

GNOME NEWS

GNOME NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

info@strasburgil.com

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STRASBURG
Right! IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING
2013 WINNER
GOVERNOR'S
HOME TOWN AWARD

Important Dates

Sat., Feb. 26. Lions Club Pancake, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast. 6-10 a.m.

Fri., Mar. 25. Lions Club Fish Fry. 4-7 p.m.

Sat., Mar. 26. PTSA Donkey Basketball. 6 p.m. HS Gym.

Tue., Mar. 29. SCAN Quarterly Meeting, 6 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 30. Stew-Stras Seasoned Citizens meet. Noon.

March 31. Deadline for Strasburg Community Grant Applications.

Sat., Apr. 16. American Legion Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m., registration at 9:45 a.m.

VILLAGE OF STRASBURG

Monthly Board meetings 3rd
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

Strasburg Gnome News

Available electronically:

Send your address to

info@strasburgil.com

Hardcopies available at

Shortstop, Village Office or
Shelby County State Bank, \$1

Mailed Subscriptions \$12/Year

Message from the Mayor

Greetings,

We are winding down our Envelope Fundraising campaign for the park renovations. We only need \$7,686 for this fundraiser. If you have not given to the project, now would be a good time. Thank you to those who have given to this initial fundraiser and those who gave through the foundation. Together Strasburg can make this project work.



Cinda Held

The Village of Strasburg and the Stew-Stras School District have reached an intergovernmental agreement regarding sewer services from the school to the lagoon. Initial project work will begin soon.

Many of you should have received or will be receiving a post card or letter from EJ Water regarding a new water service line protection program. This will be an automatic added cost of \$3.95 per month on your bill unless you contact them to opt out. This coverage will allow you to contact EJ if you have a water leak from your meter to your house. EJ will fix the water leak so you do not have to call a plumber. You can opt out at www.ejwatercoop.com/wslpp-ej or call 217-925-5566.

The village is looking for a part-time employee to help with sewer, roads and mowing. Contact the village office if interested.

Let's hope winter is about over. I'm ready for warm weather.

Remember... we continue to be **Right! in the Middle of Everything!**

Little Hatchets Sports Club
Pre-K thru 4th Grade

March 3, 10, 17, 24, S-S Grade Sch Gym
Practicing skills for volleyball,
basketball, soccer, baseball/softball

Sponsored by the Strasburg Community
Action Network. Contact MaRanda
McClain or Brittany Kaufman.

Housing Lots for Sale
in York Acres

With Rebate Incentives

Contact the Village for Details

217-644-3007

Wascher inducted into Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Mark Wascher who recently became a member of the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association (IHSBCA) Hall of Fame!

Coach Mark “Sparky” Wascher grew up in Stewardson, Illinois. He played baseball at Stewardson-Strasburg High School and was coached by Ken Knop and afterwards became Captain of the original baseball team of Lake Land College in 1969

under Laker Coach Gene Creek. Both Coaches Knop and Creek would later be inducted into the IHSBCA Hall of Fame (1979 and 1994).



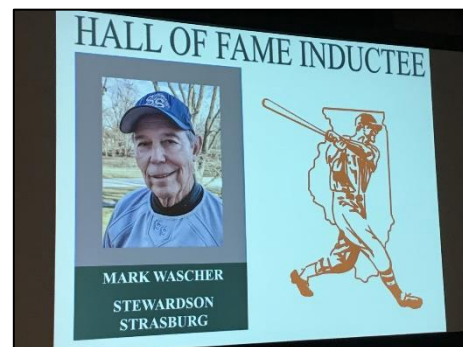
Mark Wascher & Kyle Nelson, President of IHSBCA

the 1996 IHSA Class A State Tournament-which earned him the Decatur Herald and Review Coach of the Year Award.

Coach Wascher was the Eastern Illinois Representative for the IHSBCA, Secretary of the National Trail Conference, and a registered IHSA Baseball and Basketball Official. He coached around 200 young men during the 37 years of his high school coaching career. Around 50 students went on to further their baseball careers in college. Five players he coached (one in little league) later signed professional baseball contracts. Those players are Brian Rothrock, Frank Brandt, Ryan Cox, Phil Wetherell and Clayton Brandt.

At the time of his teaching and coaching retirement in 2011, Coach Wascher was one of only three coaches at Stewardson-Strasburg High School (John T. Middlesworth, 1950-61; Ken Knop, 1961-79; Mark Wascher, 1979-2011). Coach Wascher and his wife, Bev, live 1/2-block from where he grew up in Stewardson. He continues to be active in baseball as the “Commissioner” of the Stewardson Lions Club Summer Baseball Program and the Stewardson-Strasburg Jr. High baseball coach.

The 43rd Annual IHSBCA Hall of Fame Awards Dinner was held February 12, at the Westin Hotel in Lombard, Ill. With no awards given out in 2021, there were eight inductees into the Hall of Fame for 2022. Coach Wascher was nominated for the award by Shane Smith, Athletic Director at Stew-Stras.



Wascher is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University with a Master’s Degree in Education-Majoring in Business Education and holding a Minor Degree in Physical Education. He first taught and coached baseball for five years at Auburn High School (Record 43-43-1) before moving back to his hometown (Stewardson) where he coached the Comets for thirty-two years (Record 718-431-8). His overall high school coaching record was 761-474-9 with seven National Trail Conference titles, seven Regional titles and a Third Place Finish in



Attending the ceremony were Mark and Bev Wascher, Nate and Shannon Wascher, Oliver, Zaida, Atticus, Gabe and Megan Wascher, Brendan Wascher, Greg Wascher, Marcia Gulbrandsen, Josh Guldbrandsen, Maggie Gulbrandsen, Niko Kriarakis, Linda Warner and Rich Escutia.

When accepting the award, Wascher expressed thankfulness to the following: God, family, Stewardson Lions Club and all the volunteer coaches, Auburn and Stew-Stras High Schools for allowing him to teach and coach, all the school personnel involved, previous coaches, the IHSBCA, and all the players, parents and fans.



Class of 2022 Hall of Fame Inductees
2022 Inductees: Len Asquini, St. Charles East HS; Donnie Chappel, Rock Fall HS; Randy Cihlar, Midwest Central HS; Dan Colucci, Lake Park HS; Ross Giusti, Prospect HS; Todd Parola, Mundelein HS; Mark Smith, Providence Catholic HS; and Mark, Stewardson-Strasburg HS.



Mark with sons, Nathaniel, Gabe and Brendan

Wascher is proud of all the boys who went on to play in college and especially proud to have been able to coach his three sons, Nathaniel, Gabe and Brendan.

First Year Coaching at Stew-Stras

The Stewardson-Strasburg 1980 baseball team had a highly successful season under first year varsity coach Mark Wascher. The Comets were Regional Champs and ended up losing the sectional championship to hometown rival St. Anthony.



Front Row: Clayton Brandt, Nick Ferris, Zach Rincker, Kyle Helmuth, Ben Helton, Christian Vonderheide, Bryse Bugger Middle Row: Brandon Helmuth, Colton Anderson, Gunner Thies, Tyler Newkirk, Gabe Wascher, Jonah Slifer, Lucas Daniels Back Row: Coach Brandt, Lucas Helton, Tanner Bowers, Justin Falk, Luke Rincker, Brendan Wascher, Coach Wascher

Right-The 1980 Comet Baseball Varsity team members from bottom step:

Mike Wilcox, Jonathan Noffke, Brian Baker, Rick Wittenberg, Franklin Brandt, Hank Hutchcraft, Scott Friese, Roger Friese, Kyle Knop, Mike Walker, David Mechling, Coach Wascher, Brett Shuff



Final Year

2011 was Mark's final year of coaching High School Varsity Baseball. The team (pictured left) had a very strong fall and ended both 3rd in the conference and the Conference Tourney. The overall record for both spring and fall seasons combined was 25-11. The senior class ended their high school career with a record of 104-56 with one tie.



SPARKY'S IN THE HALL OF FAME!

Please Join Us For An
Open House

Saturday, March 12, 2022
Stewardson Community Building
Open House 3-6 PM
Story Telling & Fellowship Will Continue Into the Evening
Snacks and drinks provided

**PLEASE HELP US RECOGNIZE
MARK "SPARKY" WASCHER'S
INDUCTION INTO THE ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL
BASEBALL COACHES HALL OF FAME!**

*"That's another feather
in our caps!" ~ Spark*

**The public is invited to
celebrate this award
with Coach Wascher at
an Open House on
Saturday, March 12,
from 3-6 p.m. at the
Community Building
in Stewardson.**

STRASBURG LIONS CLUB Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022
6:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.**

STRASBURG COMMUNITY CENTER



ALL YOU CAN EAT!

Menu includes: AYCE pancakes, sausage, applesauce,
drinks, and biscuits and gravy (not AYCE)

*Proceeds will go to fund community projects and to help the
visually and hearing impaired. Your attendance is appreciated!*

Strasburg Community Foundation

2022 Grant Process Underway

The Strasburg Community Improvement and Endowment Fund Board endeavors to use its funds to enhance the quality of life for citizens of the community. The Board will make annual grants to groups or individuals who use their projects to achieve that mission.

Between 2012 -2021, The Strasburg Community Foundation Board has been able to award over \$30,000 in grants for village beautification projects, village and business enhancements and completion of the Community Center parking lot project.

Grant applications will be accepted by the Strasburg Community Foundation Board of Directors from **January 1 – March 31st**. You can request a grant application from the Village Office at 217-644-3007. A link is attached for your convenience.

[Application for Foundation Grant](#) Funding will be provided around May 1st. Projects will be funded for one year and prior grant recipients may reapply. The Foundation generally will not fund a request at 100 percent. Amounts and projects chosen will depend upon funds available for the year. Only 62465 zip code applicants will be considered.

Please return your completed request to the Village Office or e-mail to: info@strasburgil.com. We would not be able to offer this wonderful opportunity without the generous donations from you!

Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by
Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Unit #289

Saturday, April 16, 2022

Strasburg Park
(if rain, then at Strasburg Community Center)

Registration begins at 9:45 am
Hunt begins at 10:00 am



Age Groups

Toddler
Pre-School
Kindergarten-1st Grade
Second-Third Grade

Project H.E.L.P.

**Preschool Round Up
FREE Developmental Screenings
For Two to Five Year Olds**

When: Wed., March 23

Where: Stew-Stras Elementary School

Call 217.682.3355 for an appointment

Ministry completes 3,000 blankets for those in need

More volunteers needed

The blanket making group at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg recently completed 3,000 blankets to give to those in need. They started making blankets for Orphan Grain Train, a mission organization of the Lutheran church, in 2005. Several ladies meet twice a month to construct the blankets.

Completed blankets are sent to Orphan Grain Train in St. Louis and Indiana where they have been shared with the homeless and those in need in the USA and around the world. Blankets have also been sent to veterans' homes in Mt Vernon, Danville, Springfield, and the Chicago area, the homeless, fire departments, nursing homes in our area, Lutheran World Relief, and disaster victims.

They appreciate all who have helped with this project through the years by donating old blankets for the middles, sheets and material to be used in construction. They especially thank those who have helped make the blankets. Several of the ladies are unable to help now or are enjoying the benefits of heaven.

The blanket making group meets from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays in the social hall



at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and invite you to join them. They have lots of material to make blankets and the need is great. You don't have to know how to sew to help. They even have tasks for men! If you are unable to meet in person, you can cut material squares, tie blankets, or sew material at home.

If you have questions or can help in any way, call Patsy Lenz at 217-644-2667.



Ladies working: Nancy Stremming, Virginia Vogel, Beulah Ulmer, Judy Wittenberg, Sandra Bugenhagen, Lela Friese, Patsy Lenz, Susan Hanfland, Betty Vogel

Please join us to make blankets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month

8:30-11:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Social Hall

Upcoming blanket making dates are February 24, March 1 and March 24

Remembering

Mildred H. Everett, 98, of Strasburg (March 12, 1923 – November 6, 2021)

Mildred was born on March 12, 1923, in Beaver Creek, Oregon, the daughter of August Karl and Amelia Sophia (Davidson) Kater. She married Enfer A. Everett on February 27, 1941. Mildred was a member of First Church of the Nazarene in Shelbyville. She is survived by her sons, Enfer Dale Everett and Norman Wayne Everett of Strasburg, and several grandchildren.



Glen O. Spannagel, 87, of Strasburg (May 3, 1934 – January 24, 2022)

Glen was born the son of Edward Loise and Mildred Grace (Huffmaster) Spannagel. He attended St. Paul Lutheran School and was confirmed in 1948 by Rev. Luck. He graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1952. Glen served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955. He married Betty Ruth Heinz on December 26, 1954. Glen was employed by Caterpillar Tractor Company from 1956-1989 and also farmed in the Strasburg area. He was a Past Commander of the Strasburg American Legion Post #289 and organized and helped to design and build the Strasburg Veterans Memorial, dedicated in 2005. He is survived by his son, Steven Spannagel of Shelbyville, IL; daughter, Carol Salazar of Shelbyville, IL; and grandchildren.



Kenneth E. Pieper, 86, of Strasburg (June 9, 1935 – February 13, 2022)

Kenneth was born on June 9, 1935 at home in Prairie Township, IL, the son of Edwin A. and Bernadine (Arnold) Pieper. He graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1953. Kenneth worked as an inspector for Pittsburg Plate Glass in Mt. Zion, IL, retiring in 1997. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg, IL and enjoyed boating, fishing, water skiing, traveling and playing Euchre. He is survived by his sons, Scott Pieper (Lori) of Stewardson, IL, and Jeffrey Pieper (Lynne) of Davenport, IA; daughter, Tamara McCachran (Paul) of Stewardson, IL; seven grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; and one great great granddaughter.



Edward R. Stork, 95, of Strasburg (March 1, 1926-February 17, 2022)

Edward Storck, of Strasburg, IL passed away peacefully at 2:23 a.m. Thursday, February 17, 2022, at the West Palm Beach VA Hospice Care Center in West Palm Beach Florida. Ed was born on March 1, 1926, in Bible Grove, Illinois. Ed enlisted into the USMC at Chicago, Ill, on June 20, 1944. He was a member of the American Marine Corp division that deployed to the invasion of the Volcano Islands of Iwo Jima as well as the US Occupation of Japan. Ed enjoyed his life living in Rural Strasburg on his 30 acres. He is survived by his son; Terry Storck, of Lake Worth Florida, daughter; Tammy Barrett, of Byron, Michigan, 5 grandchildren; and 8 great grandchildren.



Strasburg Lions Club

Fish Fry

Friday, March 25

4-7 p.m.

Strasburg Community Center



Stewardson-Strasburg
PTSA is hosting
Donkey Basketball

March 26 at 6 p.m.
in the Stew-Stras High
School Gymnasium.

Come out and enjoy a night of fun and laughter.

Updated 2/22/22

2022 Strasburg Events & Celebrations

Hosted by Village of Strasburg and non-profit organizations

Date	Event
Jan. 25	SCAN Quarterly Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Community Center.
Jan. 26	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Feb. 23	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Feb. 26	Lions Club Breakfast. Pancakes, Sausage, Biscuits, Gravy, Applesauce. 6-10 a.m. Community Center.
Mar. 25	Lions Fish Fry. 4-7 p.m. Community Center.
Mar. 29	SCAN Quarterly Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Community Center.
Mar. 30	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Apr. 16	Easter Egg Hunt. 10 a.m. Park. American Legion Auxiliary.
Apr. 27	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
May 25	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
May 27, 28	Poppy Days. American Legion Auxiliary.
May 28	Village Wide Rummage Sales. 7 a.m.
May 30	Memorial Day Service at Veterans Memorial. 11 a.m. Program & meal. Strasburg Lions LEO Club.
Jun.-Aug.	Popup Farmers Markets. Fresh produce and baked goods. Village Park.
Jun. 2	Berries & Burgers. Fill up on porkburger or hotdog meal and fresh strawberry shortcake. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Community Center. SCAN.
Jun. 4	Lions Club Chicken Fry. 4 p.m. Village Park (Saturday)
Jun. 14	Flag disposal ceremony at Strasburg. Strasburg & Windsor American Legion Posts
Jun. 20-24	Vacation Bible School. 9-11:30 a.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
Jun. 21	SCAN Quarterly Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Community Center.
Jun. 29	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Jul. 15-17	Lions Club Homecoming/Tractor Pull/Parade/Captain Rat and the Blind Rivets
Jul. 27	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Aug. 31	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Sept. 3	Fall Village Wide Rummage Sales
Sept. 23	Community Wiener Roast. Park.
Sept. 27	SCAN Quarterly Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Community Center.
Sept. 28	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Oct. 1	Burn Out in the Burg. Auto Show, Exhaust Competition, Burn Out Competition. Village Park. SCAN.
Oct. 29	Halloween Soup Supper, Parade, Costume Judging, Cake Walk. Community Center. American Legion & Aux.
Oct. 26	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Nov. 6	American Legion Christmas Auction. 1 p.m. Community Center.
Nov. 12	Santa Brigade Breakfast (6 a.m.) & Christmas Market (7 a.m.). St. Paul's Lutheran Social Hall & Gym. SCAN.
Nov. 30	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
Dec. 4	American Legion Christmas Auction. 1 p.m. Community Center.
Dec. 9-10	Christmas Store/Cookie Walk. Community Center. American Legion Auxiliary.
Dec. 10	Visit with Santa. 9:30-11 a.m. Community Center.
Dec. 11	Lutheran Churches Christmas Cantata. 7 p.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
Dec. 28	Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.
TBA 2023	SCAN-Village 2022 Recognition Celebration/Citizen of the Year. Community Center.



www.strasburgil.com
 Village Office 217.644.3007
info@strasburgil.com

 Strasburg, IL: Right in the Middle of Everything!

Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Essay Announces Essay Winners

The Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary #289 announces the winners of its recent Americanism Essay Contest. This year's theme was "Patriotism: How we are more alike than different." We'd like to thank Stewardson-Strasburg English teachers Sara Long and Penny Hill for supporting the writing of these essays. Congratulations to our students.



The 1st place essays will be sent to the 19th District for judging. At the unit level 1st place receives \$20, 2nd place receives \$15 and 3rd and 4th place receive \$10.

7th-8th winners: 1st- Melanie Probst, 2nd- Kynzie Kelly, 3rd- Lauren Longwell, 4th- Payton Durbin

9th-10th winners: 1st- Rowyn Foreman, 2nd- Colton Bridges, 3rd- Sirinity Schultz, 4th- Kinley Quast

11th-12th winners: 1st- Jack Stremming, 2nd- Jordan Wittenberg, 3rd- Serenity Weeden, 4th- Peyton Dandurand.

Stewardson-Strasburg High School Graduation will be held Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Stewardson-Strasburg Eighth Grade Promotion will be Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 1 p.m.



PO Box 385
Strasburg, IL 62465