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 Vol. 22, No. 9

The Prairie News

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Drug issues

Wyoming police chief tells board about problems, answers

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – Wyoming’s Police Chief Jim Tiller spoke to the City Council at Tuesday’s meeting about drug dealers, citizen apathy and criminal prosecutions.

“We still have some drug issues going on in town. We have The Society of Growth (representatives Amy Henderson and Samatha McAvoy) present here tonight. Arrests aren’t always the answers,” Tiller said.

He said counseling through and by The Society of Growth will help break the cycle of drug use, thefts for money to buy drugs and arrests and releases.

“The ones we do have to go after are the dealers. I’ve asked the Task Force to go beyond our boundaries

Continued on Page 2

LINCOLN DAY LUNCHEON



Republican officials at last week’s Lincoln Day Luncheon were, Front row (left to right): Stark County Treasurer Paula Leezer, Stark Co. Board Chair Kari Bush, Stark Co. Republican Chair Mike Bigger, Henry Co. Board Chair Tippy Breeden and Wyoming Mayor Pat Maher. Back row (l to r): Stark Co. Board member Bill Loane, Toulon Mayor Larry Hollis, Stark Co. Board member Jamie Schaffer, Stark Co. Board member Joe Orwig, State Rep. Travis Weaver, State Sen. Li Arellano, State Sen. Neil Anderson, Stark Co. Board member Tom Howes and Stark Co. Board member Adam Wilson. A group of protestors also gathered across the street from the luncheon. Photos by John Ballentine.



Stark Co. teachers OK 3-year contract

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – The Stark County School Board and Teacher Association last Friday ratified a three-year collective bargaining agreement that the board approved at its Monday meeting.

Under the new deal, all first-year teachers will receive a flat \$7,000 pay increase and a 4% increase in years two and three of the contract.

Additionally, teachers will receive a 6% retirement incentive and the salary schedule was expanded from 20 to 21 steps. After closed session, the board voted to increase pay rate increases for support staff in Fiscal Year 2026. No de-

tails of those rate increases were disclosed except the \$20 to \$22 per-hour pay. Support staff pay has increased 60-80% in the past five years.

The board also approved the annual Illinois High School Association contract to continue participation in athletics and activities.

Discussed but tabled due to a lack of a motion, were fee increases for students. Proposed is a \$5-per-tier increase that would result in \$50 fees for elementary students, \$60 for junior high and \$70 for high schoolers. Under the tabled proposal, athletic/activity fees would increase \$10 to \$70 per student or \$140

Continued on Page 2

Galva schools approve improvements

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Galva School Board on Monday approved \$323,045 in school improvements.

The board approved the low bid from Valley Commercial Construction for \$285,370 to replace all exterior doors in the junior-senior high school. Galva will receive a grant which will pay for \$50,000. After this project, the school will have all new windows and exterior doors as well as a new gym roof.

The board also approved a quote from Stalker Sports Floor Sanding and Refinishing for sanding, sealing and lining the

Galva Junior-Senior high school gym floor for \$37,675.

In other business, the board approved membership in Illinois High School Association, changed its next meeting from April 14 to April 28 at 7 p.m. in the school library and OK’d a 2025-26 school calendar with a starting day for students on Aug. 14. Dismissal through Aug. 22 will be at 1:55 p.m.

Second-grade teachers Kris Landis and Amy Corkill gave a short report on math, which is being taught using new curriculum. The teachers said many 2nd graders have not seen much money, especially coins, since so many parents use credit cards.

They also said many families don’t have a clock with hands, and this is how time is taught.

Board Member Eric Bates gave the transportation report and said the district is looking for a 16-passenger bus that will not require a certified bus driver to drive. He said there are a few new drivers in training to be bus drivers.

Principal Adam Norway said the elementary school is looking at having one major fundraiser in which there will be a punch card with numbers 1-20. You just pay for the number and there will be no candy, or goods exchanged. He said he would like to have one fundraiser as the school has



Galva High School students were commended on Monday for helping Galva take second in the Lincoln Trail Conference Art Show. Pictured (left to right) are Shelby Charlet, Makayla Craig, Allison Nordstrom, Addi Moore and Dakota Olander. Photo by Carol Townsend.

many ideas for extra money for fun things for students.

Kurtis Smyth, junior-senior high school principal, said the high school prom will be held

April 26 in Galesburg.

Both buildings will be starting testing for several grades and will serve a breakfast to each stu-

Continued on Page 2

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- **Publisher** - Jeff Lampe news@prairie-news.com
- **Advertising Manager** - Pam Wulf ads@prairie-news.com
- **Graphic Designer** - Ken Black graphics@prairie-news.com
- **Chief Correspondent** - John A. Ballentine
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GALVA: Board approves personnel moves

Continued from Page 1

dent before the tests.

May 22 has been set as 8th grade promotion at Galva.

The board approved the following personnel items for 2025-26:

- Fourth-year probationary teacher Emily Dulla to fifth-year tenured status.
- Third-year probationary teacher Jennifer Maertens to fourth-year probationary status.
- Second-year probationary teacher Whitney Fahner to third-year probationary status.
- Second-year probationary teacher

Melissa Ford to third-year probationary status.

- First-year probationary teacher Cody Freeman to second-year probationary status
- First-year probationary teacher Kelly DeWitt to second-year probationary status.
- First-year probationary teacher Kylee Conlin to second-year probationary status.
- First-year probationary teacher Christine Betz to second-year probationary status.
- Alan Homer as a substitute bus driver.



Galva Teacher Toni Pickard was recognized Monday. She is retiring after 12 years of teaching in Galva. Photo by Carol Townsend.

STARK: 'Frozen' musical shown Friday-Sunday

Continued from Page 1

per family.

Approved was the Black Hawk College dual-credit agreement and the 2025-26 Black Hawk College dual-credit tuition. The Fiscal Year 2026-28 rate will be \$174, \$177 and \$180 per credit hour, respectively.

SCJSHS will present "Frozen Jr." as this year's musical on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Personnel changes OK'd after closed session included these hirings:

- Approved Travis Sparks as volunteer high school softball coach.
- Kelsey Berchtold, elementary school teacher.
- Ashlyn Kratochvil, elementary school teacher.
- Abby Hagan, elementary school music teacher.
- Rod Hatch, part-time Spanish teacher.

• Brittany Venson, medical leave March 6-30.

Also approved were the following resignations/retirements:

- Angela Tuthill, high school special education teacher.
- Erin McClanahan, elementary school music teacher
- Grace Michal-McClure, elementary school teacher.
- Karen Morrissey, kitchen staff.
- Owen Mercer, student custodian.

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WYOMING: New part-time police officer hired

Continued from Page 1

into Kewanee and Peoria," Tiller said. "What's going on now are electronic transfers (of drug money)."

He said whatever it takes will be done to turn old Wyoming into new Wyoming, again.

"We have citizens who allow (drug dealing) to happen by looking blindly in the other direction. Those citizens will be spoken with and will have

an option to be on-board or be a part of that enterprise," Tiller said. "It's their choice."

He continued by saying The Task Force, Stark County Sheriff's Office, and local police departments will work together.

"We need help. We have not gotten that from the (Stark County) State's Attorney office. I've heard that people have complained we are dropping cases," Tiller said. "Police departments do not have the power to drop cases. That case dropping lies solely in the hands of the

State's Attorney office and prosecutor."

To help in securing Wyoming, Kerry Copeland was sworn into office as a part-time police officer.

The council also passed resolutions to donate \$1,000 to the Wyoming Chamber of Commerce for Christmas in the Park and to contract with Harn R/O Systems, Inc. of Venice, Fla., for a quote not to exceed \$76,398 to replace 60 damaged filter membranes at the water-treatment plant. An Ameren Illinois franchise agreement with Wyoming was also ap-

proved. Mayor Pat Maher said that a city CD that is maturing shortly will be put into the sewer account.

During reports by aldermen, it was stated that the city-wide cleanup is scheduled for May 19-20. Additionally, Alderman Dan Hardman said the city's clock located at the Seventh and Williams streets intersection requires repair quotes for an internal mechanism that is broken and needs replacing.

"We are working on (repairing) it," Maher said.

VOTE for Jim Castagna for Goshen Township Trustee

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- Leader in meeting attendance
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PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violations

3-10 - Nancy S. Olimar Duarte-Guerrero - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.

3-12 - Bradley S. Thomson - No valid registration.

3-16 - Logan J. Streit - Uninsured vehicle and expired registration.

3-16 - Percy L. Payton - Unlawful use of cannabis.

Misdemeanors & Felonies

11-27-24 - Criminal felony - Dirk K. Madison - Aggravated DUI, third offense.

Incidents & Accidents Stark County

3-9 - Driver Kate A. Rumbold, 29, of LaFayette was involved in a deer-related vehicle accident on Illinois Route 17 west of Wyoming near the Spoon River Bridge. No injuries were reported but estimated damage to the vehicle was reported at over \$1,500.

3-10 - Keyonna M. Jones, 33, Peoria, ticketed for speeding 75 mph in a 55 zone.

3-12 - Paul M. Webster of rural Toulon reported the theft of political signs valued at \$100 from along 100N and Illinois Route 78.

3-13 - Lisa D. Morland, 48, of Toulon was involved in a deer-related accident along Illinois Route 93 and 850E. No injuries were reported but the vehicle sustained estimated damage over \$1,500.

3-15 - Jake J. Spietz, 31, of Brimfield cited for speeding 88 mph in a 55 zone, illegal transportation of alcohol and illegal possession of adult-use cannabis in a vehicle. He was issued a court date and his vehicle was towed and impounded.

3-15 - A rollover accident was reported to the Stark County Sheriff's Office by a passing motorist from along Illinois Route 78 and 500N. The driver was identified as Jeremy Stevens, 41, of Dahinda. He was transported by LifeFlight to a hospital. The incident remains under investigation.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

3-10 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a 911 hang-up complaint. The subject was suffering from a mental-health crisis.

3-10 - to meet with a subject at City Hall about an ongoing neighbor dispute.

3-10 - to assist Henry County with a traffic stop north of town.

3-10 - to assist the Kewanee Police Department locate a Galva resident who lost his wallet in Kewanee. The subject was not found.

3-10 - to assist Henry County with a car-vs.-deer accident north of town.

3-11 - to the 100 block of NW 8th Ave. for a 911 hang-up complaint. It was determined to be a small child playing with the phone.

3-11 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a verbal-disturbance complaint.

3-11 - to the 600 block of N. Center Ave. for a verbal disturbance involving a motorist who stopped and was trying to fight a resident. The motorist was advised to move along.

Stark Co. drops charges against Powell

TOULON – Stark County has dropped charges filed against Amanda Powell on Oct. 11 after a multi-task police raid of the Wyoming apartment she shares with Caleb Deck.

That apartment is located at 111 E. Williams St. Powell was arrested and taken to the Bureau County Jail after the raid along with Deck.

“After I received the evidence and charges for Amanda Powell, I determined that the charges were

more appropriate for Caleb Deck and not for Amanda Powell,” Stark County State’s Attorney Austin King said on March 13.

Deck still faces multiple charges filed against him stemming from the Oct. 11 police raid.

Powell is scheduled for an April 7 trial in Marshall County for 2023 charges of felony aggravated discharge of a firearm and possession of a stolen firearm.

– John A. Ballentine



3-12 - to speak to a resident in the 200 block of NW 6th Ave. about a city-ordinance violation involving burning on a non-burn day.

3-12 - Officer was advised of a controlled grass fire in the 1300 block of James B. Young Road.

3-12 - to the 600 block of NW 1st St. for a city-ordinance violation, involving burning on a non-burn day.

3-12 - to the 300 block of NW 3rd Ave. for a dog bite involving a child bitten by a family pet. The dog was euthanized the next day.

3-12 - to assist Henry County with a subject who was jumping in front of cars on U.S. Route 34 east of town. The subject was reportedly hitchhiking from Peoria to Kewanee.

3-13 - to speak with a resident by telephone in reference to a harassment complaint.

3-13 - to the 500 block of SE 3rd St. for a disturbance complaint involving a subject pointing a bb gun toward pedestrians. Herman Brown, 56, Galva, was arrested for reckless conduct and disorderly conduct. He was released with a court date.

3-13 - Officer was advised of a crossing arm malfunction at the SW 6th Ave. railroad tracks. BNSF was contacted for repairs.

3-13 - to a verbal disturbance in the 00 block of SW 4th St., involving threats.

3-14 - to the 1000 block of NW 7th Ave. for a dispute involving a parent and child.

3-14 - to the 800 block of W. Division St. for a report involving three loose dogs. They were taken home.

3-14 - to remove an obstruction from the roadway in the 800 block of SE 2nd St.

3-14 - to assist the fire department with a ditch fire near the intersection of Bonham Road and 1850 East.

3-14 - to the 100 block of NE 7th St. for a harassment complaint.

3-14 - to the 400 block of SW 3rd Ave. for a juvenile complaint involving a child refusing to return home.

3-14 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a verbal-disturbance complaint.

3-14 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a verbal disturbance.

3-15 - While patrolling, an officer noticed a utility wire had been pulled down by a fallen branch in the 300 block of SW 7th St. It was a cable wire.

3-15 - to the 600 block of SE 2nd St. to return a license plate found several miles west of town.

3-15 - to meet with a subject at the Galva Police Department to retrieve a vehicle from the city impound lot.

3-15 - to the 300 block of SW 4th Ave. to speak with a resident about a city-ordinance violation.

3-15 - to the 400 block of SW 3rd Ave. for a disturbance involving juveniles.

3-15 - to the 400 block of SW 3rd Ave. for a juvenile who refused to return home to a parent.

3-15 - to the 00 block of NE 6th St. to remove an unwanted subject.

3-16 - to the 400 block of SE 7th Ave. for a verbal-domestic dispute.

3-16 - to the 1000 block of NW 7th Ave. for a child-custody dispute.

3-16 - As a result of a traffic stop in the 700 block of West Division St., Tyler Sides, 38, Versailles, was arrested for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance and a Lake County warrant for failing to appear on charges of unlawful restraint, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Henry County Jail.

3-16 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to aid a citizen who seemed to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

Property Transfers

3-10 - Bonnie L. Boss, Shannon Hornby and Jennifer Skinner to Makenna Raleigh and Beau N. Sarver - Pt. Duncan Block 2 Lots 14-25 and Block 3 - 680 Township Rd., 1028 E. Princeville and 680 Township Rd., 1021 E Princeville - Consideration = \$149,000.

3-10 - Michael Curran to Dalton Snyder - Pt. Sect. 8-14-6 NE - Consideration = \$7,000.

3-12 - Truist Bank et al to The Secretary of Housing & Urban Development - Thomas S. Real's 1st Add'n - Pt. Lot 2 - 306 Silver St., Bradford - Consideration = \$0.

3-13 - James C. Schock to Christopher C. Henderson - Pt. Plus Ease Sect. 17-13-6 NE - Consideration = \$1,120,000.

3-14 - James P. Smith to Osceola Enterprises Corp. - Pt. Sect 29-13-6 NE - 7935 State Route 17, Toulon - Consideration = \$150,000.

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Early voting for the April 1st Consolidated Election will begin February 20th 2025 and end March 31st 2025 at the office of the Stark County Clerk 130 W. Main, Toulon. Voting hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. We will also be open for early voting on Saturday March 29th from 9 - noon.

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GUEST VOICES



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• • •
 Loud female noises emanated from east of me on a recent glorious Sunday afternoon hike.

Snake, already?
 Skunk?
 Or had our little white coon-lab roused another sleepy raccoon from its den?

Even better.
 “Is this what we are looking for,” my wife said, smiling, coyly, while holding up a matched set of shed antlers – each one complete with a crab claw at the end.



Jeff LAMPE

What a classic moment. Despite me telling her we were going shed hunting, she claims to have had no actual concept what that meant. Or did she?

She and her sister, who was visiting from Wisconsin, spent most of their time in the woods chatting and catching up on important things.

Meanwhile, we males were scouring the ground, looking for elusive, late-winter whitetail gifts. Deer grow new antlers each year after shedding their old ones. When they shed is a matter of much conjecture and intrigue. Suffice to say, bucks

start showing up with antlers missing in January and are usually totally antler-bald by the end of March.

Finding the antlers they shed is a last chance for deer hunters to prove their prowess – not to mention a great excuse to get out and tromp through the late-winter woods.

Myself, I’ve never been very good at finding antlers. On most shed hunts, I spend 10 minutes scouring the ground like a hawk. Then, my mind and eyes wander up to the trees ... and the shed hunt is over.

Somehow though, last Sunday I was dialed in. Maybe that’s because of the success from a few days earlier when the oldest boy joined me. “Are they hard to find?” he asked. “For me, yes,” I said.

Then, two feet into our first trail, there sat a shiny antler the mice and squirrels had already been nibbling. We laughed at the ease of it while lamenting the eaten antler points.

Unfortunately, rodents also search for antlers in the spring, since sheds provides nutrients and minerals that those critters crave. Scientists have actually studied this and determined that calcium and phosphorous are beneficial for lactating female squirrels as they raise their young.

I’m glad my wife didn’t know that last part, or she probably would have hid the antlers she found. Besides, even after Sunday’s success,

she still doesn’t understand the tremendous value of her find.

“What do you do with these?” her sister asked.

“Oh, we put them on dressers and bookcases and shelves so they can collect dust,” my wife replied.

Tell that to a female squirrel. As it was, my beloved clued into the whole shed thing after the youngest boy found a nice five-pointer. That antler was right where it should have been – along a south-facing rub line that the buck had probably walked for years.

Moments after the boy found his shed and was congratulated and feted as a fine fellow, the missus found hers, while walking back over a well-tended trail she had already covered.

“This is not hard now that I know what we are looking for,” she said. “We had to have walked right past these.”

That’s how the day went. Three sheds in two minutes and a wife who now has yet another entry on her resume: expert shed hunter.

Actually, that’s great. I’ll gladly bring her next time. Hey, she made sandwiches, found antlers and smiled prettier than any shed-hunting companion I’ve ever been around.

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

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Pages From the Past

Compiled by John A. Ballentine

10 Years Ago in 2015

- Bradford has Landon Horrie sworn in as the new police chief.
- Tyler Dorsey of rural Toulon earns Eagle Scout status. His Eagle Scout project was planning, organizing and supervising shingling of the Junior Football League shed at Gary Johnson Field in Wyoming.
- Galva High School places first at the Lincoln Trail Conference Scholastic Bowl.
- Scam artists strike in Stark County saying they are with the IRS and that money is owed by the residents they contact.

- The Brown family wins an appeal in Appellate Court against the Village of LaFayette to farm six acres within village limits.

25 Years Ago in 1990

- Bradford School District Reorganization Committee attends the Stark County School District board meetings to consider joining the district. Bradford later rejects the measure and currently pays tuition for their high school students to attend Bureau or Stark Counties schools.

- Bunker Hill Church of God, north of Bradford, plans to move to a new site in Buda. The church was at the site since 1862 or 1863. The move was to accommodate a growing congregation.

- Bradford's St. John's Catholic Church renovations nears completion. (Recently the church was closed).

- Wyoming's Stuart Borden wins the race over John J.R. Deuel for the resident circuit judge position.

35 Years Ago in 1990

- The Wyoming High School basketball team wins its first regional championship in more than 30 years by defeating Tiskilwa, 54-52.

- A Hope-HeadStart bus collides with a semi-tractor rig near Bradford. Injuries were bumps and bruises to the children on the bus.

- Kelly Manufacturing in Wyoming, manufacturer of farm equipment, conducts ribbon-cutting

ceremonies.

- The Wyoming Public Library celebrates its 75th year on April 1. In 1913, a \$5,600 donation from the Carnegie Corporation of New York was given to Wyoming to build the library structure.

40 Years Ago in 1985

- No newspaper was published in Stark County.

50 Years Ago in 1975

- The high school Indian Valley Conference is formed. Members are Atkinson, Bradford, DePue, LaMoille, Manlius, Tampico, Tiskilwa and Walnut.

- Dr. John M. Besser of Toulon retires from his dentistry practice. He practiced for 25 years in Chicago, then moved to Toulon in 1955 and practiced for 20 more years.

- The LaFayette United Methodist Church held its 5th annual Whole Hog sausage and pancake supper on March 8. The suggested donation was Adults \$1.50 and \$1 for children age 5-12.

- Thieves hit two Galva businesses on March 6. The Coast-to-Coast store reported guns and ammunition, stereo equipment and a color TV were stolen. Kneen's Department store reported \$200 cash was stolen.

60 Years Ago in 1965

- The Wyoming Packing Company advertises meat, cheese, margarine and oysters on sale. Lean ground beef was 3 pounds for 99 cents and ribeye steak sold for 59 cents per pound.

- A photo in The Stark County News showed a work crew taking up railroad tracks for salvage "since the railroad east of Toulon has been closed for some time."

- William Lambert of Toulon steps down after 40 years as a justice of the peace and a Stark County magistrate. A new judicial act of 1964 that requires attorneys to be appointed as magistrates was enacted to replace civilians who served in that capacity.

- Lambert, Howard Leadley of Wyoming and John Tumbleton of Bradford were replaced due to the 1964 statute.

- Les' Café in Toulon advertised a special Meadow Gold brand Blue Valley Ice Cream in various flavors for just 49 cents per half-gallon.

70 Years Ago in 1955

- Movies playing at Wyoming's Paramount Theater were Audie Murphy in "Destry," a classic story of the old west in technicolor. Also, Howard Keel and Ann Blyth starred in "Rose Marie" in CinemaScope, (you see it

without special glasses).

- Toulon Grade School plans a new addition. An all-purpose room was estimated to cost \$45,000, if the public voted their approval.

- Advertisement: "The Brad Theater is now open 6 days a week, all seats are 15¢."

- A spring blizzard blocks Stark County roads. The day started with rain that turned to sleet and then 3½ inches of snow.

LARGE SPECIALTY AUCTION OF TRAINS, PEDAL TRACTORS, TOYS, VINTAGE BB CARDS, ALBUMS

The following amazing collections will be sold at the Millbrook Community Center in Laura, IL. (located right off of Rt. 78 in the NE corner of Laura), on

SUNDAY MARCH 30TH, 2025 AT 11:00 A.M. (2 LINES RUNNING ALL DAY)

NOTE: This is an extremely lg. auction. Trains and toys will begin immediately. See many pictures at www.folgersauctionservice.com and LIKE US ON FACEBOOK. Doors open at 9:00.

TRAINS: This is an amazing one owner collection of over 60 years. Over 200 HO engines NB—wide selection of Atlas, Athearn, Stewart, Proto 2000, Walthers and limited runs—Regal Line and Inter Mountain Line—custom painted engines—much local RR (Burlington Northern, Santa Fe, Toledo, Burlington, Toledo Peoria, Western, Rock Island)—National Lines (Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Rio Grande, etc.)—10 steam locomotives and 2 brass steam engines—over 500 new rolling stock from Standard Athearn, Roadhouse, Backman, Walthers, ConCor Front Range to lim. run Bev Bel Mckeen models, Proto 2000—coal cars, gondolas, auto carriers, trailer trains and box cars from California Zepher to Amtrak—Varmey aero train passenger set (The Rocket)—used locomotives and rolling stock, train parts, power units, engine shells, car detail parts—HO model kits—power packs, track, misc.—American Flyer trains w/orig. boxes (Royal Blue steam engine, freight and passenger cars)—Authentic Burlington RT. lg. sign—Antioch sign—RR Crossing Long metal sign—Rock Island sign.

PEDAL TRACTORS/TOYS: Nearly 50 vintage and other pedal tractors of various types, some NB—Almost all are metal with a few plastic. Examples are metal Farmall 400, like new Farmall H, old Super Trac AMF and Trac 400 AMF, metal Farmall 560, old Int. H, old Big 4 Murray, very old metal single front wheel w/ throttle pedal, old 502 Power trac, Allis Chalmers XT 190, very old Farmer Boy belt drive pedal, Sears diesel 537, old Castelli pedal w/throttle, Ertl Ford 8000, Case Int. 7130, Ertl Ford F-68, Agco Allis 8610, Case IH 7250, metal Farmall M signed Joseph Ertl, 3 IH, green All American Farmer, many others—NB tractors (Ertl pedal loader, Magnum MX270, Case Int. 7130, Scale Model die cast 4WD Case STX450, die cast IH 826 Golden Demo, Case IH MX305 Presige, Farmall Super M NF cycle plain, Farmall Super M, Farmall DX33, Ertl Case IH, Super M signature series, Case IH MX 240, seats, tires, rims, parts. **TOYS:** NB older JD hay wagon, Oliver 1/16th Oliver 88, Ertly JD w/loader, hay wagon, Ford and JD toy tractors and equipment of various sizes, Highway 61 NB grain truck and 41 flatbed, NB models, Nylint NB Gates semi, old Radio Flyer and other kid's metal and plastic wagons, JD wagon, NB MM Liberty classic, Millenium NB tractor set, NB Froelich gas tractor, 100th Ann. Teddy Bear, NB IH Farmall 350, sm. IH toy tractors and misc. NB, Case IH semi, old JD B, old Oliver, JD old metal manure spreader, New Idea old picker, very old wooden Army tank and truck, old cast horse & wagon, wooden Pluto toy. **DOLLS—**old Charlie Chaplain w/orig. box, Whimsie dolls, old NB Madame Alexander Alice, Gone w/Wind, Heidi—old bisque, celluloid, Carnival, China, cloth body, celluloid, Indian, porcelain, vintage characters, 1964 GI Joe, Lil Miss No Name, Lincoln figure, old Ken and more—NB Nascar Dave Blaney—Beanie Babies—player piano in box-misc.

ALBUMS AND BASEBALL CARDS: Set of 1989 Fleer baseball cards 1-660, set of 1966 Topps baseball cards to be sold in team sets, top players will be sold separately (Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, Ernie Banks, Hank Aaron, Joe Morgan, Bob Uecker, Bob Clemente, Bob Gibson, Roger Marris, Pete Rose, Whitey Ford, Carl Yastrzemski, many more highly collectible cards. Lg. coll. of albums in amazing condition including (Star Wars, Kiss, Springsteen, Beatles (in plastic), Cars, Cheap Trick, Elton John, Monkees, Bay City Rollers, Beach Boys, Twisted Sister, Stones, Cooper, REO, country, many more)—45's in jackets, Meat Loaf, Stevie Wonder, etc.—old 33 1/3, Decca, Columbia, much more.

MOTORCYCLES, MISC: 1966 Ducati Sebring 350 and a Honda 175 full size motorcycles, not running but not locked up, both have titles—old Altona belt and hat—cast iron lion—cartoon glasses—leather Dr's bag—lg. coll. of glass candy containers w/lds (colored, Carnival, Milk, Jade, others)—Quantam Lock 4 Singer sewing machine—coll. plates—Dough Boy—prim. sewing machine in ornate cabinet—footed china cabinet, commode, prim. postal cabinet, chest of drawers, Victrola—new floor mats for pick-up—coll. of hand grinders (Winchester, etc.), misc.

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REAL ESTATE, MACHINIST EQUIPMENT, TOOLS AND FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION



The following Real Estate and Personal Property will be offered at Public Auction on Sunday March 30 beginning at 10 AM (Note Time)

Real Estate at 12 PM
1623 & 1625 N. Main Street,
Kewanee Illinois 61443

The Real Estate consists of a 3-bedroom bath and a half premanufactured home with approximately 1700 sq ft of living space built in 1966. There is an attached 2 car 30' X 24' garage with concrete floor. This home is in need of extensive repair. 1625 N. Main St. has a 40' X 80' steel machine shed with a 6" concrete floor and 400 amp electric service. Also on the property is a 60' X 60' older barn with some concrete and a small pasture sitting on approximately 3 acres located just outside the city limits of Kewanee. The house has its own well and septic system. This property offers a great place in the country but close to the city of Kewanee. To view property call

Mark Guthrie 309-945-6120

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The successful bidder shall be required to enter into a standard purchase agreement with 10% of the purchase price due on or before 45 days from the date of the sale, when the possession will be given.
- The seller shall provide a title insurance policy in the amount of the purchase price of the real estate.
- Real estate taxes will be prorated to the date of possession.
- All announcements made on the day of the sale take precedence over any previously printed advertised terms or conditions.
- The subject real estate and improvements are being sold in strictly: AS IS, WHERE IS condition without any representation of warranties expressed or implied.
- This information is believed to be accurate. However, we strongly urge all prospective buyers to thoroughly research all pertinent data and to draw their own conclusion.

MACHINIST EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS:

FosDick 15 ft metal lathe w/ attachments, Electric arc metal Disintegrator, Tow motor M#390 propane forklift, Republic Machine Co. vertical drill press, Yale Eaton overhead hoist, DoAll band saw, 2 Lucifer furnaces, several older bench presses, 4 Oxygen acetylene torch sets all sizes and makes, Large vises, metal testing instrument, Pressure gauges, Spot welders, Nicholas planer, Sears and Roebuck wood lathe, Metal saws, Chicago Electric vibrators, Cherry picker (like new), Floor model pipe bender, Littell Double End uncoiler, Drafting table, Many machine and machinist manuals, Hand held spot welder, Air cylinders, Sheers, Cable puller, Alhnet(NIB) set of outside micrometers, Craftsman 4 ½' Joiner-Planer, Large air compressor(440), Clark top and bottom tool box full of machinist tools, Bridgeport machines, Part bins full of parts, cutters, reamers rotary index heads, Pipe threaders, Hundreds of drill bits, 55 gal drum of oil, Jet belt sander, (2) New Chicago Pneumatic air grinders, Rockwell double drill press, Lincoln R-35-250 arc welder, Miller MP65E arc welder, Miller wire welder, brother high top machine, Lopo air dryer, Chicago Electric arc welder, Fostich M.T. Company radial arm drill, ½ ton lift pump truck, Screw jacks, 8 ½' X 3 ½' wooden work bench, Many grinding stones, Squirrel cage fans, Gear pullers, Smoker, PLUS MUCH MORE USED IN THE METAL FABRICATION BUSINESS!

FARM MACHINERY AND MISCELANEOUS:

IH Farmall 400 w/ loader, 8N Ford w/loader, 6ft. 3 pt Rhino rear blade, Ford rear wheel weights, 1979 C70 ton truck with 5th wheel attachment, 2 ton bulk bin under livestock equipment, 6ft PTO shredder, 5ft single gang disk, Quick tach I-H 6' rear blade, 5' X 7' bumper hitch utility trailer, 4 rolls of new barn wire, Steel and wooden posts, Misc. pipe gates and fencing supplies, 24' alum. Ext. ladder, Misc tires and rims, Plastic water tanks, Misc Lumber: 2x4, 2x6, 2x8, 2x10, 2x12, App. 33- 3 x 7 ½' x 10' boards new in crate, App. 15- 2"X10'x 20' boards, 14ft hayrack on gear, Large pile of telephone poles, Smoke Hollow smoker, I-H Farmall small tool box, Lawn rollers, 2 large scrap iron piles(to be removed in 45 days), Misc scrap iron, John Deere lawn tractor, 5' Snow blade, Snow blower, Rear cement w/ for utility tractor, 14ft hay rack on gear, Pressure tank w/ motor, Horse tack, Stop signs, 6 Aztec heaters, Old Wisconsin engine and MUCH MORE!

James L. Brannock Sr. Estate - Seller
Lee Brannock Executor of Estate

John Blachinsky Attorney for Seller Barash & Everett LLC
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Bradford Betas

TRIVIA NIGHT
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Pictured above are Bradford 8th grade students who recently held a living museum with five categories, including notable authors, historical figures, notorious criminals and sports figures. Photo by Becki Hoffert.

Illinois voters prefer current state flag

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois state flag may be around a lot longer, it turns out.

About 43% of the 385,000 votes in an advisory state-flag revision contest decided they'd prefer to keep the current design.

There were 12 other flag choices. A flag design depicting the sun on the horizon, designate finished in second place. A design depicting Abraham Lincoln's silhouette and the state of Illinois on a dark-blue background was third.

The vote will be used by the Illinois Flag commission to advise the General Assembly on how they should vote regarding a flag change. Legislators will have the final say on any future flag changes.

—Capitol News Illinois

Oral history videos at genealogical meeting

TOULON – The Stark County Genealogical Society will share Stark County oral history videos recorded in 2019 by Tom Talbert during its meeting on March 29 at 1:30 p.m. at the Toulon Public Library.

Audrey Stapel and LeRoy Ehnle will be telling their "stories of the

past." Come hear about life on the farm, getting electricity, school days, first jobs and much more. Also shown will be a short visit with Dorothy Allen Cibulskis at Old Settlers 2019 about growing up in Elmira.

This is the first of several oral history programs planned. The public is welcome to attend the free meeting.

Bradford 8th grade holds living museum

BRADFORD – Bradford's 8th grade Living Museum was deemed a success thanks to all the hard work and creativity of students and their families. Portrayals included:

- Laura Ingalls Wilder, Madison Kieser
- S.E. Hinton, Bailey McDermott
- Nina Dobrev, Sierra Goforth
- Marilyn Monroe, Molly Wellman
- Jeff Probst, Schuylar Garlsch
- Oprah Winfrey, Kinsley Wall
- Napoleon Bonaparte, Erik Knobloch
- Julius Caesar, Kevin Williams
- Leonardo Da Vinci, Deaken Alexander
- Ulysses S. Grant, Dawson Alexander
- Ronald Reagan, Creighton Stahl
- Al Capone, Aidan Parrish
- Dan Marino, Cayden Guerry
- Kobe Bryant, Easton Blake.

Burns Busters 4-H club convened on March 16

BISHOP HILL – On March 16, the Burns Boosters 4-H club met at the Bishop Hill fire station. T-shirt committees falso met to share ideas and decide on a design.

After the meeting, Camden Johnston, Jack Peck, Ryder Johnston and Kal Grant gave talks. Then special guest Courtney Finch shared, from a judges prospective, how members should prepare for project judging.

The next meeting is April 13 at the Bishop Hill fire station.

Deadline for Galva tree discount is March 25

GALVA – Galva citizens who want to plant trees are encouraged to visit City Hall, 311 NW 4th Ave., for a brochure outlining a program in which the city cooperates.

The City of Galva purchases trees through the Henry County Soil and Water Conservation District. Trees purchased through this program are discounted and the city will pay 50% of tree purchases. Orders will be delivered to residents inside of city limits.

The deadline for ordering through the City of Galva is Tuesday, March 25, at 4:30 p.m.

Kathleen Ryan
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also known as "Katie Ryan", is pleased to announce her new office locations in Stark County and the Twin Towers in Peoria, Illinois.

Katie provides an extensive range of legal services to small businesses and individuals.

Katie's practice focuses on real estate transactions, including residential, commercial and farm sales, tax preparation, and estate planning.

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 456 Fulton Street, Suite 203
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Cell Number: (309) 253-2487
 kateryan1969@yahoo.com

MOWING BIDS and WEED CONTROL BIDS

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

Bids are due by April 5th, 2025

For info, call: Tom Ryan (309) 238-3767

Mail Bids to: Bradford Park District Box 77 Bradford, IL 61421

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Award-winning vegetables, flowers for 2025

By **BRUCE BLACK**

U of I Extension

URBANA – With winter officially over and spring here, thoughts are turning to planting – even if the ground is still covered with snow now and then.

One good source for new plants is All-America Selections, a non-profit organization that releases several trialed plants each year as AAS Winners.

AAS tests new varieties every year at their private and public trial sites located around the U.S. and Canada.

Currently, there are four trial locations in Illinois, with three northern and one central. Independent judges who are professional horticulturists in geographically diverse areas evaluate trial entries against comparison plants.

For the best plants suited to the area, Illinois residents should look for Great Lakes winners or National winners on the AAS Winners lists.

This year, there are 15 AAS winners. Out of the total, 14 are suited for Illinois, including four vegetables, and 10 flowers.

Vegetables

• **Kohlrabi Konstance F1** (Brassica oleracea var. Konstance F1): This is a purple kohlrabi with a longer harvest window, improved skin for crack-resistant, long-lasting and sweet yet peppery, crunchy bulbs.

• **Pepper Pick-N-Pop Yellow F1** (Capsicum annum var. Pick-N-Pop Yellow F1): This is an extra-sweet, snack-sized mini pepper, produced continually with 50-100 peppers per plant with bacterial leaf spot resistance. The plant produces canary-yellow peppers of uniform shape.

• **Squash Green Lightning F1** (Cucurbita pepo var. Green Lightning F1): This is a light green, medium-sized, early-maturing Pattypan squash. For

consumption or decoration, this glossy squash has a small seed cavity with more flesh.

• **Squash Thriller F1** (Cucurbita pepo var. Thriller F1): This is an orange-dumpling squash that has cream and green variegation. For consumption or decoration, this trailing squash will add color to fall gardens and is resistant to powdery mildew.

Flowers

• **Dahlia Black Forest Ruby** (Dahlia pinnata var. Black Forest Ruby): This is a stunning, ruby-red flower set against deep black foliage. This semi-double to double-blooming dahlia has durable pinnate leaves and is sturdy and disease-free during the growing season.

• **Dianthus Interspecific Capitán Magnífica** (Dianthus interspecific var. Capitán Magnífica): A mix of pink and light pink, this dianthus keeps blooming and growing through the summer heat. Bred with more heat tolerance than other dianthus, the plant also has rain and cold tolerance.

• **Marigold Mango Tango** (Tagetes patula var. Mango Tango): This plant has compact bi-colored yellow and red flowers that bloom prolifically. Great for containers or in-ground, it can be planted in a full-sun to part-shade locations. In European trials, Mango Tango was the recipient of the Fleuroselect award.

• **Nasturtium Baby Gold** (Tropaeolum minus var. Baby Gold): This winner features intense gold flowers set against dark green foliage. From the baby series, it is known for its mounding, petite flowers and is great for containers or in small space gardens.

• **Nasturtium Baby Red** (Tropaeolum minus var. Baby Red): Uniform and compact, Baby Red has rich red flowers on dark



A group of petunia multiflora var. Shake Raspberry F1 flowers in bloom. Photo by All-America Selections.

green foliage. From the baby series and known for its mounding and petite flowers, this winner is great for containers or in small space gardens.

• **Nasturtium Baby Yellow** (Tropaeolum minus var. Baby Yellow): Featuring soft, light-yellow flowers contrasting dark green foliage, this winner is from the baby series and known for its mounding, petite flowers. It is great for containers or in small space gardens.

• **Petunia Dekko Maxx Pink** (Petunia x hybrida var. Dekko Maxx Pink): This regional winner has non-fading pink flowers and a compact, fast-spreading habit.

• **Petunia Shake Raspberry F1** (Petunia multiflora var. Shake Raspberry F1): This National winner is a naturally compact petunia with coloration of blended reds, pinks and lemon-lime. Does not fade or melt during the summer months.

• **Snapdragon Double-Shot Yellow Red Heart F1** (Antirrhinum majus var. DoubleShot Yellow Red Heart F1): This National winner is an early bloomer with long-lasting yellow, red and pink flowers.

• **Zinnia Zydeco Fire** (Zinnia marylandica var. Zydeco Fire): A National winner that has a fully double and larger orange flower when compared to other zinnias.

Looking for something else to fill in landscapes and gardens?

Plan a trip to a local garden shop or visit the All-America Selections website (all-americanselections.org) for a list of all past vegetables and flower winners since its founding in 1933.

For more information, visit the University of Illinois Extension Horticulture plants website (extension.illinois.edu/plants) or the University of Illinois Extension Horticulture YouTube Channel.

For questions, contact a local University of Illinois Extension office on the statewide map at go.illinois.edu/ExtensionOffice.

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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 (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
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.

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

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

202 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
www.ToulonBaptist.com
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

Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL
Casual, family friendly
Rev. Katie Gallagher
Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. Adult Discussion Group, 5:30 p.m.
Worship (in Luther Hall)
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m. Children's Sunday School
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

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.
Rectory Phone: 309-852-5191
Fr. Cramer Phone: 574-329-9292

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.

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 Wyand Walnut Rd, Bradford, IL. 61421
Services on Sundays at 9 a.m.
Rev Dan Wright
309-897-8113 309-507-1626
thewrights62@hotmail.com

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OBITUARIES

Donna M. Anderson

GALVA – Donna M. Anderson, 88, of Galva, died at 6:05 p.m., March 10, 2025 at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

She was born on Dec. 7, 1936, in Galesburg, the daughter of Chester and Ruby (Teil) Downward. She married Lloyd Anderson on March 18, 1956.

Survivors include her husband of Galva; her son, Mark (Lisa) Anderson of Altoona, Iowa; four sisters, Dorothy McMeen of Milan, Grace Bates of Williamsfield, Alice Clark of Galesburg and Cheryl (Bob) Yerkey of Alexis; and a daughter-in-law, Mary Jane Anderson.

Also surviving are five grandchildren, Marisa Fall (Jess Fall), Jake Johnson, Steven Anderson, Tyler Simoneaux and Jacob Simoneaux; and four great-grandchildren, Avalynn, Paisley, Gage and Grace.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Steven Anderson; three brothers, Clarence "Bud," Gary and Randy; and a sister, Mary Brittingham.

Donna graduated from Galesburg High School in 1955. In her early years she worked for W.T. Grant and as a waitress at The Red Oak in Bishop Hill for 23 years.

She was a member of the Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church, its Pairs and Spares Sunday School class and its Martha Circle. She was also a member of the Henry County Farm Bureau and the VASA Lodge in Bishop Hill.

She enjoyed cooking and flower gardening, but most of all she loved her family and cherished the time spent together.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 22, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Rev. Rebecca Gearhart and Rev. Dan Wright officiating. A visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Friday, March 21, at the funeral home. The burial will be in Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church or to the Galva American Legion.

Jay W. Pettegrew

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, Ohio – Dr. Jay W. Pettegrew, M.D., 80, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and Bradenton, Fla., was born May 19, 1944, and entered

into eternal rest on March 13, 2025, surrounded by family members.

Jay attended the University of Illinois,

graduating as a medical student, and received his doctrine-completed residency and fellowship at Johns Hopkins University Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in pediatric neurology.

He served in the U.S. Navy as a staff neurologist with rank LCDR at Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Va.

He was an assistant professor of neurology at the University of

Texas Medical School in Dallas.

Dr. Pettegrew retired emeritus of psychiatry from the University of Pittsburgh after serving as head of neuroscience in the departments of psychiatry, neurology, bioengineering and behavioral and community health sciences.

He was an internationally recognized expert in neurochemistry/neurophysics and the development and application of magnetic resonance spectroscopic imaging and magnetic resonance imaging in neuropsychiatric disorders. He had extensive experience in the application of in vitro and in vivo MRSI/MRI methods to brain development, aging, Alzheimer's disease, alcoholism, autism, major depressive disorders and schizophrenia.

Dr. Pettegrew published over 300 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals. He was a member of 16 national and international scientific societies, including the American Academy of Neurology, The American Psychopathological Association, Inc., and the Royal Society of Medicine (England). He was also a reviewer for 17 international scientific journals with over 100 international lectures.

He was also a member of many organizations and clubs socially and professionally including the Sarasota Yacht Club, Sandusky Yacht Club, Edgewater Yacht Club, Long Boat Key Club, Midwest Bonanza Society, American Saddlebred Horse, Breeder Association and the Percheron Horse Association. Professionally he was a member of the Royal Society of Medicine and the London and American Academy of Neurology.

Dr. Pettegrew is survived by his wife, Marilyn C. Pettegrew; daughter, Heather (Stu) Vincent; sons, Jonathan J. Pettegrew (deceased) and Jared (Kimberly) Pettegrew; stepchildren Thomas Sablyar, Steven (Michelle) Sablyar and Laura Feller (Kyle); grandchildren Spencer, Tyler, Allison, Adam, Lydia, Mason and Harper; and brother Jerry (Bonnie) Pettegrew.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Elting Pettegrew and Elsie Lucille Bowyer Pettegrew; and brothers John Pettegrew and Jim Pettegrew.

Visitation will be from 12 p.m. until time of funeral service at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 22, 2025, at Boyd's Grove Methodist Church in Bradford, Ill., with Pastor Dan Wright officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Mound Cemetery, Bradford, in the family plot amongst relatives who have been buried since the late 1700s.

Online condolences may be made at www.grant-johnsonfh.com.

Gary D. Tracy

SPARTA, Tenn. – Gary Dean Tracy was born to Irma and Dean Tracy, on July 31, 1950, in Kewanee, Ill. He died on Jan. 14, 2025, at the home he shared with his brother, Tom, in Sparta, Tenn. He was 74.

Gary graduated from Castleton Grade School and then Wyoming Community High School, after which he earned an associate degree in agriculture from Black Hawk East College in Kewanee. He was a

third-degree Mason with the Wyoming Masonic Lodge, but no longer practicing.

He worked in his young adulthood as a farmer, initially in partnership with his father Dean and his brother Paul R. Tracy, but left that profession in the mid-1980s. He finished his career as a maintenance millwright at the steel mill in Hennepin, Ill., (operated by LTV Steel/Arcelar Metal.) He retired from there in 2010.

In 1974, he married Peggy Kissick in Peoria. They divorced in 1985.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents Dean and Irma and his brother Paul.

He is survived by his brother Tom Tracy; sons Rodney and Chris Tracy; and grandchildren Riley and Lyla.

Gary was one of the best hydraulic experts in the Midwest. He was the only one to ever totally complete and solve the hydraulics test administered as pre-employment at LTV Steel. He was just one of those people who could fix nearly anything.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Heart of Illinois United Way.

No funeral is planned as per Gary's wishes. A celebration of his life will be held April 12, 2025, from 10:30 to 3 p.m. at the Catholic Parish Hall at 208 S. Galena St. in Wyoming. We will have a short memorial/remembrance of his life around 11:15 a.m. A ham potluck dinner with refreshments will be available after the memorial.

Colleen M. VonBehren

METAMORA – Colleen Marie (Gaetz) VonBehren, 63, of Metamora, Ill., went home to Jesus on Sunday, March 16, 2025, at 8:55 p.m. at the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria, Ill.

She was born on Oct. 28, 1961, in Peoria, to Dale H. "Jack" and Doyné D. (Jones) Gaetz.

Colleen is survived by her mother, Doyné Gaetz of Germantown Hills, Ill.; her children, Paul (Michelle) Webster and Rachel (Cody) Harmon, both of Toulon,

Sarah (Greg) DeKeyser of Eureka, Ill., Christina (Shane) Ryan of Hubert, N.C., and Alexander VonBehren of Peoria; brother, Mike Gaetz of Germantown Hills; and sister, Becky (Chip) Collins of East Peoria. She also leaves behind 13 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father Jack, infant son Daniel and infant brother John.

Colleen graduated from Academy of Our Lady in Peoria in 1978. She married Denny Webster of Toulon in August 1983, and together they had their four children. She later married Danny VonBehren of Peoria in May 2004, and had Alexander.



Anderson



Tracy



Pettegrew



VonBehren

OBITUARIES

Colleen worked for many years at Vonachen, Lawless, Trager and Slewin and later worked at Fortner Insurance.

She was a wonderful crafter and could make a meal out of anything she found in the fridge and was known for her baked beans, meatloaf and pumpkin bars. She never knew a stranger and had the most beautiful smile.

Colleen's love for her family and unwavering faith is what kept her going these last two years as she battled Parkinson's disease. Even on her worst days, she found things to be thankful for and always told people that she was blessed. She would make a friend wherever she went and was viewed as "the mom" at work and with her children's friends. Colleen was always described as fun, loving, gentle, and kind; everyone wanted to be around her so they could feel her love.

Colleen was so proud of her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and took every opportunity possible to brag about their accomplishments. She was a loyal friend and loved with her entire being.

She will be remembered for her infectious smile, giving heart and outgoing personality.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at St. Mary of Lourdes Catholic Church in Germantown Hills, with Father Eric Bolek officiating. Recitation of the Rosary will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at Mason Funeral Home Germantown Hills Chapel, with visitation to follow from 4-7 p.m. Burial will be in St. Mary of Lourdes Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Stark County Farm Bureau Foundation, 7417 State Route 17, Suite B, Toulon, IL 61483.

Online condolences can be left at www.masonfuneralhomes.com.

Robert G. Whittaker

MAHOMET – Robert Gordon "Rob" Whittaker passed away peacefully at his home in Mahomet, Ill., on March 11, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones and cherished pets.

He was born on Oct. 10, 1972, at Kewanee Public Hospital in Kewanee, Illinois, to Gordon and Dian S. Whittaker. He grew up and attended K-12 schools in the small town of Toulon, Ill.

Rob is survived by his son, Ethan Whittaker of Carbondale, Ill.; his sisters, Deann (Mark) Rewerts of Wyoming, Ill., and Stephanie Whittaker of Chicago; his niece and nephew, Karsyn and Luke Rewerts of Wyoming; and his girlfriend, Angi Vance of Mahomet. He also leaves behind his beloved pets – Tucker, Sweetie, Gandolf, Piper and Jaba – who brought him great joy.

Rob earned his master's degree in education in 1996 and dedicated himself to teaching. He taught at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School in Urbana, Ill., teaching a year each of fourth and fifth grade from the fall of 2003 until the spring of 2005 when he left to take care of his son full-time.

His passion for fast cars was something he eagerly shared with his son, passing down his knowledge of mechanics and driving. Rob was known for his determination and resilience, always striving to overcome challenges and achieve his goals. He served as an inspiration to many, particularly his wheelchair racing teammates and coach at the University of Illinois.

Those who knew Rob understood the depth of his love and loyalty. He gave wholeheartedly to those he cared about and faced life's obstacles with unwavering strength.



Whittaker

His legacy serves as a reminder to meet challenges head-on and never back down from pursuing one's dreams – no matter the obstacles in front of you.

A celebration of life will be held at the Mahomet Masonic Lodge at 414 E. Main St., Mahomet, IL 61853, on March 31 from 1-3 p.m. He will receive Masonic Rites first, followed by words from Pastor Seth Emerson. This will be a private service for family and close friends, followed immediately by a time for friends to offer condolences and pay their respects.

Rob will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Frances L. Lang

GALVA – Frances L. Lang, 82, of Galva, died at 9:35 a.m., Thursday, March 13, 2025, at OSF Saint Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

She was born on June 5, 1942, in Galesburg, the daughter of Kenneth and Anna Belle (Stegall) Smith. She married Danny VeNard and he preceded her in death on Feb. 6, 1986. She later married Larry Lang in the chapel in Iowa City, Iowa, and he preceded her in death on Sept. 16, 2015.

Survivors include her two sons, Larry VeNard of Galva and Danny VeNard of Kewanee; her daughter, Elizabeth Wexell of Cambridge; a grandchild, Jeremy VeNard; a step-grandchild, Kendra Tyrus; two great-grandchildren, Aiden and Kannon VeNard; a brother-in-law, LeRoy Morelli; her loving friend, Sue Torbert; and two nieces and a nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Ronald Smith; sister Sharon Morelli; son-in-law Larry Wexell; daughter-in-law Sherri VeNard; and niece Anna Smith.

Frances worked as a cook for the Williamsfield School District.

Cremation will be accorded and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Cellphone ban clears Senate committee

By PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Legislation that would prohibit public school students from using cellphones and other wireless communication devices during class time cleared a Senate committee Tuesday and could soon be considered by the full Senate.

It's a policy change that Gov. JB Pritzker called for in his State of the State address in February and one that has been gaining popularity in recent years throughout the U.S.

According to the health policy website KFF.org, at least nine other states have adopted statewide policies limiting or banning the use of cellphones in schools. Elsewhere, even in the absence of a statewide policy, individual districts have begun acting on their own, including

Peoria Public Schools, which implemented its own ban this year.

Senate Bill 2427, sponsored by Sen. Christina Castro, D-Elgin, would require all school boards to adopt policies prohibiting the use of wireless communication devices during instructional time. That would include any wireless device such as cell phones, laptops, tablets and gaming devices that can provide voice, messaging or other data communication between two or more parties.

However, it would not include school-issued devices or devices that students are required to possess or use for educational purposes.

The district policies would, at a minimum, prohibit the use of those devices during instructional time. But the policies would also have to allow exceptions that allow students to use

them during emergencies or in response to an imminent threat to someone's health or safety.

The policies must also provide exceptions if the devices are needed as part of an individual educational plan for a student with disabilities, or if they are needed for medical care.

The new policies would have to be in place in time for the 2026-27 academic year.

Castro said she's aware some districts have already adopted policies that are stricter than the standards set forth in the bill, while other districts have not yet adopted any type of limitation on cellphone use.

"This is a floor," she said. *Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide.*

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

• **TONER:** Unused 410A box of four (B,Y,C,M) high-yield toner cartridges compatible with Color Pro MFP series: M477fnw/fdw/fdn, M377dw, & Color Pro Series: M452nw/dn/dw, M477, M452 & 477fnw. \$50 or BO. Call (309) 442-1001 and leave a message.

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• **TRUCKING:** Sellers Trucking,

Saturday Delivery, Call (309) 540-9027.

• 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.

• **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.

FOR RENT

• **TOULON:** Upstairs 2 bedroom

apartment for rent in Toulon, 105 E. Main. Call (309) 678-1831.

HELP WANTED

Looking for seasonal farm help, Spring & Fall. Must be able to run a John Deere tractor and pull a field cultivator in Spring (auto steer), a week to 10 days. Fall would be running an auger wagon for approximately a month. Rural Sparland. Contact Scott (815) 878-5254

MOWING BIDS

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

Proof of insurance is required. Must be age 18 or older, Bids should be submitted to:
LaFayette Cemetery/Goshen Township
104 Hodgson St.
LaFayette, IL 61449
Deadline is April 4, 2025
The board reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.

NOTICE

Spring Cemetery Clean up week:

All grave blankets, artificial flowers, potted flowers, and all other plants are requested to be removed from the Galva Cemetery by Sunday, April 13, 2025 if relatives wish to save them.

No more flowers should be placed on the graves until after Thursday, April 17, 2025.

~ Galva Cemetery Board

Wyoming Cemetery Clean-Up

Please remove all items that you wish to keep.

Items must be removed by April 12, 2025.

Thank You,
Wyoming Cemetery Association

Providing peace of mind for you and your family

RUX

FUNERAL HOMES

Kewanee | 309-853-4100
Galva | 309-932-2400
Williamsfield | 309-639-4221

www.ruxfuneralhome.com
ruxfuneral@yahoo.com



Celebration of Life for Helen Yvonne Bennett

Saturday, March 29 - 10 a.m.
Baptist Church, Brimfield
Luncheon to follow at
Brimfield American Legion

Thank You
To all those
who supported our soup supper!
~ Heartland Private School

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LEGAL ADS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 ESTATE OF
 BRUCE PHILLIP FEHRENBACHER,
 Case No. 2025-PR-2
 deceased.

CLAIMS NOTICE
 Notice is given of the death of BRUCE PHILLIP FEHRENBACHER, deceased, Village of Bradford, Stark County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 31, 2025, to MaryKay Fehrenbacher, 14527 Township Road 1800 E, Bradford, IL 61421, whose attorney is Ryan J. Anderson, 611 Second Street, P.O. Box 174, Henry, IL 61537.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of said Court at the Stark County Courthouse, P.O. Box 426, Toulon, Illinois 61483 on or before September 13, 2025, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before said date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative within 10 days after it has been filed and proof of such mailing must be filed with the Court. Dated: March 13, 2025.

MaryKay Fehrenbacher
 Independent Executor of the Estate of Bruce Phillip Fehrenbacher, deceased
 Ryan J. Anderson
 Attorney for the Executor
 611 Second Street, PO Box 174
 Henry, IL 61537
 (309)364-2354
 Published 3/14, 3/21, 3/28/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 PENNEY L. GRABBE
 (BY AND THROUGH HER PROPERTY POWER OF ATTORNEY AGENT
 JEFFREY A. HAMPTON,

Plaintiff, Case No. 2025FC14 v. JOSHUA SUMMERSON; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION
 The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record

Claimants, Defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action was filed on March 6, 2025, and is now pending.

1. The names of all Plaintiffs, the Court in which this action was brought, and the Case Number are identified above.

2. The name of the titleholder of record is: JOSHUA SUMMERSON

3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: Lot Five (5) in Block One (1) of W.H. Lyle's First Addition to the Village, now City of Kewanee, except a strip twelve (12) feet wide off the East side thereof, being in the Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of Section Twenty-eight (28), Township Fifteen (15) North, Range 5 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, situated in Henry County, Illinois.
 PIN: 20-28-479-012

4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 706 N. Walnut St., Kewanee IL 61443.

5. An identification of the Agreement for Sale of Real Estate sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

- a. Names of Vendees: Joshua Summerson; Lacey L. Abbot
- b. Names of Vendors: Robert A. Grabbe; Penney L. Grabbe
- c. Date of Agreement: January 15, 2013
- d. Date of Recording: N/A
- e. County Where Recorded: N/A
- f. Recording Document Identification: N/A

6. An identification of the Memorandum of Agreement sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

- a. Names of Vendees: Joshua Summerson; Lacey L. Abbot
- b. Names of Vendors: Robert A. Grabbe; Penney L. Grabbe
- c. Date of Memorandum: January 15, 2013
- d. Date of Recording: January 17, 2013
- e. County Where Recorded: Henry County, Illinois
- f. Recording Document Identification: 20-1300392
- 7. Vendor Robert A. Grabbe passed away on November 13, 2015.
- 8. A Quit Claim Deed was entered into by Grantor Lacey L. Abbot and Grantee Joshua Summerson, wherein Lacey L. Abbot conveyed, quit claimed, released, and waived

all rights to the subject property. Said Deed also extinguished all of Lacey L. Abbot's rights, title, and interest in the Subject Agreement for Sale of Real Estate. The Deed was recorded on December 15, 2016, with the office of the Henry County Clerk-Recorder, as Document No. 20-1607467.

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants, file your answer to the Complaint for Foreclosure in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Henry County, Illinois, Henry County Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois, on or before April 16, 2025, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a Judgment for Foreclosure may be entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint for Foreclosure.

/s/ Terilyn A. Motley
 Circuit Clerk

Barash & Everett, LLC
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 211 W. 2nd St.
 Kewanee IL 61443
 Phone: 309/852-555
 zac@barashlaw.com
 Published 3/14, 3/21, 3/28/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 ESTATE OF Helen Jeffriess,
 No. 2025PR29
 Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)
 Notice is given of the death of Helen Jeffriess. Letters of Office were issued on March 11, 2025, to Isabella Jeffriess as Administrator whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before September 11, 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.

Barash & Everett, LLC
 Attorney for Administrator
 P.O. Box 165
 Galva, IL 61434
 Phone: (309) 932-2001
 Published 3/21, 3/28, 4/4/25

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, residents of the Town of Wethersfield in the County of Henry and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock PM at Wethersfield Township Hall, 338 Tenney St., Kewanee, IL, for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting.

Dated March 11, 2025
 Patricia Newman,
 Wethersfield Township Clerk
 Published 3/21/25

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of West Jersey in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the West Jersey Township Building for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The regular monthly meeting will follow.

Dated March 21, 2025
 Michelle Webster,
 West Jersey Township Clerk
 Published 3/21, 3/28/25

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of Goshen in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the Goshen Township Building for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The regular monthly

meeting will be held immediately following the Annual meeting. Dated March 13, 2025

Pamela Wulf,
 Goshen Township Clerk
 Published 3/21/25

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LYNN
 Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of LYNN, in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

The Town Meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 6:30 P.M. on said day at the LYNN TOWN HALL, 2727 Illinois Route 17, Galva, Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of Officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of Law, come before the Meeting and especially to consider and decide the following:

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

Dated this 11th day of March 2025.

Tim Thuline,
 Lynn Township Clerk
 Published 3/21/25

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

ESTATE OF GARY W. CARRINGTON, deceased
 No. 2024-PR-126

Notice is given of the death of GARY W. CARRINGTON. Letters of Office were issued on December 17, 2024, to TONYA S. BROWN, 504 S. East St., Annawan, IL 61234, as Independent Executor, 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 3/21, 3/28, 4/4/25

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

ESTATE OF:
 Donna L. Johnson,
 No. 2025PR31
 Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of Donna L. Johnson. Letters of Office were issued on March 13, 2025, to Diane C. Nesbitt as Executor whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before September 13, 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 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/getheIp.asp. Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor P.O. Box 165 Galva, IL 61434 Phone (309) 932-2001 Email: everett@barashlaw.com
 Published 3/21, 3/28, 4/4/25

Super Crossword **CROSS WORDS**

ACROSS

- 1 Being by
- 8 Flip up
- 12 Feet or base
- 15 General — chicken
- 19 Preface
- 20 "Hello" singer
- 21 Santa — winds
- 22 Eight, in Berlin
- 23 Alternative to postickers
- 26 Travi
- 27 Fountain city
- 28 Golf prop
- 29 Requiring lots of attention
- 29 L.P. Introp
- 30 — Lip My Heart" (1967)
- 31 "NYNYC song)
- 32 Call before the court
- 35 Touchy topic
- 37 500-filled NBC show, in brief
- 38 Texas-Louisiana border river
- 41 Three, in Paris
- 42 H.G. Wells' Doctor
- 43 Morris, e.g.
- 46 Penetrating
- 47 Get older
- 50 Give off
- 51 Shaggy's nickname for his dog
- 52 Poken lover
- 53 Actress
- 54 "Life Is Good"
- 55 Letter after pi
- 56 212 degrees Fahrenheit, for water
- 61 "Yup"
- 63 Big Apple sch.
- 66 Alpha Sig. e.g.
- 67 Speaks from a soapbox
- 68 Right after being asked
- 72 Fake: Prefix
- 75 Stalagm's site
- 76 Camera type, in brief
- 77 Acting as a
- 81 Brand of hard cider
- 84 Google Play download
- 86 Tokyo sash
- 87 Prefix with byte or ton
- 88 Suffix with Eucle
- 89 An ex-Trump
- 92 Fix typos, say
- 93 Plus more, abbr.
- 94 55 bits, in slang
- 96 Intense controversy
- 99 "That doesn't ring —"
- 101 Regressed
- 102 — is is
- 103 Group of warriors in "Kung Fu Panda"
- 106 Church part for the clergy
- 110 Chant
- 111 Boxing great
- 112 Flummoxed
- 115 Suffix with Motor
- 116 British prep school
- 117 "Proud Mary" star — P. Henon
- 118 Makes the sidewalk
- 119 Top 40, e.g.
- 123 50s prez
- 124 — Mas (HJC corp.)
- 125 Yo-yo part
- 126 Lucy's guy
- 127 Toon
- 128 Flanders
- 128 "Vilans" looks
- 129 What nine key words in this puzzle are synonyms of
- 36 Dutch artist Jan
- 38 — "Cat
- 39 From — Z
- 40 Lettuce list
- 42 Option tip
- 43 East Asian nanny
- 44 Plaster
- 45 — Lodge (motel chain)
- 46 Actor Harvey
- 48 Herdby unit
- 49 Woffs down
- 52 Malaise, e.g.
- 53 Horse colors
- 55 Little — (the Ocean State)
- 57 Proposal
- 58 Original NYC subway line
- 59 State exec. native
- 60 Before surgery, in brief
- 62 "Star Trek" lieutenant
- 64 Agave plants
- 65 Salt Lake City
- 66 Originally
- 69 Additionally
- 70 Fertilizable gameless
- 71 Ching's kin
- 72 Book division
- 73 Vexed state
- 74 Dairy case containers
- 75 Musical finale
- 79 Somewhat
- 80 Act of fury
- 82 Film units
- 83 Uses a towel
- 85 Noodles in peanut sauce
- 90 Baffle (or)
- 91 Additionally
- 92 Israel's Abba
- 94 Vest stretch
- 95 Large tank
- 96 Wild cards
- 97 Gorilla, e.g.
- 98 Historic time
- 100 Olympic swimmer
- 101 Address
- 103 Grazing land
- 104 De-Arcot
- 105 Renowned
- 106 Asteroid found in 1801
- 107 Chocolate drink
- 108 T-man Ness
- 109 Big dipper
- 112 Comic
- 113 Fake prong
- 114 Mix, as part
- 118 Lute guitar, for short
- 119 Martini liquor
- 120 Longtime
- 125 series
- 121 30-day mo.

Weekly SUDOKU

1	4	8	3	6	
3	2	5	1	4	7
9			2		1
5	4				
1	9	3		4	
				5	9
4	3	6	1	8	5
5	1			8	4
9		5	2		6

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Mickey 17 (R)
2. Captain America: Brave New World (PG-13)
3. Last Breath (PG-13)
4. The Monkey (R)
5. Paddington in Peru (PG)
6. Dog Man (PG)
7. Anora (R)
8. Mufasa: The Lion King (PG)
9. Rule Breakers (PG)
10. In the Lost Lands (R)

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FKYD KA DFBNP HBJKD MA
 KAN JWLADL WX NWVL
 FMAI, KAI JLDKPMCMPN
 QMSS MAHPKAPSN XMSS MP.
 — IDD EWJY

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Trivia test by PH

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who was Time Magazine's First Man of the Year in 1927?
2. MOVIES: Who was the male lead in the film "Risky Business"?
3. LITERATURE: In which novel does the character of Emma Woodhouse appear?
4. LANGUAGE: What does the acronym "sonar" stand for?
5. TELEVISION: What was the name of the Duke's car on the show "The Duke of Hazzard"?
6. HISTORY: The first atomic submarine was built in which decade?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What modern-day country is in the area known in ancient times as Lusitania?
8. MEDICINE: What disease is caused by a deficiency of Vitamin A?
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president's image appeared on a dollar coin in 1971?
10. MATH: What does the symbol "r" stand for in geometry?

Answers

1. Aviator Charles Lindbergh.
2. Tom Cruise.
3. "Emma" by Jane Austen.
4. Sound navigation and ranging.
5. The General Lee.
6. 1950s.
7. Portugal.
8. Night blindness.
9. Dwight D. Eisenhower.
10. Radius.

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Super Crossword

Answers

VISIT ABSORB CAPT SPOS
 INTRO RICHIE ANA ACHT
 STEAMEDDUMPLINGS ROME
 TEE NEEDY MNO TEARIN
 ARR AIGN SORESUBJECT
 SNL SABINE TROIS
 MADSCIENTIST KEEN AGE
 EMIT SCOOB BEE RHEA
 NAS RHO BOILINGPOINT
 UHHU NYU FRAY ORATES
 HOTOUTOFTHEOVEN
 PSEUDO CAVE SLR OSCAR
 ANGRYORCHARD APP OBI
 GIGA BEAN IVANA EDIT
 ETC ABES RAGINGDEBATE
 ABELL LAPSED TRA
 FURIOUSFIVE CHANCEL
 INTONE ALI ATSEA OLA
 ETON FUMINGINTRICACID
 LIND IKE GINNIE SPOOL
 DESIGNED SNEERS IRATE

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	4	7	8	9	3	2	6	5
3	2	5	1	4	6	7	9	8
8	9	6	7	5	2	3	4	1
7	5	4	2	8	9	6	1	3
6	1	9	3	7	5	4	8	2
2	8	3	4	6	1	5	7	9
4	3	2	6	1	8	9	5	7
5	6	1	9	3	7	8	2	4
9	7	8	5	2	4	1	3	6

CryptoQuote
 answer
 Make an empty space in any corner of your mind, and creativity will instantly fill it.
 — Dee Hock

SPORTS: Galva, Princes lose baseball opener

Continued from Page 12

• **Galva boys** – Even with a 5-17 record last year, Galva made strides toward improvement. Fifth year coach Van White and the Wildcats lost just one starter from 2024. And while the team will still be young, White said overall fundamentals should be better.

“We are young. Our talent level has improved. We also have promising freshmen Lucas Piester, Tom Funke and Gage Simoneaux will help defensively but will be challenged on hitting, as they transition to hitting varsity pitching,” White said. “If we can throw strikes, eliminate physical mistakes and, most importantly, put the ball in play at bat, we should have success.”

Starting shortstop, a sophomore, leadoff hitter and pitcher MJ Louck returns. Junior JP Sloan is back to round out the keystone combo at second. Sophomore Tye Keup, a top hitter last season will lead the defense from behind the plate.

Outfielders Jay Smith and Alex Gustafson bring back varsity experience. Cyrus Hurd returns from playing varsity at the hot corner of third base. Sophomore Braxton Hulstrom is a key starting pitcher and first baseman. Two-year starter Alex Davis will also handle first base.

Coach White is assisted by Gunner Spivey who pitched at Illinois College. BJ Hulstrom oversees the defense and is bench coach. Mike Louck works with the hitters and catchers.

Galva dropped its opener on Tuesday to Port Byron Riverdale, 9-1.

Louck scored Galva's lone run. The Wildcats managed five hits against Riverdale and Dowell-Keup had the lone RBI.

• **SC softball** – A youth movement is likely this season for Stark County softball.

The Rebels, who finished 4-26 last season, have only four seniors. The other 13 Stark County players are freshmen and sophomores.

Outfielders Emily Demetreon and Kenna Newton, first baseman Katie Grinnell and third baseman Hailey Peterson form the Stark County upperclass group. Returning starters in-

clude three sophomores – outfielder Sophia Finnegan, pitcher Brooklyn Ostrowski and shortstop Kenna Sparks.

“We have a talented freshman class and are looking to them to potentially fill important roles on defense,” Stark County Coach Amy Wise stated.

That group includes catcher Cambri Holmstrom, who appears to have earned a starting spot. Jacey Endress and Taylor Price are likely second-base candidates.

“The team has been working hard with a focus on hitting and accountability,” Wise stated. “They are trying to be more competitive and to improve on last year.”

Stark County was to play a home doubleheader Saturday vs. Kewanee.

• **Princeville baseball** – Princeville fell 7-1 at Tremont in its season opener on Monday. Tremont pitching and six errors by the Princes were factors in the decision.

Only Carter Peterson, who connected for a double, and Coley Palmer, who had a single, hit safely for the Princes.

Parker Dickinson tossed 2.2 frames, yielding four hits, four strikeouts and no earned runs. Logan Olshawsky's pitching line was 2.1 innings and two hits.

Despite the slow start, Princes Coach Brett Williams – in his 10th season as a head coach and second with PHS – is looking forward to 2025. The Princes suffered no graduation losses from the 2024 squad, which showed improvement.

Senior pitcher and infielder Dickinson paced the team in innings pitched and strikeouts. Williams said Dickinson is also a good defender up the middle with an improving bat. Olshawsky, also a senior, returns as a cleanup hitter and pitcher. Junior Noah Geiger is back to play outfield, pitch, bat leadoff and swipe bases.

Senior Jake Williams, shortstop and pitcher, paced the team in most offensive categories last season. He was an anchor at shortstop and led the team in pitching wins and ERA. Palmer, as a freshman, caught, pitched and played outfield.

“We could have a very dominant pitching staff. We showed flashes of

controlling some really good offenses but struggled with consistency and battling injury,” Coach Williams said.

• **ROWVA-Williamsfield** – Veteran coach Arnie Gonzalez returns to guide a ROWVA-Williamsfield team that has six returning starters along with two newcomers tabbed to make a difference.

Pitchers Drake DeJaynes, Brody Lytle and Jaxson Strom have experience to hold oppositions in check.

“We're expecting big stats from them this season. We do need them to stay healthy, which was a concern last year,” Gonzalez said.

Junior newcomer catcher Zander Vest looks to work the pitching staff behind the plate. Senior newcomer Talan Hull will play first base.

• **Princeville softball** – Returning for his second stint as Princeville coach is Chad Gardner, whose first stint was pretty successful. He had a record of 171-64 between 2013 and 2019, including a second-place 1A state finish in 2016 and third place the following year.

This year, Princeville returns four starters from a team that finished 11-17: catcher-shortstop Mekaya Cihla, outfielder Sierra Stahl, pitcher Claire Sutherland and infielder Leah Vaughn.

Sutherland pitched 10 of Princeville's victories last season, lost six times and had an ERA of 3.87. Cihla batted .373, Stahl .312.

Princeville's roster includes five freshmen and four sophomores, with two juniors and two seniors.

• **ROWVA-Williamsfield softball** – Five varsity starters return from a R-W team that finished 16-15 last season. Seniors Emma West and Tieler Williams-Fouts, juniors Riley Smith and Ella Rigg and sophomores Emerson Hannam and Hannah Gehring are the most experienced players.

Rigg batted .395 with 23 RBI last season. Gehring batted .349, and Smith batted .346 with a home run and 20 RBI. West had two homers.

• **Galva softball** – Coach Brad Jackson did not respond to multiple requests for information. Galva was scheduled to open its season Thursday at Monmouth-Roseville.

IHSA alters classification policies for 2025-26

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois High School Association Board of Directors approved three changes it hopes will address competitive equity and simplify the postseason classification process.

Last December, the board voted to alter the classification process from a two-year cycle to an annual cycle beginning in 2025-26. Additionally, the board issued a questionnaire to member schools in January to gain additional feedback on multiple topics.

Meeting on March 15, the board approved changes that will be used to determine classifications for the 2025-26 school year.

The IHSA intends to release fall and winter sport classifications by May 1.

“Competitive equity and classifications are a topical issue here in Illinois and for state associations around the country,” said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson.

The latest changes are:

• 1. Moving back to fixed classification cutoffs in 2025-26. IHSA sports and activities with multiple

classes will have predetermined enrollment classification cutoffs.

Enrollment cutoffs for each sport were determined by starting with the average classification cutoff from the past four years, then rounding up or down to nearest 50th or 100th. Some sports were then adjusted slightly based on class-participation trends over the past two years.

Under the new rules, football classes will still be determined at the end of the regular season.

Schools with enrollment under 300 will be in Class 1A for girls and boys basketball, baseball, softball and volleyball. Class 2A will be for schools with enrollments of 300-700 students.

The Class 1A cutoff in cross country is under 600; in golf it is under 500; in track and field it is under 450; in wrestling it is under 750.

• 2. The Board also voted to change the multiplier waiver process.

In 2005, IHSA member schools voted to implement a 1.65 multiplier on the classification enrollment of non-boundaried schools. Beginning in 2025-26, the automatic waiver

process will be eliminated and replaced by an annual waiver application. A baseline criteria was also established to judge if a team is eligible to apply for a waiver.

A sport or activity at a non-boundaried school is not eligible to apply for a waiver if, over the course of the previous three school terms, the program has achieved certain set levels of success.

• 3. Finally, the board voted to change the success adjustment.

The policy was initially implemented in 2014 and seeks to provide greater competitive equity for non-boundaried schools that achieve certain levels of success by moving them up in classification.

Beginning in 2025-26, the success adjustment policy will encompass a rolling three-year period. Entering each school year, if a team has won two state-final trophies in the past three years in a sport, they will then be subject to the adjustment and move up one class in that sport.

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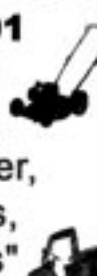
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Prairie News Sports



Ball sports begin

Stark County baseball opens with 8-4 win at Knoxville

By PHIL JOHNSON and NICK VLAHOS

For The Prairie News

The Stark County baseball team opened its season with an 8-4 win over Knoxville on Monday on the road.

Behind 2-1 going into the fifth inning, the Rebels scored four runs in that inning and added three more in the seventh.

Connor Down, Keegan Sparks and Kaedon Steelman combined to pitch 13 strikeouts for Stark County.

The three hurlers yielded a total of just four hits. The only downside for Stark County in the game was a total of six errors committed.

Wyatt Snider hit a triple to go with two RBI. Kaedon Steelman drove in a run. Dillon Steelman also drove in one run.

"Baserunning aggressiveness was a very big part of our scoring today. We are off to a great start for the season," said Coach Scott Paxson, who begins his ninth season as head baseball coach at Stark County and his 27th over-

Track Preview

Previews of the Stark County and Galva high school track teams will be printed in the March 28 issue of The Prairie News.

all in coaching the sport.

He is assisted by Cole Hartley (second season), Tim Giesenhagen (11th season), Michael Schott (first season) and Michael Wiley (first season). Jim Langdon, in his 11th season, is the junior varsity coach.

Graduated from 2024 are pitcher Tim Giesenhagen, pitching at Eureka College, and outfielder Charley Holstrom.

First team Lincoln Trail All-Conference third baseman and pitcher Dillon Steelman is one of several key returnees.

That list also includes senior shortstop Blair Daum and junior pitcher, catcher and second baseman Ben Browning.

Junior Connor Daum plays outfield and adds to pitching depth. Wyatt Snider is a sophomore who catches. Junior Chase Hol-

strom pitches and roams the outfield. Kaedon Steelman, a freshman, pitches and works in the infield.

Sophomore Connor Down is also a pitcher and infielder and Khaiden Turnbull works in the infield, outfield and behind the plate.

"We have overall depth at all positions due to the ability of our players to play multiple positions," Paxson said. "Our baserunning helped us succeed last season. We return a lot of experience in that area and our up coming players should add to that benefit."

"Team defense should again be a strength. We have greatly improved in this area over recent seasons and should be even better this season."

Paxson said his team will need to put the ball in play to succeed.

"We'll need newcomers to the lineup to be comfortable in their roles," he added. "It will be important for our pitchers to continue to throw strikes and our defense to be solid."

Continued on Page 11

Holy Trinity Food Sale

Spring 2025

Menu

Polish Sausage (Fresh) - \$6.00 / lb.	Kraut Pierogi - \$6.00 / dz.
Potato & Onion Pierogi - \$6.00 / dz.	Strawberry Pierogi - \$9.00 / dz.
Potato & Cheese Pierogi - \$6.00 / dz.	Blueberry Pierogi - \$9.00 / dz.

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Stark County Genealogical Society presents:

Stories of Stark County's Past

In the Words of Those Who Lived It

Featuring interviews with **Audrey Stapel** and **LeRoy Ehnlé** recorded in 2019. Also a short visit with **Dorothy Allen Cibulskis** at Old Settlers 2019 about growing up in Elmira.

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