

County seeks Enel fine

Officials discuss fine in connection with June 29 tornado

Gordon Woods
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CLINTON — Members of the county board’s land use committee want to fine Enel Green Energy after they say operators of the Alta Farms II wind facility failed to curtail wind turbines during a June 29 tornado warning. Curtailment is the process of slowing the rotation of turbine blades or stopping them during a severe weather warning. It is feared the turbines’ rotation could interfere with Doppler radar used to help spot possible tornado activity.

Residents in the area of the wind towers confirmed to committee members the turbines continued to rotate during the severe thunderstorm warning and the tornado warning that followed.

The National Weather Service did issue a tornado warning in sufficient time for residents to take shelter.

Resident Betsy Shifflet told the committee the NWS determined the county had an EF-1 level tornado that traveled about 13 miles from Logan County across the Waynesville and Wapella areas in DeWitt County.

See **COUNTY** / A3



Gordon Woods / Journal

Fourth on the square

A patriotic bicycle contest and race around Mr. Lincoln’s Square was one of the activities sponsored by the Clinton American Legion on July 4. **See more photos on page A7.**

City attorney clarifies misunderstanding about pay vote

Resident questions further about city fire training facility

Gordon Woods
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CLINTON — Clinton city attorney John Hoblit clarified some information recently about a council vote on non-union wage increases after a resident questioned the vote.

Seth Redington, a frequent critic of city practices, questioned the ethics of commissioner Dan Ballenger’s vote on the pay increases. They sparred briefly over the

issue, but both turned out to be operating under misunderstandings about what took place.

“When that vote happened, a commissioner that’s over the health and safety department ...voted on that contract that included a family member,” Redington said. “I would think that would be conflict of interest as well.”

“Let me clear this up right here,” Ballenger responded. “He is not a

union member and has no part in the contract. End of story. You’re wrong; move on.”

Redington said his issue was not whether the vote was on union or non-union employees.

“Assistant chief wasn’t included on that, too,” Redington asked.

“Not on that contract; he was not,” Ballenger said. “He was not part of the union contract negotiation.”

“I’m not talking about union,” Redington said.

“You guys voted on non-union last time, didn’t you?”

“No,” Ballenger said.

In June, the council voted down a list of proposed wage and salary increases for city non-union employees. The vote followed complaints from union employees that the city was not responsive in its contract talks with workers.

Hoblit interjected the board’s vote in June was, in fact, to deny wage and salary increase proposals for the city’s non-union employees. Hoblit also said the vote

did not include some fire department personnel.

“So, it didn’t include assistant chief and chief,” Redington asked.

“No,” answered Hoblit.

“Then, I stand corrected,” Redington said.

On another topic, Redington said, according to state statute, residents living in the vicinity of the city’s fire training facility should have been notified when a new facility was erected on a different part of the site.

See **CITY** / A3



Gordon Woods / Journal

Rabbits on parade

4-H members who raise rabbits have their bunnies judged during the DeWitt County 4-H Fair Saturday. **More photos on page B1.**

IDOT unveils 6-year, \$41 billion plan for infrastructure projects

Largest multi-year plan in state history to affect all 102 counties

Peter Hancock
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Transportation unveiled a plan on Friday for spending nearly \$41 billion in federal, state and local funds over the next six years to repair and upgrade roads, bridges, airports, rail lines and other infrastructure throughout the state.

The latest version of the plan, which IDOT updates annually, is the largest multiyear plan in state history. It’s

driven by the state’s 2019 Rebuild Illinois capital infrastructure program. The initial six-year Rebuild Illinois plan included \$33.2 billion for transportation, funded largely by annualized increases to the state’s motor fuel tax and increases to driving-related licensing fees that took effect in 2020.

“Over the next six years, we’re investing over \$40 billion to improve all modes of transportation across our great state,” Gov. JB Pritzker said at a news conference in

Springfield. “And that means better roads and bridges, modernized transit and aviation, and expanded and faster passenger rail service. It even extends to improved river ports, new sewers and water infrastructure and a huge upgrade to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.”

More than half of the plan, \$27 billion, will go toward road and bridge projects, including \$4.6 billion in the current fiscal year.

See **PROJECTS** / A4

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See your weather forecast for the week ahead on page A8

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Learn about air fryers at Extension class

CLINTON — Air fryers have become a popular kitchen countertop appliance because they are easy to use, energy-efficient, cook a variety of foods, and clean up easily. If your air fryer sits unused or you are considering purchasing one, plan to attend University of Illinois Extension’s air fryer class at Vespasian Warner Public Library. Hot and Fast: Cooking with an Air Fryer will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on August 10 at Vespasian Warner Public Library, 310 N. Quincy St., in Clinton. This class is free; kids ages seven and up may attend with an adult. Participants will enjoy recipe demonstrations and food samples.

“The world of countertop appliances, including air fryers, is expanding,” says Caitlin Mellendorf, nutrition and wellness educator. “This class will give attendees an opportunity to see an air fryer in action and get ideas for how to incorporate air frying into home cooking.”

Register for this class by calling the library at 217-935-5174. The deadline to register is August 7. For more information, please contact Caitlin Mellendorf at 217-877-6042.

Law Enforcement

Clinton Police Department

Citations 07/08/23
Cody W. Mattingly 27, Bloomington Operating Motor Vehicle when registration suspended for no insurance, No Valid registration, and Operating Uninsured motor vehicle. Notice to Appear issued.

Camdon G. Combs 19, Carlinville Driving while License Suspended. Notice to Appear issued.

On 07/08/23 Clinton Police arrested Justess L. Sparks 20, Metamora for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol with a B.A.C. greater than .08, and No Valid Drivers License. Sparks was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

On 07/09/23 Clinton Police arrested Crystal M. Fleenor 39, Clinton on a McLean County Warrant. Fleenor was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

All suspects are presumed innocent until found guilty in a court of law.



Marc Rogers / Journal

Weiss awarded AMVETS scholarship

The Darwin Volker Post #14 of the AMVETS, Clinton, awarded five scholarships this year. Kolby Weiss, above, was unable to be present for the group photo but recently was able to pose for a photo with AMVETS member Jessie Owens, left, and Clinton AMVETS Commander Ed Beck before she began her summer pole vault training in Utah.

County / from page A1

Shifflet said multiple residents, including her, shot video of the turbines rotating during the warning. She urged the county to fine Enel under its agreement with the county. A fine for a single incident is \$5,000.

“I have video taken 20 minutes after all this happened, and the turbines are still turning,” Shifflet said. “They were never curtailed at all.”

Committee member Patrick Ryan said he felt a \$5,000 fine was not a sufficient motivator for Enel to take the situation seriously.

“I wish we had something in place where

they had to forfeit all the earnings they made during the period when they should have been curtailed,” Ryan said.

“I wanted to do \$5,000 per turbine that was turning,” said committee member Melonie Tilley. “Five thousand dollars is nothing to them.”

Committee member Joe Witte said whatever agreement Enel had with the NWS was not relevant to Enel’s agreement with the county to curtail during weather warnings. Witte said Enel’s agreement with the county was to curtail during severe weather warnings, “regardless of what’s in their agreement

with the National Weather Service.”

County zoning administrator Dee Rentmeister said a representative of the NWS told her the agency was not aware it “could issue them a curtailment at this time.” She said the DeWitt County Emergency Management Agency also did not receive notice from the NWS of the time and date it notified Enel of the warning.

Rentmeister told Alta Farms operators they would need to provide the county with documentation showing they curtailed turbines during the thunderstorm

and tornado warnings.

“He called me back within 30-40 minutes and said, ‘We did not curtail’,” she said. “He didn’t try to sugarcoat it. He said, ‘We did not receive a notice from the National Weather Service’.”

“Let’s fine them, if we’re going to fine them,” Tilley said. “They’re either going to pay it or they’re going to fight it. But, let’s try to figure out a way that’s going to make it safer.”

Tilley said the county should meet with Enel representatives to find out how to prevent a future failure in the protocol.

City from page A1

Commissioner John Wise questioned why notifications were necessary when the city moved the facility from one location to another location on the same site.

“It was already established, already there,” Wise said. “Nobody ever said a word. We moved it to a better facility on the same property farther away from your house.”

Wise said the city followed rules from the state fire marshal, as was discussed at an earlier council meeting.

Redington said residents near the facility felt it would rarely be used because the soft soil made it an unsuitable site for heavy fire trucks.

Girls track & field athletes honored

CLINTON — The Champaign News-Gazette released the names of its All-Area Girls Track & Field Team members.

Although there were no Lady Maroons on the first team, there were several making other rankings. Alayna Earle made the All-Area Second Team in throws (shot put and discus), while MaKayla Koeppel and Lexi Lord each made the All-Area Honorable Mention team in the middle and long distance running category.

The winners were chosen from competitors among all the schools in the East Central part of Illinois.

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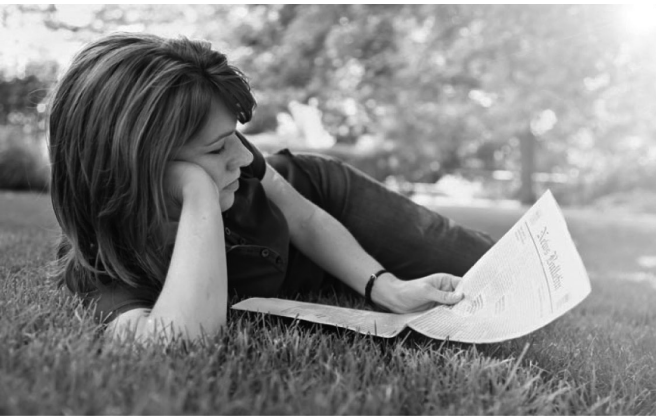
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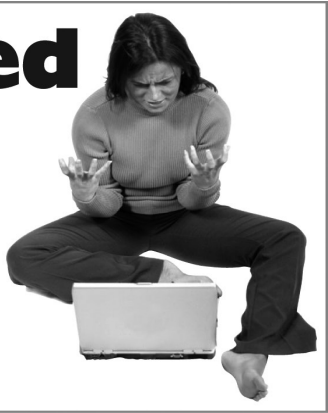
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NEWS

Projects / from page A1

That will fund repair and reconstruction of 2,866 miles of roadway and 9.8 million square feet of bridge deck on the state highway system, along with another 738 miles of roadway and 1.1 million square feet of bridge deck in systems maintained by local governments.

The project list includes \$611.5 million for reconstruction and improvements to portions of Interstate 90 in Cook County that will include improving safety and access to O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. The plan also calls for spending \$135.1 million to expand portions of U.S. Highway 24 to four lanes in Peoria and Fulton counties; \$156 million to replace a bridge over the Mississippi River in Quincy; and \$116 million to replace a bridge over the Ohio River at Cairo.

The multiyear plan also earmarks \$13.96 billion for other modes of transportation, including \$9.85 billion for transit systems, \$2.67 billion for freight and passenger rail, \$1.25 billion for aviation projects, and \$190 million for ports and waterways.

Among the intermodal projects in the plan are \$100 million for safety and reliability improvements on Amtrak's Saluki service between Chicago and Carbondale and runway improvements at municipal airports in Litchfield and Pontiac.

Transportation Secretary Omer Osman said the \$41 billion six-year plan

represents a 10 percent increase over the previous multiyear plan, and the money earmarked for the current fiscal year represents a 25 percent increase over the previous fiscal year.

"But that is due in large part to the engineering and planning effort in the early years of capital program (which) is starting to result in more construction activity on work on the street," he said.

Pritzker and other officials at the news conference emphasized that the Rebuild Illinois program is meant to do more than improve safety and efficiency in transportation. The program is also supporting thousands of high-paying jobs in construction, engineering and other fields.

"This is more than just new rail. This is more than a runway at an airport," said Illinois AFL-CIO President Tim Drea. "This is about opportunities. We can see all those physical infrastructure improvements, but what we don't really see is the opportunities that this program creates for a diverse workforce with high wages, middle class wages, health care, and retirement security."

Through four years of the Rebuild Illinois program, IDOT has completed \$12.1 billion of improvements statewide, including 5,339 miles of highway, 533 bridges, and 762 other safety improvements.

Lester Keith Rich

CLINTON — Lester Keith Rich, 84, of Clinton, passed away on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, at Liberty Village nursing home.

Services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 7, 2023 at Weldon United Methodist Church, Weldon. with the Rev. Julia Abel officiating. Burial will follow at Weldon Cemetery, Weldon. Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, and also visitation will be held from 10-11 a.m. at the church on Friday.

Memorials may be directed to Weldon United Methodist Church.

Keith was born on December 30, 1938, in Weldon, the son of Walter and Eva (Baker) Rich. He married Sandra Kay Brinkman on June 8, 1958, in Weldon.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Sandra Kay Rich, Clinton; son, Les (Lisa) Rich, Bloomington, and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents and stepfather, Fenton "Chick" Hoesman.

Keith was a member of the Weldon United



Methodist Church. He graduated from DeLand-Weldon High School in 1957. He then worked at Caterpillar for 32 years, retiring in 1991.

He and Sandra lived in Weldon for 47 years before moving to Clinton. He was an avid Illini fan, and he had a passion for old cars and loved to build and drive them. He was a founding member of the Early Idlers Street Rod Car Club, Decatur, since 1972 and a member of the Hudson Essex Terraplane Car Club, St. Louis, Mo. He was also a member of the National Street Rod Association since 1972.

Keith loved the annual trips he and Sandra made to Hawaii every winter. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him.

Online condolences may be made at www.calvertmemorial.com

Betty Ann 'B.A.' Nelson

CLINTON — Betty Ann "B.A." Nelson, 82, of Clinton, passed away at 4:20 a.m. on July 2, 2023, at the Vonderlieth Living Center, Mt. Pulaski.

Services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, with Pastor Darrell Howard officiating. Burial will follow at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Kenney. Visitation will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed to the Clinton United Methodist Church.

B.A. was born on June 22, 1941, in Georgetown, Ill., the daughter of Oscar James "Bud" and Betty L. (Lancaster) Fortune. She married Harold Wayne Nelson on March 16, 1986, in Clinton. He passed away on September 2, 1996.

Survivors include her children, Edwin Elmo Robb, Jr., Sacramento, Calif.; Edwina King, Yuma, Ariz.; and



Rhea Enola Marie McKinney, Mesa Ariz.; three grandchildren, Joshua King, Bryonna McKinney, and Travis McKinney; siblings, Patsy Groves, Clinton; Suzie Reddington, St. Louis, Mo.; Rene'e (Mike) Bess, Clinton; Jim Fortune, Kenney; and Butch (Stacie) Fortune, Kenney.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

B.A. served on the Dr. John Warner Hospital Foundation Board and also the DeWitt County Museum Board. She enjoyed spending time in the mornings with her coffee group.

Online condolences may be made at www.calvertmemorial.com

Celebrate you independence with Social Security

Selena Higgins

Social Security district manager, Bloomington



Every July, we take pride in celebrating our nation's independence. For nearly 90 years, our programs have helped provide financial independence to millions of hardworking people. We have useful online tools like the Social Security Statement (Statement) and our benefits estimator tool that help people not yet receiving benefits. The Statement shows the benefits that you and your family may be entitled to includes personalized fact sheets tailored to your age and earnings situation. The benefits estimator tool allows you to get estimates based on different ages you want to begin receiving benefits. These tools can help you plan for financial independence in retirement.

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- You can create your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. With so many services and helpful information available online, we are here for you when it's convenient for you. Be sure to tell friends and family about all they can do with us from any device at www.ssa.gov.

Stay-cation ideas for seniors

How do we go on vacation when we can't afford to travel anywhere? How can any days feel like vacation when we do what we usually do, which is stay home?

The answer lies in that made-up word: "staycation." The idea is to spend time doing something different without leaving your home area.

One of my favorite ways to unwind and decompress is to unplug the phone and read. I can get 10 free Kindle Unlimited books at a time, more than enough to keep me happy during an unplugged week while I pretend I'm on vacation. With a free-delivery Walmart+ membership (\$98 for a year), I can have groceries and snacks delivered to the door.

I've already checked the local events calendar, marking off several of interest. That doesn't mean I'll go to all of them, but the options are there:

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

a sandwich, no-salt chips and a drink in a chilled to-go-bag and a few relaxing hours at a free local outdoor concert.

One of the events I'm looking forward to is an evening community sing where likely hundreds of people (mostly seniors, I imagine) will get together outdoors to sing the oldies.

On another day I'll spend some hours at the Louvre in Paris. I won't actually be there, but close enough with their free virtual tour (www.louvre.fr/en/online-tours). Do an online search for "museums with virtual tours," and you'll find several dozen choices. Zoos, national parks and aquariums have done the same thing.

The opportunities for staycation are many. Want to learn to paint or draw? Order supplies and spend some days hooked up to online art tutorials. Want to write a book? You can get a lot done in an unplugged week. Want to bake a pie? Spend an afternoon first at a pick-your-own fruit farm.

A big rule of staycation: Housework and cleaning are not allowed.

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OPINION

HISTORY ALMANAC

1900 - European Allies retook Tientsin, China, from the rebelling Boxers.

1908 - “The Adventures of Dolly” opened at the Union Square Theatre in New York City.

1911 - Harry N. Atwood landed an airplane on the lawn of the White House to accept an award from U.S. President William Taft.

1914 - Robert H. Goddard patented liquid rocket-fuel.

1933 - All German political parties except the Nazi Party were outlawed.

1940 - A force of German Ju-88 bombers attacked Suez, Egypt, from bases in Crete.

1941 - Vichy French Foreign Legionaries signed an armistice in Damascus, which allowed them to join the Free French Foreign Legion.

1945 - American battleships and cruisers bombarded the Japanese home islands for the first time.

1946 - Dr. Benjamin Spock’s “The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care” was first published.

1951 - The first sports event to be shown in color, on CBS-TV, was the Molly Pitcher Handicap at Oceanport, NJ.

1951 - The George Washington Carver National Monument in Joplin, MO, became the first national park to honor an African American.

1958 - The army of Iraq overthrew the monarchy.

1965 - The American space probe Mariner 4 flew by Mars, and sent back photographs of the planet.

1967 - Eddie Mathews (Houston Astros) hit his 500th career home run.

1968 - Hank Aaron (Atlanta Braves) hit his 500th career home run.

1981 - The All-Star Game was postponed because of a 33-day-old baseball players strike. The game was held on August 9.

1998 - Los Angeles sued 15 tobacco companies for \$2.5 billion over the dangers of secondhand smoke.

2001 - Beijing was awarded the 2008 Olympics. It was the first time that the China had been awarded the games.

2003 - Jerry Springer officially filed papers to run for the U.S. Senate from Ohio.

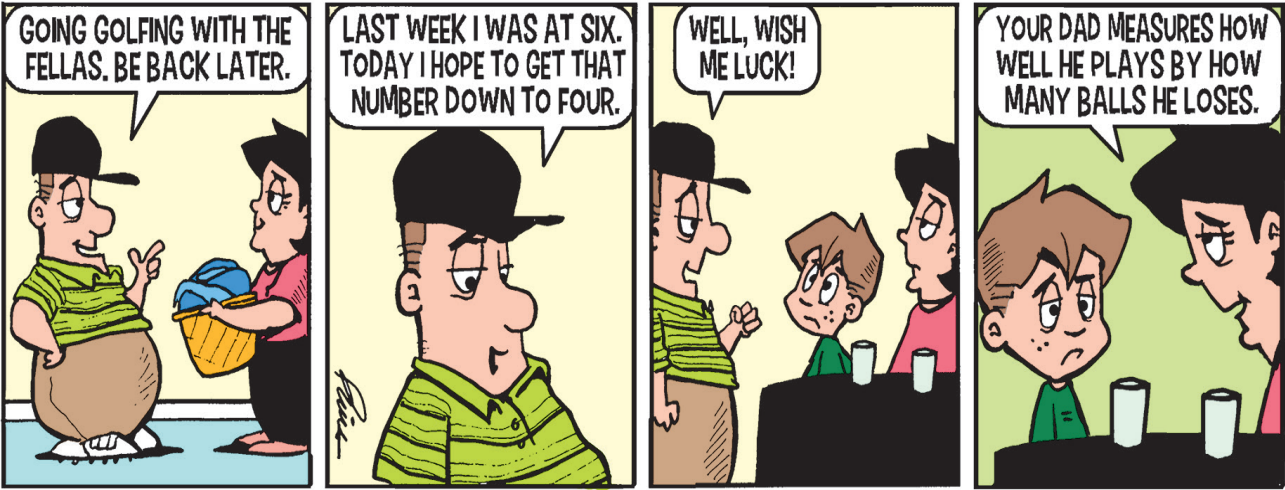
2008 - The iTunes Music Store reached 10 million applications downloaded.

2008 - In Japan, construction began on the Tokyo Skytree tower.

2009 - The iTunes Music Store reached 1.5 billion applications downloaded.

2015 - NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft became the first space mission to explore Pluto.

Amber Waves



Thanks to participants, workers and sponsors of July 4 on the square

The American Legion Crang-Bennett Post 103 wishes to thank all participants, workers and sponsors of the July 4 activities hosted on Mr. Lincoln’s Square.

The opening ceremony by color guards from the American Legion, AmVets, VFW and the Girl Scouts showed loyalty by all on the square. The National Anthem was sung by Angelina Mendoza, invocation given by Pastor Jeff DeLaughter

and welcome by Joshua Thielen.

The walk/run, karaoke, watermelon events and bike parade had good participation. The watermelon contest was enthusiastically cheered-on. Ink Innovations by IGY6 Tattoos gave free tattoos to veterans. There were also free Hot Wheels races and face painting.

We especially thank Legionnaire Joshua Thielen for his tireless efforts in organizing



and hosting this event. He found the sponsors, scheduled and hosted the events, and in between sold raffle tickets each hour.

Our great sponsors were Peterson Insurance, Save-A-Lot, Sunset Inn, Clinton Chamber

of Commerce, Baum Chevrolet-Buick, Quilters Delight, Dairy Queen, and many individuals from the CCHS class of 1963 reunion.

Our goal is to support veterans and the community.

We appreciate your support. Thank you,

Gary Burns
Commander
Crang-Bennett
Post 103

Marina

In all honesty, Clinton Lake and the marina have been somewhat of a disappointment to me since we moved to Clinton in 1990. The lake and its surrounding area holds so much potential, yet the governing bodies have simply not availed themselves of this great resource.

Perhaps that is going to change. There are now some discussions being held between the county and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to give control of the marina to the State of Illinois.

The county has done a decent job of managing the marina from a purely boating perspective. Meaningful efforts have been made to keep the docks in good repair and have good ramps to place your boat in the water. Those efforts are appreciated, but there is so much more that can be done.

The restaurant has been tried and failed to be viable. The county has gone through several

managers of the marina, and there has been little impetus to expand and move forward.

Rend Lake, in Benton, may well be a model for Clinton Lake.

Admittedly, Rend Lake is larger. Clinton Lake was manmade as a coolant provider for a nuclear power plant. That does come with some restrictions but nothing that cannot be resolved to provide for development. Rend Lake has cabins, a lodge, condominiums, a 27-hole golf course, restaurants, camping and the lake itself. Clinton Lake has the camping and the lake, but not the other amenities.

Should the county and DNR reach an agreement wherein DNR becomes the driving force behind the marina, there would be much funding available to develop the marina and some of the adjacent land. There are lots of people who will drive 2—5 hours to have a water view and lake vista.

Rend Lake thrives on people coming to their



facilities from Chicago and St. Louis, plus the locals. While Clinton Lake is not on an interstate like Rend Lake, its out of the way aspect appeals to many. Simply being out of the way has a value and can be marketed.

Tourism is a growing industry, but, unfortunately Clinton Lake has simply not been close to reaching its potential. It is something that the county and DNR should give some serious thought to.

WOKE—I guess I have been asleep because I sure haven’t woke up to this new philosophy of wokeness. We are changing pronouns and gender identities. I read a lot of news stories over a week’s time. Have you had problems following articles because you couldn’t figure out the

players with the new nomenclature. I recently misidentified a courtroom witness with the wrong traditional identification. You would have thought I made the personal insult of the ages. I don’t get it.

I grew up with Johnny Cash’s song, “A boy named Sue.” The song didn’t bother me in the least. Today, I am hearing every name in the book while I sit in a courtroom and try to ascertain who the parties are.

Academically, I can follow the code and be engaged in the conversation. From a blue collar farm boy background, I find the language very foreign. I can accept that others have a different lifestyle than mine and that is fine. My difficulty is when the woke establishment wants me to join them and fund their ideas.

This is a cultural and political movement that seems to be gaining traction, and that I simply do not understand. Have a great week.

CLINTON JOURNAL LETTER POLICY

The Clinton Journal accepts responsibly written letters covering topics of interest to our readers. Letters must be the original works of their senders.

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All other letters will be published at the discretion of The Journal, space permitting, in the next available edition. The Journal does not publish anonymous letters. Letters submitted for publication must include the name of the author, address and telephone number. Addresses and telephone

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Readers should keep in mind that letters published are the opinions of their authors, are not news reports and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper its staff or its advertisers.

The Journal does not certify information used in letters but will remove any passages it considers potentially libelous.

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88th District State Rep.
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Sally Turner
Springfield Office:
Senator 44th District
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NEWS

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Colossians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Song of Solomon and which other book specifically mention the "apple tree"? Genesis, Ezra, Joel, Nahum
3. What chapter of Psalms has four verses (8, 15, 21, 31) that are alike? 4, 58, 107, 133
4. From Genesis 4:26, who was Adam's youngest son? Ishmael, Cain, Abel, Seth
5. In John 11:16, who was also called Didymus? Simon Peter, Thomas, Silas, Judas
6. Which book has the longest verse in the Bible? Psalms, Proverbs, Esther, Revelation

ANSWERS: 1) New Testament; 2) Song of Solomon; 3) 107; 4) Seth; 5) Thomas; 6) Revelation

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," now available in bookstores and online.

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalms 27:3

Though an **army** **besiege** me, my **heart** will **not** **fear**; though **war** **break out** **against** me, **even** **then** I will be **confident**.

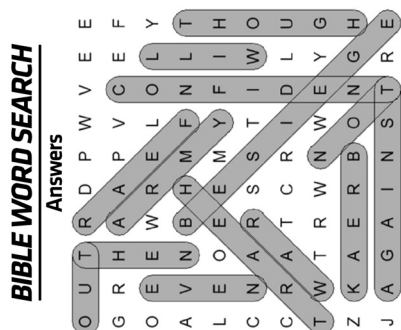
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C R A T C R I D L U
T W T R W N W E Y G
Z K A E R B O N G H
J A G A I N S T R E

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-4



Detail of "Yaroslavna's Lament" by Jacques Hnizdovsky (1950)

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AREA CHURCHES DIRECTORY

Calvary United Pentecostal Church
412 S. Monroe Street, Clinton
(217) 935-8627
3 p.m.-Sunday worship
7 p.m.-Mondays family prayer
7 p.m.-Wednesday Bible study

Christ Lutheran Church & preschool
701 S. Mulberry Street, Clinton
Office (217) 935-5808
Preschool office (217) 935-4675
8:15 a.m.-Sunday worship
9:30 a.m.-Sunday school
Preschool Tues., Wed. and Thurs. morning and afternoon sessions.

Clinton Church of Christ
Bus. Rt. 51 south, Clinton
(217) 935-5058
Stephen R. Bradd, Gospel preacher
AudioEvangelism.com
Clinton CofC.com
9 a.m.-Sunday morning Bible study
10 a.m.-Sunday morning worship
1 p.m.-Sunday worship
7 p.m.-Wednesday evening Bible study

Clinton Church of God
720 E. Woodlawn Street, Clinton
clintoncog.org
Mark Cooper, pastor
9:30 a.m.-Sunday school
10:30 a.m.-Sunday morning worship
6 p.m.-Sunday night service
7 p.m.-Wednesday service

Clinton Presbyterian Church
402 N. Center Street
Office hours: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
Tel. (217) 935-6178
Fax (217) 935-6128
Pastor-Paul Stroup
clintonpresbyterian.org
9:15 a.m.-Sunday school
10:30 a.m.-Sunday worship with nursery available
Senior high youth group meets twice a month.
PC - A Place to Belong - Believe - Become

Clinton United Methodist Church
308 E. Main Street
Rev. Darrell Howard
(217) 935-5869
clintonumcil.org
9 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School Children & Adult
5 p.m. Saturday Evening Worship in

chapel
3:30 p.m. Thursday JC Stars After School Children's program (pickup is available)
3rd Sunday S.W.A.G Sr & Jr High Youth
6 p.m. Extended Table 2nd and 4th Mondays
12:30 p.m. Wednesday Backpack Ministry

First Baptist Church
220 Illini Drive, Clinton
(217) 935-2032
firstbaptistchurch3@frontier.com
Jonathan Roberson, pastor
9:30 a.m.-Sunday school
10:30 a.m.-Sunday worship
5 p.m.-Sunday evening worship
7 p.m.-Wednesday mid-week prayer meeting

First Christian Church
100 N. Jackson Street, Clinton (W. Main & N. Jackson)
clintonfcc.com
Adult Bible School 10:45 a.m.
Worship Services: 9:30 a.m.
First Kids Worship for 3-yr -olds - 5th grade is available at 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Nursery available at each morning service.

First Church of the Nazarene
Rt. 51 and Kleemann Drive, Clinton
Michael A. Taylor, pastor
8:30 a.m.-Sunday prayer around the altar
8:45 a.m.-continental breakfast
9:30 a.m.-Sunday school / Bible study
10:30 a.m.-morning worship
7 p.m.-Wednesday mid-week service

Kenney Christian Church
213 W. Benjamin Street, Kenney
(217) 944-2275
Ernie Harvey, minister
9:30 a.m.-Bible study
10:30 a.m.-Sunday worship

Lane Christian Church
(217) 935-2557
www.lanechurch.org
Jim Kilson, preaching and teaching minister
Marcus McCollom, youth and family minister
9 a.m.-Sunday school
10 a.m.-worship
5:30 p.m.-youth group
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Lifebridges Church
200 S. Alexander Street, Clinton
(217) 570-0105
www.lifebridges-church.com
Pastors-Jonathan and Dana Taylor
10 a.m.-Sunday celebration
10 a.m.-AMPED Kids for ages (1-5 grades)
10 a.m.-AMPED Jr. (birth-K)
7 p.m.-AfterShock teen church, 6th-12 grades
6 p.m.-Wednesday, Strategic Disciple
6:30 p.m.-Thursday, DIVE teen Bible study
7 p.m.-Thursdays, 1st & 3rd, Empowered Women / 2nd & 4th, Frontline Men

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
502 N. Monroe Street, Clinton
(217) 935-3727
Rev. Fr. Thomas Szydlak, pastor
4 p.m.-Saturday mass
8:30 a.m.-Sunday mass

St. Patrick Catholic Church
320 S. Locust Street, P.O. Box 116, Wapella
(217) 935-8510
Office hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues. & Thurs.
Father Geoff Horton, pastor
9 a.m.-Sunday, Tues. & Thurs. mass
www.saintpatrickwapella.org

Texas Christian Church
8301 Texas Church Road, Clinton
(217) 454-6846
www.texaschristian-church.org
Scott Marsh, minister
9 a.m.-Sunday school
10 a.m.-Sunday worship
6 p.m.-Sunday evening worship
6 p.m.-Wednesday prayer meeting

The Blessed Hope Seventh-Day Adventist Church
112 N. Monroe St., Clinton
(217) 731-4005
9:30 a.m.-Saturday, Sabbath school
11 a.m.-worship with pot luck afterwards
6 p.m.-Wednesday, prophecy meetings

Wapella Christian Church
101 N. Poplar
(217) 731-4404
Josh Gorrie, minister
Wapellacc.com
9 a.m.-Sunday school
10 a.m.-worship
"Celebrating our 150th year"

Let's order Chinese

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights. I am relieved that international cuisine is winding down. It is both important and interesting to learn the background of the various cuisines that touch our lives. However, I am eager to return to hands-on learning; putting into practice what we have learned.

I shall cover Chinese and perhaps smidgins of Italian/French cuisine before moving on. I hope it has been as rewarding to you in learning culinary as it has been for me teaching it. Rewards are best when shared.

China is an ancient and proud civilization. Many great things have been invented by the Chinese such as gun powder. Certain foods have been created by the Chinese such as spaghetti. Italy has laid claim to it. Let us waste no more time on this prolog.

As with the United States, South America, France, Italy and so many more, China is also broken-up into regional cuisines and sub-cultures in each region. Since China has a long history, it is steeped in tradition and a wide variety of foods and techniques.



The Culinary Corner

Chef Roger Joss

Keep in mind that China began the spice trade and known for its exquisite teas. Now you know which cuisine to study for specialties uncommon in other countries. Study their techniques and you are learning from the masters. Despite current political differences, they are a proud people to be respected. And yes, from whom to learn.

Authentic Chinese cooking is not a commonality as one in the USA might think. Chinese restaurants here have basically amalgamated due to availability of products and a central educational system in teaching Chinese cooking here.

In truth, there are four major styles with four regional cuisines to satisfy. You have the Beijing/Peking style for the northern region, the Cantonese style for the southern region, the Shanghai style for the eastern coastal region, and the Szechwan style for the western inland region. In the face of all this, there are

variations for each style in each of the four regions. This is a big reason that Chinese cuisine in American restaurants became amalgamated to a standard. Allow me to give you the American philosophy on that.

The KISS philosophy is "Keep It Simple Stupid". The rest of the philosophy comes from industry. That one is "Make it Standard". A good example of both are your chain restaurants. The one internationally known and most organized is McDonald's. Every food and service given by McDonalds is standardized to a painful degree.

A McDonalds's meal in San Francisco is going to be the same as in New York City. The phenomenal success of McDonald's food chain has encouraged most others to follow suit. By Chinese restaurants doing the same, they can get lower prices by ordering standard products in bulk. Rare ingredients that must be special ordered is price prohibitive.

Now that the stage is set, we can introduce our first region of interest; northern region.

Until next time, peace to all.

Clear out Stuff that

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Clinton Journal

Fourth of July on Mr. Lincoln's Square



Photos Gordon Woods / Journal



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Muffin

Meet Muffin! Muffin likes to gallop through the house. She sleeps all day after breakfast and then loves playtime in the early evening. She's just a quiet, sweet little girl. She loves to look out the window and click her teeth and chatter at the birds and squirrels. She loves to be brushed. Muffin does well with other cats. She had a rough start in life but with the help of her wonderful foster she is now doing great and is looking for her forever home! Do you have room in your heart for this beautiful girl? Apply at www.secondchanceforpets.com

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NEWS

CLASSES

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We offer a variety of mostly free classes scheduled throughout the year to the community. Anyone wanting to get on a waiting list or wanting more information can email events@warnerhospital.org or call **217-937-5275**. The Wellness Center is located at **418 W. South Street**.



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www.warnerhospital.org

05/26/2023

Your Forecast

Information from the National Weather Service



Saturday
T-storms
possible
High 84



Sunday
Sunny
High 88



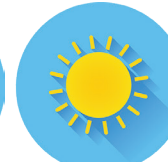
Monday
Sunny
High 83



Tuesday
Sunny
High 82



Wednesday
Sunny
High 90



Thursday
Sunny
High 90

Weather History

July 16

1980: Millions of dollars in damage was done by a strong microburst and blinding rain that hit the south side of Chicago during the morning. Winds were estimated to be as high as 100 mph in the microburst. Further west, the same storm system produced a tornado near the town of Hampshire, destroying two silos containing 48,000 pounds of corn.

2016: A strong tornado moved through Delavan, in southern Tazewell County, late in the evening. Two people were injured by this tornado, which had an estimated maximum wind speed of 120 mph.

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07/14/2023

The Invention of the Year

The world's lightest and most portable mobility device

Once in a lifetime, a product comes along that truly moves people. Introducing the future of battery-powered personal transportation... **The Zinger**.

Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven't been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who's developed one of the world's most popular products created a completely new breakthrough... a personal electric vehicle. It's called the **Zinger**, and there is nothing out there quite like it.

"What my wife especially loves is it gives her back feelings of safety and independence which has given a real boost to her confidence and happiness! Thank You!"
-Kent C., California

The first thing you'll notice about the **Zinger** is its unique look. It doesn't look like a scooter. Its sleek, lightweight yet durable frame is made with aircraft grade aluminum so it weighs only 47.2 lbs. It features one-touch folding and unfolding - when folded it can be wheeled around like a suitcase and fits easily into a

Available in Green, Black and Blue (shown)

The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

backseat or trunk. Then, there are the steering levers. They enable the **Zinger** to move forward, backward, turn on a dime and even pull right up to a table or desk. With its compact yet powerful motor it can go up to 6 miles an hour and its rechargeable battery can go up to 8 miles on a single charge. With its low center of gravity and inflatable tires it can handle rugged terrain and is virtually tip-proof. Think about it, you can take your **Zinger** almost anywhere, so you don't have to let mobility issues rule your life.

Why take our word for it? Call now, and find out how you can get a **Zinger** of your very own.

journey
zinger

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CLINTON Journal News

Sights from the 2023 DeWitt County 4-H Fair



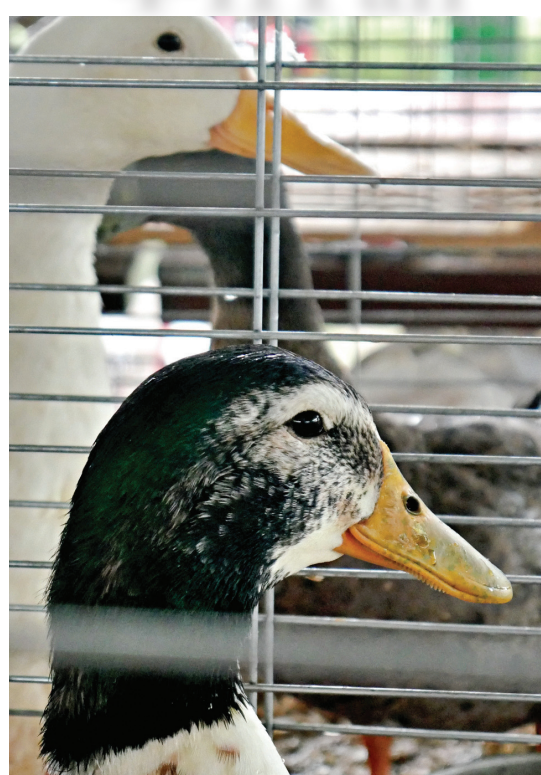
Photos Gordon Woods / Journal



Gordon Woods / Journal

Anton Meyen

2023 4-H Fair



A HAND WITH EXTRAS

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
??			

Usually this column deals with play and defensive problems, but this week it's all about the bidding. Take a look at the South hand. What do you see? A hand that would open a Weak Two in Spades? A hand that would pass in first seat? Or a minimum 1♠ opening bid? Actually, it's none of the above!

Back in the day, we needed 13 HCP to open the bidding (or 12 if we were feeling frisky), but experienced players don't just count their points, they also consider their distribution. One tool for doing that is the Rule of 20 ... we add HCP to the length of our two longest suits ... if the total is 20 or more we have an opening bid. By this measure, South scores $11+6+3$, and just manages to scrape up the magic number. So let us agree that the South hand is worth a $1\spadesuit$ opening bid.

North's 3♣ showed game-invitational values, saying "Bid game if you have something extra". Does South have said extras? Some might say "No!", on the grounds that the hand has only 11 HCP, and that it barely squeaked into opening territory on the Rule of 20 basis. Maybe so, but nonetheless the South hand *does* have extras. There is that singleton Heart ... the 6th trump ... and those lovely minor-suit Tens! Extras, indeed!

So, South cheerfully accepts the game invitation, West makes his opening lead (probably the ♥Q) and Dummy is revealed. It's a pretty poor specimen, what with the useless ♥K and not much cover in the minor suits. But, even so, it is good enough. The Diamond finesse loses, but the Club finesse wins and (thanks to the all-important ♠T) there are 10 tricks!

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FEAR KNOT

NINE FLEET

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 52 Give new weapons to | 96 Perceive | 2 "Dies —" (Mass hymn) | 40 Draft-eligible | 82 French inn |
| 1 By means of | 54 Fluctuate wildly | 99 Imitated a sheep | 3 Similar | 41 Coercing | 83 2021 is one |
| 4 Seizes suddenly | 56 Cole — (shoe brand) | 102 —, pedi | 4 Car radiator covering | 42 Edifice | 86 Diner list |
| 9 Niche religion | 59 Curious pet | 103 "It's My Turn" singer Diana | 5 Toon pal of Stimpy | 47 "Let's suppose ..." | 87 Sale rack caveat |
| 13 Cousins of rumbas | 60 Gift label | 106 Small, floating cephalopod | 6 "The Ice Storm" | 49 Like the study of habitats | 91 Pursued speedily |
| 19 Noah's craft | 61 Pro- — (some tournaments) | 109 Device used in cardiology | 7 Plastic pail or shovel, say | 50 County in the Bay Area | 93 Key related to C major |
| 20 Zellweger of "Bee Movie" | 64 Sport fish also known as "little tuna" | 113 Actress Eve | 9 Form a rough judgment of | 51 "Undo" mark | 95 Bungle |
| 21 Assistant of Frankenstein | 68 "Them's the breaks!" | 114 Everything | 9 Toxin fighters | 53 Bryn —, Pennsylvania | 97 Lead-in to center or dermis |
| 22 Mount where the 19-Across landed | 71 Title word before "Inferno" or "Peak" | 115 Venus de — | 9 Form a rough judgment of | 55 Info that's not up to date | 98 Do lunch |
| 23 1987 comedy starring Nicolas Cage and Holly Hunter | 72 Came to rest | 116 9-to-5er's shout | 10 Vanity | 57 Pub spigot | 100 Gift for music |
| 26 Set fire to | 73 Atlanta daily since 2001 | 118 Of a junction point | 11 With | 58 Preposterous | 101 Clunker |
| 27 Streisand musical film | 77 "Game of Thrones" actress | 122 Gazed angrily | 11 15-Down, flimflamming guy | 62 Domestic household | 104 Wee bit |
| 28 Diner relative | 78 Charlotte — (Virgin Islands capital) | 124 Principle of capitalism | 12 "Lady and the —" | 63 Hit hard, as the brakes | 105 Note above fa |
| 29 Portion (out) | 79 Turning out | 129 Showing on TV | 13 Rum cocktail | 65 Airline to Copenhagen | 107 Very strong |
| 31 Part of "GQWTW" | 80 Windy City airport | 130 Work to make | 14 Evita's land | 66 Apnea-treating doc | 108 One of a bowler's targets |
| 32 Mysterious God | 84 Adobe Acrobat file "— believe!" | 131 Second-largest city of India | 15 See 11-Down | 67 Abel's brother | 109 "Horrible" cartoon |
| 35 Black-and-yellow stinging insect | 85 "— believe!" | 132 — out a win (just prevail) | 16 Big name in faucet filters | 69 Blacklisting org. of the 1940s-'50s | 110 Actress Kemper |
| 39 1993-2004 Chrysler sedan | 88 Almond-hued | 133 Distant | 17 Solemn vows | 70 Petting zoo animals | 111 Fire alert |
| 43 Thing to fly in the wind | 89 Actress Olin | 134 California, par example | 18 Expensive | 71 2008-12 Mets pitcher | 112 Credit card lure |
| 44 Pertaining to | 90 Plaintiff | 135 Stellar hunter | 24 Veteran | 72 2008-12 Mets pitcher | 117 — -Chinese |
| 45 Seat in a bar | 92 Turns toward | 136 Abbr. that can precede nine key words in this puzzle | 25 Casual statement of sympathy | 73 2008-12 Mets pitcher | 119 God, to Gigi |
| 46 Seat in a church | 94 Darlin' child | DOWN | 30 Comic shriek | 74 Roman 151 | 120 Inquires |
| 48 Things | 99 Fluctuate | | 33 Fleur-de- — (iris) | 75 Suffix with planet | 121 Some blue jeans |
| | | | 34 Kitchen pest | 76 Petty quarrel | 123 Brazilian city, in brief |
| | | | 37 Bardic verse | 77 EIGHT: Prefix | 125 Hamelin pest |
| | | | 38 Rainy | 81 Doled-out share | 126 Slice of time |
| | | | 39 Juicy gossip | | 127 Yale attendee |
| | | | | | 128 Pi-sigma link |

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A R P M J G D A X E Y V S O N

K I F D (B U M B L E B E E) A X
V T Q O M J H B F C B A L Y W
U R P N L J B Y N H A Y B F R
D B Z X V U T U B I L A A E R
Q O M K B I H F B B B I B R D
B Z Y W V T E L B B O B R E R
Q O N L K I H U L F U B O B D
C A Z X W V B E U L S H S B R
Q O N M K B D E B B E W B O C
J I H F A E D T T I B B A B B

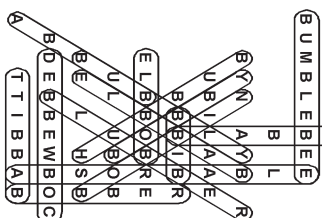
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: KIDS LOVE — GUM

Absorbable	Blabby	Bobble	Bumblebee
Babbitt	Blubber	Bobby	Cobwebbed
Babble	Bobber	Bubba	Hubbub
Bibb	Bobbin	Bubbly	

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6	x	1	÷	3	2
+		x		+	
8	-	7	x	5	5
÷		-		÷	
2	x	4	-	4	4
7		3		2	

Go Figure!



WORDS WITH THREE B'S

Classified Marketplace

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Total value of item must be \$100 or less.
(15 words - 2 publications - price must be listed)



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REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., PLAINTIFF, VS.

GERALD NORDGREN, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF BERNARD ALLEN HOFFMAN, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF BERNARD ALLEN HOFFMAN; ALISHA BOYSEN; NICOLE DEBAUCHE, DEFENDANTS. NO. 22 FC 8 419 NORTH GIBSON STREET CLINTON, IL 61727 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on May 17, 2023, will on 08/09/2023, in DeWitt County Courthouse (Main Door), 201 West Washington St., Clinton., IL 61727, at 10:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of DeWitt, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: TAX NO. 07-27-352-017 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 419 North Gibson Street Clinton, IL 61727 Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has a two car garage. The garage is detached. The exterior is vinyl siding. The color is yellow. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. I am unable to verify that the water is on or off. The property does not have a fence. The property is vacant. The Judgment amount was \$59,824.26. Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the

purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-087461L PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. 13224744

LEGAL 19815 RE JULY14, 21 & 28, 2023

07/14/2023

PLEASE READ YOUR Classified ad or display ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes notify us immediately. We will make changes for errors and adjust your bill but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages, which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper, which reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. Advertising is also subject to

LEGAL

credit approval. **ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. (TFN)

203 HELP WANTED

THE CLINTON JOURNAL is seeking a substitute delivery driver. Responsibilities include picking up paper bundles from the Journal office and delivering them to designated businesses in a timely manner. MUST have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and valid insurance. Apply at the Clinton Journal office, 111 S. Monroe St., Clinton. (203TFN)

305 GARAGE/ RUMMAGE SALES

PLACE A RUMMAGE SALE AD IN THE CLINTON JOURNAL. Deadline for ads are: Monday, 5:00 PM for the following Friday edition. Rate: 1 publication and up to one week online, Up to 20 words for \$17.00, additional words are 25¢ a word. **OUR RAIN GUARANTEE:** If it rains on your sale day, we'll rerun the same ad (only date & time changes) for free. Must run within 2 weeks.

112 NORTH KENNEY ST., KENNEY.

Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15, 0 a.m. to 5 p.m. Moving Sale. Everything priced to sell. Lots of furniture, power leather recliner, king size sleep number bed, queen bed, bedroom dressers, grandfather clock, antique doll and thimble collection, desks and nightstands, dining room table and chairs, buffet, coffee tables, end tables, kitchen table, mid-sized refrigerator, small chest freezer, stereo equipment and other electronics, yard tools. Lots of free stuff including automotive products, knick knacks, pictures, kids' books, toys, holiday decorations and small organ. (3050714)

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

SHEET METAL ROOFING MATERIAL (used) 22 foot long x 3 foot wide. Used once. Call for pricing. (309) 824-0678 (3070714)

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS BUSEY BANK, formerly known as CITIZENS SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff

v. JENNIFER E. SEAMAN, also known as JENNIFER E. MAXWELL, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, including unknown spouse of Jennifer E. Seaman, Defendants. No. 23-FC-15 PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you: UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants in the above-entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of DeWitt County, Illinois, by the Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: Lot Forty-two (42) in Flair Second Addition to the City of Clinton, according to the Plat thereof recorded July 26, 1973 in Plat Book "F", Page 330. Situated in DeWitt County, Illinois. P.I.N.: 12-03-103-025 which has the common address of: 17 Bradley Ct., Clinton, IL 61727 and which said mortgage was made by JENNIFER E. MAXWELL, Mortgagor, to BUSEY BANK, and said Mortgage recorded in Book 534 of Mortgages at Page 58 as Document No. 212550, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of DeWitt County, Illinois, and for such relief; that summons was duly issued out of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is now pending. The present owner of said mortgaged real estate is JENNIFER E. MAXWELL, now known as JENNIFER E. SEAMAN. NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU, the said above defendants, file your answer to the complaint in this case or otherwise file your appearance in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, Illinois on or before **July 31, 2023**, a default may be entered against you at the time after that day and decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. YOU ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TIME IN WHICH THE SUBJECT REAL ESTATE MAY BE REDEEMED FROM FORECLOSURE, PURSUANT TO LAW, COMMENCES TO RUN WITH THE FIRST DATE

OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

Dated: June 22, 2023, at Clinton, Illinois. Michelle Van Valey, Clerk of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, DeWitt County, Illinois Prepared by: JOSEPH P. CHAMLEY, ARDC #6224646 EVANS, FROEHLICH, BETH & CHAMLEY Attorneys for Plaintiff 44 Main Street, Suite 310 Champaign, IL 61820 PH: 217/359-6494 FX: 217/359-6468 jchamley@efbclaw.com LEGAL 19807 June 30, July 7, July 14, 2023

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FRANK E. GLENN,

Deceased.

No. 2023-PR-22

Notice is given of the death of Frank E. Glenn. Letters of office as independent representative were issued on June 21, 2023 to Kurt Wells, 21203 Depot Road, Farmer City, Illinois, 61842, whose attorney is Thomas Mamer LLP, 30 Main Street, P.O. Box 560, Champaign, Illinois, 61824-0560.

The estate will

be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit

LOST! REWARD!

2022 PGA Southern Hills key chain.

Very sentimental!

Looks like keychain in this photo but will not have any keys attached.



Reward if found.

Text or call 309-242-3900 or stop by the Clinton Journal office.

LARGE MULTIPLE ESTATE AUCTION

Schultz Estate Appraised High Quality Gold Jewelry
Antiques-Furniture-Household
1969 Cadillac-Motorcycle-Misc.
Madden Real Estate

WED. JULY 19TH

12 NOON-Box Lots-Household-Collectibles-Outside

2:00 pm-BACK LINES-Furniture & Antiques

5:00 PM-MAIN SALE-Jewelry-Furniture

6:00 PM-Madden Real Estate-Car-Motorcycle

Photos & Listing: www.haycraftauctions.com

Wapella Auction House-Wapella, IL

HAYCRAFT AUCTION CO., INC.

Rt 51 N-Wapella, IL 61777

Office - 217-935-6286

07142023



CLINTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOLS

VACANCY NOTICE NO. 1

Please apply on-line at

www.applitrack.com/Clinton/onlineapp

unless noted otherwise.

Clinton High School

1. Spanish Teacher for the 2023-24 school year, application deadline July 28th, 2023

Clinton Elementary School

1. Teacher Aide 1-1 please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline July 28th, 2023

1. Teacher Aide please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline July 28th, 2023

2. Elementary Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year, application deadline July 28th, 2023

Douglas School

1. Teacher's Aide, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> application deadline July 28th, 2023

1. ECSE Self-Contained Teacher's Aide

Responsibilities

- Prepare the classroom to promote a healthy and safe learning environment
- Ensure classroom safety guidelines are met at all times
- Utilize various techniques to be successful with managing students
- Engage with children to enhance and encourage learning
- Assist the teacher in modifying and creating educational materials
- Provide basic caregiving duties, support, and encouragement in all aspects of development
- Assist with other personal or physical care assistance (Change Diapers)
- Take necessary precautions to protect students
- Perform other duties as assigned within the classroom and building Requirements and skills
- Proven work experience as a Paraprofessional or similar role is valued
- Must complete and pass a criminal background check
- Passionate, dedicated, and committed to teaching children
- Experience in helping teachers in a classroom environment desired
- Dependable, Punctual, and Consistent
- Good understanding of the educational system
- Strong interpersonal and social attributes
- Have patience with children, including those with special needs
- Ability to run, stand, move around, and squat for long hours at a time
- Ability to lift and hold if needed

please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> application deadline July 28th, 2023

Transportation

Sub Bus Driver, (\$24.50 per hour) Bus Drivers must have a CDL or be willing to obtain one.

Athletics

1. Head Softball Coach for 2023-2024, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cusd15.org

1. Assistant Softball Coach for 2023-2024, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cusd15.org

Unit Office

1. Teacher Aide - Bilingual (English & Spanish), please see website for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline July 28th, 2023

1. Substitute School Nurse, who have active Illinois R.N. or LPN license and experience in school nursing for grades K-12. This position may involve experiences with health education, chronic disease management, communicable disease, immunizations, first-aid, and medication administration. Hours for this position would be 7:45 am-3:45pm on an as needed basis

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

All employees must pass state & federal background checks.

State ends fiscal year with record \$50.7 billion in base revenue

Revenues, excluding federal stimulus funds, outperformed estimates by \$12B over past two years

Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — State revenues once again reached a record high in the fiscal year that ended June 30, creating what Gov. JB Pritzker called a “one-time” budget surplus of over \$700 million.

The \$50.7 billion in base general revenues that the state collected in fiscal year 2023 — which exclude one-time pandemic-related federal funds — topped last year’s previous record by \$373 million.

That’s \$726 million beyond what was projected by the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget in its most recent estimate adopted in May during negotiations for the fiscal year 2024 budget.

“It’s always good to have a surplus, and that’s something that we’ve done consistently now for four years,” Pritzker said at an unrelated Friday news conference. “I would add that much of the surplus that we saw that came in at the end of the year is one-time dollars.”

In recent years, the state has dedicated surpluses to paying down long- and short-term debt, making pension payments beyond the amounts required in law and providing one-time temporary tax relief.

Pritzker indicated he’d continue to be cautious when considering spending priorities for one-time revenues, echoing his budget office, which noted that revenues have fluctuated wildly from month to month in recent years.

“This is a kind of an unexpected additional amount of money,” Pritzker said. “We’re going to try to apply it to things like paying down debt, the things that we’ve been doing.”

A cushion for 2024

The surplus creates some breathing room one week into a \$50.4 billion state spending plan for fiscal year 2024 that anticipates a slimmer surplus of \$183 million.

“The overperformance in FY 2023 revenues essentially translated into a lower than projected June 30 bills on hold at the (comptroller’s office) and higher than expected cash balances going into the new fiscal year,” Carol Knowles, a spokesperson for GOMB, said in a statement prior to the governor’s comments. “We will continue to monitor the revenue performance in FY 2024 as the national economy continues to have mixed economic projections.”

Comptroller Susana Mendoza’s office noted the state entered the year with over \$1 billion in its general revenue fund and an accounts payable balance of just over \$500 million, meaning bills are paid within a week of being sent to Mendoza’s office. The balance of the state’s “rainy day” fund sits at nearly \$2 billion.

It’s a drastic departure from 2017, when a state budget impasse between Republican

Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democrats in the General Assembly drove the state’s backlog of unpaid bills to nearly \$17 billion and depleted the rainy day fund to less than \$60,000.

“All this good fiscal news did not happen by accident,” Mendoza said in a statement. “This takes strong strategic planning throughout the year and daily attention to cash management; knowing which bills to pay first to maximize federal matching funds so we can end the fiscal year on such a high note.”

Pritzker said Friday that getting bills out the door within three to five days might be “too fast” a turnaround, since they are being paid days to weeks before late-payment interest begins accruing.

“We could be earning interest on the money and wouldn’t be paying interest on that if you just extended it for a few more days,” he said. “But meanwhile, I think we should all celebrate the fact that Illinois is in such good fiscal shape.”

The General Assembly’s Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability — a bipartisan body staffed by nonpartisan economic analysts — noted in its June report that state coffers accumulated \$407 million in interest in FY 2023. That’s up from just \$30 million in interest in FY 2022, a result of several interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve.

FY 2023’s revenues were also bolstered by a \$1.2 billion transfer into the general revenue fund from the state’s income tax refund fund. The amount of that annual statutory transfer was driven upward by strong income tax receipts from the prior fiscal year and is unlikely to be replicated in FY 2024.

Despite setting a new base revenue record, FY 2023 saw a \$1.3 billion drop-off in personal income tax receipts compared to the previous fiscal year. Corporate income tax and sales tax revenues, however, spiked by a combined \$1.1 billion.

The COGFA report noted that the personal income tax decline “is believed to be more reflective of exceptional tax performance in FY 2022... rather than a weakening of Illinois’ tax base.”

Conservative estimates exceeded

FY 2023 marked the second consecutive year in which state revenues exceeded initial estimates by billions of dollars. FY 2022’s base revenues of \$50.3 billion — again, a number that excludes federal pandemic aid — topped that year’s initial estimate by nearly \$8 billion.

Despite the record revenue performance of FY 2022, lawmakers ultimately approved a \$46.4 billion budget plan that anticipated an 8 percent decline in base revenues in FY 2023.

Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, Clinton, Illinois, or with the independent representative, or both, on or before December 30, 2023 or if mailing or delivery of notice from the representatives is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed by that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the independent representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

LEGAL 19808
June 30 and July 7, and 14 2023

LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DEWITT COUNTY – PROBATE DIVISION
In the Matter of the Estate of
JUDITH ANN EAGLETON, Deceased
Case No. 2023PR000017
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to creditors of the death of JUDITH ANN EAGLETON. Letters of Office were issued to FRANCIS SCOTT HEAD, whose address is P.O. Box 124, Weldon, IL 61882, as Independent Executor, and whose attorney of record is ALLEN L. DeVARY, of WOOD, DEVARY & ARMSTRONG, P.C., 207 W. Jefferson Street, Suite 400, Bloomington Illinois 61701. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Circuit Clerk’s office, DeWitt County Courthouse, Clinton, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 7th day of January 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, the date stated in that notice. Any Claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after is has been filed.
DATED 5/11/23
By: /s/ Francis Scott Head
FRANCIS SCOTT HEAD, Independent Executor of the Estate of JUDITH ANN EAGLETON, Deceased.

Allen L. DeVary
ARDC # 626928
WOOD, DEVARY & ARMSTRONG, P.C.
207 W. Jefferson Street, Suite 400
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-827-0044
adevary@wdalawyers.com

LEGAL 19810
July 7, 14 & 21, 2023



LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE
DRIVER/ENGINEERS
CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
Driver/Engineer testing & applications now open through 7/28/2023. The Clinton Fire Department is currently testing for Driver/Engineer. Requirements, application and testing is available online at www.nationaltestingnetwork.com under Firefighter Jobs. By order of the Fire and Police Commission, Clinton, Illinois, 61727.

LEGAL 19812
July 14 & 21, 2023

LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF DEWITT
Estate of: Sheila L. Glidden Deceased.
CASE NO. 2023-PR-23
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE
Notice is given to the creditors of the death of Sheila L. Glidden, of 901 E. Jemima St., Clinton, Illinois 61727. Letters of Office were issued on June 27, 2023, to Rene L. Ricks, Independent Administrator, 14170 Ponderosa Ct., Clinton, Illinois 61727, whose attorney is Kevin Hammer, 219 E. Main Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of DeWitt County Circuit Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington, Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 14, 2024, or, if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in the Notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the representative’s attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 6th day of July, 2023. Kevin Hammer Attorney for the Estate of Sheila L. Glidden 219 East Main Street Clinton, IL 61727 217/935-7063
LEGAL 19813
JULY 14, 21, 28, 2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Waynesville Community Fire Protection District, of the County of DeWitt, in the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2023, and ending May 31, 2024, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Firehouse in the Village of Waynesville, in the County of DeWitt

and State of Illinois, in said Fire Protection District, from and after the 17th day of July, 2023. NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on said Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:00 o’clock P.M., Central Daylight Time, on the 17th day of August, 2023, at the Firehouse in the Village of Waynesville, in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois, in said Fire Protection District, and that the Final Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be adopted by the Board of Trustees of said Waynesville Community Fire Protection District, at a special meeting thereof to be held at 6:00 o’clock P.M., Central Daylight Time, on the 17th day of August, 2023, at said Firehouse in said Village of Waynesville in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois, in said Fire Protection District. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. Dated this 14th day of July, 2023. WAYNESVILLE COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BY: KAYLA WIGGINS, Secretary

LEGAL 19814
July 14, 2023

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., PLAINTIFF,
VS.
GERALD NORDGREN, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF BERNARD ALLEN HOFFMAN, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF BERNARD ALLEN HOFFMAN; ALISHA BOYSEN; NICOLE DEBAUCHE, DEFENDANTS.
NO. 22 FC 8
419 NORTH GIBSON STREET CLINTON, IL 61727
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on May 17, 2023, will on 08/09/2023, in DeWitt County Courthouse (Main Door), 201 West Washington St., Clinton., IL 61727, at 10:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of DeWitt, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: Land Situated in the County of Dewitt in the State of IL: Lots 11 and 12 in Block 1 in DeBoice's Subdivision of the following described tract of land, to wit: Beginning on the section line 513 feet West of the Southeast corner of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest

1/4 of Section 21, Township 20 North, Range 2 East of the 3rd P.M., thence North 1325 feet, thence West 142 feet, thence South 1325 feet, to the Sector line, thence East on the Section line 142 feet to the place of beginning. Also, the East 1/2 of vacated alley lying West and adj DeBoice's 2nd Addition as shown in Miscellaneous book 233 page 186. TAX NO. 07-27-352-017
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 419 North Gibson Street Clinton, IL 61727
Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The property has a two car garage. The garage is detached. The exterior is vinyl siding. The color is yellow. I am unable to verify that the gas is on or off. I am unable to verify that the water is on or off. The property does not have a fence. The property is vacant.
The Judgment amount was \$59,824.26.
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.
The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 22-087461L PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S

ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. I3224744

LEGAL 19815
July 14, July 21, July 28, 2023



Visit Us Online at
www.theclintonjournal.com

INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday) **Closed Wednesdays**
Address: 111 S. Monroe St., Clinton
Mail: P.O. Box 615
Clinton, IL 61727

CJ DEADLINES:
• **Mondays** at 5 p.m.
(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following print publications and on our newspaper website:
• Clinton Journal
• www.theclintonjournal.com

Call for pricing that starts at
\$19.00 for private party ads and \$30 for commercial business ads and \$17 for garage sale ads.

DISCLAIMER: If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.

Surplus / from page B4

That was, in part, a response to ongoing concerns of a recession, which COGFA noted lingered throughout FY 2023 but did not materialize.

Instead, revenues grew by a little less than 1 percent, driven by a continued strong performance in the first eight months of the fiscal year. Through February, each month of FY 2023 exceeded revenues of the prior year.

That led lawmakers to pass multiple supplemental spending plans throughout the fiscal year, dedicating about \$2.7 billion to retiring long-term debt while supplementing the state's Medicaid program, bolstering pension payments and creating a "closing fund" to lure businesses to the state among other measures.

The fiscal picture got murkier in April, however, as revenues plummeted by \$1.8 billion from the year prior, leading GOMB to estimate just less than \$50 billion in end-of-year revenues as lawmakers finalized a budget plan.

May revenues rebounded, however, in part because the month had an extra weekday to process tax payments compared to the year prior, while April had one fewer.

June came in slightly behind the same month in FY 2022, but COGFA noted that, too, was "mainly the result of the timing of receipts...rather than a declining trend in taxable income."

Employment and wage levels in June, the report added, "continue to show year-over-year improvement."

Still, COGFA's report noted that "many economic forecasters still have a recession in the short-term as a distinct possibility." It also noted the investment bank Goldman Sachs reduced its projected odds of the U.S. economy entering a recession in the next 12 months to 25 percent from 35 percent.

The governor's office has noted its FY 2024 budget, which plans for \$50.6 billion in revenue, anticipates a "mild recession."

Federal stimulus

The FY 2023 revenue figures jump to \$53.1 billion when including federal dollars.

That's due in part to an accounting measure that switched the funding source of about \$1.7 billion in one-time pandemic-driven programs – such as infrastructure and grant programs – from federal stimulus funds to general revenue funds. Federal stimulus funds that had been earmarked for those projects will instead be re-directed to other qualifying state expenditures, freeing up the general funds.

The move – which has no net effect on available state finances – was proposed by the governor and approved by lawmakers to ensure the state "fully expends" its COVID-19 recovery funds "within the allowed timeframe set by the federal government," according to GOMB.

The governor's office said the move ensures all commitments of pandemic stimulus funds are honored while providing a cleaner reporting process to the federal government, particularly for projects that have multi-year timelines for completion.

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Elevate your expectations with raised bed gardening

Ken Johnson

URBANA — Whether for convenience or accessibility, raised beds are a popular option for growing fruits, vegetables, or ornamental plants. Raised bed structures elevate the soil, and with it comes a variety of advantages for growing plants.

Using raised beds may allow gardening in soils where it may otherwise be difficult to grow plants, such as areas with poor drainage or compaction issues. Because these beds are raised above the ground, compaction shouldn't be an issue because there won't be any foot traffic on them.

Raised beds also have better drainage, and the soils warm up earlier in the spring compared to in-ground beds allowing an earlier start to the gardening season. Since they are contained, they also tend to have fewer weed problems, although this can vary depending on the soil used to fill the beds.

Raised beds can also provide those with accessibility concerns, such as individuals who use a wheelchair or have difficulty working at ground level, with gardening opportunities.

While there are many advantages to raised beds, there are also some disadvantages. Raised beds must be constructed, which can come at a cost. While recycled materials can be used, there is still some added work to construct them. Filling raised beds can be expensive, especially when building large beds. Some crops do not work well in raised beds. Sweet corn requires larger blocks of plants to ensure proper pollination, and large vining crops like pumpkins can overtake a bed. Finally, raised beds tend to dry out faster than in-ground beds, so they will likely need to be watered more frequently.

Raised beds are often constructed with wooden boards. Cedar and cypress wood are commonly used because they are nat-

urally rot-resistant. Alternatives to wood include materials such as cinder blocks, plastic lumber, and metal.

Pressure-treated wood is another option for constructing raised beds. Some people have concerns about using pressure-treated wood when growing food crops. Newer chemicals used in pressure-treating wood, such as micronized copper azole, CA, or alkaline copper quaternary ammonium, ACQ, are less toxic compared to previously used chemicals. Never use railroad ties, which have been treated with creosote, when constructing raised beds.

Raised beds are commonly built to be 6 to 12 inches tall but can be built taller. If constructing a raised bed with wheelchair access, they should be 24 inches tall. Raised beds should be no wider than 4 feet if they can be accessed on all sides. Otherwise, they should be no wider than 2 feet to ensure one is able to reach everything in the bed without stepping on the soil. When constructing raised beds out of wood, reinforce the corners with corner brackets or pieces of wood.

Fill raised beds with a 1:1 mixture of compost and garden or topsoil. Over time the compost or other organic matter used will decompose, which will cause the bed to settle. Because of this, more soil and compost may need to be added to the bed each year. Explore more about this at go.illinois.edu/RefreshRaisedBeds.

How much soil does a raised bed need? Multiply the length of the bed by the width and height — length x width x height — to get the raised bed's volume. When calculating, make sure to use the same unit of measure for all parts — feet, inches, etc.

For more research-based information on gardening, contact a local Illinois Extension expert at go.illinois.edu/ExtensionOffice.






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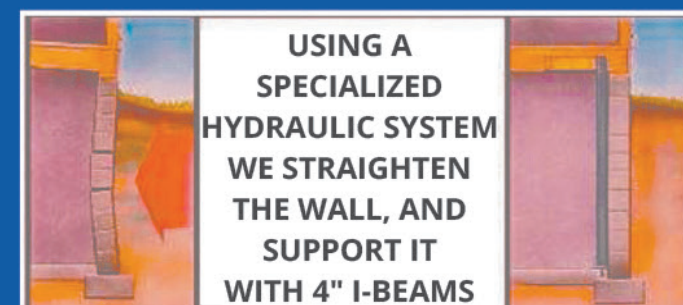


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