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 Vol. 21, No. 36

The Prairie News

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NEW HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUILDING

County building in Bradford

County approves \$310,000 contract

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – The Stark County Board of Supervisors is close to obtaining a property for a much-discussed new county highway building.
 At a special meeting held on Monday, the board approved a sales contract with GK Rogers LLC, of Roanoke for \$310,000 for the former Bradford John Deere tractor business.
 Most recently operated by Heritage Tractor, the building is located at 16501 Illinois Route 40 in Bradford.
 Finding a new location for the highway department has



Pictured above is the future location of Stark's new county highway building, located at 16501 Illinois Route 40 in Bradford. Photo by John A. Ballentine.

been discussed for several years and was first an agenda item at the May 2024 monthly meeting of the county board. It has been tabled every month since and spoken about during many closed sessions.
 Several potential sites in Toulon were examined and ultimately rejected, either by the county board or by the property owners.
 The need for a new county highway building was discussed in 2004 when the county board suggested tearing down the 1942 concrete building. Eighty-three years later, the county highway building is nearing the end

of its lifespan.
 In 2018, Bellwether LLC, of Bloomington, reported findings of a study conducted about the highway building to the board of supervisors. Bruce DeLashmit, Bellwether's founder, informed the county board that the building would be unsuitable for repairs and money would be better spent on constructing a new building.
 DeLashmit cited inadequate ventilation to clear toxic fumes from vehicles and insufficient heating due to inadequate insulation. He also said zoned heating resulted in expensive heating

and cooling costs for the vehicle area and administrative office.
 A leaky roof led to flooding in the administrative office, which caused mold growth and had the potential to harm employees' health. At one time, a temporary building was brought in because this specific problem was so hazardous.
 The City of Toulon has indicated an interest in obtaining the property to bring in businesses at the intersection of routes 17 and 91. Once the current highway building is demolished, Toulon or other purchasers of the property could develop that area.

Wyoming stop signs on hold

City Council tables resolutions until Oct. 21 meeting

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 WYOMING – A special meeting of the Wyoming City Council came to an abrupt halt Tuesday night just as four resolutions concerning the placement of stop signs were about to be presented for council approval.
 Alderman Steven Hansard asked Mayor Jim Mercer why the new stop signs were not discussed by the streets and alleys committee.
 Mercer said the resolutions were a police issues and not an issue for that committee. Hansard argued that it was, then made a motion to table the agenda resolutions that would have authorized the city to add stop signs on various streets around the city. Alderwoman Michelle Owens seconded the motion.
 In a roll-call vote, the six council members voted to table the resolutions until the Oct. 21 council meeting. Hansard, Owens, Dave Rumbold, Dave Lindahl and Carol Potter voted to table the resolutions. Dan Hardman dissented.
 The council passed a resolution to authorize the purchase of a 2013 Ford F-350 truck with 20,000 miles on it for the street department to

Continued on Page 2

Galva school board OKs FY26 budget

By CAROL TOWNSEND
 For The Prairie News
 GALVA – The Galva School Board passed a Fiscal Year 2026 budget at Monday night's school board meeting that is projected to be in the black.
 The revenue is \$5,332,395 and the expenditures are \$4,823,840.
 The board held a budget hearing at 6:55 p.m just before the regular meeting but no one commented.

The board will take action at their October meeting on transferring \$400,000 from working cash to the transportation fund. Superintendent Joe Becker said the district purchased two buses last year and the transportation fund is getting a little low.
 The board approved four seniors to graduate in December. They will have met the graduation requirements.
 The board heard a Facetime chat on the results of its 10-year

life safety re-survey report.
 The high school has 12 violations that are estimated to cost \$177,240 to repair. The elementary school has 13 violations with a cost estimate of \$241,506.
 Some of the main violations involve doors, glass and door closures. Becker said some of the priority items need to be completed in one year and lesser items need completed in

Continued on Page 2



Pictured above (left to right) are Galva students Bennett Colwell, Ellory Glaser and Jurnie Lambert-Owens, who were presented with the Wildcat Pride award at Monday night's school board meeting. Photo by Carol Townsend.



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The Prairie News is published every Friday (except one week in July and Dec. 27) by Lampe Publications LLC, 115 W. Main St., Elmwood, IL 61529.

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- **Galva Correspondent** - Carol Townsend

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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Deadlines - News due Tuesdays by 3 p.m. Ads due Mondays by 3 p.m. The Prairie News encourages readers to submit news for publication. Email to: news@prairie-news.com

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WYOMING: Voted 5-1 to table resolutions

Continued from Page 1

replace the current city truck that is barely operational. The purchase price is \$25,700 from Crump’s Auto and Trailer Sales, of Crystal City, Mo.

Also passed was a resolution to purchase one six-inch water telescoping valve from ESI, of Naperville, for \$8,987.

The council then went into closed executive session to discuss “city finances.” Mercer indicated that there would be no action or discussion after returning to open session.

GALVA: Board considers student representatives

Continued from Page 1

five years. Becker said the district’s maintenance crew will get started on the items in the near future to save any money they can.

The Galva district will hold parent-teacher conferences on Oct. 8-9. Call the office to set up a time with your student’s teacher if you want a conference.

The board discussed appointing two student representatives to join its

ranks. This has been done in surrounding districts and is something the board thinks would be beneficial for Galva’s schools.

The students would have no vote and could not attend executive sessions.

The board reviewed the district enrollment total, which is 463. There was also discussion on the impacts of home-schooling and the number of students who attend other

districts.

One reason given was students can’t drop out until a certain age but can be home-schooled.

Another problem for several families is not being able to find housing in Galva so they must move to a neighboring district. Some leave as another parent gets custody who does not live in the district.

Galva’s biggest class is the third grade, with 44 students – 28 boys and 16 girls.

This year’s eighth-grade class has 25 students, with only five boys and 20 girls.

Annual Jordbruksdagarna festival returns to Bishop Hill this weekend

BISHOP HILL – The annual 19th-century harvest festival Jordbruksdagarna returns on Saturday and Sunday.

On both days, the following activities will be available from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Traditional craft demonstrations, food, vendors and hands-on activities for the children. All demonstrations, hands-on activities, music and the

history skit are free.

Artisans will weave, carve wood, forge metal and make butter. Vendors will also be selling baked goods, crafts and more in the village park each day.

Musical performances include Coffee Creek at noon and 2 p.m. and the Nordic Dancers of Chicago at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. each day at the gazebo.

Visitors can try their hand at shelling corn, making bricks, pressing apples into cider and creating a cornhusk doll behind the Bjorklund Hotel from noon-4 p.m. each day.

Visitors can also view sorghum pressing and cooking, and explore the area’s agricultural heritage at the Henry County Historical Museum, where a variety of antique tractors and implements will be on display.

The Henry County Historical Museum and by the Krans Livery Stable, the Bishop Hill Agricultural Association will be conducting 19th-century harvest activities both days.

Author Mary Davidsaver will be doing a book signing at the Prairie Arts Center from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tractors will be available to transport people around town.

On Saturday only, the Old Settlers’ Association will be selling their famous Colony Stew from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Colony School. At the Steeple Building Museum, the BHHA Acting Troupe will perform their Bishop Hill Colony history skit “On the Road Again!” starting at 11 a.m.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Misdemeanors & Felonies:

9-14 - Michael D. Jones, 35, Felony possession of methamphetamine.

Incidents & Accidents
Stark County

9-14 - Jeremy Allen Helslander, 46, Driving 15-20 mph above limit and improper traffic lane usage.

9-15 - Breanna L. Kiesner, 35, Elmwood, was cited for improper lane usage, operation of an uninsured vehicle, and driving while her license was suspended. Her vehicle was impounded, and she was issued a court date to appear.

9-18 - A two-vehicle accident occurred on the North Valley Road approximately a half mile from the 1700E intersection. Drivers involved were William Clark Wilkins, 71, Wyoming, and Zaneika A. Norrington, 27, of Peru.

According to the accident report, Wilkins was traveling westbound on the North Valley Road when his 2004 Chevrolet 1400 pickup truck crossed over the center line into the east bound lane and was struck by a 2023 Freightliner truck owned by the Community Health Partnership of Illinois, that was being driven by Norrington. Wilkins was extricated from his vehicle and was transported by personnel from the Stark County Ambulance service to OSF St. Francis Hospital in Peoria.

Norrington refused treatment at the scene. Both vehicles sustained damage and were towed from the scene. Wilkins was cited for improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Also assisting at the accident site was the Wyoming-Speer Fire Department.

9-20 - Dawn P. Stevens, 48, Peoria, cited for driving with expired registration.

9-20 - Matthew K. Horack, 28, Lacon, cited for driving on a suspended registration due to not having vehicle insurance.

Peoria County Report

9-6 - A Peoria woman arrested in Bellevue for domestic battery was wanted in Stark County for illegal possession of cannabis, according to the Peoria County Sheriff’s Office. Stephanie L. Light, 45, was taken into custody about 9 p.m. in the 300 block of S. Main St. Light also was wanted in Peoria County for battery and in Douglas County for driving with a suspended license.

9-1 - At 10 a.m., Matthew R. Bowen of Wyoming was driving a southbound 2014 Buick LaCrosse on Illinois Route 91 near Fox Road south of Dunlap when the vehicle struck a deer. An ambulance transported Bowen to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria after he complained about left-hand and left-ear pain. The vehicle sustained significant front-end damage and was towed.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

9-15 - to the 200 block of S. Exchange St. to pick up a man’s wallet that had been found. Officer returned it to its rightful owner.



9-15 - to the 200 block of SW 1st Ave. for an abandoned vehicle complaint. The owner removed the vehicle by the end of the day.

9-15 - to Wiley Park for a complaint of a missing/stolen key for the complainant’s e-bike.

9-15 - While patrolling, officer located an open door at a closed business in the 900 block of SE 2nd St. It was determined the door hadn’t been latched by last the employee to leave. The door was locked and secured.

9-16 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a possible burglary complaint after a door was found ajar. Nothing was missing and camera footage later revealed the tenant had not latched the door when they left.

9-16 - along with the fire department to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for multiple fire alarms. Officer located a small fire on a stovetop involving burnt food.

9-16 - to the 400 block of NW 9th St. to get a written signature on an animal redemption form involving an impounded dog.

9-16 - to the 300 block of NW 1st Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The dog was captured and impounded. It was returned to its owner the following day.

9-17 - Officer was notified about a vehicle repossession taking place in the 500 block of SW 6th St.

9-17 - to the 100 block of SE 6th Ave. to meet with a resident who needed a replacement sticker for their low-speed vehicle.

9-17 - to the 1000 block of SE 2nd Street for a verbal domestic disturbance.

9-17 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a harassment complaint.

9-18 - to the 400 block of SW 4th Ave for a suspicious activity complaint. Officer spoke to the resident, who advised several friends left moments earlier.

9-18 - to the 300 block of Commercial St. for a loose-dog complaint. The dog was located and impounded.

9-18 - to the 400 block of SW 4th Ave. for a neglected animal complaint.

9-18 - to assist Illinois DCFS with a child custody exchange in the 100 block of East Division St.

9-19 - Officers went to both Galva schools to conduct a yearly law-enforcement drill.

9-19 - to assist Henry County with a traffic stop near the Galva Cemetery.

9-19 - to the 800 block of NE 2nd St. for a landlord/tenant dispute.

9-19 - Gizelle Araiza, 26, Kewanee, was issued a citation for operating an uninsured vehicle in the

300 block of NE 5th St.

9-20 - to the 600 block of NW 2nd St. for a civil standby to retrieve property.

9-20 - to the 100 block of NW 8th Ave. to remove an unwanted subject. After a struggle, Matthew Denning, 43, Rock Falls, was arrested for battery, criminal trespass to property and two counts of resisting and/or obstructing a police officer. He was taken to the Henry County Jail.

9-20 - to the 200 block of S. Exchange St. for a complaint involving a subject trying to run over another subject with a vehicle. This case remains under investigation.

9-21 - to the 800 block of W. Division Street for a loose-dog complaint.

9-21 - to the 400 block of SW 4th Ave. for a harassment complaint.

9-21 - to the west edge of town to check the welfare of a bicyclist on U.S. Route 34.

9-21 - to the 300 block of NW 1st St. for a complaint of a child’s bicycle being found that was destroyed. Further investigation revealed that a group of juveniles destroyed the bicycle at Wiley Park. This remains under investigation.

9-21 - to the 500 block of SE 2nd St. for a juvenile complaint involving another bicycle being destroyed. This is under investigation, as well.

Property Transfers

9-4 - Christopher, Ind. Admin. and Jacob E. Rewerts, Estate to Christine A. Newton, Trustee - Newton Subdivision Pt. Lt. 1 Lot 2 and Pt. Sect. 15-13-7 NW - Consideration = \$30,000.

9-4 - Benjamin O. and Kathryn E. Endress to Eric W. and Leah R. Crum - Pt. Sect. 13-13-6 NW - Consideration = \$243,777.

9-5 - Penny L. Schierer to Liboria and Proceso Ocampo - Pt. Sect. 22-13-5 SE - 3562 Illinois State Route 17, Toulon - Consideration = \$130,000.

9-8 - Norma Anderson Smith, Estate and Jeffrey L. Williams, Administrator to Janet L. Cihla, Jeffrey A. Smith and Jennifer L. Williams - Pt. Sect. 29-12-5 SW and SW NW - 1124 Twp. Rd. 135 N Toulon - Consideration = \$0.

9-9 - Charlotte Christine and John Sullivan to Randy Irwin - Pt. Sect. 11-13-7 SE - Consideration = \$0.

9-9 - Randy Irwin to Charlotte Christine and John Sullivan - Pt. Sect. 11-13-7 SE - Consideration = \$0.

9-11 - Charlene E. Horner and Marlene H. Peed to Charlene E. Horner - Pt. Sect. 20-14-6 NW - 7069 Township Road 1450 N. Toulon - Consideration = \$0.

9-12 - Jason Long to Micah Winkler - Giles C. Dana’s Add’n - Pt. Block 4 - 407 S. 7th St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$224,900.

9-18 - Geraldine Seyfert to Timothy Ales - Village of LaFayette Pt. Block 21 Lots 3 and 4 - 507 E. Main St., LaFayette - Consideration = \$0.

Marriages

9-11 - Philip Lee Daum and Lindsay Anne Bitner, both of Germantown Hills.

9-19 - Morgan Suzanne Schutte and Travis Dean Ehnle, both of Wyoming.

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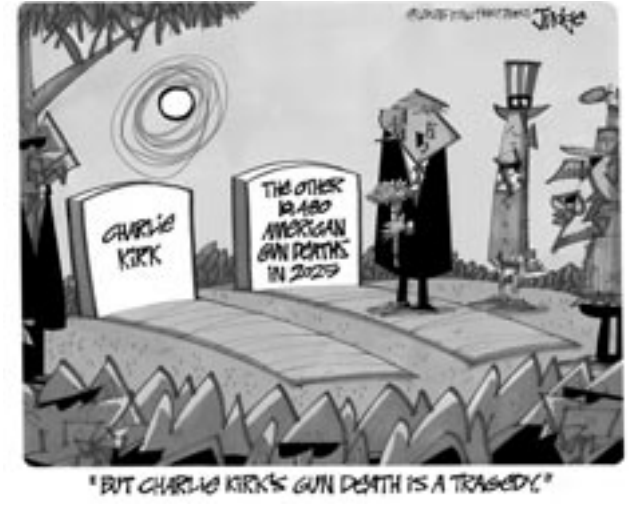
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GUEST VOICES

Quintessential attack on open debate

This past week should have brought a profound sadness on all freedom-loving Americans who cherish the concept of open and free debates in our grand experiment of representative democracy.

Charlie Kirk was on a college campus in Utah for a debate with students, which was a very normal activity for him. This time, however, an individual who disagreed with Kirk's message chose not to debate him and instead elected to kill him with an assassin's bullet. That act was the quintessential attack on free speech and open debate.

I concede I was not one who kept up on Charlie Kirk's activities and events. Kirk appealed to young people in our society, especially those in college. My days in college have long passed. I should have been paying more attention to his events.

Charlie Kirk was 31 when he died. He was a husband and the father of two small children at his passing. He grew up in the Chicago suburbs and had a passion for politics and faith-related discussions. His parents supported his efforts.

Charlie Kirk was a very smart student but declined to attend college, as he viewed it as a waste of his time. Kirk was a self-educated man. Stop for a moment and consider another self-educated Illinois man, Abraham Lincoln.

Like Lincoln, Kirk read incessantly and was willing to debate anyone regarding his belief system,

be that political or theological. This non-college kid debated the best throughout the world. College campuses worldwide welcomed Kirk to to debate. Kirk even debated at Oxford in England, which is no small achievement.

The amazing thing about Kirk was that he was always polite and respectful of those who had opposing views. Kirk was extremely persuasive in his debate skills and students who truly wanted to learn attended his debates. The adage is so true that we learn more from those who we differ with than those of like mind.

The problem in the United States is that we have overly politicized differences of opinion. Those individuals who attempted to assassinate Trump, shot Scalise and bludgeoned Paul Pelosi all disagreed with them or their spouses' political positions. They have been indoctrinated with the belief system that their worldview is that of ultimate virtue and those who oppose them must be eliminated.

That belief system justifies murder as being for the greater good of mankind. That is the type of indoctrination we have seen in North Korea, Stalin's Russia, Nazi Germany and to a large extent China today. Kirk wanted the debate and he knew that there were personal risks involved. He debated anyway.

Truth will always win if given a free and open debate. America is at a turning point, we can open up the nation to honest and open debate or we can curtail it and allow violence to

determine the winner. I believe the nation wants open debate and not the dogma that many are spouting.

• **Solar panels/wind turbines** – Solar and wind can certainly be a part of our national energy package. Both produce electricity that can be placed on the nation's power grid.

That being said, I admit to reservations about each. Coal, natural gas and nuclear do not rely on the sun or the wind to produce power. These production units are stable and easy to control by their respective operators. You cannot ramp up a turbine or a panel. It simply produces what Mother Nature provides.

Add to this concerns over how much the government subsidizes the wind and solar units and one must question what the true costs of the electricity produced are. The same question can be asked of the costs of electric cars with the government subsidies. Add the concern of taking valuable farmland out of production and we have more questions.

Both Lincoln and Maroa recently had solar farms erected within their corporate limits or abutting them. What does that do to home values in those communities? Maroa's solar farm received serious storm damage in the past month. What are zoning specifications for wind resistance, if any? These technologies, which may be the future of energy, seem to be promoted by legislation rather than the marketplace. That promotion is my concern.

Richard Koritz is an Illinois native and former DeWitt County state's attorney.

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Stark schools predicted to operate under budget for FY2026

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
For The Prairie News

WYOMING – The Stark County school board held a Public Hearing of the FY2026 budget prior to the regular meeting with Superintendent Brett Elliott presenting an overview of the budget with a few minor changes in the Education Fund Expenditures and Revenues that occurred since the tentative budget was presented last month.

The FY2026 final budget was passed later under unfinished business after it was on display for 30 days from Aug. to Sept. Elliott predicted that the school district will be “under budget if

emergency funds are not needed.”

The board went into the first of two closed Executive Sessions to discuss employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance. Speaking to the board at this time were Breann Cart and Samantha Berchtold accompanied with her husband Gerald.

These parent's indicated their displeasure with their children being required to recite the school district's mission and vision statement at the start of every school day.

Elliott reported that the Annual Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Oct. 14

and 16 from 4 to 7 p.m. He also said that on Oct. 17 there is no school for the annual fall break. Staff and students will return on Oct. 20.

The Oct. monthly meeting is rescheduled from Oct. 20 to Oct. 21 due to a personal conflict for Elliott.

The board, with a recommendation by Elliott, awarded the fuel bid to AgView (current vendor) over new bidder River Valley. Prices bid are AgView \$2.93 /gal gasoline, \$3.29/gal diesel while River Valley bid \$3.04/gal gasoline and \$3.49/gal diesel.

After a second closed Executive Session, the board ap-

proved the following hirings, volunteers and resignations:

- the resignation of Kyle Cantwell as fresh-soph basketball coach.
- Kane Mastin Jr. as high school assistant football coach.
- Jason Clark and Kyle Cantwell as jr. high boys' basketball coaches.
- Aaron Pratt as fresh-soph boys' basketball coach.
- Zack Maher as volunteer Jr. High football coach.
- Kelsey Berchtold as high school assistant girls' basketball coach.
- Zachary Snyder as jr. high school head track coach.
- James D. Owens as jr. high

cross-country volunteer coach.

- Tim Geisenhagen as high school assistant baseball coach.
- Michael Schott as high school volunteer assistant baseball coach.
- Jason Clark as high school assistant baseball coach.
- Jason Clark as AM Supervisor at the jr./sr. High School.
- Lori Wineland as jr. class sponsor.
- Patty Wilkinson as Rebel Reporter sponsor.
- Alisha Lee as part-time school nurse.
- Jim McMillen as bus driver.
- Hannah Sparks as kitchen staff member.

Galva Arts Council gets \$120,000 grant

For The Prairie News

GALVA – Free concerts at Wiley Park will continue for at least another three summers.

The Galva Arts Council has received a three-year grant worth \$120,000 from the Levitt Foundation for the 2026-28 Levitt AMP Galva Music Series. The grant will be dispersed in annual increments of up to \$40,000 and requires a dollar-for-dollar match from the community.

This funding ensures 10 free, family-friendly concerts will return to Wiley Park each summer. Since its inception in 2018, the Levitt AMP Galva Music Series has drawn tens of thousands of people together to

experience world-class live music in a welcoming outdoor setting.

The Levitt Foundation selected Galva as a returning grantee after a competitive review process, citing the series' proven impact, strong community support and alignment with the Levitt mission of building community through music.

“This series has impacted life in this area immensely and in ways that are well beyond the concerts,” said John Taylor, founder of the Galva music series. “This support allows us to continue offering high-quality, diverse, and inclusive concerts that are completely free to the public. It’s about more than just music—it’s

about creating a place to live where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together, connect, and feel a sense of belonging.”

Taylor also emphasized the series' broader impact: “These concerts not only enrich our cultural landscape but also generate real economic benefits for local businesses, restaurants, and vendors.”

Taylor credits all of this to the community's willingness to meet the Levitt Foundation's grant requirements for local matching funds.

Planning for the 2026 Levitt AMP Galva Music Series is already underway. Learn more via the Levitt AMP Galva Music Series Facebook page.

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BRIEFS

Drive-through flu clinic

KEWANEE – The Henry and Stark County Health Departments and First Choice Healthcare, in conjunction with the Henry County Office of Emergency Management, will conduct a drive-through only adult flu shot clinic on Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Henry and Stark County Health Department's West Parking Lot, 110 N. Burr Blvd., Kewanee.

Participants must have working car windows and should be ready to provide their Medicare and/or insurance card, or \$60 cash or check at time of vaccination. For more information call (309) 852-5272.

Burns Boosters

BISHOP HILL – The Burns Boosters met at the Bishop Hill Fire Station on Sept. 21 for their first meeting of the year. The group wel-



The Galva Ready to Grow committee chose Bob and Carlin Follis of 410 NW 2nd Ave. as the September Property Pride winner. Photo by Carol Townsend.

comed two new members this year, Jagger Drake and Cecil Drake.

During the meeting, new officers were elected. Chloe Finch was elected president, Corben Strand was elected vice president, Callan Finch was elected secretary, Ryder Johns-

ton was elected treasurer and Eden Rahm was elected reporter.

The Burns Boosters are helping with a bake sale Saturday, Sept. 27, during Jordbruksdagarna in Bishop Hill. Their next meeting will be a weiner roast on Oct. 19.



LAFAYETTE RAILROAD MUSIC FESTIVAL



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4


2-5 PM

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Stark County Genealogical Society presents:



Harper's Woods by Betty Sullivan

Recorded in 2019, Betty Sullivan talks about the early settlers: the Seeleys, Sturms and Halls. She recalls time spent there as a child.

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New restaurant opens in Galva’s east end

By CAROL TOWNSEND
For The Prairie News
GALVA – Mark and Heidi Gutierrez are bringing new life to the former Mary’s Family Dining restaurant.

The Galva couple are also giving up established jobs to run The East End Table and Tap at 1011 SE Second St. Mark gave his job as a correctional officer and Heidi gave up her career as a nurse.

A ribbon cutting was held last Friday in at the new establishment.

Mark and Heidi purchased the former Mary’s Family Dining from Mary Hepner on July 15. They have offerings, including daily features and a rotating menu. They have a renovation of the restaurant in progress which will be done in phases. They started in the kitchen.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays. Food is available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. on Fridays. Hours on Saturdays are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4-9 p.m. No food is served on Sundays, but the bar opens at 11 a.m.

Several events are planned in the future including a Cajun cook-off between Jeff Todd and

Crane Johnson.. The new owners are also planning a East End-West End meal featuring Bud and Lois Hall and Stan and Jackie Hall’s catfish with the trimmings. Daughter Peggy Lewis has the recipes and will be helping with the event.

The Halls served their catfish, slaw and baked potatoes for many years in a bar located on the west edge of Galva. That bar was sold and subsequently destroyed in a fire.

The East End Table and Tap will employee 13 plus the Gutierrez couple.



Attendees at a recent ribbon-cutting event for The East End Table included (left to right): Melissa Halsall, city secretary; Astrid Haryati, interior designer; John Wirth, Second Ward alderman; Mark Gutierrez, owner; City Administrator David Dyer; Heidi Gutierrez, owner; Mayor Rich Volkert; Superintendent of Galva Schools, Joe Becker and Jackie Clucas, Third Ward alderman. Photo by Carol Townsend.

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Elsie Hodges Park
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Kids Bicycle Parade (in the park) _____ 10 a.m. start time.
Decorate your bicycle to showcase in the parade

Best Pet Costume (in the park) _____ 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Bring a picture of your pet in their best costume to be voted on.

Fall Themed Craft _____ 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
All are welcome to participate

Fall themed Photo Backdrop and "How Tall This Fall" Board _____ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Come take your own photos with the beautiful fall backdrop
Measure yourself against the "How Tall This Fall" standup.

Pumpkin Judging Contest _____ 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Register your completed pumpkins at 11 a.m.
Prize winners in 3 Categories (K-5th Grade, 6th - 12th Grade and Adults)

Scavenger Hunt _____ 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Registration at 11 a.m. with Reyna Barto,
rules and clues will be given at that time

Cemetery Walk _____ 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Music by Steve Hargis _____ 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Music by Chris Stevens _____ 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
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Phone (309) 286-2224
Pastor Glenn Corby 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 Corby 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

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The Gathering Church

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Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
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Bradford Leet United Methodist Church

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


Gary J. Cromien

GALVA – Gary J. Cromien, 81, of Galva, passed away peacefully with his family at his side at 4:06 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 19, 2025, at OSF Saint Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 24, at St. John Catholic Church in Galva. Visitation will be held from 5-6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 23 at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with recitation of the rosary at 4:30 p.m. Burial will be in the Galva Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the St. John Altar and Rosary Society or to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Gary was born on Jan. 30, 1944, in Kewanee, the son of John and



Cromien

Arlene (Slover) Cromien. He married Carolyn L. Thrasher on June 4, 1966, in Peoria. She survives, as do their children, Stacey (Monte) Swanson, John (Ann) Cromien and Steffanie (Beth) Cromien, all of Galva; three grandchildren, Emily (Colton) Moorehouse, Hayden (Aly) Swanson and Jacson Cromien; and a great-grandchild, Beckett Moorehouse.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Dennis and sister Susan Galler.

Gary graduated from Galva High School in 1962. He worked as a press operator at Dixline Corp. in Galva and was a member of St. John Catholic Church. He loved to golf and enjoyed watching the Chicago Cubs play, but his biggest pride and joy was his family. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He will be greatly missed.

William E. Wilkerson

GALVA – William E. Wilkerson, 82, of rural Galva, died Sept. 13, 2025, at his home.

He was born March 21, 1943, in Salem, he son William and Pearl (Fahnstrom) Wilkerson. He married Shirley M. Hicks on June 20, 1970, in Galva. Survivors include his wife of 55 years; his two sons, Justin (Mary) Wilkerson and Paul (Kathy) Wilkerson, both of the Peoria area; two brothers, Michael Wilkerson and David Wilkerson; three grandchildren, William, James and Grant; and seven nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Pearl Jr. and a brother, Stuart.

William served his country in the U.S. Air Force. He worked as an electrician for the U.S. Postal Service. He was a lifetime member of the NRA and enjoyed shooting, fishing, playing cards, fireworks 4th of July celebrations and tinkering with gadgets and electronics.

Cremation will be accorded and a celebration to honor his life will be held later. Rux Funeral Home in Galva is assisting the family.



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NOTICE

GALVA CEMETERY CLEAN UP WEEK

This is the second cemetery clean-up for 2025.
Artificial flowers, potted flowers, all plants including plants in vases, all shepherds' hooks and figurines are requested to be removed. Military markers and solar lights may stay in place. Please remove from the Galva Cemetery by Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025 if relatives wish to save them. No more flowers or items should be placed on the graves until Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025.
Thank you! Galva Cemetery Board



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UNION FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION,
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v.
DONALD G. INCE, III; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned mortgage foreclosure action was filed on September 3, 2025, and is now pending.
1. The names of all parties, the court in which this action was brought, and the case number are identified above.
2. The name of the titleholder of record is: DONALD G. INCE, III.
3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:
Lot Number Twenty-six (26) in Block Number Two (2) of Tibbett's Addition to the City of Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois
PIN: 20-27-354-023
4. A common address, or description of the location of the real estate, is as follows:
709 May Street, Kewanee IL 61443.
5. Identification of the Mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:
a. Names of Mortgagor: Donald G. Ince, III
b. Name of Mortgagee: Union Federal Savings and Loan Association (f/d/b/a First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Kewanee)
c. Date of Mortgage: June 30, 2008
d. Date of Recording: July 1, 2008
e. County Where Recorded: Henry County, Illinois
f. Recording Document Identification: 20-0805349
NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants, file your answer to the Complaint for Foreclosure in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Henry County, Illinois, Henry County Courthouse, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge IL 61238, on or before October 14, 2025, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day; and a Judgment of Foreclosure may be entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint for Foreclosure.
/s/ Terilyn A. Motley, Circuit Clerk

Zachary L. Lessard (ARDC 6325734)
Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
211 West Second Street
Kewanee IL 61443
(309) 852-5555
zac@barashlaw.com
Published 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/25

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

Estate of
GALE A. LEASMAN, deceased
No. 2025-PR-93

DEATH NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of GALE A. LEASMAN. Letters of Office were issued on September 16, 2025, to Curtis A. Peed, 810 NE 3rd St., Galva, IL 61434, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Henry County Circuit Clerk, Henry County Courthouse, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC
Attorneys for Estate
P.O. Box 205
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
Published 9/26, 10/3, 10/10/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PRINCEVILLE STATE BANK,
Plaintiff,
v.
ESTATE OF GWEN A. AMES,
deceased, AUBREY AMES, ALEXIS AMES, HEATHER HOLLIS, WILLIAM YANEZ, KASITY YANEZ, JICTB, INC., PERSONS IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No. 2025 FC 6

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, all Non-Record Claimants, and all Unknown Owners, Defendants in the above captioned cause, that the above-entitled Mortgage Foreclosure action was filed on August 28, 2025, and is now pending.
1. The names of all Plaintiffs and the Case Number are identified above.
2. The Court in which this action was brought is identified above.
3. The name of the titleholder of record is: The Estate of Gwen A. Ames.
4. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:
Part of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36), Township Thirteen (13) North, Range Six (6) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Stark County, Illinois, described as follows:

Commencing at a point Sixty-six and One-half (66 1/2) feet north of the North side of the right of way of the Rock Island and Peoria Railway to a point where said railway intersects Galena Avenue and William Street in the City of Wyoming, on the West side of Galena Avenue; running thence North Forty-five (45) feet; thence West One Hundred Eighteen (118) feet; thence in a Southwesterly direction to a point about Ninety-three (93) feet due West of the starting point to the right of way of said railway; thence East to the Place of Beginning, being about Ninety-three (93) feet, situated in Stark County, Illinois, and; A part of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36), Township Thirteen (13) North, Range Six (6) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, described as follows, to-wit: Starting at a point where the West line of Galena Avenue intersects the present North line of the Rock Island and Peoria Railway Company's right-of-way in the City of Wyoming, running thence in a Westerly direction parallel with said North line One Hundred Fifteen (115) feet; this being the Place of Beginning for this description; thence East in a straight line Seventeen (17) feet; thence South to the former right-of-way line of the Rock Island and Peoria Railroad; thence Northwesterly to the Place of Beginning; situated in Stark County, Illinois. Property Address: 102 North Galena Avenue, Wyoming, Illinois 61491. PIN: 04-36-318-006

5. A common address or

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

ESTATE OF:
EVALIENA E. HIER, Deceased
No. 2025PR92

CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)
Notice is given of the death of Evaliena E. Hier. Letters of Office were issued on September 11, 2025, to Mark A. Hier 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 March 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.
E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions.
To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.
Name Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorney for Executor
Address P.O. Box 165
City Galva, IL 61434
Phone(309) 932-2001
Email: everetr@barashlaw.com
Published 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/25

CLAIM NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF ILLINOIS STARK COUNTY

ESTATE OF
EDNA F. HARRIS, DECEASED
NO. 2025PR71

CLAIM NOTICE AND NOTICE OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION
Notice is given of the death of Edna F. Harris. Letters of office were issued to Patricia A. Harper of 405 N. Cottage St., Kewanee, IL 61443 and Pamela Harris of 120 Park St., Bradford, IL 61421 as Independent Executors whose attorneys are Angel, Isaacson & Tracy, 111 Park Avenue East, Princeton, Illinois 61356.
Notice is given to Denver Singleton and the descendants per stirpes of Denver Singleton, the descendants per stirpes of Sheila Singleton, and all unknown heirs of Edna F. Harris and whose names or addresses are not stated in the amended petition admitting the Will to probate that an order was entered by the court on September 12, 2025, admitting the Will to probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order admitting, 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). E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>. You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act of 1975 (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.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court, Stark County Courthouse, 130 W. Main St., P.O. Box 426, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the Independent Executors, or both, on or before March 26, 2026, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the Independent Executors is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorneys within 10 days after it has been filed.
E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.
Dated this 18th day of September, 2025.
Angel, Isaacson & Tracy
Attorneys for Estate
111 Park Avenue East
Princeton, IL 61356
Published 9/26, 10/3, 10/10/25

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Toulon Community Fire Protection District of Stark County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2025, and ending August 31, 2026, will be available to public inspection at the Toulon Fire Department, 420 N. Franklin Street, Toulon, Illinois, in said Fire Protection District, from and after the 26th day of September 2025.
Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 5:00 o'clock P.M., on the 28th day of October 2025, at the Fire Station, Toulon, Illinois, and that final action on said ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of the Toulon Community Fire Protection District in Stark County, Illinois, at a meeting to be held at the Fire Station, Toulon, Illinois on said 28th day of October 2025, at 5:15 o'clock P.M.
By order of the Board of Trustees of said District.
Dated this 16th day of September, A.D. 2025.
Toulon Community Fire Protection District
/s/ William S. Foglesong, Secretary
Published 9/26, 10/3, 10/10/25

description of the location of the real estate is as follows:102 North Galena, Wyoming, Illinois 61491

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

a. Name of mortgagor: Gwen A. Ames (deceased)

b. Name of mortgagee: Princeville State Bank

c. Date of mortgage: May 15, 2003

d. Date of recording: May 28, 2003

e. County where recorded: Stark County, Illinois

f. Recording document ID: 87348

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Non-Record Claimants, and

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ROBIN J. STRANDBERG,
Plaintiff,
Case No. 2025FC7
v.
ROBERT C. WHITMER; KAYLA A. WHITMER; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action was filed on September 11, 2025, and is now pending.
1. The names of all Plaintiffs, the Court in which this action was brought, and the Case Number are identified above.
2.The name of the titleholder of record is: Robin J. Strandberg
3. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:
“A tract of land being the West 238 feet of the South 366 feet of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of Section 9, lying West of the center line of the West fork of Spoon River, Township Fourteen (14) North, Range Six (6) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Stark County, Illinois, containing 2.0 acres, more or less. Subject to the right-of-way of a Public Road along the South side of the above described tract and also subject to all easements of record.
PIN: 01-09-400-003 (part of)”
4. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows:
8521 Twp. Rd. 1600 N., Toulon IL 61483.
5. Identifications of the Agreement for Warranty Deed, accompanying Memorandum of Contract, and two accompanying Extensions of Agreement for Warranty Deed, sought to be foreclosed are as follows:
Agreement for Warranty Deed:
a. Names of Buyer (collectively): Robert C. Whitmer; Kayla A. Whitmer
b. Name of Seller: Robin Strandberg
c. Date of Agreement: May 29, 2015
d. Date of Recording: N/A
e. County Where Recorded: N/A
f. Recording Document Identification: N/A
Memorandum of Contract:
a. Names of Buyer (collectively): Robert C. Whitmer; Kayla A. Whitmer
b. Name of Seller: Robin Strandberg
c. Date of Memorandum: May 29, 2015
d. Date of Recording: May 29, 2015
e. County Where Recorded: Stark
f. Recording Document Identification: 2015-102091
August 25, 2018 Extension of Agreement for Warranty Deed:
a. Names of Buyer (collectively): Robert C. Whitmer; Kayla A. Whitmer
b. Name of Seller: Robin Strandberg
c. Date of this Extension: August 25, 2018
d. Date of Recording: N/A
e. County Where Recorded: N/A
f. Recording Document Identification: N/A
October 3, 2020 Extension of Agreement for Warranty Deed:
a. Names of Buyer (collectively): Robert C. Whitmer; Kayla A. Whitmer
b. Name of Seller: Robin Strandberg
c. Date of this Extension: October 3, 2020
d. Date of Recording: N/A
e. County Where Recorded: N/A
f. Recording Document Identification: N/A
NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants, file your answer to the Complaint for Foreclosure in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, Stark County, Illinois, Stark County Courthouse, Toulon, Illinois, on or before October 21, 2025, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a Judgment for Foreclosure may be entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint for Foreclosure.
/s/ Julie Kenney, Circuit Clerk
Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
211 W. 2nd St.
Kewanee IL 61443
Phone: 309/852-5555
zac@barashlaw.com
Published 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF ILLINOIS STARK COUNTY

ESTATE OF
PATTI J. STREITMATTER, DECEASED
Case No. 2025PR

CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of PATTI J. STREIMATTER, deceased, 204 East Agard Street, Wyoming, Stark County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 12, 2025, to Ross A. Streitmatter, 204 East Agard Street, Wyoming, Illinois, 61491, whose attorney is Ryan J. Anderson, 611 Second Street, P.O. Box 174, Henry, IL 61537.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of said Court at the Stark County Courthouse, 130 West Main St., Toulon, IL 61483, on or before March 25, 2026, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before said date is barred.
Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative within 10 days after it has been filed and proof of such mailing must be filed with the Court.
Ross A. Streitmatter
Independent Executor of the Estate of
Patti J. Streitmatter, deceased

Ryan J. Anderson
Attorney for the Executor
611 Second Street, PO Box 174
Henry, IL 61537
(309)364-2354

Published 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/25

PO Box 6199
Peoria, IL 61601-6199
Phone: 309.676.0400
Primary e-service: peoecf@heyloyroyster.com
Secondary e-service #1: tsmith@heyloyroyster.com
Attorney for Plaintiff

Published 9/12, 9/19, 9/26/25

• • •

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition has been filed by **Michael & Paula Leezer, 210 N Henderson Street, Toulon, Illinois**, directed to the Stark County Board of Appeals requesting a variance in setback

Continued on Page 11

SPORTS: Rebels VB in three-set matches

Continued from Page 12
hard work,” Rennick said. “It was great to have Norah back in the lineup and she ran a terrific time of 20:51. She is the real deal and a difference maker.”

Other scoring runners for the girls team were Paytin Terwilliger (59th, 22:30) and Darilis Knobloch (81st, 23:44).

The boys placed 11th out of 22 teams.

Stark County recently learned it was assigned to the Rock Island Alleman Regional at Saukie Golf Course in Rock Island and to the Sherrard Sectional, held at the same site.

“Lots of top teams but I like our assignment for both the girls and guys teams,” Rennick said.

The Rebels run Saturday at the 22nd annual Boiler Invite at Baker Park Golf Course in Kewanee.

• **Galva VB** – Galva (5-4) fell 25-19,

25-16 at Farmington last Thursday. Saige Kaiser led the Lady Wildcats in kills with four. Kailyn Townsend assisted on six scores, Isabelle Wigan recorded nine digs and Reese Sumner also posted nine digs.

Kaylyn Gale added six digs, while Charley Chamberlain picked up five digs. Caylee Elgin had one block.

Galva scored a Lincoln Trail home victory 26-24, 25-21 over Ridgewood on Setp. 17. Sumner provided four kills, three aces and six assists. Kaiser contributed on both sides of the net with four kills, two aces and three blocks.

Townsend set for six assists, Wigan went to the floor for 11 digs and Elgin added three kills. McKenna Anderson served two aces and blocked two. Gale recorded four digs.

Galva’s is home vs. Bureau Valley on Monday.

• **Stark County VB** – Stark County

picked up a comeback Lincoln Trail home win over Princeville 25-27, 25-21, 25-14 at home on Monday.

The Lady Rebels were defeated 23-25, 25-19, 13-25 by Lincoln Trail rival Monmouth United last Wednesday at home. Coley Johnston had a stat line of 14 kills and nine digs. Hallie Newton was the team assist leader with 18 and had eight digs.

Cambri Holmstrom paced the Lady Rebels in digs with 15. Sophie Finnegan scored on five kills. Kenna Sparks defended with four blocks.

Stark County battled in three sets but came up short 25-16, 30-32, 25-17 to nonconference opponent Midland on the road last Tuesday. Johnston recorded eight kills. Holmstrom defended with 12 digs. Newton posted a stat line of three kills, eight assists and two blocks.

Stark County is home versus Annawan on Monday.

FOOTBALL: Galva plays well in ‘every facet’

Continued from Page 12
scored on a 61-yard interception return and another pass from Browning, this one for 83 yards.

– Nick Vlahos

Galva 70

Bushnell-Prairie City 12

BUSHNELL – The Wildcats alleviated any worries about an opening-drive fumble by following that with their most complete game of the season.

“We looked good in every facet,”

Galva Coach Zach Anderson said.

Blake Stahl led the attack with 323 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 25 carries. MJ Louck also had three touchdowns in a variety of ways, scoring on a pass reception, a kickoff return and an interception return.

Galva (2-2, 2-1 8-Player West division) led 34-6 at halftime against winless B-PC (0-4, 0-2) and was up 26-12 after three quarters.

Galva also scored on runs by JP Sloan and Tommy Funke, who ran for 47 yards on four carries.

“Our defense was stout,” Anderson said. “We need to remember that every game, not just when we want to be.”

Galva faces a much tougher task today at 6 p.m. in its home game against two-time state 8-player champion Amboy (3-1, 2-0).

Princeville 35

Elmwood-Brimfield 14

ELMWOOD – Solid defense and



The Stark County defense bottled up host ROWVA-Williamsfield last Friday night in a 33-0 victory. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

some big first-half plays on offense propelled Princeville to a big victory in a LincolnLand crossover game.

In the first meeting between these neighbors in about 20 years, the Princes (3-1) completed their scoring before the Trojans (2-2) began theirs, with about a minute left in the third quarter. Princeville senior quarterback Kaiden Sarnes had only five carries but gained 143 yards and scored three times.

Princeville feasted almost from the beginning. After E-B was held to eight yards on its opening drive, it took only two plays from scrimmage for Princeville to lead, on Sarnes’ 54-yard bootleg run.

A little more than five minutes later, a 38-yard Sarnes run made it 16-0. A Sarnes run of identical distance with 9:28 remaining in the first half resulted in six more points.

Princeville held E-B to 59 total yards through the game’s first 32 minutes.

SCOREBOARD

Stark County 33, ROWVA-Williamsfield 0

Stark County 0 7 6 20 - 33
ROWVA-Will. 0 0 0 0 - 0

Scoring Summary

Second Quarter

SC - Daum 7 pass from Browning (Turnbull kick)

Third Quarter

SC - Daum 61 interception return (kick failed)

Fourth Quarter

SC - Daum 83 pass from Browning (Turnbull kick)

SC - Masters 12 run (kick failed)

SC - Sparks 1 run (Turnbull kick)

Team Statistics

	SC	R-W
Rushes-yds	22-123	43-145
Yds per carry	5.6	3.4
Comp-Att-Int	11-20-0	9-18-2
Passing yds	187	78

Individual Statistics

Rushing - SC: Browning 7-56, Masters 6-32, Gentle 2-17, Sparks 4-12, Knoblauch 3-6. R-W: Koepp 17-42, Gerlach 10-41, Soper 6-25, Estrada 5-22, Tamburro 2-21, H.Tucker 1-0, DeJaynes 2-(-6).

Passing - SC: Browning 11-19-0 187, Daum 0-1-0 0. R-W: DeJaynes 9-18-2 78.

Receiving - SC: Daum 8-157, Holmstrom 2-18, Siebenenthal 1-12, R-W: Skala 2-29, Tamburro 3-20, Nichols

1-12, Gerlach 1-10, Sornberger 1-6, Koepp 1-1.

Tackles - SC: O'Bryant 11. R-W: Smith 7.

Princeville 35

Elmwood-Brimfield 14

Princeville 16 6 13 0 - 35

Elmwood-Brim. 0 0 6 8 - 14

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

P - Sarnes 54 run (Geiger pass from Sarnes)

P - Sarnes 38 run (Geiger pass from Sarnes)

Second Quarter

P - Sarnes 38 run (run failed)

Third Quarter

P - Christianson 63 pass from Sarnes (kick wide right)

P - Blunier 25 pass from Sarnes (Richeson kick)

E-B - Burkitt 14 pass from Patterson (kick failed)

Fourth Quarter

E-B - Burge 60 run (Ulrich run)

Team Statistics

	P	E-B
Rushes-yds	36-275	33-144
Yds per carry	7.6	4.4
Comp-Att-Int	10-20-2	1-4-1
Passing Yds	195	14
Penalties	14-100	5-35

Individual Statistics

LincolnLand - Large

	Conf.		Overall
	W	L	W
Farmington	3	0	4
Macomb	3	0	4
Knoxville	3	1	3
Elmwood-Brim.	2	1	2
Illini West	2	1	2
West Hancock	1	3	1
LVC	0	3	0
Bureau Valley	0	2	0

Last Week

Princeville 35, Elmwood-Brimfield 14
Farmington 35, Illini West 0

Macomb 42, Bureau Valley 16
Knoxville 35, West Hancock 28

St. Bede 56, LVC 0

Friday, Sept. 26

Bureau Valley at Elmwood-Brimfield
Knoxville at Farmington

Macomb at Breese Mater Dei
West Hancock at Illini West

LVC at South Fulton

Rushing - P: Sarnes 5-143, Geiger 7-34, McGrath 6-32, Christianson 9-31, Melick 2-24, Cox 5-13, Friedman 2-(-2). E-B: Burge 1-60, Alger 8-47, L.Johnson 13-42, Newman 1-3, Patterson 3-0, Estes 6-(-2), Shane 1-(-6).

LincolnLand - Small

	Conf.		Overall
	W	L	W
Stark County	4	0	4
Annawan-Weth.	3	0	4
Rushville-Industry	3	0	3
Princeville	2	1	3
Abingdon-Avon	1	2	1
South Fulton	1	3	1
Havana	1	3	1
ROWVA-Willmsfld	1	3	1
United	0	4	0

Last Week

Princeville 35, Elmwood-Brimfield 14
Stark County 33, ROWVA-Willmsfld 0

Rushville-Industry 54, South Fulton 6
Abingdon-Avon 59, United 30

Annawan-Wethersfield 42, Havana 0

Friday, Sept. 26

Abingdon-Avon at Princeville
United at Stark County

Annawan-Weth. at Rushville-Industry
ROWVA-Williamsfield at Havana

LVC at South Fulton

Passing - P: Sarnes 7-15-2 180, Cox 3-5-0 15. E-B: Patterson 1-4-1 14.

Receiving - P: Christianson 2-86, Day 2-51, Blunier 2-29, Johnson 1-14, N. Lowery 1-7, McGrath 1-7, Lauber 1-1. E-B: Burkitt 1-14.

Tackles - P: Carruthers, Lowery 8.

Tree Pruning
Tree Removal
Stump Grinding
Snow Removal

Bob Baer
Certified Arborist
(309) 657-0571
mybackyard2@gmail.com

CREATIVE INTERIORS

Window Treatments

Kim Foes, Interior Designer

(309) 238-5510

foes@nbson.net

The City of Galva Water Department will be
FLUSHING HYDRANTS on OCTOBER 7th - 17th.

Starting in the S.E. and S. W. parts of town,
then N. W. and ending in the N.E. section of town.

RUSTY WATER can occur in any part of the town
during this time. People should run water
a few minutes before washing clothes.

~ Superintendent of Water
Greg Thompson

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*On qualifying models and
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www.KlaxonMechanical.com

GARAGE SALES

• **YARD SALE:** Friday, Oct. 3 and Saturday, Oct. 4, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Lawn Ridge, 56 Cty. Rd. 350 N., Edelstein.

CLASSIFIEDS

- FOR RENT**
 - **TOULON:** Upstairs 2 bedroom apartment for rent in Toulon, 105 E. Main.
 - **WYOMING:** 104 East Elm, Wyoming. Two bedroom apartment, \$500 per month plus utilities, \$400 deposit, work and landlord references required, no smoking, no pets. Call (612) 940-5208.
- FOR SALE**
 - **Farm Fresh Eggs:** Galva. Call (309) 525-0234.
- SERVICES**
 - **REMODELING & REPAIR:** Most types of quality home remodeling and repairs including doors, thermopane vinyl replacement win-
- dows, interior painting and electrical, by Denny Miller. Over 25 years of experience. We also do kitchens, baths, decks, steps and more. Small jobs welcome! Call me at (309) 995-3364.

 - **SALVAGE:** Buying junk autos, farm equipment, grain bins, and also doing total farm clean up. Call Doug Lofgren at Spoon River Salvage (309) 299-8531.
 - **BEAT RISING HEATING BILLS** with the proven technology of a Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUT-DOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today for budget-friendly warmth! (309) 565-4300.

LEGAL ADS

Continued from Page 10
requirements for property described as **Toulon Township, City of Toulon, Original Town, Lot 5 & N1/2 Lot 8 Block 4.**
The request for the variance is for the construction of a 14 x 22' addition to an existing garage that will be 13' from the center of the alley rather than the 20' setback.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a hearing on said petition will be held before the Zoning Board of Appeals of the County of Stark, at the Courthouse at **130 West Main Street, Toulon, Illinois, at 7:00 p.m., October 13, 2025,** at which time and place all persons may be present and will be heard.
/s/ Renee L. Johnson
ZONING OFFICER
Published 9/26/25
• • •
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition has been filed by **Luis Lara, 27W121 Cooley Ave, Winfield, Illinois,** directed to the Stark County Board of Appeals requesting a variance in setback requirements for property described as **Penn Township, Village of Castleton, Lots 1-4, Block 1.**
The request for the variance is for the construction of a 24 x 30' garage that will be 3' from the West property line.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a hearing on said petition will be held before the Zoning Board of Appeals of the County of Stark, at the Courthouse at 130 West Main Street, Toulon, Illinois, at 7:00p.m., October 13, 2025, at which time and place all persons may be present and will be heard.
/s/ Renee L. Johnson
ZONING OFFICER
Published 9/26/25

Rebels roll to 4-0 with R-W shutout

Daum leads the way in 33-0 victory

By The Prairie News

ONEIDA – A Stark County football team that had questions galore at the start of the season might provide a big postseason answer this week.

After they beat ROWVA-Williamsfield 33-0 in a LincolnLand small-division game Sept. 19, the Rebels (4-0, 4-0) are only one victory from an almost-certain berth in the state playoffs. They are to play Friday night in Wyoming against winless Monmouth United.

The toughest part of the schedule lies ahead for Stark County, which is in first place in the league. Stark County is to face pre-season conference favorites Annawan-Wethersfield, Rushville-Industry and Princeville in successive weeks, starting Oct. 3.

Still, as Stark County Coach Jade Noard sees it, postseason qualification would be an accomplishment for a team that had few veteran varsity players.

“It’s a group that has not had a ton of success at lower levels – really, in any sport,” he said. “You hope that we could put it together. We’ve had some good fortune, but I think our kids have made some good plays, too. It would be a really good achievement for this group to be in already after five weeks.”

Week 4 against R-W (1-3, 1-3) was a bit dicey early. According to Noard, Stark County killed a few of its drives, thanks to dropped passes and other mistakes. Meanwhile, the Cougars threatened to score first by driving to the Rebels’ 18-yard line.

But on third-down-and-1, the on-field officials stopped play for about 30 minutes because of lightning. When the game resumed, Stark County



Stark County senior running back Connor Daum eludes an attempted tackle by a ROWVA-Williamsfield player on his way to another gain for the Rebels last Friday night in Oneida. Stark County won 33-0. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

stopped R-W on back-to-back plays and took possession.

“I thought that kind of really set a tone for us,” Noard said. “Coming out of that delay, I thought our kids were a little more focused. I’m not sure how focused we were. It didn’t seem like we were all

Rebels XC shines at Donner Invitational

By JEFF LAMPE
For The Prairie News

WALNUT – A healthier and happier Stark County cross country team ran to strong finishes last Saturday at the annual Dale Donner Invitational.

Sophomore Evan Knobloch topped the field of 199 runners with a time of 15:46 on an unusual and notoriously slow course. That was a big turnaround for Knobloch, who had placed 41st in 15:57 at the Sept. 13 First to the Finish Invitational at Peoria’s Detweiller Park.

“First to the Finish wasn’t his favorite race so far but he adjusted and the results speak for themselves,” Stark County Coach Bob Rennick Jr. said. “Night and day performance from last week for Evan and I’m really happy for him. He has to tangle with the best of the best week in and week out.”

The girls team placed second at Walnut and also ran better this week, due in part to the return of Norah Rorem, who did not compete one week ago at Detweiller. The second-place finish is Stark County’s highest ever at this race and required the Lady Rebels to beat three top-25 teams, Ridgewood, Sherard and Sandwich. Elmwood-Brimfield won the race with 84 points compared to 154 for Stark County.

Dusti Smith placed fourth in the 188-runner field with a time of 18:56. Westmont’s Kyla Babb won in 17:23.

Other medal-winners for Stark County were Cheyenh Smith (6th, 19:23) and Rorem (27th, 20:51).

“All returning runners cut time from last year and again Cheyenh showed huge improvement, bettering her time by 1:42, which is a testament to her

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