



Gnome News

Strasburg, Illinois



"Gnome News is Good News!"

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February 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sun., Feb. 15, 2-4 p.m. Miss Shelby County reception
- Mon., Feb. 16, 6:30 p.m. Village Board meeting
- Sun., Feb. 22, 4 p.m. SCAN Kickoff Meeting
- Wed., Feb. 25, Noon, Seasoned Citizens
- Sat., Feb. 28, 6:30 a.m. Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
- Sat., Feb. 28, 2 p.m., Tea Party & Princess movie
- Thu., Mar. 5, 2:30-7 p.m. Blood Drive @ Stew-Stras cafeteria
- Fri./Sat. Mar. 13 & 14, 7 p.m. SSSH Drama Club performs
- Mon., Mar. 16, 6:30 p.m. Village Board meeting
- Sat., Mar. 21, 2 p.m. Free movie "Million Dollar Arm"
- Sun, Mar. 29, 3 p.m. SCAN Quarterly Meeting
- Tues., Mar. 31, Strasburg Foundation Grant Applications due
- Sat., Apr. 4, 10 a.m., Easter Egg Hunt



SCAN members are proud to announce the new town logo! The logo was made possible by a grant from the Strasburg Community Foundation and is part of a project to create a better brand for the Village.

Megan Nelson of Greenup designed several options based off SCAN's goals and the Marketing Committee selected the final version. Look for the new logo to be used on the Web site, in flyers, in the Gnome News and more in upcoming months!

Hogs and Hot Cakes! Strasburg Lions Club

Pancake & Whole Hog Sausage Breakfast
Saturday, Feb. 28
Strasburg Community Building
Serving 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. (or later)

Come and support the Lions as they serve the community!
Free will donation.



A "Souper" SCAN Meeting Planned

You are invited!!

What: A special planning and recruiting meeting of the Strasburg Community Action Network volunteers

When: Sunday, February 22 at 4 p.m.

Where: Strasburg Community Center

>The group's action teams will be re-established and new goals set.

>Join one of the following Action Teams: Business, Community Projects, Beautification, Housing, Marketing, Youth Activities

>New and former members are especially welcome!

A free soup and sandwich meal will be served at 5:15 p.m.

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together." ~Vista M. Kelly

Memos from Mayor Mike!



In Village news the board has been busy with the business of water. The board is currently studying three different engineering

firms' proposals for administering our \$450,000 grant for new water lines and water mains for half of the Village. The three engineering firms are from Effingham, Danville and Mattoon. The board is expected to announce their decision at the February board meeting.

The water plant has been requiring a lot of repair work lately. We had to repair a motor and pump. A big thank you goes out to Chuck Wade and Joe Oakley who are volunteering their time and labor to work on the motor and malfunctioning pump. Todd Apke has been assisting them and helping EJ Water to replace valves in our water softener at the plant. As many of you know, the softener needed repaired and the part took longer than expected to arrive. *Cont. page 2*

SCSB getting a facelift



The Shelby County State Bank—Strasburg Branch is being remodeled inside, so services have been moved to a temporary building just north of the bank. The ATM machine has not moved. Shown are Karen Wirth and Lisa Cress in their temporary facility.

The Village Corner

105 E Commercial St.
PO Box 385
Strasburg, IL 62465
Phone 217-644-3007
Email: info@strasburgil.com

The Village Board meets on the third Monday of the month. Time of the meeting is 6:30 p.m. Individuals interested in addressing the Board should notify the Clerk's Office by the Wednesday prior to the meeting date.

Cardboard recycling available in bins next to the water tower.



www.strasburgil.com

Send your news, pictures, dates and info to gnomenews@strasburgil.com

Your Village Board - Mike Antonacci, Shane Corley, Anita Renshaw, Cinda Held, Chuck Wade and Jack Clark.

Your Village Employees - Linda Oakley, Bridget Polk and Todd Apke.

Post Office hours have changed.



New hours Mon-Fri
8:00-12:00, 2:00-4:00.

Saturday hours remain as
8:30-10:15.

Three generations of Miss Strasburgs—2012 Baylee Quast, middle, 2013 Sarah Locke, right, and 2014 Olivia Telgmann. Locke and Telgmann attended the Miss Illinois County Fair Queen pageant, along with many other of Quast's supporters, to cheer her on in the competition.

Anyone interested in Miss Strasburg or Junior Miss Strasburg should contact Lisa Shelton at 217-690-6606. Those interested in Miss Shelby County should contact Sara Long at 217-821-7384.



Mike Cont from Page 1

It has been installed, and trying to regulate the dinosaur softener has been extremely challenging. We appreciate the efforts of everyone in these costly and time consuming projects. So far everything has been running smoothly while we work to prevent more serious problems.

You probably have noticed the bank's temporary building being installed behind the bank and Community Center. This will become the bank's temporary residence while they are remodeling and refurbishing their current building. The bank will be operating out of their temporary building for about three months while the current bank is being renovated.

Don't forget the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 6:30-10:30 a.m. It is always all you can eat and always for a worthy cause. The sausage will be from Dutch Valley Meats in Chesterville.

SCAN is having their Kickoff Planning Event at 4 p.m. on Feb. Come on out and get involved. Soup and sandwiches will be served and you can find out more about an organization that does a lot of good things for the community.

Don't forget to put on your calendar April 4 the American Legion Auxiliary's Annual Easter Egg Hunt. To be held in the park unless weather dictates that it be held indoors at the Strasburg Community Center. That's always a fun event for the kids and adults.

And as always...**Let's all keep STRASBURG RIGHT! IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING!**

SCAN hosts free family movie events

The Strasburg Community Action Network will be hosting two movies.

On **Saturday, February 28**, enjoy a "tea" with our local queens (Miss Strasburg Olivia Telgmann and Junior Miss Strasburg Rachel Kessler) at Grace Lutheran Church social hall. The tea party will start at 2 p.m. with a snack followed by a princess movie.



On **Saturday, March 21**, come to the "team meeting". Enjoy snacks and visiting with our local JV and Varsity basketball and baseball players starting at 2 p.m. and then we will be watching the movie, "Million Dollar Arm" at Grace Lutheran Church social hall. Anyone is welcome to attend!



Reception to honor Miss Shelby County Baylee Quast

The Village of Strasburg is honored to have Baylee Quast represent the Village as she serves this year as Miss Shelby County. In January, Baylee participated in the Miss Illinois County Fair Queen Competition in Springfield, and did an outstanding job. In her honor, a cookie/cake/punch reception will be held on **Sunday, Feb. 15** at the Strasburg Community Center from **2-4 p.m.** Baylee will have her scrapbook and state photos on display. A short program is planned at 2:30 p.m. where Baylee will present her state speech on gnomes. Please plan to attend and let Baylee know how proud we are of her and her accomplishments!





Tracking through Strasburg's history—The Final Chapter Part 5

By Brad Friese

After a year of fighting efforts of the Wabash railroad to abandon 13 miles of track between Effingham and Stewardson, the city of Effingham the township of Douglas, and others opposing the move, reached the end of their rope on Monday morning, January 25, 1937. Effingham city attorney John N. Zimmerman received from the Interstate Commerce Commission a written order giving receivers of the Wabash Railway permission to abandon the tracks "for the public good" which seemed to definitely close the issue so far as the I.C.C. was concerned. The order was signed by George B. McGinty, secretary of the commission and stated that the decision was made at a hearing on January 16, and that it was to become effective on Monday, February 15.

The only possible "out" left for the city was to file a complaint asking for an interlocutory injunction in the U.S. District Federal Court of Appeals in Chicago, Illinois, and since that would have required posting a large bond which would have been liable, should the appeal failed, it was deemed a risky proceeding. The order as it stood, permitted the Wabash to maintain a spur track from the Pennsylvania Railroads tracks to the city limit, thereby keeping grade crossings both at Fayette and Center Avenues (Jefferson Ave.). There was a strong possibility that the Wabash had definitely become a historical proposition when the U.S. Post Office Department's Mr. F. M. Jackson, chief clerk of the railway mail service was in Effingham surveying the route between Effingham and Sullivan, with the idea of opening a "Star Route" to deliver the mail.

Bids for carrying the route were accepted the same day at the local post office by Postmaster Grover C. Norris and forwarded to Washington, D.C. It was announced that the route was to be placed into operation immediately upon the abandonment of Wabash train service. Everyone was set for the morning of Saturday, February 13, the day the last Wabash train would pull out of Effingham's Wabash depot heading northbound, it would be gone nevermore to return unless last minute efforts halted the abandonment, but an order from the Eastern Missouri U.S. District Court in St. Louis delayed the abandonment of the branch line until Saturday, February 20.

On Monday, February 15 the city of Effingham received good news from the Interstate Commerce Commission, in the nature of an order of suspension of the abandonment of the Wabash railroad branch line out of Effingham, which was scheduled to take place on the 20th of February. On Tuesday March 9, the Wabash Railroad established a new schedule, including both Shumway and Effingham. The morning train was to arrive at Effingham at 11:15 a.m., on the northbound return train it was scheduled to leave Effingham at 11:45 a.m. and that was how things remained until the day before April Fool Day, Wednesday, March 31. Without notifying local authorities, the Interstate Commerce Commission affirmed its order of January 16, authorizing the Wabash Railway Co., and its receivers to abandon part of the Bement branch of the line extending from Stewardson to Effingham, Illinois. The 13 miles of track and right-of-way would be abandoned thirty days from March 23, on which date the final decision of the case was rendered.

Work of tearing up the track of the abandoned section of the Wabash branch line that was between Effingham and Stewardson was awarded to contractor John Blythe of Farina and his crew of over thirty men. The men started on the job Friday, June 25, 1937 and succeeded in removing about a half mile or more of track the first day, it was hard, dirty labor. A small Wabash steam engine pulling Wabash flatcars chugged ahead. A rail was "torn" from the ties and loaded every two minutes onto a flatcar on which they were hauled to the railroad's Decatur yard. The Wabash rails weighed about 600 pounds each and were later used for sidings elsewhere on their line. The rails had a value of between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per mile while the thousands of good ties were worth between \$1.50 and \$1.75 each.

There were about sixteen miles of track, including sidings to be removed. However, the siding at the old Wabash depot on W. Fayette Avenue was left so that oil companies who had bulk plants at the location could be serviced with car lot, tank car shipments which were switched there by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Blythe's contract called for removal of all the rail, bridge timbers and the steel bridge over the Little Wabash River, about two miles north of Effingham. He would use acetylene torches to cut the bridge apart, into small enough pieces, so his men could handle them. Blythe made a business of dismantling abandoned railway lines.

He had torn up several old lines in the section which the Interstate Commerce Commission had ruled could be abandoned, as was the case in the section of the Wabash between Effingham and Shumway.

When the summer started heating up, the men worked from 4:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon to avoid the heat of the afternoon. The workers slept in Shumway's Plumb Park and took their meals at a restaurant operated by Frank Bock, where they were allowed to run up a tab. With starting time 4:00 a.m., the dinner break was at 9:00 a.m. When the week's wages were distributed, Mr. Blythe would use the restaurant as an impromptu office; as each man came forward for his pay, the amount of his food bill was deducted from his wages on the spot.



News from Stewardson-Strasburg CUSD 5A

PTSA Events

- At the Senior Night Basketball Game, Feb. 20, the PTSA Food Stand will have Pork BBQ Sandwiches, \$3; Chips, \$.50; Nachos, \$2.50; Caramel Apples, \$1.50. Popcorn, candy and drinks will be available at the concession stand.
- Mark your calendars!! SS PTSA will be hosting DONKEYBALL on Saturday, March 28! It has been three years since the last game.
- The PTSA box that was located at the bank in Strasburg to recycle plastic bags has now been moved to the Strasburg Community Center (temporarily until bank has been remodeled). It will be available Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays during Village Office hours.

Post Prom Committee

- Post Prom Basket Binga—The Stew-Stras Post Prom Committee is hosting a Basket Binga at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Stewardson Community Building.

SSHS students plan trip to DC

Stewardson-Strasburg High School is planning its next trip to Washington DC for early June of 2016. High school students are enrolling now, and community members are also invited to travel along if interested. The trip will be four days/three nights and will include seeing: US Capitol Building, White House, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Wall, World War II Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, Holocaust Museum, National Zoo, Jefferson Memorial, FDR Memorial, MLK Memorial, Smithsonian Museums and much more. For additional information contact Sara Long at 682-3355 or email at slong@stew-stras.org.



Drama Club to present two spring shows

The SSHS Drama Club has been very busy working on two different productions which will run in March. The first play is a children's interactive show called, "Big Bad" which puts the Big Bad Wolf on trial for his crimes in the Enchanted Forest. Cast members include: Tanner Clark, Milah Chowning, Mariah Robbins, Shyann Schultz, Blake Nichols, Dylan Slifer, Kendall Knop, Kasee Garrett, Brady Hansen, Matthew Koester, Gabe Allen, Clara Kaufman, Anna Yakey, and Haley Williams.

The second play, "Seusspeare: Hamlet Hears a Who", is a Dr. Seuss-like spoof of William Shakespeare's "Hamlet". Cast members include: Marcail Clark, Luke Porter, Brayden Stremming, Nicholas Burton, Kristina Beitz, Grace Schuler, Mark Jones, Kaitlin Slifer, Kelsey Beitz, Derek Moschenrose, Alex Walden, Courtney Reel, Lexi Vonderheide, Olivia Telgmann, Teddy Kessler, Autumn Carson, Chandler Ballinger, and Tanner Clark. Both productions are under the direction of Sara Long with assistance from Rachel Sepich, student teacher, and Courtney Probst and Jill Conder, student directors.

- ◆ "Big Bad" will be performed for the Stew-Stras and Trinity grade school students at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 13. The public is also invited to this show.
- ◆ "Hamet Hears a Who" will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 13.
- ◆ Both shows will be also performed at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 14.

Luncheon held to celebrate 2,000 blankets

A soup luncheon was recently held at St. Paul's Church to celebrate 2,000 blankets made. The group started in 2005 and have given the blankets to the homeless in the area, local nursing homes, people who have had disasters and to Orphan Grain Train, a mission organization in St. Louis. The ones sent to St. Louis have been given to the homeless, the cold, and people in foreign countries.

The group uses material scraps, sheets, old blankets, and mattress pads to create the blankets. Much of the material has been donated by church and community members.

The group meets on the second and fourth Thursday mornings from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to donate materials and/or come to help. You do not have to know how to sew to help. St. Paul's can also use children's and men's clothes to give to needy people. Just leave any donations in the school hallway by the gym.

Upcoming Lenten Activities for the United Methodist Church

Wed., Feb. 18, 7 a.m. at Stewardson, followed by breakfast,
 Wed., Feb. 18, 7 p.m. at Gaskill Chapel, followed by finger foods
 Sun., Feb. 22, Cluster Lenten Service 5 p.m. at Shelbyville First UMC. Bring
 canned fruit for the food pantry. Mitch Ramey preaching.
 Sun., Mar 1, Cluster Lenten Service 5 p.m. at Windsor. Linda Trent will preach.
 Sun., Mar. 8, Cluster Lenten Service 5 p.m. at Wesley Chapel. Kathy Lewis
 preaching.
 Sun., Mar. 15, Cluster Lenten Service 5 p.m. at Mode. Bring finger foods. Phil
 Glick preaching.
 Sun., Mar. 22, Cluster Lenten Service 5 p.m. at Zion Hill. Dan Seibert preaching
 and Jane Giertz singing.
 Thur., Apr. 2, Parish Maundy Thursday Service 7 p.m. at Strasburg.
 Fri., Apr. 3, Parish Good Friday Service 7 p.m. at Washington.
 Sun., Apr. 5, Parish Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m. at Stewardson Comm. Bldg.

Strasburg Community Foundation

Grant Process

March 31 deadline



The Strasburg Community Foundation Board of Directors would like to congratulate the Strasburg Village Board/ Lions Club, Strasburg American Legion Auxiliary and SCAN Marketing as the first recipients of the Strasburg Community Foundation Grants.

These organizations submitted grant applications and were awarded funding for projects in 2014. Projects included installation of bird spikes at the park pavilion, installation of ADA compliant outer bathroom doors at the Strasburg Community Center and an update to the Strasburg promotional website as well as the town logo.

With the New Year, the Foundation Board would like to remind the community of the upcoming annual grant opportunity. Grant applications will be accepted by the Foundation Board of Directors from January 1 – March 31, 2015. Projects will be funded for one year and prior grant recipients may re-apply.

The Board will make annual grants to groups or individuals who use their projects to enhance the quality of life for citizens of the community. 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.

If you wish to be considered for funding or if you have any questions, please contact a Strasburg Community Foundation Board member. Members include Lisa Rincker, Chair, Larry Giertz, Secretary, Ramona Radloff, Board Member, Tim Lenz, Board Member, John Helton, Board Member and Gary Kull, SCAN President.

It is also time to consider making a gift to the Strasburg Community Foundation! Your generous gifts have made possible the awarding of grants this past year to worthy projects. Forms for giving are available in the village office. Your tax-exempt gift given to the Strasburg Community Foundation through the East Central Illinois Community Foundation will enable to continue the excellent improvements made possible this year and build a legacy for years to come.

Seasoned Citizens Meet

By Jane Giertz

On January 28, once again 28 Seasoned Citizens met at the Strasburg Community Center for a noon meal of soup, sandwiches, salad and desserts. Guests were Marie Tate and Carley Wetherell. To start the meeting, we said the Pledge to the flag, then Pastor LeRoy Tucker from the Baptist church said grace for the meal.

Following the meal we have a time called “Here’s Linda” where Village clerk Linda Oakley gives us an update on things going on in the ‘burg. She explained that the bank is getting remodeled and we will have a temporary one until the remodeling is finished. She said the container for plastic bag recycling is now located in the Community Center during the construction period. Gnome News will be out around Feb. 15. There is a group working on a grant application for work on the water lines. She announced the reception for Baylee Quast, Miss Shelby County Fair Queen. This will be held in the Center on February 15, from 2-4 p.m. Everyone come and support Baylee.

Feb. 14 is Eagle Day at the Shelbyville visitors Center. There will be a program on Bald Eagles and other Birds. There will be two shows, the first at 11 a.m. and the last one at 1 p.m.

Plans are being made for the entire year for this group of Seasoned Citizens, and some trips are being planned.

The special guest speaker for this month was Carla Kull Thomas from Charleston, who spoke about falls and had some demonstrations on how to get up from a fall and some exercises seniors can do to help strengthen their legs and keep their balance. The door prize was won by Nancy Shiels, and it was a gnome couple sitting in a rocking chair.

**Seasoned Citizens Next Meeting
 Wednesday, February 25, Noon
 Pasta Potluck Meal
 Everyone 55 or over is encouraged to attend
 We will be playing Bingo for prizes**



Congratulations to the 2014 Christmas Lighting Winners!

- 1st place Les & Tammy Sentel
- 2nd place Kevin & Lori Mathis
- 3rd place Chris & Sue Bowers

Lake Land College will host the Eastern Illinois Foodbank Foodmobile on Sat., Feb. 21 from 10 a.m. until noon.

West Bldg, Rm 123,
5001 Lake Land Blvd., Mattoon, IL

Foodmobile is a mobile food pantry that expands access to individuals and families that could benefit from its services. Foodmobile is open to all Lake Land students, staff and community members. Individuals are not required to show proof of income, but must sign a self-attest statement that they meet income guidelines.

To view the guidelines and more information, visit www.eifoodbank.org or call (217) 328-3663.

We Remember...

Lauretta C. Kull (February 14, 1921 - December 28, 2014)

Lauretta was born in Altamont, IL, and graduated from Altamont High School in the Class of 1938. Lauretta was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Grace Ladies Aid both in Strasburg, IL. She was married to Carl C. Kull for nearly 67 years and enjoyed gardening, quilting and singing in the choir.

She is survived by her sons, Roger Kull (Marilyn) and Gary Kull (Karen) of Strasburg, IL, and John Kull (Sharon) of Poway, CA and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Also remembering former Strasburg residents

Kenneth Culver, 77, of Effingham. Cousin to Sharon Beldon, Strasburg.

Mervin Ruff, 89, of Altamont. Brother to Don Ruff and Melba Storm, Strasburg.

Strasburg Fire Department News

The Strasburg Fire Protection District would like to wish everyone a "Happy 2015", even though it's February already. We do hope it's a safe and prosperous year for everyone.

Please keep fire safety in mind when heating your home in the winter months. December, January and February are the leading months for home heating fires. Overall, heating equipment is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires and home fire deaths. Make sure to give space heaters space and keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from portable heaters.

We held our annual Appreciation Dinner, on Sunday, the 18th of January. This is a time when the department, trustees, and their families are able to come together and recognize the firefighters and their achievements throughout the previous year.

In 2014, the department answered 18 calls. We are fortunate that none of these calls resulted in any serious injuries. We participated in many training events throughout the year. We begin the year with our annual Farm Safety Breakfast, a free event, opened to the public. This event covers the threats and hazards involved with farming today, especially the handling and transporting of Anhydrous Ammonia. Our volunteers also participated in a weather spotter class, a Haz-mat Awareness class, and Grain Bin Rescue training. Classes and training provide us with the knowledge we need to better serve our community. We were fortunate in 2014, to have a live training with a house burn. This training not only provided a "hands on" experience, but also gave valuable insight to our strengths and weaknesses in this type of situation.

We welcomed two new volunteer firefighters and we also honored two other firefighters as our "2014 Firefighters of the Year". Jordan Jones and Jesse Probst were presented with certificates and personalized helmets. Over the last year, Jones and Probst were able to overcome personal obstacles and demonstrate dedication and leadership. We are very proud of them!

The Strasburg Fire Protection District would like to make known, if you haven't already heard, our chief, Troy Agney has accepted the position to serve as Chief of the Stewardson Fire AND Ambulance Protection District. In accepting this position, Chief Agney, would like to remind everybody that we all work together to better serve our communities.

The Strasburg Fire Protection District are all VOLUNTEERS. We thank each and every one of them! We are always interested in new members. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month and have trainings on the second Saturday of every month. The Strasburg Fire Protection District members are dedicated individuals that not only want to be a part of the community, but genuinely care about your safety and property. Anyone interested in joining or would like more information on joining can contact the Fire Chief, Troy Agney, at 217-343-0773 or by email at tkagney@consolidated.net, or any other volunteer.



L-R: Fire Chief Troy Agney, Brad Friese, John Beldon, Jesse Probst, Charlie Culver, Jordon Jones

Farm Safety Breakfast

**Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the Stewardson Community Building
Breakfast begins at 6:30 a.m., Meeting will begin at 8 a.m.**

This free program will cover the threats and hazards involved with farming today, especially the handling and transporting of Anhydrous Ammonia. Be prepared in 2015! Area Farmers & Emergency Personnel are encouraged to attend. This is a free Community Service sponsored by the Strasburg & Stewardson Fire Protection Districts and South Central FS.

Any questions or to RSVP, please call or txt Troy Agney, SSFPD Chief at 217-343-0773.

Strasburg Lions sponsor LEO Club



“What is a LEO Club?”

In 1957 the Glenside Lions Club decided that their club should begin a youth group to promote the ideals of Lions. “Lions” stands for “Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nations Safety”. The term LEO stands for “Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity.” Today there are more than 5,700 LEO clubs in 140 different nations. The local LEO club is only the second Alpha LEO Club in our district, District 1-L.

The objective of a LEO Club is;

“to provide youth with an opportunity for development and contribution, both individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local, national and international community.”

The motto of a LEO Club is: “Leadership – Experience – Opportunity”

- Leadership: To acquire skills as leaders by running meetings, developing projects and working with peers.
- Experience: To learn how teamwork and cooperation can accomplish goals and change their community.
- Opportunity: To develop positive character traits that will lead them throughout their lives.

The local Strasburg Lion’s LEO Club will be officially chartered on Feb. 26, 2015, with an induction ceremony held at the Community Center in Strasburg. The club will charter 15 members, all students from Stew-Stras High School. It is a student run club with local Lions as mentors. Congratulation and good luck to the Charter Members of the Strasburg Lions’ LEO Club.

Strasburg Lions host another successful Trivia night!



Matt Giertz promoted

Matt Giertz was promoted to the rank of LTC (Lieutenant Colonel) in the Army on 1 January 2015. The ceremony was held on 15 January in the III Corps Headquarters on Fort Hood. His wife (Liz), sons (Zachary and Nathaniel), mother (Holly Giertz), his mother-in-law (Joan Wilson) and five of his six brothers and sisters (Tonya Dunn, Amy Bye, Mark Giertz, Joni Giertz and Ben Giertz) attended the ceremony, as well as many of the Officers and Soldiers with whom he currently works in the Logistics and Plans sections.

His current job requires him to develop and publish operations plans in support of four Divisions across the Army. Part of that includes coordinating and synchronizing how equipment and supplies and will be distributed and utilized. He tracks and reports the status of logistics operations and helps resolve any issues or shortfalls that units may have regarding things such as maintenance support/repair parts, transportation, subsistence, fuel, ammunition and medical supplies. He is also involved in planning training exercises.

Following the ceremony, he had the opportunity to speak with and receive a coin from (3-star Lieutenant General) LTG Perna, the Department of the Army G4, for whom he worked during his second deployment to Iraq. Matt feels very blessed and humbled by this promotion and wishes to thank his family and friends who have supported him in his career.



Thunderstruck Dodgeball Tourney

Registration deadline Feb 27



The Stew-Stras Classes of 2016 and 2018 will host a double elimination tournament on Saturday, March 7.

Tournament will begin at 10 a.m. at the school. Divisions are grades 7-12 and adult.

Teams may have 6-10 members. Registration fee of \$10 per person is due Feb. 27. Registration forms are available at the school. Cash prizes will be awarded to the champions.

Thank you to our Gnome News sponsors!
To be a sponsor, contact gnomenews@strasburgil.com.



Happy Valentine's Day Strasburg



We love this village and the people in it!

Larry and Jane Giertz

SCAN
Flower Sale

Order Blanks Available the
Week of March 22, 2015

Located at
the Bank,
Post Office,
Short Stop,
SCAN Members.

Funds raised used for community projects.

STRASBURG
Right!  IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING

Strasburg Lions Club

3rd Annual Strasburg
StrongMan/Woman
Contest

Sunday, July 12, 2015

Time: Events starts at 12 pm (NOON).
Registration & weigh ins required
10:00 am–11:15 am. *Rain or Shine*

For more info: Brian Shelton
217-690-6677 – call or text. You may
also email Boilerman1977@yahoo.com

Entry form is posted on
www.strasburgil.com, click on news.

Pre-Registration: \$30 (Early Birds need
to be registered by May 1st) May to June
10th is \$45 and anyone after June 10th
is \$60. All registrations received by June
10th will receive an event T-Shirt.