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 Vol. 22, No. 18

The Prairie News

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Galva man sentenced in porn case

Cavanagh pleads guilty

By The Prairie News

CAMBRIDGE – Mason J. Cavanagh of Galva was sentenced to 15 years in prison Monday in Henry County Court after pleading guilty to three counts of possession of child pornography.

According to a press release from the Galva Police Department, Cavanagh's negotiated sentence includes consecutive prison terms, fines and other stipulations.



Cavanagh


In addition to being sentenced to 15 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and

three years of mandatory supervised release, Cavanagh, 31, must pay \$2,000 in fines, submit DNA, and register as a sex offender upon his release.

Cavanagh was arrested on Jan. 28 at the Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry Center after officers executed a search warrant at his residence in the 200 block of SW 6th St. in Galva. He

Continued on Page 2

Stark County Rebel Reporter Inside



CHURCH CLOSING



Wyoming United Methodist Church was built in April 1969 on the grounds of the previous parsonage. The congregation, believed to be the oldest in Stark County, dates back to 1836 but will hold its final service on June 14 at 10 a.m.

Wyoming church closing

Last service at United Methodist Church to be June 14

By NANCY TRACY

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – Faced with declining attendance, a historic Stark County congregation will hold its final service at 10 a.m. on June 14.

Wyoming United Methodist Church is believed to be the oldest congregation in Stark County. In 1836, soon after the town was laid out, a Methodist Society formed in the home of Samuel Thomas. At this time members considered building a church.

The first church building was then erected in 1856 at 309 W. Williams St. on land donated by Samuel Thomas. Later, in

1882, a new church was built on the corner of Main Avenue and Henderson Street. This is also the sight of the present church.

This then led to other Methodist churches being built, including one in Castleton, one in Snareville and one on the corner of the Valley Cemetery called Pleasant Valley.

In time they all merged into the Wyoming Methodist Church, with the last being Snareville Church, which joined in 1968.

On Aug. 23, 1936, the church celebrated its 100th anniversary in Thomas Park with a full day of services. Many

previous ministers attended.

In May of 1964 the church council voted to build a new parsonage just west of the church.

In 1968, under the direction of their present pastor, Rev. Han Yun Sun, the construction of the present sanctuary was started on the grounds of the previous parsonage. It was built by members of the church with Harold Bergthold as leader.

The new building was completed and consecrated in April 1969 and the first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 6, 1969.

Continued on Page 2

County board moving up budget work

Plan to have budget ready for October approval

By ANDY LATORA

For The Prairie News

TOULON – TLine No. 13 on the agenda for Tuesday night's Stark County Board of Supervisors meeting said "None."

But Kari Bush, chair of the board, presented an item for new business.

"I'm tired of popping my turkey in the oven and then having to come up here," she said of the Stark County Courthouse.

Bush was referencing the board's November meeting when it adopts the financial budget for the coming year. Instead of doing all that work around Thanksgiving, Bush proposed starting the discussions in a finance committee meeting beginning in June.

And that's just what the board did. The finance committee will meet at 6 p.m. on June 8, a half-hour before the next scheduled meeting of the full board.

The plan is to have the budget prepared for the Oct. 13 meeting, when the board can adopt it and put it on the agenda in November. The board can then approve it at its meeting scheduled on Nov. 10.

Bush also briefly discussed her May 5 meeting with U.S. Rep. Darin LaHood, R-Peoria, at his office. She said the 45-minute meeting was all positive.

"We discussed the wants and needs of the county and he 100% supports all of our efforts to improve infrastructure and everything else we're trying to accomplish here," Bush said during the legislative report.

One thing, in particular, that Bush asked

Continued on Page 2

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Labor statistics offer mixed bag for Illinois

By JIM TALAMONTI
 The Center Square
 The Trump administration says the United States saw smashing job growth in April, but Illinois' story is a mixed bag.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said the U.S. economy added 115,000 jobs in April while the unemployment rate held steady at 4.3%.
 University of Chicago

professor Steven Durlauf said the news was moderately good.
 "It's really a labor market that continues to exhibit stasis. What I mean by that is the unemployment rate

didn't change. There's some job growth. There's not much wage growth," Durlauf told The Center Square.

The Illinois unemployment rate rose to 5.2% in March, up from 5.0% in February.

Total nonfarm jobs decreased in eight of the state's metropolitan areas, but the Champaign-Urbana area saw its 14th consecutive month of year-over-year growth, due largely to strides in agricultural businesses.

CAVANAGH: Multi-agency investigation

Continued from Page 1
 was being held without bond in the Henry County Jail in Cambridge.

Canavagh had worked as an account technician for the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Officers discovered im-

ages and videos on multiple electronic devices in Cavanagh's residence.

Cavanagh's arrest was the culmination of a multi-agency investigation started when the Galva Police Department received information regarding sus-

pected criminal activity.

"The Galva Police Department thanks the Henry County State's Attorney's Office for its partnership and efforts in the successful prosecution of this case," according to a news release issued Monday.

BOARD: Bid selected

Continued from Page 1
 was for assistance with grant writing. She said the response was hopeful and positive. The county, she said specifically, was assistance with writing a grant for funding of its new administration building.

A business item the board did consider was for mowing at the courthouse and cemetery, among others. Sheriff Chuck Demetreon presented the three bids the county received. The board chose DeSmit Services, a family-owned business based in Bradford, and approved their

\$5,000 bid for the year. DeSmit's bid said the company would provide weekly service from April to October.

Thomas Howes, a supervisor who represents District 1, invited area bankers and representatives from the Illinois State Treasurer's Office.

Ella Slone, deputy director of outreach for the treasurer's office, presented information to the 20 or so in attendance about the programs available - the state partners with the banks to secure guaranteed loans for small businesses and agriculture.

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CHURCH: Attendance had declined

Continued from Page 1
 In 1984 with the guidance of Pastor Robert Morwell, the church started communications with Methodist churches in East Germany. Pastor Helmuth Seifert from an East German church came to the U.S. in 1986 and joined in the celebration of the Sesquicentennial.

In June 2015 Pastor Rebecca Klemm was appointed to serve the United Methodist Church. During her tenure the church was very active and took part in many community activities.

Over the years, attendance began dwindling. Members moved, many passed away and some members never took part in activities. This made it difficult to get council members or help with church activities.

After many discussions about what to do, a special meeting to vote on the closing of the church was held on May 3 with all remaining church members invited. Sadly, after 90 years of worship, togetherness and fellowship, the last church service will be held June 14 at 10 a.m.

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PUBLIC RECORD

Peoria County Report

5-1 – Joshua M. Belville, 34, of Wyoming surrendered shortly before 10 a.m. at the Peoria County Jail regarding a warrant related to 2025 vehicle-related offenses, according to the Peoria County Sheriff's Office.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

5-4 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-4 - to the 500 block of SE Industrial Ave. to speak to a subject about an ongoing property-line dispute.

5-4 - to the 800 block of NW 3rd Ave. for a complaint involving a juvenile driving an electric bicycle recklessly. Officer checked the area, but was not able to locate.

5-4 - to the 600 block of S. Center Ave. for a low-speed vehicle inspection.

5-5 - four times to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-5 - to a residence on NW 3rd Ave. for a welfare check.

5-5 - to the 300 block of NW 4th Ave. to assist a citizen with a civil standby.

5-5 - to a residence on NW 3rd Ave. for a suicidal subject. The suspect was ultimately transported to an area hospital by a family member.

5-5 - to assist Stark County Medic with a medical emergency on NW 9th St. involving an accidental overdose.

5-5 - to the 700 block of W. Division Str. for a semi truck that was parked in the roadway and was blocking traffic. The driver was instructed to move off the roadway while waiting for a business to open.

5-6 - to the 400 block of NW 2nd Ave for a complaint of a loose and aggressive dog. Officer checked around but was not able to locate the dog.

5-6 - Officer spoke to a subject by



telephone who wanted assistance after being left in Galva by friends.

5-6 - Officer spoke to a resident in the 100 block of NW 8th Ave. about a city ordinance violation for having junk and disabled vehicles on the property. The resident advised they would clean it up.

5-6 - to the 700 block of NW 1st Ave. for a city ordinance violation of having a pile of furniture on the terrace. The resident was advised to remove the items.

5-7 - Officer assisted Stark County Medic with a medical emergency on NW 3rd Ave.

5-7 - to the 600 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The owner was able to put animals back inside the house.

5-7 - to the 300 block of SW 4th Ave. for a 911 open-line complaint. It was an accidental pocket dial.

5-7 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-7 - to the 800 block of NW 1st Ave. for a verbal-disturbance complaint.

5-8 - to the 300 block of NW 3rd Ave to check an open door. Officer locked the door, which had been accidentally left open several hours earlier.

5-8 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-8 - to the 700 block of NE 2nd St. for a loose-dogs complaint. The owner put them back inside the residence.

5-8 - to the 1000 block of SE 2nd St. for a 911 hang-up complaint. Officer checked the area and could not locate anyone needing assistance.

5-9 - to the 100 block of N. Exchange St. for a complaint involving two suspicious subjects attempting to stop traffic passing by. Officer was not able to locate.

5-9 - twice to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-9 - to the 500 block of NW 10th St. for a loose-dog complaint. A neighbor came outside and retrieved the dog as the officer arrived.

5-9 - to the 300 block of Market St. for a loose-dog complaint. The dog ran off towards the southwest and eluded the officer.

5-9 - to the 00 block of NE 5th St. for a property-line dispute involving a neighbor.

5-9 - to the 400 block of SE 4th St. for a complaint involving criminal trespass to a vehicle.

5-10 - to the 700 block of NE 2nd St. for a complaint involving an ATV driving on the roadway.

5-10 - to the 00 block of SW 8th Ave. for a 911 open-line complaint. It was determined to be a misdial.

5-10 - to the 500 block of SW 3rd St. to assist a citizen suffering from an apparent mental-health crisis.

5-10 - to the 500 block of NE 3rd St. to assist a citizen.

5-10 - to the 900 block of N. Center Ave for a complaint involving an ATV on the roadway.

5-10 - to the 1000 block of SW 2nd St. to assist a motorist who lost a cellphone. The phone was found.

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STARK COUNTY AFTER PROM

Stark County After Prom would like to extend sincere thanks to all of the community members and businesses who donated to this year's event. With your help, Cinco De Mayo After Prom was a huge success in providing a fun and safe event for the kids to attend. We also wish to thank the volunteers who helped with donations, set-up, chaperoning, and clean-up. None of this would have been possible without our great support system and volunteers.

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LIFEGUARDS NEEDED
The Village of Bradford is seeking lifeguards for the 2026 pool season. Lifeguards must obtain Red Cross Certification. Please submit an application by May 22nd to Village Hall - 160 West Main St., Bradford, IL 61421. For information on certification, contact the Red Cross at 677-7272

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The Family of Phillip Kitterman invite the community to a Celebration of Life Saturday, May 23rd at 1p.m. Lake Calhoun Club House A light luncheon will be provided. Please bring your photos & stories and Phil will buy you a beer. Hope to see you there



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BRIEFS

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GALVA – Get Covered Illinois Navigators will be on hand May 22 at Special Kneads Bakery, 326 Front St., from 10 a.m. to noon to assist people with health insurance coverage. You may be eligible to enroll in Get Covered Illinois or make changes outside of the usual open enrollment.

College Honors

• Daniel Farmer of Wyoming made the President's List (3.7 gpa or better) at Southern New Hampshire University for the spring 2026 term.



Officials cut the ribbon Saturday at Hoarder's Paradise at 307 Market St. in Galva. Pictured are (left to right) City Secretary Melissa Halsall, City Administrator David Dyer, Owner Jeff Campbell, Billy Helms, Third Ward Alderman Jackie Clucas and Mayor Rich Volkert. In back are customers Charity Kelly and Bryce Shores. The store is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bishop Hill Civil War Day
Saturday, May 16, 2026
Bishop Hill, Illinois

All listed programs are free and open to the public.



- Union, Confederate, and Civilian encampments
- 9:30 a.m.: Drill at Coopers' Field
- 11:00 a.m.: Parade from Coopers' Field to Steeple Building Museum
- 11:30 a.m.: Roll Call/Ration Issue in park
- Noon: General Logan's speech in park
- 1:30 p.m.: Concert by 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band in park
- 2:30 p.m.: Artillery Demonstration at Coopers' Field
- 3:30 p.m.: Battle at Coopers' Field, followed by Medical Demonstration in park
- 6-8 p.m.: Civil War Ball at Creative Commons

Program schedule is subject to change. For additional information, please call 309 927-3899, email bhha@mymtcc.net, or check out www.bishophillheritage.org

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OBITUARIES

Harold L. "Pat" Corn

KEWANEE – Harold L. "Pat" Corn, 95, of Kewanee, formerly of Bradford, died on Sunday, May 10, 2026, at Prairie Place Senior Living in Kewanee.

Pat was born on April 11, 1931, to Clyde and Clara (Mitchell) Corn and was raised in the bootheel of south-east Missouri. One of nine children, he and his family worked hard on their farm picking cotton and spending their days on endless adventures. He graduated from Clarkton High School and then enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

He married Ida Lee Pierce on Nov. 3, 1951. They were married 74 years and built a life based on love, spending 30 years in Castleton and 37 in Bradford.

Pat worked for the railroad, then CT Reese & Sons Grain Elevator and eventually Country Insurance, retiring in 1996.

They had four children, Harold Dean (Candi) Corn of Kewanee, Helena Denise (Pat) Westefer, Hazel Dana (Dan) Howes and Hugh Darin (J.P.) Corn; nine grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grand-children.

He was preceded in death by many loved ones including daughter Denise Westefer, granddaughter Seana Silvaggio, great-grandson Tony Silvaggio and son-in-law Pat Westefer.

Pat's love for life was unmatched, and he was one of the kindest and gentlest of men. He loved to play golf, hunt and fish and hold fish fries in the driveway on warm summer days.

He enriched everyone's life who he came in contact with. His family will miss him dearly.

Cremation will be accorded and graveside services will be held at Bradford Cemetery at a later date.



Corn

Memorials may be directed to the Bradford American Legion or to the Bradford Fire Department. Rux Funeral Home in Kewanee is assisting the family with arrangements.

Linda M. Martin

GALVA – Linda Mae Martin, 80, of Galva, died at 7:20 p.m. Sunday, May 10, 2026, at the Hillcrest Home in rural Geneseo.

She was born on April 19, 1946, in Kewanee, the daughter of Clarence and Anna Mae (Smith) Hepner. She married Keith E. Martin on Feb. 17, 1963, in Bishop Hill and he preceded her in death on Jan. 7, 2006. Survivors include her son, Kem (Andrea) Martin of Galva; her daughter, Kathy McCoy of Galva; nine grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Darlene and Claris; her son, Tony Lee Martin; her daughter, Lynn Yelm; and grandson, Curtis Lee Haars.

Linda worked as a housekeeper at the Hillcrest Home in Geneseo for over 30 years. She was a member of the Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church and enjoyed doing needlepoint and word search puzzles.

Funeral services were to be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 14, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Pastor Rebecca Gearhart officiating. A visitation was held Wednesday, May 13, at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Galva Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the family for a memorial to be established.

Anne C. Rennick Schoenheider

WYOMING – Anne C. Rennick Schoenheider, 75, of Peoria, passed away at 11:58 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Anne was born on Jan. 12, 1951, in Peoria, to John D. and Mary Jean "Jeannie" (Verdun) Rennick. She married Charles A. Schoenheider on April 25, 1981, in Wyoming; he survives.

Also surviving are her daughter, Laura Schoenheider of Peoria; two brothers, Mark (Pam) Rennick of Santa Rosa, Calif., and John (Kathy) Rennick of Peoria; one sister, Julie (Tim) Main of Galesburg; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and one aunt, Ruth Ellen Verdun.

Anne graduated from Wyoming High School. She then attended the University of Illinois and law school at John Marshall in Chicago. For over 50 years, Anne ran her own firm, Anne C. Rennick Attorney, in Wyoming. She enjoyed golfing and traveling with her husband.

A visitation was Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at Golnick Family Funeral & Cremation Services (Formerly Haskell) in Wyoming. A private burial will be at a later date in Toulon Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Condolences may be left for Anne's family on her tribute wall at www.golnickhaskellfh.com.

Phillip E. Kitterman

GALVA – Phillip E. "Phil" Kitterman, 90, of Galva, died Jan. 12, 2026, at his home. He was born on Aug. 22, 1935, in Princeton. He married Sally A. Nye on Dec. 10, 1953, in Tiskilwa. She preceded him in death on Nov. 7, 2012.

A celebration of life for Phil will be held from 1-5 p.m. on May 23 at the Lake Calhoun Clubhouse. Please bring your pictures, memories and stories to share. And of course, Phil will buy you a beer!

Memorials may be directed to the Lake Calhoun Country Club or to the Henry County Humane Society-Kewanee Chapter.



Martin

Church Directory

Toulon Methodist Church

229 W. Main St., P.O. Box 538, Toulon, IL 61483
Phone (309) 286-2224
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (309) 286-2224 or (217) 778-1591
Toulon Sunday School 9:15 a.m., all ages & Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

LaFayette Methodist Church

Illinois Highway 17, P.O. Box 147, LaFayette, IL 61449
Phone (309) 995-3371
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (309) 995-3371 or (217) 778-1591
LaFayette Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

West Jersey United Methodist Church

Illinois Highway 78, West Jersey, IL • Rev. Pablo Marty
Phone (217) 425-5707
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

Elmira United Presbyterian Church

7874 State Route 93, Toulon, IL 61483 • (309) 896-3481
Services each Sunday at 9 a.m.
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
website: www.thegathering.life/
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
website: firstcongregationaltoulon.org

Galva Congregational Church

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

First Baptist Church

"faith in truth"

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

Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491
Rev. Shawna Marsh
Sunday School: 10 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

First Congregational Church

204 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491
(309) 695-4091
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Check us out on Facebook
First Congregational Church of Wyoming, Illinois

Toulon First Baptist Church

110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon • (309) 286-4611
Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.
Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.
Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Email: pastor@toulonbaptist.com
www.ToulonBaptist.com
www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon
Call us for Salvation Army Assistance

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491
allsaintsil.com

Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL
Casual, family friendly Rev. Randy Swanson (interim)
Wednesday: 4:00 p.m. "See Through the Scriptures" Bible Study, 5:30 p.m. Worship (in Luther Hall)
Sunday: 9 a.m. Children's Sunday School, 9 a.m. Adult Discussion Group, 10:00 a.m. Worship
Contact: messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com
1-309-932-3346

Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434 • (309) 932-2460
preachinghope@gmail.com • galvafirst@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 9 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

St. Dominic Catholic Church of Incarnation Parish

303 N Galena Ave - Wyoming, IL - 309-385-2578
officeic25@gmail.com - incarnationcatholic.org
Mass Times: Saturdays 5 p.m. in Brimfield
Sundays 8AM in Wyoming - 9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. in Princeville
Religious Education - 10 a.m. Sunday Mornings

Wyoming United Methodist Church

Pastor Rebecca Klemm
302 North Main Street PO Box 287 Wyoming, IL, 61491-0287.
309-606-9027
Email: WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com
Service is held at 10 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

Bradford Apostolic Christian Church

440 E Main St Bradford IL 61421
9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service and simultaneous Sunday School pre-K thru 12+
11:00 Lunch and Fellowship, 12:15 2nd Sunday Worship
Wednesday Worship Service 7:15 pm
www.bradfordacchurch.org; info@bradfordacchurch.org

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LEGAL ADS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Clover Township Fire Protection District of Henry County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2026, and ending April 30, 2027, will be on file with the Secretary of the District and conveniently available to public inspection at Woodhull Village Hall, 150 N. Division Street, Woodhull, Illinois, in said Fire Protection District, from and after the 15th day of May, 2026.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 6:45 o'clock P.M., on the 16th day of June, 2026, at the Fire Station, Woodhull, Illinois, and that final action on said ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of the Clover Township Fire Protection District in Henry County, Illinois, at a meeting to be held at the Fire Station, Woodhull, Illinois on said 16th day of June, 2026, at 7:00 o'clock P.M.

By order of the Board of Trustees of said District.

Dated this 5th day of May, A.D. 2026.

Clover Township Fire Protection District
By: /s/ Larry Goff, Secretary

Published 5/15/26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Galva Community Fire Protection District of Henry County and Knox County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2026 and ending April 30, 2027, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the residence of Mike Werkheiser, Treasurer, 4295 County Highway 5, Galva, Illinois, from and after the 15th day of May, 2026.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 8:00 o'clock P.M., June 16, 2026, at the Galva Fire Department - Police Station, 210 Front Street, Galva, Illinois, and that final action on said ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of the Galva Community Fire Protection District of Henry County and Knox County, Illinois, at a meeting to be held at the Galva Fire Department - Police Station, 210 Front Street, Galva, Illinois, at 8:15 o'clock P.M., June 16, 2026.

By order of the Board of Trustees of said District.
Dated this 5th day of May, 2026.

Galva Community Fire Protection
District of Henry County and Knox County, Illinois.
By: /s/ Josh Hopping, Secretary

Published 5/15/26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education, Bradford Community Unit School District No. 1, in the Counties of Bureau, Marshall and Stark, State of Illinois, that the amended Budget for said School District for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2025, is on file beginning May 15, 2026 and is conveniently available for public inspection at the Unit Office, 115 High Street, Bradford, Illinois.

NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing on said budget will be held at 7:00 PM on the 23rd day of June 2026, at the Grade School, 345 Silver Street, Bradford, Illinois.

Dated this 29th day of April 2026.

By: /s/ Jessica Petersen, Board Secretary

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN me, a Notary Public, on the 1st day of May, 2026. Notary Public Bureau County, Illinois. My commission expires: 8-17-27.

Signed before me by Jessica Peterson on May 1, 2026

/s/ Mary E. Robbins

Published 5/15/26

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

Estate of CHERYL ANN DOWELL, deceased
No. 2026-PR-52

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of **CHERYL ANN DOWELL**. Letters of Office were issued on May 1, 2026, to Gregory Steven Dowell, 20346 N. Park Hill Dr., Deer Park, IL 60010 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
Michael E. Massie
Attorneys for Estate
P.O. Box 205
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
ARDC #: 1788949

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of STARK County, IL as Case No. 2026TX8

The Property is located at:
103 W Clinton St, Toulon, IL 61483
Property Index Number: 04-19-101-004

Said Property was sold on 10/24/2023 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2022.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/16/2026. On 10/02/2026 at 10:00 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

1095 Investments, LLC,
Petitioner
Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 202200010
TO:

Dale R Weir
Susan Ann Weir
Amanda Weir
Occupant
Tower Loan of IL LLC

Illinois Attorney General
Illinois Department of Revenue
Stark County Clerk

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of STARK County, IL as Case No. 2026TX3

The Property is located at:
321 2nd St, Bradford, IL 61421
Property Index Number: 02-26-213-007


Said Property was sold on 10/24/2023 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2022.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/16/2026. On 10/02/2026 at 10:00 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

1095 Investments, LLC,
Petitioner
Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a tentative budget and appropriation ordinance for the Bishop Hill Community Fire Protection District of Henry County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2026, and ending April 30, 2027, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Fire Station of the Bishop Hill Community Fire Protection District in Bishop Hill, Henry County, Illinois, in said Fire Protection District, from and after the 15th day of May, 2026.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said budget and appropriation ordinance will be held at 7:30 o'clock P.M., on the 16th day of June, 2026, at the Fire Station in said Fire Protection District, and that final action on said ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of the Bishop Hill Community Fire Protection District in Henry County, Illinois, at a meeting to be held at the Fire Station in the Village of Bishop Hill, in the Township of Weller, Henry County, Illinois on said 16th day of June, 2026, at 7:45 o'clock P.M.

By order of the Board of Trustees of said District

Dated this 5th day of May, 2026

Bishop Hill Community Fire Protection District
By: /s/ Kent Youngstrom, Secretary

Published 5/15/26

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

ESTATE OF CAROL M. DeRYCKE, Deceased
Case No. 2026-PR-48

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of **CAROL M. DeRYCKE**, of Kewanee, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on April 30, 2026, to MARK P. DERYCKE and LOIS J. WALLACE, Independent Co-Executors, 4009 W. Hearthwood Dr., Dunlap, IL 61525, and 3135 E. Leiland Circle, Mesa, AZ 85213 whose attorneys are Benckendorf & Benckendorf, P.C., 100 N. Main Street, Morton, IL 61550. Claims may be filed on or before November 29, 2026, being more than six (6) months from the date of the first publication hereof: any claim not filed within that period is **barred**. Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the **Henry County Courthouse, 307 W. Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238**, with the Independent CO-Executors or with the attorney of record. 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 <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a provider. If you need additional or have trouble e-filing visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>. Within ten (10) days after a claimant files a claim with the Court, the claimant must mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Independent Co-Executors and to their attorney of record and file with the Court a proof of mailing or delivery of said copies.

Dated this 8th day of April 2026.

/s/ MARK P. DeRYCKE

/s/ LOIS J. WALLACE

This Document Prepared By:
Benckendorf & Beckendorf, P.C.

100 N. Main Street
Morton, IL 61550
Tel.: (309) 673-0797
2026-2718

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

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

Estate of SANDRA KAY POLLOCK, deceased
No. 2026-PR-54

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of **SANDRA KAY POLLOCK**. Letters of Office were issued on May 6, 2026, to Rock Miller Pollock of 1950 Bayshore Dr., Englewood, FL 34223 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
Michael E. Massie
Attorneys for Estate
P.O. Box 205
Galva, IL 61434
Telephone: (309) 932-2168
ARDC #: 1788949

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 202200060
TO:

Adam D Darling

Spouse of Adam D Darling

Adam D Darling

Spouse of Adam D Darling

Adam D Darling

Spouse of Adam D Darling

Occupant

Joyce A Conrad

Spouse of Joyce A Conrad

Better Banks

Better Banks

Stark County Clerk

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of STARK County, IL as Case No. 2026TX10

The Property is located at:
10200 Twp Rd 62 N, Princeville, IL 61559
Property Index Number: 07-35-100-015

Said Property was sold on 10/24/2023 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2022.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/16/2026. On 10/02/2026 at 10:00 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

1095 Investments, LLC,
Petitioner,
Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 202200043
TO:

Estate of David P Persinger

Estate of Dwight D Persinger

Spouse of Dwight D Persinger

Rebecca Saner

James Saner

Sam Delbridge

Occupant

Justin Williams

Lisa Williams

Hannah Theobald

Stark County Clerk

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of STARK County, IL as Case No. 2026TX8

The Property is located at:
702 N Galena Ave, Wyoming, IL 61491
Property Index Number: 04-36-110-012

Said Property was sold on 10/24/2023 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2022.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/16/2026. On 10/02/2026 at 10:00 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

1095 Investments, LLC,
Petitioner
Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

Published 5/15, 5/22, 5/29/26

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 202200025
TO:

Ash M Jones

Ash M Jones

Spouse of Ash M Jones

Ash M Jones

Spouse of Ash M Jones

Kyle Burzych

Occupant

Stark County Clerk

SPORTS: Softball teams entering postseason

Continued from Page 8

Rebels managed just three hits in each of the four games.

Brimfield-Elmwood had a nine-run third inning in a 15-5 five-inning win over Stark County on May 6. Abingdon-Avon scored the final two runs in the top of the sixth in a 12-1 win.

Galva won 5-1 in the opener a May 8 doubleheader that consisted of five-inning games. Gage Shadley was 1-for-2 and had Stark County's RBI.

Left-hander Connor Daum allowed three hits and one run and had an RBI single in the third inning as Stark County reversed the score in a 5-1 win in Game 2. Kaedon Steelman had two RBI.

Stark County (6-21) was to play Orion on Tuesday, Illini Bluffs on Thursday, Earlville on Friday and Triopia on Saturday this week.

• **Galva baseball** – In a 12-2 six-inning May 7 loss to Monmouth United, Galva was saddled with a three-run first and six-run second by the Red Storm. MJ Louck was 2-for-3 for the Wildcats.

In last Friday's opener against Stark County, a 5-1 win, Louck gave up three hits and struck out three in five innings. He and Blake Stahl had two hits apiece. Cyrus Hurd and Braxton Hulstrom had RBI. In Game 2, Galva had three hits in a 5-1 loss.

Galva (6-12) was to play Peoria Heights on Friday and Bureau Valley in a doubleheader on Saturday. A game against Farmington scheduled Tuesday was cancelled.

• **Galva softball** – Alison Bussell was 2-for-4 and drove in the only run for Galva (4-15) in its 5-1 loss Tuesday at Knoxville. Teammate Kinsley Gale was 2-for-3.

Karsyn Claves and Kaylyn Gale each had two hits for Galva in the second game of the doubleheader May 8 against Stark County, which swept 16-1 and 5-2. Sage Kaiser's RBI groundout enabled Galva to tie the second game 1-1 in the fourth. Arabella Porche's first-inning single provided Galva its only first-game run.

Monmouth United scored six times

in the ninth inning May 7 to beat Galva 10-4. Danielle Wigant was 4-for-5 and drove in the tying run in the seventh for Galva. The previous day, Orion beat Galva 11-1 in five innings. Kinsley Gale was 2-for-3 with a double.

Galva has a regular-season doubleheader scheduled for today against Bureau Valley. The eighth-seeded Wildcats are to begin Class 1A regionals at 4:30 p.m. May 18 at home against ninth-seeded Sciota West Prairie. The winner is to face No. 1 host West Central at the same time the following day at Biggsville.

• **Galva track** – Ben Burris was second in shot put at the LTC meet with a season-best throw of 44-10.25.

Reid Harris placed fourth in the 300 hurdles (46.05), fourth in the long jump (18-11) and fifth in high jump (5-8).

At the Pam Foley Memorial Invite, Kinsley Gale won the 800 (PR, 2:45.33) and was second in the 1,600 (PR, 6:08.03) and Eva Nance was second in 100 hurdles (PR, 19.47).

23 local athletes advance to IESA state meet

By JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

A total of 23 local athletes qualified for the IESA State Track Meet in Class 1A and 2A sectionals last Saturday.

The Class 1A and 2A state meet is Friday and Saturday (May 15-16) at EastSide Centre in East Peoria.

The Bradford girls team placed fourth at the Class 1A Kewanee Wethersfield Sectional and has the top-ranked 1,600 medley relay heading into the state meet.

Stark County competed at the Class 2A Putnam County Sectional where Edward Bickett was second in the 100-meter dash with a personal-best time of 11.46 that ranks second in Class 2A heading to state.

Here are local state qualifiers.

CLASS 1A, at Galva Bradford

7th grade boys

• Cory Stotler, won discus (113 feet, 6.25 inches) and was third in shot put (34-3.25)

7th grade girls

• Sedona Smith, won the 800 (2:38.31) and the 1,600 (6:02.2).

• 4x400 relay (Isley

Shafer, Izabelle Brady, Stella Brady and Rosie Godfrey), was second in 4:50.72.

• 1,600 sprint medley (Shafer, Brady, Godfrey and Sedona Smith), won in 4:42.01 and is ranked No. 1 in Class 1A.

Galva

7th grade boys

• D'Montray Rush, won high jump (PB, 4-6.75)

• Jax Williams, won the 110 hurdles (PB, 18.89)

8th grade boys

• Brigham Carasca, won high jump (PB, 5-7) and was third in 1,600 (PB, 5:20.25).

8th grade girls

• Elizabeth Sellers, won the 100 (13.92) and 100 hurdles (18.45) and high jump (4-8.75)

CLASS 2A, at Granville Stark County

7th grade girls

• Lily Sellers, was fifth in the 200 (PB, 28.53)

• 1,600 sprint medley (Adley Potter, Brylee Stookey, Lily Sellers and Lucy Denton), won in 4:51.95.

8th grade boys

• Edward Bickett, was second in the 100 (PB, 11.46) and was second in the 200 (PB, 24.61)

• Jack Brodie, was fourth

in the 100 (PB, 12.14)

• 4x100 relay (Bickett, Seth Duttlinger, Ayden Coons and Levi Sparks), won in 51.52.

• 4x200 relay (Brandon

Swearingen, Joseph Snyder, London Smith and Jackson Osborn), won in 1:54.44.

MEMORIAL DAY Monday, May 25, 2026

**SCHEDULE FOR THE TOULON
AMERICAN LEGION POST 416 CEMETERY SERVICES**
7:30 a.m. – Available & Able Members Assemble at Post 416
7:45 a.m. – Depart for Starwano Cem.
8:00 a.m. – Starwano
8:30 a.m. – Stringtown
9:00 a.m. – West Jersey
10 a.m. – Elmira
Return to Post 416 to
prepare for service at
Toulon Cemetery.
11:00 a.m. – Toulon



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Chris Baumann
Toulon, IL
309-238-0665



Elmira Memorial Day Service

Monday, May 25 • 2 p.m.

Elmira Presbyterian Church
Speaker Bill Loane

A procession to the Elmira Cemetery to honor Veterans' graves will follow, with local piper Bill Good. Crosses will be carried and placed at the graves of all Veterans. The general public is invited to attend.

Consignments Wanted Anything But Household Auction Saturday, June 6 at 4 p.m.

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Bradford American Legion Post 445

Memorial Day Services

Monday, May 25, 2026 10 a.m.

Elsie Drawyer Hodges Park • Bradford followed by march to Bradford Cemetery

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In case of inclement weather, services to be held at Leet Memorial Church.

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The Prairie News Sports

More records for SC track

Lady Rebels 4x800 sets school, LTC mark; Knobloch PRs

For The Prairie News

The Stark County track teams added to what has already been a record-setting season in two recent meets.

On Monday at the Pam Foley Invite in Galva, Evan Knobloch set school records in the 800-meter race (2:02.78) and the 1,600 (4:31.11).

On May 8 at the Lincoln Trail Conference meet at Galva, Knobloch was conference champ in the 1,600 (4:36.89) and 3,200 (9:46.2). His time in the 3,200 broke the LTC record.

The Lady Rebels 4x800 relay also set a new LTC record with its time of 9:41.1. The relay consists of Paytin Terwilliger, Norah Rorem, Cheyneh Smith and Dusti Smith. The same quartet won the 4x400 relay (4:11.26). Both relay times were personal records.

The Stark County girls finished second overall and had four other LTC champions.

Claire Bowser won in high jump after clearing a season's best height of 5

feet, 1.75 inches, Gia Swearingen won the 100 (13.04), Cheyneh Smith won the 800 (PR, 2:18.52) and Dusti Smith won the 1,600 (5:09.88). Swearingen was also second in the 200 (PR, 27.48) and third in long jump (14-11).

The Stark County girls were to compete in the Farmington Class 1A Sectional on May 13. The boys sectional is at Mercer County on May 20.

• **Stark County SB** – Stark County (17-8) extended its winning streak to eight games Tuesday by beating host Heyworth 4-3. Kenna Sparks' RBI single in the sixth inning broke a 3-3 tie and capped a four-run rally. Hallie Newton had a one-run single, and Brooklyn Ostrowski had an RBI double.

Stark County swept a doubleheader May 8 from Galva, 16-1 and 5-2. The Rebels did all their first-game scoring in the fourth and final inning.

Taylor Price had a three-run double, Cambri Holmstrom and Ostrowski had two-run doubles and Sophie Finnegan had a two-

run single. Holmstrom also had a one-run double. Gracie Rowell had two RBI singles.

In the second game, Holmstrom had an RBI double as the Rebels took the lead in the fourth.

Holmstrom's two-run, first-inning single May 7 gave Stark County a lasting lead in a 9-1 victory over Abingdon-Avon. Ostrowski had a two-RBI single in the third. Sparks was 2-for-3 with two RBI.

Stark County is to finish its regular season today (May 15) at ROWVA-Williamsfield.

Top seeded in their Class 1A sub-sectional, the Rebels are to play at 4 p.m. May 19 at Kewanee Weathersfield in a regional semifinal against Lowpoint-Washburn or Princeville. The championship game is set for 4 p.m. May 22.



• **SC Baseball** – Stark County split a doubleheader with Galva last Friday after dropping consecutive games shortened by run rule the previous two days. The

Continued on Page 7

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