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May 8, 2026
 Vol. 22, No. 17

The Prairie News

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New invasive weed on watchlist

By Illinois Extension

Corn and soybean farmers should be scouting for a new weed this upcoming growing season. According to University of Illinois crop experts, Asian copperleaf (*Acalypha australis*) was identified in a field in Stephenson County in northern Illinois after corn harvest last fall. That is the first confirmed Asian copperleaf population in Illinois.

“It is more advantageous to remain in front of a new weed challenge rather than allow it to get in front of researchers and producers,” says Aaron Hager, weed science professor and University of Illinois Extension faculty specialist in the Department of Crop Sciences.



Asian copperleaf is non-native to the United States. The first confirmed populations were documented in New York in 1990. The next time Asian copperleaf was positively identified in the U.S. was in an Iowa seed corn field in 2016. Since then, it has been confirmed in 10 counties across central and western Iowa. Illinois is the third state with a confirmed population of Asian copperleaf.

Reports of herbicide resistance in Asian copperleaf populations in its native range raise concerns that it could evolve herbicide resistance in U.S. populations as well. In addition to its rapid spread and per-

Continued on Page 4

CIVIL WAR DAY



A cannon is fired during an artillery demonstration presented by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association. Below: Union troops march into battle. Submitted photos.

250th birthday celebration Bishop Hill Heritage Association hosts Civil War Day

For The Weekly Post

BISHOP HILL – To honor America’s 250th birthday this year, the Bishop Hill Heritage Association is hosting a variety of activities that look at various aspects of early U.S. history.

One event is the 2026 Bishop Hill Civil War Day on Saturday, May 16. As part of the event, there will be Union and Confederate encampments in the village park, with programs occurring throughout the day.

The civilian encampment and sutler area, which includes a tin-type photogra-



pher, will be located by the Steeple Building Museum. All Civil War programs are

free and open to the public. Some of the activities in-

Continued on Page 4

CO₂ a hot topic in Galva

Standing room only at council meeting

By CAROL TOWNSEND

For The Prairie News

GALVA – A possible CO₂ sequestration project east of the city attracted a standing-room-only crowd to Monday’s nearly two-hour Galva City Council meeting.

Residents posed several questions about the proposed project that would inject CO₂ into the ground near the Big River Resources, LLC ethanol plant on the east side of Galva along U.S. Route 34. Permitting for the project has not yet been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Much of the focus of the discussion was on a contract the city signed with Texas-based Lapis Carbon Solutions and on possible health and environmental problems with carbon capture. Some also asked how the project would impact property values near the site and others questioned how residents would be notified in the case of an emergency.

Resident Dustin Williams, who is heading a Facebook page and a concerned citizens group, asked who signed the land-use contract allowing city-owned farm ground to be used for the CO₂ injection. Williams said he learned of the contract that was signed last November after filing a Freedom of Information Act request.

Continued on Page 2

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GALVA: Residents ask if contract can be voided

Continued from Page 1
 City Administrator Dave Dyer said he signed the contract and said money was a factor. The city received \$20,000 up front and will receive an additional \$150,000 if the project moves forward.

Dyer said the city is in the process of hiring a geologist to study the project. At the meeting, Mayor Rich Volkert said the council did not discuss the contract before it was signed. On Wednesday he clarified that remark. "He does not need to ask us, he has permission to act on his own," Volkert said. "As soon as he signed that, he gave us the information."

Volkert and Dyer said the contract would allow Big River to run a portion of its CO2 piping across the city property, if needed, to keep as straight a flow line as possible. The signing process did not sit well with some people in attendance on Monday, though. "You didn't give us an opportunity for the people to vote on it," Williams said.

"Shame on the person that signed that contract," Galva resident Jason Rose said. Al Kitterman, a resident said, "Storage of any type does not last forever. Let the contract go." Kitterman said his father Phil ran the Kerr McGee Station in Galva for 35 years and had to replace

the tanks twice in 35 years due to leaks. Jim Hardy details about the project should be put out in the open, as they would have been in "the good old days in Galva."

Resident Cindy Collinson asked if the contract could be cancelled and the permit be denied. Amanda Stodgel, a nurse, presented Galva City Clerk Debbie Van-Wassenhove a clinical liability audit and executive summary. The summary states clinical gaps and contractual breaches that render the city currently unequipped to ensure public safety in the event of a CO2 release.

Some discussion in the community has focused on a 2020 CO2 leak out of a

Galva City Council honors artist Jordan Murray

GALVA – In addition to discussion about CO2 sequestration, Galva City Council proclaimed May 4 as Jordan Murray Day and presented him with a key to the city.

Murray is a local artist who has done many projects for the city in the parks and library and he has also authored two books for children.

The council also opened a bid of \$528 for 403 NE 2nd St. from Tom Nash. It was unclear if that amount reached the necessary percent of the appraised value, so no action was taken. There were no bids on the 315 SE 4th St. property.

Resident Brenda Holmes asked about the leash law. She said had three dog encounters and was bitten once.

Police Chief Kraig Townsend said to be sure and call the police and the owner

will be given a warning, administrative ticket and the incident will be turned over to Henry County Animal Control.

The council unanimously passed a resolution to adopt updated hazard mitigation plan.

Poppy Day will be May 16 in Galva and Bryley Glisan, Miss Poppy, was present and collected from the council and some residents at the meeting.

Jim Kelly, who administers the Henry County Rural Revolving Loan Fund, attended the meeting and said the county has 42 active loans, including 10 from Galva. He said he has \$1.2 million left to loan and if anyone is interested in starting a new business, to contact him at jkelly@henrycty.com or by calling (309) 937-3410.

– Carol Townsend



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PUBLIC RECORD

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

4-27 - to the 100 block of NW 4th Ave. for a utility wire laying across the roadway. It was determined to be a cable wire and was rolled onto the terrace.

4-27 - While patrolling, officer located a loose dog in the roadway on U.S. Route 34. The dog was impounded and was later returned to its owner.

4-27 - to the 300 block of SE 3rd St. for a 911 hang-up complaint. It was determined to be a child playing with a phone.

4-27 - to the 800 block of NE 2nd St. for a complaint involving ATVs driving on the roadway. Officer did not locate them.

4-28 - to the 700 block of NE 2nd St. to deliver a message.

4-28 - to assist Henry County with a civil paper service in the 00 block of SW 4th St.

4-28 - to the 300 block of SW 4th Street for a solicitor complaint. The subject was located and was referred to Galva City Hall to obtain a permit.

4-29 - to the 200 block of SW 3rd St. for a possible violation of an order of protection.

4-29 - to the 700 block of NW 1st Ave. to deliver a message for Henry County.

4-29 - to the 600 block of NW 7th Ave. for a verbal disturbance involving juveniles.

4-29 - to the 600 block of NE 1st Ave. for a civil dispute involving removal of property.

4-29 - to assist the ambulance with a medical emergency just west of town.

4-29 - While patrolling, officer noticed a train had stopped and was



blocking all Galva railroad crossings. BNSF was contacted and advised the officer that the train had a mechanical issue. The train eventually moved along after repairs.

4-30 - to the 600 block of SW 2nd Ave. for a barking-dog complaint. The animal owner was warned and advised.

4-30 - to the 800 block of W. Division St. for a property-line dispute.

4-30 - to the 500 block of James B Young Road for a disabled vehicle complaint.

4-30 - to the 400 block of SE 6th St. for a traffic complaint involving a juvenile passing a stopped school bus. The juvenile was located and warned.

4-30 - along with the street department, to the 00 block of SE 5th Ave. for a large tree limb that fell partially onto a porch and house.

4-30 - to the 00 block of SW 2nd St. for a debit card that had been located and turned in.

4-30 - to the 500 block of NE 3rd St. for a verbal disturbance.

5-1 - to the 100 block of SW 5th St. for a complaint of a runaway juvenile. The juvenile returned home as the officer was taking the report.

5-1 - Officer was flagged down in the 100 block of Market St. to assist a citizen.

5-1 - to the 100 block of NW 6th Ave. for a disorderly conduct complaint involving telephone harassment.

5-1 - to meet with a resident at the Galva Police Department to take a complaint involving disorderly conduct.

5-1 - to the 600 block of SE 2nd St. to speak to the owner of an abandoned vehicle located in Annawan.

5-1 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a complaint involving a subject who appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

5-1 - to a residence on NW 5th St. for a welfare check.

5-2 - to the 300 block of Front St. for a fight involving several subjects. This case remains under investigation.

5-2 - to assist the Kewanee Police Department with a welfare check on NW 7th St. Officer did not locate the subject.

5-2 - to the 1000 block of NW 7th Ave. for a civil standby to retrieve property.

5-3 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to assist a citizen who appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.

5-3 - to the 400 block of NW 2nd Ave for a loose-dog complaint.

5-3 - to U.S. Route 34 east of town to assist Henry County with a motorist assist.

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GARAGE SALES

• **Garage Sale** - Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, 8-9 - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tools, wire welder, roller cabinet, mac mini Computers, cb radios/w motorcycle head set. 42 County Road 750 N Speer, IL. Kitty corner from Tanner's Orchard.

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

CryptoQuote
answer

What is it that disappears when you make a U-turn?
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- Source Unknown



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BRIEFS

Bradford Auxiliary holds patriotic poster contest

BRADFORD – The Bradford Auxiliary is sponsoring a Patriotic Poster Contest in celebration of the country's 250 Birthday.

All participants are to be residents of the Bradford community school district. Poster entries should be on 11-by-14 inch poster board and depict patriotism and honoring our veterans.

All entries are to be submitted by June 14 to either the Bradford Banking Center or the Bradford Village Office. Include your name, address, phone number and age category on the back of your poster. Age categories are: adult, high school, junior high, grades 3-5 and grades K-2.

The winner in each category will receive a monetary award and can ride on the Auxiliary float at the Bradford Labor Day parade.

Contact Angie Stange (309) 363-1524 if you have any questions.

Prairie Queen Quilt Club hosts show May 15-16

BISHOP HILL – The Prairie Queen Quilt Club is hosting its annual Bishop Hill Quilt Show May 15-16, with nearly 100 quilts on display. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at the Bishop Hill Colony School located at 405 W. Main St. Admission is \$5.



Barb Pittard and her dog Frankie were awarded the May Property Pride by the Galva Ready to Grow committee. The home at 707 NE 3rd Ave. features many hostas. Barb has lived there for 46 years.

WEED: Identifying Asian copperleaf difficult

Continued from Page 1
sistence, an uncontrolled population could quickly become problematic.

Asian copperleaf is a summer annual species that reproduces exclusively by seed.

Identifying Asian copperleaf before reproductive structures are present can be difficult. Its leaves are alternately arranged on the stem and have serrated margins, pointed tips and slightly to very rounded bases. Stems are erect, and flowers are not showy. Leafy tissues, called bracts, grow beneath the female flowers. These bracts are important for distinguishing Asian copperleaf from native species such as Virginia copperleaf, rhomboid mercury and the rarer Deam's mercury.

The Asian copperleaf plants observed in Stephenson County ranged from 1-2 feet tall, though many were smaller.

Farmers are encouraged to keep an eye out for this species while scouting during the upcoming growing season. Preventing the spread of seed is crucial to limiting future infestations.

To learn more, read the Extension's Asian Copperleaf fact sheet at go.illinois.edu/AsianCopperleaf.

BISHOP HILL: Civil War Event includes quilt show

Continued from Page 1
clude an artillery demonstration, a speech by Union Gen. John Logan, a Civil War music concert, an evening Civil War-era ball and, of course, a battle.

The annual Bishop Hill Quilt Show will be in full swing with displays at the Colony School and the Steeple Building Museum.

The Vasa Archives will have make-and-take hobby horses for \$10 each.

Food will also be available, including a pulled-ham sandwich stand by

Operation Christmas that will be open next to the Colony Store from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more details, go to www.bishophillheritage.org, call (309) 927-3899, email bhha@mymctc.net or visit the Bishop Hill Heritage Association Facebook page.

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Hailey Allen



Kristian Barnes



Klaire Bays



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Ben Browning



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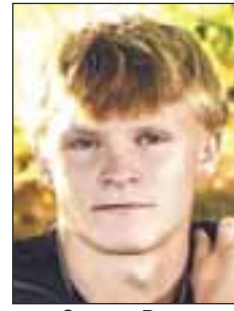
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Jaxon Carder



Jason Dailey



Connor Daum



Arianna Gerber



Tyson Gillespie



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STARK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL



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Daxton Newton



Olivia O Bryant



Donovan Pierce



Kimberly Salisbury



Memery Shadley



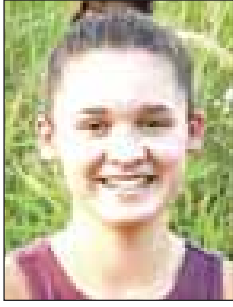
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The Prairie News

wishes to congratulate all area graduates and reminds seniors to send their accomplishments to the newspaper while away at college!

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GALVA HIGH SCHOOL



Graduation Ceremony • Sunday, May 17, 2 p.m. • Galva High School Gym

*Valedictorian and Illinois State Scholars



Hallie Denise Anderson



*McKenna Lynn Anderson



Sarah Gayle Burris



Shelby Lynne Charlet



Milan Keith Craig



Kimber Ann Dailey



Alexander Nickolas Davis



Zaydi Jo Marie Ensley



Cyrus Dean Hurd



Rynne Marie Hutchinson



Ella Arleen Ingels



Wyatt Everatt Dean Johnson



Braden Paul Murphy



*Allison Marie Nordstrom



Ian Thomas Pacheco



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Congratulations to the 8th graders from . . .



STARK COUNTY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Stark County Junior High Promotion • Wednesday, May 13, 6 p.m. • Stark County High School Gym



Andrew Lawrence Anderson



Albert Kenneth Lee Becket



Edward David Bickett



Zoey Alexis Brumley



Olivia Willoughby Campbell



Sophia Carolina Clayton



Ayden James Coons



Nikiya JaLynn Dearing



Brody John Dochterman



Carter Dean Down



Seth Michael Allen Duttlinger



Natalie Joan Dyken



Autumn Marie Endress



Haisley Lynn Forstrom



Brailynn Diane Galli



Colby Robert Gentle



Wyatt Hiram Gibson



Michael John Hamilton



Gracie Ann Hemminger



Abigail Grace Hildebrandt



Cloie Jo ann Jones



Sarabeth Deborah Joos



Leighton Kelley Kitterman



Jillian Marie Knowles



London Olivia Rose LaTour



Brenna Mae Leezer



Massimo Rome Medina



Evan Robert Morris



Ahnaley Kay Ann Nanninga



Aaron Joel Newby



Magnolia Valenteen Perez



Allison Elizabeth Plumer



Audree Ann Marie Robertson



Kane Anthony James Roper



Madeleine Grace Rosado



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Levi Alan Sparks



Gabriel Dax Stickhost



Alexis Leigh-ann Tasker



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Congratulations to all area graduates!

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wishes to congratulate all area graduates and reminds seniors to send their accomplishments to the newspaper while away at college!

We Cover The News of West-Central Illinois With A Passion

Congratulations to the Class of 2026 from ...



BUREAU VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Graduation Ceremony • Sunday, May 17, 1:30 p.m • Storm Cellar at Manlius Campus



Julie Atkins



Jayden Heartt



Sean Kendall



Rose Krider



Jack Morman



LeAnn Oleson



Mikayla Radowich



Riggins Shafer



Clara Verway



Congratulations to the 8th graders from ...



BRADFORD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Bradford Junior High Promotion • Friday, May 15, 7 p.m. • Bradford Junior High Gym



Derek Alexander



Joe Atkins



Alec Barto



Ian Cresto



Michael Divert



Suzanne Dozard



Caleb Duneheew



Brantley Ferneti



Ra'var Jordan



Bethany LaMere



Nick Miller



Ash Roberts



Klaire Rumbold



Silas Smith



Serynity Stutler



Kaeden Taylor



Avery Weinberg





Congratulations to the 8th graders from . . .

GALVA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Galva Junior High Promotion Ceremony • Thursday, May 21, 6 p.m • Galva High School Gym



Cecilia Marie Appell



Aylah Jolynn Blomberg



Brigham Issac Carrasca



Alexander Matthew Craig



Samantha Jean Fox



Ellory Claire Glaser



Aubrianna Mirriam Dowell-Keup



Madison Marie Kirk



Kaydence Elaina Klein



Fiona Joan Light



Chloe Mae Matuszyk



Madelyn Renee' McCurdy



Alonzo Cruz McDonald



Carter Lee Mensen



Tony Lee Porter



Kaylee Ann Sargeant



Elizabeth Charlotte Sellers



Gracelynn Ann Simoneaux



Avery Marie Sterling



Madeline Grace Strand



Alyssia Renee Torres



Alexis Michaela Traff



Arleigh Nickole Wagner



Gretta Adrienne Wigant

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Sunday, May 10

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Galva students awarded scholarships

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The Rotary Honors and Scholarship Program was held May 5 after baccalaureate at Messiah Lutheran Church.

Galva High School Principal **Kurtis Smyth**, who is also the Galva Rotary president, welcomed the group and helped **Victoria Conner**, the counselor with the Rotary Awards and senior honors and scholarships.

Caelin Foley, a 2019 Galva High School graduate, was the keynote speaker for the event.

Scholarships were presented Sunday afternoon at the Galva Rotary Awards banquet to the 2026 graduating seniors. The scholarships and students awarded are named in the following bulleted list.

- **McKenna Anderson** daughter of Pat and Heather Anderson: Mary Evelyn Conelly Memorial Music Award; Edgewise Scholarship; Galva Rotary Scholarship; The Janet and Ken Russell Scholarship; Keppy Foundation and Galva FFA and Alumni Achievement Award; The Marvin Warner Memorial Scholarship; PEO BR Chapter Award; Shanna Thomson Scholarship; The Sheldon and Dorothy Dornink Memorial Scholarship.

- **Cyrus Hurd**, son of Jaydee Hurd and Shelly Hurd: Galva Lions Club Scholarship.

- **Ryanne Hutchison**, daughter of Jesse and Misty Hutchison: The Bates and King Memorial Scholarship Award; Beta Sigma Phi Lambda Nu Chapter Award; Keppy Founda-



Galva seniors pictured above were honored for having a gpa of 3.5 for high honor roll at the end of first semester. From left to right are McKenna Anderson*, Ella Ingels, Braden Murphy*, Ryanne Hutchison, Allison Nordstrom* and Kailynn Townsend*. Not pictured were Shelby Charlet, Cyrus Hurd* and Blake Stahl. (Note: Asterisk denotes all As). Photo by Carol Townsend.

tion and Galva FFA and Alumni Achievement Award.

- **Ella Ingels**, daughter of Alex and Carol Ingels: Health Professional Scholarship.

- **Braden Murphy** son of Sheena Murphy and the late Brian Murphy: Community State Bank of Galva Scholarship; Galva Lions Club H. Ray Young Memorial Science Scholarship; Galva Masonic Lodge Scholarship; Kenneth C. Speed Memorial English Award; Pam Foley Memorial Scholarship (new); Sanford Bittle Memorial Athletic Scholarship.

- **Allison Nordstrom**, daughter of Larry and Terri Nordstrom: Galva Arts Council Fine and Creative Arts Scholarship.

- **Kailynn Townsend**, daughter of Kraig and Sarah Townsend: Presidential Scholars Award from Black Hawk College; Christa Townsend Memorial Health Scholarship; Galva Masonic Lodge Vocational Scholarship; The Melissa Bates Memorial Scholarship; Rebekah Lodge Schol-

arship (new)

- Illinois State Scholars: **McKenna Anderson, Allison Nordstrom and Kailynn Townsend.**

Underclassmen honored

Underclass students honored at the Rotary Banquet for a 3.5 gpa were:

Juniors – Charley Chamberlain*, Randy Collister, Ty Dowell-Keup*, Kaylynn Gale*, Jacob Gravitt, Reid Harris*, Allyssa Hudson, Bryant Jeffrey, Sage Kaiser, Angela McArthur, Amber Plummer*, Brayden Robinson and Isabelle Wygant*.

Sophomores – Fisher Appell*, Alison Bussell*, Randal Engels, Thomas Funke*, Arabella Porsche, Niya Roman, Jace Sterling*.

Freshman – Layla Anderson, McKayla Blair, Karsyn Claeys, John Clemons, Samatha Faber, Kinsley Gale, Brielle Jeffrey*, Deirdre Light*, Eva Nance*, Jurnie Owens, Sebastian Rodseth and Danielle Wigant*.

* Denotes all As.

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OBITUARIES

Raymond L. Wilkinson

EL PASO – Raymond L. Wilkinson, 50, of El Paso, formerly of Wyoming, passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack on Friday, May 1, 2026, at OSF Saint Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington.

Raymond was born on Oct. 4, 1975, in Peoria, to William H. and Susan C. (Hill) Wilkinson. He married Robin D. (Celus) on Jan. 25, 2025, in Wyoming.

Surviving are his wife, Robin, of El Paso; two sons, Haden and Hunter Wilkinson of Normal; three stepdaughters, Paige Nicklin of Pekin, Angela (Andrew) Woodhall of Cape Girardeau, Mo., and Kelsey Nicklin of Avison; two grandsons, Alecander and Asher; two sisters, Christina (Jim) Lauwerens of Rochester, Ill., and Anita Wilkinson of Pekin; nieces and nephews, Jordan, Caitlin and Jared; many close, good friends; and his beloved golden retriever, Case.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Ray attended Wyoming High School and was in the first graduating class of Stark County High School in 1993. He received his bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University and attended

Roosevelt University for his post-graduate studies.

He worked for State Farm in Bloomington for 25 years as a paralegal and most recently was a construction coordinator for Lowes.

Ray was a member of the Elks Lodge 281 in Bloomington where he was a PER exalted ruler five times previous to his current term. He was passionate about the Bed Blitz project where they would make up beds for underprivileged youth.

Ray enjoyed fishing, riding his four-wheeler and tinkering and fixing things around the house. He was always so proud of himself when he would get things working again. Above all else, Raymond loved his family and his children.

A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at the Wyoming United Methodist Church. Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Monday, May 11, 2026, at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming.

Memorial contributions may be made directly to the family for a future memorial. The family requests that any floral and memorial gifts please be made directly through A Few of My Favorite Things, (309) 695-9966, located at 110 S. 7th Street, Wyoming.

Condolences may be left for Raymond's family on his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Kenneth L. Kuster

GALVA – Kenneth L. "Kenny" Kuster, 63, of Galva, died at 3:23 p.m., Sunday, May 3, 2026, at his home.

Cremation will be accorded and a Celebration of Life Service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026, at the First Baptist Church in Galva with Pastor Brian Griem officiating. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. A luncheon and gathering will be held following services at the church. Memorials may be directed to the First Baptist Church.

He was born on Oct. 12, 1962, in Peoria, the son of Richard and Sharon (Bellcour) Kuster. He married Jeri K. Henry Phillips on May 14, 2005, in Kewanee. Survivors include his wife, a stepson, Robert Phillips of Galva, two sisters, April Kuster of Kewanee and Lori Kuster of Peoria, an adopted sister, De-wann Bellcour and his adopted mother, Pat Gronberg of Arizona. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Steven.

He graduated from Kewanee High School in 1981. He had worked as a salesclerk for various businesses. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Galva where he was recently baptized. He enjoyed attending flea markets.



Wilkinson

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
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Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

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email: info@thegathering.life

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Rev. Shawna Marsh

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

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

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(309) 695-4091

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

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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

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St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491

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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

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 • galvafirst@gmail.com

Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity National Catholic Church

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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 Wyanet Walnut Rd, Bradford, IL. 61421

Services on Sundays at 9 a.m.

Rev Dan Wright

309-897-8113 309-507-1626

thewrights62@hotmail.com

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

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Stark County Regular Van Schedule for May

Monday, May 4 - Individual Transports Available - Call (309) 364-2287	Thursday, May 7 - KEWANEE - Pick up Bradford 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Toulon 9:10
Monday, May 11 - Individual Transports Available - Call (309) 364-2287	Thursday, May 14 - Galesburg - Pick up Toulon 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Bradford 9:10
Monday, May 18 - Individual Transports Available - Call (309) 364-2287	Thursday, May 21 - Kewanee - Pick up Toulon 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Bradford 9:10
Monday, May 25 - HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY! CLOSED Fees: People under age 60: \$10 except to Kewanee is \$6; People aged 60 & over: voluntary donation Call by 4:00 p.m. the day before you would like to ride the van to make your reservation. Individual transports are available M - F with advanced reservations.	Thursday, May 28 - Princeton - Pick up Toulon 8:40, Wyoming 8:55, Bradford 9:10

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

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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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LEGAL ADS

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **SHARON S. VILATTE**, Deceased
Case No. 2026PR8

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of **SHARON S. VILATTE** of 304 North 3rd Street, Wyoming, Stark County, Illinois 61491. Letters of Administration were issued on **April 27, 2026** to **MARY S. DONALD** and **LYDIA J. DOWN**, as Co-Independent Representatives, whose attorney is The Rennick Law Firm, P.C., P.O. Box 430, Toulon, IL 61483.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Stark County Clerk, Stark County, Stark County Courthouse, 130 West Main Street, P. O. Box 426, Toulon, IL 61483, or with the Representative, on or before **November 2nd 2026**, and 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 ten (10) days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 (IL Rev. Stat., Ch 755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. You may obtain a copy of a Petition to Terminate Independent Administration form from the Clerk of Court at the above address.

Dated this 28th day of April 2026.

MARY S. DONALD and LYDIA J. DOWN,
Co-Independent Representatives
By: /s/ **Robert H. Rennick, Sr.**, Their Attorney

-Robert H. Rennick, Sr.
The Rennick Law Firm, P.C.
117-119 West Court Street
P.O. Box 430
Toulon, Illinois 61483
Telephone: 309-286-5921/309-286-2171
ARDC #2315831
robertrennicksr@rennicklawfirm.com

Published 5/1, 5/8, 5/15/26

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

Estate of **JERRY E. GIORNO**, deceased
No. 2026 PR 45

CLAIM NOTICE
(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of **Jerry E. Giorno**. Letters of Office were issued on **April 20, 2026**, to Jeff Giorno, as Independent Representative whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC..

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the **clerk of the court, Henry County Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois** or with the representative, or both on or before **October 30, 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 service provider. Visit: <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office..

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorney for Administrator
211 W. 2nd St.
Kewanee, IL 61443
(309) 852-5555
Published 4/24, 5/1, 5/8/26

INTENT TO SELL OR DISPOSE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Pursuant to the IL Self Storage Lien Act, the owner of a self storage facility has a lien upon all personal property located at the self-service storage facility for rent or other charges incurred for the storage of the personal property. Due to the failure to pay the rent, the owner is enforcing its lien and intends to sell or otherwise dispose of the personal property located in the rented spaces listed in this notice.

THIS NOTICE IS BEING PROVIDED PURSUANT TO IL STATE LAW BEFORE the sale, the tenants listed may pay the amount necessary to satisfy the lien and the reasonable expenses incurred to redeem the personal property.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE: Notice is hereby given that on July 13th, 2026 on or after 9:00 AM the personal property located in the following storage units will be sold by competitive bidding with reserve at Jones Storage - 4 James B Young Rd, Galva, IL 61434. Each unit contains household, recreational and/or misc. goods unless otherwise noted.

Start: Monday, July 13, 2026 at 9:00 AM Central
Location: Jones Storage - 4 James B Young Rd, Galva, IL 61434
Description: Units 10 & 14 Vehicle Storage | Occupant Justin West
Bidding: Bidding will take place online at <https://sullivanauctioneers.com/auction/car-auction-7-13-26>

Published 5/1, 5/8/26

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

Estate of **JUSTIN V. VANCIL**, deceased
No. 2026PR42

CLAIM NOTICE
(Publication)

Notice is given of the death of **JUSTIN V. VANCIL**. Letters of Office were issued on **April 7, 2026**, to Carol A. Lee as Administrator whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the **clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois** or with the representative, or both on or before **October 12, 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.

Barash & Everett, LLC
Attorney for Administrator
P.O. Box 165
Galva, IL 61434
(309) 932-2001
Published 4/24, 5/1, 5/8/26

ADVERTISE! CALL (309) 286-2185

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

Panel 1: A chicken stands in front of a small wooden house.

Panel 2: The chicken says, "HMMM, WHERE IN THE DICKENS ARE MARGARET AND THE OTHER LADIES?"

Panel 3: A man in a car says, "GERALD, DID YOU REMEMBER TO CLOSE THE DOOR WHEN WE LEFT?"

Panel 4: A man at a table says, "HURRY UP WITH THOSE MIMOSAS. 'TOXIC HOUSEWIVES' IS ABOUT TO START!"

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

Panel 1: A man says, "I CAN SEE THE 'BIG DIPPER' TONIGHT!"

Panel 2: A man says, "DON'T BE SO SURE OF THAT...."

Panel 3: A man says, "IT'S MOST LIKELY YOUR REFLECTION IN THE WINDOW."

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

A man says to a cat and a dog, "THERE'S NO PRICES LISTED AND I GUESS IT'S RUDE TO ASK, SO I'M GONNA POINT AT ONE AND IF YOU COULD JUST SMILE OR FROWN?"

GRIN & BEAR IT

A man says to a woman, "Take a letter, Flo! Heck, take the whole alphabet!"

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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 Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: What is the name of the blue diamond necklace in "Titanic"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president once said, "Speak softly and carry a big stick"?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is New Zealand's national bird?
- MATH: How many sides does a tridecagon have?
- BIBLE: What is the first book in the Bible called?
- SPACE: How long does it take the International Space Station to orbit the Earth?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek god of the sun?
- ANATOMY: Where are the carpus and metacarpus located in the human body?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the largest hydroelectric power plant in the world?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the dystopian novel titled "The Testaments"?

Answers

- "Heart of the Ocean."
- Theodore Roosevelt.
- The kiwi.
- 13.
- Genesis.
- 90-93 minutes.
- Helios.
- The hand.
- Three Gorges Dam, China.
- Margaret Atwood.

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TOP 10 MOVIES

- Michael (PG-13)
- The Super Mario Galaxy Movie (PG)
- Project Hail Mary (PG-13)
- Lee Cronin's The Mummy (R)
- The Drama (R)
- Hoppers (PG)
- You, Me & Tuscany (PG-13)
- Over Your Dead Body (R)
- Mother Mary (R)
- American Youngboy (NR)

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FOR ANSWERS, SEE PAGE 14

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.

ITZF LH LF FTZF XLHZAAWZSH

ITWV GCE DZJW Z E-FESV?

Z AZSJLVO HAZYW.

- HCESYW EVJVCIV

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SPORTS: Stark Co. SB earns No. 1 seed

Continued from Page 8
fourth in a row and ninth in 10 games for the Rebels (13-8), who on Tuesday earned a No. 1 seed in their subsectional of the Class 1A Williamsfield Sectional.

Stark County swept a doubleheader May 2 at Bureau Valley, 15-3 and 11-2. Sparks homered, tripled, doubled and scored four times on her way to a 3-for-4 first game. Sophie Finnegan had a two-run single. Newton homered in the fourth. She was 3-for-4 in the second game, and Sparks drove in four.

The Rebels scored seven times in the first two innings of a 10-2 victory April 30 over Knoxville. Newton was 2-for-3 with three RBI, including a two-run double in the second. Brooklyn Ostrowski had a two-run single in the first.

Varna Midland took an early lead April 29 and didn't relinquish it as Stark County lost 5-1.

Class 1A state-tournament pairings were to be posted earlier this week on the Illinois High School Association website, ihsa.org. The Williamsfield winner advances to the Sterling Supersectional against the Lanark Sectional champ. Regional play is to begin May 18.

Stark County is to play a regular-season doubleheader today (May 8) at Galva.

• **Galva baseball** – Galva (5-10) was swept by Ridgewood in a home doubleheader last Saturday, dropping the opener 5-3 and losing 12-0 in five innings in Game 2.

MJ Louck's bases-clearing single in the sixth gave Galva a 3-2 lead, but Ridgewood answered with three runs in the top of the seventh to claim the opener. Louck finished 3-for-4 and Gage Simoneaux was 2-for-4.

In Game 2, Ridgewood had a four-run third inning

and its six-run fifth made it a run-rule result. Louck and Blake Stahl had Galva's two hits.

Galva scored a 10-0 victory over Bushnell-Prairie City in six innings on April 28. Louck went 3-for-4 and doubled twice during a seven-run first inning. Ty Dowell-Keup had an RBI single, Stahl had a two-run double and AJ Traff had a two-run single during the outburst. Louck and three relievers combined on a five-hitter.

On April 30, Louck gave Galva a 3-2 lead with a three-run single in the sixth inning, but West Central answered with three runs in the top of the seventh for a 5-3 win. Louck finished 3-for-4 and Gage Simoneaux was 2-for-4.

Galva (5-10) was to play a doubleheader at Stark County on Friday.

• **SC Baseball** – The Rebels (5-18) were swept in a doubleheader by identical 4-3 scores against Bureau Valley last Saturday.

Kaedon Steelman, Ben Browning and Chase Holmstrom each contributed two hits to Stark County's total of eight hits in Game 1. Connor Daum was 2-for-4 in Game 2, when the Rebels had five hits. The game was tied 2-2 after one and 3-3 after three. The Storm scored the game-winner in the bottom of the sixth.

Jordan Walton had an RBI single in the bottom of the seventh for a 3-2 walk-off win over Knoxville on April 30. Walton had two of Stark County's four hits. Kaedon Steelman didn't

allow a hit or a run in two innings of relief to get the decision. Connor Daum started and struck out three in two scoreless innings.

The Rebels host Galva in a doubleheader on Friday.

• **Galva track** – The future looks bright for the Wildcats, whose freshman and sophomores had a strong outing in the LTC Frosh-Soph meet on May 4 at Monmouth United.

While the meet was cut short by inclement weather prior to the running of the 800, Galva was in fourth place in a 12-team field at the time.

Sophomore Ben Burris placed second in the shot put with a toss of 40-9 and third in the discus with a throw of 109-6. Sophomore Blaiden Brose doubled up with second-place finishes in both the long jump (PB, 18-6.5) and triple jump (34-9) while sophomore Fisher Appell placed third in the high jump with a leap of 5-1.

For the girls, Eva Nance stayed hot by finishing second in the 100 hurdles (20.60) and Brielle Jeffrey pushed her PR meet streak to six straight meets by placing seventh in the shot put with a personal record of 25-5 – well ahead of the 19-2 she threw back on March 25 to start her streak.

In varsity action, Reid Harris was second in 300 hurdles (45.06) and high jump (5-7.75) at the May 1 AW Titan Invite and Eli Ingles was third in triple jump (SB, 33-4.75).

Braden Murphy was fourth in the discus (SB, 120-

4.75) and triple jump (32-2.5), Burris was fourth in shot put (43-0.5) and Landon Rodseth was fourth in the 400 (PB, 58.66).

Nance led the girls at the AW Invite, placing second in the 100 hurdles (PB, 20.29) and third in the 300 hurdles (59.59).

• **Galva softball** – Jovie Weber struck out 15 batters and had a two-run double for Galva (4-10) in a 4-2 victory Monday over Sciota West Prairie. Weber was 2-for-4 and had two stolen bases.

Ridgewood swept Galva in a doubleheader May 2. The Wildcats allowed only three hits in a 3-0 first-game defeat but had only three themselves. Galva lost the second game 6-2. Kaylyn Gale and Danielle Wigant had RBI.

Galva earned a No. 8 seed in its subsectional of the Class 1A Williamsfield Sectional.

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Answers on Page 3 — Super Crossword — TRAPPED WATER

ACROSS

1 Spot's foot	47 Dropped a bit	120 That woman	10 Implore	55 Carter of	94 Baby foxes
4 Motorcycle	50 Actor Davis	121 Copious	11 Latin "that is"	sitcomdom	97 Makes ready,
maker	53 Focal point	arrival	12 Nutlike	57 Mongrel	informally
10 ATM output	54 Pull back (in)	122 Talks shilly	Chinese fruit	58 Hard hit	101 Fictional
14 Baffle	56 Disney lion	123 Hamm on a	13 The, in Tours	59 Rival of	belles
19 Driving	60 Insulated	soccer field	14 Tolerate	lams	Scarlett
hazard	61 drink cup	126 Make — in	15 Tease	61 Special	102 Disallow
20 Region in	63 Bovine	(do some	16 Detach by	glows	104 Pudgy
Spain	captured by	work on)	dissolving an	62 Needlefish	105 Educ. inst.
21 Actress Falco	Hercules	130 Not educated	adhesive	64 Sorority "I"	107 Coils
22 Country	66 Actor Erwin	by others	17 Cry to a	65 Just —	108 Biological
singer Tucker	67 Chou En- —	132 Downs an	rescuer	(equally	subdivisions
23 King, e.g.	69 Railroad or	omelet,	18 Eucharist-	undesirable)	109 Like live
25 Is discovered	bus terminus	maybe	holding plates	68 Wedding vow	balls
doing a	70 Clean air org.	134 Subway unit	24 Bistro's kin	70 Nervous	111 Deity ruling
misdeed	73 Loyalty	135 Ark builder	26 Gondola path	71 Sweat	the heavens
27 Roomy auto	program	136 "Will do,	29 "The View"	source	113 Brought up
28 Bungle	78 Duet number	cap'n!"	co-host Joy	72 Ripens	114 Language of
29 Kind of pear	79 Rover's rope	137 Subway unit	32 Comic's joke	74 "C" — la vie"	Islamabad
30 U.S. Shakers	82 Hugs, in texts	138 Direct at, as	33 Certain PC	75 Pummel	116 How clothes
founder	83 "Carte" start	a remark	readout	76 Distress call	are tailored
31 Driving	85 "Super work!"	139 Be inactive	34 Paid spots	77 Xerox	117 Follower of
hazard	89 1985	140 Frolicked	35 Horn honk	product	"You'd think
33 What a	Kentucky	141 What remains	36 "Be silent!"	80 Gangly	so ..."
cyclist signals	Derby winner	if you remove	37 Escalate	81 Alma mater	118 1986 Indy
with an arm	95 Like some	all the conson-	38 Sci-fi writer	of Wills	500 winner
extended	questions	nants from 13	Frederik	84 "Deck	Bobby
straight out	96 Bug's feeler	long answers	39 "E pluribus	the Halls"	119 Pick — pace
35 Attacked	98 "— found it!"	in this puzzle	—"	syllables	123 BLT addition
boxer-style	99 Japanese	DOWN	40 Cosmic cloud	85 — Dhabi	124 Bit of news
fish dish	100 Door fixture	1 Photos	45 Fun activities,	87 "Deck	125 "POO!"
41 Boise is	103 Overindulges	2 Hanker (for)	in brief	the Halls"	127 Suffix with
its cap.	106 Director's cry	3 Yard eyecore	46 White wine	syllables	exist or differ
42 Canon	107 — Fridays	4 "Capeesh?"	aperitif	88 Writer	128 Final Four gp.
camera line	110 Partakes of	5 Whelp's yelp	48 Lacks being	illness	129 By way of,
43 French	112 Bluegrass	6 She-horse	49 "I call that as	90 Dastardly	informally
assert	banjo pioneer	7 Petri dish gel	mine!"	91 Ensnared	131 Lead-in to
44 Been shut	115 Was ruined	8 Part of mph	51 Taxing gp.	92 Maritime	cycle
down, as a	financially	9 Plus	52 Lifesaving	rescue gp.	132 Cochlea site
theater			pro	93 Drink quickly	133 "See ya!"

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The Prairie News Sports



Lady Rebels eye state meet

Several Stark Co. athletes rated high for 1A sectional

For The Prairie News

The Stark County girls track team has two meets left to tune up before the start of what should be a promising postseason.

Several Lady Rebels look poised for a big evening at the Class 1A sectional on Wednesday, May 13, at Farmington. Field events start at 4 p.m. and running events start at 6.

Junior Dusti Smith is the top-ranked runner in the 1,600-meter race heading into the sectional. Her time of 5:00.37 is less than one second ahead of Elmwood-Brimfield sophomore Mya Hill's 5:00.93.

Smith also runs anchor leg on Stark County's 4x800 relay, which includes Cheyenh Smith, Norah Rorem and Paytin Terwilliger. That quartet's time of 9:57.17 is fastest in the sectional so far, three seconds ahead of the E-B entry.

The top two finishers and anyone who betters the qualifying time, distance, length or height next week will advance to the state meet May 21-23 at Eastern

Illinois University in Charleston.

The same Stark County relay group has also bettered the qualifying standard in the 4x400, with a fast time of 4:16.59 ranking third behind Mercer County and Knoxville.

Another likely state hopeful is senior Cheyenh Smith, who ranks second to Hill in the 800 with a time of 2:19.05 – well under the standard of 2:28.15.

Not far back from the standard is freshman Gia Swearingen, whose fast time in the 100 is 12.94 – just off the mark of 12.91.

Swearingen also anchors a Stark County 4x200 relay that includes Claire Bowser, Lyla Rosado and Coley Johnston and will need to shave 1.4 seconds off its fast time to make state or outrun the relays from Knoxville and Henry-Senachwine.

High jumper Bowser has a good shot at state, needing to improve her best jump by just one-quarter inch to advance to EIU.

The Lady Rebels have

two possible tuneups in Galva for the sectional: today's Lincoln Trail Conference (May 8) and the Pam Foley Memorial Invite on Monday.

Stark County had several winners May 1 at the AW Titan Invite.

For the girls, Swearingen won the 100 (13.24) and 200 (personal best, 27.62) Cheyenh Smith won the 800 (2:23.03), Dusti Smith won the 1,600 (5:08.71) and the 4x800 relay won in 9:57.14. Bowser was second after clearing 4-11.75.

For the boys, Keyshon Webster won the 400 (personal best, 55.4) and Evan Knobloch won the 1,600 (4:38.16) and 3,200 (PB, 9:43.77).

• **Stark County SB** – Kenna Sparks had three RBI to lead resurgent Stark County in a 15-0 four-inning victory Monday over Peoria High. Jacy Endress, Hallie Newton and Addy Westphal each had three RBI. Stark County pitcher Scarlett Steelman allowed one hit.

The victory was the *Continued on Page 7*

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