



Gordon Woods / Journal  
U.S. Army veteran and retired Clinton attorney Ray Moss gives the keynote address during Monday’s Memorial Day observance at Woodlawn Cemetery.

# Memorial Day observance returns to Civil War plot

Gordon Woods  
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CLINTON — The Clinton Memorial Day observance returned this year to Woodlawn Cemetery after Mr. Lincoln’s Square served as the event site in 2022. This year, the local veterans’ groups, American Legion, AmVets and VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) took charge of organizing the Memorial Day schedule. In addition to keynote speaker, retired attorney Ray Moss, veteran Jessika Jones introduced Moss, Kevin Peterson, of Little Galilee offered the benediction, veteran Carm

Sartie read Gen. John A. Logan’s order establishing the day that became Memorial Day, and CHS 2023 Salutatorian Chloe Barth led the recitation of The Americans Creed. BSA Troop 1142, BSA Troop 7142 and Cub Scout Pack 4142 helped lead the flag ceremony with members of the Clinton High School band performing the National Anthem as well as a medley of patriotic tunes. Moss addressed the crowd on Monday, talking about his time in the U.S. Army and offering a couple of messages.

See **MEMORIAL** / A2

# CHS students recognized on SkillsUSA National Signing Day

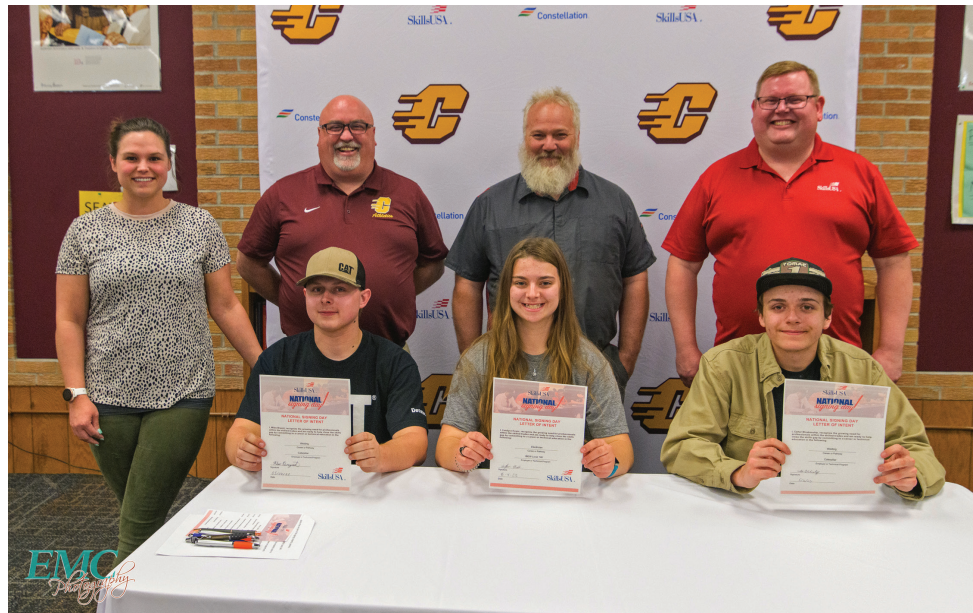
Gordon Woods  
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CLINTON — In early May, three Clinton High School students formally began their careers in the skilled trades through the high school’s participation in the SkillsUSA program. Candyce Evans, Miles Bryant and Carter Blankenship were recognized for their efforts

during the SkillsUSA National Signing Day held at the high school. SkillsUSA holds similar events nationwide to acknowledge students. SkillsUSA serves 130 occupational areas. More than 1,500 students from 300 SkillsUSA schools participated in the May signing day. SkillsUSA is a nonprofit program that works with students, teachers

and various industries to provide training for students interested in pursuing careers in the skills trades. *Students recognized during the National Signing Day at Clinton High School:* • Candyce Evans - Senior - IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) Local 146

See **SKILLS** / A3



Courtesy of EMC Photography  
Miles Bryant, Candyce Evans and Carter Blankenship accept apprenticeship programs with area industry as part of Clinton High School’s participation in the SkillsUSA program.

# Hoffman wins 1st at State and sets new state pole vault record

Gordon Woods  
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CLINTON — Clinton has a state champion pole vaulter after 7<sup>th</sup> grader Jenna Hoffman recently took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the IESA (Illinois Elementary School Association) State Finals. Hoffman completed for Clinton on May 19 at the IESA State Finals, held in Peoria. Clinton competes in class 3A. “There are three vaults per each height,” Hoffman said. “I started at 8-feet, and then we went to 8’-4”.” From there, the heights increased until they reached 9’-4”.



Gordon Woods / Journal  
Jenna Hoffman wears her state champion medal after setting a new record at the IESA State Finals

a new state record in class 3A, 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 9’-4”. Hoffman was modest about her 1<sup>st</sup> place win and

her new state record.

See **RECORD** / A7

# DeWitt County Museum presents ‘Secrets of the David Davis Mansion’ June 11

CLINTON — The DeWitt County Museum Association invites the public to attend a special presentation, “Secrets of the David Davis Mansion,” presented by Dr. Marcia Young, former site manager of the David Davis Mansion and recipient of the Illinois State Historical Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award. The David Davis Mansion was home to several notable individuals, among them Judge David Davis, C.H. Moore’s close friend and business partner, and Davis’s wife, Sarah.

The last official biography of the house was printed in the 1987, “Historic Structures Report,” but over the past 35 years, new evidence has come to light, revealing surprising discoveries about the mansion’s past. What was actually happening behind the stately walls of the David Davis Mansion? Dr. Marcia Young will tell the secrets revealed to her when researching and writing the book, titled “The David Davis Mansion 1872-2022: 150 Years at Clover Lawn.” The illustrated presentation will also



include details about the friendship shared by Davis and Moore. The event, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled for Sunday, June 11, at the C.H. Moore Homestead & DeWitt County Museum, 219 E. Woodlawn, Clinton. For details, contact the museum at 217-935-6066.

Price  
\$1<sup>25</sup>

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See your weather forecast  
for the week ahead on page A12

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Courtesy of EMC Photography  
The recent SkillsUSA National Signing Day, held at Clinton High School.

## Skills / from page A1

(Decatur) apprenticeship program. She will spend the next five years learning her trade on the job before reaching Journeyman status as an electrician.

• Miles Bryant - Senior - Miles is finishing up a one-year intensive welding apprenticeship program at Caterpillar, in Decatur, and will move from part time to full time

employment. He spent last summer in an intense boot camp training program before transitioning to a split-day program during his senior year. He came to school in the morning to finish all of his required coursework for graduation and then drove to Decatur, where he worked as a welder on their production lines. After successful

completion of the program, most students are offered full time employment.

• Carter Blankenship - Junior - Carter will enter the Caterpillar welding apprenticeship this summer and will continue the program next school year during his senior year. He also will be working half a day and going to school half a day.

## Rucker Chapel Memorial Day service June 4

RURAL WAPELLA — The annual Memorial Day observance will be held at Rucker Chapel at 2 p.m. on June 4.

Military rites will be conducted at Rucker Chapel Cemetery at 3 p.m. for all of the veterans of

all wars buried there.

Contact Selena Douglass, skd@illinois.edu or 217-621-0391 with any questions.

Rucker Chapel Church was built in 1865 in Wilson Township, DeWitt County in 1865. It burned

down on December 16, 1932, was rebuilt on the same site, and dedicated December 17, 1933. The congregation will observe the 158th anniversary of the church, which was built in 1865.

### Clinton Police Department

Citations  
05/26/23  
Matthew G. Troyer 16, Heyworth Speeding 73 mph in a 55 mph zone. Notice to Appear issued.  
Allison L. Moore 18, Decatur Speeding 71 mph in a 55 mph zone Notice to Appear issued.  
Josiah N. Grayned 35, Decatur Registration Suspended for Non Insurance. Notice to Appear issued.  
05/28/23

### Law Enforcement

Jeffery S. Willey 39, Falls City,NB No Valid Registration. Promise to Comply issued.

On 05/28/23 Clinton Police arrested Russell D. Huffaker 27, Clinton for Domestic Battery. Huffaker was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

On 05/28/23 Clinton Police arrested Carlos Bonilla 31, Clinton for Aggravated Assault and Disorderly Conduct. Bonilla was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and

released to Corrections.

On 05/28/23 Clinton Police arrested Ariel N. Schepleng 24, Decatur for Driving While License Suspended, Moultrie County Warrant and a Macon County Warrant. Schepleng was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

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

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## The Invention of the Year

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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

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(Zoomer Chair)



Joystick can be mounted on the right or left side for rider's comfort



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.

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# OPINION

## HISTORY ALMANAC

1957 - Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev was interviewed by CBS-TV.

1966 - Surveyor 1, the U.S. space probe, landed on the moon and started sending photographs back to Earth of the Moon's surface. It was the first soft landing on the Moon.

1969 - The National Arts Center in Canada opened its doors to the public.

1969 - Australian aircraft carrier Melbourne sliced the destroyer USS Frank E. Evans in half off the shore of South Vietnam.

1979 - Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

1985 - The R.J. Reynolds Company proposed a major merger with Nabisco that would create a \$4.9 billion conglomerate.

1985 - Tommy Sandt was ejected from a major-league baseball game before the national anthem was played. He had complained to the umpire about a call against his team the night before.

1995 - Captain Scott F. O'Grady's U.S. Air Force F-16C was shot down by Bosnian Serbs. He was rescued six days later.

1998 - Royal Caribbean Cruises agreed to pay \$9 million to settle charges of dumping waste at sea.

1998 - Voters in California passed Proposition 227. The act abolished the state's 30-year-old bilingual education program by requiring that all children be taught in English.

1999 - In South Africa, the African National Congress (ANC) won a major victory. ANC leader Thabo Mbeki was to succeed Nelson Mandela as the nation's president.

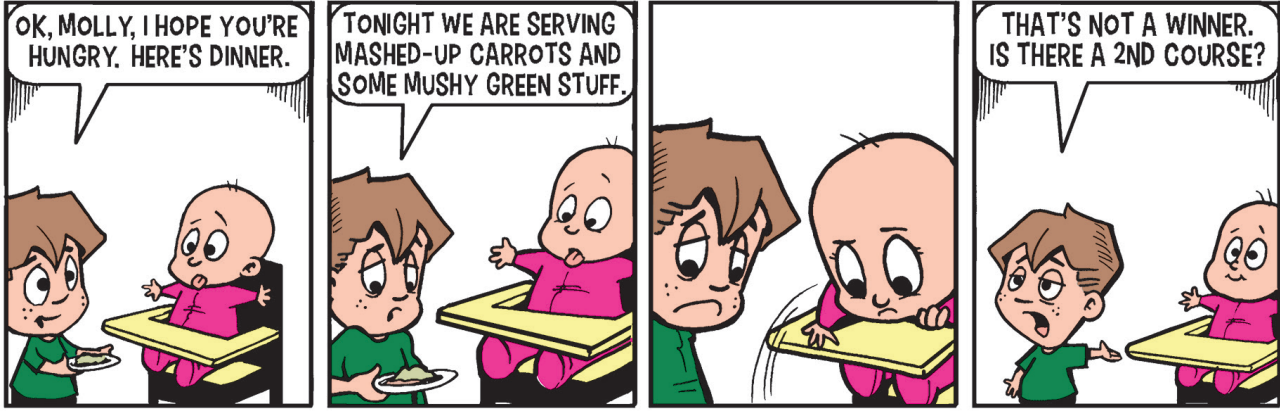
2003 - In the U.S., federal regulators voted to allow companies to buy more television stations and newspaper-broadcasting combinations in the same city. The previous ownership restrictions had not been altered since 1975.

2003 - In Seville, Spain, a chest containing the supposed remains of Christopher Columbus were exhumed for DNA tests to determine whether the bones were really those of the explorer. The tests were aimed at determining if Columbus was currently buried in Spain's Seville Cathedral or in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.

2003 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that companies could not be sued under a trademark law for using information in the public domain without giving credit to the originator. The case had originated with 20th Century Fox against suing Dastar Corp. over their use of World War II footage.

2003 - William Baily was reunited with two paintings he had left on a subway platform. One of the works was an original Picasso rendering of two male figures and a recreation of Picasso's "Guernica" by Sophie Matisse. Sophie Matisse was the great-granddaughter of Henri Matisse.

## Amber Waves



## Moving forward

This past week brought about some significant movement on both the state and federal budget and finances. Almost every I have talked to has an objection to the state budget or the federal debt limit legislation. Admittedly, there are several who just don't care. The bickering in Springfield, in wasn't much of a fight, and the left/right posturing in DC gave thought to now deceased judge who usually had some keen insight. One of Judge Peters favorite comments to attorneys during pretrial hearings was, "A bad deal is better than a good trial any day." That comment doesn't make any sense, until you understand the system. A trial gives no guarantee that either side will prevail. I have seen solid cases fall apart simply because a witness misspeaks or a story changes. There are no guarantees in a trial, except you get the trial. The deal, civil or criminal, is another entity. Both sides tend to think they gave too much. Both sides are fearful of exposure that can occur in a trial. Both sides got something that made them believe the deal was the better alternative to a trial. It is called negotiations and it is a well established part of life.

Springfield — The state budget was a slightly different form of

negotiations. Democrats have super majorities in the House and Senate and control the Governor's office. In all honesty, Republicans had no bargaining power at the table. They didn't have the votes. The Republicans were politely listened to and then the Democrats voted their will. The negotiations were between the Democrats themselves. If you have watched Chicago politics recently, you witnessed the Chicago Teacher's Union elect their candidate as mayor. The other major union in Chicago politics is the police union and their endorsed candidate is now an also ran. The currently proposed budget, which will be signed by the Governor, clearly emphasizes education. Public education, especially preschool through high school is getting a major influx of cash. Many of us would have preferred more business initiatives and perhaps some assistance to private education, but the deal was cut and education is a priority of all. Illinois has a budget and that is a positive thing. Illinois is moving forward, which is what is required of government.

Washington — The federal government was a more traditional negotiation. The nation reached its debt ceiling in January and has been playing financial



games since then. The US Treasury clearly told Congress and the President that it would run of funds to pay the nation's bills sometime in early June, which caused Washington to address this recurring issue. No one wants the nation to default on its debt. Anyone with any common sense, (and for the record there are many Republicans and Democrats who lack that common sense) understands the economic chaos that would ensue if the United States defaulted on its debt. Biden and the Demcrats simply wanted to raise the debt limit, with no strings attached as to spending. House Speaker McCarthy and the Republicans agreed the debt limit needed to be increased, but also wanted legislation capping spending by Congress. Both groups played chicken until the last few weeks when both decided it was time to work a deal.

Procedurally, the Republicans passed a bill that increased the debt limit and curtailed spending. The bill was sent to the Senate where it should have been debated. Senate Majority Leader Schumer simply didn't

have the political muscle to achieve a vote in the Senate. It appears that all parties decided it was best to let the President and his negotiators and the Speaker and his negotiators seek a resolution. They achieved a negotiated settlement. The debt limit will be increase and nonmilitary spending will be capped. The nation's bills will be paid, but new spending will be dramatically curtailed for the next two years. The liberal progressive Democrats are screaming betrayal by Biden. The ultra conservative block of Republic an are voicing that the original bill passed by the House should have been debated by the Senate and they will oppose the negotiated deal.

At this time in Washington neither the Republican or the Democrats have the political muscle to enact their agenda, which may not be a bad thing. They had to talk and negotiate. Sausage making is not pretty. Nobody got all that they wanted. Everybody had to give up something. Everybody got something out of the deal. There are now two years of economic peace on the books for both sides to make some further progress. The nation is moving forward. That is a good thing.

## VA's office of Inspector General strikes again

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of Inspector General was asked to review the response of facility leaders at a certain VA health location when there had been allegations of sexual harassment of a mental health patient. Specifically, the patient claimed to have been harassed via social media by a food service worker and reported this to several people, including a supervisor and an HR specialist. No one, it appeared, had done much of anything, and the patient was increasingly stressed and anxious. It was only after the

patient was admitted to a mental health ward that a nurse reported it to the VA's police, with the social media posts as proof. Too little, too late. The people who should have intervened tried to weasel out of responsibility during the investigation by saying they didn't think they could take any action because the social media posts were done after working hours and off-site. Later, when someone else called for a welfare check at the patient's home, the police found the patient dead by suicide.

Sexual harassment becomes sexual assault when it's hands-on, and a



by Freddy Groves

VA physician was indicted on just that: sexual assault of at least four women during routine exams while working at a VA hospital. Authorities suspect there were additional women who were assaulted and ask that they come forward to add to the investigation. The doctor, meanwhile, has been assigned to a job with no patient interaction.

If this isn't bad enough, consider the VA employee who was sending out

child pornography -- over the public Wi-Fi at a VA medical center. Not only did the perp send it out, but he had a collection at home, and the children involved were under the age of 12. Distribution could get him up to 20 years in prison, and the possession could get him an identical amount of time, including possible fines of up to \$250,000 for each charge.

If you suspect wrongdoing at the VA, submit a complaint via the VA OIG Hotline at [www.va.gov/oig/hotline](http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline) or call them at 800-488-8244.

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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

numbers will not be published.

The editor and manager reserve the right to edit letters for length and/or content and to publish letters using any Journal platform, i.e. print newspaper, Web site or other electronic delivery method.

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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# NEWS

## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Hosea (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Luke 8:2, how many demons did Mary Magdalene have in her? 1, 3, 5, 7

3. Who wrote in Proverbs 13:24, "He that spareth his rod hatest his son"? David, Solomon, Job, Ruth

4. From Judges 13-16, who was the strongest man on earth? Hercules, Samson, Obadiah, Timothy

5. During the great flood, how many humans were on the ark? 2, 4, 6, 8

6. In Psalms 68:5, who is "father to the fatherless"? Oneself, Heaven, Fool, God

ANSWERS: (1) Old, (2) 7, (3) Solomon, (4) 5 demons, (5) 8, (6) 7, (7) 13, (8) Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

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### BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 26:3-4

for I have **always** **been** **mindful** of **your** **unfailing** **love** and **have** **lived** in **reliance** on your faithfulness. I do **not** **sit** **with** the **deceitful**, **nor** do I **associate** with **hypocrites**.

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A N B E E N A V E K  
G G R L I V E D C S

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

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### BIBLE WORD SEARCH


Answers

L U F T I E C E D  
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U A P T V Y A N T E  
F L Q O O I F I C C  
D W L U C A S N W W  
N A R O I R A N I W  
I Y S L O I I T O H  
M S I F L K H T A R  
A N B E E N A V E K  
G G R L I V E D C S

## Culinary in various sectors of Mexico

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights. The culinary aspect for Northern Mexico is rich in its Spanish heritage but poor in its culinary selection. Its deserts, deep canyons and mountainous regions make herding and farming difficult. The settlers of Northern Mexico literally lived off of the land collecting insects, wild game and even utilizing cacti for food. Cooking was therefore done over open fire pits. Fajitas and enchiladas were the common fare. Farming had to be done in the mountainous regions. They grew plants native to the area such as chili peppers, tomatoes, limes, garlic and cilantro. The lakes and sea coast provided fish and sea foods.

Central Mexico has a five month rainy season followed by dry conditions. The land is more hospitable toward farming and husbandry. Most of the foods we recognize as Mexican foods come from this region. In pre-Spanish invasion days, this was the trade and market center of the Americas. A great civilization existed until



**The Culinary Corner**

By Chef Roger Joss

the conquistadors virtually wiped it out.

Southern Mexico has a great topographical variety from flatlands to highlands, from desert to tropical conditions. There are also mountainous regions and active volcanos. The vast coastline provides a large variety of sea foods. With such variations, you can expect the same with their cuisines.

Allow me to introduce you to a form of tortilla unfamiliar to most. This dish is called Tortilla Española. I have made this several times as a breakfast item. Heat a few ounces of olive oil in a large sauté pan. To this add 9 ounces of onions and 4 ounces of green pepper both having been small diced and sauté until tender. To this add 1½ pounds of medium diced russet potatoes. I prefer a little more potatoes than that. Season the potato mixture with salt and black ground pepper, cover and

cook on low heat until potatoes are tender (15 to 20 minutes).


While the potatoes are slowly cooking, beat 14 large eggs until well blended and lightly stir this in with the potato mixture once the potatoes are properly cooked. It is now time for the fun part. In a sauté pan, again add a few ounces of olive oil and heat until almost at the smoking point on medium high. Form a patty of the potato/egg mixture in the pan. Turn the heat down to medium low and cook until the bottom reaches a golden brown (3 minutes). Flip it over and brown the other side. It is important to make your patties large enough to handle but small enough to flip (about 6 to 8 inch diameter). You must try this dish.

I do mine differently. Rather than to dice my potatoes, I slice them in half moon shapes. I arrange this in a circular fashion in a pan just size enough to contain it. Season and then cook the potatoes with onion and green dice peppers. Pour in the eggs and brown each side.

Until next time, peace to all.

### THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."



1 CORINTHIANS 1: 18,19

"Christ on the Cross with the Virgin and Saint John" (15th century woodcut)

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## AREA CHURCHES DIRECTORY

<b>Calvary United Pentecostal Church</b> 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	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	<b>Lifebridges Church</b> 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, 6 <sup>th</sup> -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
<b>Christ Lutheran Church &amp; preschool</b> 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.	<b>First Baptist Church</b> 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	<b>St. John the Baptist Catholic Church</b> 502 N. Monroe Street, Clinton (217) 935-3727 Rev. James Owusu-Yeboah, pastor 4 p.m.-Saturday mass 8:30 a.m.-Sunday mass
<b>Clinton Church of Christ</b> 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	<b>First Christian Church</b> 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.	<b>St. Patrick Catholic Church</b> 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
<b>Clinton Church of God</b> 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	<b>First Church of the Nazarene</b> 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	<b>Texas Christian Church</b> 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
<b>Clinton Presbyterian Church</b> 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	<b>Kenney Christian Church</b> 213 W. Benjamin Street, Kenney (217) 944-2275 Ernie Harvey, minister 9:30 a.m.-Bible study 10:30 a.m.-Sunday worship	<b>The Blessed Hope Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> 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
<b>Clinton United Methodist Church</b> 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	<b>Lane Christian Church</b> (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 "We're ordinary people helping each other become faithful followers of Jesus."	<b>Wapella Christian Church</b> 101 N. Poplar (217) 731-4404 Josh Gorrie, minister Wapellacc.com 9 a.m.-Sunday school 10 a.m.-worship "Celebrating our 150th year"

# Clear out Stuff that

## Garage Sale Ads

**Multi-family Garage Sale**  
Household items, many VHS tapes, some furniture and all

**MOVING OUT OF STATE SALE**  
I'M MOVING OUT OF STATE AND MUST SELL

All for sale! Please email or call before stopping by the house. Sewing machine w/accessories & cover...used very little \$200 "Kin-Koil" mattress

Stop in and place your ad today!

Clinton Journal



SPORTS

Record / from page A1

“I thought it would feel a little more important,” Hoffman said. “But, it really didn’t feel that important to me.”

After her record vault, the pole was raised to a height Hoffman selected.

“I had it set at 9’-6” because that’s my personal record,” she said. “I didn’t make it.”

With her state record pole vault, Hoffman also broke the existing CJHS record of 8-feet.

Hoffman joined the CJHS track and field team in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Ben Barth coaches the CJHS team.

At 5’-5”, Hoffman seems to take her win in stride, a pretty mature attitude considering she also is nationally ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in her class in the pole vault.

Hoffman also is a member of the Flying Dragons Pole Vaulting Club, in Normal, the largest pole vaulting club in the U.S., coached by Mike Cockerham. She competes on a national level with the club.

Hoffman’s mom, Jessica Jiles, said Cockerham “paved the way” for her daughter’s ever-improving pole vaulting performance.

Cockerham has coached Hoffman for about a year and a half. Signs she would be a top pole

vaulter came on gradually, Cockerham said. He said she was relatively tall for a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and had the speed.

“She has what it takes,” Cockerham said.

He said there were a number of factors that make a champion pole vaulter but speed was the key.

“It all about speed,” he said. “Usain Bolt, the Olympic champion had the speed, and he wasn’t fast enough.”

Cockerham has coached for 28 years. He volunteers as a coach for around 50 pole vaulters, including a current roster that includes a high school freshman who already is a world record holder in his class.

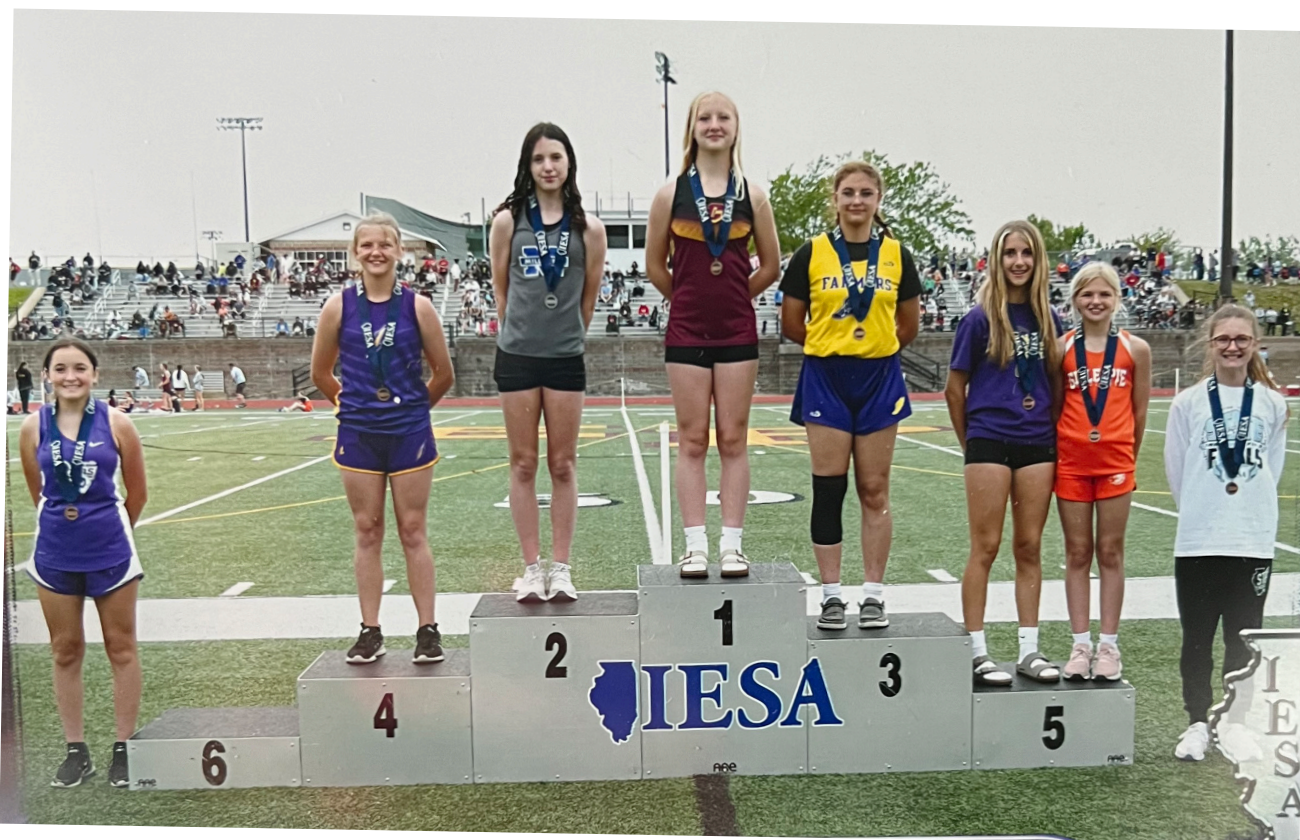
Cockerham said Hoffman has the stuff to beat the 8<sup>th</sup> grade record at state finals next year.

Hoffman said she feels good about next year’s competition.

“Pretty confident about it,” she said.

Hoffman also will likely compete over the summer at national-level events in Wisconsin and Florida, among others.

“This kid has poured a lot of blood, sweat and tears into athletics over the past couple of years,” said Jiles.



Recent Clinton 8-under action at the Corn Crib, Normal



Katy O’Grady-Pyne / Journal





## BRIDGE BITES

	♠ Q973 ♥ QJ98 ♦ J943 ♣ A	
♠ JT86 ♥ K4 ♦ AQ5 ♣ QT32	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ K542 ♥ 32 ♦ T82 ♣ 9864
	♠ A ♥ AT765 ♦ K76 ♣ KJ75	

In a problem-solving mood? Then cover up S-E and look only at the N-W hands. As West, you lead the ♠J and the defense must somehow conjure up four tricks. But be warned! Declarer is a tricky fellow, and some flim-flam is not entirely out of the question.

The ♠J opening lead is covered by the Queen, King, Ace. Declarer leads a Club to Dummy's ♠A, and then takes the losing Heart finesse. After winning the ♥K it is time for West to ponder a while. Where will the defense find three more tricks?

Can the defense cash three Diamonds? Probably not, Declarer is favorite to hold the  $\spadesuit K$  and, anyway, there's no rush, those Diamonds aren't going anywhere. It looks like there is a Spade to cash (based on the play of the  $\heartsuit Q$  at Trick 1), but that also can wait. So you exit safely with a Heart and await developments. Declarer wins that in Dummy and leads a Diamond to his King and your Ace. Now what?

At this point it might seem obvious for West to cash the ♠T and the ♦Q for down one. But by now you should be getting suspicious. Why hasn't Declarer led a Spade to the board, setting up Dummy's Nine for a Diamond pitch? The reason is that Declarer doesn't have a second Spade! That squandering of the Queen at Trick 1 was a clever ruse, designed to fool you. The only way to beat the contract now is to lead a casual *low* Diamond, hoping that Declarer will misguess and finesse the Diamond Nine. He probably will, and that will be down one! A fiendishly deceptive play is foiled by sound logic.

For bridge games, classes, or seminars, contact Mike Tomlianovich by phone: 309-825-5823 or b

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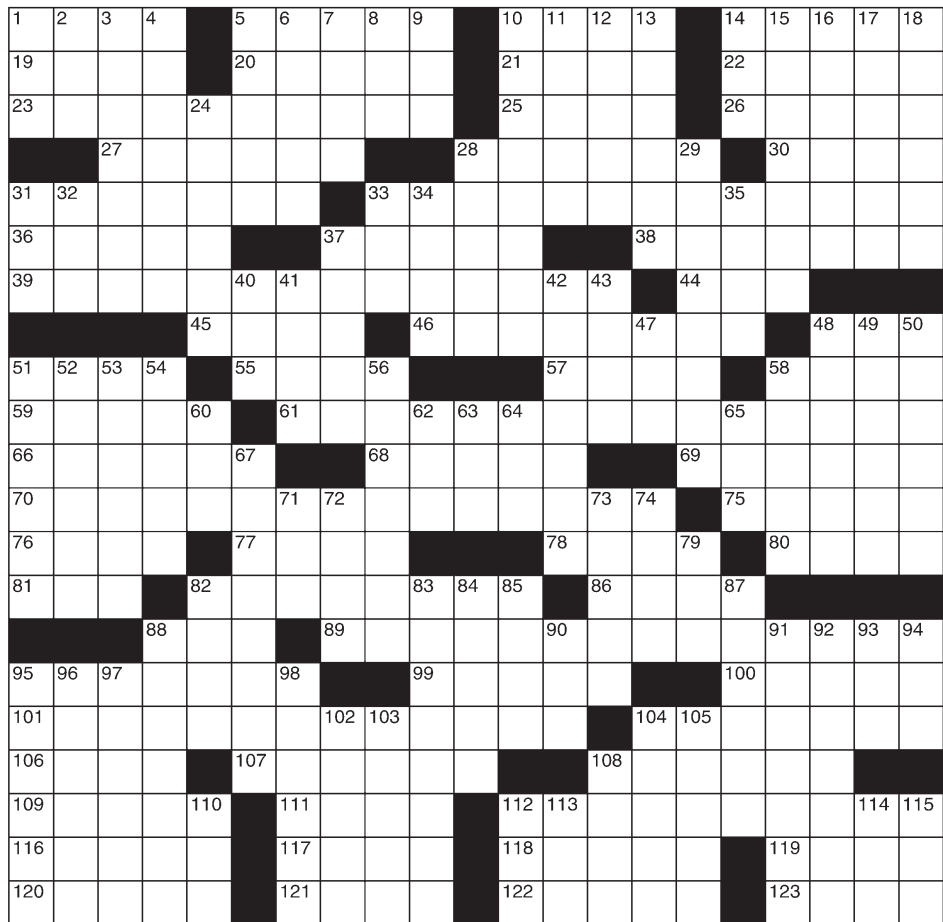
©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**FEAR KNOT**

## FRONT PAWS

**DOWN**

6 Compass	42 "Open this	82 Fact falsifier
6 Color	door!"	83 Aura
variations	43 March	84 Manorial lord
7 Did superbly	Madness gp.	85 Meyers of
on	47 Little —	late night
8 Corn core	(tykes)	87 Funnel-
9 Eli precursor	48 Diet	shaped
10 Attaches, as	drastically	flower
a seat belt	49 Oklahoma	88 One leaving
11 Dog tether	neighbor	a smear
12 Chichi	50 Use the	90 — "King"
13 Sporty 1990s	tab key,	Cole
Toyotas	perhaps	91 Built
14 U.S. snoop gp.	51 Not too hard	92 Suede, e.g.
15 Nabs	to carry out	93 — Vegas
6 Hoi — (the	52 Houston	94 Ending for
masses)	baseballers	Siam
17 Like single-	53 Loutish	95 On fire
person bands	types	96 Capital of
18 B-board	54 Distorts	Niger
overseers	56 Display of	97 Set on fire
24 Kimono-clad	great daring	98 "You are right
hostess	58 Killed, as a	about that"
28 "Baywatch"	dragon	102 — "Jacques"
actress	60 Shaker Lee	(kids' song)
29 Bingham	62 Ending for	103 Misstep
Of formal	project	104 Christopher
public	63 35mm	who played
worship	camera type	Superman
31 School org.	64 Seventh	105 Chaperone in
32 Space sphere	scale notes	"The Hunger
33 Med. scan	65 Lawn turf	Games"
34 Big tea	67 Quarterbacks'	108 Historical
holders	called	plaintiff
35 Use a	changes	— Scott
surgical	71 — Hill, San	110 Surgery
beam on	Francisco	ctrs.
37 God of Islam	72 Like cold tea	112 Bouquet-
38 Circle section	73 Powder room	bringing gp.
11 "I Need to	powders	113 Tram cargo
Know" singer	74 "Awright!"	114 Period
— Anthony	79 Mexican Mrs.	115 Rip off



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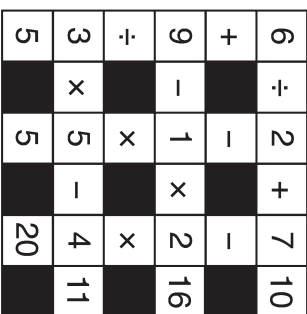
**MAGIC MAZE** ● **LEATHER PRODUCTS**

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

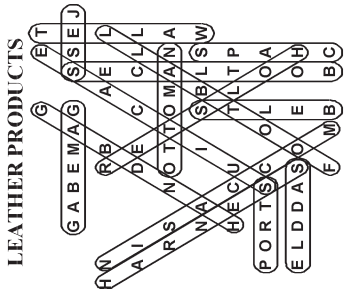
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: A CONTAINER FOR ARROWS

- |            |          |          |          |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Belts      | Game bag | Jess     | Strop    |
| Boot laces | Handbag  | Moccasin | Suitcase |
| Chaps      | Harness  | Ottoman  | Wallet   |
| Football   | Holster  | Saddle   |          |

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**Go Figure!**  
answers





# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

Sell your household items for free.

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



CLINTON • WAPELLA • WAYNESVILLE • KENNEY • DEWITT • LANE • WELDON

06/02/23  
**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 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)

## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FAX RECEIVING AND SENDING SERVICE

The Clinton Journal will facsimile documents to other fax machines for private parties and business. **RATES:** (Receiving) \$2 - First page, \$1 each page after, (sending in US) \$3 - First page. \$1 each page after. Get your important documents where they need to be instantly by taking advantage of our facsimile machine. Reproduce complete documents and/or pictures by telephone in just a couple minutes! Just stop by the Clinton Journal, 111 S Monroe, Clinton - no appointment necessary. (119TFN)

**NEW TO TOWN?** Stop by our office for your Free 2021-2022 Community Guide. This guide will tell everything you need to know about settling into Clinton and making it home.  
**Clinton Journal 111 S Monroe, Clinton**

### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

**NO INDIVIDUAL,** unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. \*A childcare facility that is

licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. The Clinton Journal strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.  
\*Family homes that care for no more than three (3) children under the age of twelve or which receive only children from a single household, for less than 24 hours per day, are exempt from licensure as day care homes. The three children to whom this exemption applies includes the family's natural or adopted children and any other persons under the age of 12 whether related or unrelated to the operator of the day care home. (DCFS Rule, Part 377.3 (c))

### 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.

**510 Cedar Drive, Clinton.** June 2 and June 3. 8 a.m. - 12 noon. Lots of miscellaneous. Small appliances, lawn chairs, indoor/outdoor rugs, tools, clothing. (3050602)

**4739 Bond Rd., Clinton.** June 2 and June 3, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Antique farm implements, household items, Coach purses, Funko pops, and more. (3050602)

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**Sheet Metal Roofing Material** (used) 22 foot long x 3 foot wide. Used once. Call for pricing. (309) 824-0678 (3070623)

## 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 07/12/2023, 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://ilforeclosure-sales.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# 22-08746IL

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.

I3220890

LEGAL 19791 June 2, 9, and 16 2023

## LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the DeLand Community Fire Protection District for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2023, and ending April 30, 2024, is on file and conveniently available for public inspection at the United States Post Office, DeLand, Illinois, from and after June 9, 2023.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a public hearing on said Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 5:30 p.m. on the 10th day of July, 2023 at the DeLand Community Fire Protection District Office, DeLand, Piatt County, Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Trustees of the DeLand Community Fire Protection District at a meeting to be held at 5:45 p.m. on the 10th day of July, 2023.

DATED this 7th day

## 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

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

**CJ DEADLINES:**  
• **Mondays** at 5 p.m.

(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

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.

of June, 2023.

Troy Burton Secretary

Prepared by:  
Amy M. Ruper of FOLTZ & RUPPER  
114 E Washington Street Monticello, IL 61856  
Telephone 217-762-9444 [arupiper@foltzandruper.com](mailto:arupiper@foltzandruper.com)

LEGAL 19795 June 2, 2023

## LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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**Wapella Community Sales**

**Friday, June 2 & Saturday, June 3**

Maps available at Casey's and the Farmer's Bank



### CLINTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOLS

VACANCY NOTICE NO. 24

Please apply on-line at [www.applitrack.com/Clinton/onlineapp](http://www.applitrack.com/Clinton/onlineapp) unless noted otherwise.

#### Clinton High School

- 1. **PE Teacher** for the 2023-24 school year, application deadline June 9th 2023
- 1. **Spanish Teacher** for the 2023-24 school year, application deadline June 9th 2023

#### Clinton Junior High

- 1. **Teacher Aide** 1-1 please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline June 9th 2023

#### Clinton Elementary School

- 1. **Teacher Aide** 1-1 please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline June 9th 2023
- 1. **Teacher Aide** please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline June 9th 2023

#### Douglas School

- 1. **Reading Specialist Teacher** for the 2023-2024 school year, application deadline June 9th 2023
- 1. **Physical Education Aide**, application deadline June 9th 2023

#### Transportation

- Sub Bus Driver**, (\$23.85 per hour) Bus Drivers must have a CDL or be willing to obtain one.
- Sub Van Driver**, (\$21.74 per hour)
- Sub Bus/Van Monitor & Part time Bus/Van Monitors**, (\$15.00 per hour)
- Sub Crossing Guards & Part Time Crossing Guard**, (\$15.00 per hour)

#### Athletics

- Head Baseball 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](mailto:mkoeppe@cUSD15.org)

#### Buildings/Grounds

- 1. **Custodian - second shift**, please apply online, pick up application at unit office or send resume to Ryan Black [rblack@cUSD15.org](mailto:rblack@cUSD15.org)

#### Cafeteria

- 1. **Kitchen Staff Manager** @CES (5.0 hours) 9- month position for 2023-2024 school year, Food Service Certificate required or be willing to obtain one / Kitchen experience preferred/ Reports to Food Service Director.
- 1. **Kitchen Staff** (4.75 hours) 9-month position, Food Service Certificate required or be willing to obtain one / Kitchen experience preferred/ Reports to CES. Kitchen Manager
- 1. **Kitchen Staff** (6.0 hours) 9-month position, Food Service Certificate required or be willing to obtain one / Kitchen experience preferred/ Reports to H.S. Kitchen Manager

#### Unit Office

- 1. **Administrator/Principal** - Clinton Elementary School for 2023-2024 school year. Please see website for Duties, Qualifications, and Benefits <https://www.cUSD15.org/page/vacancies>
- 1. **Administrator/Assistant Principal** - Clinton Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year. Please see website for Duties, Qualifications, and Benefits <https://www.cUSD15.org/page/vacancies>
- 1. **Teacher Aide** - Bilingual (English & Spanish), please see website for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline June 9th 2023

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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 Condomini-

um 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.

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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.

I3220890

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# Lawmakers approve measure giving utilities control over new downstate transmission lines

Andrew Adams  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — In the final hours of their spring session last week, lawmakers approved a controversial measure that would give existing power companies in downstate Illinois, notably Ameren Illinois, the first crack at installing new transmission lines.

The measure applies to companies that already own or operate electric transmission lines under the purview of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, or MISO, the grid operator for a wide swath of the Midwest, including much of downstate and parts of northwestern Illinois.

This “right of first refusal” would empower those companies to choose whether they want to build the new lines, replacing the current system of competitive bidding for such construction. This provision is temporary and would sunset at the end of 2024.

Critics of the proposal said that it would reduce competition, leading to higher costs for construction projects and ultimately higher costs to energy consumers. But proponents said that it will streamline the billions of dollars of construction planned for the coming years while creating union jobs for Illinoisans.

The proposal was in a broader piece of energy legislation, House Bill 3445, which was introduced in its final form last Thursday night and passed in the early hours of Saturday. It passed in the Senate 41-9 with a single member voting “present”

and in the House 63-32, with two “present” votes.

While it needs only a signature from Gov. JB Pritzker to become law, he vowed last week to veto the bill. Pritzker spokesperson Alex Gough said the governor opposes the bill because it “puts corporate profits over consumers.”

The legislature could override Pritzker’s potential veto, but it would require three-fifths majorities in both chambers, a margin that it earned in the Senate, but not the House.

Bill sponsor Sen. Steve Stadelman, D-Loves Park, defended the proposal as a job-saving measure and emphasized it would be temporary.

“This is an 18-month temporary right of refusal,” Stadelman told Capitol News Illinois on Thursday. “I just want to make sure that over that time period, there is certainty to our grid and that the jobs are Illinois jobs. I don’t want these jobs going out of state.”

The right of first refusal provision is supported by both Ameren Illinois and labor unions, such as IBEW Local 51, IBEW Local 134 and the Midwest region of Laborers’ International Union.

The bill’s house sponsor and the House Public Utilities Committee chair, Rep. Larry Walsh, D-Elwood, said that the proposal came to him from the union. In a Friday evening committee, Walsh said it would streamline the process of expanding the grid.

“If you have an entity that controls the transmission of our

electric power throughout whatever region you’re in... It’s easier for them to do this type of work, interconnecting their system,” Walsh said.

The measure’s opponents, however, include a mix of environmentalists, business groups, renewable energy companies and the state’s attorney general.

Illinois Environmental Council Executive Director Jen Walling said the proposal will make it more difficult for the state to build out renewable energy resources.

“We need two to five times more transmission to be able to meet our clean energy goals in the state,” Walling said. “This is going to make it expensive and hard to achieve those goals when we could save money and have better systems through a competitive procurement.”

Energy companies that build transmission lines, such as NextEra Energy, echo Walling’s concern. Those firms contend the proposal will stifle competition and increase consumer prices, according to Jonathan Feipel, a representative of the industry group American Clean Power.

Rep. Ann Williams, D-Chicago, the chair of the House Energy and Environment committee, pointed to the significant cost of transmission line projects that have recently been approved by MISO.

“Right of first refusal is definitely problematic and when you’re talking about \$10 billion – with a ‘B’ – dollars, that’s certainly a great concern,” Williams said during debate over

the measure late Friday before voting against it.

Lawmakers of both parties, including Williams, took issue with the process of the proposal’s introduction. It was introduced as an amendment and passed through both houses within 36 hours.

Utilities having the right of first refusal has turned into a political hot topic in other states recently. In March, the Iowa Supreme Court issued a temporary injunction against a law in that state granting incumbent utilities the right of first refusal for transmission lines, noting that the Iowa law was “quintessentially crony capitalism.”

Clean energy studies

In addition to the right of first refusal provisions, HB 3445 would direct the Illinois Power Agency to study several potential developments in the state’s energy sector. That includes a potential offshore wind farm pilot program off the coast of Lake Michigan, dubbed the “Rust Belt to Green Belt” project.

Even the notion of commissioning a study on the subject drew criticism from some Democrats. Sen. Laura Murphy, D-Des Plaines, said she was concerned about developing a wind farm on Lake Michigan – northern Illinois’ main source of drinking water.

“Without any parameters on how this study is conducted, I am an absolute ‘no’ on this portion of this bill,” Murphy said during a Senate hearing on the measure Thursday, May 25.

Those studies were

supported by the environmental groups that opposed the right of first refusal portion of the bill.

A bill outlining a funding scheme for the project was put forward earlier in the year. It passed in the House but stalled when it arrived in the Senate.

Rep. Marcus Evans, D-Chicago, an advocate for the offshore wind project, said that he will continue to push for its passage.

“There’s so much information worldwide about the benefits of wind energy that we’re not taking advantage of,” Evans said in a Friday interview. “We’re not going to meet our clean energy goals at the rate we’re going. We have to expedite.”

The bill would also require the IPA to study the implications of another proposal from earlier this year, the consideration of a renewable credit system to support deploying grid-scale energy storage, a longtime goal of renewable energy advocates. The agency would also be required to study the implications of a proposed high-voltage electricity transmission project.

Nuclear construction

Lawmakers also approved a measure, Senate Bill 76, that would allow for the construction of “advanced” nuclear reactors in the state.

A state law dating back to the 1980s placed a moratorium on building those power plants until the federal government designates a repository for nuclear waste, something the federal government has yet to do.

SB 76 was approved with bipartisan support earlier in May, passing on an 84-22 vote in the House and a 36-14 vote in the Senate.

The measure initially lifted the ban on construction for all nuclear plants, although debate on the bill focused primarily on the latest generation of nuclear technology. That includes prefabricated small modular nuclear reactors and microreactors.

That intention was eventually codified in an amendment and the final bill would only allow the construction of “advanced nuclear reactors” as defined in federal law.

The bill’s chief Senate sponsor, Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris, said that those types of reactors are valuable to provide reliability to the grid as the state shifts toward renewables.

“The value of the modular and the small advanced nuclear reactors are that we can drop them on coal plants that are shuttered,” Rezin said in an interview shortly after the bill passed last week. “We can drop them right on site and build them out there and tie them right into their transmission line or their grid system which they already have built into the plant.”

The proposal drew criticism from both environmental groups like the Sierra Club and anti-nuclear advocates like David Kraft, the head of the Chicago-based Nuclear Energy Information Service.

“The legislature has opened the door for more reactors and more waste,” Kraft said in an interview.

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Information from the National Weather Service



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**Sunday**  
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High 91



**Monday**  
Sunny  
High 90



**Tuesday**  
Sunny  
High 81



**Wednesday**  
Sunny  
High 79



**Thursday**  
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High 82

## Weather History

### June 3

1887: A tornado or waterspout touched down on the Wabash River, about 5 miles north of its mouth with the Ohio River. Three people drowned when a boat was overturned at Old Shawneetown.

1990: Strong winds to near 60 mph affected large areas of northern and east central Illinois. A 13-mile stretch of Interstate 57 was closed from Arcola to Mattoon due to blowing dust. Some damage occurred to trees, power lines, and roofs.



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