# GNOME NEWS

GNOME NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

info@strasburgil.com | • www.strasburgil.com • \$1.00 / Copy

## **Important Dates**

Fri., Oct. 29 – Trick or Treat night, 6-8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 5 – American Legion Christmas Auction, 1 p.m. Community Center

Sat., Nov. 13 – Santa Brigade Breakfast & Christmas Market

Wed., Nov. 17 – SS Seasoned Citizens meet, noon

Sun., Dec. 5 – American Legion Christmas Auction, 1 p.m. Community Center

Dec. 10-11 – ALA Christmas Store & Cookie Walk, Community Ctr

Sat., Dec. 11 – Village Year-End Celebration, SCAN Soup Supper 4-6 p.m., Recognition at 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 18 – Santa at Community Center, 9:30-11 a.m.

Strasburg Gnome News

Available Electronically: Send your email address to <u>info@strasburgil.com</u>

Hardcopies available at Village Office, Highland Market & Shelby County State Bank. \$1



# Message from the Mayor

It was great to see a large turnout at the Halloween parade and soup supper last week. It was a beautiful evening to be out in the community. We hope you will support the other upcoming events also.

• If your child(ren) has extra Halloween Candy, bring it to the Community Center on Saturday, November 6 between 1-3 pm. They can get paid for the candy - \$1 per pound up to \$5. The candy will be divided and sent to two soldiers overseas.



2013 WINNER

GOVERNOR'S HOME TOWN AWARD

Cinda Held

• The Santa Brigade Breakfast & Market is Saturday, November 13 at St. Paul's Church. There will be both the breakfast and the Christmas market.

• The village will again recognize the favorite decorated homes for Christmas. Homes should be decorated by December 15.

• The Christmas season will open with the ALA Christmas Store on December 10-11. This year the Auxiliary is also sponsoring a Christmas Tree showcase and Art Gallery with art provided by Stewardson-Strasburg Art students.

• The announcement of the Volunteer of the Year will be held at the SCAN-Village Year End Recognition Celebration the evening of December 11.

• The Annual Lutheran Churches Christmas Cantata will be held on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stewardson.

• Santa will be at the Strasburg Community Center on December 18 from 9:30-11:00 am.

The official letter from Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has been received. The Village of Strasburg's population has increased to 531!

Our fundraising efforts for the Park are continuing and we have been receiving donations every week. We want to thank the family of Emily Young for the memorial gift. Our total donations to date total over \$55,000. Combined with village startup money we have over \$100,000. Any donations are greatly appreciated. The Park is used by the whole community so it is nice that we are getting support from so many.

We also want to welcome PORTERFORMANCE AUTO CARE to town. They are in the process of remodeling the former Boldt Service Station and will move in as soon as they can.

Thanks for helping keep Strasburg Right! In The Middle of Everything!

## Congrats to the 2021 Burn Out In The Burg Car Show Winners.

Best in Show- Gary Rincker 1957 Chevy Bel Air People's Choice- Gary Rincker 1957 Chevy Bel Air Exhaust Competition- Jacob Milner 1994 Chevy 1500 Burn Out Competition- Tyler Pieszchulski 1985 GMC 1500 1920-1949- Richard Doehring 1948 Plymouth Deluxe 1950-1959- Bobby Reed 1955 Ford Crown Vic 1960-1969- Tom Fritts 1965 Ford Mustang 1970-1979- Dale Vonderheide 1974 AMC Javelin 1980-1989- Brock Reedy 1987 Toyota Supra 1990-1999- Casey Herschberger 1993 Chevy Suburban 2000- present- Gunner Theis 2015 Dodge Challenger 1949-1979 Truck- Jerry Lee 1978 Chevy Stepside 1980-1999 Truck- Tyler Pieszchulski 1985 GMC 1500 2000- present Truck- Nick Calhoun 2021 Dodge Ram 1500 Rat Rod Class- Itchy Brown 1930 Ford



# Strasburg ALA Unit Receives National & Division Awards

Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Unit 289 was awarded the highest honor... the National President's Award for Excellence. At right, National



President Nicole Clapp presented Jill Layton with this award during the National Convention in Phoenix in August. The Strasburg Unit is an amazing Unit, but wouldn't be what it is if it wasn't for being in such a wonderful community. At the 4th Division Fall Forum in Toledo on October



23, Department President Patti Williamson presented Jill Layton (picture left) with the Central Division Unit Junior Activities Award as submitted by Junior Activities Chairman Linda Oakley.

# Gold Star Mission Ride makes stop in Strasburg



Gold Star Mission Ride made a stop in Strasburg during their 523-mile endurance bicycling event the foggy morning of September 25. Mayor Cinda Held, a member of Strasburg ALA 289, met the riders and presented them with a check from the Unit during their program.

The riders were working to raise funds for scholarships, named in honor of the Fallen Illinois Service Members. This event honors the service and sacrifice of nearly 300 servicemen and women from Illinois who gave their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan in honor of our great nation. **Always Remember, Never Forget.** 



## Pics from American Legion/Auxiliary Halloween Contest & Soup Supper



## ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR ILLIANA VA

The Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary will again be collecting items for Illiana VA (Danville). Community members may take items to the Village Office on a Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Items needed this year include **URGENT NEEDS:** 

Body Wash/3 in 1Shaving CreamStick DeodorantRegular Size ToothpasteToothbrushesPuzzle BooksT-shirts (all sizes S-XXXL)Tennis Shoes (10-13) TiesSweat Pants (M-XXXL)Sweat Shirts (M-XXXL)Towel - Hand Towel - Washcloth Set of all 3 (for Christmas Bags for Homebound Veterans)Towel - Hand Towel - Washcloth Set of all 3 (for Christmas Bags for Homebound Veterans)Tennis Shoes (10-13) TiesTowel - Hand Towel - Washcloth Set of all 3 (for Christmas Bags for Homebound Veterans)Tennis Shoes (10-13) Ties

DO NOT NEED AT THIS TIME: Bar Soap

The Strasburg Community has always been generous in their donations for our veterans, and Strasburg has received National Recognition was received for contributions to this program.

#### CHRISTMAS LIGHT CONTEST

The Annual "Light Up Strasburg" Christmas Light contest will again be held this year. Lights should be displayed by December 15. Judging will take place between December 15-17. Residents do not need to sign up.



#### Nominations for Candidates for Volunteer of the Year due November 15th

Each year a member of the community, whose volunteer activities have benefited the Strasburg Community, has been presented the "Volunteer of the Year" award. The Village Board is asking that members of the community nominate an individual that they think is deserving of this award.

<u>Eligibility</u> - Any individual, group, business, or organization whose volunteer activities directly benefit the Village of Strasburg and/or its residents is eligible.

Nominee Criteria - Nominees must:

- Demonstrate exceptional commitment to volunteerism by helping with a special project or ongoing activities
- Demonstrate exemplary leadership, creativity, cooperation, and hard work in their service to others
- Serve as role models by inspiring others to serve

A letter of nomination citing the points or reasons the nominator feels like the candidate deserves to be named Volunteer of the Year should be submitted to the Strasburg Village Office prior to November 15, 2021. A committee will review the nominations and will select the winner. The Volunteer of the Year award for 2021 will be presented at the Recognition Celebration /Soup Supper on **Saturday**, **December 11**.

Previous winners of the award are: 2007 Larry Giertz, 2008 Gary Kull, 2009 Linda Oakley, 2010 Patsy Lenz, 2011 Karen Kull and Lisa Shelton, 2012 Chris Daniels, 2013 Jane Giertz, 2014 Charlie Culver, 2015 Jodie Quast, 2016 Brittany Kaufman, 2017 Jim Weiss and Justin Krile, 2018 Angie and Jason Edwards, 2019 Doug Quast, and 2020 MaRanda McClain.

#### Village population growing!

The 2020 official census numbers are in, and Strasburg has increased in population to 531. That's an increase of 13.7% or 64 residents since 2010. Mayor Cinda Held is pleased with the news as each additional resident provides more tax dollars for the village. The village will also receive additional tax dollars for any funding that is determined by per capita.

Mayor Held attributes some of the increase to the addition of York Acres where six new homes are occupied. Other contributing factors to the increase in population are the benefits of living in a small town – clean air, wide open spaces, a faith-based community, friendly neighbors, an active village board and several non-profit organizations which provide many activities for the families throughout the year.

#### Little Hatchets Soccer 2021

Three age groups (preschool-4<sup>th</sup> grade) competed each Sunday afternoon this fall at the Strasburg Park. Thank you to SCAN for sponsoring this activity and for the volunteer coaches who worked with the children each week. The games had several spectators and were a lot of fun to watch! (Photos by Ellen Friese)



#### Strasburg Liberty Post #289 American Legion Hosts Fundraiser

The Annual Christmas Auctions sponsored by Strasburg Liberty Post #289 of the American Legion will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 7 and again on Sunday, December 5 at the Community Center in Strasburg. The auction by Thomas Factory Outlet, with Dennis Aumann Auctioneer, is the major fundraiser for the American Legion Post. The Post uses the proceeds from the auction to donate the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Americanism Essay prize money, Legion Baseball, the Strasburg Veteran's Memorial, Community Blood Drive, Stewardson-Strasburg Yearbook, Post Prom





SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST 6-11 A.M. CHRISTMAS MARKET 7-11 A.M. Contact MaRanda McClain for booth space 217.343.7879

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Social Hall & Gym

111 S. Walnut St. Strasburg

Sponsored by





Freewill Donation Carry Out Or Dine In

Proceeds will benefit community improvements

Activities, and American Legion Gifts to Yanks among other programs.

Auction items include tools, radio-controlled toys, metal signs, food items, paper towels, bikes, trikes, blankets, Christmas items, tarps, wind spinners plus much more. This is the perfect time to do your Christmas Shopping!

A concession stand sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #289 will be available.

#### Veteran participates in first All-Female Honor Flight

Nancy Boyer participated in the 1st All Female Honor Flight in Illinois on October 6. Nancy grew up in Strasburg playing various sports with her siblings. She was a 1957 graduate of Stewardson-Strasburg High School and joined the Women's Army Corps in 1960. She served until 1966 with the rank of SP5. She then worked as a mail carrier for the USPS from 1967 to 1992. From 1978-1992 Nancy served in the army reserves in California and retired as a Master Sergeant.

While in the WAC, Nancy served almost three years in Orléans France, where besides her regular duties, she enjoyed traveling in Europe and playing several sports on the Army women's sports team. While serving our country, she enjoyed making many friends along the way and learning about the world.

Nancy flew out of Chicago for the Honor Flight on October 6 with 93 female veterans, the oldest veteran being age 105. The women had served during WWII, Korean War and Vietnam.

Serving in the military supplied Nancy with many benefits and the opportunity to travel. She encourages young women to consider the military as a career choice.



Left: Nancy at the Women's War Memorial in Washington D.C. with General Vaughn and her guardian, Bobbie Today. They also saw all the war memorials. Nancy was pleasantly surprised to receive over 30 pieces of mail from friends, family and students during Mail Call on the return flight home.

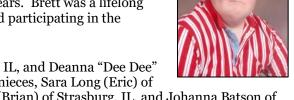
In 2019, Nancy returned to her roots and built a home in York Acres in Strasburg. Thank you, Nancy, for your service!

#### Fall decorations in Strasburg



# ~Remembering~

**Brett R. Kull, 60, of Shelbyville, formerly of Strasburg** (*December 27, 1960-August 28, 2021*) Brett was the son of Richard Gene and Joyce Ethel (Reel) Kull of Strasburg. He attended Armstrong School in Mattoon, IL. Brett worked in the DT program at Shelby County Community Services in Shelbyville, IL, for many years. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg for his entire life and E.A.S.T.E.R. in Effingham for over 40 years. Brett was a lifelong fan of the Chicago Cubs. He enjoyed attending vacation bible school and participating in the Special Olympics.



He is survived by his sisters, Gloria Fortkamp (Rev. Gary) of Effingham, IL, and Deanna "Dee Dee" Batson of Shelbyville, IL; Aunt Doris Stremming of Effingham, IL; four nieces, Sara Long (Eric) of

Altamont, IL, Gina Vonderheide (Travis) of Shumway, IL, Lisa Shelton (Brian) of Strasburg, IL, and Johanna Batson of Shelbyville, IL; nephew, Bryson Batson of St. Louis, MO; four great nieces; four great nephews; and many cousins.



#### Sharon Charlene Grieco, 83, formerly of Strasburg (March 7, 1938-August 28, 2021)

Sharon was the daughter of Ralph and Wilma Hobson Engel. She graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1956. Sharon served in the U. S. Navy and met her husband Domenic, who was serving in the Marines. They were married in Philadelphia, PA on August 19, 1960. She worked at Walmart in Effingham for 15 years and was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Strasburg, IL.

She is survived by her daughters, Christina (Roger) Shick and Becky (Ken) Brown all of Effingham, IL: son, Nick (Sharon) Grieco of Stewardson, IL: sisters, Phyllis Rhodes and Shirley Lawson both of Winchester, IL; brother, Jim "Butch" Engel of Salem, IL; eight grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

#### Emily J. Young, 88, formerly of Strasburg (April 23, 1933 – October 5, 2021)

Emily was the daughter of Charles John and Nina Nell (Neff) Mulvaney. She graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1951. Emily married G. Dale Young on December 24, 1950. Emily and Dale owned and operated Youngscraft Cabinets from 1953-1981 and The Trestle from 1981-1986 both in Strasburg. She enjoyed bowling, quilting, jigsaw puzzles, and attending her family's sport events.

Emily is survived by her daughters, Vickie Miller of Effingham, IL, Sheryl Duncan and husband Gary of Strasburg, IL, and Marla Brandt and husband Franklin of Strasburg, IL; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.



#### Lester Allen Fulk, 64, Strasburg (December. 7, 1956-October 12, 2021)

Lester was the son of Ralph and Rosella (Joliff) Fulk. He was a 1975 graduate of Stewardson-Strasburg High School. He joined the Air Force in 1975 and served for 5 years. After that, he transferred to the Navy and served 15 years, in which he met the love of his life, Lynie Fulk, overseas. Being pen pals for 2 years, they eventually met in Hong Kong, where after 4 days, Lester knew she was the one and proposed. He married Lynie on January 21, 1992 in Effingham.

## Lester retired from the military in September of 1995. He also worked at Taylorville Correctional Center for 20

years, until his retirement in 2019. Lester is survived by his wife, Lynie Fulk of Strasburg; mother, Rosella Fulk of Effingham; mother-in-law, Conchita Baliton of Strasburg; daughter, Jennifer Fulk of Strasburg; son, Justin (Kendall) Fulk of Effingham; brother, and granddaughter, Brooklyn Paige Fulk.

#### Joyce Quiroz, 74 (December 22, 1946 – September 16, 2021)

Joyce Elaine (Nippe) Quiroz was called home to be with our Lord and Savior on September 16, 2021 at Mercy San Juan Hospital in Sacramento, California.

Joyce was born in Mattoon, Illinois on December 22, 1946 to Harold and Zelma (Krile) Nippe of Strasburg, Illinois. Joyce attended Stewardson-Strasburg High School, graduating from Effingham Il. High School in 1965. Joyce cherished her Illinois upbringing and Strasburg roots and wore her Stew-Stras Comet class ring daily throughout her lifetime.

A mother to eight girls, Joyce also cared for nieces, nephews and neighbors, having them come and stay at different times - always a houseful of children. She is survived by two sisters, Linda (Charles) Young and Donna Cox, and her seven daughters, Anita (Mike) Hernandez, Armida (David) Damitz, Aurora Herrera, Priscilla Quiroz, Jill Conyers, Lisa (Jose Lopez) Quiroz, and Aimee Salgado, son-in-law Kenneth Williamson, 15 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She was proceeded in death by her daughter Carmen Williamson, her parents Harold and Zelma Nippe, and her sisters Jo Ann Gennuso and Patti Jo Nippe.

Joyce loved being a mother and a homemaker. She was a great cook and worked diligently to keep an orderly home for the family. Joyce was an unapologetic follower of Jesus. She was baptized into the family of Christ as an infant at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, Illinois. As a young adult, Joyce chose to accept Christ at a Methodist Church tent revival near Shelbyville, Illinois.

As the family's spiritual leader, she always made it a priority to keep all of her girls in church to learn the Word of God. No matter the crazy of getting all the kids up and dressed, Joyce persevered to ensure everyone made it to Sunday school. Joyce loved parties and celebrations. She made holidays so special and enjoyed making memories with family and friends.

She had a gift for interior design and decorating. She made people feel special, remembering the smallest of details and often giving special personalized handwritten cards, following in the footsteps of her mother with impeccable penmanship. Joyce's greatest desire was to point others to Jesus Christ. She left a lasting legacy that can been seen in the lives of her children and many others. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.







Barb Dial is retiring from the USPS after 30 years of service.

Her last day is November 30.

Please come and celebrate with her on Friday, Dec. 3 from 4-8 p.m. at the Strasburg Community Center.

I would like to say thank you to the community for the last 17 years; it has been a wonderful community to serve. My customers are the best! I hope that I have been able to make your shipping needs easier. I am so grateful for all the friendships I have developed and most of all I want to thank God for all of his guidance, direction, love and protection in my life. Thank you, Strasburg; you are the BEST!

~ Barb



PO Box 385 Strasburg, IL 62465