



Courtesy of EMC Phtography

### **Big bands and ice cream**

Clinton Junior High School recently hosted the annual band ice cream social. The change in venue was planned to better work with current COVID restrictions. High school and junior high bands performed for parents and families. Here, band director Nathan Wheeler conducts the high school band. See more on B1.

### Community clean-up scheduled; city approves officials' reappointments

#### City puts surplus real estate up for sale

#### **Gordon Woods**

gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON The citywide clean-up is scheduled for this year, and the city council reappointed several public officials during its Monday regular meeting.

City clean-up is scheduled this year for June 1-July 30, Monday-Friday from 6 a.m.-3

p.m., commissioner Ken Buchanan announced. One Saturday, July 10, also will be available for dropping clean-up items at Clinton Landfill from 6 a.m.-2 p.m. The landfill will be closed on July 5.

Clean-up vouchers are available at city hall. One voucher per household is permitted.

Buchanan also said crews would return shortly to work on city alleyways.

"Once it dries up a little from theses rains," Buchanan said.

With golf carts returning to city streets

during warmer weather, Buchanan reminded residents to renew their golf cart permits and that any new golf carts must be inspected by the city to receive permits. Permits cost \$100 per year.

"Several are back out now; things seem to be going pretty good with them," Buchanan said. "I picked one up myself three days ago, and I'm enjoying it."

The city council several approved reappointments on Monday.

City attorney Steve Myers, clerk Cheryl Van

Valey and treasurer Clint Lichtenwalter all were reappointed to one-year terms. City commissioner of accounts and finances Edmunds Tom was reappointed for a one-year term as the city's financial officer, and Tim Followell was reappointed for one year as public health officer and sexton of the cemetery. The council also reappointed Steve Lobb as city public works director for one year and Steven Page as assistant fire chief for one year.

See CITY / A3

### Date changes announced for 2021 MayDays Festival



File photo / Journal

CLINTON - The dates for the 2021 MayDays Festival have been changed to May 20-23. The annual festival was

initially planned for the week prior. However, due

**Clinton Chamber** of Commerce

Edward Jones: Bryce Starkey

- Clinton Journal · Kirby Foods: Clinton IGA

### DCDC microgrants go to three local businesses

#### Grants will help business expand operations

CLINTON Three DeWitt County businesses, Triple M Farm, R&S Collision and C&P Custom Printing, recently received needed funding to complete businessrelated projects to enhance their operations.

The funding, made available through the DeWitt County Development Council's (DCDC) Microgrant program, totaled \$22,500. "We're extremely pleased to offer grants to these exceptional businesses located right here in DeWitt County," said Curt Homann, vice president, DCDC. "We were so impressed by these businesses and the contributions they're



Triple M Farm owners Greg and Mariah Anderson have been providing central Illinois residents fresh vegetables and mums since 2009. Funds provided by the DCDC microgrant will allow the couple to fast-track infrastructure expansion of their vertically-grown strawberries, extending their season into early fall.

already making to the local economy, the DCDC board voted in favor of granting the full amount requested by each business. We know these grants will go a long way to helping these business owners continue to grow and positively benefit our county and economy." "We are honored to be

selected as a recipient of the DCDC grant," said Triple M Farm co-owner Mariah Dale-Anderson.

See DCDC / A3

to scheduling conflicts, the dates had to be changed.

This year will mark the 29th year for the festival. Activities will include live bands, games, rides, a waterball competition, food trucks and vendors. The festival will begin on a Thursday and run through Sunday in downtown Clinton on Mr. Lincoln's Square.

Presale carnival tickets can be purchased at a reduced price of \$20 for a sheet of 22 at the following locations in Clinton:

 Clinton YMCA Big D Food & Liquor

First National Bank
& Trust

Heartland Bank & Trust

DeWitt Savings Bank

Offer for presale tickets ends Thursday at 3 pm. Information about MayDays can be found at www.clintonilchamber. Facebook com. on

and Instagram (a)VisitClintonIL, or by calling (217) 935-3364.

### Watchdog report documents widespread failures at LaSalle Veterans' Home; 36 died

Sarah Mansur **Capitol News Illinois** 

.....B1

.....B2 .....B3-6

SPRINGFIELD – A state watchdog report into the deadly COVID-19 outbreak at the LaSalle Veterans' Home found multiple failures that contributed to 36 veterans deaths, stemming primarily from the home's

complete lack of infection prevention plans or policies.

The report also deficiencies found in communication and staff training at the LaSalle home, as well as repeated lack of compliance with personal protective equipment protocols.

See VETERANS / A4



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See your weather forecast for the week ahead on page A10



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9	10	11	12	13	14	15							

# NEWS

### DCDC / from page A1



Courtesy of DCDC

C&P Custom Printing, owned by Ryan and Meghan Morge, plan to add a new printer to their custom printing, lasering and sublimation business. "We've had numerous requests for the types of products we will be able to create with our new printer, and we are excited to expand on the items that customers can buy locally," said Meghan Morge, co-owner, C&P Custom Printing.



#### Courtesy of DCDC

DeWitt County Development Council (DCDC) board members awarded three area businesses with microgrants to complete business-related projects and grow their operations. R&S Collision, owned by Rodney and Staci Price, center, will utilize DCDC microgrant funds to install a paint booth in their Clinton, III., autobody shop. The addition will allow them to bring their son into the business.

"The grant funds will Farm's plans to use infrastructure expansion

be used to fast-track funds for infrastructure investments, R&S Collision will utilize grant funds to complete the addition of a paint booth; C&P Custom Printing will use grant funds purchase a specialty printer which will allow them to print on a variety of new substrates. "This grant should allow us to double our output which step up production in our shop immensely and will allow us to bring our other son into the business," said

Rodney Price, owner, R&S Collision. "And, as a business, we spend money buy locally."

While these are the first awards for DCDC's **City** / from page A1

Commissioner Dan Ballenger announced fire chief Jeff Hoke was leaving the state for a new job, so a new fire chief would be appointed at a later date. In additional business,

the council approved the sale of surplus real estate, a lot located at 1003 E. Washington Street. Minimum bids accepted for the property will be \$7,500.

### Getting into hot water

elcome to my little corner culinary of delights. You may have heard it said, "I don't even know how to boil water". This is one of those untrue statements designed to emphatically express one's lack of culinary competence. A truer statement might be, "I don't know the full potential of boiling water in culinary practices". Let us see how much we know.

Culinary schooling in the college I attended did not teach boiling processes beyond the obvious. I shall teach beyond this. Some of what I will teach deals with the need of having plenty of boiling water on hand. In that way, one need not lose time in building up to temperature whenever a pot needs hot water added or a process needing hot water as for blanching, plumping or softening. With hot water standing by, one has a ready-made double boiler and/or steamer. Any hot water leftover can be added to the dishwater. Believe it or not, it can also be used for peeling.

I think you will be surprised with what all can be done with water. It is commonly used for peeling or removing thin skinned food items. For example, score half way up tomatoes in four places with a knife. Blanch for a minute or two. The skin peels off easily with just the hands. The skins of almond nuts can be easily removed by slipping them off after blanching. This works as well with pearl onions. Another use for boiling water I had learned is for drawing out salt and the smoke flavoring in bacon and salt pork. Another is to draw out the bitterness

Çulinary corner **By Chef** Roger Joss

from lemon and orange candying rinds for purposes. It also works well for extracting the bitter chemicals, such as alkaline, from wild greens. But now to cover new stuff.

If you wish to enjoy whole sweet potatoes, what should be done? A person and restaurants would normally bake them at about 350°F. This is not good. The surrounding hot dry air draws out the water and even the sugars from the sweet potatoes. Have you noticed the blackish sticky substance left in the pan from the potatoes? Therefore, the natural sweetness is diminished. Notice how the potatoes have shriveled due to lost moisture. The skin is noticeably wrinkled. There is a much better way.

Boiling sweet potatoes preserves its natural moisture and maintains the sugars within. This is because. they are surrounded with hot water. This also works fantastically well for other uses. If the sweet potatoes are for pies, soups, or in a casserole, the thin skins easily slip off by merely using your bare hands. There is no waste of the potato. This is also a time saver. We can extend this to other potatoes such as your Russet and Idaho potatoes. As I often advise, use your initiative to experiment and try new things. Think outside of the box. Possibilities are endless. Experiment! Until next time, peace to all.

of our vertically-grown strawberry operations. This expansion will allow us to extend our growing season, improve our efficiency, and increase our overall strawberry production. The support of the DCDC will ultimately allow us to provide our county with extended access to locally-grown strawberries from late June until early October." Similar to Triple M

here in the community, too, so we're keeping the money right here in our community."

"We're thrilled to be a recipient of this grant," said Meghan Morge, co-owner, C&P Custom Printing. "We have had numerous requests for the types of products we will be able to create with our new printer, and we are excited to expand on the items that customers can

Microgrant program, plans are in place to continue the program on an annual basis.

#### About DeWitt County Development Council

DCDC is a valued source of information relating to projects, processes and resources which foster economic growth in commerce and workforce development in DeWitt County.







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### LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### **DeWitt County** Sheriff's Office

#### April 16-23

Carver, 40, Scotty Waynesville, was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery/Bodily Harm. Carver, being unable to post the necessary bond remains lodged in the DeWitt County Jail.

Rempe, 30, Jason Heyworth, was arrested and charged with Battery, Makes Physical Contact. Rempe posted the necessary bond and was released.

Delavonte Appleton, 21, Decatur, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Unlwfl Poss Cannabis/Pass/ FTA. Appleton posted the necessary bond and was released.

Smith, 32, Craig Decatur, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Driving on Revoked License/ FTA. Smith posted the necessary bond and was released.

Keiron Sneed, 28, Clinton, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Vio Bail Bond/Family Member. Sneed posted the necessary bond and was released.

Zachary Strocher, 38, Decatur, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Driving on Suspended License/ FTA. Strocher, unable to post the necessary bond remains lodged in the DeWitt County Jail.

Curtis Andreae, 20, Springfield, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Notification/No Fixed address/FTA. Andreae posted the necessary bond and was released.

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

#### **Dorwin Lee Baker**

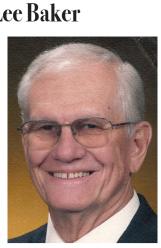
CLINTON – Dorwin Lee Baker, 92, of Clinton, passed away at 4:50 a.m. on May 2, 2021, at Hickory Point Christian Village, Forsyth.

Services will be conducted at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, with Bob Phillips officiating. Burial with military honors will follow at Weldon Cemetery, Weldon. Visitation will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed to The Dorwin Barbara Baker and Memorial Scholarship c/o Little Galilee Christian Camp.

Dorwin was born on June 13, 1928, in Lodge, Ill., the son of Burness and Iola Baker. He married Barbara Louise Hassinger on July 16, 1952. Together they had five children, Deborah (Bill) Carter, Nokomis, Fla.; Brenda Baker, Sarasota, Fla.; Beverly (Michael Franklin) Healey, Powell, Tenn.; Gary (Denise) Baker, Venice, Fla.; Doug (Jeannie) Baker, Ypsilanti, Mich.; and two exchange daughters who they thought of as their own children: Maria Clark (deceased) and Iris Leiva, from Chile, South America; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 67 years, Barbara Louise Baker, one granddaughter: Shayla Upchurch, one sister: Phyllis Etherton, one half-brother: and Alvin Baker. He leaves



behind, his brother, Ronald Baker, of Weldon, sister, Donna Rhodes, of Clinton, and five half brothers and sisters, Rick Baker, of Eldred, Mitsy Baker, of Dunlap, Angie Heiland, of Decatur, Ben Baker, of Hillsboro, and Betty Reynolds, of Champaign.

Dorwin was a hardworking, loving father that enjoyed sharing his sense of humor with memorable stories, jokes, and witty adages. After completing a successful career at Caterpillar Tractor, he enjoyed his "too busy to work" retirement at his family timber on Clinton Lake, where he enjoyed nature, wildlife and hosting events with family and friends.

He was an active member of First Christian Church in Clinton, serving as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and a member of the mission team. He was a WWII Army veteran and proudly served in both Europe and Asia. He was a die-hard Cub fan and never gave up on them celebrating their world series win in 2016. He was loved and will be greatly missed.

Online condolences may be made at www. calvertmemorial.com

**Clinton Coin Club resumes** meetings May 10 at library

#### **David M. Meadows**

LEROY, Ill. – David

M Meadows, 72, of LeRoy, passed away at home surrounded by his family Saturday on April 24, 2021.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday May 8, 2021, at St. Mary's Church, in Downs. A memorial mass will be conducted at 1 p.m., also on Saturday, with Father Dustin Schultz officiating. Private inurnment will follow in Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Kenney. Memorial donations

may be made to LeRoy Emergency Ambulance Service or American Heritage Gun Range (LeRoy Rifle and Pistol Club). Calvert-Belangee-Bruce LeRoy is in charge of arrangements.

David was born on October 24, 1948, a son of Everett and Loraine Myers Meadows. He married Tina Wilson on June 20, 1986. She survives

in LeRoy. He also is survived by a brother Vernon (Kathy) Meadows children, Wapella; Todd (Donna) Meadows, New Baden, Ill.; Amy (Darren Beauchamp) Ray, Orlando, Fla.; Christopher Brown, LeRoy; Eric (Mira Shiloach) Brown, Skokie,Ill., and Jana (Blake) Markwell, Downs.

He was "Grampy" to Tyler and Kenzie Meadows, Lucas Ray, Isaiah Vannoy, Naomi, Orly, and Gabriel Brown, Alex, Kaleb, and Kara Markwell whom he loved beyond all reason. His grandchildren were the light of his life.

David graduated from Wapella High School in 1966. He served in the United States Air Force from 1966-70. He was an avid shooter and was active in the LeRoy Rifle and Pistol Club as well as many ranges in the area. His quick sense of humor and quiet calm demeanor will be sadly missed by his family.

### Lessons learned from buying online

o many things have changed in how we live our lives in the time of COVID. It's been a year since it all began in earnest and, despite the vaccines, nothing has really gone back to normal. Even small tasks have a layer of "more difficult" on them ... such as buying a new handheld vacuum cleaner.

My little handheld vac began dying after just a short time. I tried to baby it along, but now



learned along the way. If you're faced with making a purchase online and are hit with too many choices, call your local stores and ask what they recommend. Then look up the item online. If an item description (such as for a big fry pan) says it weighs 5.2 pounds, take your current fry pan into the bathroom and weigh it on your scale for comparison. If you want new shirts and the sizing chart online is iffy, order more of what vou already have, but in different colors. The end result of this saga is that I purchased the same brand and model as my current vacuum. If nothing else, I know it will last approximately 2.5 years, which is right after the warranty expires. But at least I'll know what to expect while it works.

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CLINTON The Clinton Coin Club will resume monthly meetings from 5-6:30 p.m. on May 10

Members meet in the Revere Room of Vespasian Warner Public Library. The meeting will include a business meeting and coin auction.

Old members and new members are encouraged to attend.

Call (217) 935-8788 for additional information.



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even with a full overnight charge, it only runs for 42 seconds before it quits again and wants another long charge.

Used to be I'd go off to a local store, examine several possibilities and buy one. This time I went online, where thousands of selections awaited me, as well as hundreds of reviews for each item. I changed the list to lowest price first. I changed the list to most popular. I searched for only the manufacturer of my current handheld vac. It didn't help. Here are some things I

(c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

A memorial service to honor the life and memory of Donald Robert Hoffman, Sr., formerly of Clinton, Wapella, and most recently Yellville, AR will be held on May 22, 2021 at 2:00 pm at the Church of God, 720 E. Woodlawn St, Clinton, IL. "Bobby" was born and raised in Clinton, IL by parents Robert Frederick and Geneva (Conover) Hoffman. He was the eldest of 4 children. Siblings include brother, Paul and two sisters, Dianne and Suzie. All have preceded him in death. He married the love of his life, Martha Ann (Hamby) Hoffman on December 26, 1957 in Yuma, AZ. At his passing, they had been blessed to have shared 62 years together. They have two boys, Don (Tammy) of AR and the late Mike, who took his place in heaven in Oct. 1978. He leaves granddaughter Brittney and two great granddaughters, Emorie and Gretchen, many nieces and nephews, and dear friends.

He was known by many as a bit on the ornery side and never met a stranger. His faith stayed strong as he worshiped his savior and Lord Jesus. If you were blessed to have crossed paths with Bob, our hope is he left you with tons of fond memories and smiles. He is truly missed by all he touched.

He departed his earthly life on August 25, 2020.

Per the family wishes, in lieu of flowers, donations, in Bob Hoffman's honor, if desired may be made to the Church of God.



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### NEWS

### **Veterans** / from page A1

The LaSalle home, one of four state-run veterans homes, had no documented COVID-19 specific policies or outbreak plan, despite the well-known risks of coronavirus transmission in places like long-term care facilities, according to the report from the Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of the Inspector General.

The 50-page report depicts a facility that was woefully unprepared to handle an infection outbreak, leading to a chaotic and uninformed outbreak response that exacerbated was by disorganized leadership at the department and the home.

The IDHS investigation included analyzing COVID-19 data, trends and protocols in the LaSalle home and assessing IDVA's preparation, response and compliance with protocols and regulations. It also included 29 individual interviews and the review of hundreds of documents. The report documented serious leadership failures at the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, from the former LaSalle Administrator Home Angela Melbrech, to the former IDVA Director Linda Chapa LaVia and her Chief of Staff Tony Kolbeck.

"No one at IDVA was specifically tasked with monitoring changes in (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) recommendations or analyzing the responses of other nursing homes with COVID-19 outbreaks," the report states. "At a time of crisis, no one at IDVA was taking ownership of the situation, let alone supervising, teaching, or inspiring employees across the Homes." The watchdog report comes after the outbreak at LaSalle that killed about one-quarter of the home's population. Chapa LaVia called for the DHS Inspector General investigation on Nov. 24 when the home had reported 27 veteran deaths. Since then, both Melbrech and Chapa LaVia have vacated their positions. An IDVA spokesperson said Friday Kolbeck had resigned from the department as well. Gov. JB Pritzker, who appointed Chapa LaVia in 2019, said he hired her to lead the IDVA because of her role in investigating the deadly outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at the Quincy Veterans' Home. "She seemed like an ideal person to be able to root out the problems in our veterans homes. But I have to admit that, if I knew then what I know now, I would not have hired her," Pritzker said Friday at an unrelated news conference. "There were challenges of communication, there

were challenges of people not following the protocols that were laid out for them. There were challenges of leadership, not providing some of those protocols and so on...We now have a new IDVA director who is going to accelerate our addressing of all of those." Pritzker appointed Terry Prince as IDVA Acting Director on April 1.

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, said he believes there may be a legal basis for criminal charges stemming from the response to this deadly outbreak.

"I will not accept anything less than another set of eyes to look at the facts of this case to determine whether or not any section of the Criminal Code was violated," Durkin said in a virtual news conference Friday.

Sen. Sue Rezin, a Morris Republican whose district includes the LaSalle home, said she has called on the state Office of the Auditor General to conduct its own separate investigation as it did in the aftermath of the Quincy outbreak during former Gov. Bruce Rauner's investigation.

The audit for Quincy noted that all four staterun veterans homes lacked comprehensive infection control policies, and recommended that the homes adopt uniform policies to prepare for future viral infection outbreaks.

"(IDVA) had an entire year before the COVID outbreak to implement these recommendations," Rezin said in a phone interview with Capitol News Illinois. "Had they done that, we would have averted a huge loss of life." employee screening process; ineffective c o m m u n i c a t i o n ; insufficient training; inadequate education and compliance; and challenges with personal dynamics.

The following summarizes in greater detail some of the reported failures that took place within the home.

No outbreak policies or procedures

The home's lack of a comprehensive COVID-19 plan, which includes any operating protocols in the event of an outbreak, was reported as a significant contributing factor to the failure to contain the virus at the LaSalle home.

This led to confusion among staff at the facility, and contributed to an "inefficient, reactive and chaotic" response to the outbreak, according to the report.

The lack of preparedness was evident in the movement of veterans to different areas of the home before and during the outbreak, the report states, and resulted in crosscontamination of positive and negative veterans.

For example, the home decided a month before the outbreak to relocate 10 of the 20 veterans housed in the future quarantine unit into a different area of the home. The relocation stopped in early October, leaving 10 veterans living in the future quarantine unit. When the outbreak happened weeks later, those veterans were relocated, "again causing avoidable movement and interaction amongst positive and negative Veterans," the report states.

"The home's decision to

The report states that active instruction and inservice training were not a priority for the leadership team at the LaSalle facility.

For example, initially during the outbreak, staff at the home were not required to change PPE, such as gloves and gowns, after exiting a veteran's room.

"The obvious risks associated with unchanged PPE and interacting with colleagues in any portion of the Home without a mask were either not appreciated by leadership or not properly conveyed to or enforced with the staff," the report states.

The report found that lack of proper training was evident by the management team's failure to create "a workplace culture that valued safety and personal responsibility."

This culture, according to the report, was due in part to the management team's failure to create a COVID-19 committee or task force to address infection prevention education, training for PPE, and other compliance issues.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

### 'Paper Clover' campaign underway at Clinton Tractor Supply Company store

CLINTON — Since 2010, Tractor Supply has partnered with 4-H to help create Opportunity4All and raise more than \$14 million through the "Paper Clover" campaign.

DeWitt and Piatt counties 4-H invite the community to participate in this fundraising event.

Paper Clovers are available for purchase until May 9 at the Clinton and Monticello Tractor Supply Company stores. Displays showing local 4-H activities are also in the store.

Ninety percent of donations directly support Illinois 4-H youth. The remaining 10 percent supports the national mission of 4-H. One hundred percent of funds raised through the biannual

Paper Clover campaign directly benefits 4-H youth.



**Truck hits pole** 

Emergency agencies responded about 4 p.m. on Sunday to a report of a pick up truck striking a power pole at the intersection of Elm and Johnson streets. Two people were treated at the scene and released.





The IDHS inspector general's report outlines seven major failures within the LaSalle home that contributed to the outbreak.

The report also cites leadership failures include that "the consolidation of too many responsibilities in one individual, the failure to delegate and assign clear responsibilities, the failure to learn from outbreaks at other long-term care facilities including other Illinois Veterans' Homes — the failure to effectively communicate, and the failure to identify, seek or accept external resources."

It further states that the LaSalle home did not fill its senior home administrator role, a position which is tasked with overseeing day-today operations, serving as a primary IDVA contact, and working toward standardizing policies and procedures. That position has been vacant since 2019.

The seven failures were documented as: no outbreak plans or procedures; a relaxed quarantine policy; inadequate COVID-19 leave half of the veterans regularly housed in the future quarantine hall demonstrates the lack of foresight that contributed to the prolonged outbreak in the home," according to the report

Relaxed quarantine policy Several nurses interviewed for the report said that the first positive COVID-19 tests came after the LaSalle home changed its quarantine policy. Initially, at the beginning of the outbreak, the home required all veterans who left the home for any reason to quarantine for 14 days upon return.

At some point, veterans returning from a local hospital, St. Margaret's Hospital, no longer were required to quarantine because it was determined that these visits were "low-risk."

According to the report, it's not clear who issued this relaxed quarantine policy, in part because there was no written quarantine policy at the home until Jan. 21, 2021.

Insufficient training, inadequate education and compliance



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Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Class of 2021 is not getting the usual graduation celebrations. The Clinton Journal wants to help!

Send your graduate's photo along with your brief message of congratulations and we will publish in the May 21, 2021 edition of the Clinton Journal at **NO CHARGE! Send the information to kpyne@theclintonjournal.com by May 13 at noon.** 

### Make your graduate's day even more special with a keepsake in print!

# Journal

111 S. Monroe St., Clinton, IL 61727 (217) 935-3171 · www.clintonjournal.com

# **OPINION**

### **HISTORY** ALMANAC

1951 - Russia was admitted to participate in the 1952 Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee.

1954 - French Colonial Forces surrendered to the Vietminh at Dien Bien Phu after 55 days of fighting.

1954 - The United States and the United Kingdom rejected the Soviet Union's bid to join NATO.

1958 - Howard Johnson set an aircraft altitude record in F-104.

1960 - Leonid Brezhnev became president of the Soviet Union.

1975 - U.S. President Ford declared an end to the Vietnam War.

1977 - Rookie Janet Guthrie set the fastest time on opening day of practice for the Indianapolis 500. Her time was 185.607.

1984 - A \$180 million outof-court settlement was announced in the Agent Orange class-action suit brought by Vietnam veterans who claimed they had suffered injury from exposure to the defoliant while serving in the armed forces.

1987 - Shelly Long, as Diane Chambers, made her last appearance as a regular on the TV show "Cheers."

1992 - A 203-year-old proposed constitutional amendment barring the U.S. Congress from giving itself a midterm pay raise was ratified as the 27th Amendment.

1994 - The Edvard Munch painting "The Scream" was recovered after being stolen 3 months earlier from an Oslo Museum. This version of "The Scream", one of four different





to me.



# WITH THAT, I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD FIRST BEGIN WITH SALARY NEGOTIATION?

DeWitt County is very fortunate to

**Roy Strohkirch** 

DeWitt

have this hospital in our community.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

CLINTON CITY COUNCIL Mayor - Roger Cyrulik Dan Ballenger 935-2394 Kenny Buchanan 935-9438 Tom Edmunds 935-6861 John Wise (217) 412-0501

DEWITT COUNTY BOARD Dist. A

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Dist. B Christy Pruser - 935-2402 Travis Houser - (309) 261-3964 Terry Ferguson, chairman - 519-0016

Might as well join the crowd. Everyone seems to want to evaluate President Biden at 100 days into his term. Here are some observations and of course you are free to agree or disagree.

I just wanted to thank the staff

at Warner Hospital for the care

they provided me when I was a

patient there recently. Dr. (Farrukh)

Kureishy and all the nurses,

Give Joe some positive marks on COVID. Trump certainly made the vaccine development an expedited reality and exceeded all expectations. Biden then had to disseminate the vaccine to the public. That was and is a logistical nightmare. By and large the COVID vaccine is now available to all that want it. Biden's team made the efforts and America is much safer on this front than it was three months ago.

Foreign relations are somewhat of a mixed bag. Trump was certainly an "America-First" of personality. type This message played to Trump's political base but earned him disdain from the world community at large. Biden appears to have much better personal relationships with world leaders than did Trump. The question is will Biden concede trade and security issues that Trump championed. Teddy Roosevelt said speak softly and carry a big stick. Trump never spoke softly and liked the stick. Hopefully, Biden can look to former President Roosevelt's advice and improve the nation's international relations. The border situation with Mexico has become a disaster. Biden disapproved of the harsh

### Joe at 100 days

**READERS' LETTERS** 

Thanks for the care I received at Warner Hospital

especially Shelly, were really nice

They even had a little birthday

party for me because I had to be

there on my birthday.

rhetoric of Trump on immigration and Trump's construction of the border wall. Trump drew a hard line at the border and seemed to have no room for negotiation. Biden voiced during his campaign that America was a land of opportunity for all. Biden simply failed to realize that words have consequences. Biden then repealed Trump's executive orders and the pragmatic result was that the border was open. Yes, we still have immigration laws, but we have very limited ability enforce those laws. The mass of humanity at our southern border wanting into the U. S. is simply too much for the Border Patrol to enforce. As a nation have historically we supported lawful and controlled immigration. That is not the case today on our southern border. Simply stated Biden bears responsibility for the current chaos. The stimulus and the economy are truly a mixed bag for Biden. COVID changed everything for both health care and economy. The bottom line is that the world encountered a health crisis that wreaked havoc on the economies of most countries in the world. COVID is an experience that was never planned for. There were discussions on the aftermath of a nuclear war, but there was no planning for a health crisis of this proportion and its economic impact on the nation. Both Trump and Biden touted economic



stimulus packages. The vast majority of Americans received those checks from the U.S. Treasury. There was no significant opposition to the first couple of distributions of stimulus checks. The economy had stagnated in much of the country and people were hurting. Yes, the money would have to be repaid, ie future taxes, but the public needed an infusion of cash and both political parties acknowledged the need. The political paradox of seeing both Biden and Trump on the same page politically is worth noting. The original stimulus packages were for basic needs of America's

citizens. The thrust of stimulus

of money. Realistically, failure to address the problem will cost even more money when the roads and bridges simply fail. America cannot afford to have bridges and trestles collapse and locks on our rivers fail. This part of the plan needs to be supported, and yes we will have to pay for it.

It is the second part of Biden's plan that needs a lot more critical thought. This part is total income redistribution and governmental control over daily lives of the populace. The proposals have monthly governmental checks being sent to millions of Americans either because of their incomes or because they have children. Increases in minimum wage and health care benefits, along with certain educational social and services. These thoughts may well be noble, but they are extremely expensive. The idea that they will be paid for solely by taxes on the rich is a pipe dream. These proposals, in their current stance, will simply bankrupt the nation and its citizens. So, give Joe some credit for moving us forward from COVID and seeking better foreign relations while trying to rebuild the roads and bridges of this country. But question Joe's desire to have the government provide everything for the public as he is forgetting the public must always pay in the end for such programs.

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Dist. D Melonie Tilley, vice chairman - 935-6538 Nathan Ennis - (217) 433-2174 Dan Matthews - (217) 306-6576

**U.S. GOVERNMENT** Executive President Joseph Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvannia Ave. Washington, D.C. 20500 (202) 456-1414

Legislature Sen. Dick Durbin 364 Russell Senate Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2152 or

525 S. Eighth St. Springfield, IL. 62703 (217) 492-4062

Sen. Tammy Duckworth 524 Hart Senate Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2854 (202) 228-0618 FAX

Rep. Rodney Davis 1740 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515-1313 (202) 225-2371 (202) 226-0791 FAX or 2004 Fox Drive Champaign, IL. 61720 (217) 403-4690 (217) 403-4691 FAX

versions, was painted on paper.

1996 - The trial of Serbian police officer Dusan Tadic opened in the Netherlands. He was later convicted on murder-torture charges and was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

1997 - A report released by the U.S. government said that Switzerland provided Nazi Germany with equipment and credit during World War II. Germany exchanged for gold what had been plundered or stolen. Switzerland did not comply with postwar agreements to return the gold.

1998 - Daimler-Benz bought Chrysler Corp. for close to \$40 billion. It was the largest industrial merger on record.

1998 - Residents of London voted to elect their own mayor for the first time in history. The vote would take place in May 2000.

1998 - Leeza Gibbons received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

1999 - A jury ruled that "The Jenny Jones Show" and Warner Bros. were liable in the shooting death of Scott Amedure. He was killed by another guest on the show. The jury's award was \$25 million.

1999 - Jerry Moss received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. funding has changed in the past 30 days or so. Biden appears to be taking Rahm Emmanuel's mantra of never letting a crisis go to waste to fund a liberal agenda that wasn't contemplated with the original stimulus packages. We now have, pursuant to Biden's address to Congress, an infrastructure rebuilding package being presented. Give Biden some credit for addressing the repair of America's roads and bridges. Both parties have failed to address this basic need of the country for years as it costs a lot

**ILLINOIS GOVERNMENT** Gov. J.B. Pritzker 207 Statehouse Springfield, IL. 62706 (217) 782-6830

101st District State Rep. Dan Caulkins Springfield Office: 205 A-N Stratton Office Building Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-8163 District Office: 715 West Imboden Drive Decatur, IL 62521 (217) 876-1968 (217) 876-1973 FAX

Weeks ago, I wrote about the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) being mostly closed due to COVID-19 with staff unable to process requests for information. I warned that unless you have one of a very short list of essential reasons for asking, your request is going back on the pile to be handled later.

Now, the Department of Veterans Affairs is going to work with the National Archives and Records to get Administration COVID-19 vaccines to onsite staff so that they can return to work to process compensation claims. The VA is going to provide enrollment specialists

and medical staff with vaccines provided by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The short list of requests the NPRC is able to handle are true emergencies: records information so veterans can get medical treatment, burials and homeless veterans trying to get into homeless shelters.

And, no, in answer to one Missouri veteran who asked if he could just show up in St. Louis and do his own research. All National Archives research rooms are closed. All museums are closed. No tours, no school visits, nothing involving the public strolling in.



by Freddy Groves

Still waiting on records?

If you have a genuine emergency, you'll need to fax them Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records. The NPRC's website says its fax machines are down, but here are alternate fax numbers to send your emergency request: 314-801-0764, 314-801-0762, 314-801-0569, 314-801-314-801-9195. 0984, Include an email address.

On the off chance the records you need have already been digitized online, check WWW.

archives.gov, click Veterans' Service Records. Unfortunately, at this point, all records digitizing has come to a halt.

One has to wonder about the true size of the records request backlog. A letter signed by 185 members of Congress gave the number as 480,000. It also mentions the \$15 million given to NPRC to help get the backlog cleared, the emergency number that isn't answered and the call center that isn't staffed.

What did we get for that \$15 million?

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51st District State Sen. Chapin Rose 510 S. Staley Road, Suite D Champaign, IL. 61822 (217) 607-1853 (217) 607-5471 FAX

or 1030 State Capital Bldg. Springfield, IL. 62706 (217) 558-1006



# CHURCHES

#### **BIBLE WORD SEARCH**

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

#### John 10:14-15

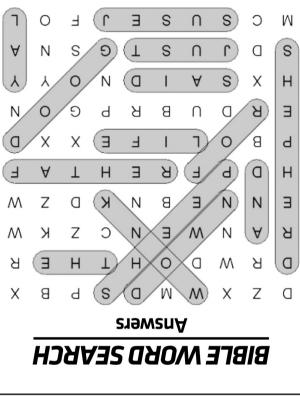
**Jesus said**, "I am the **good shepherd**; I **know** my sheep **and** my sheep know me—**just** as the **Father** knows me and I know **the** Father—and I **lay down** my **life for** the **sheep**."

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Е	Ν	Ν	Е	в	Ν	к	D	Ζ	W	
Н	D	Ρ	F	R	Е	н	Т	А	F	
Ρ	В	0	L	Т	F	Е	Х	Х	D	
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Find the <u>bolded/underlined</u> words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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### AREA CHURCHES DIRECTORY

#### Calvary United Pentecostal Church

412 S. Monroe Street, Clinton (217) 935-8627 10 a.m.-Sunday school 10:30 a.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 =12:20

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 - Office hours: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-Sunday service

#### First Baptist Church

220 Illini Drive, Clinton (217) 935-2032 firstbaptistchurch3@frontier. com John 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 Mike Cahill, lead minister Services at 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Church for 3-year-olds, beginner church (4 yrs.-k), junior church (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades) 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.-Sunday school (pre-K-adult) 10:30 a.m.-Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.-Sunday children's church (pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> grades) 10:30 a.m.-nursery 5 p.m.-Sunday youth group (junior high and high school)

#### 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 "We're ordinary people helping each other become faithful followers of Jesus." www. lifebridgeschurch.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. James Henning, pastor 4 p.m.-Saturday mass 8:30 a.m.-Sunday mass

#### St. Patrick Catholic Church

308 S. Locust Street, Wapella (217) 935-8510 Office hours: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tues. Father Geoff Horton, administrator 9 a.m.-Sunday mass

#### **Texas Christian Church**

8301 Texas Church Road, Clinton (217) 454-6846 www. Texaschristianchurch. 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) 464-0780 9:30 a.m.-Saturday, Sabbath school 11 a.m.- worship with pot luck afterwards 6 p.m.-Mondays, "Great Controversy" study and Pathfinder events throughout the year.

#### 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"

# Fiction.





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#### Clinton United Methodist Church

308 E. Main Street Rev. Darrell Howard, pastor (217) 935-5869 Email clinton.methodist@frontier. com clintonumcil.org

Lifebridges Church 200 S. Alexander Street, Clinton (217) 570-0105

### THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 2: 7, 8

Detail of "Mother and Child" by Pablo Picasso (1921)

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# NEWS



Courtesy of Clinton DAR

### **DeWitt Clinton DAR awards Outstanding Cadet**

The DeWitt Clinton Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution recently presented Cadet Justyn West with the DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal. This is awarded to student cadets who distinguish themselves through outstanding leadership, honor, courage, service and patriotism in non-ROTC, military-affiliated cadet programs. Cadet West serves in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Corps. Cadet West's grandmother is Tish Cox, and his mother is Wendy West. Pictured, left to right, Rosemary Parker, chapter regent, Tish Cox, Wendy West, Cadet West, Lt. Aaron Nelson, Carole Wylder.

### Paxton 'Swine 'N Dine' announces entertainment

PAXTON – The Paxton Chamber of Commerce announced the entertainment for the 2021 Paxton Swine 'N Dine BBQ Contest & Festival.

Country music artist Michael Ray will headline this year with country upand-comer (and TikTok sensation) Lily Rose as support. The concert will take place in downtown Paxton on Market Street. General admission to the concert will be free.

There will be a party pit option, which is the

section closest to the stage. Tickets are on sale now at Paxtonchamber.com.

See all of the latest concert news and read all of the 2021 press releases at www. leonedwardsmarketing. com/in-the-news.

### Mt. Pulaski "2nd Friday" starts in May

MT. PULASKI – The Community Association of Mt. Pulaski (FKA Mt Pulaski Business Association), along with the City of Mt Pulaski, announced the 2021 dates for "2nd Friday on the Square," a monthly summer event in Mt Pulaski.

The event is scheduled for May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13 and

Join

September 10, 2021. The hours of the event are from 5-10 p.m.

The vendor market, including handmade crafts, antiques, direct sales, food, and more, will open at 5 p.m. Local shops, restaurants, and bars will be open for business as well.

There will be live music and entertainment as well as kid's activities. The May 2nd Friday entertainment will feature the Hypnotist Josh Meador at 6 p.m. and Josh Holland for live music beginning at 7 p.m. For vendor information, call Michelle Hagenbach at (217) 280-0270 or email mtpulaskibusiness

association@gmail.com. Check us out on Facebook "Second Fridays on the Square in Mt Pulaski."

#### Benefits of joining the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

- share your talent or learn something new
- make new friends while remaining active and involved
- exclusively for those 55 years and better

#### How to Join?

- complete an enrollment form
- meet with Kim to select your passion, choose your committment and start making a difference

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### Construction has begun at the new Alta Farms Wind Project in DeWitt County!

The start of construction is an important milestone in our long-term partnership with this community.

Contributing to a prosperous future for

### **DeWitt County**

The 50 wind turbines of Alta Farms Wind Project will generate enough electricity to power 57,000 U.S. households per year and are expected to provide more than \$44 million in local property tax revenue and return \$50 million to local landowners.

# Thank you, DeWitt County!

Enel Green Power would like to thank the landowners and supporters who have been with us every step of the way, in our effort to build a first-rate project that will create hundreds of jobs, and provide tax revenue for essential services for many years. We are excited to begin this journey with you and appreciate your patience and partnership.

Visit us online to connect and ask questions, stay up to date on project updates and daily progress, review construction timelines and milestones, and more!



# **HOME/WEATHER**

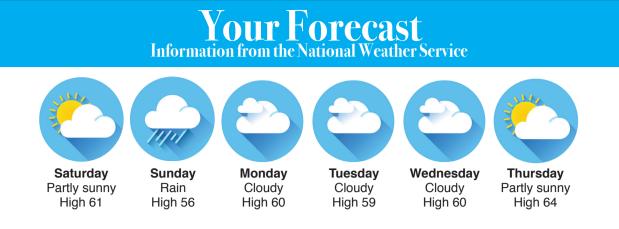


### Health & Wellness **Coaching Now Available!**

A National Board Certified Health and Wellness Coach (NBC-HWC) has been specially trained in the science of behavior change and can help you make healthy lifestyle changes that last. Most people know that healthy food, exercise, sleep, and stress management are important, but making them happen can be much more challenging. With a Coach, you can work towards your goals with someone trained to help you succeed.

Schedule a FREE 30 minute introductory session with Mykenzie to see if one-to-one coaching might be a good fit for you. Email or call Mykenzie at mykenzie.green@warnerhospital. org/ 217-937-5275.





### Weather History

May 7

1992: Very dry weather prevailed in northern and central Illinois during the month. Records for

the driest May were set in Chicago, Moline, and Rockford. Springfield reported .52" of rain during the month, while Peoria had .82"; both finished as the second driest May on record.

#### May 8

1988: Severe thunderstorms moved across northern and central Illinois. Winds gusted to 81 mph in Rockford, 75 mph in Pontiac, over 80 mph east of Springfield, and over 70 mph east of Peoria. Damage was reported to dozens of trees and power lines down. \$1.5 million damage occurred to buildings in East Peoria, with \$1 million damage in Greene County.



#### Open House Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



**Featured Listing:** 21 Delmar Ln., Clinton

#### Price \$183,000

Main floor 1624 sq. ft., two bedroom, two bath condominium. Large open kitchen, dining room and family room with gas fireplace. Full, unfinished basement, two car garage. Great location! Call Nan for a private showing!





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# Journal Sports & News



Courtesy of EMC Photography

### **Big bands and ice cream**

The Clinton Junior High School concert and cadet bands performed during the recent high school, junior high ice cream social. Below, left, band director Nathan Wheeler presents high school band student Mia Kaufman with the John Phillip Sousa Band Award for her superior musicianship and dedication. See the high school band on A1.



Courtesy of EMC Photography

### www.theclintonjournal.com



### Maroons 1-1 in season's only home meet

Marc Rogers

jmarre@frontier.com

CLINTON - On May Day, May 1, the Clinton High School (CHS) wrestling team held a home triangular meet against the Olney Tigers and the Vandalia Vandals.

Because of the unusual sports scheduling in a COVID-affected season, this was the only home meet for the Maroons.

The Maroons this season are coping with only 10 grapplers on the roster. This puts them at a disadvantage against larger teams since the opposition

can put in wrestlers who dals. The Vandals were have no opponent to gain on-point throughout this a forfeit and more points. match as they stole almost The high school regulations are the same as usual, not changed due to the were by forfeit and they pandemic as with the junior took the Tigers by a score high regulations.

The first match pitted the hometown Maroons two winning teams to pair against the Tigers of Olney, who did not roll over, but clawed their way through stole the show with the the rounds.

roons scored a victory.

In the end, the Maroons another on points. ended on top 42-36, winning by one win in the rounds.

The second match saw in second at 1-1, with Olthe Tigers take on the Van- ney the bottom team at 0-2.

every round from the Tigers. Seven of their wins of 81-10.

Finally, it was time for the off.

Here again, the Vandals larger team forcing 6 for-Nevertheless, the Ma- feits in this match but also won 13 rounds on pins and

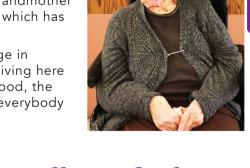
> Thus, Vandalia took the final match 82-10 and the meet 2-0, with the Maroons



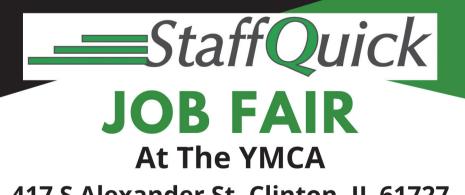
### Ruth Peterson

Ruth, a widower, worked hard as a farmer until the age of 84. She was also a mother to three children - two of which are still living - and a grandmother to five grandchildren - one of which has passed away.

Ruth has lived at Liberty Village in Clinton for three. She enjoys living here because the therapy is very good, the activities are enjoyable and "everybody is so pleasant."







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Powder Coat Painter	\$15.50
Machine Operator	
Assembler	\$13-\$17.00
Welder	\$17-\$18.50

Marc Rogers / Journal Clinton had its moments against Vandalia.



### **PUBLIC AUCTION**

### **AMEREN FLEET & EQUIPMENT**

### Saturday - May 15th 8:30 A.M.

Auction Location: 9515 Texas Church Rd., Clinton, IL 2 miles south of Clinton, on Hwy 51

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Ameren - Digger Trucks; Trenchers; Service Body & Bucket Trucks; Flatbed Trailers; Skid Loader & ATV's ALSO - Lawn Mowers; Wheel Loaders, Mini Excavator & MORE!

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Preview Thursday & Friday, May 13th & 14th







### We have options for you and ones she'll use too.



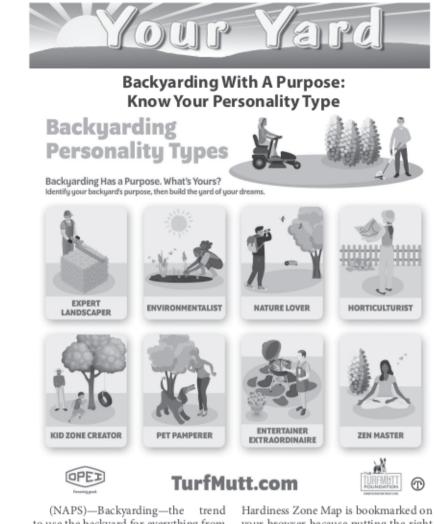
### **Options for your life**

Our checking accounts come with free mobile banking, text alerts, and financial management tools that are convenient for both of you.

hbtbank.com | 888-897-2276

f У in





to use the backyard for everything from tele-working to working out to relaxing-has a different purpose for each person. Identifying your backyard's role in your family's health and happiness is key to cultivating a purposeful outdoor space customized to your needs.

"How do you a create a more purposeful outdoor space? First, you need to identify what type of 'backyarder' you are," explains Kris Kiser, President & CEO of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) and the TurfMutt Foundation. "Then, you can get to work in your yard with that idea in mind."

Here are just a few of the backyarding personality types. Which one(s) are you?

Expert Landscaper. Your yard makes neighbors green with envy. You know how to maintain a healthy living landscape and you have the latest outdoor power equipment to make even big jobs easier. Your idea of a good time? Spending the weekend doing yardwork. You love the sense of accomplishment that comes from working in your yard, and friends can count on you for advice.

Environmentalist. You know that nature starts in your own backyard and that taking small steps in your yard can make a big impact on climate change. As the proverbial Robin to your yard's Batman, you embrace your role in supporting the superhero powers of your living landscape (capturing and filtering rainwater, producing oxygen and absorbing carbon, just to name a few).

Nature Lover. No binge-watching TV for you. You spend your free time watching the birds, bats, butterflies and other wildlife that count on your yard for food and shelter. You cultivate a landscape that supports a rich biodiversity with butterfly bushes, flowering plants, water sources, and trees and shrubs with nooks for nesting and food.

Horticulturist. The USDA Plant

your browser because putting the right plant in the right place is the Golden Rule you live by. You consider location, maintenance, sunlight and watering requirements, as well as the climate zone, before you even think about sticking your shovel in the dirt.

Kid Zone Creator. You know the safest place for your kids is in your own backyard and work hard to create an outdoor fun zone. A flat area of sturdy turfgrass to play sports and pitch a tent? Check. Treehouse? Check. Zipline strung safely between backyard trees? Check. An elevated garden for veggies? Check. Natural playscapes, such as a patch of sand bordered by rocks and log stump seating? Check.

Pet Pamperer. Your focus is on Fido. You've planted sturdy turfgrass that can stand pet play and used soft foliage to create a natural barricade between "off limits" areas and the rest of the lawn. Trees and shrubs are strategically planted for shade and you've even set up a water feature to help your pup cool off.

Entertainer Extraordinaire. Your backyard was the neighborhood hotspot long before the pandemic made that trend posh. Birthdays, graduations, reunions, socially distanced BBQs-your yard is the place to gather. It's got patio furniture, a fire pit, yard games, string lights and an outdoor kitchen.

Zen Master. You enjoy your morning coffee on the balcony as songbirds serenade. Meditating in the shade and de-stressing in a hammock are your jam. Your backyard is your sacred space for relaxation and rejuvenation. You know spending time outside is good for your health and well-being.

To learn more, visit TurfMutt.com. Sign up for Mutt Mail, TurfMutt's monthly e-newsletter with TurfMutt Foundation news and backyarding tips, at http://eepurl.com/he0XzD.



JUSTIN C FENTRESS

**President/CEO** 

*The amazing thing* about Clinton is how citizens and businesses support the local community. I believe in Clinton because of the strong group of people who continue to volunteer their time and money to help others and make this *community great!* 

#### DeWitt Savings Bank DEDIC 302 W Main St., Clinton, IL 61727 🔒 Dir: 217-935-9470 Fax: 217-935-6342 email: jfentress@dewittsb.com • NMLS#470254

### **'l Believe** in Clinton' These local businesses support the Clinton community.







**Our success at Heartland Bank has** been a result of our people here and our strong dedication to the success of our community.

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Even after 100 years, our core values on how we do business haven't changed.

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#### BRIDGE BITES

THE ONLY CARD

KT954 ♥ 2 QJ653 <del>\$</del> 94 🛧 QJ87 North ♠ 62 ♥ Q6 ¥ J87 West East + A974 KT82 🔹 KQJ Declarer 🛧 T872 ♠ A3 ♦AKT9543 🛧 A653

Both Vulnerable South West North East 1♥ Dbl 1♠ PassFor bridge games or lessons, please contact Mike Tomlianovich by phone: 309-825-5823 or by email: mjtomlia@gmail 4♥ Pass Pass Pass You are West, looking at the N-W

hands, there must be something on your breakfast table to cover the S-E hands. Against 4♥ you lead the ♣K, and that holds the trick, Partner

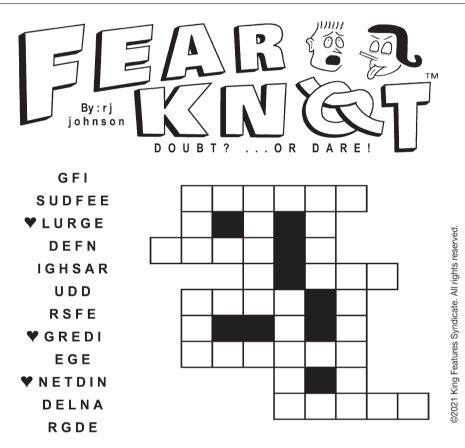
playing the Two. Now, at Trick 2, there is only one card in your hand that will defeat this contract. What is it?

Before you play to Trick 2, let's analyze Trick 1. Partner played the Two, and in standard carding methods that is discouraging. In other words, Partner does not like the suit and it is safe to assume that he does not have the Ace. So Declarer has the Ace, yet she did not win the trick. What is she up to? That's right, she would just love for you to continue with Clubs, allowing her to win the Ace and get a ruff in Dummy.

It goes against the grain to lead away from certain trump holdings, and leading from Qx has potential for blowing a trump trick. Nonetheless, stopping the ruff is paramount, so you bite the bullet and shift to a trump. But which one? Leading a low trump would deprive Declarer of a trick by stopping his Club ruff, but it might return the trick by destroying Partner's trump holding. Time to remove that diagonally placed (pre-syrup) waffle from your morning newspaper, and take a peek at the S-E hands.

Yes, at Trick 2, the only card in your hand that will beat the contract is the ♥Q! Not only does it deprive Declarer of his ruff in Dummy, but it also preserves Partner's natural trump trick. In the fullness of time the defense will score three Clubs and a Heart, and that is down one.

For bridge games or lessons, please contact Mike Tomlianovich by phone: 309-825-5823 or by email: mjtomlia@gmail



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### Mega Maze

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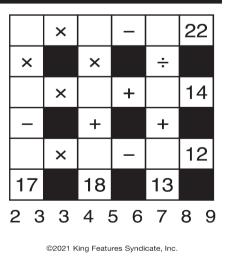
Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE ). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (  $\mathbf{\Psi}$  ) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. **V**RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART ). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

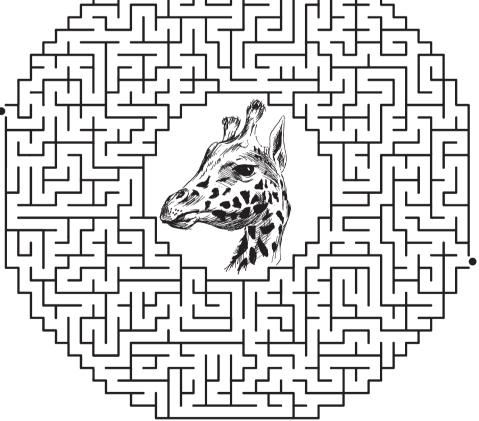
#### **GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

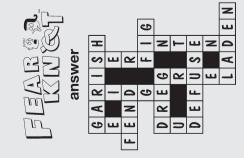
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

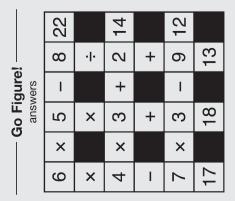
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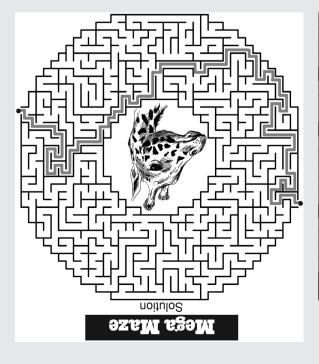
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#### CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE



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

#### 5/7//21 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, reiect 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)

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 it's care. \*Family homes that care for no more than three (3) children under the age of twelve

iting a child care

service.\* A child-

care facility that is

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

PART-TIME Companion to sit with elderly woman, Clinton area, extremely light duties. (217) 671-0392 (203508)

#### 265 LAWN CARE

LAWN MOWING, Booking lawns to mow, Experienced

305

SALES

advertisement solic- CASE NO. 21-P-16 NOTICE BY PUBLI-CATION OF CLAIM DATE

> Notice is given to the creditors of the death of Margaret L. Guimond, of 6075 Park Rd., Clinton, Illinois 61727. Letters of Office were issued on April 12, 2021, to Deborah Tippet, Independent Administrator, 6229 Hallsville Rd., 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 St., Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or

both, on or before

October 23, 2021,

delivery of a Notice

is barred. Copies

the Clerk must be

of a claim filed with

mailed or delivered

by the claimant to

the representative

and to the repre-

it has been filed.

Kevin Hammer

Attorney for the

L. Guimond

219 East Main

217/935-7063

Estate of Margaret

or, if mailing or

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

**Property Index** Number: 01-29-354-001

Said Property was sold on 10/24/2018 for Delinguent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2017.

The period of redemption will expire on 8/13/2021. On 09/02/21 at 09:30 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers. Ltd. Petitioner 6114-913911

Legal 19206 April 23 and 30, 2021 May 7, 2021

#### LEGAL

TAKE NOTICE CERTIFICATE NO. 201700127

TO: Megan Poole, Spouse of Megan Poole, Occupant, Megan Poole, Spouse of Megan Poole. Christopher Followell

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of DEWITT County, III. as Case No. 2018TX1

WANTED TO BUY FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans.

R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient, Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

2021 to Maurice D. Mathais, Jr.

Notice is further given that the estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 [755 ILCS 5/28-4(1992 State Bar Edition)]. Any interested person may terminate independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

The Independent Administrator's attorney of record is Handegan Law Office, Post Office Box 467, Decatur, Illinois, 62525-0467. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727 on or before November 1, 2021. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the court must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the independent Administrator and to his attorneys of record within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Furthermore, the claimant shall file with the court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

### TO CONTACT US ABOUT CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

PHONE: 217-935-3171 • FAX: 217-935-8086 EMAIL: EANGEL@THECLINTONJOURNAL.COM

### INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

Address: 111 S. Monroe St., Clinton P.O. Box 615 Mail: Clinton, IL 61727

(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

#### CJ DEADLINES:

• Tuesdays at 5 p.m.

61727.

{SEAL}

LEGAL

Call for pricing that starts at \$19.00 for private party ads and

All classified marketplace line ads will

appear in the following print publications

• Clinton Journal • Saturday Advertiser

and on our newspaper website:

www.theclintonjournal.com

\$30 for commercial business ads and \$15 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.

Gas Adjustment (PGA) Rider with costs incurred in connection with the cost of gas from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The evidence is applicable to Rate Zone I (formerly the AmerenCIPS service territory), Rate Zone II (formerly the AmerenCILCO service territory) and Rate Zone III (formerly the AmerenIP service territory); and may result in changes in its rates and charges with respect to gas delivery services throughout the Company's gas service territory in Illinois. The changes in rates and charges will take effect after hearings and after the Commission issues its final Order.

The Commission docketed the filing as Docket No. 20-0875. A copy of the

Dated this 22nd day Dated: Thursday, of April, 2021. April 22, 2021 Stephanie L. Scoles No. 2021-149 Attorney for the Estate of Gary Wayne Dana Smith/sw Hoke **COUNTY CLERK** 204 E. Side Square Clinton, IL 61727 Legal 19212 217-935-0041 April 30, 2021

Legal 19213 April 30, 2021 May 7 and 14, 2021

SALE OF 1003

East Washington

BY THE CITY OF

CLINTON, ILLI-

BY SEALED BID

NOTICE is here-

within ten days after

it has been filed.

#### LEGAL

Street,

NOIS

STATE OF IL-LINOIS IN THE **CIRCUIT COURT** OF THE SIXTH JU-DICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF DE-WITT

May 7 and 14, 2021

Estate of: Gary Wayne Hoke Deceased CASE NO. 2020 P 42

NOTICE BY PUBLI-CATION OF CLAIM DATE

by given that the City of Clinton, Illinois, intends to sell a tract, located

Notice is given to

in the 1003 East Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois. The Tract is zoned R-4 Multi-Family and lot size is 60' X 132'

#### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FAX RECEIVING AND

#### SENDING SER-VICE

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)

#### 201

DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

#### NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any

#### Apartments Available Now! Highland, New Baden, St. Jacob, Trenton, & Troy 1 & 2 Bedroom units; Rent is based on income. For More Information or an Application Contact



and Reasonably priced, Call for a quote 309-838-2323, Ask for Bill. (265507)of April, 2021.

#### GARAGE/RUMMAGE PLACE A RUM-MAGE SALE AD IN THE CLIN-Clinton, IL 61727 TON JOURNAL. Deadline for ads

are: Mondays by

5:00 PM for the

following Friday

edition. Rate: 1

Up to 20 words for

\$17.00, additional

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.

STATE OF IL-

LINOIS IN THE

**CIRCUIT COURT** 

DICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF DE-

Margaret L. Gui-

LEGAL

WITT

mond

Estate of:

Deceased.

words are 25¢ a

Legal 19198 April 23 and 30, 2021 May 7, 2021 publication and up to one week online,

Street

#### LEGAL

TAKE NOTICE CERTIFICATE NO. 201700011

TO: Vona Ladew, Vona Ledew. Estate of Daniel Ladew, Vona Ladew,

Estate of Daniel Ladew, Occupant, PNC Bank, National LEGAL Association, OF THE SIXTH JU-Sheldon Ladew Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties

interested in said

land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of **DEWITT County**, III. as Case No. 2018TX1

The Property is located at: 103 E. Fifth. Waynesville, IL

The Property is sentative's attorney located at: 25 Lynn St., Welwithin ten days after don. IL

Dated this 14th day **Property Index** Number: 14-09-405-007

> Said Property was sold on 10/24/2018 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2017.

The period of redemption will expire on 8/13/2021. On 09/02/21 at 09:30 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner 6114-913912

Legal 19207 April 23 and 30, 2021 May 7, 2021

STATE OF ILLI-NOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUN-TY, ILLINOIS - IN PROBATE

> DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Estate of MARC ALAN MATHIAS, Deceased, No. 2021-P-17

Notice is hereby given of the death of the above and that Letters of Administration were issued April 15

Maurice D. Mathais, Jr., Independent Administrator of the Estate of Marc Alan Mathias, deceased

By /s/Nathan D. Handegan Nathan D. Handegan, one of his Attorneys

Handegan Law Office Nathan D. Handegan Attorney No. 6325654 Attorney at Law Post Office Box 467 Decatur, Illinois 62525-0467 (217) 422-2420 Nathan@handeganlaw.com

Legal 19209 April 23 and 30, 2021 May 7, 2021

LEGAL

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Proposed Tariff Changes Gas Service Schedule III. C. C. No. 2

To the Gas Patrons of

Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois:

Ameren Illinois (or Company) hereby gives notice to the public that on April 8, 2021, it filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC or Commission) evidence (direct testimony) regarding the reconciliation of revenues and costs under the Company's Purchased

evidence may be inspected at the Ameren Illinois offices located at 300 Liberty Street, Peoria, Illinois or online at www.icc.illinois. gov/e-docket/

All parties interested in this matter may obtain information with respect thereto either directly from Ameren Illinois or by addressing the Chief Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

#### **AMEREN ILLINOIS** COMPANY

d/b/a Ameren Illinois By: Richard J. Mark, President &

Legal 19210 April 30, 2021 May 7, 2021

#### LEGAL

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

**Public Notice is** hereby given that on Thursday, April 22, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of DeWitt County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:

TRULY SOUTH-ERN GIRL 1447 IL ST RT 54 CLINTON, IL

the creditors of the death of Gary Wayne Hoke, of 923 N. Cain St., Clinton, Illinois 61727

> Letters of Office were issued on October 13, 2020 to Marci Patterson, Independent Executor, 1222 S. Madison St., Clinton, Illinois 61727, whose attorney is Stephanie L. Scoles, 204 E. Side Square, 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 terminated independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a

petition to terminate

Claims against the

filed in the office of

the Clerk of DeWitt

Estate must be

**DeWitt County** 

Courthouse, 201

W. Washington,

61727, or with the

representative, or

both, on or before

June 1, 2021 or, if

mailing or delivery

representative is

required by Section

18-3 of the Probate

Act, the date stated

in the Notice. Any

or before that date

is barred. Copies

of a claim filed with

mailed or delivered

by the claimant to

the representative

sentative's attorney

and to the repre-

the Clerk must be

claim not filed on

Clinton, Illinois

to the clerk

Sealed Bids for the purchase of said property may be submitted to Cheryl Van Valey, City Clerk to the City of Clinton, Illinois, City Hall, 118 West Washington Street, P.O. Box 378 Clinton, Illinois, until 2:00 p.m. June 3, 2021. A copy of the Sealed Bid form is available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall.

Bid Opening shall be conducted June 7, 2021 during the City Council meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. A minimum bid of **\$7,500** will be required for the Tract.

The City of Clinton, Illinois, reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Count Circuit Court, Any questions concerning the real estate or sale terms may be directed to the following Cheryl Van Valey City Člerk 118 West Washington Street Clinton, Illinois of a Notice from the 61727 Telephone: 217/935-9438 E-mail address: vanvaley@clintonillinois.com Legal 19216 May 7, 14 and 21, 2021

# CEO

#### LEGAL

Timely & Meaningful Meeting On Tuesday, May 25 at 10:00 am, a meeting conducted via Google Meet at the following web address https:// meet.google.com/ <u>bqy-ghmg-zcw</u> or via phone by calling (□US□)□+1 413-497-4146 PIN: 829 433 732# The purpose of the

meeting will be to discuss the district's plans for providing special education services to students with disabilities who attend private schools and home schools within the district for the 2020. 21 school year. If you are the parent of a home-schooled student who has been or may be identified with a disabilitv and vou reside within the boundaries of Clinton CUSD 15. vou are urged to attend. If you have further questions pertaining to this meeting, please contact Kari Veldman, Special Education Administrator, 815-216-5972.

Legal 19218 May 7, 2021

#### LEGAL

CITY OF CLINTON, ILLINOIS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE CASE NO. 371

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that an application was filed by Brewer Development Co, LLC 449 S Ashland Ave. STE 201, Lexington, KY 40502, with the Zoning Administrator of the City of Clinton, Illinois on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021. Requesting a Variance from the City Codes, to allow a reduction of setback of 5 ft from reauired 15 ft at the east property line. The property is located at 619 W Van Buren Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The property is presently zoned C-3 Highway Business and is described as follows:

the Contractor and <u>Tuesday, May 18,</u> 2021, and thereafany Subcontractor shall have in place ter publicly opened and read. Bids are to be sealed and marked "SHER-**IFF'S OFFICE PARKING LOT RE-**HABILITATION" on the outside lower left-hand corner of the envelope. A single stipulated sum bid will be received for ALL work. The contract will have a project completion date of September 30, 2021.

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

The proposed improvement is officially known as:

#### SHERIFF'S OF-FICE PARKING LOT REHABILITA-TION

The proposed proj-

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Plans, specifications and ciates LLC, 5 N. 217-422-8544.

a written Substance Abuse Prevention Program for the prevention of substance abuse among its employees which meets or exceeds the requirements in P. A. 95-0635 or shall have a collective bargaining agreement in effect dealing with the subject matter of P.

ect herein specified and described includes the following work: The removal and replacement of the existing parking lot, island curb, and sidewalk as detailed on the plan sheets for the DeWitt **County Sheriff's Office. Sidewalk** replacement shall meet State of Illinois ADA requirements.

<u>TO BIDDERS:</u> proposal forms may be obtained from Chastain & Asso-

Country Club Road, Decatur IL 62521, Payment of \$20.00 per plan

set shall be made to Chastain & Associates LLC for the cost of the plans and specifications, by BANK CASHIER'S CHECK, BANK DRAFT, CERTI-FIED CHECK or COMPANY CHECK made payable to Chastain & Associates LLC. No refund will be made for the plans, specification, or proposal forms returned. An electronic version of the plans,

A. 95-0635. 8. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of

irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission. The owner reserves the right to waive any informality in the bids received. to determine the lowest responsible bidder or reject any or all bids.

9. Special attention shall be given to the construction schedule listed in the Special Provisions.

#### REJECTION OF BIDS:

The DeWitt County Board reserves the right to accept negotiate, or reject any or all proposals and to waive any variance from the requirements of the instructions for bidders. At the discretion of the Board, required items may be submitted after the bid opening if there is sufficient compliance with instructions at the time of the bid opening to permit the Board to determine the price bid

Dana Smith, County Clerk DeWitt County Board

Legal 19220 May 7, 2021



Wanna

sell it?

#### CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

# Autism acceptance: A quest for answers, support

and her husband struggled to understand their young daughter's unfamiliar behavior, which seemed so unlike the usual tantrums and behavioral quirks of childhood.

Julia barely slept. She refused to eat most foods. She was hyper-focused on specific topics. She could care less about opinions or instructions from authority figures. As early as 3 years old, she was diagnosed with attention deficit/ hyperactive disorder. She was given a sensory processing disorder diagnosis, because, among other things, she demonstrated a strong aversion to putting on clothes. By 7 years of age, she was struggling in school.

During elementary school, Julia underwent additional testing and collected more inaccurate diagnoses. General anxiety disorder. Social cognitive disorder. Obsessive-compulsive disorder. Oppositional defiance disorder.

When sixth grade hit, "the wheels just totally flew off the cart," Stafford says. Her bright, beautiful daughter was being regularly bullied, in a depressed state, and was threatening suicide. The definition of autism spectrum disorder had significantly changed since Julia was a toddler, and she was ultimately, accurately diagnosed.

The Centers for Disease Control defines Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as a "broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication."

54 children in the United States, enabled the Staffords to seek targeted resources, training, and support. They turned to The Autism Program (TAP), a University of Illinois academic partnership of five university departments that provides resources, referrals, training, and support for parents of people the Staffords, the ASD diagnosis autism spectrum disorders. In addi- brought relief. They finally had antion, TAP facilitates collaborations swers. with agencies, school districts, organizations, and people who work 'What are we doing wrong?," on behalf of impacted families. TAP began more than 15 years my second child and go, 'You're ago with a small grant, says Aaron Ebata, University of Illinois Extension specialist and associate professor for Human Development ing, with a massive vocabulary and Family Studies. Ebata serves as TAP's program administrator and father of a college senior with an ASD. Ebata and two others lead the early effort, which was further supported by The Autism Network of Illinois. Eventually TAP grew from just social situations.

URBANA, III - Katie Stafford a resource for parents to a place where students who were interested in working with people with autism could receive trainings, internships, and hands-on experience. It now works through Illinois Extension to provide trainings to parents, professionals, and communities throughout the state, an effort that was broadened by the pandemic.

> "The biggest part is inclusion," Ebata says. "We've talked about racial and ethnic inclusion at Extension. But, what do you do with the kid who is nonverbal or seems perfectly fine, but is kind of quirky and odd? So the fit, in terms of training professionals, volunteers, or parents is to try to help create a society or culture who is more accepting of kids."

> Ebata uses a seemly simple social skill, eye contact, as his example.

"A lot of kids on the spectrum have a lot of difficulty making eye contact," he says. "And, typically, people feel that's so important. So, a lot of people would train kids to look you in the eye, which is very stressful for kids on the spectrum.

"So, then the question becomes: Why do we keep expecting people to look us in the eye? We could train them to look us in the eye, or we could train the rest of the world to say, 'That's not a big deal.'"

An ASD can present in varying degrees of severity and is widely misunderstood by the public. Like the Staffords, parents of children with ASD often struggle to find a correct diagnosis.

"Julia's a super verbal kid, and The diagnosis, which affects 1 in she's very, very good at masking," says Stafford. "At one time, the Asperger's diagnosis probably would have been the closest, but she didn't really qualify for that because she was so social. Everybody said, 'Well, she's doing okay in school, so she must be fine.""

Of course, she wasn't, so for

TAP delivers the kinds of resources that make a difference, including new diagnosis orientation for families, social skills programs, and trainings for professionals. Up until a few years ago, the Family Resilience Center also provided the venue for monthly meetings of the Champaign-Urbana Autism Network, a parent-professional networking group.

"In the past, we've done training for first responders, for preschool and Head Start teachers, and for high school teachers," said Ebata. "A lot of what we do are individual consultations when there is a particularly difficult situation."

A diagnosis of ASD often spurs families into targeted action, and the Staffords immediately let their daughter's school know so that appropriate accommodations could be made. They got involved with TAP and learned about strategies they say they wish they had known when Julia was younger.

"I think people need to figure out how to get past needing to make everyone normal," Stafford said. "The hardest part about this is that we're trying to get these kids with all these struggles to be 'normal' and to blend in, to fit in. My daughter's going to be quirky all her life, but everybody's got quirks; hers are just a little more pronounced."

At 14, Julia's early interest and love animals and zoology has been eclipsed by a passion for the saving the environment. She admires Greta Thunberg and has her own dreams for advocating for the planet's health.

TAP workshops address important topics, such as picky eating, managing sleep issues, and improving executive functioning. The family also benefits from TAP's social groups for children with an ASD. TAP's biggest benefit for Stafford is the community it creates.

"Autism can be kind of isolating," she says.

Julia wants to go to college, and "We kept asking ourselves, Stafford hopes that by the time it's time for that, she can manage her

LOTS 13 & 14 **BLK 5 PHARES** ADDITION AND PHARES ADDI-TION LTS 15& 16 BLK 5 (EX RD ROW PER 244-69)

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a hearing on the Variance on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Kamren Wilford, Secretary Zoning Board of Appeals

Legal 19219 May 7, 2021

#### LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

#### TIME AND PLACE OF OPENING BIDS:

Public notice is hereby given that the DeWitt County Board invites contractors to submit sealed BIDS for an offer to perform work to complete SHERIFF'S OF-FICE PARKING LOT REHABILITA-TION.

Sealed bids are to be received at the DeWitt County Administrative Office, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, IL 61727 no later than <u>2:00 p.m</u>. local prevailing time on

proposal forms may be requested from jmarler@ chastainengineers. com at no charge.

specifications and

3. Plans and specifications are available for viewing at the following location:

Chastain & Associates LLC **5 N. Country Club** Road Decatur, Illinois 62521

The Engineer's Estimate of Cost shall not be released in advance of the scheduled time and date of the bid opening.

5. All proposals must be accompanied by a BANK DRAFT, CA-SHIER'S CHECK, **OR CERTIFIED** CHECK made payable to DeWitt County, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid, or BID

BOND in the same amount. 6. Contractor and subcontractors shall not pay less than the prevailing wage rate as determined by the Illinois Department of Labor to all laborers, workmen

and mechanics

performing under

the contract, and

shall comply with

ILCS130/1-12).

7. Before the

the requirements of **Clinton Journal** the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 111 S. Monroe • Clinton

us!

217-935-3171 Contractor and any Subcontractor commences work,

Stafford says. "People would meet horrible parents.' We got a lot of blame along the way."

Julia is extremely high functionand focus on specific topics, such as animals, zoology, and healing the environment. But she struggles when it comes to social cognition, which broadly speaking, refers to how people process, store, and apply information about people and

ASD in a way that enables her to meet that challenge.

Helpful resources include Move from awareness to acceptance by debunking autism myths, by Jeanne Kramer, and Autism 101, a TAP comprehensive primer on ASD.

SOURCE: Aaron Ebata, University of Illinois Extension Specialist WRITER: Linda Hughes-Kirchubel, University of Illinois Extension Communications Writer



# BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS & SERVICES GUIDE





9484 Meadowbrook Rd., Clinton, IL 61727 309-319-7140 www.jarheadconstruction.com







111 South Monroe, Clinton Ph: 217-935-3171 I www.theclintonjournal.com