



Maroons 21-1 with second conference win over Warriors

Obituaries

WAGERS, Richard

Volume 119 • Number 4



CLINTON

Journal

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Workers fight leaks in sub-zero weather

Temperature fluctuations bring out water main breaks

Gordon Woods
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CLINTON — “There’s been nothing normal in the past 48 hours,” commissioner John Wise reported during the Jan. 16 city council meeting. Wise was referring to a spate of water main breaks brought

on by the cold temperatures. Wise asked public works supervisor Steve Lobb to explain the situation. “With these extreme temperatures, it’s not uncommon for mains to break,” Lobb said. A main broke along S. Alexander Street at about 4 a.m. on Jan. 15. “As old mains break, they continue to break,” Lobb said. After the first break, a series of other leaks developed along the same water main. During a 19-hour period, city workers found

themselves fighting four leaks on Alexander from Main Street to Rt. 54. This was during a period when nighttime temperatures ranged from -5 to -10 degrees with wind chills much colder. During the following day, workers had to return to the area to resolve some addition problems, Lobb said. “You’ve got an awful good crew that will go out in those sub-zero temperatures and fight those water main breaks,” he said.

See CITY / A2



Gordon Woods / Journal
City workers put in 19 hours in sub-zero temps last week repairing a series of water main leaks along S. Alexander Street.

Appointments, spending highlight first 2024 county board meeting

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CLINTON — The first DeWitt County Board meeting of the new year, held on Jan. 18., was brief, members approving two appointments and a series of expenditures. The board voted to appoint Jed Reynolds to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). The board also voted to appoint Tim Mollet to the DeWitt County Mental Health Board. The term for this appointment was scheduled to expire on Oct. 26, 2026 but was extended to Dec. 31, 2026 so all terms would expire in December. The board approved Megan Myers’ motion

to approve a six-month contract with J&M Critter Care for cleaning services at the county animal shelter. Myers also reported a part-time employee at the shelter left, to they will be looking to fill that position. Chairman of the property committee Terry Ferguson recommended accepting quotes from Sessions Electric to install a generator at the animal shelter and also one at the DeWitt County EMS building. Quotes for the work were, respectively, \$11,095.95 and \$11,915.07. The board approved the two motions. And, the board approved the purchase of six motor grader tires from Walker Tire for \$6,150.



Gordon Woods / Journal

A sheet of ice

City workers described some side streets in Clinton as “sheets of ice” Monday morning as a layer of ice covered the area. Mr. Lincoln’s Square was empty of traffic early Monday as a city plow worked to clear the ice from the pavement.

Kraus promoted to retail manager at Heartland Bank & Trust

CLINTON – Heartland Bank and Trust Company announces the promotion of Stacy Kraus to retail manager. Kraus joined Heartland Bank in September 2018 as a retail assistant manager. She is currently located at Heartland Bank’s Clinton branch at 301 South Side Square.

Kraus currently resides in Kenney, where she is active in her community, volunteering and fundraising for the Kenney Fire Department. She also is a supporter of Special Olympics, having volunteered for several



Stacy Kraus

events. Beginning in 2024, she will begin volunteering her time at the local Neighborhood Care Center. Kraus has been married for 20 years to husband Kevin and has one child, Alex, aged 5, and two dogs, Pepper and Skye.

DeWitt County Museum membership drive now under way

CLINTON — The DeWitt County Musuem Association membership drive is currently under way. DCMA membership is open to any individual, family, organization, or business interested in supporting the organization’s mission “To Preserve and Promote DeWitt County’s History and Heritage.”

Membership dues help sustain the C.H. Moore Homestead & DeWitt County Museum’s operation and maintenance as well as collections care, educational programs, and annual and special events, including the Apple ‘n Pork Festival. Membership benefits include unlimited free admission for daily tours, quilt show, Apple ‘n Pork

Festival house tours, and holiday candlelight tours. Members also receive a complimentary subscription to The Homestead Gazette newsletter which is published bi-annually. Members are under no obligation to volunteer their time and talents, however, those who would like to become actively involved are encouraged to do so. New memberships are

welcome any time of the year, however, the annual dues are collected each January, so now the time to join. Anyone interested in joining the DCMA should contact the museum by phone at (217) 935-6066 or email at chmoore.homestead@gmail.com to requesting a membership form.

Turner introduces bill to keep land from foreign ownership

SPRINGFIELD – In response to mounting concerns about the increasing trend of foreign

ownership of Illinois land, State Senator Sally Turner (R-Beason) has introduced new legislation to protect the state’s farmland by prohibiting property ownership within Illinois by noncitizens from nations that have been deemed hostile by the federal government. “The agricultural industry is the backbone of our state’s economy, and we must take decisive steps to ensure its sustainability,” said

Turner. “Those steps begin with my new legislation, which directly addresses legitimate concerns surrounding ownership of farmland by individuals from a hostile nation and the impact of that ownership has on our national security.” Drawing on successful bipartisan laws in California and Arkansas, Senate Bill 2668 aims to alleviate farmers’ fears that land acquisitions by foreign nations and

investors may inflate farmland prices and pose a potential threat to national security. Currently, 24 states have passed similar legislation to mitigate the risks associated with the purchase of farmland by foreign entities that may jeopardize national security. “Senate Bill 2668 is a proactive measure that safeguards our crucial agricultural resources,” continued Sen. Turner. See LAND / A2

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NEWS



Reynolds celebrate 70th wedding anniversary

CLINTON — John and Beverly Reynolds celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on January 25. They were married on January 25, 1954, in Covington, Ind. Their marriage was blessed with four daughters, Gail Piatt, Susan Faircloth, Beth Reynolds, Ruth Craig and two sons, Daniel Reynolds and Terry Reynolds (deceased); 13 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren (two on the way), and 1 great-great grandchild (1 on the way). Both born and raised in DeWitt County, John and Beverly farmed for over 50 years. They are now retired. The couple will celebrate their platinum anniversary with a family dinner.



Sarah Fabris named to Missouri State University's fall 2023 dean's list

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — Each semester, students at Missouri State University who attain academic excellence are named to the dean's list. For undergraduate students, criteria include enrollment in at least 12 credit hours during the fall semester and at least a 3.50 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Sarah Fabris from Clinton made the list. Fabris was among more than 5,100 students named to the fall 2023 dean's list.

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City / from page A1

Lobb said the city upgrades water mains when they can, but the breaks are the result of an “antiquated” system. He said other communities have the same problem. “You can’t upgrade your system completely, but we have taken steps over the years, though we clearly have more work to do,” Lobb said. Sometimes the breaks are caused as much by the temperature fluctuations as the extreme cold, he said.

In other business, the council approved the low bid of \$14,200 from R&R Services of Illinois, Inc. for brush-grinding at the yard waste facility, a tower/land lease agreement extension with MR System Wireless, LLC, and placed on file the purchase of the south portion of 812 W. Leander Street for \$26,600 as well as approval of the subdivision plat for the Park Lane West subdivision.

Land / from page A1

“Failing to implement policies to conserve our state’s greatest asset now could leave us vulnerable to potential threats in the future.” Turner hopes that her legislation will spark a broad and constructive discussion among lawmakers regarding the state’s commitment to the welfare of its agricultural industry and the overall security of the nation.

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Illinois Agri-Women 2024 scholarships

SPRINGFIELD — This year, the Illinois Agri-Women (IAW) organization is offering five scholarships for women studying agriculture. The Illinois Agri-Women (IAW) organization supports the agriculture industry, works for legislation to support and preserve family farms, communicates with other agriculture organizations, and strives to educate the public and promote agricultural awareness. One \$1,500 IAW Helen Henert Agriculture Education Scholarship will be offered to a student who is an agriculture education major who will be finishing their undergraduate degree at an Illinois school in the next year. Four \$1,000 WCFA Agent of Change Scholarships are offered to students who have attended at least one Women Changing the Face of Agriculture Conference. Eligible applicants include past WCFA attendees and students who participated in the 2021 WCFA Online Curriculum. One scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior, one will be awarded to a current college student, one scholarship will be awarded to a current graduate student, and one additional scholarship, in memory of Joan Loeb, will be awarded to a student who will be enrolled in an Illinois college or university in the fall of 2024. Applications can be submitted online. The deadline for submissions of completed applications is March 31, 2024. To access applications or find out more information about scholarships, visit Scholarships WCFA (womenchangingthefaceofagriculture.com) or www.illinoisagriwomen.org.

Federal grants will make ethanol-based fuels more accessible

(The Center Square) — Illinois agricultural officials are applauding federal grants that will make ethanol-based fuels more accessible to motorists.

The Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program is designed to expand the reach of ethanol-based fuels. Illinois is one of 22 states that will be receiving part of the \$19 million in funding. “By increasing U.S.-made biofuel supply, we’re enhancing energy independence, reducing costs for American families, and creating new income streams for agricultural producers, while bringing good-paying jobs to rural communities,” said U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. Blending ethanol into gasoline has reduced fuel costs by about 25 percent, decreasing gas prices nationwide. “There’s a huge price spread between 10 percent blends and E85, so that



photo / BlueRoomSteam

is what the consumer is trending towards, the cheaper option,” said Jon Rosenstiel, a Pearl City farmer and chairman of the ethanol action team for the National Corn Growers Association. A portion of the funding will go toward installing E15 dispensers at Casey’s General Store gas stations and Love’s Travel Stops locations around the state.

Illinois-based Piasa Enterprises Inc. will be using a \$200,000 grant to install two 30,000 gallon biodiesel storage tanks at a distribution center in Hartford, projecting a 2 million gallon increase in biodiesel sales. “Most of the corn organizations are working towards high blends, but in order to get to higher blends, we have to have

the infrastructure there for it to happen,” said Rosenstiel. USDA continues to accept applications for funding to expand access to domestic biofuels. “Ethanol blends reduce carbon emissions and fuel costs,” said U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.). “It’s good for Illinois farmers, and it’s good for rural jobs.”

Baby Bragger

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NEWS

Questions & Answers

Retirement

Question:
Why doesn't my estimate using the Retirement Estimator take into account my work as a teacher? I've worked for 20 years as a public-school teacher and thought it would count.

Answer:
If you work for a state or local government agency — including a school system, college, or university — your earnings may not be covered by Social Security. If you are covered only by your state or local pension plan and you don't pay Social Security taxes, your earnings won't be shown on your Social Security record. (Your record will show your Medicare wages if you pay into that program.) For information on how your pension from non-covered state or local employment may affect the amount of your Social Security benefit, visit www.ssa.gov/retire2/wep-chart.htm.

Question:
Is it true that ten thousand people are retiring each day? What is the best way for me to apply and avoid long lines in my Social Security office?

Answer:
Yes. The best way is to use our online retirement application at www.ssa.gov. You can complete it in as little as 15 minutes. It's so easy. You can apply from the comfort of your home or office at a time most convenient for you. Once you've electronically submitted your application, you're done. In most cases, there's no need to submit any documents. There's also no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative.

Disability

Question:
I get Social Security because of a disability. How often will my case be reviewed to determine if I'm still eligible?

Answer:
How often we review your medical condition depends on how severe it is and the likelihood it

will improve. Your award notice tells you when you can expect your first review using the following terminology:

- **M e d i c a l** improvement expected — If your condition is expected to improve within a specific time, your first review will be six to 18 months after you started getting disability benefits.
- **M e d i c a l** improvement possible — If improvement in your medical condition is possible, your case will be reviewed about every three years.
- **M e d i c a l** improvement not expected — If your medical condition is unlikely to improve, your case will be reviewed about once every five to seven years.

For more information, visit www.ssa.gov.


Question:
How do I know if I have worked long enough to qualify for Social Security disability benefits?

Answer:
You must have worked long enough — and recently enough — under Social Security to qualify for disability benefits. Social Security work credits are based on your total yearly wages or self-employment income. You can earn up to four credits each year. The amount needed for a credit changes from year to year. The number of work credits you need to qualify for disability benefits depends on your age when you become disabled. Generally, you need 40 credits, 20 of which you earned in the last 10 years, ending with the year you become disabled. However, younger workers may qualify with fewer credits. To learn more, see our Disability Planner at www.ssa.gov/planners/disability.

Supplemental Security Income

Question:
I know you need to have limited resources to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). But what is considered a resource?

Answer:
Resources are things



you own that you can use for support. They include cash, real estate, personal belongings, bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. To be eligible for SSI a person must have no more than \$2,000 in countable resources. A married couple must have no more than \$3,000 in countable resources. If you own resources over the SSI limit, you may be able to get SSI benefits while trying to sell the resources. Not all of your resources count toward the SSI resource limit. For example:

- The home you live in and the land it's on do not count.
- Your personal effects and household goods do not count.
- Life insurance policies may not count, depending on their value.
- Your car usually does not count.
- Burial plots for you and members of your immediate family do not count.
- Up to \$1,500 in burial funds for you and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for your spouse may not count.
- If you are blind or have a disability, some items may not count if you plan to use them to work or earn extra income.

You may also wish to read our material on "resources" in the booklet, Understanding SSI at www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-understanding-ssi.htm.

Question:
I'm on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and live with my two brothers in an apartment. My SSI payment is cut by one-third because the Social Security office says I don't pay enough of the household expenses. How much of the expenses must I pay in order to get the full SSI rate?

Answer:
Under the rules of the

program, you must be paying an equal share of the expenses. Because there are three of you in the household, you must pay one-third of the expenses. If you are not paying an equal share of the rent, utilities, groceries, and other household expenses, your SSI payment must be reduced. To learn more, visit www.ssa.gov.

Medicare

Question:
How do I terminate my Medicare Part B (medical insurance)?

Answer:
You can voluntarily terminate your Medicare Part B (medical insurance). Because this is a serious decision that could have negative ramifications for you in the future, you'll need to have a personal interview with a Social Security representative first. The representative will help you complete Form CMS 1763. This form isn't available online. To schedule your interview, call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., or contact your nearest Social Security office. For more information, go to www.medicare.gov.


Question:
How do I apply for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs?

Answer:
You have several options for applying. You can:

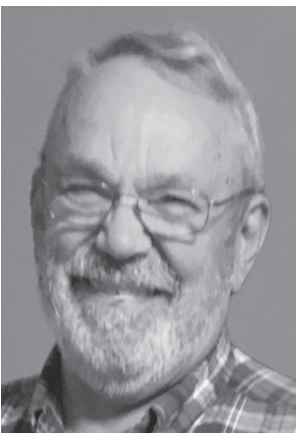
- Apply online by visiting www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp.
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to apply over the phone or request an application.
- Apply at any local Social Security office.

Anyone who has Medicare can get Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Some people with limited resources and income are eligible for Extra Help to pay for the costs—monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments—related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. Learn more at www.ssa.gov/medicare.

Richard ‘Dick’ Wayne Wagers



CLINTON — Richard “D i c k ” W a y n e Wagers, 77, of Clinton, passed away at 12:35 p.m. on January 15, 2024, at Manor Court, Clinton.



Graveside services with military rites will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 27, 2024, at Woodlawn Cemetery, Clinton, with Ernie Harvey Jr. officiating. The family has entrusted Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, with arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to donor's choice, Military Order Of The Purple Heart, P.O. Box 96188, Washington, DC 20090-6188, or the Battle Cross Crusaders.

Dick was born on October 3, 1946, in Clinton, the son of Russell and Dorothy (Vermillion) Wagers.

Survivors include his longtime companion, Linda Schmid, Clinton; son, Rustin (Whitney) Wagers, Clinton; grandson, Rylan Wagers,

Clinton, IL.; Madison Cole, Clinton; sister, Christine Alnadi, Venice, Fla.; half-brother, Robert Keith Wagers, Decatur, along with several nieces and nephews.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Delores Wagers.

Dick served his country in the U.S. Army. He was a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, Military Order Of the Purple Heart, the Clinton V.F.W. and member of the Battle Cross Crusaders. He retired from the Clinton Post Office as a mail carrier after serving 31 years.

Online condolences may be made at www.calvertmemorial.com

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5

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How many daily steps do we really need for optimum health? Ten thousand steps seems to be the gold standard in most of what we read to keep diabetes and high blood pressure (as well as several other conditions) at bay. And how do we keep track of all our steps? Before you decide on a target number of steps per day, call your medical provider and ask how many you should be doing. You might learn that with an otherwise active, healthy life, several thousand steps per day might be enough, rather than the whole 10,000.

How to count those steps is the tricky part. I have several of those little clip-on step counters, and unfortunately, they all come up with different

SENIOR NEWS LINE
by Matilda Charles

results. I have no way of knowing which are accurate.

There is a popular tracker called Fitbit, a fancy step counter that looks like a watch. Each model has pros and cons, per thousands of online reviews. Some do more than just count steps; they also keep tabs on your location with GPS, your pace and how far you've walked, your sleep profile, your heart rate and your stress level. They can be pricey, especially if you want to unlock all the features and sign up for Fitbit Premium to see all your data on the dashboard.

Your best bet is to Google “best step counters for seniors” and wade through a few dozen choices. You'll find Apple Watch, 3DTriSport Walking 3D Pedometer, Garmin Vivofit 4 activity tracker and so many more. If you have a subscription to Consumer Reports, check their reviews on activity trackers for seniors.

Before you opt for an expensive tracker, visit a store where they are sold and try them out. A watch font might be too tiny to read, or a clip-on might not stay clipped on.


Bonus: Several Medicare Advantage plans provide either free or reduced-cost Fitbit devices.

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OPINION

HISTORY ALMANAC

1959 - “Alcoa Presents” debuted on ABC-TV. The show would later be renamed “One Step Beyond”.

1961 - U.S. President John F. Kennedy appointed Dr. Janet G. Travell as the first woman to be the “personal physician to the President”.

1962 - The U.S. launched Ranger 3 to land scientific instruments on the moon. The probe missed its target by about 22,000 miles.

1965 - Hindi was made the official language of India.

1969 - California was declared a disaster area two days of flooding and mudslides.

1972 - In Hermsdorf, Czechoslovakia, a JAT Yugoslav Airlines flight crashed after the detonation of a bomb in the forward cargo hold killing 27 people. The bomb was believed to have been placed on the plane by a Croatian extremist group. Vesna Vulovic, a stewardess, survived after falling 33,000 feet in the tail section. She broke both legs and became paralyzed from the waist down.

1979 - The ‘Gizmo’ guitar synthesizer was first demonstrated.

1984 - CBS television debuted Mickey Spillane’s “Mike Hammer.”

1992 - Russian president Boris Yeltsin announced that his country would stop targeting U.S. cities with nuclear weapons.

1993 - Former Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel was elected president of the new Czech Republic.

1994 - In Sydney, Australia, a young man lunged at and fired two blank shots at Britain’s Prince Charles.

1996 - U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton testified before a grand jury concerning the Whitewater probe.

1998 - U.S. President Clinton denied having an affair with a former White House intern, saying “I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky.”

1999 - Saddam Hussein vowed revenge against the U.S. in response to air-strikes that reportedly killed civilians. The strikes were U.S. planes defending themselves against anti-aircraft fire.

2009 - The Icelandic government and banking system collapsed. Prime Minister Geir Haarde resigned.

2010 - It was announced that James Cameron’s movie “Avatar” had become the highest-grossing film worldwide.

2014 - In the U.S., the First Class postage rate increased to 49 cents.

Amber Waves



New Hampshire

It’s Tuesday morning and this column will be published long after the polls close in New Hampshire. But here goes. When DeSantis suspended his campaign last week, it gave Haley the two person race she wanted. That position always reminds me to be very careful what you ask for. If Haley wins it will be the biggest upset swing since Hillary knocked off Obama when the polls had her down by 9 percent. Philosophically most of those that would have voted for DeSantis will probably vote for Trump. That doesn’t help Haley. What may help Haley is that New Hampshire allows for Independents to vote in the Republican and Democratic primaries if they so choose. Haley has been courting those independents. Will she succeed? It’s doubtful, but in politics one never knows until the votes are counted. If Haley has a great showing, with those independent voters, will that cast her in a negative light with Republican voters in future primaries? Politics is a winner take all sport and at this moment Haley is in a very difficult position. Trump on the other hand appears to have the

freight train in motion going downhill with a full load of freight. Should he derail and lose this primary it will be viewed as a massive failure, and putting a freight train back on the tracks is a massive task. The odds strongly favor Trump winning the New Hampshire primary and if that is done convincingly, Trump may well have locked up the Republican nomination before January ends. That would be a political miracle for a contested election. If you are a Republican, you must remember some political history. George H. W. Bush was well on his way to beating the upstart from Arkansas, Bill Clinton, only to lose the election. Think Ross Perot. The Texan Perot demonstrated that third party candidates may well be viable political candidates. While Perot did not prevail, conventional wisdom is that he pulled enough votes from Bush to propel Bill Clinton into office. A version of that scenario may well be happening at this moment. There are significant numbers of voters who like neither Trump or Biden. Are they enough to influence or change an election? There are enough



third party types out there this election cycle that both parties need to be concerned as should the American public. The American public has a sense of anger against both parties at present and that bears watching. NO LABELS—This is a group of bipartisan Democrats and Republicans who wish to have a nonpartisan government elected. They dislike the current gridlock in Washington and have been talking about running that third party candidate. The name most often mentioned is Joe Manchin. This group has members who have or have had extensive political influence in this country. If they choose to run a candidate, all bets are off. PEOPLE’S PARTY—Cornel West is a Black philosopher and activist who has a small, but vocal following. While he doesn’t have the backing that a No Labels candidate would have, he does have a following. If the race is tight all votes cast carry a

significant voice. ROBERT KENNEDY, JR.—This candidate did not have enough power to prevail in the Democratic primary and has chosen to run as an independent. That Kennedy name has value and many democrats are disillusioned with Biden. He may well have enough votes to play havoc in a general election. GREENS / LIBERTARIANS—These and other small political parties usually do not have enough voters to influence a general election. This year, if it is a Biden/Trump race, their influence will be greater. Our President is not elected by popular vote directly, but by the electoral college, which normally reflects the popular vote. Our founding fathers strongly favored state’s rights and didn’t want one populated area controlling the country. With a numerous potential candidates in the general election it is very conceivable that no candidate will win enough electoral votes to prevail. What then? If that occurs, the House of Representatives will elect the President. It has happened twice in our country’s history. Will 2024 be the third time?

Whom to trust?

Wouldn’t you get a sick feeling in the pit of your stomach if you wondered whether your treatment nurse had obtained a fake diploma? Three owners of nursing schools in two states were found guilty, as well as several of their pals (for a total of 27 scammers), for a scheme that involved selling fake nursing diplomas they apparently got from two formerly genuine schools. Students who wanted to take the national nursing board exam could purchase from the scammers diplomas that would allow them to take the tests. The genuine schools were eventually

closed because of their test failure rate. However, some applicants managed to pass the exam and used the fake documents to get jobs everywhere in the country. Over 7,000 fake diplomas were handed out. What happens now, one wonders? Assuming there were records, will anyone go after any of the faux nurses and at least let their new employers (such as the Department of Veterans Affairs) know about the fake diplomas? In another case, a man was sent to prison (not for long enough) for distributing over \$16 million in adulterated HIV



drugs, as well as other medications, all around the country. The scammer and his pals actually set up businesses in multiple states from which they sold the corrupted drugs to wholesale drug suppliers, which then sold them to pharmacies, ensuring that the drugs were spread far and wide. The criminals had on hand enough drugs to net them at least \$25 million when sold. In one gut-wrenching case, two nurses lied

to investigators after a patient died at a VA hospital. They claimed they hadn’t “paused” the patient’s medication. They actually had. The patient died. Curiously, one nurse was given only three months in the federal slammer, and the other one got six months. Even more curious, the judge gave them both until January to turn themselves in at the prison, noting the “circumstances of the offense.” What on earth does that mean? (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Kenny Buchanan
935-9438
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Jamison Prestegaard - 309-660-6551

Dist. B
Terry Ferguson, vice chairman - 519-0016
John Werts
Patrick Ryan

Dist. C
Megan Myers - 309-212-9077
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(202) 228-0618 FAX

Rep. Mary Miller
Washington, D.C. office
1740 Longworth House
Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5271
Fax: (202) 225-5880

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

87th District Rep.
William Hauter
Springfield Office:
207-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0221
District Office:
133 S. Main Street
Ste. A
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 819-8701
Email: hauter@ilhouse-gop.org

88th 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

44th District State Sen.
Sally Turner
Springfield Office:
Senator 44th District
Stratton Office Building
Section B, Office D
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-6216
District Office:
120 S. McLean St
Suite A
Lincoln, IL 62656
(217) 651-8291


www.theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON JOURNAL LETTER POLICY

The Clinton Journal accepts responsibly written letters covering topics of interest to our readers. Letters must be the original works of their senders. The Journal accepts letters endorsing political candidates up to the Tuesday before a Friday edition prior to election day. The Journal will not publish letters from candidates endorsing themselves. All other letters will be published at the discretion of The Journal, space permitting, in the next available edition. The Journal does not publish anonymous letters. Letters submitted for publication must include the name of the author, address and telephone number. Addresses and telephone

numbers will not be published. The editor and manager reserve the right to edit letters for length and/or content and to publish letters using any Journal platform, i.e. print newspaper, Web site or other electronic delivery method. Readers should keep in mind that letters published are the opinions of their authors, are not news reports and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper its staff or its advertisers. The Journal does not certify information used in letters but will remove any passages it considers potentially libelous.

NEWS



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*I put on righteousness,
and it clothed me;
My justice was like a robe
and a turban.*

❧ JOB 29:14 ❧

Detail of "Four sketches of the head of a man wearing a turban" by Solomon Alexander Hart (1857)

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AREA CHURCHES DIRECTORY

Crosspoint of Clinton
412 S. Monroe Street, Clinton
(217) 935-8627
Sr. Pastor, Spencer McPheron
3 p.m.-Sunday worship
7 p.m.-Mondays family prayer
7 p.m.-Wednesday Bible study

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lane Christian Church
(217) 935-2557
www.lanechurch.org
Jim Kilson, preaching and teaching minister
Marcus McCollom, youth and family minister
9 a.m.-Sunday school
10 a.m.-worship
5:30 p.m.-youth group
"We're ordinary people helping each other become faithful followers of Jesus."

Lifebridges Church
200 S. Alexander Street, Clinton
(217) 570-0105
www.lifebridges-church.com
Pastors-Jonathan and Dana Taylor
10 a.m.-Sunday celebration
10 a.m.- AMPED Kids for ages (1-5 grades)
10 a.m.-AMPED Jr. (birth-K)
7 p.m.-AfterShock teen church, 6th-12 grades
6 p.m.-Wednesday, Strategic Disciple
6:30 p.m.-Thursday, DIVE teen Bible study
7 p.m.- Thursdays, 1st & 3rd, Empowered Women / 2nd & 4th, Frontline Men

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

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

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

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

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"

BIBLE WORD SEARCH
by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 31:1-2

In you, **LORD**, I have **taken refuge**; let me **never** be **put to shame**; **deliver** me in **your** righteousness. **Turn** your **ear** to me, **come quickly** to my **rescue**; be my **rock** of refuge, a **strong fortress** to **save** me.

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

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

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH
Answers

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

Capital of French cuisine

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights. We remain to the south but travel eastward. Let me check for sure. Yes, east on the map is to the right. I got that. This moves us to the region where Lyon is located. It is known as the culinary capital of France. You might want to visit Paris, but be sure to eat at Lyon. No question about it, France is full of culinary surprises; pleasant surprises from the past to the present.

Here is a big surprise for you. There are over 1,400 McDonald's restaurants in France. Here is the second surprise. Although over 120 countries, worldwide, host McDonald's restaurants, France is number two in the market just below U.S.A. I believe I should do an article on this phenomenon to give you more surprises.

Lyon is in the Rhône Alps. Its location is important for Lyon's status as the culinary capital of France. There a variety of meats are available for the kitchen. Such meats as beef, pork, and mutton. They have duck and rabbits that can



The Culinary Corner
Chef Roger Joss

be served whole topped with sauces. Naturally, with cows, one is bound to have fresh milk and cream. And from these come cheeses, butter, and crème fraiche. Crème fraiche is a type of matured cream. Since it is difficult to find crème fraiche around here, I had to make my own. I might give instructions on doing it in a future article. Although the name might be scary, it is rather simple to make.

As with the east coast of the United States, apples, cherries, and pears are plentiful in eastern France. Various berries grow there. However, there are food items little known to us. Have you heard of haricots verts or cardoons? I am sure everyone has heard of Dijon mustard. It originated in the city of Dijon in the province of Burgundy.

Escargot also comes from Burgundy. Do you know what that is? It is a

BIBLE TRIVIA
By Wilson Casey

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

2. Joseph was buried in a plot of ground at Shechem costing how many pieces of silver? 1, 7, 30, 100

3. Which metal, used to sharpen other metals, does Proverbs 27 compare to friends? Gold, Silver, Iron, Tin

4. What is the middle chapter of the New Testament? Romans 13, Galatians 2, Ephesians 5, Titus 1

5. The book of Hebrews tells us to entertain strangers as they may be ...? Demons, Angels, Prophets, Reincarnations

6. From Ruth 1, who was Naomi's husband? Elimelech, Mahlon, Chilion, Malachi

Elimelech
Romans 13, 5) Angels, 6)
(2) 100, 3) Iron, 4)
ANSWERS: 1) DIO,

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. FREE TRIAL!
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Clinton Journal Classified
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BRIDGE BITES

THE ONLY CHANCE

	♠ 93 ♥ T98 ♦ AK92 ♣ 7652	
♠ JT7 ♥ J52 ♦ QT854 ♣ A4	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ Q4 ♥ AQ7643 ♦ 7 ♣ KQJT
	♠ AK8652 ♥ K ♦ J63 ♣ 983	

Playing 3rd and 5th leads, West starts out with the Heart Two to the Ace, and East shifts to the ♠K. West overtakes with the Ace and the defense proceeds to play out all four rounds of Clubs. As Declarer, what do you play on the fourth round of Clubs? Remember, you have already lost four tricks and can lose only one more if you are to escape with a good board.

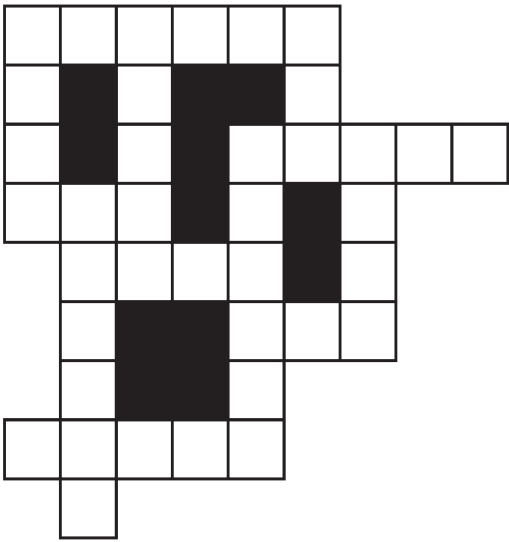
Ruffing the Club high cannot be right, that will ensure that the defense scores two trump tricks. Nor can it be right to pitch a Diamond, that is also a guaranteed down two. Perhaps surprisingly, the only chance is to ruff low. Your hope is that West has three trumps and that therefore, if he overruffs, it will be with a natural trump trick. So, that's what you do, West does overruff, the return of the ♥J is ruffed and trumps fall in two rounds.

So far, so good, but you still have to bring in the Diamonds for no losers if you are to accomplish your goal. Does somebody have the doubleton Queen? Not possible! The opening lead tells you that West started with three Hearts, and the play tells you that he also started with two Clubs and three Spades. That leaves five Diamonds with West and one with East. Therefore, the percentage play in Diamonds is to run the Jack (in case East has the singleton Ten). If West covers with the Queen you can finesse the Nine later. "Down one is good bridge" as they always say.

For bridge games, classes, or seminars, contact Mike Tomlianovich by phone:



- VEE
ARNBET
♥TARSE
♥GSNI
GAVEAR
♥ADG
♥ENVI
STOEB
♥TNU
SEVEAR
REGEV
♥IDAR



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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 (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥**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.

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		11
+		+		-	
	+		÷		3
÷		÷		×	
	×		-		2
6		3		4	

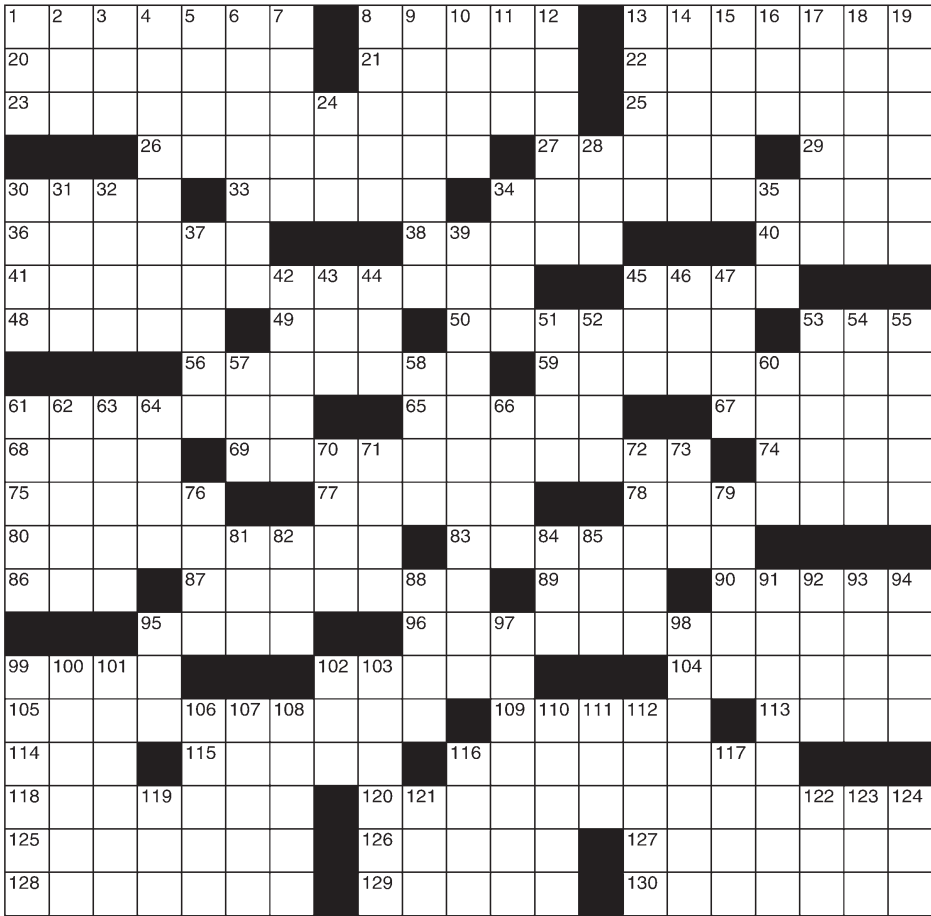
1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 8

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Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Grappler, backwoods-style
- 8 Skylit courts
- 13 Astronaut Wally
- 20 "The Stranger Beside Me" true-crime writer
- 21 Flowers in the iris family
- 22 Some sweatshirts
- 23 Swift warship for law enforcement?
- 25 Finales
- 26 Makes mother's milk
- 27 Comic Radner
- 29 "How about that!"
- 30 Lugosi of "The Raven"
- 33 Hefty books
- 34 Defectively built flat-bottomed boat?
- 36 Pumpkin's color
- 38 Resident of Tehran
- 40 Makes a choice
- 41 Light, speedy boat transporting Oreos?
- 45 Just barely
- 48 Indian state known for silk
- 49 United
- 50 In a smoothly elegant way
- 53 Neon, e.g.
- 56 French mime master
- 59 High-sterned ship orbiting Earth?
- 61 "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" star Andy
- 65 Central Canadian tribe members
- 67 Upscale hotel quarters
- 68 Small combo
- 69 Discovering a sharp-bowed rowboat?
- 74 Safe, at sea
- 75 Do a tally of
- 77 "Get what I'm sayin', man?"
- 78 Zealous
- 80 Paint a passenger ship?
- 83 Soapmaking solution
- 86 Auditing org.
- 87 Message on a tombstone
- 89 Kabuki sash
- 90 Enthusiasm
- 95 Prison, in London
- 96 Very fast ship decorated with shrubbery?
- 99 Coll. reunion attendee
- 102 Father
- 104 Quick-witted old 3-Down
- 105 Racing boat with lots of mollusks attached?
- 109 Fill with joy
- 113 Lyric verses
- 114 Billiards stick
- 115 They make up molecules
- 116 Abstruse
- 118 Reproductive organs
- 120 Sub-sinking ship full of aquariums?
- 125 Lay aside
- 126 Bert's pal
- 127 Introductions
- 128 In clothes
- 129 Actors O'Neal and Reynolds
- 130 Says "OK"
- DOWN
- 1 Jay-Z's music
- 2 Year, in Portugal
- 3 NBC skit show, in brief
- 4 Indian Ocean island nation
- 5 — Brasi (role in "The Godfather")
- 6 One voted in
- 7 Book page opposite a verso
- 8 Severe
- 9 Samples something
- 10 Singer Diana
- 11 With
- 13-Down, thick glacial mass along a polar shore
- 12 BB shooter
- 13 See 11-Down
- 14 Magazine publisher
- 15 Wannabe surfer
- 16 Exiled Amin
- 17 Key into a cash register
- 18 Acting king
- 19 Good traits
- 24 He-sheep
- 28 "— may be so bold ..."
- 30 — Raton
- 31 Lovers' deity
- 32 Neighbor of Thailand
- 34 Clayey fertilizer
- 35 Herd of seals
- 37 "— a break!"
- 39 Gave a new interior design to
- 42 Welsh canine
- 43 Mom's bro
- 44 Ball supporter
- 45 Org. for cavity fillers
- 46 Doc's warm treatment
- 47 "For" votes
- 51 Like thrift store goods
- 52 — facto
- 53 Sly deception
- 54 Prices to play
- 55 Variety of trapshooting
- 57 Spot's noise
- 58 Etching liquid
- 60 Husband of Eva Perón
- 61 Actress Keanan
- 62 Enthusiasm
- 63 Gold-fancying king
- 64 Boxers' event
- 66 Waffle brand
- 70 No, to Nikita
- 71 Torres with
- 12 Olympic swimming medals
- 72 Antique item
- 73 "Hooray!"
- 76 "Guilty" or "not guilty"
- 79 Onetime TV host Philbin
- 81 Debut on Wall St.
- 82 Zippo
- 84 Woofing pet
- 85 Actor Vigoda
- 88 Olympic skier Mahre
- 91 Meeting building regulations
- 92 Tater
- 93 Head, in Metz
- 94 Mining strikes
- 95 Big inits. in SUVs
- 97 Certain deer leather
- 98 Hamlet's duel opponent
- 99 Peace treaty
- 100 Shutter piece
- 101 Fidgetiness
- 102 Valuable rock
- 103 Long, loose outerwear
- 106 Nitpickers split them
- 107 Olympic skier Mahre
- 108 Sprayed, with "down"
- 110 Mining strikes
- 111 Downed
- 112 Electric car producer
- 116 Sicilian resort city
- 117 Investments for later yrs.
- 119 Home: Abbr.
- 121 Suffix with budget
- 122 — and yang
- 123 Doc for head colds
- 124 Blog feed format inits.



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MAGIC MAZE ● “LET” WORDS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Jewelry Worn Around the Wrist**

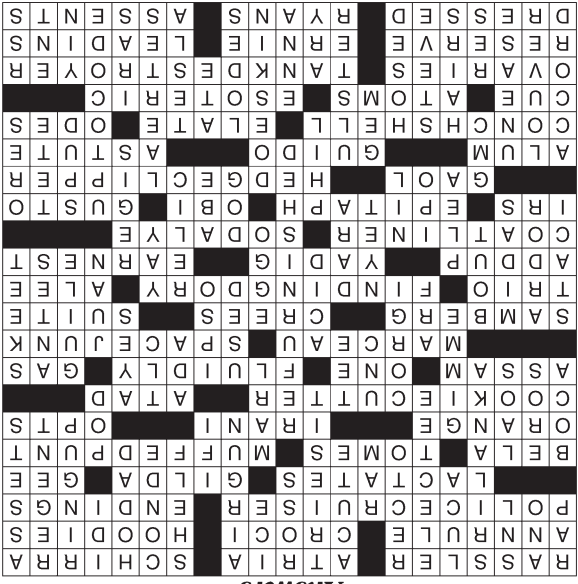
Anklet
Booklet
Gauntlet
Goblet

Hamlet
Letdown
Lethargic
Leticia

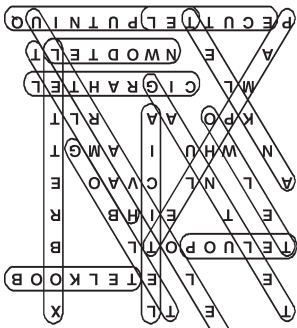
Letterbox
Lettuce
Owlet
Pamphlet

Poulet
Quintuplet
Ultraviolet

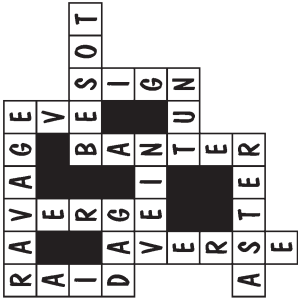
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Answers



“LET” WORDS



Go Figure!
answers

	6	11			3			2	
	+			÷			-		
1	+		8	÷		3			3
÷			+			×			
5	+	7	÷		2		6		

Classified

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Sell your household items for free.
Total value of item must be \$100 or less.
(15 words - 2 publications - price must be listed)

Marketplace

01/26/2024
PLEASE READ YOUR Classified ad or display ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes, notify us immediately. We will make changes for errors and adjust your bill but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages, which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper, which, reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. Advertising is also subject to credit approval.

203 HELP WANTED

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

307 MISC FOR SALE

Queen bed in excellent condition. Mattress, box springs, and wooden headboard. \$200.00. Call 217-671-0349. (3070126)

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY - IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONNA F. ENOS DECEASED 2023-PR-44

CLAIM DATE NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION

Notice is given of the death of the

above-named decedent;

Letters of Office were issued on December 26, 2023 to Daniel L. Enos, 15348 Northfork Rd., Clinton, Illinois and Vickie L. Austin, 7747 Business US 51, Clinton, Illinois 61727 as Independent Co-Executors. The attorney for the estate is Bryce A. Lynch of Taylor & Lynch, 216 South Center Street, P.O. Box 478, Clinton, Illinois, 61727.

Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, IL 61727, on or before July 26, 2024. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of the Claim filed with the Clerk of the Court must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it is filed.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless an interested party terminates Independent Administration by filing a Petition to Terminate under Section 28-4 of the Illinois Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4). A form of a Petition to Terminate Independent Administration may be opened from the Clerk of the Court at the above address.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.

Daniel L. Enos and Vickie L. Austin, Independent Co-Executors of the estate of Donna F. Enos, deceased

BRYCE A. LYNCH 6297077
TAYLOR & LYNCH, LLC
216 SOUTH CENTER STREET
P.O. BOX 478
CLINTON, IL 61727
TEL: (217) 935-2183
FAX: (217) 935-8219
E-MAIL: attorneys@de Wittcountyilaw.com

Legal 19945
January 12, 2024
January 19, 2024
January 26, 2024

LEGAL

2024

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

To All Owners And Occupiers Of Lands Lying Within The Boundaries Of The DeWitt County Soil And Water Conservation District:

Notice is hereby given that an Annual Meeting and Election will be held on the 23rd day of February, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at Georgia Jill, 1520 E South St, Clinton, IL 61727. 3 (#) Directors will be elected to serve the DeWitt County Soil and Water Conservation District of the State of Illinois.

All persons, firms or corporations who hold legal title or are in legal possession of any land lying within the boundaries of the said district are eligible to vote at said election, whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise.

Only such persons, firms or corporations are eligible to vote.

Chairman
/s/ Randy Molitoris
DeWitt County Soil and Water Conservation District

Date: 9th day of January, 2024.

Legal 19954
January 19, 2024
January 26, 2024

LEGAL

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of DeWitt County, Illinois, setting forth the name and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting, and transacting the business known as:

JRB Custom Furniture
714 N. Quincy Clinton IL 61727

Dated this 16 day of January, 2024

/s/ Kari L. Harris/
SW
County Clerk

No. 2024DBA-203

SEAL

Legal 19956
January 26, February 2, February 9, 2024

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid – WHHS Accessible Entrance (AEX# 6627)

Warner Hospital and Health Systems is soliciting bids for a 1,270 s.f. addition to the existing hospital facility. The project will provide a new accessible entrance on the west side of the building to serve the outpatient clinic. Bidders will be asked to exhibit relevant experience with work at an occupied hospital.

As a publicly owned hospital this project will be subject to the IL Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/.01) as well as the IL Local Government Prompt Payment Act (50 ILCS 505/1).

Bids will be received at the main entrance of Warner Hospital and Health Services, 422 W. White Street, Clinton, IL 61727, before 2:00 p.m., local prevailing time on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Sealed offers will be opened publicly immediately following bid closing at 2:00 p.m.

A bidder's conference has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m., local prevailing time, on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Participants should gather at the main hospital entrance.

Bid documents are being distributed electronically by Architectural Expressions, LLP; (217) 877-4620. Bid documents may also be viewed on-line or purchased in printed form at Decatur Blueprint, Inc; www.decatur-blue.com

Legal 19957
January 26, 2024

LEGAL

Assumed Name Publication Notice

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From snack to science: Innovative grant brings popcorn into the classroom

Lauren Quinn
University of Illinois ACES

CHAMPAIGN — In a few years, popcorn could become a standard element in science classrooms across Illinois and the nation. With funding from a new USDA grant, a University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign crop scientist and collaborating educators are developing a popcorn-based curriculum to reinforce concepts around agricultural science, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, computer science, genomics, research methods, and more for 4-H and high school students.

The funding may be new, but Tony Studer has proselytized the power of popcorn to engage the younger generation for nearly a decade.

“Everybody knows popcorn, but students don’t typically think about where it comes from or how science is used to improve the food we eat,” said Studer, associate professor in the Department of Crop Sciences, part of the College

of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) at U. of I. “Using popcorn to scaffold more complex science concepts keeps students more engaged because it’s already something they’re familiar with.”

Early versions of his “pop-omics” curriculum had students popping kernels from Studer’s popcorn breeding program, taking data and notes to link the appearance of unpopped and popped kernels. By tracking popping quality in the context of the popcorn’s genetic makeup, the students learned about genes, inheritance, and agronomic properties. And Studer obtained valuable data, which he used to inform his breeding program and develop even better popcorn.

The grant will expand the curriculum to include hands-on lessons on machine learning and artificial intelligence designed to meet Next-Generation Science Standards. Studer has partnered with faculty at the National Center for Supercomputing

Applications at U. of I. to develop an AI algorithm predicting popped characteristics from images of unpopped kernels.

“AI is the big thing. This would be a way for students to interact with an AI model in a very tangible way. And it will also change our internal breeding program. If I can throw down 10,000 kernels and have it pick the top 10 percent before I even grow them, that’d be amazing. It would change the way we do things,” Studer said. “But we don’t know yet if the AI can beat students in the more labor-intensive process of evaluating kernels by hand. We’re excited to find out.”

Studer has already worked with teachers to implement programs in three Illinois high schools, and he intends to expand to ten or more by the end of the three-year grant period. But he sees the program taking off statewide and nationally in due time, as the project aims to develop a standardized Next Generation Science Storyline that can be delivered in any high

school classroom without direct interaction with Studer’s lab.

“The curriculum we’re writing will be open source, and we expect it to go national. I can only be in so many high schools, so we’re building in scalability,” he said. “We’re asking ourselves what experiences we can include so that more kids can be involved.”

Pop-omics got its start as an outreach activity for Illinois 4-H students, and that will continue under the new grant structure. Studer and collaborating teachers will test new curricular ideas with 4-H’ers, who tend to be more interested in agricultural programming.

“4-H students are super committed, and they’re a sharp group,” Studer said. “If they’re not into something we come up with, it’s not going to float in a public high school general biology class.”

Studer will deploy 4-H special interest (SPIN) clubs and a summer academy at the U. of I. campus, adapting successful lessons for older, less

agriculturally minded students.

The grant is also partnering with the Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) program to create learning materials for elementary and middle school classrooms, with the hope of connecting with the national AITC program one day.

The overall goal of the grant is to increase science literacy, critical thinking, and acceptance of technology in today’s youth. But it’s also about protecting food security in an uncertain future.

“Future challenges to agriculture and food security can only be overcome if we educate young people. Few of today’s youth have a direct connection to agricultural production or agricultural education,” Studer said. “Without positive experiences in agricultural topics, students may be reluctant to explore educational opportunities or embrace science and technology vital to sustainably feeding a global population.”

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SPORTS

Second conference win puts Maroons 21-1

Marc Rogers
resqmph7@myfrontiermail.com

CLINTON — It was estimated to be a tight rematch of the only game the Maroons have lost so far this season. The Warriors of Tuscola invaded the confines of Clinton High School’s main gym to do battle on “Gene Vance Court” against the hometown Maroons.

The venue was packed with Maroons and Vic Binkley fans.

This was the Maroons’ second match-up against the Warriors this season, suffering a loss in the first game.

The question was, would the home court advantage make a difference this time?

The varsity teams hit the hardwood with purpose. The Maroons seemed to have little trouble with the Warriors defense, taking an early 16-11 lead into the second quarter.

The Maroons did their most damage in this period, scoring five 3-pointers to exit to the locker room at the half with a 35-21 lead.

The Warriors came out after the half looking to do battle again. They put up a good scoring run, but the Maroons bested them by two points and kept their lead, this time 52-36.

The final quarter saw the opposition actually outscore the home team as the reserves came into the game, but only by a point. The Maroons were victorious again, now with a record of 21-1 overall and 2-0 in conference play.

The Warriors are now 17-3 and 0-2 in conference play.



Marc Rogers / Journal

The pace for the Maroons was set by Mason Walker (#3) with 23 points including five 3-pointers. Also in double figures for the Maroons were Brooks Cluver (#12) with 18 points with two 3-pointers and the other Walker, Coltan, with 16 points including three 3-pointers. That is a total of ten 3-pointers in the game for the Maroons.

In the junior varsity game, the Maroons blasted off with 14 points to the Warriors’ 8 for the 6-point lead going into the second quarter.

The next quarter saw the Warriors regain some momentum and chip away at the Maroons’ lead, which was 24-20 at halftime.

Both teams were lost in the third quarter with the home team scoring only 2 points to the oppositions’ 4. This gave the Maroons a slim 2-point lead headed for the final quarter.

Both teams were a little better in the final quarter of the JV game with the Maroons gaining back one point to get a hard fought 3-point win, 38-35.

The JV Maroons were paced by Anthony Westbrooks (#0) and Keagen Daughtrey (#25) each with 10 points including two 3-pointers each. Jaxon Reynolds (#1) added 9 points, also including two 3-pointers.



Marc Rogers / Journal
Keaton Graves (#10) brings down the rebound and starts a fast break.

Three-way tie in Maroons’ home triangular meet

Marc Rogers
resqmph7@myfrontiermail.com

CLINTON — Just two days after the Tragic Triangular Meet, the Maroons grapplers hosted another triangular amidst the frigid weather

The opposition for this round of wrestling were the El Paso/Gridley (EPG) Titans and the St. Joseph/Ogden (SJO) Spartans.

This was also the Maroons wrestlers Senior Night. The Maroons seniors were 3-year team member Kayleb Kent, son of Jennifer Peterson; 4-year team member Kael Morlock, son of Matt and Kim Morlock; and 2-year team member Dakota Spaugh, the son of Kisha Staley and Randy Spaugh. First on the schedule were the hometown Maroons taking on the SJO Spartans. This round of matches proved to be the tough round of the night for the Maroons.

The Spartans took command after a Maroon decision win and a pin started the round. All the Maroons could muster was another pin and a couple of decisions.

The Spartans took the first round 48-30 over the Maroons.

The second round placed the Spartans against the EPG Titans. This was the most exciting round of wrestling on the night.

The Spartans again appeared to be taking control, even having one match go into double overtime for the win. However, The EPG Titans were not giving up and came from a sizable deficit to win the round 37-36.

The final round didn’t seem as tight as the second round until you checked the scoring. The Maroons and Titans were tied 30-30 with two matches left.

Clinton came on strong and took the last two sets with pins in the first period and the second period respectively to win the



Marc Rogers / Journal
The Senior wrestlers and families (L-R), Kayleb Kent, Kael Morlock, and Dakota Spaugh .

match 43-36.

In triangular meets there is always a winner and loser and the in-between

team at 1-1. This meet ended with all tree teams at 1-1.



A Titan controlling a Spartan, nearing a pin



A Maroons’ wrestler escapes for a point.

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January 26

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2009: A major winter storm affected southern Illinois through the 28th. On the northern edge, 8 to 12 inches of snow fell from Shelbyville to Paris, with 6 to 10 inches common southward across most of the remainder of Illinois. Near the Ohio River, ice accumulated to around an inch, with local amounts close to 2 inches.



Marc Rogers / Journal
D. Schmid (#21) pulls down a rebound for the Maroons.

Maroons’ freshmen over Falcons 37-20

Marc Rogers
resqmph7@myfrontiermail.com

CLINTON — Bitterly cold weather has been the order of the sports night lately, and this freshman basketball outing was no different. The Gibson City/Melvin/Sibley team arrived in good time, but the referees were late. The game still got under way in good time. Even with extra warm-

up time, the teams were feeling the effects of the cold. And, cold was the operative word in the first quarter as neither team could manage much offensively. The Falcons were able to scratch out a 4-3 lead heading into the second period of play. The second quarter saw the home team kick into gear and begin scoring in double figures, while holding the opposition to single digits. By the halftime buzzer,

the Maroons were in the lead 13-9. The third quarter saw the Maroons again keep the Falcons grounded, scoring in double figures, while continuing to hold the Falcons to single digits. Heading into the fourth quarter, the Maroons had a 24-15 lead and did not ease off or miss a beat with another double figure - single digit split with the opposition for a 37-20 win.

Forfeits due to weather favor Maroons

Marc Rogers
resqmph7@myfrontiermail.com

CLINTON — The Maroons wrestlers hosted a triangular meet on January 16 with Normal’s University High School (U-High) Pioneers and the Tigers from ROWVA School District (made up of the towns of Rio, Onieda, Wataga, Victoria, and Alton) north of Galesburg.

U-High did not participate due to weather and part of the ROWVA team decided not to come for the same reason. This gave the hometown Maroons a great advantage in the meet as they now only had one partial team to wrestle. Clinton won the first match on a pin in the first period, then won the next four by forfeit as there were no opponents in those classes.

The next two matches were by pins in the third and second period respectively. Then came four more forfeits by the opposition before the final two matches. The Tigers scored three points on a decision and the Maroons in the final match got a pin in the first period.



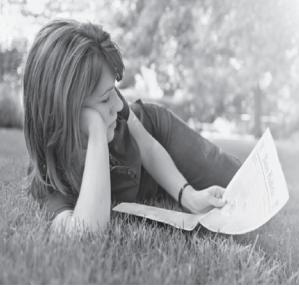
Marc Rogers / Journal
One of the many pins on the night for the Maroons.



Courtesy of Clinton Otters / Rob DeLeon Clinton YMCA

Otters compete in Springfield

On January 12-14, the Clinton Otters competed in a 17-team swim invite held in Springfield. The Otters finished 4th place overall with a combined team score of 1,452.5 points. The Otter girls were led by Aubrey Houser (114pts), Lily Mitchell (103pts), and Katelyn Bentz (93pts). The Otter boys were led by Drew Moser (87pts), Kruz DeLeon (83pts), and Brody Beck (70pts). Otters swimmers competed hard over the two days with many achieving personal best time drops.



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