the Elementary School gym.

The tourney title will be won by one of the top-four seeds: 1. Annawan, 2. West Central, 3. Kewanee Wethersfield or 4. Princeville. The title game is Saturday, Jan. 20, at 5:30 p.m. and the third-place game is scheduled to start at 4.

"Abingdon-Avon can't even play for the championship and they might be the best team in the tournament," Princeville Coach John Gross said.

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