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# The Prairie News

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## AUSPICIOUS OPENING

### Stark's new gym opens

Doubleheader evokes memories of prior streak

By NICK VLAHOS  
For The Prairie News

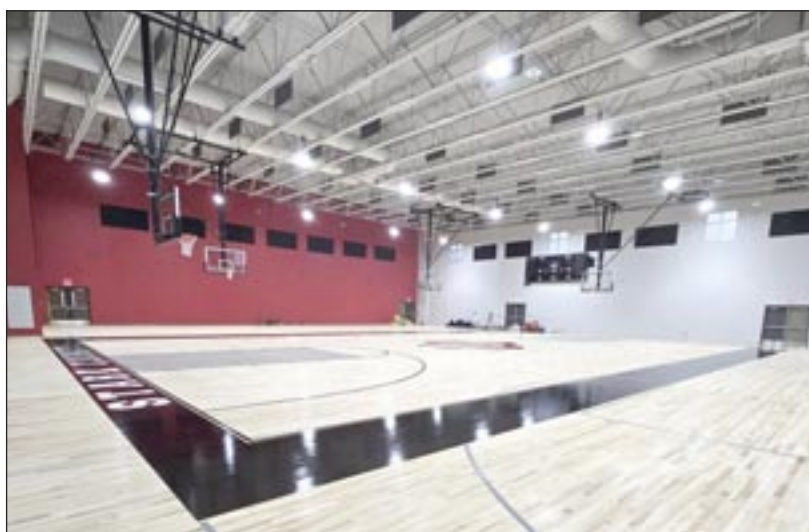
TOULON – Stark County Junior-Senior High School plans to inaugurate its new gymnasium in style. But it would take a lot to top how the previous new high school gym in Toulon was inaugurated.

The new, \$4.5 million Stark County gym is to open tonight, Jan. 10, with a girls-boys basketball doubleheader. The Stark County girls are to play Mason City Illini Central in a 6 p.m. tipoff. At about 7:30 p.m., the Stark County boys are to face Knoxville in the 1,250-seat facility.

According to Stark County Superintendent Brett Elliott, the building cost about \$1 million less than projections, took about nine months to build and includes multiple courts, a state-of-the-art sound system, an advanced scoreboard and shot clocks.

What the new gym won't have is a nine-game opening winning streak for the home team. That's what the Toulon Township High School boys accomplished in the 1960-61 season after their new gym debuted – the same gym the Stark County boys used until last month.

Granted, Stark County is to play only eight home games the rest of this season. But winning every home game remaining in the season once the Toulon gym opened for basketball Dec. 9, 1960, still resonates with the players who ac-



Pictured above is Stark County's new high school gym which will see its inaugural event on Friday with a girls/boy double header starting at 6 p.m. Submitted photo.

### Ribbon cutting tonight

TOULON – Grand opening of the new gymnasium at Stark County Junior-Senior High School is set for tonight, Jan. 10, in Toulon. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will precede the first game, the Stark County girls vs. Mason City Illini Central, at 6 p.m. The boys play Knoxville after that.

During halftime of the girls game, the school will honor the 2006-07 girls team that advanced to the Class A Elite Eight. At halftime of the boys game, the Stark County 2007-08 Lincoln Trail Conference and Class 1A regional champions will be honored.

The girls will continue to play home games at the Stark County Athletic Complex in Wyoming, renovated in 2022.

The new gym is among recent improvements to the Toulon campus that include a new high school building, junior-high renovations, an all-weather track and expanded parking.



complished it, according to one of them, Toulon resident Don Schmidt.

“It was a great pride to us still,” the 82-year-old said recently. “We had two goals for that season. One was not to lose a single home game in that gym. The second was to win

the Blackhawk Conference. We didn't lose a game in that gym.”

That Toulon team lost only two Blackhawk road games, at Bradford and Walnut, to finish 16-2 and in first place in the 10-team league. It represented the basketball confer-

Continued on Page 2

### Galva seeks growth

New officer hired, new plan approved

By CAROL TOWNSEND  
For The Prairie News

GALVA – Police Chief Kraig Townsend announced at Monday's city council meeting that Luke Queen has been hired as a full-time police officer.

A Knox County native, Queen will fill a position that has been open for nearly two years and has caused struggles and open shifts.

Cole McDaniel, a consultant from Hometown Consulting, presented a proposal to develop a comprehensive plan for the city. He said this serves as a roadmap for the city's future growth and development, guid-

ing decisions on infrastructure, zoning, public services, housing and economic development. It will also help in grant writing.

Galva's current plan was put in place in the early 1960s.

McDaniel said most comprehensive plans cost \$80,000-\$150,000. Galva will get theirs for \$45,000.

Consultants will also bring in someone who can update the city website to make it more user friendly. A new website would provide updates on city services, projects, feedback forms and event calendars. The project will ensure ADA compliance, opti-

Continued on Page 2

### Suspect at large

Kewanee police seek stabbing suspect

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE  
For The Prairie News

KEWANEE – Kewanee police are still searching for a man who on New Year's Eve left a Peoria hospital where he was being treated for a stab wound.

Police say Scott Petty, 36, attempted to stab other individuals during an incident on Dec. 31 in the 100 block of Payson Street at 11:49 a.m.

Officers found four people outside the house. One had small scratches and a minor puncture wound to the back of her neck, while another person

had a small cut on his hand

Petty was found in the house sitting on the kitchen floor with a puncture wound to his right side.

Petty allegedly had attacked his girlfriend during the incident and according to Kewanee police, a male intervened to prevent the girlfriend from being stabbed, resulting in the injury to Petty.

Continued on Page 4



Petty

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# GYM: Schmidt recalls '60s winning streak

*Continued from Page 1*  
 ence championship for Toulon in 16 years.  
 In 1958, Toulon voters approved a \$198,000 bond issue to help pay for the new gym. A school-district reserve fund accounted for another \$50,000 in funding. Toulon played its 1959-60 home games in Wyoming while the new gym was constructed.  
 The gym was finished in time to play host to Toulon graduation ceremonies May 31, 1960. It replaced a gym known informally as the Crackbox. According to Schmidt, that facility included a smaller-than-regulation court and bleachers on only one side.  
 "We had a distinctive home-field advantage," he said. "(But) the old gym was just crap. The new gym was wide open. It was fun to have a gym like all the other teams had."  
 Toulon Coach Roger West and his players – Schmidt, Galen Ballentine, Bob Camey, Richard Chilausky, John Gerard, Don Hendrick, Chris McMillen, Randy Reed, Marvin Shults, Larry White – took full ad-

vantage of it.  
 Schmidt, a senior, had 28 points in the gym-opening game, a 55-42 victory over Dunlap. In a 72-48 conference-clinching home beating of Galva, Schmidt scored 25, Larry White had a season-high 16 points and McMillen scored 12. On Feb. 17, 1961, Toulon completed the sweep by beating Princeville 68-62.  
 "We came through in very close games," Schmidt said about a team that had only one junior. "We didn't play as well as a team our junior year. But our senior year, we stepped up to the plate."  
 The season didn't end well for Toulon, however. Following the loss to Bradford in the final regular-season game, the Trojans lost to Annawan in the opening game of the regional. They finished 17-6.  
 "We lost our focus, myself included," Schmidt said. "That's one of my regrets in life. We didn't set our goals higher. We should have beaten them. We weren't making our shots, and the harder we tried, the worse it got."

Schmidt went from Toulon to Wabash College in Indiana, where he played basketball and majored in physics and chemistry. After he attended graduate school at Oregon State University, he worked in the chemical industry in Michigan, Oklahoma and Texas before he returned home in 1999.  
 Married for 60 years, Don and Bonnie Schmidt have two daughters, one in Arlington Heights and one in Toulon. Don Schmidt's 104-year-old mother, Dorothy, resides nearby. Schmidt still attends Stark County games, but an out-of-town family function will prevent his appearance at the new-gym opener.  
 It's a safe bet he and his old teammates, the seven still alive and the three who are not, might be there tonight in spirit at a minimum.  
 "It's progress. It's fine," Schmidt said. "I like the new facilities the school has. I'm just pleased that the Stark County kids have a good school facility."

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# GALVA: City applies for fitness court

*Continued from Page 1*  
 mize mobile access and serve as a platform for future growth.  
 The council agreed to go ahead with the comprehensive plan and for Central States Marketing of Peoria to update the website. The 20-year plan should be completed this summer.  
 The Prairie News asked about more vacant houses

coming down in 2025. It was noted that one in the 200 block of Northwest 1st Ave. was recently demolished. More are slated for demolition once funds are available and the weather improves. A house at SE 7th Ave., one on E. Division and a building across from Shop and Go on the former Appell property are atop the list.

Galva City Administrator David Dyer said he applied for a Blue Cross/Blue Shield grant for a fitness court for Park District property.  
 "BlueCross hopes to have one of these fitness installations every 10 miles in the rural areas and our park district is a perfect place for it," Dyer said.

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## PUBLIC RECORD

### Incidents & Accidents Stark County

**12-17** - Jonathan P. Hostetler, 28, of McNabb was involved in a deer-related accident on Sharkey Highway. No injuries were reported but the vehicle sustained estimated damages of over \$1,500.

**12-29** - A lost wallet was reported by a rural Bradford resident.

**12-30** - Nathan A. Hess, 19, Wyoming, was ticketed for speeding 89 mph in a 55 zone. He was issued a court date to appear.

**1-1-25** - An eviction notice was the source of a complaint received from a resident in the 400 block of S. Franklin St. in Toulon.

**1-2** - Ryan R. Scalf, 49, of Knoxville was involved in a deer-related vehicle accident on Sharkey Highway. No injuries were reported. The vehicle sustained estimated damages of over \$1,500.

**1-4** - Elijah J. Stumpf, 23, Camp Grove, was cited for driving an uninsured vehicle. He was scheduled a court date to appear.

### Knox County report

**12-23** - A rural-Galva woman reported the contents of a delivered package were stolen. The apparent theft from a residential porch in the 2900 block of Knox Road 2200 E. was reported shortly after 4:30 p.m. The package was ripped open and a makeup compact valued at \$7 was missing.

**12-26** - A Wyoming man was cited for driving 27 mph over the speed limit near Wataga, according to authorities. Nathan A.E. Hess, 19, was behind the wheel of a 2009 Buick sedan a Knox County Sheriff's Office deputy stopped shortly before 10 p.m. in the 2000 block of U.S. Route 34. The deputy clocked Hess' vehicle at 82 mph in a 55-mph zone. Hess received a notice to appear in Knox County Circuit Court in Galesburg.

### Galva Report

#### Officer dispatched:

**12-23** - to the 500 block of NE 3rd Street for a 911 hang up call. Officer located a subject who requested an ambulance. The patient was transported for treatment.

**12-23** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 100 block of SE 8th Ave., Eric Perez, 23, Kewanee, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. He was released with a court date.

**12-23** - to the 800 block of NE 3rd St. for an ongoing issue with loose cats in the area. The cat owner was reminded about the Illinois leash law.

**12-23** - to Route 17 near the Galva Cemetery for a reckless driver complaint. Officer located the vehicle, but did not observe any violations.

**12-23** - to the 1000 block of NW 7th Ave. for an illegal burning complaint on a non-burn day. The violator was educated on the ordinance and agreed to put the fire out.

**12-23** - to a residence on NE 3rd St. for a suicidal subject. The subject was transported by ambulance for evaluation/treatment.

**12-25** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 500 block of SE Industrial Ave., Ryley Rafferty, 23, Galva, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. He was released with a court date.

**12-27** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 00 block of SW 2nd St., Derek Johnson, 36, Kewanee, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. He was released with a court date.

**12-27** - to the 200 block of SE 7th Ave, to assist the Kewanee Police Department with a theft complaint. The item was recovered and returned to Kewanee officers.

**12-28** - to the 500 block of SW 3rd Ave. to remove an unwanted subject. As the result, Brandon Swank, 29, Galva, was arrested for violation of an order of protection. He was taken to the Henry County Jail.

**12-27** - Officer assisted Henry County with two different single-vehicle accident north of town.

**12-30** - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a 911 open line call. The subject was suffering from a mental-health crisis.

**12-30** - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a trespass complaint. Justin Mensen, 35, LaFayette, was arrested for criminal trespass to real property. He was given a notice to appear and released with a required court date.

**12-31** - to the 400 block of NW 1st Ave. for a burglary of a motor vehicle in progress. Officer secured a juvenile and transported them to the Galva Police Department. As the result, a 13-year-old Galva youth was issued a juvenile referral for criminal trespass to motor vehicle and possession of cannabis. The juvenile was released to a parent.

**12-31** - As the result of follow-up to the criminal damage complaint on NE 9th St. the previous day, a 16-year-old Galva youth was issued a juvenile referral for criminal damage to property for spinning tires and causing damage to a parking lot.

**1-2-25** - While patrolling, an officer located an Illinois license plate sticker in the 500 block of NE 2nd St. After running the registration number, it was determined to belong to a Galva resident. It was returned.

**1-2** - Tomi Nelson, 24, Peoria, was issued a citation for having expired registration in the 200 block of SE 8th Ave.

**1-2** - Nathaniel Robinson, 21, Ohio, Ill., was issued a citation for having expired registration in the 500 block of SE 2nd Street.

**1-3** - Krothopis Thompson, 23, Burlington, was cited for speeding in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

**1-3** - to the 100 block of SE 2nd St. for a physical domestic disturbance. As a result, Kevin Robinson, 31,

Galva, was arrested for domestic battery. He was taken to the Henry County Jail.

**1-3** - to the 500 block of SE 3rd St. for a verbal domestic disturbance.

**1-3** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 700 block of W. Division St., Phyllis Dimmitt, 46, Galesburg, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration was suspended for mandatory insurance. She was released with a required court date.

**1-3** - along with the fire department to the 100 block of SE 3rd St. for a vehicle fire.

**1-4** - to a residence on NE 1st St. for a report of a subject unresponsive and not breathing. Officer confirmed there were no signs of life. A coroner was contacted and responded.

**1-5** - A Henry County deputy responded twice to the 900 block of W. Division St. for a subject screaming. The subject appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

**1-5** - to the 100 block of SE 6th Ave. for a civil standby to retrieve property.

**1-5** - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a verbal disturbance. The subject appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

**1-5** - As the result of a traffic stop in the 900 block of SE 2nd St., Nicole Snyder, 37, Monmouth, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. She was released with a court date.

### Property Transfers

**12-20** - Charles E. and Regina I. McCune, Co-trustees to Anita and Teresa L.Z. Jones, Trustees - Pt Sect. 28-14-7 NW and NE, Pt Sect. 21-14-7 SE and SW - Consideration = \$581,300.

**12-23** - Barbara S. and David M. Kolditz to First Schott Estates, LLC - Original Town of Toulon - Pt. Block 9 Lots 2 and 3 - 124 E. Main St., Toulon - Consideration = \$17,500.

**12-30** - Martha and Milton Krug to First Schott Estates, LLC - Pt. Sect. 19-13-6 SW - 225 S. Henderson St., Toulon - Consideration = \$14,000.

**12-30** - J&W Business Enterprises, LLC to Joshua R. and Mandy L. Leezer - Pts. Sect. 31-13-6 SE and NE and Pt. Sect. 32-13-6 NW - Consideration = \$400,000.

**1-2-25** - Paige R. Tracy to Janel L. and Keith A. Ehnle, Trustees - Pt. Sect. 20-13-7 NE - Consideration = \$1,080,000.

**1-2** - Jana M. Klaus to Tracy A. Kieser - Und. 1/7 In Pt. Sect. 8-14-7 SE - Consideration = \$171,429.

**1-2** - Dixie M. King, Estate and Jeffrey D. King, Ind. Exec. to Erwin D. Jr. and Michelle M. Cornelius - Pt. Sect. 24-12-6 SE - 2341 State Route 91, Princeville - Consideration = \$177,500.

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Linda Dean

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# PETTY: Previous conviction overturned in 2020

*Continued from Page 1*  
 Petty was taken to OSF Saint Luke Hospital in Kewanee and was then transported to OSF Saint Francis Hospital in Peoria for further treatment before he fled.  
 Anyone with information concerning Petty's whereabouts should call the Kewanee police at (309) 853-1911. He is described as dangerous.

According to Kewanee Police Chief Stephen Kijanowski, Petty was not under arrest, but the department had concern for his stab wound. Petty was not escorted by police when he was transported to the Peoria hospital.  
 Petty has a lengthy criminal history in Henry and Stark counties. Cases date back to 2007 that include felony illegal drugs and a

theft conviction in 2009. These cases were either dismissed or he was given probation as the sentence.  
 In Stark County, Petty was convicted in 2017 of causing the Nov. 9, 2015, death of Gina M. Masters, 51, of Henry, on U.S. Route 40 south of Bradford just north of the Route 17/40 junction. The conviction was a result of Petty driving his southbound large van across the centerline and crashing into a small northbound SUV driven by Masters.  
 On Nov. 7, 2017, almost two years to the day of Master's death, Petty was sentenced to nine years of prison. Petty served slightly over two years of the nine-year sentence after appealing his conviction.


On Jan. 8, 2020, he was freed from prison when an Ottawa appellate court ruled that, "the state failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the presence of amphetamine and benzodiazepine in the defendant's urine results from the unlawful consumption of methamphetamine."  
 Appellate justices Mary McDade and Tom Lytton agreed with Petty that his conviction should be overturned.  
 Justice Dan Schmidt disagreed writing, "He tested positive for amphetamines." McDade and Lytton wrote, "the state presented no evidence that these compounds resulted from his consumption of methamphetamine."

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**MPSWCD Accepting nominations for Director**  
 The Marshall-Putnam Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting nominations for those interested in being elected to the Board of Directors. This information goes out to all persons of legal voting age who own or reside on land located within the boundaries of the Marshall-Putnam Soil and Water Conservation District. Beginning on December 9th, 2024, nominations will be accepted for the two (2) year term of the office of Director of the Marshall-Putnam Soil & Water Conservation District at the District's Office at 1511 University Ct. Henry, IL 61537 during our normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To be considered for nomination as a candidate for the office of Director, nominees must provide proof of residency or ownership of land located within the boundaries of the District. Interested persons must respond by 4:30 p.m. January 31, 2025. Information will also be available by calling (309) 364-3913 x3.

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<b>2024 CHEVROLET BLAZER EV</b> RS • AWD • HEADS-UP • LOADED NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$60,215 REBATE...\$10,000* EMAG...\$1,216 <b>SALE PRICE \$48,999</b>	<b>2024 CHEVROLET COLORADO</b> TRAILBOSS • CREWCABS • 4X4 ALL SAFETY! NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$43,340 REBATE...\$1,500* EMAG...\$2,841 <b>SALE PRICE \$38,999</b>	<b>2024 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT</b> FULL POWER • 30+ MPG BEST SELLER NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$32,985 REBATE...\$2,750* EMAG...\$2,236 <b>SALE PRICE \$27,999</b>
<b>2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500</b> LT • CREW CAB • 271 • 4X4 • 5.3 BEST SELLER NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$60,530 REBATE...\$8,250* EMAG...\$6,281 <b>SALE PRICE \$45,999</b>	<b>2024 CHEVROLET TAHOE Z71</b> 4X4 • LEATHER • CENTER BUCKETS OFF-ROAD NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$74,280 REBATE...\$2,500* EMAG...\$8,981 <b>SALE PRICE \$65,799</b>	<b>2024 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LT</b> SAFETY PKG • 35+ MPG! BEST SELLER NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$26,385 REBATE...\$1,500* EMAG...\$1,886 <b>SALE PRICE \$22,999</b>
<b>2024 GMC SIERRA 1500</b> SLE • 4X4 • CREW CAB • 18'S NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$57,590 REBATE...\$9,000* EMAG...\$5,591 <b>SALE PRICE \$42,999</b>	<b>2024 GMC TERRAIN SLE</b> AWD • SAFETY PKG • 30+ MPG! CONVENIENCE NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$34,310 REBATE...\$3,750* EMAG...\$2,561 <b>SALE PRICE \$27,999</b>	<b>2023 GMC SIERRA SLE</b> 4X4 • 4-DOOR • 20'S BEST SELLER! NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS!  MSRP...\$55,740 REBATE...\$8,000* EMAG...\$4,741 <b>SALE PRICE \$42,999</b>

\* INCLUDES EMAG TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE \$1,500 SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS

**ED MORSE CHEVROLET • GMC**  
**FREE DELIVERY! 309-853-4436**  
 REBATES ADVERTISED ARE SPECIFIC TO CERTAIN AREAS. CONTACT DEALER TO ENSURE ACCURACY.  
 REBATES INCLUDE ED MORSE AUTOMOTIVE TRADE ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500.00. TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST TRADE IN A RUNNING VEHICLE, TITLED IN THE PURCHASER'S NAME. NATIONAL/REGIONAL REBATES ARE SPECIFIC TO CERTAIN ZIP CODES - ALL CUSTOMERS WILL NOT QUALIFY. PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE ANY DEALER ADDED ACCESSORIES. PLEASE CALL DEALER FOR AVAILABILITY AND DETAILS.

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## OBITUARIES

### Patrick J. Koga

GALVA – Patrick J. “Pat” Koga, 70, of Galva, entered his heavenly home on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025.

The son of Edward and Betty (Young) Koga, Pat was born on Nov. 21, 1954, in Louisville, Ky. He was first married to Sue Arnold on April 7, 1979 in Carpentersville, Ill., and they divorced in 1983. He then married Carol Ann Insko on May 18, 1984, in Geneva, Ill., and she preceded him in death on Jan. 27, 2020.

Survivors include his six children, Jeremy (Amanda) Koga of DeKalb, Ill., Kristina (John) Bosse of Elgin, Ill., Rebecca (Bradley) Frank of Gallatin, Tenn., and Patricia Koga, Minasha Koga and Da-Mon Koga, all of Galva; two brothers, John (Judy) Koga of Waukesha, Wis. and Mike Koga of Largo, Fla.; two sisters; Irene Blum of Peshtigo, Wis., and Carol (Scott) Warner of Port Washington, Wis.; four grandchildren, Riley, Andrew, Jacob and Charlie; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his parents.

Pat graduated from Irving Crown High School in Carpentersville in 1973. He served his country in the U.S. Army from 1973-1976, obtaining the rank of Specialist 4th Class. He attended Northern Illinois University, where he obtained his bachelor of science degree in secondary education. He also attended Liberty University, where he obtained his master of theology and philosophy as well as a master of divinity.

He worked as a correctional officer for the Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry Center until his retirement. He was currently the associate pastor at the First Baptist Church in Galva, where he was a deacon and lead the Awana program. He was a member and the Chaplain of the Henry County Board as well as a member of the Galva Lions Club.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 11, at the First Baptist Church in Galva with Pastor Bryan Griem officiating. Visitation will be held from 5-8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 10, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva. An early visitation will also be one hour prior to services at the church on Saturday. Military rites will be accorded by the Galva Fusiliers. Cremation will be accorded following the services and private inurnment will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to First Baptist Church of Galva, Galva Lions Club or to the family for a memorial to be established.

### Russell C. Schierer

TOULON – Russell C. Schierer, 79, of Toulon, passed away at 3:10 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at Carle Health Methodist Hospital in Peoria. Russell was born on July 17, 1945, in Metamora to Isadore and Josephine (Kirchgessner) Schierer. He was previously married to Mary Ann (Shinn) Whalen and together they had three children. He married Penny (Jackson) Schierer on May 25, 2012; she survives.

Also surviving are his children, Debbie (Jerry) Payne of Galva, Craig (Angie) Schierer of Florida, Mo., and Doug (Misty) Schierer of Chatham; two stepchildren, Paige Gerard and Keegan Gerard of Toulon; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Clara Grebner and Darlene Atkins; two brothers, Herman Schierer and Wilbur (Sandy) Schierer; two sisters-in-law, Shirley Schierer and June Schierer; many nieces and nephews; and two beloved dogs, Bear and Boo.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Donald, Alfred, Francis and Richard Schierer; and one sister, Bernadine Appel.

Russell worked at Caterpillar Inc. for 30 years and later drove a school bus in his retirement. He loved his “bus kids” and enjoyed driving students to their extracurricular activities, especially football and track.

He was an avid fan of the Green Bay Packers for over 50 years, loved playing pool, riding his Harley, going to stock car races, tractor and truck pulls, and attending his grandchildren and great-grandchildren’s sporting events. He was also a volunteer for the LaFayette Fire Department for many years.

A celebration of Russell’s life will be from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025, at the Wyoming American Legion. Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming is assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Hog Capitol Wildlife Rescue and Rehab in Kewanee or the Stark County High School cross country team for uniforms and equipment.

To leave condolences for Russell’s family, please visit [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).

### Danny L. Wagher

TOULON – Danny L. Wagher, 70, of Toulon, passed away at 10:34 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Danny was born on March 28, 1954, in Peoria to Paul and Patricia (Meyers) Wagher.

In 1976, he married Valerie Thorne and later separated. On April 20, 2022, he married Julie (Joyce) Henderson of Toulon after 25 years together. She survives.

He is forever remembered by his surviving family, three daughters, Hillary (Jason Kidd) Colgan of Toulon, Jessica (Shane) Carlton of Toulon and Amanda (Allen Hayes) Mercer of Henry; 12 grandchildren, Chandler, Kathryn and Kai, Christian, Hayden, Carly, Jordan, Erica, Brailynn, Brooklynn, Reagan and Nolan; his mother, Patricia Shanks of Knoxville; a brother, Clarence Wagher of Knoxville; and four step-siblings, Roger (Tanya) Shanks of Missouri, Denise Shepherd of Knoxville, Linda Tate of Florida and Vickie Butler of Florida.

Danny was preceded in death by his son, Matthew Wagher; father, Paul Wagher Sr.; stepfather, Jack Shanks; three brothers, Paul Wagher Jr., John Wagher and Jerry Wagher; and stepsister, Jackie Diedrich.

Danny was a coal miner at UMWA for 20 years. He went on to work for Kress Corp. and ultimately retired from FCA in 2022. Danny retired from the Toulon Fire Department after many years of volunteer service.

Danny was a lifelong prankster who always left you laughing. He never failed to lend a helping hand to friends in need. Danny could always be found in his shed working on cars or at his lake fishing, but he was never found without his dog best friend, Tyson Lee.

Visitation will take place on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Graveside service will follow at Toulon Cemetery at 1:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Toulon Fire Department at 420 N. Franklin St., Toulon, IL 61483, or to the Stark County Fine Arts Network at P.O. Box 106, Toulon, IL 61483.

To leave condolences for Danny’s family, please visit [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).



Koga



Schierer



Wagher



## 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 (309) 995-3371 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](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

Rev. Bryan Griem, Pastor

(309) 932-2713 • [GalvaBaptistChurch.com](http://GalvaBaptistChurch.com)

### Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491

Rev. Shawna Marsh

Sunday School: 10:00, All ages

Sunday Worship: 11:00

Wednesday Night Fellowship & Prayer 5:30

Kids Club 309 5:15 checkin to 7:00 p.m.

Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

### First Congregational Church

204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491  
(309) 695-4091

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Check us out on Facebook

First Congregational Church 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  
[allsaintsil.com](http://allsaintsil.com)

### Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL

Casual, family friendly

Rev. Katie Gallagher

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Worship (in Luther Hall)

Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, All Sunday School classes are at 10 a.m.

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

### Holy Trinity National Catholic Church

Father John Cramer

716 N. Tremont, Kewanee, IL

Mass - Sat. at 5 p.m., Sun. at 9 a.m., Mon. - Thurs. at 9 a.m.

### 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.

### 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 309-507-1626

[thewrights62@hotmail.com](mailto:thewrights62@hotmail.com)

### LIST YOUR CHURCH HERE

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

## CLASSIFIEDS

### WANTED

• **TRUCK DRIVER:** Must have current CDL. Full time or Part time, end dump experience preferred. Home at night. Must be able to pass IDOT Physical and Drug and Alcohol testing program. Please contact Keith at (309) 209-6258 or (309) 249-3361.

### SERVICES

• **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.

• **MORE HEAT. LESS WOOD:** Classic Edge Titanium HDX EPA certified OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. 26% Tax Credit. Prices start as low

as \$9,525! Call today (309) 565-4300.

• **REMODELING & REPAIR:** Most types of quality home remodeling and repairs including doors, thermopane vinyl replacement windows, interior painting and electrical, by Denny Miller. Over 25 years of experience. We also do kitchens, baths, decks, steps and more. Small jobs welcome! Call me at (309) 995-3364.

• **Black Diamond Interior Painting:** Kitchen cabinet refinishing. 45 years experience, free estimates. Call (239) 307-7800.

### FOR RENT

• **TOULON:** Upstairs 2 bedroom apartment for rent in Toulon, 105 E. Main. Call (309) 678-1831.

### First Congregational Church, Toulon

## All are invited to a Community Service

Followed by a Soup Supper

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

Speaker: **Warton Hertz de Oliveira**  
Partnership Coordinator of  
Barnabas Aid in Brazil and our  
guest minister during January.



Come and hear stories of faith, strength, and hope from those who have suffered enduring persecution for their faith in Christ.  
This event is free and open to the public.

**The City of Toulon**  
**is accepting bids to demolish the**  
**213 E. Greenwood house**  
**For further information**  
**call City Hall at (309) 286-5042**  
**Bids must be submitted**  
**to the City Hall**  
**January 14, 2025**  
**for the Council Meeting.**

**I Buy Gold and Silver**  
**KK's Antique Emporium**  
 Antiques / Collectibles  
 Keith Knowles  
 Sole Proprietor  
 Buy Sell Trade I Buy Estates  
 (309) 339-9229  
 kknowles@yahoo.com  
 523 Township Rd 600N  
 LaFayette, IL 61449

**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**

**BASEMENT SERVICES**  
**McCHURCH MASONRY**  
 • Brick, Block & Stone  
 • Tuckeringpointing  
 • Basement Wall Repair  
**WINTER DISCOUNTS**  
 (309) 796-2411 • (702) 234-6587

**LEGAL ADS**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
 COUNTIES OF HENRY, BUREAU,  
 and STARK**

**NOTICE OF PETITION AND  
 HEARING THEREON**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 12 day of August, 2024, a Petition was filed with Angie Zarvell, Ex-officio Secretary of The Regional Board of School Trustees of Bureau, Henry, and Stark Counties, Illinois, praying that the following described territory, to wit:

Petitioners respectfully request that the Bureau, Henry, and Stark County Regional Office of Education approve the detachment of the lands described herein from Galva School Unit 224 and annex said lands to Cambridge School Unit 227. Petitioners further request that the lands as described herein be detached from Cambridge School Unit 227 and annexed to Galva School Unit 224. Petitioners respectfully request this detachment and annexation pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/7-6 of the Illinois School Code which provides the procedure for districts in one educational service region to change the boundaries of the districts within that region. In support of this request, petitioners swear to the veracity of all of the allegations contained within the petition as well as all the exhibits attached hereto.

The property to be detached from Cambridge School Unit 227 and annexed to Galva School Unit 224.

Property Index Number: 19-21-100-001 PT

The South Half (S 1/2) of the North One-Half (N 1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Twenty-One (21), Township Fifteen (15) North, Range Four (4) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Burns Township, Henry County, Illinois. Containing approximately 40 acres.

The property to be detached from Galva School District Unit 224 and annexed to Cambridge School District Unit 227.

Property Index Number: 19-09-200-003 PT

The Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section Nine (9), all situated in Township Fifteen (15) North, Range Four (4) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Burns Township, Henry County, Illinois. Containing approximately 40 acres.

The hearing on this petition will be held on the 27th day of January, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Bureau, Henry, and Stark Regional Office of Education, 107 S. State Street, Atkinson, IL, before the Regional Board of School Trustees of Bureau, Henry, and Stark Counties, Illinois.

The regular meeting of the Regional Board of School Trustees will immediately follow the hearing on this petition.

DATED at Atkinson, Illinois, this 31st day of December, 2024.

Kathy Marshall, Ex-officio Secretary of The Regional Board of School Trustees of Bureau, Henry, and Stark Counties, Illinois  
 Published 1/10/25

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
 OF AUDIT**

TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Library Trustees of the Galva Public Library District, Henry County, Illinois, as of December 31, 2024 has available a copy of its audit report for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The audit was conducted by the firm of Birkey and Noble, P.C. and may be publicly inspected at the main office of the Library District at 120 N.W. Third Ave., Galva, Illinois, during normal business hours which are: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Galva Library District  
 By: Barbara J. Caravello  
 Secretary of the Board of Trustees  
 Published 1/10/25

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

Estate of LYNN M. YELM,  
 deceased  
 No. 2024-PR-125

**CLAIM NOTICE  
 (Publication)**

Notice is given of the death of LYNN M. YELM. Letters of Office were issued on December 12, 2024, to Casey J. Pozzi, 18205 2400 East St., Princeton, IL 61356, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Henry County Circuit Clerk, Henry County Courthouse, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC  
 Attorneys for Estate  
 P.O. Box 205  
 Galva, IL 61434  
 Telephone: (309) 932-2168  
 Published 12/20, 1/3, 1/10/25

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

ESTATE OF WALTER J.  
 VERVYNCK, Deceased.  
 No. 2024P120

**CLAIM NOTICE  
 (Publication)**

Notice is given of the death of Walter J. VerVynck. Letters of Office were issued on December 17, 2024 to Misty Patterson 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 June 27th, 2025. 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 1/3, 1/10,1/17/25

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

STATE BANK OF TOULON,  
 Plaintiff,  
 Case No. 2024FC30

v.  
 THOMAS M. MADSEN; KYLE WHITMARSH; STEPHANIE WHITMARSH; PARTIES IN POSSESSION; INTERESTED PERSONS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
 Defendants.

NOTICE OF COURT SALE [Code Civ. Proc. §15-1507] PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the Court in the above-captioned matter, the property hereinafter-described, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.

1. The name, address, and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Mark Rewerts, Sr. Vice Pres. & CBO, State Bank of Toulon, 102 W. Main St., Toulon IL 61483 / 309-852-3366.

2. The property is located in Henry County - common address: 205 W. Court St., Cambridge IL 61238.

3. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 4 of Subdivision of Lot 4 of the Original Town, now Village, of Cambridge, Henry County, Illinois PIN: 18-07-329-003

4. The real estate may not be inspected prior to sale unless arrangements are made.

5. The date and time of the sale is: February 4, 2025, at 9:00 AM.

6. The sale will be conducted by the Henry County Sheriff in the Henry County Courthouse, Cambridge, IL.

7. The terms of the sale are: This is an "as is" sale for "cash." The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds at time of sale with balance to be paid, by certified funds, in full within 24 hours from the time of sale upon delivery of possession and warranty deed. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Real estate taxes to be prorated to date of closing. Any statements made at time of sale will supersede any previously advertised or announced.

8. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, but have not yet become

due and payable, and special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount and to select a service provider, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If you are the mortgagor (homeowner), you have the right to remain in possession for 30 days after entry of an order of possession, in accordance with Section 15-1701(c) of the Illinois Mortgage Foreclosure Law.

Zachary L. Lessard (ARDC #6325734) Barash & Everett, LLC / Attys for Plaintiff 211 W. 2nd St., Kewanee IL 61443 Ph: 309-852-5555 zac@barashlaw.com Published 1/3, 1/10,1/17/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
 FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
 STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

ESTATE OF MARVIN L. SHULTS,  
 2024PR17  
 DECEASED.

**CLAIM NOTICE**

Notice is given of the death of MARVIN L. SHULTS, Stark County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 20, 2024, to ROGER E. SHULTS of 7679 Township Road 900 North, Toulon, IL 61483, as Executor, whose attorney is Curtis J. Ford of Nash Bean Ford & Brown, LLP, 445 U. S. Hwy. 6 East, P.O. Box 63, Geneseo, IL 61254.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk's office, Stark County Court House, Toulon, Illinois, 61483 or with the representative or both, on or before the 5th day of July, 2025, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help to have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

Roger E. Shults, as Executor of the Marvin L. Shults Estate  
 Curtis J. Ford  
 NASH BEAN FORD & BROWN, LLP  
 Attorneys for Representative  
 445 US Hwy 6 East  
 P.O. Box 63  
 Geneseo, IL 61254  
 Phone: (309) 944-2188  
 Email: cford@nashbeanford.com  
 Published 1/3, 1/10,1/17/25

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

IN CHANCERY  
 Case No. 24-OV-102K

vs.  
 DANIEL L. NYERT,  
 Defendant

**NOTICE OF PROPERTY CLEAN-UP  
 BY PUBLICATION**

The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Daniel L. Nyert, all Non-Record Claimants, and all Unknown Owners, Defendants in the above-entitled cause, that the above-entitled property clean-up 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: Daniel L. Nyert

3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: Lot Number Nine (9) in Block Five (5) of Bauer's Third Addition to the City of Kewanee, situated in the County of Henry in the State of Illinois.

4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 510 E. 9th St., Kewanee, IL 61443.

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Defendants, Non-Record Claimants, and Unknown Owners, file your answer to the Petition for Order of Demolition 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 1/3, 1/10,1/17/25

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS  
 OF STARK COUNTY**

Renewal forms for the 2025 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 1/10/25



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**Prairie News Sports**

**Stark Co. boys better vs. BV**

By **NICK VLAHOS** and **JEFF LAMPE**  
For The Prairie News

Stark County lost to Bureau Valley for the second time this season in boys basketball. But this time, Stark County Coach Kane Mastin saw some progress.

Bureau Valley won 60-42 Tuesday night at Manlius. It was a repeat result of both teams' season opener, a 78-50 BV victory at the Wally Keller Invitational in Kewanee. But the margin was tighter, and Bureau Valley big man Landon Hulsing had only eight points compared to 23 last time.

"We played better," Mastin stated. "(Hulsing) destroyed us the first time we played them. We just are still struggling to create open looks on offense, so when we aren't shooting well, we give up longer runs."

Ross Saner had 15 points to lead Stark County (3-11), which lost its Lincoln Trail Conference opener. The Rebels open their new gymnasium tonight (Jan. 10) against Knoxville.

• **Galva boys** – MJ Louck scored 31 points and had seven steals Tuesday night to lead host Galva to a 67-37 win over

Biggsville West Central. Blake Stahl had 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Wildcats (12-3) in their LTC opener.

On Jan. 3, Galva traveled to Brimfield and lost 52-37. Brimfield held Galva to 4-of-21 shooting from 3-point range. JP Sloan had 11 points to lead Galva.

Connor Doe scored a game-high 23 for Brimfield, which led after every period. Doe scored eight in the first quarter and 10 in the fourth.

"We won every quarter. No bad lulls in our play," Brimfield Coach Scott Carlson stated. "Our defense was solid. Our last result probably contributed to even more determination."

Galva travels tonight to Monmouth United.

• **SC girls** – Despite illness and injuries sidelining four regulars – Katie Doe, Landrie Quiram, Maddie Rust and Schyer Meinders – for some or all of Monday's game, the Lady Indians (12-6) won at Stark County, 54-31.

Senior Ava Heinz led Brimfield with 22 points, seven rebounds and seven steals.

Top scorers for Stark County (8-10)

*Continued on Page 7*

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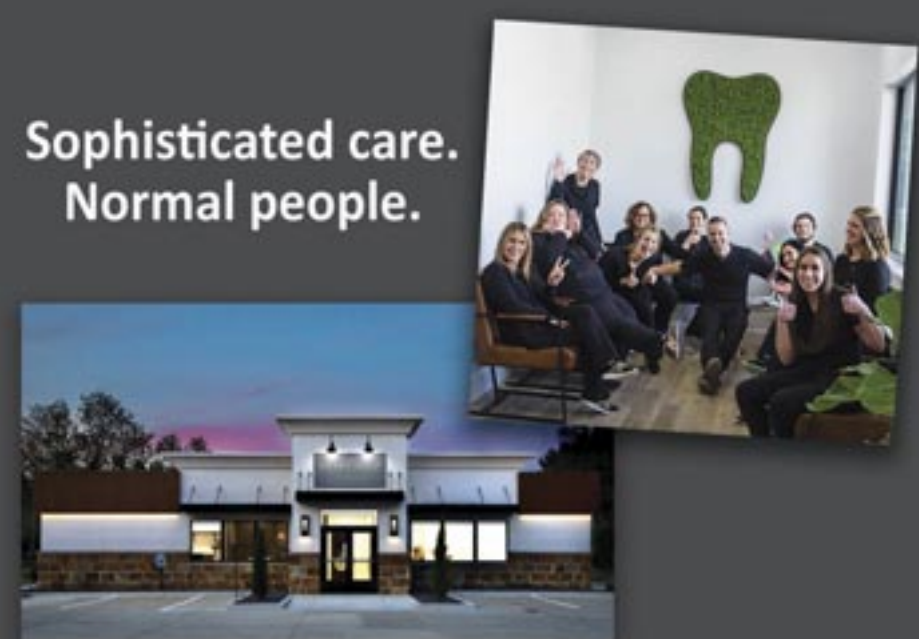


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