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Vol. 22, No. 28

# The Prairie News

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# Galva board approves 5-year plan

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**  
For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Galva School Board approved the school district’s strategic plan for 2025-30 at its meeting Monday night.

The 25-page booklet will be distributed to each parent in the near future. The plans call for enhancing educational opportunities and reviewing current strengths, challenges and opportunities of the Galva School District. Administrators, parents and teachers were all a part of developing the plan.

The group had general planning sessions, contributed to the community SWOT analysis and assisted in analyzing data from statehood surveys.

Superintendent Joe Becker told the board that the fiscal year ended June 30 and he had concerns about the transportation budget. He said the Galva district

*Continued on Page 2*

## CONTEST WINNERS

Students from Wyoming took second and third places in the 8-10 age category in the annual Cream of the Crop photo contest, which highlights Illinois agriculture. Emery Edwards, of Wyoming received second place and a \$500 Bright Start 529 college savings scholarship for his picture above, which he titled “Dinner Time.” The third-place picture, at left, was from Vada Edwards of Wyoming, and was titled “Cattle Feed.” She received a \$250 scholarship. Winning photos will be displayed at the Illinois State Fair Aug. 7-17 in Treasurer Michael Frerichs’ tent.

# Stark County School Board sets goals

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

WYOMING – The Stark County School Board held its annual summer board retreat on July 21 in the morning at the high school library, in Toulon.

The board focused on three goal-setting sessions for short- and long-term goals in meetings with administration, directors and other various departments.

After lunch, the board reconvened in the grade school cafeteria in Wyoming for its regular monthly meeting. In his report, Superintendent Brett Elliott thanked various individuals for preparation of the new school year.

“We remind the community that the teacher institute for the 2025-26 school year is Aug. 12 and 13,” Elliott said. “The first day of school for K-12 students is Aug. 14 with an 8 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. school day through Labor Day.”

*Continued on Page 2*

**Inside**

- Old Settlers Association schedule. **Page 7**

Longtime Bradford residents Denny and Nancy Derick were recently recognized by the village for their contributions to the community.

# Bradford’s Citizen Spotlight shines on Dericks

By **SHARON CAUTHON**  
For The Prairie News

BRADFORD – Denny and Nancy Derick, long-time residents of Bradford, have devoted countless hours to their community.

Bradford was built from the hard work and dedication of people like the Dericks, who were selected for the Citizens of Bradford Spotlight for July.

Denny Derick moved with his family to Bradford at the age of 5. He attended St. John’s Catholic School for his elementary education then attended Bradford High School, graduating in 1962. Nancy attended Bradford Elementary School and graduated from Bradford High School a year later in 1963.

Nancy (Scott) Derick is a fourth-generation resident of Bradford, where her family built a lasting legacy.

Denny Derick worked at the Bradford Post Office part-time while in high school. Later he managed Mobil Chemical, also located in Bradford. He also had farmland that he cultivated in the area.

Nancy worked at the telephone company and had 34 years of dedicated service to Purtscher Oil in Bradford.

They were married at St. John’s Catholic Church in Bradford and have been married for 61 years. They have two kids, Bill and Julie, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

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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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- **Bradford Correspondent** - Angie Stange
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The Prairie News is located at 101 West Main Street, PO Box 240, Toulon, Illinois 61483. Office hours are Mon. to Thurs., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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# STARK: School board committees assigned

*Continued from Page 1*  
Pre-K first day is Aug. 18.

In other business, the board approved the 2025-26 transportation handbook, support staff handbook and the extracurricular code.

The board approved the Farnsworth Group’s \$25,000 proposal to complete the state-mandated 10-year Health Life Safety Study, a Threat Assessment Management Plan, a Granting Expenditure of FY26 funds and an October board meeting date change from Oct. 20 to Oct. 21.

Board committee assignments for 2025-26 are: Building/Finance, Chair

## Goldrush Apple Win awards grant to Stark Co. for STEM education

Goldrush Apple Wind announced a grant award of \$18,500 to Stark County Schools, funding designed to enrich STEM education and empower students through hands-on, real-world learning experiences.

The grant will fund enhancement of the district’s science curriculum and provide cutting-edge resources for student-centered learning labs.

At Stark County Middle School, students will soon have the opportunity to experience science in a whole new way through the Amplify Science program.

The initiative aligns with the district’s vision to inspire lifelong learning and innovation, ensuring that Stark County students are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to lead and succeed in the 21st century.

Bruce West, Ann Orwig, Joe Rediger, Dane Richards; Negotiations/Policy

Chair Emily Leezer, Erin Price, Rediger; Education/Extra-Curricular Chair

Orwig, Price, Chelsea Sherbeyn, West; HSSSED Governing Board is Leezer; and Education Foundation is Sherbeyn and Richards.

After executive session, the board announced the resignation of Jordyn Minder as junior high/high school BIST aide and the resignation of Mary Beth Newby.

Approved items: Cole Hartley as head boys baseball coach, an award of the 2022-23 yearbook stipend to Paige Rewerts, the 2023-24 and 2024-25 yearbook stipends to Megan McGann and the revised support staff pay ratios for the 2025-26 school year.

# GALVA: Approved purchase of activity bus

*Continued from Page 1*  
is driving daily to Moline and has a bus driver and an aide stay for the five-hour class time. He said he is working on potentially sharing rides with nearby districts but keeping the Galva aide with the student.

The board approved buying an activity bus with a cost not to exceed \$110,000. The vehicle is

to be a white colored, 14-passenger bus that does not require a bus license to drive. That way, a coach can drive and save on a bus driver’s salary when taking small groups to events.

The transportation supervisor will see what is available. If the district finds a suitable used vehicle, it doesn’t have to take bids.

The board approved Go-renz and Associates, Ltd.

of Peoria to conduct the Fiscal Year 2025 audit.

The board also approved the following personnel items:

- Tobie Hargens as long-term substitute for 7th through 12th grade special education for the 2025-26 school year.

- Alison Bejar and Jett Olson as full-time building custodians.

- Carsen Meyer as junior high and tech secretary.

- John Mephram as bus

driver for the 2025-26 school year.

- Dustin Weber as a junior high football volunteer coach.

- the resignation of Michael Branham as building custodian, effective Sept. 5.

Finally, the board voted to keep sealed all the closed session minutes from December 2024 through June 2025.



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PUBLIC RECORD

Misdemeanors & Felonies

**7-24** - Felony Class 4 - Alex R. Nowlan, 32, Toulon, was arrested for unlawful possession of a controlled substance, possession of a weapon without a FOID card, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, driving under the influence and cited for unlawful window tint. He was extradited to the Bureau County Jail. Nowlan’s vehicle was also towed and impounded. After a hearing, Nowlan was released with a court date.

Incidents & Accidents Stark County

**7-14** - Michael D. Jones, 35, East Peoria, was arrested on a pending Stark County warrant for driving on a suspended driver’s license and on an outstanding Peoria County warrant for failure to appear for domestic battery and criminal damage to property. He was also charged with driving under the influence. He posted \$100 cash bond on the Stark County warrant and \$300 on the Peoria County warrant before being released with court dates. His vehicle was towed and impounded.

**7-15** - Darrin M. Strasdin, 60, Abilene, Texas, cited for speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone, operating an uninsured vehicle, driving without a valid registration and improper use of registration. His vehicle was impounded and he was issued a court date.

**7-16** - Benjamin L. Workheiser, 23, Wyoming, cited for driving without vehicle insurance.

**7-18** - Chad L. Dean, 46, Galva, ticketed for speeding 75 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-18** - Michele L. Roesner, 64, LaFayette, ticketed for driving without vehicle insurance.

**7-18** - Dominic M. Schick, 24, Sterling, cited for speeding 79 mph in a 55 zone, possession of an uncased firearm in a vehicle and possession of adul-use cannabis by a driver. His vehicle was impounded. Also cited at the same traffic stop was James E. Bruketta, 47, Rock Falls, for illegal transportation of alcohol by a passenger.

**7-19** - Star M. Gremminger, 46, Creve Coeur, was charged with possession of a controlled substance, driving on a suspended registration and speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone. Her vehicle was impounded.

**7-19** - Jordan M. Nelson, Arlington Heights, ticketed for speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-19** - Breanna M. Mitchell, 34, Decatur, cited for driving an uninsured vehicle and on a suspended registration. Her vehicle was towed.

**7-19** - Victoria L. Wiggin, 22, Clinton, cited for speeding 79 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-19** - Aleshia L. Williams, 39, Peoria, cited for speeding 75 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-19** - Timyonia L. Walker, 29, Peoria, cited for driving without vehicle insurance and on a suspended license. Her vehicle was impounded.

**7-19** - Lisa A. Bohannan, 55, Laura, cited for driving without vehicle insurance.

**7-20** - Brandon S. Edens, 27, Normal, ticketed for speeding 87 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-20** - Allan R. McManus, Braidwood, cited for speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-20** - Sabrina Stock, 44, of Sterling hit a deer while driving on U.S. Route 40. No injuries were reported. The

vehicle sustained over \$1,500 in damages.

**7-21** - A two-vehicle accident occurred in the 300 block of Diagonal Street in Wyoming. Dwayne M. Francoeur, 45, of Kewanee was driving a vehicle and David S. Duffell, 61, of Peru was driving a motorcycle. Both drivers were traveling east when Francoeur reportedly activated his emergency lights and slowed down. Duffell reportedly attempted to pass the vehicle on the left. When Francoeur attempted to turn left, the vehicles collided. No injuries were reported and no tickets were issued. Damages to both vehicles were estimated at over \$1,500.

**7-21** - Driver Ty A. Schierer, 24, of LaFayette, was traveling west when the semi-truck he was driving struck a large boulder in the road on Route 17/91 approximately a half mile east of 900E. No injuries were reported. The truck sustained minor damage.

**7-23** - Julie B. Weir, 40, Toulon, received a notice to appear for violating a no contact/stalking order. On July 26 she was arrested for violating the order and transported to the Bureau County Jail. The next day she was released with a notice to appear.

**7-24** - Zoey K. Wiley, 18, Neponset, ticketed for illegal transportation of alcohol by a driver.

**7-24** - Kandi J. Johnson was cited for driving 21-25 mph above the speed limit.

**7-24** - Zachary M. Wicaryus, 23, Walnut, ticketed for operating an uninsured vehicle.

**7-25** - Chelsea L. Wood, 19, Galva, cited for operating an uninsured vehicle.

**7-25** - A member of the Allendale Conservation Club reported a theft of a red 2024 Club 0014 CC Onward golf cart.

**7-26** - Clark K. Deemie, 31, Laura, cited for speeding 76 mph in a 55 zone.

**7-27** - Joshua A. Belville, 34, Wyoming, was issued a notice to appear on a charge involving criminal damage to property.

**7-28** - Allan R. McManus, 36, Braidwood, cited for speeding 80 mph in a 55 zone.

Galva Report Officer dispatched:

**7-15** - to the 300 block of NW 4th Ave. for a fraud/identity theft complaint

**7-15** - to the 600 block of NW 7th St. for a verbal domestic disturbance.

**7-15** - Roy Orwig, 46, Kewanee, was located north of town and arrested for violating an order of protection the 800 block of NE 2nd St.. He was taken to Henry County Jail.

**7-16** - to the 600 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a soliciting complaint. Several subjects were located and referred to City Hall for a permit.

**7-17** - to the 100 block of Market St. for a two-vehicle accident.

**7-18** - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a subject who appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

**7-18** - to the 600 block of SW 1st Ave. for a traffic accident.

**7-18** - to the 300 block of SW 3rd Ave. for a property line dispute/trespassing complaint.

**7-18** - twice to the 1000 block of SW 2nd St. for illegal burning.

**7-18** - to the 00 block of NW 4th St. for a fireworks complaint.

**7-19** - to the 1000 block of SW 2nd St. for a complaint. Ashton Powers, 28, Galva, was arrested for criminal damage to property. He was released

with a court date.

**7-19** - to the 100 block of Exchange St. for a vehicle vs. building accident.

**7-20** - to the 400 block of SW 1st Ave. for a two-vehicle accident with damage only.

**7-20** - Stephany Pugliano, 43, Toulon, cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance in the 200 block of South Center Ave.

**7-20** - to the 200 block of NW 7th Ave. for a report of a male subject who lost his pants while mowing. The subject was advised to consider purchasing a belt.

**7-21** - Mika Perez, 38, Kewanee, cited for speeding in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

**7-21** - Macio Yerger, 39, Chicago, cited for speeding and operating an uninsured vehicle in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

**7-22** - to the 600 block of SE 2nd St. for attempted burglary complaint.

**7-22** - to the 500 block of SW 6th Ave for a found cellphone. It was returned to the owner.

**7-23** - to a residence northeast of town to assist Henry County with a physical domestic disturbance.

**7-23** - to the 200 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a complaint involving counterfeit U.S .currency.

**7-23** - to the 00 block of NE 4th Ave for a harassment complaint.

**7-24** - to the 300 block of SW 4th Ave. for a city ordinance violation involving tall grass/weeds.

**7-25** - to the 500 block of SE 4th Street for a city ordinance violation involving burning. A fire had been re-ignited from the previous day.

**7-25** - Kole Wilmot, 24, Rio, cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended and an uninsured vehicle in the 700 block of W. Division St.

**7-25** - Robert Follis, 68, Galva, cited for disobeying an activated railroad signal on NE 6th Ave.

**7-27** - to the 300 block of SE 3rd St. for a domestic disturbance.

Property Transfers

**7-14** - Kyle N. Kraft to John A. Kraft III - Pts. Sect. 36-12-6 SE SW & SE - Consideration = \$285,292.

**7-14** - Kyle N. Kraft to Eric J. Kraft - Pt. 16 2/3% Int. - Sect. 3-13-7 SE, Pt. 12.5% Int. - Sect. 25-14-6 NW & Pt. Sect. 24-14-6 SW - Consideration = \$178,951.

**7-14** - Chase Anderson to Randy & Rojenna Bolen - Pts. Sect. 2-12-6 SW & NE - 705 W. Williams St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$140,000.

**7-16** - Stark County Sheriff to Morton Community Bank - Pt. Sect. 36-13-6 NW - Castle’s Add’n - Pt. Block 18 - 1013 N. Main Ave., Wyoming - Consideration = \$0.

**7-18** - Carson Sauer to Christian Carder - Village of LaFayette - Pt. Block 19 Lots 1,2,7,8 - 307 E. Main St., LaFayette - Consideration = \$125,000.

**7-22** - Pamela M. Murphy to Gail Annette and Timothy W. Johnson and Pamela M. Murphy - Village of LaFayette, Block 1 - 109 E. Jefferson St., LaFayette - Consideration = \$0.

**7-22** - Laurel J. Otterstrom to Linda K. Dean - Carl L. Lehman’s Add’n. - Lots 10 and 11 - 407 S. Franklin St., Toulon - Consideration = \$0.

**7-22** - Linda Kay Dean to Linda Kay and Lowell C. Dean - Carl L. Lehman’s Add’n - Lots 10 and 11 - 407 S. Franklin St., Toulon - Consideration = \$0.



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## Is dissent or protest futile in today’s America?

To the Editor:

In a June 13 column, Richard Koritz urged support for the government’s effort to protect people and property from “riots” and potential “mob rule” in Los Angeles (“Mob Rule Should Not Be Tolerated”). The protests were a response to aggressive immigration enforcement at city workplaces.

If the facts of the case matched Koritz’s account, his argument might persuade. Instead, the former prosecutor omits key particulars. First, he conveniently fails to mention the unilateral federal decision to deploy California’s National Guard and U.S. Marines on the streets of Los Angeles.

Further, for Koritz “the government” is the federal government. But state and local governments played the primary role in protecting people and property and restoring order. They acted immediately after early acts of vandalism and violence, and continued to manage the volatile situation.

Yet they had no say in the decision to deploy National Guard



troops, let alone Marines. California’s governor, the mayor of Los Angeles and heads of the police department and county sheriff’s department all opposed this decision. They feared the military presence would incite new violence. It did.

These leaders believed that local and state law enforcement could effectively calm the protests. They did. The protests never approached the scale of a “riot” or “mob rule,” and subsided peacefully. Government – state and local – did its job, using civilian law enforcement to police the streets.

In early July the Los Angeles deployment assumed a new form. National Guard troops joined immigration agents in a heavily militarized sweep through a mostly

empty public park. Apparently no arrests were made. Was the intent to create a cable news photo-op (via an embedded camera crew)? Intimidate would-be rioters? Or to suggest that, in today’s America, dissent or protest is futile against the power of the state?

Guard members have now been recalled, but we should remember: Troops deployed to quell a non-riot were used in non-emergency federal law enforcement on city streets. This suggested a military occupation.

Would we welcome this needless show of force in our streets, our town or city park? We should tell the government that this scenario must never be repeated, not in America.

– David McCurdy, Elmhurst  
The Prairie News welcomes letters to the editor.  
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# New gun bill addresses firearms storage

By **PETER HANCOCK**  
Capitol News Illinois  
Gun owners in Illinois will soon be required to take additional measures to keep their weapons out of the hands of children under a new law signed Monday by Gov. JB Pritzker.

In addition, law-enforcement officers in the state must now start tracing the ownership of any firearm that is recovered from a crime scene, used unlawfully or is believed to be associated with a crime. Pritzker signed those bills into law at a time when federal courts are growing increasingly skeptical of state and local efforts to curb gun violence. A federal court of appeals is preparing to hear arguments in a challenge to Illinois’ most significant recent gun restriction — a ban on assault-style weapons and large-capacity magazines.

“I’m tired, frankly, of treating something completely preventable as inevitable,” Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony in Chicago. “I’m tired of forcing our children to

duck and cover because too many politicians are ducking and covering for the gun industry’s money.”

Senate Bill 8, known as the Safe Gun Storage Act, prohibits gun owners from storing their weapons in an unsecured manner at any location where they know, or reasonably should know, that the gun could be accessed by a minor, a person at risk of harming themselves or others, or by a person who is prohibited under state or federal law from possessing a firearm.

To secure the weapon, under the law, owners will be required to keep them in a locked container so that they are inaccessible or unusable by anyone other than the owner.

Gun owners who violate the law could be subject to civil fines of \$500. But those fines could go up to \$1,000 if a minor, at-risk person or prohibited person obtains the firearm, and as high as \$10,000 if such person uses it to kill or injure someone in the course of committing a crime.

In lieu of those fines, courts could instead order

the gun owner to perform community service or pay restitution for violations.

The new law also provides that gun owners could be subject to civil liability in private lawsuits.

However, the law also provides that gun owners will not be found in violation of the law if a minor, at-risk person or prohibited person obtains their firearm by unlawfully entering the premises.

In addition to the new storage requirements, SB 8 also requires gun owners to report a lost or stolen firearm to law enforcement within 48 hours of discovery, as opposed to the previous 72-hour requirement.

Supporters of the bill pointed to recent statistics showing firearms are now the leading cause of death for children under 18, surpassing motor vehicles and cancer.

“For far too long, we have witnessed the tragic consequences of unsecured firearms in homes,” Sen. Laura Ellman, D-Naper-ville, the lead Senate sponsor of the bill, said. “Firearms, if left unaccounted for and unsecured, pose risks to those who shouldn’t have access to them. Firearm owners can help prevent gun-related incidents by ensuring their guns are securely stored and away from others.”

**Public Auction**  
**Sunday, August 3rd at 12 noon**  
Because I have no need for the following list of tools and outdoor items a public auction will be held at Highway 17 Toulon, IL.  
**Photo Album: Will be added soon**  
Items to be sold include: Agco 1920H lawn tractor, table saws, Tilly front tine tiller, air tanks, Clarke tool box, several riding mowers for parts. Cub Cadet Low Boy, Case 1818 Uniload hand control, gas front forks, 1978 hours and okay rubber, 2007 Chevy 1/2 ton 4x4 regular cab w/ 130,000 miles, Huskee 10 cu/ft garden cart, engine stand, extension cords, Remington 45.000 BTU heater, concrete edgers, hand tools, power tools, hardware, long handle tools, steel wagon wheels, Powermate 70 wire feed welder, log chains, nylon ratchet straps, Lincoln 225 stick welder, air hose shop lights, extension cords, one man gas powered post hole digger, bench top drill press, Buffalo miter saw, Champion 4,000 watt generator, table saw, floor jacks, tire changer and balancer, Haier 6,000 btu air conditioner NIB, metal shelving, gas torch set, Cub Cadet Zero Turn lawn mower, much more  
We may run 2 rings depending on the weather so bring a friend. There will be plenty of offroad parking.  
We accept cash, check, or credit card with a 3% convenience fee  
**Penny Scheirer - owner**

**ORWIG AUCTION & APPRAISAL**  
Joe Orwig, Auctioneer  
(309)361-0397

**Public Auction Real Estate**  
**Saturday, August 2, 2025 at 10 a.m.**  
Because I have moved I will be selling my home located at 20 Northwest 2nd Street Galva, IL at public Auction.  
**Photo Album: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1319678130163397&type=3>**  
**3D Tour: <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=HsZtsWBjDDy>**  
This 2 story frame home sits on a nice lot on the edge of downtown. It has a 2 car detached garage with a 1 car lean to. Exterior features include a 16'x17' deck, aluminum siding, newer roof, and vinyl replacement windows. The mechanicals have been upgraded with a new gas water heater, new Tempstar gas forced air furnace and a new Tempstar central air unit. The plumbing and electrical have all been upgraded as well.  
The main floor of the home has a galley style kitchen, dining room, utility room, living room, full bath and a bedroom. The upstairs has 3 good size bedrooms and a full bath. This property works for the first time buyer, investor or the growing family.  
Terms: The property will sell in as-is condition with no warranties or guarantees of any kind. The successful bidder will pay a \$2,500 non-refundable earnest money deposit with balance being due at closing on or around September 2, 2025. Possession will be given at closing and all fees or expenses will be pro-rated to that date. Prospective buyers will be expected to do their own due diligence. Successful buyer will be expected to close with no contingencies. Home will sell subject to seller confirmation.  
**Marilyn Kelly - Owner**  
**Whitney & Potts Elmwood attorney**

**ORWIG AUCTION & APPRAISAL**  
Joe Orwig, Auctioneer  
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**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS**  
**Heartland Private School, Inc.**  
admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies and other school administered programs.

**FUN DAY FUNDRAISER FOR KIDS @ ST. JUDE**  
**August 2nd**  
**Community Bake Sale**  
**8 a.m. @ the Paramount**  
**8:19 Greet Our Team Runners**  
**8:30 Wyoming Lions Breakfast for Runners**  
**8:00 Barn Sale for St. Jude @ Few Fav barn**  
**9:00 Wyoming Library - make a card to send to St. Jude**  
**9:00 Paramount - Balloon Guy, Face Painting by Heather & Kail, Spin and Win, Adopt a Pet to send to St. Jude, Hang a shoe, Cotton Candy, Pop Corn, Hot Dogs.**  
**\$1 donation for each event**  
**10:00 - 12:00 Wyoming Chamber BINGO (ALL AGES)**



**Galva Area Operation Christmas Child**  
will host **Dinner in Veteran's Park in Galva** on **Wednesday, August 6, from 5 to 7 p.m.**  
The meal will consist of a delicious brown sugar-basted pulled ham sandwich, cole slaw, chips, cookies and lemonade or water for \$10. A sandwich is \$6.00.  
Entertainment will be provided by **Even Steven** providing classic rock and country hits that we all love. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the music after your meal.  
*Rain location is Galva First United Methodist Church at the corner of NW 2nd Street and NW 2nd Avenue.*

**GALESBURG, IL REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION**  
The following nice home, lg. backyard heated garage, amazing Nitro Z-8 loaded boat, signs, jewelry and much more will be sold on location at 1228 Arcadia Dr. Galesburg, IL., on **SUNDAY AUGUST 10TH, 2025 AT 12:00 NOON (R.E. SELLS FIRST)**  
**PROPERTY DETAILS:** This ad is condensed. See the full ad online. This nice approx. 800 sq. ft. 2-3 bedroom ranch-style home sits on a 6,519 sq. ft. lot with a very nice 24'x42' heated garage and an 8'x10' wooden yard shed in the backyard. The house is set up with an open concept kitchen, living room, one bath and nice hardwood floors. A 20'x22 cement patio with a new roll out awning sits in back. There is no basement. The blacktop drive leads to the spacious garage which includes a 16'x7' overhead door w/opener, finished walls, cement floor, heat and a 100-amp electrical service,  
**TERMS:** A non-refundable \$5000.00 will be required on auction day with the balance due in approx. 30 days. This is an As-Is auction.  
See pictures at [www.folgersauctionservice.com](http://www.folgersauctionservice.com).  
**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK.**  
**BOAT:** Purchased new from Bass Pro, 2013 Nitro Z8 20' boat, Mercury 200 HP XS Pro, great shape w/low hours, Trail Star trailer w/swivel tongue, fish finder, Minn Kota max trolling motor, hot foot or manual throttle, 2 stage Fulton Trailer winch, Pro Sport 20 plus 3 battery w/maintainer built in, compartments, fish wells, have titles and cover. This one owner boat was over 64,000.00 new.  
**VINTAGE BEER SIGNS, COLLECTIBLES:** Pabst Blue Ribbon items including a lighted sign, picture, mirror, football greets signs--4 matching mounted sconce lights, clock, octogen hanging light, glasses and more--Lowenbrau lighted sign--Stroh's sign--hanging Michelob sign--Hamm's lighted sign and glasses--2 Schlitz signs--Michelob and Old Style hanging lights--Busch light--Michelob Eagle light--Miller lighted sign--NB Cubs 2026 World Series gnome--lighted Cubs scoreboard--Harley Davidson working slot machine--Bud, Midland Coal, United Mine Workers belt buckles--Zippo lighters--Tonka pay loader, motor grader and coal truck--Beach Patrol toy jeep--Santa Fe 72 train set in box--Super Duper Double Looper in box--full size set of "It's a Wonderful Life" lighted Holiday houses w/accessories--cast iron #6 skillet--  
**JEWELRY:** 3 very nice diamond 14K women's wedding ring sets--14K black Hill Gold women's ring--gold Tiger Eye men's ring--10K 3 heart garnet ring--lg. multi stone ant. sterling/ turquoise ring--watches--flats of ant. costume--925 pieces--vintage China--glass, basic antiques.  
**TOOLS/OUTDOOR:** Nice acet./oxygen torch set on cart--hand power saws--nice hand plane--B&D router on stand--Walker/Turner post drill press--Dremel on stand--assort. of 2'-6' levels--hardware--log chains--floor jack--like new Clark bench grinder--Bosch router--square saw--Bostitch air stapler--B&D palm sanders and laser level--Craftsman reciprocating saw and 10" bank saw on stand--like new Performax angle saw--Skill hand grinder--like new table saw, vice, clamps--Skill 3 1/4 planer--pipe wrenches, hand and power tools--pipe/other wrenches--3.5 HP shop vac--like new tool cart--band saw--Stanley plastic saw horses--Air Pro 1.5 HP 3 gallon port. air compressor--router and bits--tap & dye--Saber saw table--vehicle dollies--Workmate bench--B&D weed eater--Toro leaf blower--nice porch bench--metal patio table/ chairs--NB Chamberlain 1/2 HP garage door opener--Sparta fender horns--yard/garden tools and fencing--shepherds hooks--hyd. lawn mower floor jack--18' Stanley fiberglass ext. ladder--6' Werner step ladder--new Agri Fab lawn spreader and Thatcher--electric weed eater--coolers--set Edge golf irons, Top Flite driver--Santa Blow mold, nice lighted wreath, etc.--rubber tired wheel barrow, fuel cans, yard chairs/loungers, radio Flyer wagon--lg. Maxx shop fan--much more.  
**HOUSEHOLD:** like new gas stove w/middle griddle and white refrigerator w/bottom freezer--washer/dryer--like new Viking sewing machine--wine racks--microwave--cross stitch stand w/light--modern black bedroom set--other bedroom furniture--cloth love seat--recliner--lamps/stand tables--handmade hard wood wardrobe and desk--full new set of high dollar Stainless Steel Master pots/pans "Salad Master"--new Pioneer woman casserole and cookbooks--NB sm. appliances, Red Coper skillet, Charbroil chicken rack and other items--set of Yorktown Pfaltzgraff dishes--Home Safe standing gun safe--sm. safe on wheels w/keys--A/M F/M CD player--4 good Frigidaire AC window units--basic household.  
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Attorney--Jack Ball, Galesburg, IL

**COFFEE WITH BABE**  
Please join us on **August 9th** at the **Colony School House** in **Bishop Hill** from **10 a.m. - 12 p.m.** to celebrate **Marion Nelson's 95th Birthday!**







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# Innovative approach to the popcorn market

By HANNAH SPANGLER  
FarmWeek

What started as a kitchen experiment on a Knox County farm has grown into a deep-frying method that could bring popcorn to restaurant menus, and open fresh opportunities for specialty crop growers.

Andrew Bowman of Pilot Knob Farm near

Oneida has developed a specialized fryer basket that allows restaurants to deep-fry popcorn using existing kitchen equipment. The innovation could create a new market for his family-grown, hull-less red and blue popcorn.

“We’re very excited for this,” Bowman said. “It will be a novel way for people to experience our no-toothpicks-required popcorn.”

The concept addresses a common challenge for small-scale food producers: breaking into crowded grocery store shelves. Despite strong feedback on taste and quality, Bowman said it’s been difficult to scale retail sales due to the sheer number of products grocery buyers manage.

That challenge led Bowman to explore new markets where his popcorn could stand out.

The idea came from a viral video his son found online. After testing the concept in a small fryer, Bowman realized deep-fried popcorn could offer restaurants a unique, quick-cooking side that fits existing kitchen routines.

“Can you imagine having a nice bowl of popcorn to go with some cheese curds at Culver’s, or a nice sandwich or a steak at Texas Roadhouse?” Bowman told RFD Radio Network’s DeLoss Jahnke.

The key is a custom-designed fryer basket made from food-grade perforated stainless steel. It allows popcorn to be cooked in a standard deep fryer, right alongside fries or onion rings. While the basket is more complex and costly than typical fryer equipment, Bowman said the goal isn’t to sell hardware.

“We’re not equipment salesmen. We’re farmers,” he said. “We want people to enjoy the bounty from our family farm.”

Instead, Pilot Knob Farm plans to provide the baskets at little or no cost to restaurants that agree to source their popcorn exclusively from the farm. It’s a model designed to build long-term relationships and open a new sales channel for a product that’s already proven popular with consumers.

Bowman is offering a pilot program for restaurants interested in trying the product.



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**OSA 2025**



**FRIDAY AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025**  
4:30 P.M. TOULON AMERICAN LEGION FISH FRY  
5:00 P.M. TOULON LIONS CLUB KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL (CITY PARK)  
6:00 P.M. OSA QUEEN PAGEANT (MAIN STAGE)  
6 P.M. – 12 A.M. BEER GARDEN OPEN  
FOLLOWING PAGEANT – BAND “KILLER RIFFS” – and FIREWORKS at High School

**SATURDAY AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2025**  
8:00 A.M. INDIAN CREEK 5K RUN  
8:30 A.M. SIGN-IN FOR 3 ON 3 TOURNAMENT – TOURNAMENT STARTS @ 9 AM  
9:00 A.M. KIDS FUN RUN  
9:00 A.M. CRAFT SHOW AND FLEA MARKET (COURTYARD)  
9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. CARICATURE ARTIST AT THE TOULON CITY PARK  
9:30 A.M.-1 P.M. STARK COUNTY ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMPLEX OPEN (TOURS AT 9:30 AND 11:00 A.M.)  
10 A.M. – 3 P.M. STARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OPEN  
9 A.M. – 3 P.M. QUILT EXHIBIT (TOULON METHODIST CHURCH)  
10 A.M. – 2 P.M. CRUISE IN CAR SHOW  
11 A.M. – 1 P.M. LIONS CLUB PORK CHOPS  
2:00 P.M. KIDDIE PARADE  
FOLLOWED BY MAIN PARADE  
2:30 P.M. MK PARTIES (FEATURING TRACKLESS TRAIN, PUTT PUTT GOLF, FOAM AND BUBBLES) – TOULON CITY PARK  
3:00 P.M. THE “ELECTRIC TOMATO” AT RBAR  
6:00 P.M. FAMILY BINGO AT THE BEER TENT!!!! BEER TENT OPEN  
7:30 P.M. “BALDERDASH” BAND ON MAIN STAGE

**SUNDAY AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2025**  
10:00 A.M. OSA MEETING (COFFEE, DONUTS, BADGE HONOREE SPEECH)  
10:30 A.M. CHURCH SERVICES



BRIEFS

Old Settlers event starts today in Toulon

TOULON – The Old Settlers Association festival is today through Sunday, Aug. 1-3. Here is the schedule.

Friday, Aug. 1

- 4:30 p.m. - Toulon American Legion fish fry.
- 5 - Toulon Lions Club kiddie tractor pull at the city park.
- 6 - OSA Queen Pageant is on the main stage, followed by Killer Riffs band and fireworks at Stark County High School.
- 6-12 - Beer garden open.

Saturday, Aug. 2

- 8 a.m. - Indian Creek 5K Run.
- 8:30 - Sign-in for 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Play starts at 9.
- 9 - Kids fun run, craft show and flea market at the courtyard.
- 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Caricature artist at city park and Stark County Historical Society opens with tours at 9:30 and 11 a.m.
- 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Quilt exhibit at Toulon Methodist Church.
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Cruise-in car show.
- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Stark County Genealogical Society open.
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Lions Club pork chops sold.
- 2 p.m. - Kiddie parade, followed by main parade.
- 2:30 - M.K. Parties at City Park.
- 3 - The Electric Tomato at RBAR.
- 6 - Family bingo at the beer tent (beer tent opens).
- 7:30 - Balderdash plays on main stage.

Sunday

- 10 a.m. - OSA meeting with coffee, donuts and badge-honoree speech by



Barb and Bill Winans of LaFayette are the 2025 Old Settlers Association Badge Honorees. They will give speeches Sunday, Aug. 3, at 10 a.m. on the East Court Street stage. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

Bill and Barb Winans.

10:30 a.m. - Church services.

LaFayette native Peterson 7th in shotput

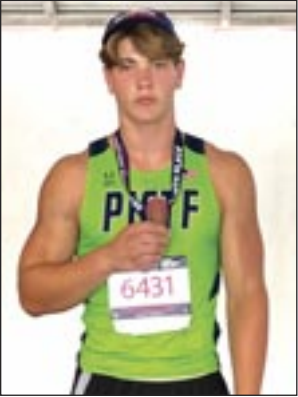
SAVANNAH, Ga. – Patrick Peterson of Dunlap, the son of former LaFayette residents Ryan and Bethany Peterson, placed seventh in shotput in the 15-16 age bracket at the USA Track & Field National Junior Olympic meet held at Savannah State University July 21-27.

Peterson’s throw of 51 feet, 8.5 inches was best by a 15-year-old shot putter. He was competing for the Peoria Inner City Track Club and is a sophomore at Dunlap High School.

Peterson was 15th in discus with a throw of 138 feet, 10 inches – also the best throw by a 15-year-old.

Bradford school board sets budget hearing

BRADFORD – During its July 22 meeting, the Bradford School Board set Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. as the time for its Fiscal Year 2026 budget hearing.



LaFayette native Patrick Peterson placed seventh in shotput at a USA Track & Field National Junior Olympic meet.

The board also approved hiring Jordyn Minder as a paraprofessional for the upcoming school year and accepted, with regret, the resignation of former paraprofessional Carrie Null.

In other business, the board approved an FY26 Family Handbook and an E-learning plan.

School registration opens today, Aug. 1, from 8 a.m. to noon and continues Aug. 4, 3-7 p.m. The first day of school for students is Aug. 18.

Et cetera

- TOULON – The Stark County Health Department has its quarterly health board meeting Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m. at the Stark County Health Department, 120 E. Court St.
- KEWANEE – The Henry County Health Department has its quarterly health board Wednesday, Aug. 6, at the Henry County Health Department, 110 N. Burr Blvd.
- GALVA – Parker Barrow and Zydeco Voodoo perform in the final Levitt AMP series concert in Wiley Park this Sunday, Aug. 3, at 6 p.m.

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**2019 Hyundai Santa Fe Ultimate 2.0T**  
AWD Ultimate 2.0T 4dr Crossover  
  
Price \$18,000 Mileage 92,477

**2019 Hyundai Santa Fe SE 2.4L**  
AWD SE 2.4L 4dr Crossover  
  
Price \$16,000 Mileage 88,903

**2024 Jeep Compass Trailhawk**  
4x4 Trailhawk 4dr SUV  
  
Price \$28,500 Mileage 38,500

**2023 Nissan Rogue SV**  
SV 4dr Crossover  
  
Price \$22,000 Mileage 41,306

**2019 Nissan Rogue SV**  
AWD SV 4dr Crossover  
  
Price \$16,500 Mileage 74,664

**2022 RAM 1500 Big Horn**  
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Price \$35,500 Mileage 63,701

**2019 RAM 1500 Classic Big Horn**  
4x4 Big Horn 4dr Crew Cab 6.3 ft. SB Pickup  
  
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**2023 Toyota RAV4 XLE**  
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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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

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

Reverend David Graham  
(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](https://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](mailto:allsaintsil.com)

### Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL  
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Rev. Katie Gallagher  
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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 Wyanet 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

### Glenn L. Beall

LAKE FOREST – Glenn Lee Beall, 91, passed away peacefully on July 24, 2025, at his home at Lake Forest Place in Lake Forest, Ill. Glenn is remembered as a beloved husband, cherished uncle, and a true pioneer in the plastics industry.

Born on Aug. 13, 1933, in Kewanee, Ill., to the late W. Allen Beall and Lillie (Lee) Beall, Glenn’s life was a testament to innovation, dedication, and an unwavering connection to his hometown of Wyoming, Ill. His journey from a farm boy who was born and raised in rural Stark County to a globally recognized innovator in the plastics industry underscores a remarkable life lived with purpose and humility.

Glenn’s formative years began on a farm south of Wyoming where he cultivated the values of hard work and a down-to-earth demeanor. A proud graduate of Wyoming High School, he continued his education at Monmouth College and earned a bachelor of science in engineering from Bradley University in 1957.

His enduring connection to his home community was recognized in 2022, with his induction into the Stark County Community School District Alumni Hall of Fame. At the induction, Glenn credited the strong foundation he received from Stark County schools during his youth.

Glenn’s impact on the plastics industry was revolutionary. After his time at Abbott Laboratories, where he secured 12 patents for innovative medical devices, he founded Glenn Beall Engineering, Inc. in 1968, obtaining an additional 23 patents.

Beyond his inventions, Glenn was an educator, editor, author, expert witness and industry activist, conducting over 650 seminars for nearly 30,000 people. His visionary leadership and contributions were recognized with his induction into the Plastics Hall of Fame in 1997, and the naming of the Society of Plastics Engineers International Product Design Award in his honor in 1995.

In 2002, Glenn was the first American to be inducted as a Liveryman of the United Kingdom Worshipful Company of Horners, an organization that was founded in the year 1248.

At the heart of Glenn’s life was his profound and enduring love for his wife and lifelong partner, Patsy Jo (Wheeler) Beall. They were high school sweethearts and shared an exceptional marriage that spanned 61 years. Patsy, whom Glenn often referred to as the “love of his life,” preceded him in death on Nov. 22, 2014. Their partnership was far more than companionship; it was a shared journey of mutual support and ambition.

Glenn Lee Beall is survived by his nieces, Sandy Langdon of Toulon and Nancee (Steve) Griffith of Champaign, Ill.; and his nephew, Barry Warren (Tom Brougham) of Albany, Calif. He is also survived by his great-nieces and nephews, Julie (Robert) Healy of Champaign,



Beall

Jim (Michelle) Langdon of Toulon, Jackie (Andy) Colgan of Toulon, Scott (Suzanne) Cinnamon of Champaign, Megan (Jon) Tocknell of South Elgin, Ill., and Neal (Julie) Griffith of Champaign, along with their families.

In addition to his parents, Glenn was preceded in death by his sister, Dorothy (Beall) Warren and his infant sister, Phyllis Jean Beall. He was also preceded in death by his cherished wife and lifelong partner, Patsy Jo (Wheeler) Beall.

Glenn’s wishes were to be laid to rest alongside Patsy following a simple graveside service. The service will be held at the Wyoming Cemetery in Wyoming on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025, at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to honor Glenn’s strong belief in the importance of lifelong learning and educational advancement to the following scholarship funds: Stark County Education Foundation ([stark100.com/foundation](http://stark100.com/foundation)), Attn: In honor of Glenn Beall, 300 W. Van Buren St., Wyoming, IL 61491; or Monmouth College ([monmouthcollege.edu/give](http://monmouthcollege.edu/give)), Attn: Patsy Jo Beall Scholarship in honor of Glenn Beall, Office of Development and College Relations, 700 E. Broadway, Monmouth, IL 61462.

Glenn Lee Beall’s extraordinary life stands as a testament to innovation, education and unwavering character. His legacy will continue to inspire generations in the plastics industry and serve as a powerful reminder of the profound impact one humble, dedicated individual can have on the world. He will be deeply missed, but his contributions and the values he embodied will forever resonate.

### Christopher D. Bell

BROKEN ARROW, Okla. – Christopher David Bell, 54, of Broken Arrow, Okla., has gone to his heavenly home. He was called to heaven on July 17, 2025, after a brave and fierce battle with cancer.

Chris was the son of the late Duane and Suzanne Bell of Galva, Ill. He attended Galva High School and Black Hawk College. Raised on the family farm, Chris knew from the age of 5 that he wanted to be a farmer when he grew up. He lived out that passion by working at a John Deere dealership and farm in Avon, Ill., for 14 years, covering 4,000 acres of farmland throughout rural Illinois.

He utilized his education and mechanical skills to repair John Deere equipment and continued his love for mechanics when he moved to Oklahoma, taking on the role of assistant manager at Aesop Auto Salvage in Beggs, Okla.

Chris had a deep love for sports, particularly for his three favorite teams, the Dallas Cowboys, the Chicago Cubs and the Oklahoma State Cowboys. He also never missed a chance to watch NASCAR.

He had three older brothers whom he admired, Steve (Susan) Bell of Galva, Richard (Jane Doss) Bell of



Bell

Fort Myers, Fla., and the late Ronald (Georgia) Bell of Galesburg, Ill. He cherished his aunts, Donna (Jerry) Smith of Galva and Sharron Cheak of Galesburg, along with many nieces and nephews.

Chris’ daughter, Molly (Noah) Thompson of Stillwater, Okla., brought him immense joy. He was thrilled when she started attending Oklahoma State University and enjoyed spending time in Stillwater with her, attending OSU football games and other family events.

In July 2021, Chris met the love of his life, Tricia (Herndon), and they married. They shared a son, Jonah Ray, who is 5 years old and was his Daddy’s constant companion.

Chris was called to heaven far too soon, leaving a significant void in the hearts of his friends and family. He will always be remembered as a smart and fun-loving man.

Funeral services were July 25, 2025, at Abiding Harvest Church in Broken Arrow. The funeral service can be viewed online via a link on the Bixby-South Tulsa Funeral Service & Crematory’s website at [www.bixbyfuneralservice.com](http://www.bixbyfuneralservice.com).

A celebration of life will take place on Aug. 16, 2025, from 3-7 p.m. at the American Legion in Galva.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Christopher David Bell, visit [www.bixbyfuneralservice.com](http://www.bixbyfuneralservice.com).



Seckman

### Marilyn K. Seckman

KEWANEE – Marilyn Kay Seckman, 87, of Kewanee, passed away at 10:27 p.m. Thursday, July 24, 2025, at OSF Saint Luke Medical Center. Marilyn was born on July 28, 1937, in Kewanee, to Maxwell and Edith (Barlow) Lyle.

Surviving are two children, Debbie (Tim) Shane of Wyoming, and Don (Sharon) Seckman of Wilmington, N.C.; five grandchildren, Natalie (Joe) Grgic, Nicholas (Valerie) Shane, Nathan (Amanda) Shane, Cassidy Seckman, and Madelyn Seckman; and five great-grandchildren, Hannah, Katherine, and Ava Grgic, and Avery and Declan Shane. She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Keith Lyle; and a sister, Lois Jones.

Marilyn was employed as a legal secretary for Westervelt, Johnson, Nicoll & Keller for many years until her retirement. She was an avid sports fan, especially of the Chicago Cubs, enjoyed swimming with her friend group, and loved spending time with her family.

Her funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at the Global Methodist Church of Toulon. Pastor Glenn Corbly will officiate. Burial will follow in Evergreen Memory Gardens – Kewanee. Visitation will be on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at Haskell Funeral and Cremation Services in Wyoming from 5 until 7 p.m.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Global Methodist Church of Toulon. Condolences may be left for Marilyn’s family on her tribute wall at [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).



OBITUARIES

**Joseph Stoller**  
PRINCEVILLE – Joseph Stoller, 95, of Princeville, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

Joe was born on April 17, 1930, in Speer, to the late Joseph and Elizabeth (Streitmatter) Stoller. On March 4, 1951, he married Emily H. Menold. She preceded him in death on June 16, 2014.

A devoted farmer, faithful servant and lifelong fisherman, Joe lived a full and fruitful life rooted in faith, family and the land he loved.

Surviving are three sons, Gale (Sonia) Stoller of Princeville, Bruce (Mary) Stoller of Princeville and Brent (Kay) Stoller of Congerville; a daughter, Sandra (Don) Endress of Morton; 14 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; four step great-grandchildren; and three sisters-in-law, Bernice Stoller of Princeville, Martha Stoller of Bradford and Betty Menold of Princeville.

Aside from his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by six brothers, Earl, Richard, Floren, Lowell, Nathan and Vernon; four sisters, Violet Elsasser, Beulah, Lucille Endress and Geraldine “Pat” Ringger; and two great-grandchildren, Matea Stoller and Easton Andrews.

Joe began farming in 1948, cultivating not only crops but a legacy of hard work, perseverance and dedication. His passion for farming never waned; remarkably, he last operated a combine at the age of 94. His hands bore the story of a life spent sowing and reaping, guided always by a deep sense of purpose and gratitude.

A man of unwavering faith, Joe loved his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with all his heart. He served his church faithfully over the years in many capacities, always ready to lend a hand or offer encouragement. His quiet strength and servant’s heart left a lasting impact on his congregation and community.

When he wasn’t in the fields or at church, Joe found joy on the water. Fishing was a lifelong passion that brought him peace and connection – with nature, with friends and family and with his creator.

Joe will be remembered for his kind spirit, humble heart and steadfast devotion to the things that mattered most. His legacy of faith, hard work and love will live on in the lives of those who knew and cherished him.

Visitation was July 24, 2025, at Princeville Apostolic Christian Church Fellowship Hall. A funeral service was on July 25, 2025, at Princeville Apostolic Christian Church. Ministers of the church officiated. Burial was in Princeville Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to AC Skylines or to a charity of your own choosing.

Condolences may be left for Joe’s family on his tribute wall at [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).

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



Stoller

**Judy Taylor**  
MORRISTON, Fla., – Judy Taylor, 78, of Morriston, Fla., and formerly of Toulon, Ill., passed away Saturday morning, July 5, 2025, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family. She was born Sept. 22, 1946, in St. Louis, a daughter of the late Robert Hickman and the late Virginia Ackley.

Judy is survived by her beloved husband of 54 years, F. Barry Taylor; two daughters, Chris (Bill) Milleker and Carrie (Kurt) Loncka; three grandchildren, Kate Milleker, Anna Milleker and Lilah Loncka; and one brother, Daryl Hickman.

Judy graduated from Riverview Gardens High School in St. Louis in 1964. She attended Bradley University and earned a bachelor of arts in math and language arts in 1970. Later in life, she commuted to the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana while working full time as a teacher in Toulon and earned her master of arts degree in education administration in 1999.

Judy loved teaching and was an inspiration to so many over the years. She first taught 7th and 8th grade math in Hickory Hills, Ill., from 1970-71. From 1971-92, she taught mainly math, but also English and accounting at Toulon High School. From 1992-99, she taught math at Stark County High School in Toulon. Judy was influential to her students out of the classroom as well. She was a student council sponsor from 1971-99, which inspired student leadership that expanded into district and state participation.

Upon receiving her master’s degree, she worked as curriculum director for Galva, Stark County and Wethersfield school districts from 1999-2006. She continued as the curriculum director for Galva and Stark County part time from 2006-12.

As an active member of the community, Judy belonged to the Illinois Retired Teacher Association, the local chapter of the Philanthropic Educational Organization and was one of the founders and the secretary of the Stark County Education Foundation.

Judy had a love of creativity and the arts. She had a knack for creating beautiful things with sewing or crochet without even needing a pattern. She worked to instill those loves into all of “her girls.” You could often find her giving a lesson or singing a song with her granddaughters. But above all else, Judy treasured her family. Her daughters and granddaughters were her purest joy, and she greatly cherished time with her husband and family until her final days. She is sorely missed.

Visitation will take place from 9:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025, at Haskell Funeral and Cremation Services in Wyoming. The service will begin at noon. Burial will follow at Toulon Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Stark County Education Foundation: 300 W Van Buren, Wyoming, IL 61491 or at (309) 695-6123.

**Charles E. Webster**  
KEWANEE – Charles Eugene Webster, of Kewanee, formerly of LaFayette, 92, known affectionately



Taylor

as Gene to his friends and family, passed away on July 28, 2025, at Arcadia Care in Kewanee.

He was born on Jan. 4, 1933, in Toulon to the late Roland H. and Ruth A. (DeBord) Webster. On July 14, 1953, he married Evelyn Jane (Negley) Webster in Princeton, Minn.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn, whom he was married to for 72 years; son, Phil (Becky) Webster of Princeville; daughter, Linda (Steve) Foglesong of Astoria; and daughter, Dena (Tim) Becket of Wheatland, Wyo.; 12 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and one brother, Edward (Connie) Webster of LaFayette. He was preceded in death by two sons, Bradley and Brian Webster and one grandson, Cole Foglesong.

Gene’s early years in Toulon were the foundation of a life characterized by hard work and service. After bravely serving the U.S. Army from 1953-55, he returned to his roots in Stark County, where he spent his life farming the land he loved so dearly.

His commitment to the agricultural community extended beyond his own fields, as he also worked at the ASCS office in Toulon, assisting other farmers with the same kindness and expertise he applied to his own endeavors. Gene held years-long memberships in the Toulon American Legion and the Galva Baptist Church.

As we bid farewell to Gene, we do so with gratitude for the time we had with him and the countless ways he enriched our lives. His story is one of a life well-lived, a testament to the power of kindness and a reminder of the enduring power of a life dedicated to family, faith and community.

His funeral will be Friday, Aug. 1, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming. Rev. Randy Hrociencik will officiate. Burial will immediately follow in Evergreen Memory Gardens in Kewanee. A visitation will be one hour prior to the funeral, from 10-11 a.m., also at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions can be made to Cure Congenital Muscular Dystrophy at 3217 Carson St., Lakewood, CA 90712.

Online condolences may be made to Gene’s family on his tribute wall at [www.haskellfuneral.com](http://www.haskellfuneral.com).

**Jeanny R. Ibarra**  
GALVA – Jeanny R. Ibarra, 38, of Galva, died July 16, 2025, at OSF Saint Luke Medical Center in Kewanee.

She was born on Jan. 25, 1987. Survivors include her two children, Cavius Reed and Jayana Ringberg, both of Kewanee; her significant other, Brian Anderson of Galva; and six siblings.

**Hazel L. King**  
LaFAYETTE – Hazel L. “Suzie” King, 78, formerly of LaFayette, died July 20, 2025 at Seminary Manor in Galesburg. She was born on April 21, 1947, in Kewanee, the daughter of Frank and Hazel (Lempke) Pease. Suzie graduated from Galva High School and had been a homemaker.



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The Galva Park District will hold a public hearing at 5:55 p.m. on August 13th at City Hall in Galva. The regular meeting for the Galva Park District will begin at 6PM.

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Stark County Regular Van Schedule for August

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Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Toulon 8:55, Wyoming 9:10

Thurs., August 7: Kewanee  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Toulon 9:10

Mon., August 11: Peoria  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Toulon 8:55, Wyoming 9:10

Thurs., August 14: Princeton  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Toulon 9:10

Mon., August 18: Geneseo  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Toulon 8:55, Wyoming 9:10

Thurs., August 21: Kewanee  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Toulon 9:10

Mon., August 25: Peoria  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Toulon 8:55, Wyoming 9:10

Thurs., August 28: Galesburg  
Pickup - Bradford 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Toulon 9:10

The van will leave the destination city at 2:30 p.m.

Please note: If local schools are closed due to bad weather, MSW will be closed and there will be no transports

Fees: People under age 60: \$10 except to Kewanee is \$6;  
People aged 60 & over: voluntary donation  
Call by 4:00 p.m. the day before you would like to ride the van to make your reservation.

Individual transports are available M - F with advanced reservations.







# Over a century ago, Toulon natives in the show

**By TOM EMERY**  
For The Prairie News

In the 19th century, Toulon produced two future Major League Baseball players who had varying levels of success in the pros. One played for a legendary name in baseball history.

Charlie Hall and Johnny Walker were Toulon natives who enjoyed brief careers in the big leagues. Walker was a regular for the 1921 Philadelphia Athletics, managed by Connie Mack, whose 50 years at the helm of the A's is a Major League record. Unfortunately for both Hall and Walker, both played on very poor teams during their pro careers.

Hall, who was born on Aug. 24, 1863, broke into the majors on May 3, 1887, with the New York Metropolitans of the American Association. That league was one of three in the late 1800s that challenged the supremacy of the National League, founded in 1876. None lasted more than a decade until the American League was established in 1901.

Hall, a center fielder who was listed at 5-foot-10, 158 pounds, was not around for long. He only had 12 at bats over three days, with one hit and one stolen base. It was his only time in the major leagues. New York struggled to a 44-89 mark and a seventh-place finish, with the lowest team batting average and the highest team earned run average in the league.

There is discrepancy as to Hall's date and site of death. Some sources list his passing as June 23, 1921, in

Steilacomm, Wash., while others give the following day in Tacoma. He is buried in Toulon.

Toulon, though, was back in the majors three decades later, as Walker made his major-league debut in Philadelphia in September 1919. It was the pinnacle of a relatively undistinguished pro career

for the 6-foot, 175-pound Walker, who entered professional baseball in 1917 in the Class B Three-I League, one of the top minor league circuits of the region.

In that era, minor leagues were classified in descending order as AA, A, B, C, and D. The current designations of Class AAA, AA, A, and rookie level began in 1963.

Though play was suspended during the world wars and for three years during the Great Depression, the Three-I lasted from 1902-1961.

Bill Kemp, librarian/archivist of the McLean County Historical Museum in Bloomington, has extensively studied the Three-I.

"The league was one of the more stable and longer-running of the low minor leagues," Kemp said. "It was not uncommon for the better players in the league to make the jump straight to the major leagues."

Walker, who played first base and catcher, split time between Quincy and Hannibal in the Three-I in 1917 and did not appear in pro ball the following season, possibly because of World War I. He was back in the minors in 1919, first with Sanford of the Class D Florida State League before moving up to the Class A

Western League at Des Moines, where he batted .251 in 119 games. That was enough to earn him a stint in Philadelphia in September, and he saw action behind the plate in three games, going hitless in nine at-bats.

In 1920, Walker opened the season in the Class AA International League at Akron. There, he batted .338 with 10 home runs in 107 games. Late in the year, he was back in Philadelphia, appearing in six games at catcher. He produced five hits in 22 at-bats for a .227 average, to go along with five RBIs.

The Athletics were led by the incomparable Mack, who managed the franchise from 1901-50, part of a 53-year career at the helm in the major leagues that saw him win 3,776 games, an all-time high. Unfortunately for Walker, he broke in during a down time for the A's.

After pennants in 1913 and 1914, the cash-strapped franchise had to sell off players, a recurring theme in Mack's era.

In Walker's debut season of 1919, Philadelphia limped to a 36-104 record, a distant 52 games out of first. The major league seasons extended to 154 games in 1920, but the Athletics went 48-106 for their sixth-straight last-place finish.

The streak ran to seven at 53-100 in 1921, but Walker enjoyed his best season, appearing in 113 games, mainly at first base. He batted .258 with two home runs and 45 RBIs. It would prove to be Walker's last season in the big leagues.

Walker died on Aug. 19, 1976 in Hollywood, Fla.

*Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville.*



Walker



Hall

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