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April 4, 2025  
 Vol. 22, No. 11

# The Prairie News

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## Wyoming DMV closed over safety concerns

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – The Wyoming Drivers and Motor Vehicles Facility at 107 E. Williams St. has been permanently closed due to concerns over criminal activity nearby.

State officials are working with the City of Wyoming to find a possible spot to relocate the facility, which closed abruptly on March 27. According to State Rep. Travis Weaver, use of a mobile unit is also a possibility.

“The government-affairs liaison for the Secretary of State said (the

closure) was due to criminal activity,” Weaver said. “The liaison also said that the Secretary of State can’t have this activity near the DMV and the facility is permanently closed at this location.

“Unfortunately, there has been ongoing criminal activity in the building where the DMV in Wyoming currently operates. Another tenant in the building has been



Deck

charged with criminal activity, which is entirely unrelated to the Secretary of State’s operations.”

Weaver said the decision to close was made on March 27 after Caleb A. Deck, 47, was arrested in front of the DMV building. Deck has been renting an apartment above the state office. He was also arrested there last Oct. 15 when the Stark County Sheriff’s Office found drugs, stolen items and a homemade explosive device in the apartment.

Keith Ratcliff is the owner of the building at 107 E. Williams St.,  
*Continued on Page 2*



Citing safety concerns, the Illinois Secretary of State closed its Drivers and Motor Vehicles Facility in Wyoming on March 27.

## KNOX COUNTY FARMER



Phil Goedeke of Yates City is one of the thousands of farmers in Illinois who make the big business of agriculture possible. Goedeke farms about 1,700 acres in Knox County and also raises cattle. Photo by Molly Richeson.

## Goedeke a face of Illinois farming

By MOLLY RICHESON

For The Prairie News

Illinois is farm country, ranked second in the nation for crop sales and third for agricultural commodity exports, according to the Illinois Farm Bureau.

Illinois is the second largest corn-producing state in the U.S., the largest grower of pumpkins

and soybeans and the largest producer of ethanol.

Beyond that there’s the state’s impact on wheat, oats, cattle, swine, apples, pears, sheep, goats and even hemp. The list of crops grown in Illinois goes on and on.

Approximately 76% of Illinois land is used to raise crops, and agriculture and its related indus-

tries support 6% of Illinois jobs. Obviously, farming is vital to the Illinois economy. But who are the people performing these essential functions and what are they like?

One is Phil Goedeke of Yates City, who has been farming since 1982 and works somewhere between 1,700-1,800 acres of corn  
*Continued on Page 5*

## Election results

### New mayor in Wyoming, Bradford

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

Wyoming and Bradford voters elected new leaders to direct their city and village boards.

In Wyoming, Jim Mercer received 70.6% of the votes cast to outpace incumbent Pat Maher, who received 26.9%, and Ian Potter, who was at 2.5%. The total vote count was 202 for Mercer, 77 for Maher and seven for Potter.

In Bradford, Sharon Cauthon received 55.4% of the vote for village president to defeat Tony Carlton, who received 44.6%. The actual vote count was 97-78. Incumbent president John Cler did not run for reelection, opting to serve as a village trustee instead.

Among other contested elections, Goshen Township voters selected four trustees out of a field of six

### Inside

• Morrisey Refrigeration of Wyoming was named the 2025 BrandSource Dealer of the Year for Maytag sales. Page 7.

candidates: Joe Winans (133 votes), Danny Blakey (132), Joe Day (121) and Bryan Down (113) were the winners ahead of Brad Nelson (46) and James Castagna (35).

Overall in Stark County, voter turnout was 27.4%, as 1,006 of 3,669 registered voters cast ballots.

Turnout was 19% in Henry County, where 6,792 ballots were cast.

In Galva, Douglas Anderson won a three-candidate race to be Alderperson for Ward 3. Anderson received 47% of the vote, or 118 votes, to out pace Sean  
*Continued on Page 2*

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The Prairie News is published every Friday (except one week in July and Dec. 25) by Lampe Publications LLC, 115 W. Main St., Elmwood, IL 61529.

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## DMV: Deck arrested for intimidation of official

*Continued from Page 1*

whose first floor is now vacant. In addition to the DMV, the building previously housed a hair salon that relocated to Toulon months ago. Ratcliff indicated the apartment may soon be vacant.

"I'm working on it with an attorney and the sheriff's office. We have to get people out of there," Ratcliff said. "The DMV is unhappy with me. They haven't paid the rent for a while and they aren't answering my phone calls."

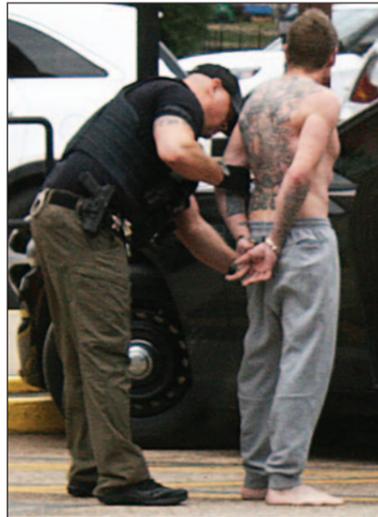
Ratcliff said the DMV hasn't paid rent since the police search of the apartment last October.

Ratcliff said he's unhappy and discouraged with the situation, adding, "I can't fault the DMV about the safety issue."

Ratcliff said last week's events caught him off guard.

According to Stark County Circuit Court testimony by Wyoming Police Chief Jim Tiller, three DMV employees had filed numerous complaints about witnessing alleged criminal activity by occupants of the apartment.

Deck was arrested for intimidation of a public official, a Class 3 felony charge that could be punishable by 2-5 years in prison. Tiller said in court that Deck and another man went to a Wyoming DMV employee's house about a quarter-mile



A Secretary of State Police officer handcuffs Caleb Deck on March 27 in Wyoming. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

from downtown on March 22, allegedly looking for a lost cat.

The employee said she became fearful after Deck allegedly intimidated her. She called the police after informing two other DMV employees, who also became fearful. Secretary of State Police were assigned to protect the DMV from March 24-27.

After Deck's arrest, the decision was made to close the facility.

Deck was transported on March 28 from the Bureau County Jail to Toulon's Stark County Circuit Court for a hearing in front of Judge James A. Mack.

Deck was read two new charges filed against him: domestic battery on March 3 and the March 22 charge of intimidation.

And Stark County State's Attorney Austin King petitioned the court to revoke Deck's pretrial release.

"He's a threat to the community and the incidents are escalating and are more violent," King said.

On Jan. 31, Mack had ruled that Deck no longer had to wear an ankle monitor, stemming from his October charges. Deck also had a curfew lifted on Dec. 20.

But Mack changed his mind on March 28. After a long pause to consider King's request, Mack revoked Deck's pre-release and said he will remain incarcerated until his trial.

Deck's arraignment on the two new charges is scheduled for Friday, April 4, along with a review and scheduling for his other cases. His trial date may be determined that day.

According to court documents, Deck committed domestic battery on March 3, a Class A misdemeanor. He also faces felony charges of burglary, theft and assault of a peace officer, two felony counts of being a felon in possession of ammunition, and multiple traffic violations.

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## ELECTION: Burke, Conrad and Funke win in Galva

*Continued from Page 1*  
O'Brien (39%, 98 votes) and Larry Ralph Lewis Clemons II (12%, 30).

Jayme Hopping won an uncontested race for Alderperson in Galva's Ward 1 and John Wirth won an uncontested race for Alderperson in Ward 2.

In a contested race with

four candidates for three spots on the Galva CUSD 224 School Board, winners were Laura Burke (46%, 391 votes), Kaleena Conrad (45%, 381) and Brady Ann Funke (38%, 322), who finished ahead of Stephanie Orlando (37%, 311).

In the race for two six-year positions as Black

Hawk College trustee, voters elected incumbent Douglas L. Strand of East Moline and candidate Mark Carlson of Moline. According to unofficial election results from Bureau, Henderson, Henry, Knox, Marshall, Mercer, Rock Island, Stark and Whiteside counties, Carlson led with 12,473 votes

while Strand received 11,612. Douglas Nelson of Moline received 9,402 votes and Jon A. Looney of Kewanee had 9,120 votes.

In the race for Illinois Central College trustee, voters could choose two candidates for a full six-year term.

Winners were Kim Armstrong (29.5%, 8,868 votes) and Gale Thetford (28.5%, 8,566 votes) ahead of Diane Unes Lamb (22.98%, 6,919) and Christine Bare-Kemper (19.12%, 5,756).

All results are unofficial.

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**PUBLIC RECORD**

**Traffic citations & Ordinance violations**

3-30 - Hunter J. Garretts - Unlawful use of cannabis.

**Misdemeanors & Felonies**

2-25 - Felony - Leslie F. Prozzo - Possession of methamphetamine.

2-22 - Steven J. Earthely - Domestic battery/physical contact.

3-30 - DUI - Jared C. Dougherty - Driving under the influence BAC .08 2 counts, uninsured vehicle and improper turn signal.

**Incidents & Accidents Stark County**

3-15 - Jeremy W. Stevens, 31, of Dahinda was involved in a single-vehicle accident on Illinois Route 78 north of 500N. Stevens was transported by Stark County Ambulance to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. He was later ticketed for driving an uninsured vehicle and for improper lane usage. Damage to a power pole was also reported in conjunction with the accident and the 2002 Ford Mustang sustained damage estimated at over \$1,500.

3-25 - Sandra J. Garant, 38, Peoria, was cited for obstructing identification, possession of drug paraphernalia, five counts of possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of a hypodermic syringe. She was released with a court date to appear.

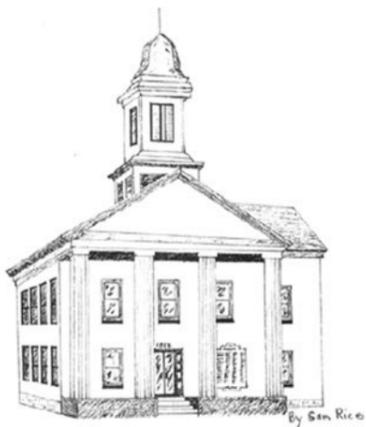
3-26 - Melvin O. Rodriguez Espinoza, 19, Wyoming, was cited for illegal transportation of alcohol and illegal possession of adult-use cannabis by a driver. He was released with a court date and his vehicle was towed to the Stark County impound.

3-27 - Employees from the Wyoming Casey's General Store requested assistance from authorities to ban six individuals from the local business.

3-30 - Jared C. Dougherty, 28, Toulon, was arrested for driving under the influence, driving under the influence with a blood alcohol content over .08, failure to signal and driving without vehicle insurance. His truck was towed to the Stark County impound. He was released with a court date.

**Peoria County report**

3-31 - Daphne King, 23, of Wyoming was arrested at 10 a.m. and accused of failure to appear in court, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.



**Galva Report**

**Officer dispatched:**

3-24 - to Wiley Park to recover a drone. A Galva resident had been using a drone that got stuck in a tree in the park. The drone was returned to its owner.

3-24 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen who appeared to be suffering from a mental health crisis.

3-24 - again to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen who appeared to be suffering from a mental health crisis.

3-24 - again to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen who appeared to be suffering from a mental health crisis.

3-24 - to the 100 block of NW 6th Ave. for a two-vehicle accident with damage only that occurred in a driveway. A crash report was completed.

3-24 - to the 00 block of NE 4th Ave. for a child custody dispute.

3-25 - to a residence on NW 5th Ave. to assist Stark County Medic with a medical emergency.

3-25 - to the 300 block of SW 7th St. for an animal complaint involving a dog that barks excessively.

3-26 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a disturbance. The subject was taken by ambulance for a mental-health evaluation.

3-26 - to a residence on SW 4th St. for a welfare check. The subject was fine.

3-26 - to the 100 block of NE 6th St. for a complaint of telephone harassment/threats.

3-27 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a disturbance. The subject appeared to be suffering a mental-health crisis.

3-27 - again to the 00 block of SW 4th Street for a disturbance. The subject appeared to be suffering a mental-health crisis.

3-27 - to the 00 block of NW 3rd St. to assist a motorist. The subject had run out of fuel and had a friend bring a small can and get him back

on his way.

3-27 - to the 500 block of SE 2nd St. for a hit-and-run accident. A suspect vehicle fled the area and was not located. A crash report was completed.

3-27 - to meet with a subject at the Galva Police Department who was requesting copies of reports through the Freedom of Information Act.

3-28 - to the 200 block of SE 1st Ave. to assist a motorist whose vehicle was disabled. The truck was pushed off the side of the roadway and a wrecker was called to remove it.

3-28 - along with the fire department to 300 North, just east of County Highway 5, for a fully engulfed vehicle. The occupants were able to get out but the car was completely destroyed.

3-29 - to Wiley Park around 2 a.m. for a complaint involving a group of juveniles climbing onto the roof of the pavilion. The officer was not able to locate anyone.

3-29 - to the 500 block of SW 4th St. for a loose-dog complaint. The animal owner took the dog back inside and was warned about the Illinois leash law.

3-29 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 500 block of SE 2nd St., Michael Huggins, 44, Kewanee, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. He was released with a court date.

3-30 - While conducting a park check, the officer located broken windows at the Washington Park restroom building. This remains under investigation.

3-30 - to assist Stark County Medic at a residence on SE 6th Ave. for a subject who was hallucinating and suffering from a mental health crisis.

3-30 - to the 00 block of NE 6th St. for a 911 hang-up complaint. It was a small child playing with a parent's phone.

3-30 - again to a residence on SE 6th Ave. for a subject suffering from a mental health crisis.

**Property Transfers**

3-27 - Amanda and Michael A. Powell to Melissa O'Dea - Original Town of Wyoming - Pts. Block 10 Lots 4,7,8,9 - 206 W. Smith St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$95,000.

3-28 - Betty Burwell to Brandon Simpson - Pt. Lot 8 Bd Sweet's Resub. of Lot 16 Assr's Sub. Sect. 24-13-5 SE - 429 W. Main St., Toulon - Consideration = \$24,115.

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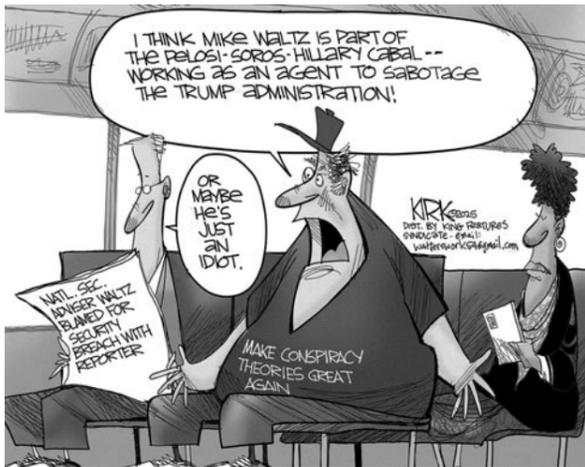
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**GUEST VOICES**



**Proposed Illinois mascot bill is not beneficial**

Letter to the Editor:

I wanted to share my thoughts on a March 20 article in The Weekly Post about Brimfield High School possibly having to change its mascot due to a bill making its way through the Illinois House of Representatives.

I have been a native of Illinois my 62 years within the nation of the United States of America. I am aware of both political constructs' benefits and downfalls.

The genocide of the American Indian is a reality. However, it is the national government that afforded the funds to wipe out the bison and the administration of President Andrew Jackson that created The Trail of Tears.

Yes, it is true the country was also founded by hand-to-hand combat between settlers and natives. History up to this time is the story of this. All of us can trace our ancestry back to either being the tribe picking on someone or the tribe being picked upon.

Although the action of genocide toward the American Indian is a reality, is not extinguishing them from our collective consciousness the final act of genocide? I attended the University of Illinois, and the celebration of Chief Illiniwek and appreciating his costume was never an act of celebrating conquest but of appreciating the natural history of Illinois.

I have been watching Illini football since the time of Danny Beaver kicking field goals. Often, the Chief's dance was the only thing worth watching.

I grew up in Knoxville and my wife attended Knox College. In the 1990s, the nickname Siwash was removed and the Knox mascot is now the Prairie Fire. Siwash was popularized in the late 1800s and was a term used by the French traders to describe the Indians.

It was a bastardized form of "sauvage." French traders thought the Indians fought dirty and called them savages. The name, though, does reflect back to a memory of Native Americans.

What does Prairie Fire mean? Burn it all down!

The Washington Redskins were a national reminder of the Native American. How about the Kansas City Chiefs or the Florida State Seminoles? It is my understanding the Seminole tribe appreciates its affiliation with Florida State University.

Allegedly, House Bill 1237 is a bill to protect the sensitivities of Native Americans within the state



of Illinois. However, I am of the opinion it is another form of the debt-spending state creating more controls and causing expenses that are neither necessary nor beneficial for the local school or for the memory of Native Americans.

The bill is, however, beneficial for the legislators. They burden in this case a local school that has no need to spend another \$250,000 unnecessarily, and they eliminate the history of Indians from the collective conscious to replace it with some inorganic state mandate.

– **Stuart Hickerson**, Williamsfield

**Signalgate shows it's time for a change**

To the Editor:

My letter to The Weekly Post following the 2024 election expressed my concern for our country's future due to President Trump's picks for cabinet posts being appointed persons not having the qualifications for these posts. I feared that there would be policy decisions that would have disastrous results.

The decision by several members of the Trump team to use Signal chat to detail the attack plan for a military operation in Yemen presented a security breach that could have put our pilots at risk.

I agree with U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth that it's already time for housecleaning and a serious improvement in the quality of our national leadership.

– **George Tanner**, Yates City

**USAID among things making America great**

To the Editor:

What makes America Great? As a nation and as citizens we believe in telling the truth. We expect people to tell the truth. We honor our contracts and agreements. We are reliable: what we say we will do, we do. If we make a mistake, we admit it and do better the next time.

Our Constitution protects "persons": citizens, those on green cards, visitors to the United States - whatever their specific category or status might be. As a person within the United States, our Constitution provides one's minimal rights, proper notice and the right to be

heard.

Our parents taught us to treat others as we wish to be treated, not to speak ill of our neighbor and not to publicly disparage another, particularly as to matters that affect one's ability to earn a living. When struck in the face, we exhibit restraint and turn the other cheek, to a reasonable extent.

We give the other guy a chance and aid the needy. We respect those who put on a uniform, defending our country and assist veterans who return disabled.

We protect and nurture children, our nation's most valuable resource. An educated person benefits all society. We pay real estate tax to support community services, including the schools.

Where schools perform well, home values improve. Every child must have at least a basic education, to earn a living and participate in civil society. Parents are a child's most important teacher and we aim to keep families together. We respect those who earn their way up the ladder.

To summarily fire federal employees, without notice, putting them on the street, is not America. Many have spouses, children, mortgage payments, taxes to pay and all the expense of raising their children.

To put seniors at risk, is not America.

To put a finger in the eye of our friends and allies is not America.

To require compensation for helping others is not America.

The U.S. government's mission is to keep order, protect the rights of all people, apply the rule of law, defend against attack and cooperate with other nations, particularly our allies who have helped us in the past. The American government is not a profit-making business. Our leaders serve to advance the common good, not to benefit themselves.

USAID from the American people, the Peace Corps, student scholar and business exchanges, helping to eradicate disease throughout the world - that's what makes America great.

Elmhurst, Illinois

– **Joe Vosicky**, Elmhurst

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

# GOEDEKE: Farm bureaucracy a headache

*Continued from Page 1*  
and soybeans along with raising 90 cows and their calves.

And he's not the first Goedeke to farm. Not by a long shot. There are four generations of Goedeques who have worked the land. Both sets of Phil's grandparents farmed, as do his parents and his two sons, Michael and Matt.

His father's parents moved to the area in 1956, living on a rented farm south of Yates City. In 1975, Phil's parents (Merrill and Trudy Goedeke) bought a farm in Maquon, where they were joined by Merrill's parents, who lived on the property until the early 1980s.

Now 81, Merrill is still actively involved and feeds the cows every day while also processing silage and hay in a tub grinder. Even Trudy, also 81, will man the tub grinder now and again when she's not busy doing tax returns for her customers.

Beyond tending livestock, there's plenty more to do. Farming isn't just planting and harvesting. Grain must be hauled to the elevators and trucking is involved. There is fertilizer to apply and herbicides to spray, equipment to fix and timelines to meet.

But there's also politics and red tape to get through. There's book-keeping, insurance and marketing, new technologies, certifications to acquire and regulations to accommodate.

"You have to pay attention all the time to what's going on. You've got to do your lobbying so you can protect yourself," Phil Goedeke says. "It's not as simple as putting something in the ground or feeding something every day. It's actually a business, and you've got to pay a lot of attention to what's going on around you."

The bureaucracy of farming is the part he finds most aggravating. Even things like a new employee onboarding at a company Goedeke works with can result in significant delays in his business.

Last spring, when Goedeke's commercial spraying license was due to be renewed, he went to Springfield and took his tests while also submitting his insurance information.

After a longer wait than usual, he contacted the state and was told that

his insurance didn't meet the criteria for his license.

"This is the same insurance I've sent them since 1990," Goedeke recalls. "I've never changed companies."

As it turns out, his insurance company had hired a new director who did not like the wording of the insurance policy.

"So here I am needing to spray, and legally I can't even buy the stuff," Goedeke says.

After getting in contact with his insurance company and having the underwriters rewrite the language of the policy, the issue was finally resolved ... in August.

This year all the talk of tariffs is another issue farmers have been tracking, Goedeke included.

"Everything depends on what happens across the water," he says. "That dictates what we're doing. I'm not anti-Trump but this tariff deal ... Last time, I think it needed to happen, I think adjustments needed to be made and I think part of it was good, but I don't know what's going to happen now with all this tariff stuff."

Another thing that frustrates Goedeke is hearing comments about how much money farmers must have.

"We've got lots of bills, lots of investments. We have our struggles as well," he says. "The difference is our bills are probably bigger than most bills."

Farm bills can include rent, seed, chemicals, trucking, drying costs, fertilizer, fuel, feed, insurance costs and taxes, among other expenditures. Giving an example, for someone farming 1,000 acres at \$500 per acre to put in a crop, that's half a million dollars. That doesn't include combines, planters and tractors that can cost as much as \$300,000-\$400,000 each when new.

In 2023, the highest auction price on a used combine was \$621,000. In 2014, that number was \$340,000. In 2004, it was \$140,000. That's a 183% increase in 10 years, or a 444% increase in 20 years.

"This whole cycle has gotten out of hand and is unbelievable and I don't know where it stops," Goedeke says. "That's the part that bothers me. Our inputs are high, they haven't come

down. Where is it going to stop?"

To get more involved in his industry, Goedeke became vice president of the Knox County Farm Bureau (District IV) two years ago. Prior to that, he had served as a board member since 2016.

"We have a very diversified board," he says of the Farm Bureau. "We have several ag retail people and people that work in the ag field. We have a lot of (exclusive) farmers and a lot of farmers that also work outside of the farm, too."

He describes the Farm Bureau as a grassroots organization, starting from the township level, then spreading to the counties, the state and then to the American Farm Bureau.

"So it starts at the grassroots level. Well, a few times in the past few years, they seem to think it runs the other way, and that's not exactly how it is," Goedeke says. "It's been interesting."

Despite the politics, Goedeke feels good about what he does at the end of the day.

"You've got to like what you're doing," he says. "My favorite time of the year is harvest because you get to reap the benefits of what you've worked at all year. When the crop comes up, there's a feeling of accomplishment."

Additionally, he describes himself and most of his peers as down to earth, understanding and willing to work through a situation or problem.

"We try to do the right things. We're safety-conscious about things," he says. "We want to be profitable, but at the same time, we want to be safe. That's what it's about. You always want to come home to your family at night."

When he's not in the field or the pens, Goedeke likes to spend his time traveling on his Harley, spending time with his children and significant other, as well as his two young grandchildren.

He's been involved in the trucking business on and off for 25-30 years.

He has also been on the Elba-Salem Fire Department for 40 years and served as fire chief for 10 of those years.

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**Saturday April 19th**

**9:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

Bradford Fire House Meeting Room

Cost: \$5.00 - Includes pancakes, fruit and beverage.

**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

Promptly at 10:45 a.m.

at the baseball diamond

**CITY OF WYOMING**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REVISED BURN ORDINANCE**

**An Ordinance to Amend Regulations Regarding Open Burning**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Wyoming, Stark County, Illinois, are duly empowered by authority provided for Municipal Government in the Illinois Compiled Statutes to amend or establish policy and regulations for the City of Wyoming that provide and protect the community public health, safety and welfare within the corporate boundaries of the City; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council deem it necessary to establish an open burning policy that will provide a standard for community environmental public health, safety and welfare for the City's residents; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Ordained by the Mayor and City Council of the CITY OF WYOMING, Stark County, Illinois as follows:

**Section 1. DEFINITIONS:** The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

**Section 2:** It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow open burning in the City, except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance.

**Section 3:** It shall be unlawful to burn trash, garbage, plastic products, construction materials, such as treated lumber and roofing material or other hazardous waste.

**Section 4:** The burning of landscape waste shall be permitted:

- Only on premises on which waste is generated,
- Only if attended at all times,
- Only between 8:00 a.m. and dusk,
- Only leaves and tree limbs can be burned, not grass,
- Not during times of excessive winds,
- Not during drought conditions which present an excessive risk for spreading of the open fire,
- Not during a water shortage or other emergency,
- Not before 4 p.m. on any day school is in session within a two block radius of the Stark County Grade School. (Ord. 07/08-1, 5-14-2007)

**Section 5:** The maintenance and use of camp fires and barbecue grills for cooking purposes only shall not be prohibited by this Ordinance except that said camp fires or barbecue grills shall be extinguished immediately after their use for cooking purposes and said camp fires and barbecue grills shall otherwise comply with the requirements of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the rules and regulations of the Illinois Pollution Control Board and the IEPA.

**Section 6:** Open burning of landscape waste on public streets, alleys, highways, public sidewalks, drainage ditches and storm sewer grates shall be prohibited.

**Section 7:** Nothing herein contained shall apply to a fire or open burning conducted by the Wyoming Fire Protection District pursuant to the rules and regulations of the State Fire Marshall.

**Section 8. PENALTY:** Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50) but not more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for each offense; and a separate offense shall be deemed committed each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues.

**Section 9:** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and publication as provided by law.

**BRADFORD HEAVY TRASH PICK UP**

Heavy Trash pick-up will be the week of  
April 14, 2025 thru April 18, 2025

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE OUT BY SUNDAY APRIL 13th, 2025**

**THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE PICK UP PER HOME WITH NO RETURN TRIPS WITH FEE OF \$40.00 PER HOUSEHOLD TO BE PAID AT VILLAGE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, April 11th, 2025.**

**ONCE YOUR STREET HAS BEEN PICKED-UP EMPLOYEES WILL NOT RETURN!**

**NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE PICKED-UP ON HEAVY TRASH**

HEAVY TRASH CONSISTS OF ITEMS NOT NORMALLY PUT OUT FOR REGULAR TRASH DAY PICKUP. TRASH AND GARBAGE FOR THE WEEKLY TRASH PICKUP SHOULD NOT BE PLACED WITH ITEMS FOR HEAVY TRASH PICKUP. Village discretion on all of the following.

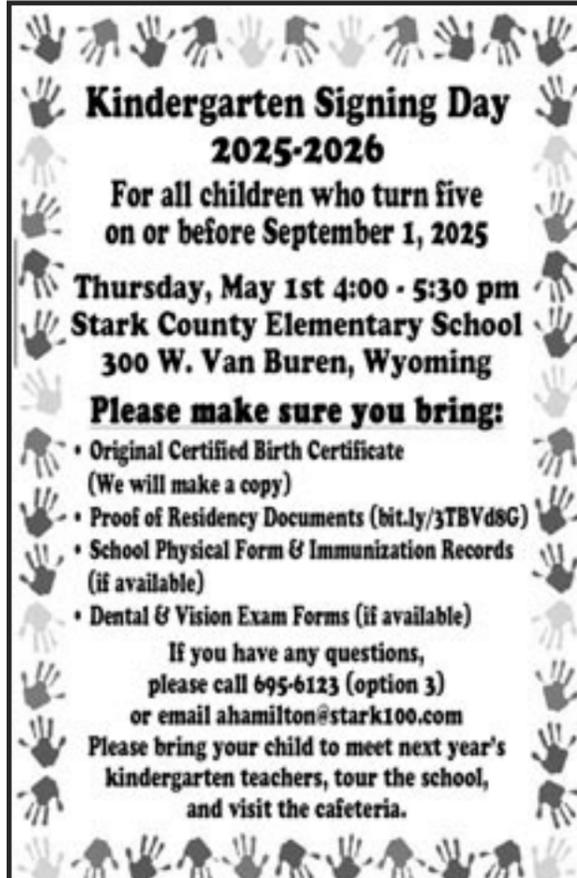
**The following items will NOT be picked up:**  
Tires, batteries, wire or fencing, kitchen waste, landscape waste or brush, Chemicals, petroleum products, lumber, bricks, cement or cement products, demolition items (laths, plaster, shingles, etc.) Or recycling items

**Special Notes:**

- Metal items are to be kept separate and rods or poles must not exceed 4 feet in length.
- Paint cans must have lids removed, be dry and empty.
- Items are to be placed at curbside in such a manner that special Cleanup is not required.
- Individuals having contract work done must require the contractor to Dispose of material themselves. E. No burn barrel waste, or waste brought into the Village.
- Limited piles per household (Standard Pick-up load 5x8) only.
- Payment Non-refundable.

Heavy Trash Payment cannot be included with water bill Payment!

**If You Have Any Questions call**  
**Jim Chadwick at 309 238-2073**



**Kindergarten Signing Day**

**2025-2026**

**For all children who turn five on or before September 1, 2025**

**Thursday, May 1st 4:00 - 5:30 pm**

**Stark County Elementary School**

**300 W. Van Buren, Wyoming**

**Please make sure you bring:**

- Original Certified Birth Certificate (We will make a copy)
- Proof of Residency Documents ([bit.ly/3TBVd8G](http://bit.ly/3TBVd8G))
- School Physical Form & Immunization Records (if available)
- Dental & Vision Exam Forms (if available)

**If you have any questions, please call 695-6123 (option 3) or email [ahamilton@stark100.com](mailto:ahamilton@stark100.com)**

**Please bring your child to meet next year's kindergarten teachers, tour the school, and visit the cafeteria.**

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**BRIEFS**

**Galva UMC will host ham dinner on April 13**

GALVA – The Galva First United Methodist Church is hosting a Palm Sunday dinner on April 13 from 4-6 p.m. that includes baked ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, apple sauce, rolls, dessert and a drink for \$10 per meal or \$5 for children under 6.

This is the church's annual fundraiser for building and maintenance improvements.

Meal delivery is available to Galva residents. Orders can be placed by calling (309) 932-2460 by noon on April 11. Please leave a message with name, address and phone number. Orders may also be placed on April 13 from 2-3:30 p.m.

Community members who would like to be welcome to cook, serve, or donate a dessert.

**Meetings for bereaved parents begin April 14**

BRADFORD – Parents Supporting Parents is a new support group for parents who have lost a child or children. The first group session will be held at the Bradford American Legion on April 14 at 7 p.m.

Support meetings will be hosted by Maria Martinez in honor of her son, PFC Edward Jerome "Lalo" Martinez. Martinez, an Active Gold Star Mother, is an registered nurse, care manager and clinical nurse Specialist. She received her training and Dare to Lead certificate through the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.

Martinez hopes to bring together parents and grandparents in an environment of love, respect, compassion and understanding to share and to listen to each other's grief experiences. Through mutual support in a safe environment, participants can develop friendships as they honor every child lost too soon.

The group will meet on the second Monday of each month at the Bradford Legion. If you are interested in attending and possibly joining this group, please send your RSVP to Maria Martinez at (309) 229-7289 by April 11. Or email her at maria702727@gmail.com with questions or comments concerning the upcoming meetings. RSVPs are requested but not required.

– Angie Stange

**Bishop Hill hosts annual book fair April 12**

BISHOP HILL – The Bishop Hill Creative Commons will host its fifth annual Bishop Hill Book Fair on Saturday, April 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 309 Bishop Hill St.

Guests can meet local authors who will talk about their work. Aspiring writers can visit with local authors working in a variety of genres. Books will be available for purchase and can be signed by the following 17 local writers: Amanda McNeill, Carol Paur, Dan Moore, Grace McCormick, Jackie Lawson, Jannifer Powelson, Jill Maglio Ryan, Karen Musser Nortman, Ketra Simpson, Marie Smysor Watson, Mary Davidsaver, Misty Urban, Nadine Roth, Robert Glaser,

Sharon Meisenheimer, Susan Pierson, Mike Bayles, and Thomas McKay.

This event is free. A portion of proceeds from book sales will go to the local nonprofit organization Cultural Crossroads Connections. For more information, please email jannifer.powelson@gmail.com.

**Illinois gun rights seek review of state laws**

SPRINGFIELD – Gun rights advocates in Illinois are asking the U.S. attorney general to come and review how the state may be violating residents' Second Amendment rights.

Attorney General Pam Bondi was recently quoted saying the Second Amendment is not a second-class right after investigating delays in gun permits being issued in California. She said the U.S. Department of Justice will not stand idly by while states and localities infringe on the Second Amendment rights of ordinary, law-abiding Americans.

Illinois State Rifle Association's Ed Sullivan said they've been in talks with the Trump administration.

"I think it's timely that Attorney General Bondi would want to come in and talk to us," Sullivan told The Center Square.

Several Illinois gun laws, including the state's ban on certain guns and the Firearm Owner's ID card, are tied up in federal and state litigation.

– The Center Square

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**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.

**Pick-up Day**  
 May 3, 2025 • 10 AM-2 PM  
 Last Day to Order - April 20, 2025

**Holy Trinity NCC**  
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 www.kewaneeptncc.org  
 To Order Call: Nan Cramer - (574) 329-9292  
 Laura Kubiak - (309) 525-0849  
 Carol Entas - (309) 853-6605  
 Or, E-mail: holytrinitykewanee@yahoo.com

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 309-264-3405

# Morrisseys win Dealer of the Year award

For The Prairie News  
NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Morrissey Refrigeration of Wyoming was named the 2025 BrandSource Dealer of the Year for the Maytag Channel.

Brothers Bill and Joe Morrissey were honored at the buying group’s awards ceremony, held during the buying group’s Summit 2025 show in Nashville.

The Morrissey’s business was launched in 1959 by their father Ray, a Navy veteran who repaired commercial refrigeration, dairy farm milk tanks and residential appliances.

In 1977 the company opened a retail store, run by their mom Dorothy, which carried Amana and later Maytag and Whirlpool appliances. Their parents have since passed on, and today Bill and Joe run the Whirlpool-exclusive store along with Bill’s wife Karen.

“We know mom and dad are both looking down proudly,” Bill said of their Dealer of the Year award. “We are blessed to have the work ethic and commitment instilled in us by our parents.”

The Morrissey’s also attribute much of their company’s success to its membership in Brand-

Source. “Joining BrandSource was one of the best business decisions we ever made,” Bill said. “We look forward to the conventions and summits where you are surrounded by people who love their jobs as much as you do. You learn that others have some of the same problems and you learn how they handle them.”

“You find out that your problems aren’t so big after all. It’s good therapy.”

The BrandSource Dealer of the Year awards are presented annually to members like Morrissey Refrigeration who have



Karen and Bill Morrissey of Morrissey Refrigeration of Wyoming receive BrandSource’s Maytag Region Dealer of the Year Award at the 2025 Summit in Nashville, Tenn.

demonstrated a continued commitment to excellence in the retail industry and to their fellow Brand-

Source dealers. Winners are selected by the members within each of the group’s 14 divisions.

**April 13, 2025 PALM SUNDAY HAM DINNER**  
4:00 - 6:30pm  
**GALVA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
214 NW 2ND AVE. (corner of NW 2nd Ave. & 2nd St.)  
DINE-IN, CARRY-OUT, OR DELIVERY

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

*Requesting Delivery of Dinners Call: 932-2460 by Fri. Noon, April 11, and leave a message stating how many dinners you will need delivered with your name, address w/apt. number, & phone number. If you didn't get your delivery order in by Friday, Noon, April 11, no problem, just call the day of the dinner from 2 - 3:30 p.m. to 932-3255 or 309-507-2284.*

*Invite your family and friends to join you!*

This is our church’s annual fundraiser with the money raised to be used for building improvements and maintenance - Galva First UMC, 214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL

**Price: \$10.00 per meal per adult and children up to 6 yrs of age \$5.00 per meal.**

*Palm Sunday*

**GOLF MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL!**

LAKE CALHOUN COUNTRY CLUB

NOW THROUGH APRIL 30, 2025 WE ARE OFFERING GOLF MEMBERSHIPS AT HALF-PRICE!\*

**Family membership NOW \$427.50**  
**Single membership NOW \$327.50**  
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**Distant membership NOW \$180.00**

(Must live a minimum of 45 miles from course to qualify for a distant membership.)  
\* (Does not include cart. Must have not been a member within the last three years. Payment by check or cash only. No credit cards.)  
Prior to April 1st, contact Linda at (309) 932-9067 for more information and an application. After April 1st, contact Linda or LCCC at (309) 995-3343.

**Community Meeting**  
**Monday, April 7**  
**6 p.m.**

Helping Hands

**Bradford Firehouse**  
**Community Room**

**It's time to start planning for**  
**Labor Day 2025, Christmas Walk 2025**  
**and more!!**

**All are welcome!**  
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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](mailto:info@thegathering.life)  
web: <https://www.thegathering.life/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

### 1st Congregational Church of Toulon

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

### Galva Congregational Church

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

### First Baptist Church

"faith in truth"

211 NW 4th Ave GALVA  
Main Service: Sun 10:30  
Rev. Bryan Griem, Pastor  
(309) 932-2713 • [GalvaBaptistChurch.com](http://GalvaBaptistChurch.com)

### Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491  
Rev. Shawna Marsh  
Sunday School: 10:00, All ages  
Sunday Worship: 11:00

Wednesday Night Fellowship & Prayer 5:30  
Kids Club 309 5:15 checkin to 7:00 p.m.  
Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

### First Congregational Church

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](mailto:pastor@toulonbaptist.com)  
[www.ToulonBaptist.com](http://www.ToulonBaptist.com)

[www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon](http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon)  
Call us for Salvation Army Assistance

### St. Timothy Lutheran Church

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

### Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL  
Casual, family friendly

Rev. Katie Gallagher

Wednesday: 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](mailto:messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com)

1-309-932-3346

Facebook: Messiah Lutheran—Galva, IL

### Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart  
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434

(309) 932-2460

[preachinghope@gmail.com](mailto:preachinghope@gmail.com)

[galvafirst@gmail.com](mailto:galvafirst@gmail.com)

Sunday Worship: 9:00

### Holy Trinity National Catholic Church

Father John Cramer

716 N. Tremont, Kewanee, IL

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

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](mailto:WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com)

Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

### Bradford Leet United Methodist Church

### Boyd's Grove United Methodist Church

Leet UMC 118 E. Main St., Bradford, IL 61421

Services on Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Boyd's Grove UMC 1976 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](mailto:thewrights62@hotmail.com)

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## OBITUARIES

### Alja J. Rashid

KEWANEE – Alja Jane Rashid, 87, of Kewanee, died at 8:05 a.m., Thursday, March 27, 2025 at home, surrounded by her family.

She was born June 9, 1937 in Davenport, Iowa, the daughter of Jack and Alice Marjorie (Wagner) Isenhardt. She met her husband James F. Rashid while attending the University of Iowa. They married and he later preceded her in death on June 28, 2012.

Surviving are three sons, Brian (Kathy) Rashid of Bettendorf, Iowa, Paul (Cathleen) Rashid of Neponset and James Rashid of Kewanee; two daughters, Adeeba Rashid and DeEtte (Scott) Stauffer, both of Kewanee; a daughter-in-law, Lisa Rashid of Kewanee; a brother, Jon (Roxanne) Isenhardt of Colorado; a sister, Jacquelin Flaherty of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 16 grandchildren, Nathan, Jake, Tawnie and Tori, Ashley and Jamie, Rachel, Tytus and Zebulon, Chelsey, Jessalyn, Donnie and Brooke and Nichole, Colton and Caleb; and 16 great-grandchildren with another one on the way.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and her son, Tony Rashid.

Alja graduated from Davenport Central High School. She received her teaching degree from Coe College in Cedar Rapids and met her husband at the University of Iowa. Together, they opened Jimal's in 1967, a very successful eating establishment in Toulon.

She also had been a Girl Scout and Boy Scout leader. She was an avid nature and animal lover who enjoyed the mountains, Indian culture and lore, gardening, nurseries, antiques, traveling and going to zoos. First and foremost, she loved her family and cherished the time spent with them. She especially enjoyed attending their sporting events and activities.

Private services will be held at Rux Funeral Home in Kewanee with Deacon Michael Crummer officiating. Memorials may be directed to the Henry County Humane Society-Kewanee Chapter or to the Wildlife Prairie Park.

### 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.

### Ruth E. Youngberg

GALVA – Ruth Elizabeth (Cromien) Youngberg, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, passed away peacefully on Feb. 20, 2025.

Born in Kewanee, Ill., Ruth grew up on a farm in Galva alongside her six siblings. She attended Cromien Community School and graduated from Galva High School in 1951. Following high school, Ruth pursued her calling as a nurse, attending Saint Frances School of Nursing in Kewanee, a career in which she took immense pride.

In the 1960s, Ruth moved to Arizona, where she raised her four children Mike, Teresa, Doug and Kathleen. She treasured time with family and spent summers camping across most of the United States, creating unforgettable memories on their travels.

She dedicated her career to caring

for others, first as a labor and delivery nurse at Northwest Hospital and later as a beloved school nurse at Mitchell School, where she found a second family.

Sports were at the heart of Ruth's life. She played softball for the Sweat Servicettes, was a fierce competitor in the legendary Cromien Olympics and remained an enthusiastic sports fan throughout her life. She cheered passionately for Notre Dame, held season tickets for Arizona State University football and the Phoenix Suns for many years, and never missed an opportunity to support her family in competition.

She traveled far and wide to watch her children and grandchildren compete, from the youth leagues through their collegiate careers. Whether she was playing or cheering from the stands, Ruth's competitive spirit and love for sports never wavered.

Ruth is survived by her brother John Cromien; her children, Mike (Christina) Youngberg, Teresa (Lee) Youngberg and Doug (Lori) Youngberg; her grandchildren, Matthew (Kayla) Haeger, Kayce (Drew) Bryck, Lauren Haeger, Shawn (Jacqueline) Youngberg, and Jena (Brandon) Rogers; and her great-grandchildren, Adelyn Haeger, Jane Rogers and Kieran Bryck.

She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Anna Cromien; her siblings, Mary Terry, Bernie Cromien, Margaret Schula, Rosemary Kempin and Leo Cromien; and her beloved daughter, Kathleen Haeger and son-in-law, Fred Haeger.

A Mass of Remembrance was held at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Glendale, Ariz., on March 13, followed by a luncheon at her son's home. She will be laid to rest on July 2 at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Kewanee.

Ruth's kindness, dedication, and unwavering love for her family and sports will be deeply missed. Her legacy lives on in the lives she touched and the memories she created.

### Lois E. Munoz

KEWANEE – Lois E. (Yarger) Munoz, 93, of Kewanee, died March 27, 2025 in the emergency room at OSF Saint Luke Medical Center in Kewanee.

She was born on Feb. 8, 1932, in Burns Township, the daughter of Fay Lester and Cora Bessie (Cosner) Yarger. Survivors include her three daughters, Dianna (Tim) Olson of Toulon, Cheryl (Brent) Majeske of Kewanee and Jennifer (Todd) Kelly of Normal; her brother, Howard Yarger of Mendota, seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

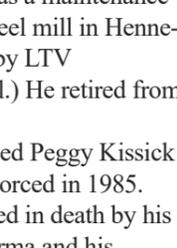
Cremation will be accorded and a graveside service will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, April 4, in Evergreen Memorial Gardens in rural Kewanee.



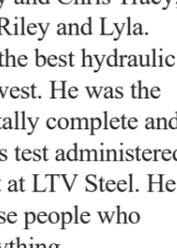
Rashid



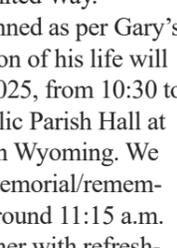
Tracy



Youngberg



Tracy



Munoz

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[ruxfuneral@yahoo.com](mailto:ruxfuneral@yahoo.com)



**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

# River system affected by 'weather whiplash'

By PHYLLIS COULTER

FarmWeek

Weather has changed over the past century when much of the river infrastructure was built, according to Madelynn Wuestenberg, Iowa State University Extension weather and climate specialist.

The Mississippi River Basin has received an increase in annual precipitation with more coming in heavy rainfall events. There has been a 25% increase in the amount of precipitation coming in heavy rainfall events in the 2000s alone, she said during the March 19 annual meeting of the Upper Mississippi, Illinois and Missouri Rivers Association.

More of the precipitation is coming in the winter and spring, with projections for precipitation to decrease in

the summer. "That's problematic when we rely on timely summer rains," Wuestenberg said of the effect on Midwest agriculture.

Bare grounds in the spring and winter make it more vulnerable to erosion when heavy moisture events occur, she said.

The intense rain events might be too much for the current river infrastructures that were designed for conditions of the past.

There are more "weather whiplash" situations with too much rain followed by too little, Wuestenberg said. She highlighted more than two dozen billion-dollar weather and climate disasters in the U.S. in 2024 with at least seven including parts of Illinois or Iowa.

The annual flood magnitude is in-

creasing as are flood-related disasters along the Mississippi, she said.

"The infrastructure is not built for current climatic and weather systems," Wuestenberg said.

As for current conditions, the Mississippi flow is below its normal state and soil moisture is lower in northern Illinois than normal. The March 20 U.S. Drought Monitor showed much of the Midwest in moderate drought, but not in southern Illinois where there had been more precipitation events this winter.

As far as the drought outlook, there doesn't seem to be too much of an issue in most of Illinois this spring.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association.



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**Jim Andrews**    Service Tech

To help settle our family's estate a public auction will be held at 13817 Summerfield Road Hanna City IL turn north at the Casey's in Hanna City and go north to Summerfield then go west to the sale site.

### Public Auction

**Saturday, April 12 at 10 a.m.**

Items to be sold include: Pro Form air compressor, battery charger, hand tools, power tools, long handle tools, gas cans, Atlas band saw, miter saw, lawn chairs, extension cords, Cyclone seeder, coke glasses, a large amount of assorted model planes, RC planes, knick knock shelves, gun racks, pot belly wood stove, 2 drawer file cabinets, brass bed, garden hose, come a long, old coolers, old bikes, fans, accordion, heaters, kid's toys, pictures, light fixtures, 45 records, old clocks, glassware, yarn and craft supplies, microwave cart, flat screen TV, DVD's, kneehole desk, game table, step ladders, die cast toys, die cast farm toys, china hutch, metal shelving, 4 drawer chest of drawers, 5 drawer chest of drawers, 4 drawer file cabinet, 5 drawer file cabinet, model ships, floor lamps, gas string trimmers, poly car ramps, garden sprayers, tool boxes, Huskee 17 cu/ft garden cart, puzzles and games, radial arm saw, Cub Cadet 1330 lawn mower, park benches, Agri Fab pull type spreader, Onan generator, Rigid pipe threader, Grasshopper front mount zero turn mower, table saw, knock down sawhorses, John Deere 46" front mount blade, flower pots, wheelbarrow, pull type thatcher, old green enamel stove, tomato cages, aluminum extension ladder, Cub Cadet 1450 hydrostat lawn tractor, lawn sweeper, electric pressure washer, pull type Mow-N-Vac, concrete tools, push mowers, vintage General Electric refrigerator, patio furniture, picnic table, yard ornaments, chain link dog kennel.

This will be a great auction with some really cool stuff. We may run 2 rings so bring a friend. We accept cash, check, or credit card with a 3% convenience fee. A lunch stand and restrooms will be available. For pictures and updates please go to auctionzip.com or my facebook page.

**Jenny Whitby estate owner**



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## BID NOTICE

The LaFayette Community Fire District is accepting bids for mowing and string trimming as needed at the fire department meeting hall and parking lot.

Sealed bids should be sent to:  
**Ross Walker**  
2558 E. Knox Road  
LaFayette, IL 61449

Bids must be received by March 14, 2025.  
Bids will be opened at the Trustees' meeting April 16, 2025, 7 p.m.

The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

### Card of Thanks

**Ehnle**

I want to thank each of you for the prayers, flowers, and cards I received while in hospital and at rehabilitation these last few months. It's good to be back home.

Sincerely,  
Mary Jane Ehnle




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## Super Crossword

FULLY STATED

**ACROSS**

- 1 Despises
- 7 Tennis great Rafael
- 12 Loutish guy
- 15 Drop — (declines)
- 19 Corned beef sandwich
- 20 Kind of daisy
- 21 Bullring shout
- 22 Perfume bottle
- 23 Baseball's "Iron Man," fully stated?
- 26 Western U.S. gas brand
- 27 Hit sketch show since '75
- 28 Atop
- 29 Move, as a seedling
- 31 Stitch clothes
- 32 Statistic of a chemical element, fully stated?
- 39 Protein in egg white and milk
- 41 Panther
- 42 2010s dance move often done with the Whip
- 43 Tropical vines
- 44 —'s razor (Keep it simple! principle)
- 47 Fallon's network
- 49 Singer Ora
- 50 Irritability, fully stated?
- 53 — Lingus
- 55 Some racing autos
- 56 Evil "Get Smart" group
- 57 Tyro, in gaming lingo
- 58 Actor Cage, informally
- 60 Sneeze noise
- 62 Prefix with "tourism"
- 63 "Aladdin"
- 65 Auto-cleaning site, fully stated?
- 69 "I knew it all —!"
- 71 Once surnamed
- 72 "Thank you, Yvette!"
- 73 Lode of unrefined metal, fully stated?
- 78 — -di-dah
- 79 001 inch
- 82 Singer Cherry
- 83 Hoppy drink
- 84 UConn women's basketball coach
- 86 Radiohead title track of 2000
- 87 Prone (to)
- 88 British islet
- 90 Biblical boat, fully stated?
- 95 Architect
- 97 Fun, in brief
- 99 "The — Professor"
- 100 Tribe of the Southwest
- 101 Grads
- 103 Ear-tasting monkey
- 105 Mistaken beauty contest, fully stated?
- 111 Sorority letter
- 112 Motif
- 113 Solitary Broadway, say
- 117 At the drop of —
- 119 "Mystic River" actor, fully stated?
- 125 Christ, in Italy
- 126 CPR expert
- 127 French ice cream
- 128 Focal point
- 129 Punta del —
- 130 Enzyme suffix
- 131 Useful thing
- 132 Believers in God, of sorts
- DOWN**
- 1 Circle bits
- 2 Coffee bit
- 3 Uprcar
- 4 Kabuki sash
- 5 Sports official
- 6 — Caps (candy brand)
- 7 Not for Windows
- 8 Truism
- 9 Country singer Carter
- 10 Scottish port
- 11 Luau gift
- 12 Certain cola container
- 13 Hebrew "A"
- 14 Rail against
- 15 Egg cells
- 16 Initial performance on Broadway, say
- 17 Inked cheek image, e.g.
- 18 Period when sales slump
- 24 Destroy
- 25 Baby buggy, in Britain
- 30 Airport agcy.
- 33 North African capital
- 34 Muscat's land
- 35 Soup with tofu
- 36 Junk email
- 37 Kind of wrestling
- 38 Always
- 39 Comparable
- 40 Pale purple
- 44 Bear, in Baja
- 45 Alternative to vanilla, informally
- 46 Native of Habana
- 48 Part of B.A.
- 51 Overwhelm
- 52 Stranded
- 104 Uncork, e.g. cellular stuff
- 105 Judith with two Tonys
- 54 Cattle locale
- 59 Dogma
- 61 Some film FX
- 63 Hilo "Hello!"
- 64 "— voyage!"
- 66 Abode: Abbr. tools
- 68 Writer Levin
- 69 Birthday topic
- 70 Hair stiffener
- 73 Running riot
- 74 Buffs again
- 75 Devotee
- 76 Put in writing
- 77 Trial balloon
- 79 Criminals
- 80 Boise locale
- 81 Cutting beam
- 85 Anti's vote
- 86 Tree knots
- 89 Body of water west of Liverpool
- 91 "Movin' —" ("The Jeffersons" song)
- 92 German auto
- 93 "Citizen —"
- 94 Impressionist
- 96 "Mom" has two conditions
- 98 Weather
- 102 Tiny criticism
- 104 Uncork, e.g. cellular stuff
- 105 Judith with two Tonys
- 107 Looks as if
- 108 Arm bones
- 109 For the — (temporarily)
- 110 Map blowup
- 115 Cut calories
- 116 Boaters' tools
- 118 Mon. follower
- 120 Links gp.
- 121 Letters before
- 96-Down
- 122 PC readout of a sort
- 123 Winning sign
- 124 Singer DiFranco

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

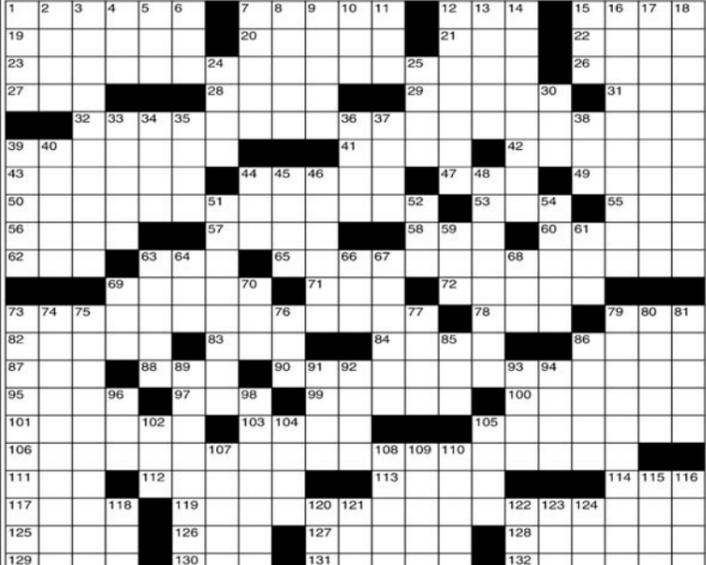
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- TELEVISION: In the sitcom "Modern Family," Gloria is from which country?
- LITERATURE: Which author wrote "The Kite Thief" and "A Thousand Splendid Suns"?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the deepest lake in the world?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which first lady's nickname was Lady Bird?
- ASTRONOMY: How many stars make up the Big Dipper?
- MOVIES: Which famous Hollywood couple played lead roles in the film version of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf"?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of skunks called?
- GEOMETRY: How many sides does a decagon have?
- ART: Which American artist focused on women and children in her paintings?
- ANATOMY: What substance gives skin its color?

**Answers**

- Colombia.
- Khaled Hosseini.
- Lake Baikal, Russia.
- Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson, wife of President Lyndon Johnson.
- Seven.
- Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor.
- A surfeit.
8. 10.
- Mary Cassatt.
- Melanin.
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## TOP 10 MOVIES

- Snow White (PG)
- Black Bag (R)
- Captain America: Brave New World (PG-13)
- Novocaine (R)
- Mickey 17 (R)
- The Alto Knights (R)
- The Day the Earth Blew Up: A Looney Tunes Movie (PG)
- The Monkey (R)
- Dog Man (PG)
- The Last Supper (PG-13)

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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.

PRNQ MQRVQYK RYQ RK MRA  
RK PXQ PRNQ LRDQYK —  
PJK RV UNA UMKQYGRPJUV  
RVA R GQYZ PYEQ UVQ.  
— YJSXRYA KXQYJARV

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## Super Crossword

### Answers

A	B	H	O	R	S	N	A	D	A	L	C	A	D	O	F	F	S							
R	E	U	B	E	N	O	X	E	Y	E	O	L	E	V	I	A	L							
C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	R	I	P	K	E	N	A	R	C	O					
S	N	L				U	P	O	N		R	E	P	O	T	S	E	W						
			A	T	O	M	I	C	M	A	S	S	A	C	H	U	S	E	T	T				
			A	L	B	U	M	I	N		P	S	S	A		N	A	E	N	T				
			L	I	A	N	A	S		O	C	C	A	M	N	B	C	R	I	T	A			
			I	L	L	I	N	O	I	S	H	U	M	O	R	A	E	R	G	T	S			
			K	A	O	S			N	O	O	B		N	I	C	A	C	H	O	O			
			E	C	O		A	B	U		C	A	R	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N	
										A	L	O	N	G		N	E	E	M	E	R	C	I	
			O	R	E	G	O	N	D	E	P	O	S	I	T		L	A	H		M	I	L	
			N	E	N	E	H		A	L	E			G	E	N	O		K	I	D	A		
			A	P	T		A	I	T		N	O	A	H	S	A	R	K	A	N	S	A	S	
			R	O	H	E		R	E	C		N	U	T	T	Y		A	P	A	C	H	E	
			A	L	U	M	N	I		L	O	U	D		I	N	E	R	R	O	R			
			M	I	S	S	I	S	S	I	P	P	I		U	N	I	V	E	R	S	E		
			P	S	I		T	H	E	M	E			L	O	N	E		A	D	O			
			A	H	A	T		S	E	A	N	P	E	N	N	S		S	L	V	A	N	I	A
			G	E	S	U		E	M	T		G	L	A	C	E		C	E	N	T	E	R	
			E	S	T	E		A	S	E		A	S	S	E	T		D	E	I	S	T	S	

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

### CryptoQuote

answer

Your use of your leisure today tells me just what your tomorrow will be.

— Robert H. Jackson

**TOULON YARD WASTE**

**NOTICE**

**The CITY of TOULON WILL RESUME PICKING UP LIMBS AND YARD WASTE ON MONDAY, APRIL 14TH**

## 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

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## LEGAL ADS

**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

**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  
(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](http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm) to learn more and to select a service provider. If you

need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp). Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.  
Barash & Everett, LLC  
Attorney for Executor  
P.O. Box 165  
Galva, IL 61434  
(309) 932-2001  
Email: [everett@barashlaw.com](mailto:everett@barashlaw.com)  
Published 3/21, 3/28, 4/4/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
ESTATE OF SHIRLEY CRAVENS, No. 2025 PR 34  
Deceased.

**NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND CLAIM NOTICE TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Notice is given of the death of Shirley Cravens.

Notice is also given to the above who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an order was entered by the court on the 18th day of March, 2025 admitting the will to probate.

Letters of Office were issued on March 18, 2025 to Patricia Wohl as Executor, whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC, 211 W. 2nd St., Kewanee, IL 61443.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Cambridge, Illinois 61238, or with the representative, or both on or before September 29, 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.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in section 6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/6-21).

You also have the right under section 8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. You may obtain a copy of a form of a petition to terminate independent administration from the clerk of the court at the address set out below.

Filings are to be made with: Henry County, Circuit Clerk Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois 61238  
Published 3/28, 4/4, 4/11/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
CHANCERY DIVISION CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. AMY SIGHTS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF TIMOTHY L. SIGHTS, DECEASED; JAYGE SIGHTS; SARAH BETH MILLER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
Case No.: 2024FC3  
Property Address: 124 South St, Bradford, IL 61421

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING,

SARAH BETH MILLER defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

THE WEST SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET OF LOT THIRTY-FOUR (34) IN THE VILLAGE OF BRADFORD, STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 124 South St, Bradford, IL 61421

Names of the titleholders of record: HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF TIMOTHY L. SIGHTS, DECEASED.

Date of the Mortgage: November 21, 2008.

Name or names of the mortgagors: TIMOTHY L. SIGHTS, now deceased.

Name of the mortgagee: Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp..

Date and place of recording: November 25, 2008; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of Stark County, Illinois.

Identification of recording: Document No. 2008-94787.

NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before April 27, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Lender Legal PLLC  
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Orlando, Florida 32810  
Tel: (407) 730-4644  
Service Emails: [cstrong@lenderlegal.com](mailto:cstrong@lenderlegal.com)  
[EService@LenderLegal.com](mailto:EService@LenderLegal.com)  
LLS13631-IL- SIGHTS /s/ Chandray Strong, Esq.  
Chandray Strong, Esq.  
Counsel of Record for Plaintiff  
ARDC # 6321577  
Published 3/28, 4/4, 4/11/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
Estate of JOAN E. MARCHESE, deceased No. 2025-PR-35

Notice is given of the death of JOAN E. MARCHESE.

Letters of Office were issued on March 20, 2025, to MICHELLE L. JACKSON, 18133 E 950th St., Geneseo, IL 61254, 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  
(309) 932-2168  
Published 3/28, 4/4, 4/11/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
Estate of RICHARD R. STURM, deceased No. 2025-PR-26

Notice is given of the death of RICHARD R. STURM. Letters of Office were issued on February 25, 2025, to E. LYNN STURM, 18285 County Hwy 14, Atkinson, IL 61235, 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  
(309) 932-2168  
Published 3/28, 4/4, 4/11/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
ESTATE OF: Margo J. Berry, No. 2025PR32  
Deceased

**CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)**

Notice is given of the death of Margo J. Berry. Letters of Office were issued on March 21, 2025, to Dennis B. Berry 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 21 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.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LYNN TOWNSHIP BUDGET

NOTICE is hereby given that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of LYNN, in the County of Knox, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at LYNN TOWN HALL, 2727 Illinois Route 17, Galva, Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, from and after 9:00 A. M., the 13th day of April, 2025.

NOTICE is further hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:40 P. M., the 13th day of May, 2025, at the LYNN TOWN HALL, in Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, and that final action on this Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the meeting to be held following the Hearing.

DATED this 24th day of February, 2025.  
TIM THULINE,  
Lynn Township Clerk.  
Published 4/3/25

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LYNN TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

NOTICE is hereby given that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Road Purposes of the Township of LYNN, in the County of Knox, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection LYNN TOWN HALL, 2727 Illinois Route 17, Galva, Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, from and after 9:00 A. M., the 13th day of April, 2025.

NOTICE is further hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:30 P. M., the 13th day of May, 2025, at the LYNN TOWN HALL, in Lynn Township, Knox County, Illinois, and that final action on this Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Town Trustees at the Public Hearing.

DATED this 24th day of February, 2025.  
TIM THULINE,  
Lynn Township Clerk.  
Published 4/3/25

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Barash & Everett, LLC  
Attorney for Executor  
P.O. Box 165  
Galva, IL 61434  
(309) 932-2001  
Email: [everett@barashlaw.com](mailto:everett@barashlaw.com)  
Published 3/28, 4/4, 4/11/25

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
Estate of STEVEN A. BENT, deceased No. 2025-PR-5

Notice is given of the death of STEVEN A. BENT. Letters of Office

were issued on March 28, 2025, to JAMES O. BENT, 403 S. Galena Ave., Wyoming, IL 61491, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Stark County Circuit Clerk, Stark County Courthouse, 130 W. Main St., Toulon, IL 61483, 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  
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Published 4/4, 4/11, 4/18/25

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# TRACK: Orwig 9th in 300 hurdles at Top Times

*Continued from Page 12*

that earned a seventh-place medal at Charleston and the 4x400 relay that also made state.

Terwilliger said Claire Bowser is poised for a big year in high jump and the 200 and will also run the hurdles. He said senior Paulyana Barnwell looks strong in the sprints and sophomore Michelle Atchley shows plenty of promise in the throwing events.

On the boys side, senior Nolan Orwig leads the team after qualifying for state in the 200, 110 hurdles and 300 hurdles last spring. Orwig was eighth at state in the 300 hurdles. He ran a personal record at the Top Times and just missed the finals, placing ninth overall.

Added support will come from freshman Evan Knobloch, who proved during the cross country season he is a force. This spring should be no different, as he will run the 800, 1,600 and 3,200 and has already broken school records this indoor season in the 800 and 1,600 and qualified for Top Times in the 800.

“We look forward to seeing what this season holds for him,” Terwilliger said.

Seniors Nolan Snider and Owen



Stark County senior thrower Chelsey Stotler placed fourth at the Illinois Top Times Indoor Championship meet last Friday.

Hess look strong in the throwing events according to their coach. Snider qualified for Top Times in the shot put. Beyond that, a lot is yet to be seen, as Terwilliger will be coaching both teams.

“On the boys side we have a lot of unknowns at this point,” Terwilliger said. “Outside of our seniors we are very young and will have to wait and see who can make an impact for us. We have several athletes who could potentially make an impact but they are making the jump to high school from junior high competition, so time will tell.”

• **Galva** – While the Wildcats roster is certainly young, it does in-

clude plenty of former IESA state qualifiers.

High jumpers Reid Harris and Addie Moore will be top contenders this year and look to double up in the 300 hurdles.

IESA state qualifiers Bryant Jeffrey and Randal Engels lead the distance group in the 1,600, 3,200 and 800-meter races.

After making it to state two years in a row in junior high, the freshman group of Blaiden Brose, Fisher Appell, Eli Engels and Landon Rodseth bring a new level of excitement to Galva’s relay teams according to Coach Mark Jeffrey.

Junior thrower Braden “Bubb” Murphy has improved each year and he welcomes fellow thrower freshman Ben Burris and his two years of state qualifying. Burris medaled last year in shot put and placed fifth at the LTC Indoor Invite hosted by Knox College.

Senior Maddie Bates and sophomore Braden Robinson lead a talented group of jumpers.

One more bit of good news for Galva is that the school will host four or five meets this year and feels most confident when running at home according to Wildcat coaches.

# SPORTS: Gale 4-for-4 in Galva SB season opener

*Continued from Page 12*  
Jason Knowles added a double. Wyatt Snider drove in one run.

SCHS fell in a tough 7-6 decision to Lincoln Trail opponent Abingdon-Avon at home on March 26. A four-run seventh inning from the guests and seven errors in the game cost the hosts.

Kaedon Steelman battled 5.1 innings for Stark County. He fanned three batters, yielded two earned runs, four hits and one walk. Khaiden Turnbull pitched 1.1 frames with a line of no earned runs, two hits, two whiffs and two walks.

Snider hit 2-for-4 with two RBI. Dillon Steelman batted 2 for 5 with one RBI and a double. Connor Daum had three hits in five at bats.

SCHS traveled to non-conference foe Farmington

on March 25 and lost 7-6. The Rebels fought back from a four-run deficit to a tie, then battled back again late for a 6-6 tie only to fall short in the last at-bat by the hosts.

Dillon Steelman pitched six innings and gave up eight hits, six earned runs and one walk while fanning five. Dillon Steelman, Blair Daum, Kaedon Steelman and Snider each drove in one run. Connor Daum had two hits.

Stark County’s next game is Saturday at home vs. Port Byron Riverdale.

• **Galva baseball** – The Wildcats (0-3-1) lost 18-6 to ROWVA-Williamsfield on the road March 26 in a Lincoln Trail matchup.

Ty Dowell-Keup, Braxton Hulstrom, Alec Gustafson, Tommy Funke and Blake Stahl each drove in a run for Galva.

Gustafson and Funke

shared the pitching duties for GHS. Gustafson yielded two hits and one walk in one inning pitched. Funke tossed three frames, striking out three and walking four.

Galva fell to Morrison 16-1 on March 25 at Morrison. The hosts struck early and often with five in the first, three in the second and seven in the third. Six GHS errors were detrimental to the cause.

MJ Louck and Cyrus Hurd pitched for the Wildcats. Louck threw 2.2 frames, striking out two, walking three and yielding three earned runs. Hurd gave up four hits, four walks and whiffed one in finishing the game.

Dowell-Keup had the sole hit and an RBI for Galva.

• **Stark County softball** – Farmington had nine runs in the fifth inning on its

way to a 14-4 victory over Stark County. The Rebels (1-3) tied the game at 4-4 in the fourth on a double by Kenna Sparks and singles by Kenna Newton and Hailey Peterson.

Sophie Finnegan also had an RBI for Stark County. Farmington had 14 hits.

On March 28, Stark County lost a doubleheader at Biggsville West Central, 7-3 and 15-0. Stark County did all its first-game scoring after West Central led 6-0. Finnegan was 2-for-3. Katie Grinnell and Taylor Price each had one RBI.

In the second game, Stark County had only two hits and West Central scored nine in the second inning.

Stark County is to play Saturday against Port Byron Riverdale.

Cover Law Group, LLP

David L. Cover

Twin Towers Plaza, 456 Fulton Street, Suite 203, Peoria, IL 61602-1220  
(P) 309.673.8227 (F) 309.673.4238  
107 W. Main Street, Toulon, IL 61483 (P) 309.645.1632  
dcover@coverlawgroup.com www.coverlawgroup.com

## ANNUAL MEETING

### STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

The public is invited to attend the annual meeting and election of officers for Stark County Community Services. Stark County Community Services is the umbrella organization for the Stark County Emergency Food Pantry and The Resource House.

The meeting will be held at the Stark County Emergency Food Pantry Building located at 322 S. Downend St., Toulon.

The meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025

## Annual Spring Fling

### Craft & Gift Show

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> • 9am-3pm

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The Center will have a large variety of merchandise featuring homemade candy and popcorn, t-shirts, sweatshirts, rag rugs, hand sewn items, Easter decorations, framed pictures, house plants, dish towels, Tupperware, jewelry, handmade wooden items, tin yard ornaments, doll clothes, Sugar Easter Eggs, spring flowers, PaperPie children's books, candles, Ruby Ribbon, Doo-dads & aprons.

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# Prairie News Sports



## Back on Track

### Stark County girls win 5 medals at Top Times

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

If the Illinois Top Times Indoor Championship meet last Friday is any indication, the Stark County girls track team should enjoy a very successful outdoor season.

The Lady Rebels brought home five medals from the Top Times meet at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, led by a third-place finish of 10:00.09 by the 4x800-meter relay of Cheyenh Smith, Paytin Terwilliger, Alexis Martinez and Dusti Smith.

Stark County also got two fourth-place medals, one from Chelsey Stotler in the shot put with a toss of 11.94 meters that broke her own school record. Also placing fourth was the 4x400 team of Sarah Kraklow, Terwilliger and the Smith sisters who finished in 4:13.86.

"I thought the athletes did an amazing job down there," Coach Clint Terwilliger said. "It was an awesome day."

Dusti Smith placed fifth in the



The 2025 Galva Track and field team poses with its brand new canopy donated by BHE Renewables. Front row (left to right): Addie Moore, Maddie Bates, Charley Chamberlain, Reese Sumner, Ella Ingles, Sage Kaiser, Olivia Calderon, Makayla Craig and Meghan Thuline. Back row (l to r): Coach Tim Foley, Ben Burris, Landon Rodseth, Fisher Appell, Blaiden Brose, Bubba Murphy, Reid Harris, Eli Ingles, Brayden Robinson, Bryant Jeffrey, Coach Mark Jeffrey and Coach Tim Meier. Not pictured: Randal Engels, Boone Brown and Abbey Edwards.



Stark County's third-place 4x800 relay at the Illinois Top Times Indoor Championship meet was run by (left to right) Cheyenh Smith, Alexis Martinez, Paytin Terwilliger and Dusti Smith.

1,600 at Top Times and broke her own school record in 5:19.98 and Cheyenh Smith was sixth in the 800 after breaking her own school

record in 2:22.19.

"The whole distance crew is prime to have another amazing year," Terwilliger said. "I know Cheyenh and Dusti are looking at those open events, as well as a couple other girls. With the times they are already throwing down, this could be a very special year for these girls."

Those same athletes played a part in Stark County's qualifiers for the girls state meet last spring, along with Lauren Orwig, who qualified in shot put and also threw well at Top Times, according to Terwilliger.

One difference this spring is the loss of Keagan Hamilton, who is out with a torn ACL after running a leg on the state-qualifying 4x800 relay

*Continued on Page 11*

## Gale goes 4-for-4 in Galva softball opener

By NICK VLAHOS and PHIL JOHNSON

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Kaylyn Gale was 4-for-4 with two RBI in Galva's season opener, a 6-5 loss Tuesday to Spring Valley Hall.

Gale's two-run home run in the third cut the Wildcats' deficit to 3-2. After Hall opened a 6-2 lead, Galva rallied on a homer by Amber Plummer and a two-run, one-out shot by Caylee Elgin. Gale then doubled and Maddie Bates walked, but neither was able to score.

The Wildcats are scheduled to play today, April 4, against Fulton. A game scheduled for March 27 at Bushnell-Prairie City was not played.

• **SC baseball** – The Stark County baseball team was on the short end of a 15-5 decision at Kewanee in a nonconference matchup last Saturday. Yielding five runs in the first and seven in the second made a

comeback difficult for the Rebels (2-5), who did score four times in the fourth inning.

Hitting and defense also betrayed the guests on this day. Connor Daum had the only Rebel hit and four team errors cost Stark County.

Connor Down gave up three hits in one inning pitched. Keegan Sparks also tossed one frame and yielded three hits. Brayden Woith threw two innings, giving up five hits while striking out one.

The Rebels picked up a 4-2 win at home over Morrison in nonconference action on March 27. Connor Daum was stellar on the hill. He struck out 13, gave up no earned runs, one walk and four hits in six innings pitched.

Ben Browning threw one inning with a line of one hit, one walk and two strikeouts.

Browning also collected two hits for the offense.

*Continued on Page 11*

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Fresh Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast  
Family Pack

**1.99**  
lb  
Fresh Bone-In Country Style Ribs  
Family Pack

**1.99**  
lb  
Fresh Boneless Pork Sirloin Chops  
Family Pack

**save a lot** Scan to download the app.

**Produce** Shop the Dot.

**99¢**  
ea  
Iceberg Head Lettuce  
Price Without Digital Coupon **1.29**

**3.99**  
ea  
3 lb Bag  
Mandarin Oranges

**2.79**  
ea  
3 lb Bag  
Red or Gold Delicious Apples

**Frozen**

**2/\$8**  
Red Baron Classic Crust Pizzas  
20.6-23.45 oz, Assorted Varieties

**4.99**  
50 count  
Totino's Pizza Rolls  
24.8 oz, Assorted

**Grocery**

**8.99**  
Maxwell House Coffee  
The Big Max Can  
33.1 oz, Original Roast

**2/\$3**  
Libby's Country Gravy  
15 oz, Original or Sausage

**2/\$7**  
Lay's Potato Chips, Funyuns or Dips  
6-23 oz, Assorted Varieties

**Prairie News Only Coupon**

**1.99**  
Gallon  
Limit 1  
Coburn Farms Milk

**7.99**  
1 1/2 lb Pkg  
Wright Brand Thick Cut Bacon  
24 oz, Hickory or Sweet & Smoky Kentucky Bourbon  
Price Without Digital Coupon **8.99**

Ad Prices good Apr 2 - Apr 9 • SAVE even more with **DOUBLE AD WEDNESDAY!**

Look for the **Red Dots** in store for savings made