

# GNOME NEWS



GNOME NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

info@strasburgil.com

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## Important Dates

**Sat., May 7** – Main Street Makeover, 8-11 a.m.

**Wed., May 25** – Seasoned Citizens meet at noon

**May 27 & 28** – Poppy Days ALA

**Sat., May 28** - Village Wide Rummage Sales, 7 a.m.

**Mon., May 30** – 10 a.m. Memorial Day Service at Veterans Memorial

**Thur., Jun. 2** – Berries & Burgers Strawberry Shortcake & Porkburger meal 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Sat., Jun. 4** - Lions Club Annual Chicken Fry, 4 p.m., Village Park

**Jun. 20-24** - Vacation Bible School, St. Paul's Church, 9-11:30 a.m.

**Tue., Jun. 21** – 6:30 p.m. SCAN Quarterly meeting

*Printed Gnome News copies available for \$1 at Marathon, SCSB and Village Office*

### VILLAGE OF STRASBURG

Monthly Board meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Office Hours Mon., Wed., Thur. 8 a.m.-Noon & 1-4 p.m.

Phone 217-644-3007

info@strasburgil.com

## Message from the Mayor

Greetings,

Hello Spring!! Finally, some warm and sunny days so we can start living outside. Let's enjoy some softball games uptown, tour the town on our golf carts (make sure they are licensed and you are 16+ to drive), visit with our neighbors and spend time in the park.

We are finishing up our Envelope fundraiser for the Park, so if you haven't given please so do. Envelopes are in the Community Building.

Poppy Days are coming up in May, so support our veterans by donating when the American Legion Auxiliary is distributing poppies.

Just a reminder that the Lion's Chicken Fry is on Saturday this year not Sunday. Chicken is always good and don't forget to ask for the livers. They are delish!

We are proud of our town, so this is just a reminder to keep your yards mowed and junk off of them. Get rid of old cars without licenses and if you live along the creek, please keep the weeds down.

Skeeter Slayers will be spraying for mosquitos once a month starting in May and ending in September.

The village in conjunction with SCAN and Lion's Club has an ad in the Discover Central Illinois magazine. This magazine features many small communities in our area. You can pick up a copy at the Marathon, the Bank, and at Village Hall.

Let's enjoy this beautiful warm weather and keep our town safe and be respectful to our friends and neighbors as we...

### Keep Strasburg Right! In the Middle of Everything!

The **Strasburg-Stewardson Area Seasoned Citizens** are still meeting each month. If you are 55 or older, you are welcome to join us on the last Wednesday of each month at 12 o'clock for a good meal and a couple of hours of fun. Hope to see you soon. Our next meeting is May 25.



Cinda Held

**SCAN Monthly Gnome Give-Away to begin in May**



Spring has sprung and village gnomes are taking their places outdoors. Each month from **May to July** one village resident will win a free Garden Gnome, compliments of the **Strasburg Community Action Network**. You don't need to do anything to win. A random winner will be chosen each month and announced on the Strasburg Facebook page, the monthly sewer bill insert, and the bi-monthly Gnome News. Maybe you will be a lucky winner!

**May Gnome winner**

Wilma Spannagel is winner of the SCAN May gnome giveaway. Wilma grew up in the Strasburg area with 3 brothers and 3 sisters. She attended a country school during her grade school years and then attended the Strasburg junior high and high school. Some memories she had of Strasburg when growing up:

- Her dad would bring the family into town for the free outdoor shows (movies) on main street.
- The black hot air balloon at the Strasburg Homecomings. They couldn't stay to watch it launch since her dad had to get home to do the milking, but they saw it up in the air.
- Attending high school in Strasburg and leaving school during the day to get an ice cream cone at Slat's Keller's store.
- Nona Belle Keller was a favorite high school teacher.
- After the railroad was discontinued through Strasburg, there were tractor pulls that ran along the railroad right of way. Men used to jump on the sled as it went down the track. The tractor pull area was close to her home after she married and moved to town.



Wilma currently lives on Spruce Street in Strasburg. She will turn 89 on May 25. She and her husband Lloyd built their home in Strasburg in 1960. Lloyd and Wilma celebrated 62 years together before he passed in 2012. They were blessed with three daughters, Dianna, Pat, and Barb and one son, Greg, as well as 8 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Congratulations Wilma and thanks for sharing your memories!

**Little Hatchet pictures from activities in March.**

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this happen.





Welcome Porterformance Auto Care!  
New Business in Strasburg

Porterformance Auto Care opened its doors along Rt 32 in Strasburg on March 22. Many structural improvements were made in the months prior, including the addition of a new service bay which is used for alignments, new exterior siding and doors, five additional lifts, addition of a break room for employees and a renovated office with a customer waiting room. The latest technology is used for auto repairs.

five additional lifts, addition of a break room for employees and a renovated office with a customer waiting room. The latest technology is used for auto repairs.



Alignment system in the new service bay

Owner, Josh Porter, is an ASE Advanced Level Master Technician with many years of experience. Josh is a graduate of Neoga High School and Lincoln Technical Institute in Indiana. After working in Indiana for several years, he and his wife Pam returned to central Illinois to live. Unable to find suitable employment in the area, Josh and Pam took the plunge and opened their own automotive repair business at their rural residence in 2012.

Josh and Pam Porter have now moved their business to Strasburg, purchasing the property from Ron Boldt. The location along Rt 32 provides them with greater exposure, a convenient location for their clients and an opportunity to

grow their business.

Brad Verdeyen, service technician, joined the Porterformance team in 2021 bringing 18 years of automotive experience. Jay Myers, service advisor, began in 2022, with over 20 years of industry experience.



L-R: Pam Porter, Josh Porter, Jay Myers and Brad Verdeyen



Pam Porter, Office Manager, in renovated office and customer waiting room

Continuing education is what keeps Porterformance at the top of their industry. Josh and Pam attend trainings in Tennessee four times a year and require 100 hours of training each year for employees.

They are able to provide service and repairs for air conditioning, batteries, brakes, oil change, diagnostics, GDI fuel/air induction, engine and transmission, BG transmission, and vehicle alignment.

**Porterformance is open 8-5, Monday through Friday. Call them at 217.644.2611.**



2022 Visitors Guide with information on 35 different communities and attractions, including Strasburg. Pick up a copy in town at the Village Office and Marathon Station and start having fun!

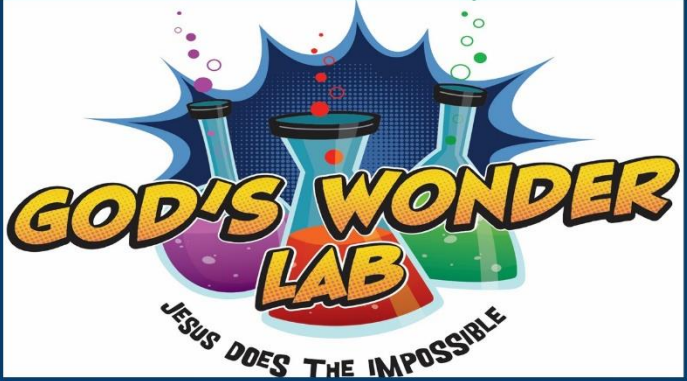


**Congratulations to Maggie Kelly, Lake Land College Student Trustee for 2022-23**

My name is Maggie Kelly and I am a freshman here at Lake Land College. I am from Strasburg, Illinois, and graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in 2021. My major is pre-veterinary medicine. My family owns and operates a purebred Angus cattle farm in rural Windsor, Illinois. Growing up on the farm, I had a passion for animals instilled in me from a young age, which is why I am pursuing a career as a veterinarian and possibly specializing in embryology. I plan on attending Kansas State University after graduating from Lake Land College. My hope is to come back home after attending vet school to be a large animal veterinarian and serve local livestock producers and farmers. I am honored to have been selected as the 2022-2023 Lake Land Student Trustee. I am very excited to start my role and be a link between the student body and the Board of Trustees.

Enjoy some ballgames at the Strasburg Ball Diamond!

|             |           | Home Games Strasburg |          |                           |  |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|---------------------------|--|
| April       | Day       | Opponent             | Time     | Team                      |  |
| April 23rd  | Saturday  | Strasburg 1 & 2      | 10:00 am | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1 & 2 |  |
| April 25th  | Monday    | Okaw Valley          | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| April 27th  | Wednesday | Sullivan 1           | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| April 30th  | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| <b>May</b>  |           |                      |          |                           |  |
| May 2nd     | Monday    | Sullivan 2           | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| May 4th     | Wednesday | Bement               | 6:30 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 2     |  |
| May 7th     | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| May 9th     | Monday    | Tri-County           | 6:30 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 2     |  |
| May 11th    | Wednesday | Strasburg 1 & 2      | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1 & 2 |  |
| May 14th    | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| May 16th    | Monday    | Neoga                | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| May 18th    | Wednesday | Tuscola 1            | 6:30 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| May 21st    | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| May 23rd    | Monday    | Arthur               | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 1     |  |
| May 24th    | Tuesday   | Strasburg 1 & 3      | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1 & 3  |  |
| May 25th    | Wednesday | Sullivan 3           | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 2     |  |
| May 26th    | Thursday  | Strasburg 1 & 2      | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1 & 2  |  |
| <b>June</b> |           |                      |          |                           |  |
| June 1st    | Wednesday | Neoga                | 6:00 pm  | 4th & 5th Strasburg 2     |  |
| June 2nd    | Thursday  | Villa Grove 1        | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1      |  |
| June 4th    | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| June 7th    | Tuesday   | Sullivan 1           | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 2      |  |
| June 11th   | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| June 14th   | Tuesday   | Arcola 1             | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 3      |  |
| June 16th   | Thursday  | Sullivan 2           | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1      |  |
| June 18th   | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| June 21st   | Tuesday   | Arthur 1             | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 3      |  |
| June 23rd   | Thursday  | Arcola 2             | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1      |  |
| June 25th   | Saturday  | Strasburg            | 9:30 am  | PreK-2 <sup>nd</sup>      |  |
| June 28th   | Tuesday   | Tri-County           | 6:30 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 2      |  |
| June 30th   | Thursday  | Arthur 2             | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 1      |  |
| <b>July</b> |           |                      |          |                           |  |
| July 5th    | Tuesday   | Tuscola 3            | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 2      |  |
| July 6th    | Wednesday | Strasburg 2 & 3      | 6:00 pm  | Jr. High Strasburg 2 & 3  |  |



**You are invited to Vacation Bible School  
June 20-24, 2022  
9-11:30 a.m.**

**Hosted by St. Paul's & Grace Lutheran Churches  
Held at: St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
511 S. Walnut St, Strasburg, IL**

For ages 3 to those who will enter 7th grade in the fall

*An adult class is also available. It will follow the lesson theme of God's Wonder Lab.  
Adult class led by Pastor Kene Whybrew & Virginia Vogel*

Mission Project: Rachel, trained Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog  
Please register by May 30

- Learn about Jesus, our Savior
- Meet New Friends
- Make Crafts
- Play Games
- Do Fun Activities
- Sing Great Songs
- Eat Snacks

- For Information or To Register:**
1. Call the church 217.644.2661
  2. Email stpaulcms@consolidated.net
  3. Facebook—St. Paul's Lutheran Church Strasburg IL

The 67<sup>th</sup> Annual East Egg Hunt sponsored by Liberty Unit #289 of the American Legion Auxiliary was held Saturday, April 16, 2022 with 61 children ages Toddler through Third Grade participating. Parents,



Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles thoroughly enjoyed watching each group as they picked up the candy that the Easter Bunny had left.



The first group to search was the Toddler. Auxiliary members weren't sure who had more fun, the children or the parents! When all the candy was found for that group, then the hunt moved on to the Pre-School age group. The children in that group filled their sacks, baskets, buckets with the various varieties of candy that the Easter Bunny had left for the Members of the American Legion Auxiliary to distribute. Then it was time for the in the Kindergarten and First Grade, followed by the Second and Third Grade group to load up their sacks, baskets and buckets. Each child came away with lots of candy to share with their parents and siblings!

The members of the American Legion Auxiliary wish to thank the community for their support of this annual event and look forward to seeing the children again next year for what will be our 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Note Chicken Fry date change to Saturday this year

**STRASBURG LIONS CLUB**  
**Chicken Fry**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022**  
**4:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M.**  
**STRASBURG VILLAGE PARK**





**Adults: \$10**  
3 pieces of chicken, potato salad, coleslaw or applesauce

**Children (10 and under): \$5**  
1 piece of chicken, applesauce, chips

*Drinks included: Tea, Lemonade, or Water*

**Berries and Burgers**

Thursday, June 2  
4:30-6:30 p.m.



Strasburg Community Center  
To Go Available!

**Strawberry Shortcakes**  
**Pork Burgers**  
**Hot Dogs**

Proceeds to benefit community improvements  
Brought to you by SCAN





**Main Street Makeover**



Saturday, May 7th  
8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Meet at the Strasburg Park North Pavilion

**Volunteers Needed to Help:**

Set up and plant flower pots, sweep sidewalks, pull weeds, pick up sticks, spruce up the park, etc.

Bring your gardening gloves/tools, brooms, and rakes!

This is a family event to help get Strasburg's Commercial Street and park ready for many summer activities!

Questions? Contact Stephanie Kinkley (sckinkley@gmail.com)

**STRASBURG**  
Annual  
**TOWN-WIDE**



**YARD SALE**

AND  
**FLEA MARKET AT THE CRIB**

**Saturday, May 28**

Large Flea Market along North Rt 32

Crafts \* Antiques \* Furniture \* Fishing Tackle \* Plants

For information contact Patsy Lenz 217.644.2667

Customer Appreciation Days at EDWARDS CRAFTS, 308 N Pine St  
American Legion Auxiliary POPPY DAYS, May 27-28

Side Hustle Concession at York Acres \* Papa's Smoked Meats, 101 E S 3rd

For more Strasburg Festivals go to [www.strasburgil.com](http://www.strasburgil.com)



burg, IL: Right in the Middle of Everything!



**STRASBURG**  
Right in the Middle of Everything!

**Support Veterans through Poppy Program**

Let's show our support of our local veterans and veterans across Illinois by contributing to the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy drive. For \$5, you can purchase a poppy plate that will be displayed in the Post Office, Community Center and the Bank with your name on it.



Strasburg Liberty Unit #289 volunteers at Mattoon VA clinic, sends clothing and supplies to Danville Illiana VA, and other programs from the Creative Arts program for veterans, Fisher houses that help families with servicemen and veterans who are in the hospital, and programs that work with disabled veterans and veterans with PTSD. Strasburg has been a faithful contributor of our programs and we Thank You. Our poppy days will be May 27 & 28 in conjunction with Memorial Day weekend.

*We Remember ~*

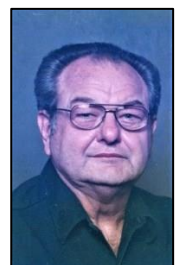
**Josephine L. Collins, 91 of Strasburg, IL (December 5, 1930- April 21, 2022)**

Josephine married Herbert Allen Collins on December 25, 1950 in Decatur, IL and he preceded her in death on September 9, 2018. Josephine was a farm wife and a member of the Strasburg United Methodist Church. She is survived by her sons, Herbert Dennis Collins (Jeannie) of Sullivan, IL, David Lee Collins (Cheryl) of Sullivan, IL, and Gary Lynn Collins (Christy) of Galveston, TX; eight grandchildren several great grandchildren.



**Dean E. Kessler, 79, of Strasburg, IL (July 1, 1942 – March 27, 2022)**

Dean was born on July 1, 1942 in Stewardson, IL, the son of Charles and Mabel (Roley) Kessler. He graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1960. Dean then served in the United States Army Reserves. He worked in the maintenance department at International Paper until his retirement in 2006. Previously, Dean was a grain farmer and raised hogs on his farm near Stewardson, IL. Dean was active in helping establish the Veterans Memorial in Strasburg. Dean married Connie Lehr Mercer on December 18, 1982 in Ramsey, IL. Dean is survived by his wife, Connie; son; Jason Kessler (Tynia) of Strasburg; daughter, Lori Gaines (Doug) of Warden, IL; step-son, William Mercer (Susan) of Shelbyville, IL; step-daughter, Stacey Jones (Danny) of Cowden, IL; five grandchildren and five step- grandchildren.



## Local family explains Child Foster Care

What is foster care? Foster care is a program where children, who are not in good homes or situations, are removed from their homes for their safety and wellbeing. These children are then placed into homes of people who have been licensed through the state, with the exception of kinship (family) placements. The foster care system is designed to be temporary with the expectation that parents can change, and the child(ren) can return home. Though the goal for the child(ren) is reunification with their families this does not always occur. When reunification is not appropriate, foster parents have the opportunity to adopt the child(ren).

What qualifications are required to become a foster parent? First and foremost, to be a loving, caring, and supportive person. These children have already been through so much in their short lives. They need an adult or adults who want to include them in their family. They want and need to feel loved and supported, not felt as a burden. Even though it is not an easy or simple process, foster care is such a rewarding and life changing experience not only for you but for the foster child(ren) as well.

Emotionally it is hard. The unknown of what will happen at the next court date is nerve-racking. Patiently waiting for answers to only receive more questions is frustrating. All the unforeseen circumstances dealing with the families is disheartening. However, a foster parent can make such an impact in the life of a child and that is all that matters. Keeping them safe and loved while their parents cannot is something so special.

Sometimes it's not only the child(ren) who you can impact. Some parents can and do change. As a foster parent, you can be a resource and influence in a parent's life. Even though there are many negative assumptions about parents who have children in foster care, not all stories are the same.



The Moore family  
Thomas, Kristina, Grace, and Gabe with two foster children

Each case is unique and as a foster parent you must choose to overlook the negative for the positive.

Our family has been blessed the last year and a half with four foster children placed in our home. Even through the heartache we loved each unique circumstance. Sadly, on February 4, 2022, with the passing of Kyng'Stin, our 20-month-old foster child, our foster care journey has come to an end. We decided to end this chapter of our lives in order to heal and to see what God has in store for our family now. Even though we are no longer foster parents, our story does not end here. We have made some lifelong friendships along the way, and we will continue to support those who are on their foster care journey. If anyone is ever interested in learning more about foster care, we would love to talk to you.



Kyng'Stin

### Memorial Day Celebration

Monday, May 30

Program at 10 a.m. at the

Veterans Memorial

Lunch served by Strasburg Lions Club

Event sponsored by Strasburg LEOs



### Trinity Lutheran Junior High 2022 SIJHSAA State Champions!

Front: Tabitha Weaver, Kara Daniels, Sienna Bostedo, Zaida Wascher, Kierra Mueller, Callie Friese, Abree Zalman, Kalia Friese.

Back: Tammy Manhart, Alaira Friese, Elizabeth Hampton, Kenzie Thompson, Brinlie Durbin, Maddie Beitz, Colby McCormick, Mya Friese,

Rachel Weaver, Katie Durbin, Bridgitte Friese. The Trinity Cardinals won four games at the Southern Illinois Junior High School Athletic Association state volleyball championship at Herrin on March 26 to win the State Championship.

**Strasburg Community Action Network News**

The Berries & Burgers event will be held Thursday, June 3 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Strasburg Community Center. Volunteers are needed to help pick and stem strawberries on June 1. Contact Brittany Kaufman or Jodie Quast if you can help.

SCAN Action Team Leaders for the next year are:

- Family & Children: MaRanda McClain and Brittany Kaufman
- Business: Jodie Quast and Cinda Held
- Infrastructure: Doug Quast and Mitch Stewart
- Housing: Gary Kull and Justin Krile
- Marketing: Karen Kull and Lisa Shelton
- Beautification: Stephanie Kinkley and Jane Giertz
- Jane Giertz is the liaison for the Seasoned Citizens group.
- The Foundation Board is Jodie Quast, Larry Giertz, John Helton, Tim Lenz and Ramona Radloff.

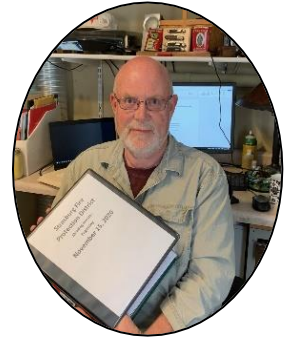
**SCAN 2022-23 Officers.** Doug Quast-President, MaRanda McClain-Vice-President, Stephanie Kinkley-Secretary, Brittany Kaufman-Treasurer

**Next Quarterly SCAN Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m., Community Center**

**News From the Strasburg Fire District**

We are announcing the retirement of Travis Dollarhide at the end of April from the Strasburg Fire District Board. Travis has been the District secretary for over 18 years and will be truly missed. If you see Travis, tell him THANKS for his service to the community.



**PO Box 385  
Strasburg, IL 62465**