



"Gnome News is Good News"

# Strasburg Gnome News

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April 2011

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 23 – 10am Strasburg Community Easter Egg Hunt, see p. 4
- April 27 – 12pm Seasoned Citizens (age 55 or better) kickoff meeting – Strasburg Methodist Church, see p. 3
- April 30 – 8 am SCAN Flower Sale – Strasburg Park, see p. 2
- May 28 – Town Wide Rummage Sales
- May 29– SSSH Graduation
- June 5 – 4pm, Lions Club Chicken Fry and Antique Tractor Show
- June 15 – Next edition of the Gnome News, submissions due by the 10th
- June 28 – 7pm SCAN Quarterly Meeting Strasburg Community Building
- July 15-16 – Strasburg Lions Club Homecoming

For more events, visit "I know where Strasburg, Il is!" on Facebook or [strasburgil.com](http://strasburgil.com).

## Happy Spring!

**Looking for gnomes, antiques and other goodies? Hop into Strasburg for the town-wide rummage sales**

On Saturday, May 28, Strasburg will host the always popular town-wide rummage sales and flea market. The flea market is at the Lenz Farm on the north edge of town, SCAN will be selling gnomes and there is sure to be plenty of other wares at the flea market and various sales around town. If you plan to have a rummage sale, please sign the list in the post office and give the location. The list is provided to visitors to help them know where to go to find all the sales.

*Start now to spring clean and sell your unwanted items!*



## Wayne's Words of Wirth



Spring is always welcome in Strasburg. It's good to see the sunshine

and the tractors in the fields. We are happy to announce new additions to the village board. We recently welcomed Dawn and Gerry Schlechte. Dawn is a new trustee and Gerry is our new village treasurer. They both have had a lot of experience in the corporate world, and I know their valuable time will be well spent as we continue to grow. Thank you Dawn and Gerry!

Let's keep on making Strasburg "RIGHT! In the middle of everything."

## York Acres Subdivision

Nearly 1/2 acre residential lots for sale \* \$2,500 with incentives  
\* Must satisfy covenants \* Call 217-690-8030

**Strasburg is so much more!**



**A look at a local Strasburg business**

**Kull Appliance Service serves Strasburg for more than three decades**

*By Jane Giertz*

The Maytag man is supposed to be the loneliest man in town, but because of the quality of the Maytag appliances they didn't need much repair, thus the old saying.

Gary Kull is one of the busiest men in town. He has been in the Maytag and appliance business since 1980 when he rented the building he is in from Derry York to start his appliance business. In 2001, Gary experienced some health issues and decided to quit. He went to Menard's for a short time. However, he soon decided to reopen the business

Gary's dad Carl and his uncle Merl had a hardware business in the building that later became Cass's. They sold the building to Paul Montgomery in 1979 and it was called M & M True Value.

Gary sells major household appliances and you also can order what you want, but his business is mostly repair. He also sells DISH Network. He has two part-time workers, Ed Held and Chuck Wade, pictured on right

with Gary, left. Gary had the privilege of working with his dad for over 20 years. In 2001, his dad needed to rest, so he retired. Carl passed away in 2010 and is missed very much. His presence in the building was important. Gary's father-in-law Dwight Lading also worked for Gary for several years after his retirement and he still helps out whenever needed.

Gary is busy with his job at the Short Stop where he is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings ordering for the store. His day begins around 8 a.m. and ends whenever he can finish. He also stays busy volunteering for the village.

Please say hello to Gary and give him a call if you need an appliance or repair, because we don't want to see him lonely.

***Thank you Gary for all you do for the Village of Strasburg.***

If you need his services, Gary can be reached at 217-644-3014 or 254-3141.



**Annual SCAN Flower Sale**

**Flower Pick-up will be  
Saturday, April 30,  
8am to 12 Noon.**

**No early pick-ups, please.**

**A limited number of flowers,  
including daylilies from His Glories Farm  
will be available for sale on the 30th.**



**Strasburg hosts events for "seasoned" citizens**

Members of Strasburg Communication Action Network are making plans for beginning a "seasoned" citizen group for Strasburg area seniors, ages 55 or better. This group may grow into a monthly "Lunch with a Bunch" event and include lots of extra happenings and activities. Everyone 55-plus in the area is welcome to join in the fun.

The first gathering will be held in the Strasburg Methodist Church Social Hall at noon on Wednesday, April 27. SCAN members will furnish sandwiches, chips, desserts and drinks for all attending. Make a reservation by filling out an RSVP form and taking it to the Shelby County State Bank in Strasburg. These reply forms may be found in the local Strasburg businesses and churches.

If you are 55-plus, a "seasoned" citizen, mark your calendar, use the RSVP form and enjoy the Wednesday, April 27 luncheon-fellowship with friends and neighbors.

Plans for this first noon-time event include: introduction of Eric Sutton, Village Peace Corps Fellow; hearing about the community projects, eating, visiting and playing for bingo prizes. There will be discussions on goals for the group, future projects and activities (educational, informative and just plain fun) and a May meeting date.

If you want to know more, call Chris Storm at 217-644-2608.



Spring has sprung in Strasburg and Gnomes are blossoming all around town!

**Shelby County Crime Stoppers**

Strasburg residents are encouraged to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime by overcoming the two key elements that inhibit community involvement: fear and apathy.

**Phone:** 800-528-8477 (TIPS)

**Text:** Text TIP478 and your message to 274637 (CRIMES)

**Web site:** <http://shelbycountycrimestoppers.com/>



**Locke accepted into the Air Force Academy**

Cody Locke, Strasburg, son of Scott and Natalie Locke was recently accepted to the Air Force Academy in Colorado. He received his nomination from both Senator Dick Durbin and Rep. John Shimkus.



**American Legion Auxiliary Americanism**

The winners of the Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary Unit 289's Americanism

Essay contest were honored at a dinner held March 20. Following a potluck meal, the winners read their essays and received their monetary awards from the Strasburg American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. The title of the Americanism Essay this year was "Celebrating America and Our Heritage." The first place essays were sent on for competition. The first place award in the department (state) for the Class III essay, which is 11th-12th grade, is a \$1,200 scholarship.

The American Legion Auxiliary would like to thank the teachers at Stewardson-Strasburg Junior High and High School for their support and cooperation in continuing this program. Americanism Essays have been written by students at the Stewardson-Strasburg Schools for 50-plus years. Submitted by Linda Oakley

Front row left to right: Erika Davis, 4th place 9th-10th grade; Anna Yakey, 1st Place 7th-8th grade; Ciara Jewell, 2nd place 7th-8th grade; Autumn Carson, 3rd place 7th-8th grade; and Sarah Locke, 2nd place 9th-10th grade.

Back row left to right: Mariah Tabbert, 1st place 9th-10th grade; Geozeph Ewida, 4th place 11th-12th grade; Lucas Helton, 1st place 11th-12th grade; Luke Rincker, 3rd place 11th-12th grade; Cody Locke, 2nd place 11th -12th grade; and Jason Becker, 3rd place 9th-10th grade. Not present was Tyler Henkelman, 4th place 7th-8th grade.

Recycling is cancelled until further notice. Sorry for the inconvenience.

**Community Building Facility Rental Rates**

- \*\$60 meeting, reunion or similar event
  - \*\$100 wedding or similar event-no alcohol
  - \*\$200 wedding or similar event with alcohol (\$100 refundable deposit and insurance required to hold date)
  - \*\$50 deposit for any rental (refundable if contract terms are met)
- Must be signed to hold your date.

To schedule call:  
217-644-3007  
214-690-8030

Village of Strasburg  
PO Box 385  
Strasburg, IL 62465  
info@strasburgil.com  
Village Office Hours:  
Mon.-Thurs.  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Community Building

Village Hall -  
217- 644-3007  
Water Plant -  
217- 644-3018



Beautiful blossoms . Submitted by Alicia Kessler

**Want to play tennis this summer in Strasburg?**

The Women's Tennis League will volley-it-up once again this summer starting the first Tuesday in June and going through August. Playing times are 6 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. depending on how many participants sign up! You don't have to be a tennis star! It's all about having fun and getting out there for a little exercise!

Contact Sara Hayes at skhayes12@yahoo.com or (217) 821-4316.



**Community Easter Egg Hunt**

The Annual Strasburg Community Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Liberty Unit 289 will be held Saturday, April 23. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held rain or shine at the Strasburg Community Building with registration to begin at 9:30 a.m. and the hunt to begin at 10 a.m., children ages toddlers through 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate.

**American Legion Auxiliary sponsors five delegates to Illini Girls State**

Liberty Unit 289 of the American Legion Auxiliary in Strasburg has chosen five young women to attend the 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the American Legion Auxiliary's Illini Girls State. Those attending are Tori Daniels, daughter of Todd and Tina Daniels; Sarah Luce, daughter of Mark and Melissa Luce; Jessica Telgmann, daughter of Don and Kim Telgmann; Kristina Weeden, daughter of Troy and Yong Weeden; and Shalyn Wildman, daughter of Mark and Jeanne Wildman, all of Strasburg.

Illini Girls State is a simulation patterned after the State of Illinois. Four hundred girls from various communities throughout the state will attend IGS, which is held on the campus of Eastern Illinois University from June 19-25. They will learn the way a two-party system works. At IGS, they have two fictitious political parties, the Nationalists and the Federalists. They will have caucuses, primary and general elections and participate in a party convention.

Delegates to IGS will elect city, county and state officials. They will learn the duties of various public offices - their functions, limitations and powers. Delegates will elect their legislature where members of the House and Senate will introduce, debate and pass their own bills. They will regulate their own cities, enforce their laws and prepare county projects.

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

Pictured from left: Shalyn Wildman, Jessica Telgmann, Kristina Weeden, Sarah Luce and Tori Daniels.

Submitted by Linda Oakley







### Trinity volleyball claims 2011 state title

Submitted by Coach Ronda Schlechte



Stewardson Trinity won the SIJHSAA State Championship on March 26. Trinity, the smallest school out of 70 in Class S, ended the year with a 44-2 record. The Cardinals achieved many smaller tournament titles throughout the year. We received 1st place at Christ Peoria Tournament in October, which was a 25 team tourney. Our team received the Sportsmanship Award and 5th Place at LSA (Lutheran State Association) state in November where Kendall Knop was named on the All State Team. Trinity won the SIJHSAA Regional Championship recently and then ended with the SIJHSAA State Championship—quite the success!

Our two losses of the year were probably two of our best games of the season, besides the state championship, and were to two very talented teams. Trinity Centralia (25-22,25-27,22-25) got 1st at LSA State and Mattoon (25-21,18-25,12-25) got 3rd in IESA 4A State. Initially the girls took the losses hard, but then realized they could be proud of how well they had played. We were honored when Mattoon asked us to play them before their regional. It was a huge compliment to the girls and to the school, and we went out and took the first game. The girls should be very proud. Our team is made up of three 8th graders, one 7th grader and two 6th graders with a 4th grader as a sub. We have to play teams with up to 20-plus 8th graders to pick from. The girls don't let that bother them. They know how to play hard and cover even harder. The girls begged for extra practices before big tournaments. Their determination and commitment to the team was unbelievable. They are an extraordinary group of girls and I will deeply miss my three that are graduating.

I'm also very proud of our 7th grade team. They played harder than I had ever imagined this year. There are three 4th graders that make up the team along with two 6th graders and one 7th grader. It was a very young team and I didn't expect to see much with them. They really showed me! They were 9-4. Out of our four losses, Mattoon, St. Peter and Stew-Stras, all went to three games and Effingham was just neck and neck. They have the determination to succeed. They see it in the older girls and it is contagious. They want that State Title too. I'm sad to see the season end, but we have so much to look back at and be thankful for. It was an amazing season! Thanks for all the support! It is truly appreciated!

Front row from left: Anne Jesgarz, Kendall Knop and Rachel Schultz. Middle row from left: Claire Moomaw, Olivia Gratz, Calla Roney, Amber Caudill, Becca Schlechte, Megan Schlechte, Jocelyn Schultz and Martina Gratz. Back row from left: Coach Ronda Schlechte, Assistant Coach Amy Schultz

**Great Job  
Trinity  
Volleyball!**

See another picture on page 6!







*To be named a Centennial Farm, the farm must have remained in the same family for 100 years.*

Pictured in the photo is from left to right Jason Weiss, Floyd Stremming and Phyllis Weiss.

The Facebook group "I know where Strasburg, Il is!" has more than 600 members!

### Stremming Centennial Farm

By Jane Giertz

In 1892, Frederick Stremming Sr. purchased 80 acres of farmland in Richland Township, just west of Strasburg. He sold 40 acres to someone (who later sold it or gave it to Elvis Presley). Then in 1973, Theodore Stremming, son of Frederick, purchased the 40 acres.

After the death of Theodore and his wife, the farm was passed



down to Floyd Stremming, who is now the owner of 35 acres after selling five acres to his daughter Phyllis and her husband Jim Weiss. They have built a beautiful log home on their 5 acres with a big pond. They can sit and watch the deer and other wildlife all summer and winter from their house.

It was named a Centennial farm in August of 2010, when Phyllis and Jim filled out the paperwork in Springfield. This farm has now been in the 119 years in the Stremming family.

Although Floyd doesn't farm the land now his cousin Gaylord farms for him. Gilbert

Stremming farmed for him for a while before Gaylord took on the chore. The Stremming family must be so proud of the farm. It will continue to stay in the family, as Phyllis has a son, Jason, who will someday inherit the farm. We are glad to have the Weiss family living in the Strasburg area, as they are active in the Lions Club and other activities.

Below is another picture of the Trinity SIJHSAA State Champions. Submitted by Alicia Kessler.



**Strasburg Foundation is growing roots**

*Gideon is a perfect example of why it's important to invest in our future.*

When a tree is planted it take many years to mature, but the shade or fruit is enjoyed by many in ways we may never know.

Your gift to the Strasburg Community Improvement Fund can benefit others in the same way. A tax exempt gift which is invested or "planted" now will grow with professional supervision. A portion of the growth on the investment you make can someday be spent to make improvements in our community.

Imagine-your endowment gift will never be spent! But it will forever be available to grow and help future generations.

The other side of the fund is designed to allow your tax exempt gifts to meet more immediate needs. A gift could be made for instance to help pay the balance of the Community Building remodel project which is still around \$22,000. The money for this type of gift will be passed on as designated and spent right away for the purpose it was given.

Please consider the Strasburg Community Improvement Fund for memorials, estate planning or annual gifts to help your community. Any size gift is appreciated. The donation form can be found at [www.strasburgil.com](http://www.strasburgil.com).

For questions, contact Larry Lading at 217-644-3003.



**Gideon Dollarhide's green thumb is more than just a hobby**

By Jane Giertz

*Gideon has a huge collection of unusual flowers and has a green thumb for growing all sorts of vegetables too.*

*His knowledge of plants is astonishing.*

Have you ever had questions about the flowers or plants you have in your yard or garden? If you do, then Gideon has the answer. He is so sharp when it comes to flowers and plants, even trees. He knows the Latin names of most of them. This past January Gideon participated in the Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization Horticulture contest. He took first place and then in March 2011, he participated in the National PAS Conference where he placed third in the nation as an Ornamental Horticulture Specialist and Individual Floriculture.

During the competition, he was going against 100 to 150 people and some of the things he had to answer were to identify plants by their Latin name and practical greenhouse mathematics. For example, he had to know how many plants he could grow in a certain square footage, the general knowledge and care of flowers and arrangements. He also had to give an impromptu speech on a horticulture subject.

He may show you around his yard and garden later this summer when everything is growing good.

Gideon is finishing his freshman year at Lake Land College and currently works for Barkley Farms in Paris, where he has been helping with propagating tropical plants. This is something he really enjoys.

Gideon is pictured here with his award and also helping with the Horticulture Club at LLC.



**Congratulations Gideon!**

**Long-time industrial landmark removed**

By Barb Ohnesorge

The Strasburg bulk plant fuel tanks, which were an industrial landmark at the village for decades, were removed on April 6. These tanks held diesel, gas, kerosene, heating oil and furnace oil. They have been there for years, possibly as far back as 1923. The bulk shed has also been dated to then.

The Strasburg bulk plant stopped storing fuel in 2007. An updated plant was built in Cowden and now houses the fuel that is used for customers in this area and surrounding areas.

Local sources recall Martin G. Ulmer running the bulk plant in the 1920's for Standard Oil. Clarence Buesking took on the job after him. Gary Wirth and Macari's of Shelbyville took over the operation of the plant from 1976-1985. At that time, the local operators managed the company. In 1985, Miller Oil took ownership of the bulk plant. Brad Ohnesorge has been the local dealer for this area since then.

So if you have any propane or fuel needs, give Brad a call at 217-343-7176, 217-783-6333 or 1-800-500-OILS.

Pictured are the bulk tanks and an old fuel pump





The Gnome News is Distributed by SCAN and the Village of Strasburg.



[www.strasburgil.com](http://www.strasburgil.com)

**Do you have some news or photos for the Gnome News?**

New email address:  
[gnomnews@strasburgil.com](mailto:gnomnews@strasburgil.com)  
 Email this address if you wish to sign up to receive the Gnome News. The next issue will be June 15. Submissions are due by the 10th.

**Friendly reminder from the village board**

It is unlawful for any person to burn at any time any garbage, rubber or highly odorous substances. Leaves, paper, brush or similar materials may be burned only until 3:30 p.m. Violators of this ordinance may be fined \$10 to \$500.

Village board meetings are the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month At 6:30 p.m. in the Community Building

A special thanks to Gnome News contributors:

Karen Kull  
 Lisa Shumard-Shelton

**LOOKING BACK 100 YEARS**  
**"Strasburg, Illinois" or I could say "Twin City, Illinois?"**  
*Submitted by Dorothy Stremming*

In the past 100 years, many sets of twins have been born and have lived in the Strasburg area. I am a twin and my twin sister, Doris "Reel" Stremming, were 82 on December 16. We were both born here and still live in the town of Strasburg.

There are five more living sets of twins who have lived in the Strasburg area since they were born. They are: Charles & Charlene Culver, Terry & Gary Schultz, Kurt & Kathy (Eckstein) Storm, Austin & Jordan Wittenberg, and Koda & Savannah Burry.

Following is a list of all twins that have been born in the last 100 years and lived or still live in the Strasburg area. If I have missed any, I am sorry.



- 1911 Leta & Eda Roellig
- 1912 Howard & Homer Culver
- 1921 Gene & Dean Childress
- 1924 Harold & Gerald Kearney
- 1928 Gene & Joyce Hiatt
- 1928 Dorothy (Reel) Stremming
- 1928 Doris (Reel) Stremming
- 1935 Kermit & Kerwin Stremming
- 1938 Harry & Patricia Pependieker
- 1948 Charles & Charlene Culver
- 1952 John & Jim Thomas
- 1953 Charlene Telgmann  
 Charlotte (Telgmann) Goeckner
- 1954 David & Douglas Storm
- 1955 Darrell & Dennis Wirth
- 1955 Ronald & Donald Thomas
- 1955 Gary Brehmer  
 Shary (Brehmer) Yakey
- 1959 Terry & Gary Schultz
- 1967 Kurt Storm  
 Kathy (Storm) Eckstein

- 1973 Tracie and Brandie Wittenberg
- 1981 Regina (Reel) Shafer  
 Renea (Reel) Bowers
- 1984 Kevin and Keith Rincker
- 2004 Jordan & Austin Wittenberg
- 2007 Andrew & Ellie Wittenberg
- 2007 Koda & Savannah Burry

The following were not born in Strasburg, but have made the village their home.

- 1949 Mark & Mike Antonacci—Mike has lived in Strasburg for 13 years.
- 1958 Bob & Ron Neatherly—moved to Strasburg in the 1st grade.

*To see more on this story, visit [www.strasburgil.com](http://www.strasburgil.com).*

**Jane Giertz wins Stewardson soup cook off**

It seems like when it comes to making chicken noodle soup, Jane Giertz has the recipe. She isn't sharing it though. Last year at the Stewardson Chili and Miscellaneous Soup Cook Off, Jane won Judge's Choice and People's Choice awards for her chicken noodle soup. This year, she won both People's Choice and Judge's Choice. Both years she received \$50 and spoon trophies, pictured here.



***Chef's hats off to you Jane!***

