

# GNOME NEWS

GNOME NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!



info@strasburgil.com

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## Important Dates

Aug. 29. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary planning meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 30. SS Seasoned Citizens. Community Center. Noon.

Sept. 9. Town Wide Rummage Sales, Flea Market at the Farm & Bake Sale Fundraiser for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 8 a.m.

Sept. 15. Community Wiener Roast, Volunteer of the Year announcement & Hayride. Lions Club & Village Board, 6 p.m.

Sept. 26. SCAN Quarterly Meeting. Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 27. SS Seasoned Citizens. Community Center. Noon.

Sept. 30. Burrito meal at Community Center for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fundraiser. 4:30-7 p.m.

**Village of Strasburg**  
105 E Commercial St.  
217.644.3007  
[www.strasburgil.com](http://www.strasburgil.com)

**Subscribe to the bi-monthly Gnome News** for \$12/year.

Copies of the Gnome News are available at Marathon, SCSB and Village Office for \$1. Receive GN **free** electronically by sending your email address to village office,

Queen of Hearts Drawing

Every Other Friday @ 32 Below

Proceeds go to Strasburg's

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## Message from the Mayor

Hello Strasburg, I am ready to put my fan away and put on my sweater, but until then I will survive.

I have received some calls about our trash hauler. Strasburg has an open policy about trash disposal competition. The village will not recommend one over the other. It is your call. I have talked to our current hauler about some issues, and they assured me they will be addressed.

The village is progressing on the OSLAD grant. Bids on the pavilion will probably go out in October. Playground equipment and tennis court surface are also being worked on.

York Acres lots are available. Two lots in Phase 1 are available for \$2500 with property tax rebates. Phase 2 lots are \$5000 with property tax rebates. Contact Village Hall for details.

The annual Fall Wiener Roast sponsored by the Village and the Lion's Club will be held on September 15 at the Park beginning at 6 p.m. The "Volunteer of the Year" will be announced and of course, the Hayride is always fun. Come sit around the fire and visit, burn your marshmallow, watch the kids play and end the evening with the Hayride. Bring a dish to share. Hotdogs, Marshmallows, and buns are provided.

Don't forget to support our 150-anniversary celebration. Tickets are available at the bank and Village Hall for the Quilt raffle and the Queen of Hearts raffle (which is up to \$3150).

The 150 Museum committee will be collecting Strasburg Memorabilia. We will accept clothing from past decades, signs, school items, pictures, Strasburg Heralds and other items specific to Strasburg. Start checking your attic for treasures that will remind our older villagers of times gone by and can educate our younger residents about what they have missed. Anyone who would like to help with this project, please contact me.

Mark your calendars for all the events listed on the left – plus these events later this year:

October 21 – American Legion Halloween parade & Soup Supper

October 31 – Strasburg Trick or Treat

November 5 – American Legion Christmas Auction

November 11 – Santa Brigade Breakfast and Christmas Market

**Together we can keep Strasburg Right! In the Middle of Everything!**



Cinda Held

**STRASBURG 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – JUNE 14-16, 2024**

**The Original CASS's  
Burrito**

Prepared by Carolyn Boldt

**Saturday, September 30**

4:30 – 7:00pm

Unless we run out sooner!

Strasburg Community Building  
Dine in or Carry out



Free Will Donation  
Proceeds will go towards the  
2024 Strasburg 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!

**Quilt Sale Fundraiser for the 150<sup>th</sup>  
Celebration**

Get your tickets for this beautiful quilt, a 66”x87” Purple Rais Fence Quilt, handmade by Quiltin’ Buddies of Shelbyville. Tickets are one for \$5 or five for \$20. Tickets can be purchased at the Shelby County State Bank in Strasburg or the Strasburg Village Office. The drawing will be held soon!



**Please attend  
the next 150<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Meeting  
Tuesday,  
August 29, at  
6:30 p.m. at  
the  
Community  
Center**

**BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER**

**Saturday, Sept. 9, 8 a.m.**

During the Town Wide Rummage Sales



Bring baked items to Commercial Street near the  
Community Center before 8 a.m.

Contact Sue Bowers or Jodie Quast if you have any questions.

**Proceeds will go towards the  
2024 Strasburg 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**150<sup>th</sup> T-Shirts for Sale**

Help advertise Strasburg’s 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. See Lisa Rincker, Chris Kramer or Barb Ohnesorge to get an anniversary T-shirt. Shirts are \$15 for sizes S-XL and \$17 for 2XL and 3XL. Two designs available.



**Giertz - Golf Ball Drop Winner**

The Strasburg 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee held a golf ball drop fundraiser during the Lions Club Homecoming in July. 197 golf balls were sold and then dropped at the Strasburg Park during the Lions Club Homecoming in July. A large crowd drew near as Tanner Bowers dropped balls from high in the air in a bucket truck belonging to Luke Wetherell of Strasburg Tree Service. Justin Krile of Krile Auction was on hand to announce the event.

Local resident Jane Giertz had purchased the winning ball closest to the mark. Giertz was the winner of \$5,000. She generously donated \$1,000 back to the Anniversary Fund. Thank you to all who participated!



Watch for more news on the “Strasburg’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration” Facebook page.



## Membership Drive Underway for WSS Sportsbackers

The WSS Sportsbackers organization is ready to roll again their 2<sup>nd</sup> year and support the athletic programs of Windsor and Stewardson-Strasburg schools. The membership drive is now underway. WSS Sportsbackers memberships are for anyone who wants to support the WSS athletic programs. Business memberships are \$50 per year. Individual and family annual memberships are \$35. A lifetime family membership is a one-time payment of \$500. Donors will be recognized with signage at each school and will receive a Sportsbackers window decal.

Follow the WSS Sportsbackers Facebook page and support the online sports apparel store for fans to be able to purchase t-shirts and other apparel supporting the WSS teams. **Fall orders are due August 27.**

To join, make out checks to WSS Sportsbackers, and mail to 2806 E 600 North Road, Strasburg, IL 62465. Attn: Nikki Worman. Membership forms may be found on WSS Sportsbackers Facebook page and on the school websites or may be picked up at either school. The WSS Sportsbackers is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all deductions are tax deductible. Submit membership forms by 9/30 to be entered to win a 30" Blackstone Grill.



## Retirement at Last

Stanley Kobielnik of Strasburg was surprised by wife, Bekah, with a retirement party at his home on August 17. Stanley was a truck driver for 45 years, driving for Trinity Logistics for 29 years and with Fisher Brothers Trucking the past four years. His favorite time was when the company changed their policy after 23 years and allowed Bekah to ride along with him.



“I would like to give a big thank you to Bekah for standing behind me and taking care of things at home while I was gone”, remarked Stanley. Future plans include working on his street cars and taking it easy.

Several friends and neighbors stopped by for some cake and to wish him well!

## There's a New Billboard in Town

Nate Wascher, Assistant Vice-President Loan Officer & Strasburg Branch Manager of the Shelby County State Bank is larger than life on the new billboard in town, next to York Bin Co.

The Bank received a recent facelift with new awnings replacements installed on all windows and the front entrance.





## Strasburg Community Action Network News

**Join SCAN at the next quarterly meeting on Sept. 26, 6:30 p.m. at the Strasburg Community Center**



### Vonderheide recipient of SCAN Monthly Gnome Give-Away

Each month from **May to July** one village resident has won a free Garden Gnome, compliments of the **Strasburg Community Action Network**. Congratulations to July winner, Angela Vonderheide!

Angela grew up in Strasburg but moved away for a few years before moving into her current location one year ago. She lives with her two dogs, Daisy and Lola, and her cat Jasmine. You might notice her beautiful sunflowers. She enjoys working in her yard, planting flowers, collecting fairies, and making fairy gardens. So needless to say, the gnome found a good home!

### Activities sponsored by SCAN

**Little Hatchets Soccer** Come out to see Little Hatchets Soccer. Games will be played at the Strasburg Park on Sunday afternoons Sept. 10-Oct. 8 at 1, 2, and 3 p.m. Grade levels are Pre-K/K, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade. Children must be age 4 by Sept. 1, 2023.



Like our Facebook page “Little Hatchets Sports Club” for updates to scheduling. Contact Kristina at 217.343.2693 if you have any questions.

**Little Hatchets Flag Football** Flag football is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> season in Strasburg. The games were fun to watch last fall – so be sure and attend. This program is for students attending Stew-Stras, Trinity Lutheran and Windsor who will be going into grades 5, 6 and 7. Games will be played at the Strasburg Park on Sunday afternoons Sept. 17-Oct. 8 following the soccer matches.



### Little Hatchets Dance Camp

The Little Hatchets Dance Camp danced the summer away! The camp was sponsored by SCAN and taught by Lisa Shelton and assisted by Rowyn Foreman. A group of 17 participants gathered weekly during June and July and worked on dance, posture and movement fundamentals.

The event culminated with a performance for friends and family!

Seeing their confidence bloom in such a short time was wonderful! Thank you to all who helped and to the participants!



SCAN volunteers in the Lions Homecoming Parade





## Lions Club Homecoming Fun in July – Photos from Kids Games and Parade



Three Strasburg authors held a book signing during the homecoming.

L-R with books are: Melanie Probst with “Cash and Corpses”, Lisa Shumard-Shelton with “High Fives for Laker Louie”, and MaRanda McClain with “When Prayers Go Up Blessings Come Down: Daily Guided Prayer Journal and Bible Verse Study for Kids”



Money in the straw



Twister in the grass

The Strasburg Lions would like to thank all who came and ran the 5K during the 2023 Homecoming. There were 49 runners for the 5K and 3 runners for the 1-mile fun run. Award photos and official times can be viewed on the Strasburg Lions Club Facebook Page.

*Profit from the 5K will be donated to Stewardson Strasburg Blessings in a Backpack. We hope to see you next year!* 🏃

### Strasburg Gnomecoming 2023 5K Results

**Pictured Right:**

**Open Female – Aaliyah Osborn, 22.33 Open Male/Overall – Ben Hille, 22.28**

- |                               |                       |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Female 14 &amp; Under:</b> | 1. Aaliyah Osborn     | 2. Xoe Hoedebecke     |
| <b>Male 14 &amp; Under:</b>   | 1. Ben Hille          | 2. Clayton Altgilbers |
| <b>Male 15-19:</b>            | 1. Hayden Gunter      |                       |
| <b>Female 20-29:</b>          | 1. Rachel Kessler     | 2. Mackenzie Brown    |
| <b>Male 20-29:</b>            | 1. Ethan Grasl        | 2. George Anderson    |
| <b>Female 30-39:</b>          | 1. Lindsay Altgilbers | 2. Chelsea Gruel      |
| <b>Male 30-39:</b>            | 1. Nick Oller         | 2. Aaron Sieben       |
| <b>Female 40-49:</b>          | 1. Emily Garza        | 2. Alison Wirth       |
| <b>Male 40-49:</b>            | 1. Jim Carroll        | 2. Landon Etheridge   |
| <b>Female 50-59:</b>          | 1. Marcy Woodard      | 2. Ladena Lambert     |
| <b>Male 50-59:</b>            | 1. Matt Sherer        | 2. Eric Garza         |
| <b>Male 60-69:</b>            | 1. Race Reed          | 2. James Ewing        |
| <b>Male 70+:</b>              | 1. Larry Wilson       | 2. Michael Faught     |





## Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Unit #289 – Gold Star Bike Riders stop in Strasburg

The Gold Star Mission is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that honors and supports Gold Star families by preserving the memory of our Fallen Heroes through service to others in need.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annua Gold Star 500 Mission Ride, a 510+ mile, five-day endurance bicycling event, will 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. They died so others could have a better life. Their names must live on.

Gold Star 500 bike ride: The riders will be making a stop in Strasburg on **Saturday, September 25th** and should be at the Strasburg Community Center about **8:10 a.m.** The public is invited to come out and meet the cyclists and find out about scholarship opportunities. **Always Remember, Never Forget.**

## German Heritage Tour... Faith, Farming & Family

A group of 30 travelers, a majority from central Illinois, traveled to Germany the last two weeks of July on a tour which was about Farming, Faith, and Family. The trip was designed by Dave & Cathy Allen of Arthur, who had Rincker family ties, and Donica Halcom of Champaign. Destinations included farming areas where Dave interned as a college student in 1984, towns where Martin Luther (Protestant Reformation Leader during the 1500's) frequented and the Rincker Bell Foundry in Herborn, Germany. The trip was planned to be taken in 2020 but was postponed three years due to Covid.

The group enjoyed seeing how bells are made in the Rincker Bell Foundry (Glockengießerei) and toured a bell museum at the castle, (Glockenmuseum at Burg Greifenstein). They enjoyed visiting with Hanns Martin Rincker and his nephew Christian Rincker (14th generation of the Rincker family to work at foundry). Church bells at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg have all been made at the Rincker Bell Foundry in Germany.



Other trip highlights included visits to Berlin, Heidelberg, and Munich, a Rhine River cruise, John Deere plant tour, wine tasting, tour of Dachau concentration camp and the Sound of Music Tour in Salzburg, Austria.

Those attending included:

Arthur: Dave & Cathy Allen

Gays: Kenna Wirth

Shelbyville: Lyndal and Spring Rincker

Strasburg: Lisa Rincker, Gary & Karen Kull

Stewardson: Claire McCormick, Arlene McCormick, Jeff & Janet Schultz

Effingham: Laney Schultz

Humboldt: John & Gail Lowry

Sigel: Rick & Teresa Walk, Paul & Martha Hoene

Breese: Michael & Angela Wiegmann

Lincoln: Jeff & Geri Brooks

Philo: David & Janet Tendick

Champaign: Donica Halcom

South Dakota: Diane (Kaufman) Anderson, Cheryl Hovde, and Curt & Kim Hlavacek



Location of the Bell Castle Museum



Hanns Martin Rincker

~We Remember~

**Marlene Ann Wirth**, 75, of Sullivan, IL, formerly of Strasburg, IL, (March 31, 1948 – July 6, 2023)

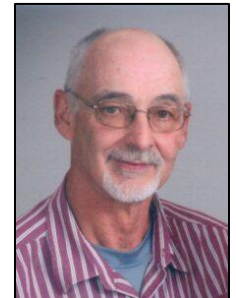
Marlene was born on March 31, 1948, in Ford County, IL, the daughter of George Robert and Annie Viola (Johnson) Conner. She graduated from Roberts Thawville High School in the Class of 1966. She went on to Eastern Illinois University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in 1970 and her master's degree in 1991. She married Gary D. Wirth on June 19, 1971. Marlene began her career as a second-grade teacher at Stewardson-Strasburg Grade School, and later worked as a librarian at Windsor Schools. She retired from Sullivan Schools, where she worked as a Media Specialist. She gave piano lessons for over 40 years. Marlene was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg, where she was active in Ladies Aid. Marlene also served her church through singing in the choir, as substitute organist, and as children's music director. She was a member of Moultrie County Retired Teachers Association and Prairie Winds Singing Group.



She is survived by her husband, Gary; daughter, Emily Garza (Eric) of Cypress, TX; sons, Kevin Wirth (Alison) of Paris, IL, and Bradley Wirth (Brea) of Bloomington, IL; sister-in-law, Wendy Conner of Mapleton, IL; and seven grandchildren, Landon, Logan, Tessa, Halo, Haizley, Sonya and Jersi.

**Bradley Ray "Brad" Friese**, 70, of Strasburg, IL, (March 1, 1953 – July 30, 2023)

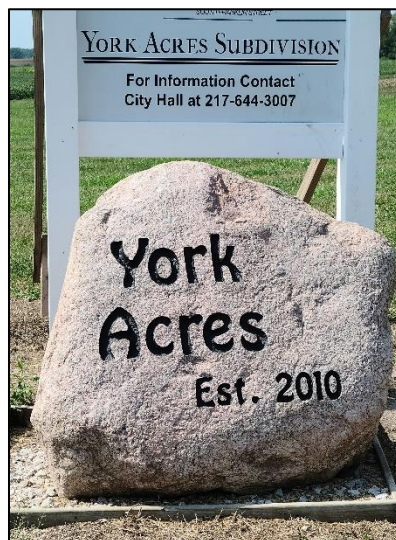
Brad was the son of Donald Ray and Lela Ellen (Mulvaney) Friese. He attended Trinity Lutheran School and graduated from Stewardson-Strasburg High School in the Class of 1971. Brad then attended Lake Land College, where he played baseball. Brad married Arlene Marie Rincker on August 11, 1973. He began working as a carpenter for Steve Baumgarten Construction in Stewardson. He then worked for Dale Young and Richard Stremming in their cabinet shops. Brad was a skilled finish carpenter and later worked for Don Wetherell Construction in Stewardson and retired in 2011 from Heritage Builders in Effingham. Brad was a former member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Stewardson and a current member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL. Brad served on the Strasburg Fire Department for over 40 years, where he was a former captain. He played fast pitch softball for over 30 years, winning the 1989 State Championship with the Tate Farm Equipment Team. Brad was inducted into the Illinois ASA Hall of Fame in 2013. Brad was an avid fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and Stan Musial. He enjoyed collecting Cardinals memorabilia and Lionel O-Gauge Trains. Brad was a man of many words and was extremely proud that all his children and grandchildren were ballplayers and Christians.



Brad is survived by his wife, Arlene; parents, Donald and Lela Friese of Stewardson, IL; daughter, Dawn Meinhart (Steve) of Island Grove, IL; sons, Brock Friese and wife Krystal of Mode, IL, and Kurt Friese and wife Bridgitte of Strasburg, IL; sister, Ellen Friese of Stewardson, IL; and nine grandchildren, Nathan, Josie and Ben Meinhart, Noah, Brielle and Finn Friese and Alaira, Mya, and Kalia Friese.

**York Acres Phase 2**

Housing lots are available in York Acres Phase 2. Lots are marked at lot lines with posts. Two lots in Phase 1 are available for \$2500 with property tax rebates. Phase 2 lots are \$5000 with property tax rebates.



Contact the Village Office for a tour or for more info. Utilities will be added when the first lot sells. Incentives are being extended to December 31, 2025.

**Strasburg Community**  
**Wiener Roast**

When: Friday, September 15th  
Where: Strasburg Park   
Time: 6:00 PM

- > Lion's Club will furnish the hot dogs, buns, chips, condiments, drinks, and marshmallows.
- > Volunteer of Year will be announced
- > Community members may bring a side dish to be shared.
- > Bring your lawn chairs
- > Hayride

*All Strasburg area residents are invited to attend.  
Bring your lawn chair & enjoy sitting around the fire.*

**Sponsored by Strasburg Lion's Club  
and the Village of Strasburg**

# **STRASBURG**

# **Fall Town Wide Rummage Sales**

**And Flea Market at the Farm  
located along Rt 32, north edge of town**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 9**

**8 A.M.**



**PO Box 385  
Strasburg, IL 62465**