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March 20, 2026  
Vol. 22, No. 10

# The Prairie News

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## DROUGHT BUSTERS

### Well digging a family affair for Cosbys

By **JEFF LAMPE**  
For The Prairie News

The early-March day was chilly and windy, cold enough to bring to mind the old idiom about a well digger.

The cold didn't bother Doug Cosby, who was in fact digging a well near London Mills on that chilly day. But mud is another matter. So a prediction of incoming rainstorms had him working in the cold.

“I love digging wells, but I hate mud,” Cosby explained. “I don't like to work in muddy conditions just because it's a lot of extra work and, from a safety standpoint, you can slip.”

There's not much else Cosby, 61, dislikes about digging wells. Actually, he enjoys the process so much he went full time after retiring in 2022 following a 33-year career as a Caterpillar Inc. engineer.

“I like meeting new people. I love the thrill of getting them water,” he said. “And I love to work on stuff. We make a lot of our own tooling.”

Not long after he expanded his business, Cosby was joined by his son Josh, 26, the fourth generation of Cosbys to drill wells. Doug and wife Terri have three children, but eldest son Max and daughter Anney pursued other careers.

So it's up to Josh and Doug to



Above, Doug Cosby (right) dumps a bucket full of clay with help from his son Josh Cosby. The father and son, also pictured below, represent the third and fourth generation of Cosby well diggers in the Elmwood area. Photos by Jeff Lampe.



follow a path blazed by the father-and-son duo of Edward Leo Cosby and Edward Leo Cosby Jr., the former longtime mayor of Elmwood.

“Believe it or not, my grandpa Ed started this when he bought a house out in the country (near Brimfield) and it needed a well,” Doug said. “He wanted to drill his

own well, so he bought a Cable Tool drill rig mounted on an old school bus.”

Ed Jr. followed in his dad's footsteps and, after working in the Air National Guard and at the Peoria Journal Star, got enough wells to dig so he could leave other jobs behind.

During high school and college, Doug helped his father and also worked at Jordan's Mobil in Elmwood, where he learned plenty about customer relations from the late Dave Jordan. After graduating from Bradley University with an engineering degree, he took a job

*Continued on Page 2*

## Pritzker v. Bailey II

Race for governor will be a rematch; Stratton vs. Tracy for U.S. Senate

By **PETER HANCOCK**

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Republican voters in Illinois have once again chosen former state Sen. Darren Bailey as their candidate for governor, giving him a second chance to unseat incumbent Democrat JB Pritzker in November.

Bailey, a farmer from southern Illinois and the party's 2022 nominee, claimed victory Tuesday night in a four-way primary for the GOP nomination, defeating Ted Dabrowski, former head of the conservative policy

website Wirepoints.

According to unofficial returns compiled by the Associated Press, Bailey had carried about 50% of the vote as about 8:35 p.m. when the race was called. Dabrowski garnered about 32%.

Henry County voters overwhelmingly favored Bailey (1,742 votes) over Dabrowski (648). In Stark County, the vote was 330-89 favoring Bailey over Dabrowski.

Speaking to a crowd of supporters at a Springfield

*Continued on Page 4*

## Low turnout, few local races settled in primary

Turnout 20% in Stark, 13.6% in Henry

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Prairie News

Faced with ballots that offered few contested local races and very little intrigue for statewide elections, voter turnout was slim for Tuesday's statewide primary.

Turnout in Henry County was 13.6%, with 5,038 of a possible 37,044 ballots cast. There were 2,956 Republican ballots and 2,076 Democratic ballots.

Turnout was better in Stark County, where 20%

of voters went to the polls (659 of a possible 3,202). Stark County had 173 Democratic ballots pulled and 486 Republican ballots cast.

Henry County Republicans favored winning candidate Dillan S. Vancil in the race to face Democrat incumbent U.S. Rep. Eric Sorensen in the 17th Congressional District. Vancil outpaced Julie Bickelhaupt 595-401 in Henry County and won overall with 57.2% of

*Continued on Page 2*

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~ Thomas Jefferson

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The Prairie News is published every Friday (except one week in July and Dec. 26) by Lampe Publications LLC, 115 W. Main St., Elmwood, IL 61529.

The Prairie News mailing address is PO Box 745, Elmwood, IL 61529. Hours are Mon. to Thurs., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**(309) 286-2185**  
**ads@prairie-news.com**

**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](mailto:news@prairie-news.com)

The Prairie News assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors, but will reprint the part of an ad in which an error occurred. The Prairie News is an Illinois Press Association member.

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# WELL DIGGER: Drilling in the digital world

*Continued from Page 1* with Cat. About 12 years ago, he started digging wells on weekends.

And while his 87-year-old father now lives in a Peoria assisted-living facility and is no longer a regular at job sites, Doug said his father is still keenly interested in the business.

“Every time I go to visit him, over half the time is talking about well drilling,” Doug says. “And I call him about every job I do or am going to bid.”

It was also the eldest Cosby’s advice to get Josh involved after he finished at Illinois State University. So far so good. The youngest Cosby well digger said he enjoys the work and is in much better shape than when he started.

Plus, the future looks brighter than he envisioned while helping his father during summers in high school.

“When I was a teenager, my grandpa would ask, ‘Are you going to get into well drilling?’” Josh recalled. “I told him, ‘I enjoy it but I don’t see a career in it.’”

That has changed. AI is a real threat to the careers



Doug Cosby moves a length of well casing into position under the watchful eye of his son, Josh Cosby. Photo by Jeff Lampe.

of many young people, but computers aren’t digging wells. Then again, nor are many other humans.

“Fifteen years ago when I went in to get my license, the room would be full of 700-800 people. I just went again in February and there were less than 200 people,” Doug said. “It has turned into an old man’s game.”

Integrating a younger perspective can be helpful.

“I’m an analog guy in a digital world and he’s the one bringing the digital world into the business,” Doug said. “And he’s really good at it. Where I’m becoming my dad maybe and doing things the hard way, he has suggestions to make things easier.”

Some changes are simple, like using a skid steer to load well casings and to help guide casings into the ground – jobs the older Cosbys did by hand.

But Josh is also looking into timed electromagnetism devices to help find underwater aquifers. The

Cosbys do not use divining rods or “witching” to find water sources. And while Doug is generally very good at deciding where to dig, some help can’t hurt.

“What he’s bringing to the table is good, but sometimes I have to throttle him back a little and say, ‘Not now,’” Doug said.

Overall, the timing for fresh blood is good, since the past year has been busy for the Cosbys. Drought conditions are forcing many rural families with hand-dug wells to haul water and drive to town to do laundry – or pay to have deeper wells bored.

Older hand-dug wells are typically no deeper than 26 feet, Doug said. While that is adequate for normal conditions, the recent prolonged drought has made many wells run dry.

Doug uses his auger and buckets to bore a 45-inch-diameter hole up to 100 feet. Drilled wells can reach much deeper, up to 500 feet, but cost 2½ times

more, he said.

As a hole is formed, the Cosbys lower concrete casings into place. Cave-ins and boulders are the nemesis of well diggers.

After digging through topsoil, the auger works into brown clay, then gray clay and then reaches gray sand, coal or shale. That’s where the water usually is, Doug said, noting the average depth of his wells is 45-50 feet.

Once a good source of water is located, the Cosbys can also provide pumping systems, since Doug is licensed in both well drilling and pump installation, as were his father and grandfather. Josh is pursuing dual licensing and has exams in April.

Last year the Cosbys dug wells from May to Christmas. Most jobs are residential, but they are expanding into the commercial market.

And while wells are not cheap, Doug says they are an investment that can help improve the resale value of a home.

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# LOCAL VOTE: Vancil tops Bickelhaupt

*Continued from Page 1* votes to 42.8% for Bickelhaupt.

Chad Winter of Kewanee was the leading vote-getter among the six Republican candidates for

four seats on the Henry County Board from District 2 (including Galva, Bishop Hill, Kewanee and the southern half of the county). Winter received 995 votes and was on

42% of the Republican ballots and was followed by Marshall Jones (872 votes), Deborah Casteel (801) and David Tomsic (795). Not elected were Kevin Brown (755) and Natalie Hendrix (732).

On the Democratic side, Maggie Jo Marin-Wheeler was the lone County Board candidate for District 2 and received 811 votes.

The only local contested race in Stark County saw Kim Armstrong and Kevin Lamm lead for the 16th State Central Committee’s two positions. Armstrong received 97 votes, Lamm 73 and Patrick Cortesi received 54.

Henry County voters favored Armstrong (725) and Lamm (470), with Cortesi (449) also third in that county. Final results for the entire district were not available at press time.

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**PUBLIC RECORD**

**Galva Report**

**Officer dispatched:**

3-9 - to the 600 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a verbal domestic disturbance between adult siblings.

3-9 - to meet with a subject at the Galva Police Department to return items from a theft complaint that was reported last week. The victim declined to press charges and was able to get property back.

3-9 - to the Galva-Atkinson blacktop just north of town for an obstruction in the roadway. Officer was able to remove several items that likely fell off an unknown vehicle.

3-9 - to the 800 block of SW 2nd St. for a complaint involving criminal damage to property.

3-10 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 300 block of S. Center Ave., Edward Melton, 66, Victoria, was arrested for not having a valid drivers license, operating a vehicle when registration suspended and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a required court date.

3-10 - to meet with a resident at the Galva Police Department to update their annual sex offender registration. A completed form was emailed to Henry County for LEADS entry.

3-10 - to Wiley Park for a complaint involving unruly juveniles harassing others. They were warned and advised.

3-10 - to a residence on SW 4th St. for a welfare check. The subject was fine.

3-10 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. to check on a subject that was reportedly suffering from a mental health crisis.

3-10 - to the 100 block of SW 4th St. for a complaint involving harassing phone calls from a subject living out-of-state.

3-10 - along with the fire depart-



ment, responded to a storm related complaint in the 800 block of NW 1st Ave.

3-10 - to check a residence on NE 5th St. for storm-related damage after resident heard a loud thud. Officer did not see any damage to the residence.

3-11 - to speak to a resident by telephone about a juvenile behavioral issue that was being addressed at a local medical facility.

3-11 - to speak to a subject by telephone about an abandoned vehicle in the 00 block of NE 4th Ave. The vehicle was red-tagged as abandoned and is subject to being impounded.

3-11 - to the 200 block of NE 6th St. to assist Illinois DCFS.

3-12 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a loud-music complaint.

3-12 - to meet a resident at the Galva Police Department for a theft complaint. While speaking to the complainant, the suspect contacted them and gave the item back. No police involvement was needed.

3-12 - along with Stark County Medic to a medical emergency involving an intoxicated person laying in the roadway in the 00 block of SW 4th St.

3-12 - to the 500 block of SW 3rd Ave. to assist a resident with a water leak. The Galva Water Department was notified after officer found a broken water pipe inside the house. It was shut off.

3-13 - to the 200 block of SW 2nd Ave. for an activated burglar alarm. It was determined to be a false alarm.

3-13 - to the 100 block of Market St. for a traffic complaint involving a vehicle pulling a trailer without a wheel on it. Officer located the subjects and spoke to them.

3-13 - to the 400 block of East Division St. for a stolen license plate complaint. The missing plate was entered into LEADS as a stolen item.

3-13 - to the 400 block of NW 2nd Ave. for a complaint involving damage done by a group of juveniles.

3-13 - to the 300 block of SE 3rd Ave. for a suspicious person complaint.

3-14 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 300 block of Main St., Kristin Spiegel, 33, Galva, was arrested for driving while license suspended. She was released with a required court date.

3-15 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 500 block of NE 3rd Ave., Heather St Clair, 30, Galva, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. She was released with a required court date.

3-15 - to the 200 block of SW 2nd St. to assist a motorist that had broken down.

3-15 - to the 00 block of Chester St. for a disabled semi truck in the roadway. Upon officer's arrival, the semi was able to drive away.

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Answer

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**CryptoQuote**  
answer  
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## REMATCH: 57% of Republicans pick Bailey

*Continued from Page 1*

hotel Tuesday night as his lead grew, Bailey immediately began calling for party unity.

"This primary is over," he said. "Regardless of who you voted for, regardless of our past differences, this election is bigger than all of that. We must join together to stop another four years of billionaire leadership that doesn't understand your life, your bills, or your struggle."

DuPage County Sheriff James Mendrick and businessman Rick Heidner, who spent more than \$1 million of his own money on the campaign, each had under 10% when the race was called.

Four years ago, Bailey won the nomination with 57% of the vote in a crowded race that also featured Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin and venture capitalist Jesse Sullivan.

In that campaign, Bailey had the endorsement of then-former President Donald Trump. But many observers noted he also had backhanded help from the Pritzker campaign, which viewed him as a weaker candidate than the better-financed Irvin.

Bailey went on to lose the general

election, 55% to 42%, after Pritzker swept Cook County and most of the collar counties

Two years later, he tried unsuccessfully to unseat fellow Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Bost in the 12th District, narrowly losing that primary by less than 3,000 votes.

Bailey announced his plan to run for governor again in September, vowing to run a different campaign that would focus more on Chicago and its suburbs. That started with choosing Cook County Republican Party Chairman Aaron Del Mar as his running mate.

Barely a month after announcing his candidacy, however, Bailey suffered a family tragedy that could have ended his campaign when his son Zacharay, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren were all killed in a helicopter crash in Montana.

But Bailey chose to stay in the race, "not for politics, but for every family trying to make it in a state that's lost its way, for every parent who dreams of a better future for their children and for every Illinoisan who knows that we can do better."

Although Trump did not issue a formal endorsement this time around,

Bailey made it clear that he would model his administration after the current president, vowing to set up a DOGE-like commission to root out waste and inefficiency in state government.

Speaking to supporters Tuesday night, Bailey also began to put some distance between himself and Trump.

"You're going to hear JB Pritzker and his Democrat allies try to compare me to Donald Trump and use some pretty mean words while doing it," he said. "Well, there are things that I agree with Donald Trump about, and there are things that I disagree with him about. I am my own man. But when Trump is right, we're going to try to do those things in Illinois."

Dabrowski, meanwhile, campaigned on the idea that he was the more electable candidate, arguing that Bailey's poor performance in the suburbs four years ago was an omen that he could never win a statewide general election.

But Sheldon Schulte, a Bailey supporter from Vandalia, said Tuesday that if more southern Illinois Republicans had turned out in 2022, Bailey would have won the race.

## Stratton, Tracy to vie for vacant Senate seat

By Capitol News Illinois Reports

CHICAGO – Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton rode a late wave of momentum to win the Democratic nomination for Illinois' open U.S. Senate seat, toppling longtime frontrunner Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi with the financial aid and political muscle of Gov. JB Pritzker and an outsider message that set her apart from her rivals with Washington experience.

With 92% of precincts reporting, Stratton had a 40.1% to 33.2% lead over Krishnamoorthi, a margin of 81,430 votes out of 1,181,183 cast. Rep. Robin Kelly, D-Lynwood, was in third place with 18.1%. The Associated Press called the race for Stratton at 9:40 p.m. Tuesday evening.

Voters in Henry County favored Krishnamoorthi (1,065 votes) over Stratton (561). In Stark County, the vote was 79-52 in favor of Krishnamoorthi.

"Eleven months ago, I made a promise to Illinois to be the fighter you deserve, to go to the mat fighting for you, and bring your voices with me to Washington," Stratton told supporters on Chicago's West Side. "I haven't forgotten that promise."

Stratton received about 44% of the vote in Chicago to Kelly's 25% and Krishnamoorthi's 23%. She essentially fought suburban Cook County to a draw with Krishnamoorthi while

he came out ahead in the suburban collar counties besides Will County, where Stratton led.

Stratton also led in many downstate counties, especially population centers in the Metro East, Springfield, Bloomington-Normal and Champaign-Urbana.

In the Republican primary for Durbin's open Senate seat, Tracy received 40% of the vote as of 10 p.m. Tuesday evening. Tracy faced five other candidates in the primary race, which lacked the same attention as the Democratic primary with a field of lesser-known candidates with little political experience.

Of the five other candidates, Chicago attorney Jeannie Evans received about 22% of the vote, real estate manager Casey Chlebek received 11%, and the final three candidates received about 25% collectively.

Tracy led in Henry County with 1,120 votes, followed by Evans (605) and Long (328). Tracy also led in Stark County with 222 votes, followed by Evans (103) and Long (47).

"We stand before you tonight as the Illinois Republican nominee for the United States Senate. Thank you again for entrusting me with this important nomination," Tracy said at his watch party in Springfield. "With your help, we'll deliver that underdog victory in November that will

shock the nation and make Illinois better, more balanced and a stronger state."

• **Comptroller** – Margaret Croke declared victory in a four-way race in the Democratic primary for Illinois comptroller on Tuesday.

Associated Press election results showed Croke with 34.6% of the vote, compared with 32.2% for next-closest challenger Karina Villa, 24.5% for Holly Kim, and 8.8% for Stephanie Kifowit.

While the Associated Press had not called the race as of late Tuesday night, Croke declared victory.

Croke led in Stark County with 52 votes to 46 for Kim and 28 for Villa. Henry County voters favored Kim (640) over Croke (506) and Villa (485).

Bryan Drew won the uncontested Republican Primary for comptroller.

• **Secretary of State** – Diane Harris had received 53% of the vote when the Associated Press called the Republican primary race for Secretary of State at 10:26 p.m. on Tuesday. Walter Adamczyk was at 47%.

Harris led Adamczyk in Henry County 1,596 to 1,081 and in Stark County 277-171.

Harris will now face incumbent Alexi Giannoulas, whose spot was not contested in the primary.

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## GUEST VOICES



## Of new vehicle controls that make us 'safer'

Rambling through central Illinois, pondering how soon reality will mirror those scary futuristic movies in which we have little control.

• • •

The used-car market looks more appealing than ever. And not newer models, either.

As a story Monday in Yahoo!news put it, "Your driving privacy expires with your current car's lifespan."

That message became clear to me Monday morning after chipping ice off most of the windshield of my new-to-me 2024 Silverado.

"Front camera obscured," the truck informed me when I got inside.

Front camera? Ah yes, that's the one that can see if I'm staying between the painted lines or getting too close to another vehicle at a stop sign. That's the camera that will direct the car to correct my line or even make the vehicle stop. Best of all, that's the camera that I can still disable from being in control.



Jeff  
**LAMPE**

But not for long.

Federal legislation passed in 2021 as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requires all new passenger vehicles to include surveillance technology that will monitor you as you drive.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is tasked with developing rules requiring vehicles to have "advanced impaired driving prevention technology."

The original deadline for rules was November 2024, but automakers have some time to implement the changes. Expectations are that starting in late 2026 or 2027, infrared cameras in new vehicles will track your eye movement, pupil dilation and drowsiness patterns.

If the vehicle's AI system decides you are impaired, it can prevent you from starting the vehicle or can limit your speed.

The goal is to prevent alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, which the NHTSA says account for nearly one-third of all traffic deaths.

Beyond that worthwhile aim, there are reasonable questions about how the data is used and how the controls on your car can be implemented.

Can automakers share data with insurance companies to adjust premiums based on how well you pay attention while driving?

Can a car be rendered unable to drive based on what the government deems as bad road conditions?

Can a system be set up to stop certain cars from entering certain areas?

There are also concerns over the cost of data collection and whether that will be passed on to consumers.

And advanced impaired driving rule is probably the tip of the iceberg.

The NHTSA also passed a rule that by 2029, new vehicles must be equipped with automatic emergency braking systems. The AEB will use sensors to detect when a vehicle is close to crashing into another vehicle or pedestrian and will automatically apply the brakes if the driver does not.

The goal, again, is to save lives. That's noble. The implications beyond that are what strike me as a bit ominous and make me wonder if maybe we ought to take our 2011 Ford F150 off the market.

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

## Of elections, St. Patty's Day and the grid

I write this column on the morning of the primary election. Elections in this country should always make us pause and remember what we all too often take for granted, the rest of the world simply envies.

We are a free nation and that is not said lightly. One candidate will win and one candidate will lose. That is the reality of elections.

I congratulate the candidates on their efforts. Each candidate has bared their soul to the public by asking for your vote. In a small community that takes some guts and resolve. The candidates either know you personally or they know someone who you also know.

Congratulate the winners and respect the efforts of those who have lost. Having run a few races, I can say with certainty that it is a lot more fun to win than to lose. I can also say without hesitation that losing an election provides a time for self-introspection like nothing else.

By the time this column hits the press we shall know the results. Regardless of winning or losing, each candidate should be appreciated for making democracy work in this nation.

As I write, it is also St. Patrick's Day. I remember as kids you had to wear something green or else. Law school was a different time. Many of my classmates could hardly wait for that last class to end as they were going to the bar to get soused on green beer. Carbondale well deserved its reputation as a party school in the 1980s. We had two kids then and our night out might have been corned beef and cabbage, if we could have afforded a night out.

Many of today reflect on what the Irish have done for this nation. There have been Irish parades for over 200 years. Chicago and New York are the cities today that truly emphasize Irish history. Many Irish came to the U.S. after the potato famine in Ireland. So many came that many areas of the country put out sign saying that "No Irish need apply" at their job sites.

The Irish persevered and today are a truly integral part of American society. My high school mascot was a leprechaun, and that was in a truly German farming community. I am not an advocate of McDonalds fast food. However, in March of every year, I have made the drive through at McDonalds for my shamrock shake. America is a land of many nationalities, and the Irish have made sure they are positively remembered.

On a more serious note, the news this week from Cuba was that the entire electrical grid failed. The only electricity was from private backup generators. That is a major catastrophe. It demonstrates how poor of a job Cuba has done in keeping its infrastructure maintained and how vulnerable Cuba is from an attack by an outside power.

It also should give serious warning to the United States. Engineers have said for years that our electrical grid needs massive upgrades and redundancy components. We may have the most powerful military in the world, but if our nation loses its basic electrical grid there can be chaos in the streets.

Our electrical grid and substations are certainly susceptible to terrorist attack as we have simply failed to protect our electrical system. In today's world there are many in the middle east that have a serious grudge against the U.S. The risk is real and we as a country need to take measures to protect American infrastructure from those threats.

Lastly, it is Illinois and while I write this it is winter, by the weekend we will see 70's. Go figure.

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

Richard  
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Please remove any items, such as flowers and vases from the Bradford Cemetery gravesites that you wish to keep prior to **March 25th, 2026**. Village personnel will be conducting cemetery clean-up on **March 25th, 2026**. The Village will dispose of any remaining items. Please do not place any new items on the gravesites unit after clean-up is complete.

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**March 29, 2026 PALM SUNDAY HAM DINNER**  
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To Request Delivery of Dinners, Call: 932-2460 by Fri. Noon, March 27th, and leave a message stating how many dinners you will need delivered with your name, address w/apt. number, & phone number.  
If you didn't get your delivery order in by Friday, Noon, March 27th, no problem, just call the day of the dinner from 2 - 3:30 p.m. to 932-3255 or (309) 507-2284  
Invite your family and friends to join you!  
This is our church's annual fundraiser with the money raised to be used for building improvements and maintenance needs at Galva First UMC, 214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL.  
Price: \$10 per meal, per adult and \$5 per meal for children up to 6 yrs. of age.

*Palm Sunday*

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**BRIEFS**

**Galva UMC will host Palm Sunday dinner**

GALVA – Galva First United Methodist Church will host a Palm Sunday ham dinner on March 29 at the church, located at 214 NW 2nd Ave. in Galva.

Dine-in, carry-out and delivery are available.

The meal includes baked ham, mashed potatoes, drink (dine-in only) and homemade dessert. To request delivery, call (309) 932-2460 by noon on March 27 and leave a message stating your name, the number of dinners you want, address and phone number. For orders on the day of the event, call (309) 932-3255 or (309) 507-2284 from 2-3:30 p.m.

The price per dinner is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Proceeds will be used for building improvements and maintenance of the Galva First UMC building.

**Meetings moved**

Due to inclement weather, scheduled Galva and Stark County school board meetings set for last Monday were rescheduled. The Galva School Board was to meet Wednesday, March 18. The Stark County School Board will meet Monday, March 23.

**College honors**

• **Tanner Price** of Toulon made the Dean's list (3.6 gpa or better) at Concordia University of Wisconsin for the fall 2025 semester.

**Hunters harvest 882 turkeys in fall season**

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary state-wide total of 882 wild turkeys during the 2025-26 fall archery turkey season, according to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Last year's record harvest was 1,045 birds. The five-year average is 824.

Harvest reports were 60% male birds and 40% female birds, compared with 51% males last year. A total of 67% used crossbows, 33% used compound bows and less than 1% used traditional bows.

Top five counties were Fayette, 33; Jefferson, 32; Marion, 24; Macoupin, 22; and Jackson, 20. Local numbers showed Peoria 17, Fulton 17, Knox 13, Henry 11 and Stark one.

**Et cetera**

• **CHICAGO** – The Illinois Lottery announced the winner of the \$536 million Mega Millions jackpot has come forward. The winner, who chose to stay anonymous under the nickname Lucky Lady, purchased her ticket online through the Illinois Lottery's iLottery platform. This is the first Mega Millions jackpot claimed in 2026 and the second-largest prize ever won by an online lottery player in the United States.

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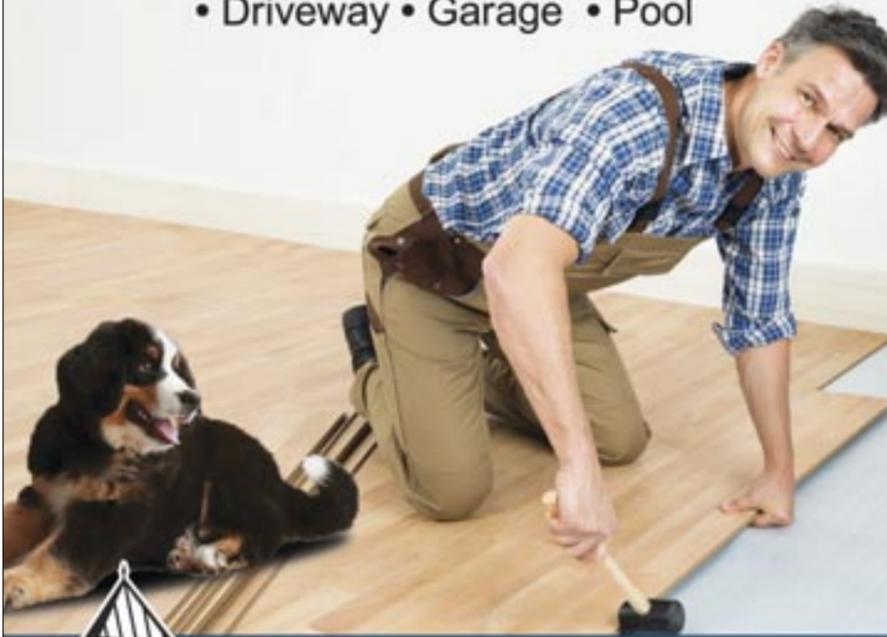
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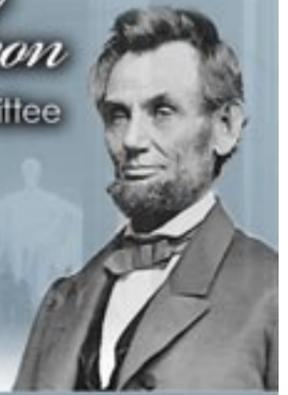
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## Lincoln Day Luncheon

Stark County Republican Central Committee

When: Saturday, March 28  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Where: Stark County 4H Grounds  
310 East Washington St. Wyoming, IL




**Attendees:**

 47th District State Senator Neil Anderson	 73rd District State Representative Ryan Spain
 37th District Senator Li Arellano	 93rd District State Representative Travis Weaver

### Catering by Bradford Snack Shack.

Menu : Hot Roast Beef served open faced, Mashed potatoes and gravy, bread, maple glazed carrots and salad. Assorted desserts.

### Homemade Pie Auction.

Money from the pie auction will be donated to various Stark County groups.

CONTACT / INFO: MIKE BIGGER 309-238-0113 MICHAELBIGGER1955@GMAIL.COM

Paid for by the Stark County Republican Central Committee.

Our report is or will be available on the Illinois State Board of elections website.

RETURN TO: Mike Bigger, Stark County GOP Chairman, 110 W. Barber St., Wyoming, IL 61091

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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 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)

website: [www.thegathering.life/](http://www.thegathering.life/)

[www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life](http://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life)

### 1st Congregational Church of Toulon

Reverend David Graham

218 N. Henderson St., Toulon • (309) 286-4901

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

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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 a.m., All ages • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer & Fellowship 5:30 to 6:30

Thursday Kids Club 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Baby Connection: Wednesday and Thursdays 9 - 11 a.m.

Facebook: Wyoming Naz • Website: [www.wyomingnaz.com](http://www.wyomingnaz.com)

### First Congregational Church

204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491

(309) 695-4091

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

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First Congregational Church of Wyoming, Illinois

### Toulon First Baptist Church

110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon • (309) 286-4611

Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.

Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.

Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.

Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Email: [pastor@toulonbaptist.com](mailto:pastor@toulonbaptist.com)

[www.ToulonBaptist.com](http://www.ToulonBaptist.com)

[www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon](http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon)

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### St. Timothy Lutheran Church

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### Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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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 a.m.

### 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

Father 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 a.m. Sunday morning.

### Bradford Leet United Methodist Church

### Boyd's Grove United Methodist Church

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

Services on Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Boyd's Grove UMC 1976 Wyand Walnut Rd, Bradford, IL. 61421

Services on Sundays at 9 a.m.

Rev Dan Wright

309-897-8113 309-507-1626

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

### Bradford Apostolic Christian Church

440 E Main St Bradford IL 61421

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School pre-K thru 12+

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Wednesday Worship Service 7:15 pm

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## OBITUARIES

### J. "Maxine" Windsor

ONEIDA – J. "Maxine" Windsor, 97, formerly of Oneida, Ill., passed away on March 14, 2026.

Maxine was born on Nov. 21, 1928, in Youngstown, Ill., to Henry Russell and Helen Naomi (Watt) Day. Maxine graduated from Biggsville, Ill. After graduating, she attended Western Illinois Teachers College and taught for one year in a one-room schoolhouse. She then went on to work in the bookstore at Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg.

Maxine Married Bene Windsor on June 12, 1949, in Biggsville. In the early years of their marriage, they farmed in the Macomb area. They then moved to Iowa where

they farmed together for 15 additional years, before returning to Illinois to make their forever home in Oneida.

She is survived by her children, Karen (Gene) Larkin of Roseville, Janet (Al) Curry of Toulon, Jo (Bill) Barnett of Taylorville, Jim (Debbie) Windsor of Atkinson and Karla (Jeff) Smith of Princeville; 12 grandchildren, Beth (Aaron) Parsons, Shawn (Amanda) Larkin, Paul Larkin, Lyn (Tom Harrington) Curry, Seth (Seena) Curry, Tim (Audra) Barnett, Jeff (Amanda) Barnett, Reba (Josh) Warren, Eric (Cait) Windsor, Adam Windsor, Kristi Smith and Andy (Becca) Smith; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bene, and all of her siblings

She was an active member of the United Methodist Women's Church group, Oneida Women's Club, and the Knox Co. Home Extension Community Association.

A visitation was to be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, from 9 to 11 a.m., with funeral services beginning at 11 a.m. at United Methodist Church in Oneida, Ill. with Pastor David Pyell officiating.

Memorials may be given to Gregg Library in Oneida or T.R.I.A.D., 152 S. Kellogg Street, Galesburg, IL.

Online condolences may be left at [hurdhendicksfuneralhome.com](http://hurdhendicksfuneralhome.com).

## Iran conflict creates concerns for planting

By RHIANNON BRANCH  
and TAMMIE SLOUP

FarmWeek

Military action in Iran continues to impact fuel and fertilizer markets, prompting a nationwide groundswell of concern from farmers as planting season nears.

"History teaches us that energy-market shocks quickly reach the farm gate and countries in and around the Persian Gulf account for a large share of fertilizer supplies our farmers rely on, so it's a serious issue," said American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall.

Illinois Farm Bureau President Philip Nelson met with lawmakers on Capitol Hill last week to stress the need for stable fuel and fertilizer prices. Illinois farmers, he said, are "feeling the pinch."

"We had a very good conversation with the deputy ag secretary (Stephen Vaden) ... in regard to looking to make sure that we've got competition in all areas for inputs, and that includes fertilizer, chemicals and seed," Nelson said.

One of IFB's national legislative priorities is exploring transparency and competitiveness in agricultural input markets to support cost-effective solutions for producers.

The U.S. Justice Department recently launched an antitrust investigation into whether leading commercial fertilizer producers colluded to raise prices, Bloomberg News reported.

The companies under scrutiny in-

clude phosphate and potash suppliers Nutrien Ltd. and Mosaic Co., as well as CF Industries Holdings Inc., Koch Inc. and Norway's Yara International ASA, which collectively control most nitrogen-based fertilizer sold in the U.S. and dominate potash and phosphate markets.

The scrutiny comes after the U.S. fertilizer industry underwent dramatic consolidation over four decades. The number of nitrogen fertilizer producers declined from 46 to 13 between 1984 and 2008, a reduction of 72%, according to USDA data. Today, four firms control 75% of the nitrogen fertilizer market domestically, while two firms control nearly 100% of the U.S. potash market, according to University of Waterloo research.

Grain-market analysts are also watching the conflict to see what geopolitical impacts it could have on corn and soybeans in the U.S.

"A lot of us are waiting to see if some of the effects on energy prices and other things could change supply and demand dynamics in global corn and soybean markets," Joe Janzen, assistant professor of ag economics at the University of Illinois, told FarmWeek at the All Day Ag Outlook hosted by WILL and the U of I farmdoc team.

At the event, two panels of market analysts discussed the state of corn and soybean markets. The Iran conflict was mentioned as a new uncertainty.

"Everyone knows how much oil

moves through (that region), but a third of the nitrogen also does," said Chip Nellinger, founder and partner of Blue Reef Agri-Marketing.

Ellen Dearden, analyst with AgReview, added: "I do believe that with the price of fertilizers and the availability given the Middle East situation, that we may end up seeing a few more beans being planted than what the (USDA) report out of the Ag Outlook Forum suggested."

But even before the conflict began, volatility was a concern in the markets.

"I think this year we have a lot more unknowns than what I could ever remember in a long time," said Greg Johnson with Total Grain Marketing.

Johnson outlined four major "unknowns" in the soybean market – domestic biofuel policy, energy prices, Chinese purchases and President Donald Trump's trade strategy. "I think we'll have a wider range of bean prices given the volatility this year," he said.

Johnson said while profitability at \$11.25 for soybeans is borderline, it is important to factor in government subsidies when marketing.

"Keep in mind, you're going to get 75 cents from the government between the (Farmer Bridge Assistance) payment and the ARC (Agricultural Risk Coverage) county payment," Johnson said. "So, if you can get 75 cents from the government and \$11.25 from the market, there's \$12 beans."

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Please remove all grave decorations from the graves that you wish to keep by **March 30, 2026.**  
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who supported our soup supper!  
~ Heartland Private School

## LEGAL ADS

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

CITY OF KEWANEE, ILLINOIS (AN ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL CORPORATION), Plaintiff,  
Case No. 2024FC19

v.

**KEWANEE PARTNERS, LLC  
(A COLORADO LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY);  
IRA B. LAUTER,  
OF L&B ALL STAR MANAGEMENT LLC  
(IN HIS CAPACITY AS  
COURT-APPOINTED RECEIVER);  
UNKNOWN TENANTS; UNKNOWN OWNERS  
AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,**  
Defendants.

**Property Addresses:  
602 Cole Street,  
Kewanee IL 61443  
835 W. 6th Street,  
Kewanee IL 61443**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY PUBLICATION**

The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, all Unknown Tenants, and all Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action was filed on March 24, 2024, 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. Information regarding the Cole Street Property:**

**A.** The name of the titleholder of record is: KEWANEE PARTNERS, LLC (a Colorado Limited Liability Company)

**B.** A legal description of the subject real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

APART OF MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION, BUNN'S SUBDIVISION, KEWANEE LAND TRUST NO. 101, SUB NO. 1 AND PART OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 ALL LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST, OF THE FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN THE CITY OF KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS AND BEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESCRIPTION ONLY: LOT 15, EXCEPT THE WEST 120 FEET THEREOF, IN BLOCK 1 OF MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION; LOTS 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 AND 20 IN BLOCK 2 OF BUNN'S SUBDIVISION OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF BLOCKS 2,3 AND 4 OF MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION; A PART OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 27, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 27, THENCE NORTH 0° 03' 14" EAST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE SAID EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, A DISTANCE OF 40.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 0° 01' 14" EAST, 820.64 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 71° 20' 22" EAST, 378.86 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0° 01' 14" WEST, 696.75 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89° 34' 25" WEST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF LAKE STREET, 359.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 6.253 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND INCLUDING ALL OF KEWANEE LAND TRUST NO. 101, SUB, NO. 1; A PART OF LOT 1 OF MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION, BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF COAL STREET AND THE CENTERLINE OF A VACATED ALLEY ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF LOTS 52 THRU 61 IN PLEASANT VIEW ADDITION, THENCE NORTH 89° 36' 42" WEST, ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF SAID VACATED ALLEY, 182.00 FEET, TO THE CENTERLINE OF ANOTHER VACATED ALLEY ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF PLEASANT VIEW ADDITION EXTENDED; THENCE NORTH 0° 01' 1" EAST ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF THE SAID VACATED ALLEY 1310.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 09° 36' 42" EAST, 182.00 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF COAL STREET; THENCE SOUTH 0° 01' 14" WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF COAL STREET, 1310.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING SUBJECT TO UTILITY EASEMENTS IN THE VACATED ALLEYS. A PART OF LOT 1 OF MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION, COMMENCING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF COAL STREET AND THE CENTERLINE OF A VACATED ALLEY ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF LOTS 52 THRU 61 IN PLEASANT VIEW ADDITION; THENCE NORTH 0° 01' 14" EAST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF COAL STREET 1310.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 0° 01' 14" EAST, 34.78 FEET TO THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTH LINE OF AN ALLEY (NOW VACATED) LAYING NORTH OF LOTS 103 THRU 113 OF PLEASANT VALLEY VIEW EXTENDED; THENCE SOUTH 89° 24' 21" WEST, 182.00 FEET ALONG SAID EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTH LINE OF SAID ALLEY; THENCE SOUTH 0° 01' 14" WEST, 31.66 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89° 36' 42" EAST, 182.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID PARCEL HAVING BEEN OCCUPIED BY SOUTHWIND MOBILE ESTATES AND PREDECESSORS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION OR DISPUTE AND ALSO SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY DATED MARCH 29, 1972 AND RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 72R1363. ALSO, A PARCEL WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF KEWANEE, BEING LOT 14 AND THE WEST 120 FEET OF LOT 15 EXCEPT THE SOUTH 145 FEET THEREOF IN BLOCK 1, MCMULLEN'S THIRD ADDITION, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN Nos.: 20-27-407-007; 20-27-408-011; 20-27-460-014; 20-27-476-003; 20-27-408-015

**C.** Common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: **602 Cole St., Kewanee IL 61443**

**D.** Identifications of the Mortgage and Assignment of Rents sought to be foreclosed are as follows:

- (1) Name of Mortgagor: KEWANEE PARTNERS, LLC
- (2) Name of Mortgagee: FIRST SECURE COMMUNITY BANK
- (3) Date of Mortgage: June 14, 2018
- (4) Date of Recording: June 19, 2018
- (5) County Where Recorded: Henry County IL
- (6) Recording Document IDs: Mortgage - 20-1803382; Assignment of Rents - 20-1803383

**3. Information regarding the 6th Street Property:**

**A.** The name of the titleholder of record is: KEWANEE PARTNERS, LLC (a Colorado Limited Liability Company)

**B.** A legal description of the subject real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

PARCEL 1: EAST 67 FEET OF LOT 15 AND ALL OF LOTS 13 AND 14 IN BLOCK 1 OF KIRLEY'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KEWANEE. ALSO THE NORTH 32 FEET OF LOT 16 AND ALL OF THE VACATED 25 FOOT ALLEY LYING NORTH OF AND ADJOINING SAID LOT 16 IN SAID KIRLEY'S ADDITION. ALSO ALL OF LOT 17 AND 18 IN SAID KIRLEY'S ADDITION, EXCEPTING THE SOUTH 114 FEET OF THE WEST 28 FEET OF SAID LOT 17 AND ALSO EXCEPTING THE NORTH 5 FEET OF SAID LOTS 17 AND 18 CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY. ALSO LOT 1 IN BLOCK 2 IN SAID KIRLEY'S ADDITION, EXCEPTING THE NORTH 5 FEET THEREOF, CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS RIGHT-OF-WAY.

PARCEL 2: LOTS 2 - 9 AND LOTS 11 - 16 IN BLOCK 2 OF MURCHINSON'S 1 ST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KEWANEE, EXCEPTING FROM SAID LOTS 11 - 16, THAT PORTION DEEDED TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY.

PARCEL 3: THE SOUTH 76 FEET OF LOTS 10-13 AND THE NORTH 106 FEET OF LOTS 14-17 IN MURCHINSON'S 2ND ADDITION.  
PARCEL 4: LOTS 5 AND 6 IN O'CONNOR AND ANDERSON'S SUBDIVISION OF 2 ACRES IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE N 1/2 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 32, TL SN, RSE OF THE 4TH P.M., IN THE CITY OF KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PARCEL 5: THE S 1/2 OF LOT 7 AND ALL OF LOT 8, LOTS 10-12, LOTS 16-22, ALL IN BLOCK 2 OF CARTER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS. EXCEPTING THE SOUTH 5 FEET OF SAID LOT 12, THEREOF CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY.

PARCEL 6: A PART OF LOTS 7, 8, 9 AND 10 IN SEARLE'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 28, TL SN, RSE OF THE 4TH P.M., IN THE CITY OF KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS. DESCRIBED AS: A TRACT OF LAND BEING APART OF LOTS 7, 8, 9 AND 10 IN SEARLE'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KEWANEE, BEING APART OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 28, T15N, RSE OF THE 4TH P.M., HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS, MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS AND BEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESCRIPTION ONLY: COMMENCING AT A PLUG AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, ALSO BEING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 10; THENCE N 02°27'35" E, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE SW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, ALSO BEING THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 10, A DISTANCE OF 35.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD ON THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.B.I. RT# 81. SAID IRON ROD BEING THE PLACE OF BEGINNING FOR THE TRACT TO BE DESCRIBED; THENCE CONTINUING N 02°27'35" E, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE SW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, ALSO BEING THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 10, A DISTANCE OF 215.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE S 87°50'22" E, 99.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE S 74°19'39" E, 51.36 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE S 37°03'41" E, 36.14 FEET TO AN IRON ROD; THENCE S 17°57'11" E, 74.55 FEET TO AN IRON ROD BEING 140 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7; THENCE S 87°50'122" E, 44.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD BEING 140 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7; THENCE S 02°27'35" W, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 7 A DISTANCE OF 30 FEET; THENCE N 87°50'22" W, 143.00 FEET TO AN IRON ROD 110 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE W 1/2 OF SAID LOT 9; THENCE S 02°27'35" W, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE W 1/2 OF SAID LOT 9, A DISTANCE OF 75 FEET TO AN IRON ROD ON THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID S.B.I. ROUTE #81; THENCE N 87°50'22" W, ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, 99.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 0.77 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

PARCEL 7: BEGINNING AT AN IRON ROD AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 15 IN KIRLEY'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF KEWANEE, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SAID IRON ROD ALSO BEING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID BOSS STREET; THENCE EAST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID BOSS STREET, 30 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID BOSS STREET; THENCE SOUTH, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID BOSS STREET, 57.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH SIDE OF 5TH STREET; THENCE WEST, ALONG THE WESTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTH LINE OF SAID 5TH STREET, 30 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID BOSS STREET; THENCE NORTH, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID BOSS STREET, 57.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF HENRY AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

PARCEL 8: LOT 2 OF ZANG'S RE-PLAT OF APART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST OF THE 4TH P.M., HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN Nos.: 20-28-353-001; 20-28-353-005; 20-29-454-010; 20-29-454-012; 20-29-454-013;  
20-29-479-011; 20-29-479-012; 20-29-480-005; 20-32-227-010;  
20-32-228-026;  
20-32-228-027; 20-34-126-002.

**C.** Common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: **835 W. 6th St., Kewanee IL 61443**

**D.** Identifications of the Mortgage and Assignment of Rents sought to be foreclosed are as follows:

- (1) Name of Mortgagor: KEWANEE PARTNERS, LLC
- (2) Name of Mortgagee: FIRST SECURE COMMUNITY BANK
- (3) Date of Mortgage: June 14, 2018
- (4) Date of Recording: June 19, 2018
- (5) County Where Recorded: Henry County IL
- (6) Recording Document IDs: Mortgage - 20-1803384; Assignment of Rents - 20-1803385

NOW, THEREFORE, unless you, all Unknown Tenants, and 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, on or before April 27, 2026, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day; and a Judgment for Foreclosure may be entered in accordance with the prayer of the Complaint for Foreclosure.

/s/ Terilyn A. Motley, Henry County Circuit Clerk

Zachary L. Lessard (ARDC 6325734)  
Barash & Everett, LLC  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
211 W. 2nd St.  
Kewanee IL 61443  
Ph: 309-852-5555  
zac@barashlaw.com

Published 3/20, 3/27, 4/3/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LYNN**

NOTICE is hereby given to the legal residents of the Township of LYNN, in the County of Knox and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Township will take place on TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026.

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

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

DATED this 10th day of March, 2026.

TIM THULINE,  
Lynn Township Clerk.

Published 3/20/26

**NOTICE OF ASSUMED NAME BUSINESS**

Public Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, March 5, 2026, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stark County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as FOX CREEK FARMS located at 16517 N. Bradford Rd., Bradford IL 61421.

Dated this 5th day of March 2026.

/s/ Heather Hollis  
Stark County Clerk

No. 2026ASN-11749

Published 3/13, 3/20, 3/27/26

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

Estate of  
**JOHANNA L. MUELLER**, deceased  
No. 2026-PR-4

**CLAIM NOTICE  
(Publication)**

Notice is given of the death of JOHANNA L. MUELLER. Letters of Office were issued on **March 9, 2026**, to **Charles Jason Mueller of 10537 State Rte. 40, Bradford, IL 61421 and Brita Lee Mueller of 1236 El Cielo Circle, Henderson, NV 89074**, as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the **Stark County Circuit Clerk, Stark County Courthouse, 130 W. Main St., Toulon, IL 61483**, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed within that period is **barred**. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC  
Attorneys for Estate  
P.O. Box 205  
Galva, IL 61434  
Telephone: (309) 932-2168

Published 3/20, 3/27, 4/3/26

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

Estate of  
**CLETA J. RIGGINS**, deceased  
No. 2026-PR-29

**CLAIM NOTICE  
(Publication)**

Notice is given of the death of CLETA J. RIGGINS. Letters of Office were issued on **March 3, 2026**, to **Candace S. Corn of 1218 W. 6th St., Kewanee, IL 61443**, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is **Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434**.

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

Massie & Quick, LLC  
Attorneys for Estate  
P.O. Box 205  
Galva, IL 61434  
Telephone: (309) 932-2168

Published 3/20, 3/27, 4/3/26

**ADVERTISE! CALL (309) 286-2185**

**LEGAL ADS**

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

ESTATE OF: **JOHN WAYNE HUGHES**, Deceased  
No. 2026PR27

**CLAIM NOTICE**  
(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of **John Wayne Hughes**. Letters of Office were issued on **February 20, 2026**, to **Samuel Brown Hughes** 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 **August 20, 2026**.

Any claim not filed by that date is **barred**. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions.

To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit [efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm](http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm) to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp). Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Name **Barash & Everett, LLC**  
Attorney for Executor  
Address P.O. Box 165  
City Galva, IL 61434  
Phone(309) 932-2001  
Email: [everetr@barashlaw.com](mailto:everetr@barashlaw.com)

Published 3/6, 3/13, 3/20/26

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **PATRICK R. KING**, Deceased  
CASE NO: 2026PR23

NOTICE is given of the death of **PATRICK R. KING**. Letters of Office were issued on February 17, 2026, to: **BETHANY ALEXANDER, 401 W Henry St. Atkinson, IL 61235**, as Independent Administrator of the Estate of PATRICK R. KING, deceased, whose attorneys are:

**Justin M. Raver**  
**KARLIN RAVEN, LLC**  
**101 N TREMONT ST.**  
**KEWANEE, IL 61443**

Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the Claim or other relief sought. Claims must be filed on or before **September 8, 2026**, and any Claim not filed within that period is **barred**. Claims may either be filed with the representative of the Estate or in the **Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court, Henry County Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois, or both**. If filed with the Court, the claimant, within 10 days after filing this Claim with the Court,

(1) Shall cause a copy of the Claim to be mailed or delivered to the representative and to his Attorney of record, unless the representative or his Attorney has, in writing, either consented to the allowance of the Claim or waived mailing or delivery of copies.

(2) Shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

Justin M. Raver  
KARLIN RAVEN, LLC  
Attorneys for Bethany Alexander, Independent Administrator  
101 N Tremont St.  
Kewanee, IL 61443  
DATED: February 23, 2026

Published 3/6, 3/13, 3/20/26

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

ESTATE OF: **Peter L. Wallen**, Deceased  
No. 2026PR21

**CLAIM NOTICE**  
(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of **Peter L. Wallen**. Letters of Office were issued on **February 12, 2026**, to **Jeffrey A. Wallen** 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 **August 28, 2026**.

Any claim not filed by that date is **barred**. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions.

To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit [efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm](http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm) to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp). Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Name **Barash & Everett, LLC**  
Attorney for Executor  
P.O. Box 165  
Galva, IL 61434  
Phone(309) 932-2001  
Email: [everetr@barashlaw.com](mailto:everetr@barashlaw.com)

Published 3/6, 3/13, 3/20/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF OSCEOLA TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of Osceola Township in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026** being the **second Tuesday of said month**.

The town meeting for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of **7 o'clock p.m. on said day at the Township Office 201 West St., Bradford**, and a Moderator having been elected will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting.

Dated at March 11, 2026  
/s/ Brenda Colgan  
Town Clerk  
Published 3/20/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF WEST JERSEY TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of West Jersey in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026** being the **second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the West Jersey Township Building** for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The regular monthly meeting will follow.

Dated March 20, 2026  
/s/ Michelle Webster  
West Jersey Township Clerk  
Published 3/20/26

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF GOSHEN TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the legal residents of the Town of Goshen in the County of Stark and State of Illinois, that the Annual Meeting of said Town will take place on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026** being the **second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 6 o'clock p.m. at the Goshen Township Building** for the transaction of miscellaneous business of said Town and a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The regular monthly meeting will be held immediately following the Annual meeting.

Dated March 20, 2026  
/s/ Pamela Wulf  
Goshen Township Clerk

Published 3/20/26

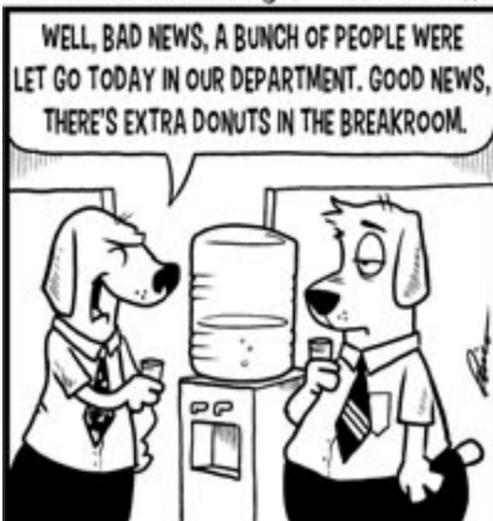
**Amber Waves**



**The Spats**



**Just Like Cats & Dogs** by Dave T. Phipps



**GRIN THE BEARD IT**



**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ **HOO BOY!**

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**Trivia test** by Hi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Who is the director of the Oscar-winning movie "Parasite"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is miso?
- LITERATURE: What are the names of the romantic couple in "Wuthering Heights"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which city's nickname is "Pearl of the Orient"?
- HISTORY: In what year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Before becoming president, Barack Obama served as a senator from which state?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which peninsula is the largest in the world?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek god of war?
- MUSIC: Who composed the opera "The Ring of Nibelung"?
- ACRONYMS: In computer emails, what does the acronym "CC" stand for?

**Answers**

- Bong Joon Ho.
- Fermented soybean paste.
- Heathcliff and Catherine.
- Manila, Philippines.
- 1896 in Greece.
- Illinois.
- Arabian Peninsula.
- Ares.
- Richard Wagner.
- Carbon Copy (once used in typewriters).

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**FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 3**

**CryptoQuote**

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

KNWP IBNGF HNBP

EBPHPUYNXFKC DXKK, FGTE,

ZNTIUQUE, QF EVP CPQBF

HXKETZKC. - RQUP IBPC

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**TOP 10 MOVIES**

- Hoppers (PG)
- Scream 7 (R) Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox
- The Bride! (R)
- GOAT (PG)
- Wuthering Heights (R)
- Crime 101 (R)
- EPIC: Elvis Presley in Concert (PG-13)
- Send Help (R)
- I Can Only Imagine 2 (PG)
- Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle (R)

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# Knobloch wins 3,200 and 1,600 at LTC indoor

By The Prairie News  
MONMOUTH – Evan Knobloch broke his school record in the 3,200-meter race on Saturday during the Lincoln Trail Conference Indoor Exhibition at Monmouth College's Huff Athletic Center.

Knobloch won the 3,200 in a school-best time of 9:53.59 and also won the 1,600 in 4:50.32. The next-best results for the Rebels were fourth-place finishes in both the 4x400 relay and 4x800 relay. The 4x400 of Braxtten Gibson, Keyshon Webster, Will Denton and Hunter Ely finished in 3:59.10.

The 4x800 of Jackson Smith, Den-

ton, Ely and Webster posted a time of 10:04.20.

In girls events, Gia Swearingen was first in the 60-meter dash (8.43 seconds) and long jump (16-3.5). The Lady Rebels also got an individual win from Dusti Smith in the 1,600 in 5:12.35. Her sister, Cheyenh Smith, was third in 5:32.9 behind Emily Downing of Cambridge (5:14.95).

The girls won two relays, the 4x400 of Paytin Terwilliger, Norah Rorem and the Smith sisters (4:25.7) and the 4x800 of Terwilliger, Rorem, Darilis Knobloch and Dusti Smith (10:27.67). SC was third in the 4x200 (1:58.91).

Other top finishes came from Coley Johnston, who was second in high jump (4-9.75) and third in the 200 (29.7), and from Cheyenh Smith, second in the 800 in 2:22.12.

• **Galva** – Reid Harris posted personal records in the high jump (third, 5 feet 10 inches) and long jump (18-8) to lead the Wildcats at the LTC meet on March 13. Sophomore Ben Burris also placed third in shot put with a throw of 45-1.25.

Freshmen Samantha Faber (shot put, 10th, 25-3) and Kinsley Gale (800, 8th, 2:50.51 and 1,600 8th, 6:15.86) had top-10 finishes on the girls side.

# BASEBALL: Galva adds two players to roster

Continued from Page 12  
bles among his 25 hits. Snider hit .284 with 19 runs, 12 walks and 10 stolen bases.

"Daum had a much better season on the mound than his stats indicated," Hartley said. "He kept our team competitive in almost every game he pitched last season."

"Connor is a left-hander with a very good breaking ball. He has taken a step forward on the mound year over year, and I don't expect this season to be any different. Kaedon Steelman is another to keep an eye on this spring. He is a right-handed pitcher who will run his fastball up into the mid- to upper-70s, and can throw four pitches for strikes."

Depth and keeping his team healthy, and relying on six freshmen, are concerns for Hartley.

"Given our numbers we will have to lean on our freshmen pretty heavily," he said. "With as light as we are we will likely have to rely on all six of them to

## SOFTBALL: Galva opens Saturday

Continued from Page 12  
ease into the lineup, according to Wise.

Stark County is to play Saturday at Kewanee.

• **Galva softball** – Neither Galva Coach Brad Jackson nor Athletics Director Marland Rachel responded to Prairie News requests for information.

Galva (4-21), a Class 1A regional semifinalist last season, is to play Saturday at Bartonville Limestone. Kaylyn Gale was honorable mention all-LTC last year.

fill a role at some point this season.

"That being said, I am really excited to see what Jordan Walton, Kaizer Down, Gage Shadley and Landen Ouart can do, and I expect them to be in the mix early for at-bats."

Despite youth and inexperience, Hartley expects to field a good team.

"Personally, I have a hard time going into any season without having my eye on some hardware, but my expectation for this team is to be competitive in conference play and my expectation is for us to be playing our best baseball by the time regional play opens up," Hartley said.

• **Galva baseball** – The numbers game added up to a plus-2 for Galva baseball Coach Van White this spring after finishing 9-17 a year ago.

"Once again we will have a limited roster, with only 14 (players) freshmen-seniors," White said. "We lost one senior and gained three freshmen who will see some limited time."

"Last year we ended up 9-17, which was one of our better seasons. Our success

or failure will depend on our pitchers' ability to throw strikes and keep their pitch counts down.

"Also our ability, especially at the bottom of the order, to put the ball in play. We had too many strikeouts with runners on base."

Juniors MJ Louck and Braxton Hulstrom will provide a 1-2 punch on the mound with senior JP Sloan a third starter, according to White.

"Unfortunately, Tommy Funke, who was one of our top pitchers last year (as a freshman) is still dealing with an injury from football and will not be able to pitch this year," White said. "While that will be a big blow, we expect (sophomore) Gage Simoneaux and (seniors) Cyrus Hurd, Jay Smith and AJ Traff to pick up the slack."

Louck, who led the team in hitting last year with a .380 average, is expected to lead the offensive charge with junior catcher Tye Keup returning as the team's second-best hitter.

White expects offensive contributions from seniors

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**NOTICE**  
**GALVA CEMETERY CLEAN UP WEEK:**  
All grave blankets, artificial flowers, potted flowers, and all other plants are requested to be removed from the Galva Cemetery by Sunday, March 29, 2026 if relatives wish to save them.  
No more flowers should be placed on the graves until Friday, April 3, 2026.  
Galva Cemetery Board

Answers on Page 3 — **Super Crossword** — DOWNWARD TREND

<b>ACROSS</b>	46 Equine beast	87 Low-status, as labor	128 Sloping	22 "Suppose ..."	77 Form a group
1 Baldwin and Guinness	47 Blaze fighter's helmet	89 Treatment tablet	129 Decompose	27 Ancestry via the father's side	79 Golf norm
6 Pines' cousins	51 Facilities for processing a paddy	91 Luke tattering food	130 Oct. preceder	29 Everit at which people enter frigid water	84 Planet's livable zone
10 Google Play buy	53 Pep rally yell	95 Be the chairperson	131 Bob of folk	33 With Flynn Boyle	86 Overly modest type
13 In recent times	55 Big bay windows	97 Plato's "T"		57 Across, singer with the 1994 #1 hit "Stay"	88 Smog soils it
19 A ton of, in Tijuana	56 Cope (with)	98 Toward the mouth, to an anatomist		36 Tamish	90 Actress —
20 All over	57 See 33-Down	99 Bungee, e.g.		37 Pal, in Paris	92 Philosopher — tzu
21 Outstanding examples on display	59 Env. directive	100 Large plant with fronds		39 Olive of comics	93 Investment option, in brief
23 Hot and bubbling	61 Back of the neck	102 Hershey's toffee bar		41 "Baloney!"	94 Investment options, in brief
24 All over	62 Revolutionary Guevara	103 Long periods		42 Goof up	96 Trapping morays, say
25 Adds a little dash to?	64 Baking pans	104 Turkey Day tuber		43 Held in check	101 Promote
26 Ballpoint topper	66 Tall conifer of California	107 — mo		48 Likely to run into adversity	104 California's — Buena Island
28 Kind of tide	68 Revise copy	110 Actress		49 Of Swiss peaks	105 Skating leaps
30 Nighttime light from a clear sky	69 — Cola	112 Strangely beautiful quality		50 African fly	106 Media bigwig
31 Creole cooking pod	71 This instant	72 — Zedong		52 Wrestling pad	109 Peaks
32 Actor Flynn	73 Grand — wine	74 Clamors		54 Wall Street fluctuation	111 Formed into a ball
34 — standstill	75 Cyber-chuckles	76 French painter Manet		58 Witty Bombeck	113 "— yellow ribbon ..."
35 Writer Fleming	78 1996 running mate Jack	80 Once named		60 Lacerated	114 Somali supermodel
36 Doll's call	81 Rival of Hertz	82 Long period		62 Letter-shaped vise	115 Prefix with drama
38 Bean curd	83 Haku, e.g.	84 In a crowd of		63 Vacuum cleaner brand	118 Laos' home
40 Person with a mouth-related nervous habit	85 Gavel noise	86 Some breads and whiskeys		65 Lymph —	119 "It's — real!"
				67 Dingbat	121 June hrs.
				70 Help	123 Stage design

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# The Prairie News Sports



## SC baseball seeks improvement

By ANDY LATORA

For The Prairie News

Coach Cole Hartley expects his Stark County baseball club to make strides this spring after an 8-21 mark in 2025. The Rebels will feature a mix of young and old on the diamond.

The young are six freshmen who Hartley will have to rely on as contributors. Kaizer Down, Jordan Walton, Landen Quart, Gage Shadley, Trevor Webster and Ramsey Listwan will be thrown into the fire at the varsity level, but Stark County has seen that before.

“As silly as it will sound

### Inside

• Evan Knobloch broke his own Stark County High School record in the 3,200 on March 13. **Page 11**

(because of) all the freshmen I will have to play, I think experience is the strength of this team,”

Hartley said. “We are returning senior Connor Daum, who will be a four-year varsity starter, senior Ben Browning, who will be a three-year varsity starter, junior Wyatt Snider, who will be a three-year varsity starter, and a group of sophomores and juniors that were thrown into the deep end last year and

started as freshmen and sophomores.”

Sophomores Kaedon Steelman and Khaiden Turnbull along with junior Keegan Sparks were in that sink-or-swim position on the varsity a year ago. They did a solid job of swimming.

Steelman hit .370 over his last 13 games with a 1.62 ERA over his last 13 innings pitched. Sparks had a 3-1 pitching record with one save Daum was an honorable-mention pick in the Lincoln Trail Conference who struck out 50 batters in 36.1 innings. He batted .284 with four dou-

*Continued on Page 11*

## Stark Co. softball returns 7 regulars

By NICK VLAHOS

For The Prairie News

With seven returning regulars, Stark County Coach Amy Wise expects this softball season to be better than the last one, which wasn't horrible.

None of the returnees is a senior for Stark County, which was a 13-14 Class 1A regional semifinalist in 2025. Junior pitcher Brooklynn Ostrowski and sophomore catcher Cambri Holmstrom form an experienced battery.

Wise anticipates a solid infield defensively. Sophomore Jacey Endress prob-

ably will be at second base and a combination of sophomore Hallie Newton, sophomore Taylor Price and junior Kenna Sparks on the left side of the field. Junior Sophie Finnegan is to be an outfield stalwart.

Newton had a team-high .421 batting average last season.

“The rest of the team is looking to match that and be more assertive at the plate this season,” Wise stated.

Junior first baseman Anna Nagode is recovering from knee surgery and will *Continued on Page 11*

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