



Southern Champaign County TODAY

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Vol. 56 No. 25

Better Newspapers Inc.

July 1, 2026



Menards Food Drive

June 1 until July 31, 2026. Your local Menards home improvement store is now serving as a drop site for a local food pantry during the months of June & July, 2026. We're excited to participate in this wonderful opportunity while lending a helping hand to the community during the next three months.

Menards offers a wide variety of non-perishable food items that can be donated to the food pantries, from boxes of cereal to cans of soup that can be found in our grocery department for immediate donation. There is a large collection box near the exit doors to place donations.

Please contact Menards Spokesperson, Jeff Abbott, at jabbott@menard-inc.com or 715-864-2658 for more information.

Fun Day Committee Meeting

Third Thursday of every month Tolono Fun Day Committee Meeting 6:30 at the Police Station.

Tolono Food Pantries

Every Monday from 5-6:30 p.m. and Friday 9-10:30 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Charities, Tolono. Free Food Pantry located at the Parish providing fresh produce, meat and pantry items. Serving all of Champaign County.

Every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Giving Place is open in Tolono to help families in need of food items.

Caregivers group

If you are caring for a loved one (spouse, parent, child with a disability, etc.) there is a caregivers group where people share experiences, suggestions, and resources. They meet at the Zest for Life Center in Villa Grove, 610 East Harrison at 1:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. They are a free and informal group. If you have questions, text or leave a message at 217-369-7071.

'A real farm crisis': Illinois farm bankruptcies rise for 3rd straight year

Rising land rent, an unstable export market and record farm debt are blamed

SPRINGFIELD — With the growing season well underway in Illinois, farmers once again are struggling to turn an abundant harvest into survival.

In 2025, family farm bankruptcies surged 46% nationwide — reaching 315 filings and marking the third consecutive year of increases. The Midwest recorded 121 filings in 2025 — up 70% from the prior year.

The trend has only accelerated. In April alone this year, 62 Chapter 12 farm bankruptcies were filed nationwide — a 130% jump from the prior year and the highest monthly total since February 2020. The USDA projects total farm debt will rise 5.2% to

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Tolono Fun Days weekend a success



Rocket Nation

By Diane Ducey



AMERICA'S 250 theme was well represented during the Tolono Fun Days weekend. With Bill and Sue McLane dressed as George and Martha Washington riding in the lead car, the Tolono Historical Society and Veterans Museum, had members honored as Grand Marshals, during the 11am parade Saturday, June 26th. A plaque was given to Marcia Davis (president of the group) before the fireworks with the Mayor of Tolono, Terrence Stuber, also on stage with patriotic remarks. Those who would like to bring bells to the museum are invited to "let freedom ring" at 1pm on the 4th of July!



THE BAND "We've Got It Covered" had their lead singer Keenan sing the Star Spangled Banner to a crowd of thousands in West Side Park with local scouts retiring the colors just before the fireworks show.



Numerous sponsors were thanked at West Side Park on Fun Day weekend, especially for the new attractions for kids, like a "foam party" from the Village of Tolono and the Main Stage with Geoff Summerville productions leading the way for the bands sound and lights.

Just a Reminder...

Our New Deadline Is Approaching!

Ads, Legals, Submitted Photos and Editorial Deadlines will be noon Friday starting our next edition.

