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Cinda Held

## Relatives Pay Respects to Strasburg WWI Veteran in France

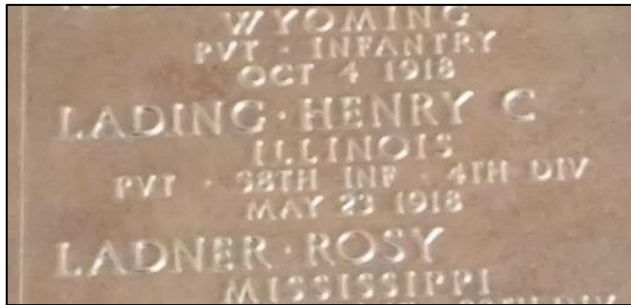
*By Gary Kull*

Monday, May 26, marked the Strasburg Lions Leo Club Memorial Day Celebration. A crowd of nearly 100 attended and listened to speaker Tawn Tipsword of Beecher City share his experiences aboard submarines as a Master Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy.

During the Memorial Day ceremony, LEO Kendra Hayes shared the story of Henry C. Lading of Strasburg who was killed by a submarine attack on an American troop ship in 1918 during WWI. Lading is memorialized at Suresnes America Cemetery near Paris France.

A week before the Memorial Day Celebration in Strasburg, Gary and Karen Kull of Strasburg and Dennis and Nitelle Lading of Effingham were in France and visited the Suresnes memorial site where Henry Lading is memorialized. Karen and Dennis are distant relatives of the WWI veteran.

When they visited on May 20, the well-kept American cemetery was being prepared and prepped for celebration of Memorial Day. Markers were being scrubbed and grounds tidied by the staff. Kulls and Ladings discovered the bronze tablet in the chancel area of the memorial which lists Henry C. Lading's name. A poppy bouquet made by the Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary was left at the site.



The Suresnes Cemetery is maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission which operates and maintains 26 American Cemeteries in 17 countries. The cemetery and memorial

at Suresnes was granted by France for perpetual use free of charge or taxation.

The cemetery is located on a hill near Paris with the Eiffel Tower visible in the distance. It was a fitting spot to note the life and death of a former resident of Strasburg who gave his life in service to our country.



LEOs at May 26 Memorial Day Celebration L-R: Jim Weis, LEO Advisor, Kendra Hayes, Jillian Porter, Addie Porter, Kennedy Kull, Melanie Probst, Brinlee Durbin, Katelyn VonBehrens, Samantha Hayes, Guest Speaker Tawn Tipsword, Ellie Wittenberg, Alaira Friese, Mya Friese, Claire Holland, Joe Holland, Calix Pieper, and LEO President James Porter.



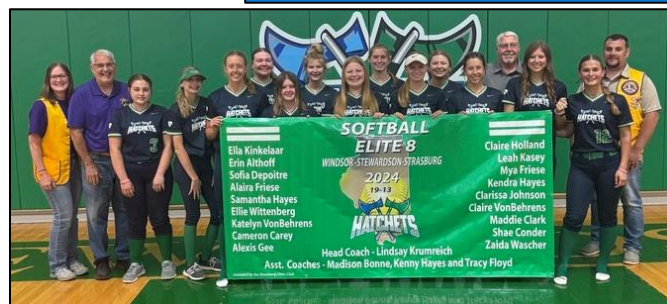


Strasburg Lions Club LEOs, who met the club requirements, recently attended Holiday World in Indiana.

Some LEOs decided to donate their ticket to Strasburg Lion member Clay Tabbert as he finished his last chemo treatment the following day.

Strasburg Lions have been running the concession stand during the summer ball games at the diamond in the park. **Thank you, Lions!**

In May, Lions presented WSS Softball Team a banner to honor the team for their 2024 Elite 8 finish in IHSA softball.



## Strasburg Lions Club Homecoming Parade

**Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am**

Line-up will be from 10:45 - 11:15 at the township building/water tower

**Please message Mary Tabbert to register (not required, but encouraged)**

Parade route will be the same as the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration parade - From the water tower, East on WN Second St to N Elizabeth St, South to Franklin St, East across highway to Spruce St, and back North to the park.

**The food stand will be open following the parade.**

# STRASBURG LIONS CLUB HOMECOMING JULY 11-12 STRASBURG PARK

## FRIDAY- JULY 11TH

<b>4:00PM - 7:00PM</b>	<b>Ribeye &amp; Pulled Pork Dinner</b>
<b>6:00PM - 10:00PM</b>	<b>Beer Garden</b>
<b>7:00PM - 10:00PM</b>	<b>Back of the Bus Rock Band</b>

\*FREE ADMISSION\* Bring your lawn chair (Stage by the park)

## SATURDAY- JULY 12TH

<b>7:30AM - 10:00AM</b>	<b>Gnomecoming 5K &amp; 1-Mile Fun Run</b> (Registration 6:30AM-7:15AM @ Community Building)
<b>11:00AM</b>	<b>Food Stand Opens</b>
<b>11:30AM - 12:00PM</b>	<b>Parade</b>
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Tractor, Truck, &amp; Semi Pulls</b>
<b>2:00PM</b>	<b>Beer Garden Opens</b>
<b>6:00PM</b>	<b>Kids Pedal Pull</b>
<b>3:00PM - 8:00PM</b>	<b>Inflatables &amp; Kids Corner</b>

\*Inflatables sponsored by: Garrett Moffett, COUNTRY Financial

L-R: Mary Tabbert, Mark Luce, Diane Jack, Jesse Williams, Kenzie Stewart, Justin Krile, Nathan Doty, Jane Giertz, Incoming President Dean Keller, Gary Kull and Outgoing President Mitch Stewart



### SCAN gives \$1,000 to Lions Club for ball diamond upgrades

Proceeds from the recent SCAN Berries & Burgers fundraiser were presented to the Strasburg Lions Club at their June meeting. The Lions will be making several upgrades to the ball diamond including new fencing and dugouts.

Thank you to all who helped support this fundraiser!

Shown is Gary Kull (right), SCAN member, presenting check for \$1,000 to Lions Club President Mitch Stewart (left).



## Strasburg Community Action Network News

### June Gnome Giveaway Winner—Thomas & Kristina Moore family

Congratulations to Thomas and Kristina Moore, June winners of the SCAN Gnome giveaway. Kristina (Weeden) is a Strasburg native and Thomas grew up in Missouri. They met while both were attending Lake Land College and married in 2014. Thomas received an AAS John Deere Technician degree and Kristina an AA in Business Administration. After living in Macon, Missouri for 3 years, they moved back to the area in 2017 and purchased a home in Strasburg in 2019. They have two children, Grace, who will be in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Gabe, who will be in 4<sup>th</sup> grade this fall.



Thomas is the Toyota Service Manager at KC Summers in Mattoon and Kristina is the Stewardson-Strasburg High School secretary. They attend Christ's Church in Effingham. As a family they enjoy spending time with friends, watching movies, swimming, traveling, and all the sports.

Other interesting facts about the Moore family 1) They were foster parents for three years, hosting nine children in their home during that time. And 2) They have two Air BNB's in Strasburg with a 3rd one coming soon. They are excited to offer this in the small community of Strasburg.

Things they enjoy about living in Strasburg: The small community that feels like family, great neighbors that we can always count on, riding our golf cart around town, and going to the park and to ballgames. Congratulations to the Moores!

**STRASBURG**  
Right in the middle of everything

## Fall Town Wide Rummage Sales

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

**Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast + Bake Sale**  
7-10 a.m. Community Center  
Sponsored by SCAN

## Saturday, August 30



### Seasoned Citizens meet in June

Twelve Seasoned Citizens and guests Brielle & Finn Friesse attended the delicious potluck on June 25. The trip to Moonshine was postponed until July due to the hot weather. Larry G. shared several tips about many uses of WD40.

Upcoming town events include the Strasburg Lions Club Homecoming on July 11 and 12.

The group will leave at 9 a.m. on Wed., July 30 to travel to Moonshine to eat.



### Other SCAN Activities

- \$250 scholarships were awarded to two Stewardson-Strasburg high school graduates Rowyn Foreman and Ellie Wittenberg (pictured right).
- Flowers were planted and cleanup work completed on Commercial Street during Main Street Makeover in May. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped!
- The Berries & Burgers fundraiser raised \$1,000 which will go towards repairs at the ball diamond.
- SCAN will sponsor Little Hatchets Soccer and Flag Football teams. Soccer Pre-K-4<sup>th</sup> grade. Soccer form due 7/31. Flag Football for youth 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Football form due 7/15. All teams will play Sundays, Sept. 7-28 at Stew-Stras school. Forms: [Little Hatchets Soccer Form 2025](#); [Little Hatchets Flag Football Form 2025](#)
- Fundraiser—Aug. 30, 7-10 a.m., Bake Sale & Serving Breakfast during Fall Town Wide Rummage Sales. Watch for information on pre-orders for Cinnamon Rolls to be picked up August. 30. Bakers will be needed for the Bake Sale.



## Strasburg American Legion News

Strasburg American Legion members participated in three Memorial Day services on May 26:

Ash Grove Cemetery; Windsor Cemetery, and Strasburg Memorial Day Celebration (pictured right)

On June 14, Flag Day, members participated with Windsor American Legion in a flag burning ceremony in Strasburg.



### Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary participates in Memorial Day Service

Left: Members of the ALA, Sarah Wyckoff and Linda Oakley place the Veterans wreath at the Strasburg Veterans Memorial during the Strasburg Lions Club LEOs Memorial Day Service on May 26.



### Girls State - Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Sponsors two Delegates to ALA Illini Girls State

Liberty Unit #289 of the American Legion Auxiliary in Strasburg chose two girls to attend the 84<sup>th</sup> Session of the American Legion Auxiliary's Illini Girls State. Those girls that attended are Maddie Beitz, daughter of Kevin and Jackie, and Vada Robinson, daughter of Trisha Robinson. Maddie is a student at Stewardson-Strasburg High School and Vada is a student at Cumberland High School.

ALA Illini Girls State is a simulation patterned after the State of Illinois. Two hundred girls from various communities throughout the State of Illinois attended ALA Illini Girls State held on the campus of Eastern Illinois University from June 15-21, 2025. They learned the way a two-party system works. At ALA IGS they have two fictitious political parties, the Nationalists and the Federalists. They held caucuses, had Primary and General elections, and participated in a party Convention.

Delegates to ALA IGS elected city, county, and state officials. They learned the duties of various public offices – their functions, limitations, and powers. Delegates elected their legislature where members of the House and Senate introduced, debated and passed their own bills. They regulated their own cities, enforced their laws, and prepared county projects.

Each of these young ladies learned the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities as a citizen of ALA Illini Girls State that will help her fully participate as an American citizen.



Maddie Beitz



Vada Johnson

### WSS Sportsbackers accomplishments during 2024-2025

- Provided money for golf teams rooms at sectionals
- Rented out our dunk tank for special events
- Gave away custom-built fire pit to a WSS Sportsbacker member donated by HDSteelTargets, Scott Mayer
- Purchased a WSS Hatchet media backdrop to be used for sporting events or signings
- Photographed and purchased 45 senior banners
- Auctioned off fan of the year basketball seats
- Donated money for a meal for junior high boys basketball team that went to state
- Raffled 4 St. Louis Blues hockey tickets given by donation from Windsor Pub
- Gave gift cards to all the co-op coaches and assistant coaches thanking them for their time
- Hosted 5th and 6th grade basketball tournament
- Hosted 6th grade volleyball tournament
- Purchased and put up senior sports signs in towns on poles
- Donated money towards memorial for Eddie, Karlie, and Sienna
- Supported Stew-Stras and Windsor Special Olympics teams with a \$100 donation
- Donated money in memory of Kale for popcorn for 5th and 6th grade basketball games
- Donated \$2,500 to Windsor and Stew-Stras schools for improvements to the weight room
- Donated money for a meal for junior high track athletes from Stew-Stras and Windsor who went to state



*Thank you for all your support this year!*

### *Check out the recent S-S students making headlines!*

#### Stew-Stras's Samantha Hayes is WCIA's athlete of the Year!

Samantha Hayes, daughter of Sara and Kenny Hayes of Stewardson, was named to the prestigious honor of WCIA's Athlete of the Year. She was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship and honored in June for this accomplishment.



#### WSS High School Bass Team reels in the win

The WSS High School Bass Team has officially brought home the **State Championship** after two days of intense competition at the IHSA State Tournament, competing against 60 schools from across Illinois. Congratulations Hayden and Myles!

*Pictured Left: Coach Pat O'Dell, Hayden Porter and Myles Verdeyen*

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade State champs in track!

Congratulations to our 2A 7th grade boys **State Track Meet Champions!** 1st place two years in a row! (1A last year and 2A this year) Also, congratulations to Adam Pruemer, son of Christy and Jeremy Pruemer of Shumway, on being named Top 2A Boy Athlete of the State Meet! Jacob Duncan, son of Laura and Kyle Duncan of Strasburg, also set new state meet records in discus and shot put! We are so proud of all of you!



### Congratulations to Stew-Stras Class of 2025 top scholars:

**Co-Salutatorians Grace Carroll and Samantha Hayes and Valedictorian Rowyn Forman**



## Five Generations

Picture was taken April 2025. Baby Gus was 2 weeks old.  
Shown clockwise starting at bottom left:

Baby	<b>Gus Allen (Strasburg)</b>
Mother	<b>Marcail Allen (Strasburg)</b>
Grandmother	<b>Pam Clark (Strasburg)</b>
Great Grandmother	<b>Wanda Kessler (Mode)</b>
Great-Great Grandmother	<b>Mildred Rincker (Neoga)</b>



## St. Paul's & Grace Lutheran Church Dual Parish Vacation Bible School 2025



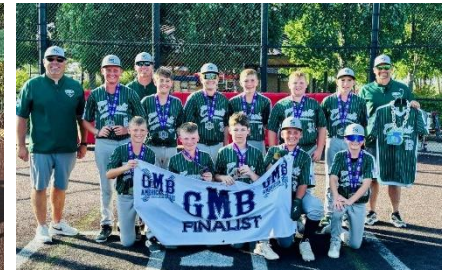
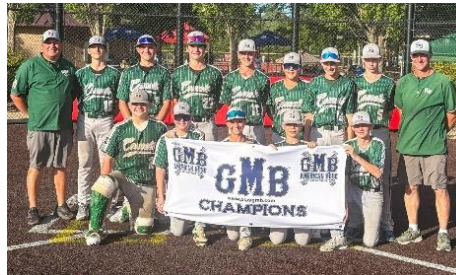
Eighty-eight children from preschool to 7<sup>th</sup> grade attended VBS 2025 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Strasburg from June 16-20. The theme for the week was "Epic Australian Adventure – An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus."

Nine adults attended an adult VBS class led by Rev. Kene Whybrew and nearly 40 adult teachers, leaders, and teens helpers assisted throughout the week.

Children learned new songs, acted out Bible stories, made crafts, played games and ate snacks. The children sang at the closing program on June 20.

## Summer Sports News

The 13U and 12U Stewardson-Strasburg Comets Travel Baseball teams both wrapped up their summer seasons in June at the GMB Tournament in O'Fallon. 13U were champions of their age group and the 12U team finished Runner Up in their bracket. Coach for 13U was Brock Friese, assisted by Toby Worman and Jeremy Pruemer. Coach for 12U was Phil Boyer, assisted by Toby Worman, Lance Montgomery and Josh Nichols.



## Ellie Wittenberg – 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up

Congrats to Ellie Wittenberg who earned 1<sup>st</sup> runner up in the Shelby County Fair Queen Pageant recently. She is the daughter of Barry and Courtney Wittenberg of Strasburg.

Picture: Ellie is the contestant on the right.

## **Nominations for Candidates for Volunteer of the Year due August 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

Eligibility - 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 August 15, 2025. A committee will review the nominations and will select the winner. The Volunteer of the Year award for 2025 will be presented at the Village Wiener Roast on Friday, September 19th at Village Park.

*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, 2020 MaRanda McClain, 2021 Ian and Stephanie Kinkley, 2022 Kristina Moore, 2023 Morgan Mathis, 2024 Sue Bowers.*



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