

GNOME NEWS



GNOME NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

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Important Dates

Oct. 24. Halloween Soup Supper, Parade, Costumes, Cake Walk. Community Center. American Legion & Auxiliary.

Oct. 25. 50 Years of Excellence. Stew-Stras High School honoring 50 years of volleyball. P 4.

Oct. 26. Lions Octoberfest. P 4.

Oct. 29. Seasoned Citizens Pizza & Salad at Noon. Community Center.

Oct. 31. Trick or Treat 6-8 p.m.

Nov. 8. Santa Brigade Breakfast & Market. 6-11 a.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church. SCAN. P 6.

Nov. 26. Seasoned Citizens. Noon. Community Center.

Dec. 6. Christmas in the Burg 12-8 p.m. Strasburg Park. P 5 & 6.

Dec. 12-13. Christmas Store & Cookie Walk. 9 am-4 pm, 9-11 a.m. Community Center. ALA.

Dec. 13. Santa comes to the Community Center. 9:30-11 a.m.

Village of Strasburg

105 E Commercial St.
217.644.3007
www.strasburgil.com

Subscribe to receive a bi-monthly Gnome News in the mail for \$12/year.

Copies of the Gnome News are available at SCSB and Village Office for \$1.

Receive GN **free** electronically by sending your email address to village office, info@strasburgil.com.

Message from the Mayor

Welcome to my favorite time of year. Fall.

Time to clean the garden for the winter. Remember to take your garden waste and leaves out to the lagoon to burn. Please don't burn in town on the road. A burn ban for the village is in effect. Camp & cooking fires are allowed as long as attended and have ample water for extinguishment. The ban will be lifted once weather permits. Questions, call Fire Chief 217-343-0773.

At the annual town-wide wiener roast, we had almost 90 people attend and the kids had a great time! Congratulations to Kurt Friese being named "Volunteer of the Year" for his 12 years of commitment to the softball program. Thanks Kurt!

Peters Buildings from Toledo is starting work on the pavilion so watch for progress. Their timeline is 120 days from start.

The lagoon has seen big changes. We are reducing six ponds to five ponds with the south pond going away. Then the five ponds will be combined into two ponds. After some problems with quicksand, Goeckner Excavating is moving right along. The blowers have arrived and are waiting for installation in the building. The target date to finish is late November but all work should be completed by February.

The village is still looking for a maintenance person to work 32 hours in summer and 20 winter hours. Stop and see Linda if you are interested.

The Lions Club is making plans to update the fencing at the ballpark. Watch for these improvements and support our teams.

Harvest is going strong. Don't get in a big hurry. Let's be safe this fall.



Cinda Held

TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT



In Strasburg

Friday, October 31

6:00-8:00 P.M.



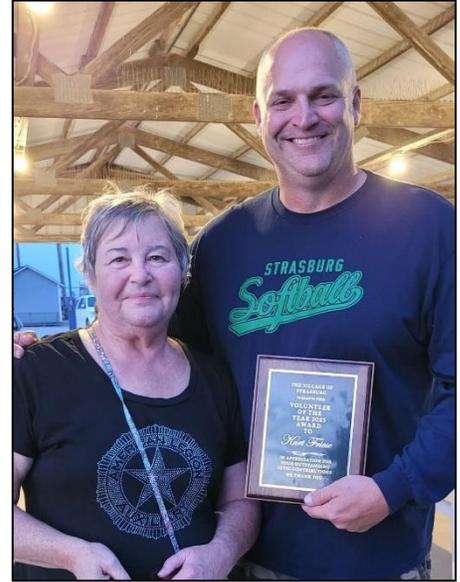
Together we can keep Strasburg Right! In the Middle of Everything!

Kurt Friese awarded Strasburg 2025 Volunteer of the Year Award

Kurt Friese has been an outstanding volunteer for Strasburg's softball program for 12 years, that's what was said in the nomination. It was noted that "he always had the diamond ready, kept the grass looking nice, and scheduled games until 2024. Under his leadership softball participation has grown to the point where we often have two and sometimes three teams at each age level. He has ensured that each team and age level has had coaches and overseen the selection of teams to provide fairness."

"He was instrumental in getting a turf surface on the infield to improve the drainage of the field. This has benefited both girls' and boys' teams by allowing them to play and practice when the field would otherwise be too wet. He has always been willing to contribute his time and knowledge for the betterment of the diamond and his teams. Because of his efforts Strasburg has a tradition of successful teams and that tradition carries on through our Junior High and High School softball programs. He has been a great resource for improving the field conditions and helping young people have a great experience through sports."

Kurt was presented his award during the Community Weiner Roast held on Friday, September 19 at the Strasburg Park. Presenting the award was Mayor Cinda Held.



Pictured – Mayor Cinda Held and Kurt Friese

Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary #289

Sponsors Candy Buy-Back On November 1st Strasburg Liberty Unit #289 of the American Legion Auxiliary will hold their 6th "Candy Buy-Back" **Sat., Nov. 1 from 9:00-11:00 AM** at the Strasburg Community Center. Their mission, to buy-back the excess Halloween candy from the local trick or treaters. The Unit will pay \$1 a pound for the candy that is brought in. The candy that is collected will be sent to area servicemen to share with their comrades.



Check out this new IDOT sign coming into Strasburg. Congratulations Jacob Duncan on 1st in Shot & Discus and the 7-2A Boys Track team 2025 State Champions!



American Legion Auxiliary Strasburg Unit 289's 2025 ALA Illini Girls State Delegates, Vada Robinson from Cumberland High School, and Maddie Beitz from Stewardson-Strasburg High School, attended the Unit's September 9th monthly meeting. Both Vada and Maddie shared with the Unit their incredible experience at ALA IGS. It was held in June on the campus of Eastern Illinois University. Both girls said they did not know what to expect, but they absolutely loved the experience and said it was an amazing and memorable week. American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State is a week of leadership, mixed with government, where the citizens sign out petitions, campaign, and vote. The week is also filled with fun activities where the girls meet others from all over the State of Illinois and become life-long friends.



Picture - Vada Robinson, Strasburg Unit President Sarah Wyckoff, Maddie Beitz

**Strasburg Community Action Network News
Seasoned Citizens – August & September**

August: Thirteen Seasoned Citizens attended a potluck at the monthly meeting on August 27 at the Strasburg Community Center. Larry G. reported on a sign posted at a service repair business which read, “Service Fees: \$50 Fix your Machine; \$150 if you try to fix it before you bring it in.”

Jane G and Karen K gave a list of upcoming events. In September, the group will remember their school days by bringing a sack lunch to eat on Sept. 27 at noon.

September: Twelve Seasoned Citizens and guest, Brenda Elder, from Shelbyville, attended the September 27 Seasoned Citizens meal and meeting at the Strasburg Community Center. Brenda Elder has worked for Shelby County Economic Development (SCED) for three years and part of her duties are to promote all communities in the county as well as their businesses and events. One way she does this on a Facebook page “Shelby County, IL”.

Village Clerk, Linda, informed the group about upcoming events-Sept. 27, Lions Jeep Run at Vahling Vineyards with Lions serving food 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and band playing 4-7 p.m.; Oct. 24 – American Legion Halloween Celebration, soup supper, costume judging and cake walk; Oct. 25 – “50th Celebration of Excellence” recognition of the past 50 Stew-Stras and WSS Coop volleyball teams at Stew-Stras gymnasium.

Linda also shared that the plumbing in the new pavilion at the park has been replaced and work will continue soon.



Left Seasoned Citizens front row: Connie Wirth, Wayne Wirth, Dwight Lading, Fred Durbin, Pauline Durbin, Larry Giertz, Jane Giertz. Back row: Karen Kull, Chuck Wade, Janice Wade, Pat Chasteen, Kay Adams.

Right Guest, Brenda Elder with Kay Adams, winner of the door prize

The Strasburg Seasoned Citizens will meet **October 29 at noon with pizza and salad** to be served. Everyone can bring a dessert or side dish to share.
ALL Age 55+ Welcome! Come and enjoy!



Spooky Fun in Strasburg

Congratulations
Jacob Vonderheide (SS) and Bailey Owens (W)



**Both HS students
made it to Sectionals
for golf this year**



SCAN Meeting News from September

Eleven SCAN members met Sept 23 for their quarterly meeting. Discussion topics included the following: Foundation Report – Melissa Luce. Thank you to Tim Lenz who recently rolled off the Foundation Board. Jodie Quast’s term on the board was renewed. Nathan Stremming was added as a new board member. Action Team Family & Kids-Little Hatchets are playing flag football and soccer on Sundays during September. Games are at 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. inside the Stew-Stras school track.

- SCAN will participate at the Stew-Stras School PTSA Truck or Treat event Oct. 27.
- The 18th Annual Santa Brigade Breakfast & Market will be held Nov. 8. Workers and food donations will be needed. Vendors may contact MaRanda McClain for Booth Space at 217-343-7879. (Flyer Page 6.)

SCAN members held a breakfast fundraiser at the Community Center in Strasburg during August Town Wide Rummage Sales. Funds raised from Breakfast, Bake Sale and Cinnamon Roll fundraisers were donated to the Strasburg Lions Club for softball diamond updates.

Shown L-R are SCAN Members Jodie Quast and Melissa Luce presenting the check to Lion Jane Giertz.



Lions Club News

The Strasburg Lions Club will once again be serving up hot **spiral spuds** at Lake Shelbyville Balloon Fest (sponsored by Touchstone Energy) on Saturday, Oct. 11. The event is held at the Shelby County Airport. Serving begins at 4 p.m. Come out and support the Lions!
<https://www.facebook.com/balloonslakeshelbyville>

Oktoberfest

Location: Vahling Vineyards
2683 Co Hwy 6, Stewardson, IL 62463

Sunday, Oct. 26
FOOD SERVED ALL DAY – Come & Enjoy!

Car Show 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

*Best of Show *Best Decorated *Oldest

Trunk or Treat 4-6 p.m.

Other Activities: DJ-Hayrides-Pumpkin Decorating

More Information: <https://www.facebook.com/StrasburgLionsClub>

STRASBURG LIONS CLUB HOSTS:
Oktoberfest
CAR SHOW & TRUNK OR TREAT
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH
VAHLING VINEYARDS – STEWARDSON, IL
CAR SHOW 11:00AM-4:00 PM
TRUNK OR TREAT 4:00-6:00 PM
FOOD SERVED ALL DAY!

MADINE & THE KING DJ – CAR SHOW – HAYRIDES – PUMPKIN DECORATING
 TRUNK OR TREAT – TWILIGHT DISTILLERY BOURBON & BLT SANDWICHES
 GERMAN MEAL – PIZZA – BURGERS – SPIRAL SPUDS

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT AVAILABLE!



Remembering our Veterans

A Veteran's Story from WWII

Dwight Ostermeier was born to Edward and Cora (Ruff) Ostermeier in Plain City, Ohio, on January 11, 1925. The family moved to Strasburg around 1930.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1944 during WWII, serving in the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne.

Mon., Nov. 10, 9 a.m. Veterans Day Program in the Stew-Stras HS Gym



In 1944, Dwight was stationed in England and training to be a paratrooper for the 101st Airborne. He jumped into Holland in September and was wounded by shrapnel the next day. It was part of Operation Market Garden.* Dwight also saw action in Bastogne

*Jumping into the Netherlands as part of Operation Market Garden involved the largest airborne assault in history on September 17, 1944, when over 35,000 U.S., British, and Polish paratroopers were dropped behind enemy lines to seize key bridges for the advancing Allied ground forces.

Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge, where his feet were frozen. When his feet were healed, he was pulled off the line and ended up as a clerk. He was part of the occupation after the war ended.

Dwight's 21st birthday was memorable as he was in Berlin on that day. He was discharged in 1946. For his heroic efforts, Dwight received a European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Two Bronze Stars and also a Purple Heart Medal.

After the war, Dwight had a career with the Illinois State Police as a Trooper from 1952-1982. He was a member of the Strasburg American Legion Post #289. Dwight married Lela Doeding in 1947. Their son, Mark, lives in Kentucky. Dwight passed in 2015. Thank you, Dwight, for your service and sacrifices during WWII which helped secure the freedoms we have today. We are forever grateful.



Dwight & Lela Ostermeier

Pictures Top right –Dwight Ostermeier during WWII–courtesy of Mark Ostermeier Bottom Right–Dwight and Lela–1996 church directory of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, IL

Join Us for the First Annual Christmas in the Burg! 🌲 (See flyer P 6)

Get into the holiday spirit at Christmas in the Burg! A brand-new festive celebration for the whole community! The event is being hosted by Michelle Hanley and Lauren McGregor

Enjoy a day full of holiday cheer with:

- Santa's Woodshop – Meet Santa and create memorable keepsakes
- Delicious Food Vendors – Treat your taste buds to seasonal favorites
- DJ – Dance and sing along to your favorite holiday tunes
- Sojourn Rocs Band 5–8 PM – Cap off the evening with live music ...and so much more for the whole family!



HALLOWEEN CANDY BUY BACK

Support Our Troops!



Saturday, November 1st

9:00-11:00 AM

*Bring your Halloween candy to us and we will weigh it and pay you \$1 for every pound (up to \$5)

Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Unit #289

Strasburg Community Center

**Then we will mail all the candy to our local service men & women!*

Help us sweeten a soldier's day

STRASBURG HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025

SOUP SUPPER	5:00
COSTUME PARADE	7:00
JUDGING	7:30
CAKE WALK	8:00

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

UNDER 3 YEARS OLD	OCCUPATIONAL
STORY BOOK & FAIRY TALE	ANIMALS
TV & MOVIE	COUPLE
MONSTERS, GHOSTS & WITCHES	GROUP
SUPERHERO	MISCELLANEOUS
PRINCESS	ADULTS

SPONSORED BY
AMERICAN LEGION POST #289
AND
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT #289

1st Annual Christmas IN THE 'BURG

Saturday - December 6th

12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Strasburg Community Park



18TH ANNUAL Santa Brigade

Breakfast & Market

Saturday, November 8th

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
511 S. Walnut St. Strasburg

Pancake & Sausage	Christmas Market
Breakfast	7:00-11:00am
6:00-10:30am	reserve a spot by contacting MaRanda McClain 217-343-7879

Free Will Donation
Dine In or Carry Out
Bulk Sausage available by the pound



Proceeds to benefit community improvements!

~We Remember~

Randall (Randy) W. Radloff, 69, 12/1/1955 to 9/26/2025

Randy Radloff, Strasburg, IL, but recently at Shelbyville Healthcare & Senior Living in Shelbyville, IL was born to John and Ramona (Schlechte) Radloff. He was best known for his distinctive voice and his career in radio. He is survived by his mother, Ramona, one brother and sister-in-law, two daughters, a son-in-law, and six grandchildren. No public services will be held.



Honoring 50 years of Volleyball at Stew-Stras High School

The Illinois High School Association recognized volleyball as a girls’ sport in 1974-75 and celebrated 50 years of volleyball in 2024. The WSS Sportsbackers plan to present an exciting evening of volleyball Oct. 25 in recognition of the school’s “50 Years of Excellence” in that sport.

On Oct. 25, the Hatchets will take on Decatur Unity Christian, one of the States’s top 1A teams. JV action begins at 4:45 p.m. at Stew-Stras High School. The evening will recognize all 50 Stew-Stras/WSS volleyball teams in celebration of being named No. 16 in the IHSA listing of the Top 50 Volleyball Programs in the state.

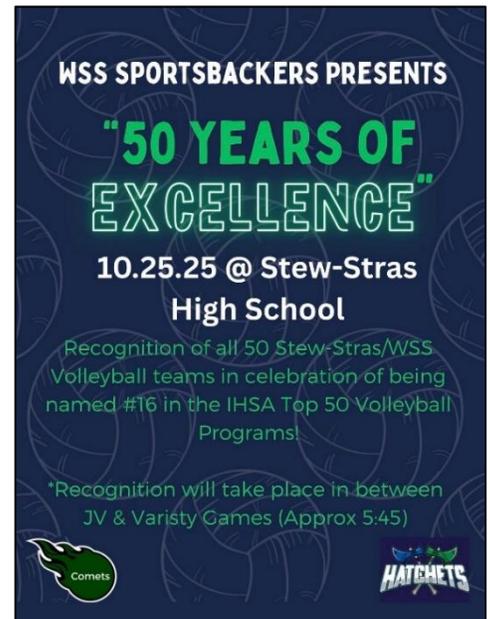
The Sportsbackers invites the public to join them in celebrating this momentous occasion. More than 130 former players and coaches are expected to be on hand and will be recognized between the junior varsity and varsity matches.

In the past 50 years Stewardson-Strasburg and the Windsor/Stew-Stras teams have won 33 district/regional titles, 14 sectional titles, earned nine state final trophies and had five state championship appearances and one state title.

State Championship Appearances/Titles: 5/1

1984-A: IC Catholic 3, Stew-Stras 2	33-3
1985-A: Lisle 2, Stew-Stras 0	37-1
1986-A: Stew-Stras 2, Easton 0	33-0
2013-1A: Rockford Keith 2, Stew-Stras 0	28-13
2017-1A: Seymour 2, Stew-Stras 0*	34-7

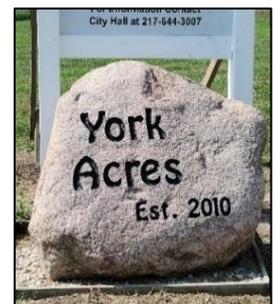
(*) – in co-op with Windsor



Efforts have been underway for several months to plan this celebration for the local communities. Event organizer, Bob Schlechte, has been working with several former volleyball players to make this night unforgettable. A keepsake program with pictures, names and stats will be available for purchase. Greg Sapp of WXEf, Effingham will be the emcee and Lane Blickem of WMCI, Mattoon will provide the audio.

York Acres Lots for sell with incentives - Phase 2

Housing lots are available to purchase 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 in Phase 2 sells. Incentives are being extended to December 31, 2025.



Sprinkling some sweets in Strasburg (New Strasburg Business)

My name is Angie Meadows. I am a wife to Dylan Meadows (owner of DM Design Construction) and a mama to three wonderful kiddos: Noah (11), Ellie (3), and Hadley (1). We have lived in Strasburg since June 2023. I have always had a love for baking and creating, so what better way to express that than by opening a little home bakery! It's been a distant dream of mine for a long time, and I finally decided to do it!



Sprinkle: Cake Pops and Treats is a licensed cottage bakery run out of my home. My favorite product I offer is cake pops! I love these little bite-sized treats — they're so customizable, from fun flavors to the way they're individually decorated. I also offer cookie cakes, cookies, cakes, and cupcakes!

This summer, I offered daily cake pops from my front porch using an honor-system payment method. I had a scan plaque for Venmo and a can for cash payments. That was a *huge* hit all summer! It was so much fun watching kiddos (and adults) walk away happy with pops in hand. As school started back up and the weather changed, I've switched to offering the porch pop cooler on weekends only, but all items are still available for order anytime!

My future plans are focused on growth — building a returning and steady clientele as I get my name out there in the bakery world. I already have so many wonderful repeat customers! From helping celebrate family milestones to greeting regulars on the porch, I've come to recognize many familiar faces as my "regulars." Someday, I may pursue a storefront, but for now, I'm sticking to baking from home where I can also raise my littles. Being able to bake while having my babies in the next room is such a blessing.

Location: 206 W. South 1st St., Strasburg
 Personal Facebook page (**Angie Meadows**), my business Facebook page (**Sprinkle: Cake Pops and Treats**), Phone **217-821-5876**.



PO Box 385
Strasburg, IL 62465