

## Cold & Windy Weather Doesn't Stop Easter Bunny From Coming To Toluca On April 4th

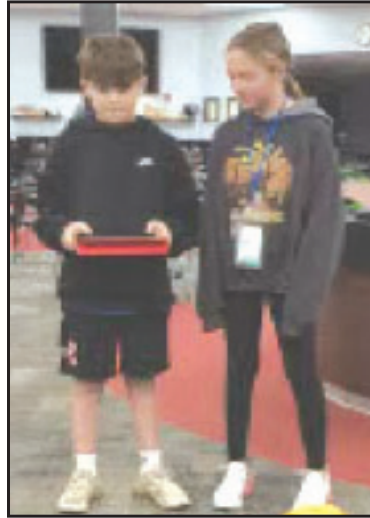
The cold and wind did not keep the Easter Bunny from coming to Toluca on Saturday, April 4. Fieldcrest Intermediate School opened up its doors so the Easter Egg Hunt could go on as planned. Members of the Rotary Club of Toluca helped hide the eggs in the gyms and music room. Goldwater

Care provided Easter baskets that were given to the lucky winners of the drawings. It was a fun way to start the Easter weekend.

A big thank you to all who made this event possible and to everyone who took time to come to the event.



## Toluca Library Launches New Youth Drone Program



The Toluca Public Library District is inviting local students, ages 10-18, to explore new possibilities through an innovative STEM program designed to inspire creativity, teamwork, and technological skills. The program, Taking Flight, Reaching New Heights, offers hands-on experiences where children can learn to fly, code, and create using small drones. This program is made possible through Project Next Generation Grant awarded to the Toluca Public Library from the Illinois State Library.

Set to begin on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, the program will be held at the library, located at 102 N. Main Street in Toluca. Sessions are split to accommodate different groups: homeschool students will meet from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., while public school students can attend from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Participants will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month to complete an assigned mission. There will be additional times on Fridays and Saturdays when children can come in to work with and experience STEM projects of various types.

The program provides a high-energy, team-oriented environment where participants are introduced to real-world STEM concepts through engaging activities. Students will learn how to pilot drones, program them for autonomous flight, and

even collaborate to create their own aerial drone movies.

Organizers emphasize that drones are becoming an increasingly important part of industries, such as agriculture, engineering, and delivery services. By participating, students gain early exposure to skills that may open doors to future career opportunities in technology.

Parents are encouraged to attend the beginning of the first session to complete required pa-

perwork and learn more about program expectations.

Due to limited space, registration is required. Families interested in enrolling can call 815-452-2211 or email [tolucapubliclibrary61369@gmail.com](mailto:tolucapubliclibrary61369@gmail.com) or visit the Toluca Public Library front desk to reserve a spot.

With its blend of education and excitement, Taking Flight, Reaching New Heights aims to empower learners to discover their potential and soar into the future.

## Toluca Coal Mine Assoc. Calls On Community For Help At The Annual Spring Clean-Up Days

The Toluca Coal Mine Association is calling on community members to lend a hand as they prepare for their Annual Spring Clean-Up Days at the Jumbo and Coal Mine Park.

Clean-up efforts are scheduled for Wednesday, April 8 at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 18 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers of all ages are encouraged to participate in the effort to maintain and improve one of Toluca's most recognizable landmarks.

Association members emphasize that maintaining the Jumbo and surrounding park is a community-wide effort. "The Coal Mine Association cannot do all the work themselves," organizers noted. "The Jumbo and Coal Mine Park belong to the entire community."

Projects planned for the clean-up days include tending to the entrance garden, maintaining trails, trimming trees, smoothing the

trench area, planting seeds in the wildflower pollinator meadow and Illinois native prairie, picking up trash along the entrance road and throughout the park, and completing general repairs. If volunteer turnout allows, mulching around trees will also be completed to enhance the park's landscaping.

Often recognized as more than just a historical site, the Jumbo stands as a lasting symbol of Toluca's heritage and community pride.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring tools such as clippers, hoes, shovels, and rakes, as well as friends and family members interested in contributing to the effort.

For more information, contact Dennis Dahlbach at 815-866-2850 or reach out to Barb Dahlbach on Facebook.

Community members are invited to take part and help ensure the Jumbo and Coal Mine Park remain a point of pride for years to come.

## Alpha Insurance Services, Inc. Celebrates 75 Years With Auto Owners

Auto-Owners Insurance and Alpha Insurance Services Inc., recently celebrated the 75th anniversary of their partnership. The agency has represented Auto-Owners in Washburn, IL for a wide range of personal and commercial insurance products as well as life, annuity, and disability since 1951.

Auto-Owners Insurance is a Fortune 500 company and is the 14th largest property & casualty insurance company in the nation, based on written premium. Auto-Owners Insurance is one of several insurance carrier groups in the U.S. to re-

ceive the highest rating possible, A+ Superior, by A.M. Best, which is a nationally recognized rating agency for insurance companies.

Auto-Owners is represented by more than 44,000 licensed agents in its 26 operating states. The company provides auto, home, business and life insurance to more than 2.7 million policyholders.

Alpha Insurance Services Inc., is located at 900 N Francis St., Washburn, IL 61570. They may be reached by phone at (309) 248-7112 or found on the web at [www.alphainsurance.us](http://www.alphainsurance.us)

## Marshall County Court News

### CIVIL JUDGMENTS

Cheryl Budd (D). NCB Management Services Inc. (P). 3/31/26 judgment (P) \$19,447.11

Erica Swanson (D). LVNV Funding LLC (P). 3/31/26 judgment (P), \$4,526.75

### FINES LEVIED

Michael P. Debates 10/2/25 by Henry "expiration of registration" 3/31/26 fine \$326.

Austin C. Gobert 1/8/26 by County Traffic "drv'r fail give notice of crash" 3/31/26 fine \$302.

Syed A. Abbas 1/1/26 by County Traffic "driving 21-25 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$251.

Michael J. Burke 1/5/26 by County Traffic "no valid regi/1st and 2nd" 3/31/26 fine \$251.

Gavyn A. Nave 1/9/26 by County Traffic "fail to reduce speed" 3/31/26 fine \$251.

Mayson W. Robbins 1/30/26 by County Traffic "driving 21-25 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$251.

Omar Garza 1/29/26 by County Traffic "driving 21-25 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$164.

Anil K. Ankala 2/21/26 by County Traffic "driving 15-20 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$375, 90 days supervision.

Jaime R. Miller 3/4/26 by Henry "driving 21-25 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$251.

Travis L. Barnes 3/7/26 by County Traffic "driving 15-20 mph above limit" 3/31/26 fine \$375, 90 days supervision.

James M. Jordan 3/30/26 by County Traffic "driving 21-25 mph above limit" 4/1/26 fine \$164.

James Edward Palmiter 3/31/26 by County Traffic "disregard stop sign" 4/1/26 fine \$164.

### LAND TRANSFERS

Grantor: Cheryl L. Meismer. William E. Meismer. Grantee: Cheryl L. Meismer Tr., William E. Meismer Tr. Section 26, Township 30N, Range 2W, Gov. Lot: -Sw-Sw, Notes Expt. Section 26, 30N, 2W, -Nw-Sw, Notes Expt. Section 26, 30N, 2W, Govt Lot: --Nw, Section 26, 30N, 2W, Govt Lot: --Sw, Notes N 1/2. Deed Trust.

Grantor: Brent Hankins. Grantee: Michael J. Frawley. Hoyts Add to Henry, Lot 44. Warranty Deed.

Grantor: Homero L. Aldana. Grantee: Adan Aldana. Santa Fe the 1st Add, Block 79, Lot 9. Lot 10, Notes N 80'3". Lot 11, Notes N 80'3". Lot 12, Notes N 80'3". Quit Claim Deed.

Grantor: Renate Newton. Grantee: Renate Newton Tr. Section 25, Township 29N, Range 3W, Govt Lot -SE-NE, Quit Claim Deed.

Grantor: Thomas L. Houck, Arlene F. Koch. Grantee: Hunter Diebel, Laini Schaefer. Lake Wildwood

Development, Lot 467. Warranty Deed.

Grantor: Christopher Salisbury. Grantee: Daniel J. Graff, Diana C. Graff. Lake Wildwood Development Lot 519, Warranty Deed.

Grantor: Debra R. Farley. Grantee: Tracy Alen Farley Jr. Assessor's Add to Sparland Lot 12. Lot 11, Notes Pt, Warranty Deed.

Grantor: Judicial Sales Corp. Grantee: Pennymac Loan Services LLC. Allen Sub No. 2 Lot 22, Sheriff Deed.

Grantor: Travis J. Gauwitz. Grantee: Jessica M. Gauwitz, Travis J. Gauwitz. Oakridge Estates Subdivision Lot 4, Notes 4A, West Pt. Quit Claim Deed.

Grantor: David Inman. Grantee: Steven Crisp. Section 24, Township 30N, Range 3W, Govt Lot --NW, Notes Pt N 1/2, Subj to ease. Executors Deed.

Grantor: Marshall Co. As Tr. Grantee: Jennifer Forristall, Leslie Johnston, Marilyn Johnston. Lake Wildwood Development Lot 892, Quit Claim Deed.

Grantor: Amanda K. Harrinton. Grantee: Darlene Coleman, Sean Coleman. Lake Wildwood Development Lot 1200, Lot 1201, Lot 1202. Warranty Deed.

Grantor: David C. Brown, Teresa E. Brown. Grantee: David C. Brown, Teresa E. Brown. Section

## Official Vote Of The 2026 Illinois General Primary Election

Marshall County Clerk Jill Kenyon released the official results of the March 17th General Primary Election.

Turnout was light in Marshall County as just 1,704 of the 8,375 registered voters turned out to cast their vote.

In Marshall County, Whitefield township saw over a third (33.49%) of their voters go to the polls followed by Hopewell township at 25.18%. On the other end of the spectrum, Evans Township had the worst turnout with just 13.24% of the voters turn out followed by Lacon #2 precinct with just a 18.73% turnout.

Following is the official vote. The official vote included all state-wide races, but what follows here is just the official vote for offices within Marshall County.

**DEMOCRATIC MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT #3**  
Jeff A. Schmitt..... 162

**RICHLAND COMMITTEE PERSON**  
Donna Augustyn Sloan.....21

**REPUBLICAN MARSHALL COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER**  
Jill M. Kenyon.....1,135

**MARSHALL COUNTY TREASURER**  
Cynthia A. Nighsonger..... 1,118

**MARSHALL COUNTY SHERIFF**  
Wayne Strawn II.....1,145

**MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD (1st District) (2 Elected)**  
Troy Parlier..... 253  
William Maupin.....176  
David Minnick.....162  
Margaret A. Toniny.....107

**MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD (2nd District) (2 Elected)**  
William Fecht.....313  
Jamie D. Durham..... 302

**MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD (3rd District) (2 Elected)**

Justin Meierkord..... 279  
Bruce Dudley..... 160  
Malachi Cox.....98  
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