



Otters
1st in
Danville
Super
Splash
A9

HUSTON, Linda

A7



CLINTON

Journal

www.theclintonjournal.com / FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024

Volume 118 • Number 6

Since 1911

A message from the Clinton Journal manager

KATY O'GRADY-PYNE, Manager / Clinton Journal

I hope you've noticed the improved print quality of your hometown newspaper. The Clinton Journal has been using a new printer since the first of 2024, and the quality of print and photos is much improved.

I'm pretty sure you've noticed the shorter page layout we started this month. We think it's a much more reader-friendly style.

See MESSAGE / A3

Clinton Chamber annual dinner, awards March 2

CLINTON — The Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau's annual dinner and awards banquet will be held on Saturday, March 2, at the Clinton Country Club.

Check-in will start at 5 p.m., and the evening will conclude by 8 p.m. There will be a 50/50 drawing, silent auction and a Blackstone Grill raffle.

See CHAMBER / A2

Foggy morning



A thick blanket of fog that remained well past mid-morning greeted drivers on Tuesday. This truck headed north on Rt. 51 near the Rt. 54 intersection.

Gordon Woods / Journal

Action sought to solve playground issue

Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON — A group of Clinton parents were encouraged last August, when the school board expressed interest in a proposal to upgrade the district's playground surfaces. But, now they feel the plan was passed by in favor of other projects.

The school board voted last fall to spend more than \$2 million to upgrade the high school football complex.

Parents of disabled students raised the issue of the Douglas School playground in 2021. They met with the IEP (Individualized Education Program) team at that time.

In 2022, new accessible playground equipment was installed at Lincoln School, but the non-accessible surface remained. Loose, ground rubber or wood mulch surfaces are typical of most playgrounds.

In August 2023, families approached the school board about addressing

the need to replace those surfaces with materials that would allow children with disabilities to more easily use the playgrounds at the schools.

One of the parents, Tyler Smith, sent a letter to school board members this week expressing his frustration. He said he felt the proposal failed to go any further in spite of it being initially well-received by school board members.

Smith wrote in his letter that the cost estimates appeared to put the brakes

on the plan.

"Communication was, 'maybe 2025,' and then silence."

The Clinton Journal reported the school district received bids of about \$750,000 to resurface the school playgrounds. Board president Dan Matthews, at that time, expressed his surprise the number was higher than he expected.

Matthews was in the process of responding to a Journal request Tuesday. His comments will appear in next week's edition.

Smith's son uses a reverse walker to get around, and uneven surfaces are a challenge for him, Smith told the Journal. Smith said the playground at Clinton Elementary School has a loose, wood mulch surface and was not accessible nor ADA compliant.

See PLAYGROUND/A3



Bridget Becker / Journal


His Majesty in the neighborhood

"King," the beagle, was out for a stroll with his family recently on a sunny day. The monarch thought he would go out to look over his realm.

At Heartland Bank, our strength lies in the

RELATIONSHIPS

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Price \$1⁵⁰

NEWS

Message / from A1

These changes not only improve the Clinton Journal, but they also save us money, which in today’s newspaper industry, is vital.

Newspapers aren’t the instant news of television or social media, but we are the permanent recorders of local history and the people who make that history. We cover community news that most likely wouldn’t get covered if we weren’t here.

Community newspapers like the Clinton Journal, are the only newspapers covering the local government and school district. We’re here to report on the big issues as well as the small ones. We’re the only newspaper covering our high school sports teams—in good times or bad. We’re the only ones printing your grandchild’s photo at a parade or sporting event. We’re the only one printing your kids’ and grandkids’ letters to Santa Claus every December.

Here at the Clinton Journal, we do all this with a skeleton crew, the norm in the industry today.

Effective February 29, 2024, the Journal staff will make another adjustment and lock the door to our office on South Monroe Street for the final time.

We’ll keep providing DeWitt County with a quality community newspaper, but we’ll no longer have a public office. Instead, we’re going the way of the modern work world and working from home. With technology what it is, we will be able to continue to provide you with a quality weekly newspaper.

Our phone number will remain the same (217-935-3171) and we’ll be able to take your calls during normal business hours. Mail will go to our Post Office box (P.O. 615) as it always has, but unfortunately, you’ll no longer be able to stop in the office to pay your subscription or pick up a copy of your weekly hometown news. Of course, it will continue to be available at a variety of Clinton and Wapella businesses—check out the ad in our paper for all our business partners.

If you are unable to mail or email us and need to drop off a subscription payment, anniversary announcement, or news item, the Clinton Chamber of Commerce at 101 S. Center, Suite 100, has graciously agreed to accept it for us.

While we’re saddened to be closing our doors to the public, we’re not the first newspaper to make this move. Called “ghost” newspaper offices, we’re still a part of the community but no longer offer a storefront.

You’ll continue to see the Journal staff around town covering meetings, events, games, and parades but now we’ll be writing and selling from home, happy we can continue to provide Clinton and DeWitt County with a quality community newspaper.

#supportyourcommunitynewspaper

CLINTON
Journal

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Chamber / from page A1

The annual dinner also is a sponsorship opportunity for chamber members.

The entertainment for the evening will be comedian Jeremy Nunes. Visit the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce website for more information at www.clintonilchamber.com.

There will be an awards ceremony, and the winner of each category will be presented with a plaque. Every member of the chamber is nominated and divided into four categories, Small Business of the Year, Medium Business of the Year, Large Business of the Year, and Direct Business/Nonprofit of the Year).

Chamber members and their guests, as well as non-members, are invited and welcome to attend. Contact the chamber office at (217) 935-3364 if interested in attending.



File photo / Journal

Meet Luna

Voting has finished at Vespasian Warner Public Library, and the results are in. The library electorate has official named the children’s library bearded dragon, Luna. The library got Luna as a recue pet. Patrons can stop by when they’re on the children’s floor and say “hi” to Luna.

Open house for Merle Wagner’s 90th birthday

NORMAL — There will be a 90th birthday celebration for Merle Wagner on Saturday, February 17, from 12 noon-2 p.m. at College Park Christian Church, 116 N Cottage Ave, Normal.

Merle was born on February 21, 1934, in Texas Township to Irvin and Mary Marguerite Wagner. He attended country schools through junior high and then graduated from Clinton Community High School with the class of 1952.

He immediately left Clinton to join the U.S. Navy for four years during the Korean War and then returned to Clinton in 1956, where he went to work for Revere Copper and Brass in 1957.

In 1973, he purchased the Clintonia Theater and the Clinton Outdoor Theater. A storm damaged the main support beam of the Clintonia in 1988, and he left the business. Merle returned to Revere (Olin FMP) in 1986 and retired in 1993.

He is the father of Jeff (deceased), Dennis, Julie, and Jill. He has six grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

He invites all of his family and friends and former patrons of his businesses to this birthday celebration. He requests no gifts, only to see everyone.



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NEWS

SkillsUSA Week Feb. 5-9 at Clinton High School

CLINTON — SkillsUSA Week is February 5-9. Monday was Recognition Day, when members, advisors, administrators, partners and other supporters will be recognized and honored. Tuesday was Give-Back Day, when students rally around their school community by focusing on ways to give back using their career-ready skills. Wednesday was Partner Day, when local

business and industry leaders are invited to connect with members, while highlighting the importance of career-ready skills found in the SkillsUSA framework. Thursday was Advocacy Day, amplifying the skilled trades in communities through local public relations activities. Friday will wrap up the week with the celebratory SkillsUSA Day, when students are asked to wear SkillsUSA clothing in



SkillsUSA®

their schools, post about SkillsUSA on social media and hold special recognition activities. Also, on Friday night, February 9, the high school SkillsUSA chapter will hold a canned food drive at the basketball game with a prize of a \$25 Casey's gift card.

COLLEGE HONORS

Sofia Calvert named to Elmhurst University's Fall 2023 Dean's List

ELMHURST, Ill. — Sofia Calvert, of Heyworth, Ill., was among more than 950 students named to Elmhurst University's Fall 2023 Dean's List. The Dean's List includes students who, during the term concerned, attained a grade-point average of 3.75 or higher, out of a possible 4.00. Elmhurst University is a four-year institution of higher education founded in 1871. Elmhurst now offers more than 70 undergraduate programs of study, more than 20 graduate and certificate programs in flexible formats.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Clinton Police Department

On 01/29/24 Clinton Police arrested Eddie H. Harris-Davis 32, Peoria for a McLean County Warrant. Harris-Davis was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections. On 01/30/24 Clinton Police arrested Nikolas K. Summitt 43, Clinton for Domestic Battery, Aggravated Battery to a Peace Officer and Resisting/Obstructing a Peace Officer. Summitt was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

DeWitt County Sheriff's Office

Jan. 26-Feb. 2

Sheradon Hogan, 31, Decatur, was issued a Citation for Speeding (78 mph in a 55 mph zone). Hogan was released with No Court Appearance Required. Alexis Vega Galdamez, 32, Bloomington, was issued Citations for Operating Uninsured Vehicle, and No Valid Registration. Vega Galdamez was released with a Required Court Appearance. Lester Park, 67, Bloomington, was issued a Citation for No Valid Registration. Park as released with No Court Appearance Required.

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

Playgrounds / from page A1

"School playgrounds do fall under ADA, and the district's playgrounds are not compliant," Smith said. "The department of justice and department of education both provide ways to file complaints against ADA violations. Smith's son is afraid of falling in the wood chips. "The uneven surface is physically taxing to get through and scary because unlevel surfaces make him feel unbalanced, Smith said. "Because of all of this, he stays away from the playground during recess." Ground, rubber chips pose the same hazard for Smith's son. He said and adult aide would often assist his son navigate the rubber chips to get to the play equipment. "But, we couldn't help

feeling he was missing out, he did not have the same access as his peers; he could not follow and play independently," Smith said. Smith cited other parks that are more accessible, such as Harmony Park, Bloomington. "We've seen the sense of freedom and independence that he has on an accessible playground, and we wanted him and other children like him to have that same feeling every day at school." Smith said his wasn't the only local child who could benefit from better playgrounds. He added, inclusivity wasn't just about the playground surfaces but about overall playground designs. In his letter to the

board, Smith offered the results of his research into refurbishing the playgrounds and suggested parents, the school board, teachers and the community work together to achieve the plan. He added he hoped a plan could be in place to upgrade the playground over the summer before the start of the 2024-2025 school year. "Sometime in 2025 is not good enough," Smith told the Journal. "For us, it would mean that our son would be in his last year at CES and would have missed an opportunity at equal access and inclusivity during recess for a majority of his childhood, when it is most important."

Coalition once again pushes to eliminate state's tipped wage

Andrew Adams & Alex Abbeduto Capital News Illinois

CHICAGO — An advocacy coalition is once again pushing for legislation requiring employers to pay their tipped employees a base wage at least equal to the minimum wage. Under current Illinois law, employers can pay their employees as low as 60 percent of the minimum wage as long as the worker's tips make up the difference. In 2024, the statewide minimum wage

is \$14 per hour and the tipped minimum wage is \$8.40. In October 2023, Chicago City Council leaders passed the "One Fair Wage Ordinance" to increase tipped workers' salaries by 8 percent each year until it reaches Chicago's minimum wage of \$15.80. One Fair Wage wants to pass similar legislation statewide. At a news conference outside the Illinois State Capitol Tuesday, One Fair Wage leader and restaurant worker Corrine Terrell said the Chicago ordinance is

helping support her family. "Well to be honest, I think since it passed in Chicago the workers are happier. We don't have to work as hard to make as much money," she said. "We have more time with our families. It's easier to save now. At first, I was only able to afford bills and food, now I can afford other things for my family." One Fair Wage leader Saru Jayaraman said legislative leaders could introduce the legislation by Friday.

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| Casey's 1603 E. Washington, Clinton | Clinton Pantry 110 N. Grant St., Clinton |
| Casey's 1161 IL-54, Clinton | Discount Tobacco 57 Cedar Square, Clinton |
| Casey's 101 Main St., Wapella | Walgreens 424 W. Van Buren, Clinton |
| Circle K 60 Cedar Square, Clinton | |

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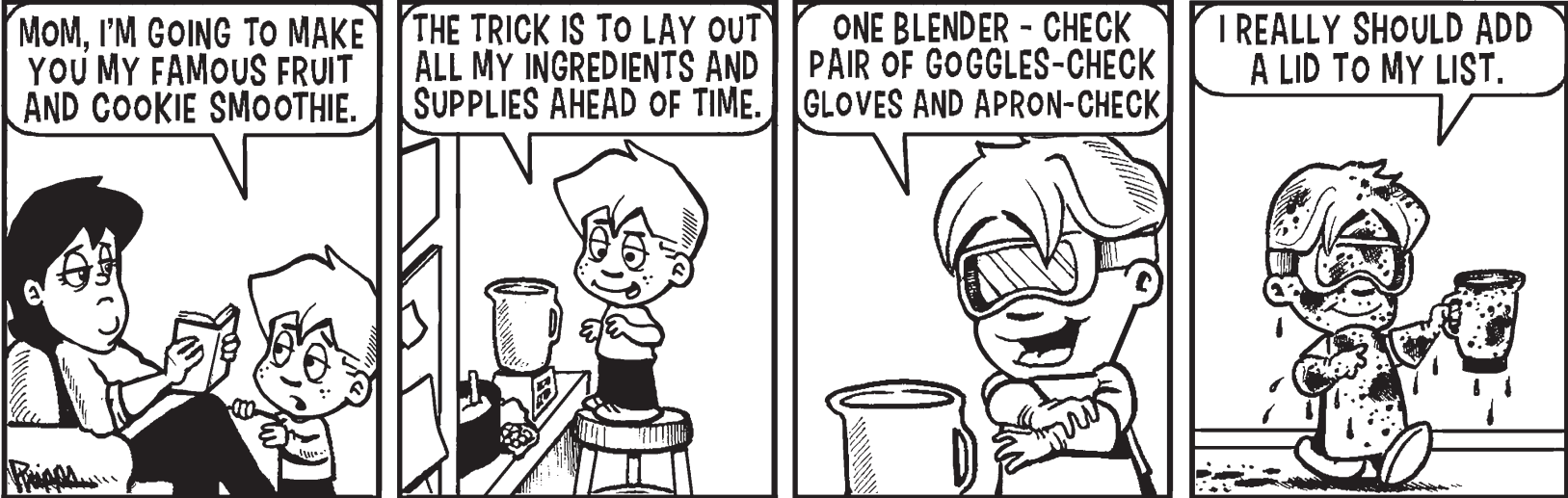
02/02/2024

OPINION

HISTORY ALMANAC

- 1900 - Dwight F. Davis put up a new tennis trophy to go to the winner in matches against England. The trophy was a silver cup that weighed 36 pounds.
- 1909 - The first forestry school was incorporated in Kent, Ohio.
- 1932 - America entered the 2-man bobsled competition for the first time at the Olympic Winter Games held at Lake Placid, NY.
- 1942 - The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff held its first formal meeting to coordinate military strategy during World War II.
- 1942 - Daylight-saving "War Time" went into effect in the U.S.
- 1943 - During World War II, the battle of Guadalcanal ended with an American victory over Japanese forces.
- 1950 - U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy charged that the State Department was riddled with Communists. This was the beginning of "McCarthyism."
- 1958 - CBS radio debuted "Frontier Gentleman."
- 1960 - A verbal agreement was reached between representatives of the American and National Football Leagues. Both agreed not to tamper with player contracts.
- 1960 - The first star was placed on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The star was for Joanne Woodward.
- 1969 - The Boeing 747 flew its inaugural flight.
- 1971 - The San Fernando Valley experienced the Sylmar earthquake that registered 6.4 on the Richter Scale.
- 1971 - The Apollo 14 spacecraft returned to Earth after mankind's third landing on the moon.
- 1975 - The Russian Soyuz 17 returned to Earth.
- 1984 - NBC Entertainment president, Brandon Tartikoff, gave an interviewer the "10 Commandments for TV Programmers."
- 1989 - Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Co. completed the \$25 billion purchase of RJR Nabisco, Inc.
- 1997 - "The Simpsons" became the longest-running prime-time animated series. "The Flintstones" held the record previously.

Amber Waves



Are you better off?

The political question of current value is: "Are you better off today?" Are you better off than when Bush, Obama, Trump and now Biden was president. We have all heard the question, and in our minds, we do ponder the same question. A few weeks ago, I was talking to a friend of mine who has even more gray hair than me. We have much in common, but have differing political thought processes. We both love to needle the other with our differences, as we both are convinced that the other is simply wrong. However, we also both acknowledge when the other makes a valid point that gives one pause to contemplate. For background my friend is a retired governmental employee who owns some

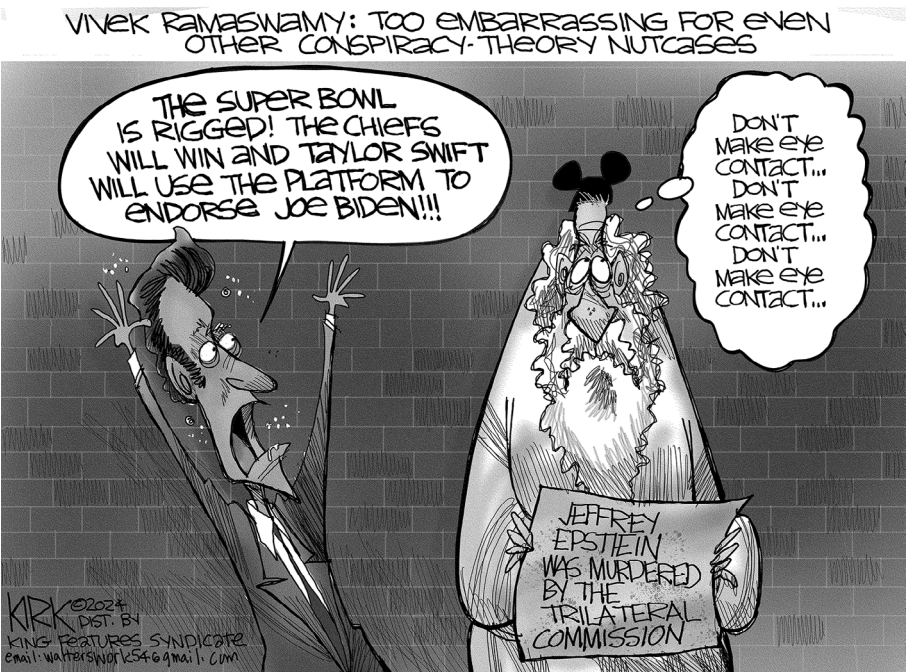
farmland. He is certainly not active in partisan politics. He asked me the political question that has been on my mind for weeks now. My real problem is that he answered the question for himself. My friend knows that I am not a fan of Trump and that I am certainly not a supporter of Biden. He looked at me and said the question at election time is always are you better off now than when the previous guy was in office. He then stated in all honesty, I am better off today. It is not often that someone's comment makes me contemplate it for weeks, but I am still contemplating it. I have absolutely no reason to doubt the veracity of his comments. I only need to understand them. The gentleman is biblical

101 in that 10 percent of his income goes to church or other charities. He is Dave Ramsey financial 101 in that 10 percent of his income goes to savings. He and his wife live a modest lifestyle on the remaining 80 percent. They have saved and pay cash for anything they need. I then look at the new generation coming up. While inflation may be technically going down, the price increases of 2021 and 2022 remain with us. Groceries, clothing and cars cost much more, and wages have not kept up. Housing and rental costs have all skyrocketed causing much stress on young adults. Our national debt has increased dramatically, and we will eventually reach the point that there is simply not enough income to service that debt, which



will increase prices across the board. We can be bipartisan here and blame both parties for excessive governmental spending. My friend's frugal life style and investments have placed him in a good position to enjoy his senior years regardless of political events. His house is paid for and he and his wife do not have those 50—60 mile roundtrip commutes that many have today. His only car payment is when he buys the car. The grain prices are good and his costs are minimal in all avenues of life. The youth can certainly emulate the frugality of

my friend and others like him, but in the present they have some serious expenses to bear. The basic costs of living have simply increased. The interest rates have soared and many simply cannot afford to take out a mortgage and buy a home. We as a nation are somehow going to have to pay for the overindulgences of government. I will continue to debate with my friend on politics and he may one day see the light. At the same time, I recognize the merit and value of his life choices. Donate 10 percent, save 10 percent, and live on the remaining 80 percent. If you want something that isn't a necessity, you plan and save for it, after you have paid your bills. Isn't that a wonderful concept for both government and families alike?



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. 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.

OPINION / COLUMNS

Social Security improves customer experience ranking

Selena Higgins
Social Security district manager, Normal

We're committed to improving customer service by providing more access to our programs and services, and our efforts have paid off. We're proud to announce that Social Security's ranking on Forrester's 2023 Customer Experience Index increased by 3.3 points – the only agency on the list to make a significant gain.

We achieved this higher ranking by focusing on key initiatives in 2023, like:

- Implementing online scheduling for in-office enumeration appointments. Customers can now schedule appointments online for both original and replacement Social Security cards. This service is currently available in all 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
- Conducting a targeted mail campaign to reach people who may be eligible for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs and Medicare Savings Programs with enrollment information. Please see our publication, Understanding the Extra Help with Your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf.



- Employing strategies to help people facing barriers in accessing our programs and services, including people with:

- o Limited income and resources.
- o Limited English proficiency (LEP).
- o A risk of homelessness.
- o Mental and behavioral disabilities.

- Partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services to test new ways to make it easier for SSI applicants to access nutrition assistance programs. For more information, please see our press release at www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/2022/#12-2022-2.

Forrester's recognition of our customer service improvements reflects our commitment to making it easier for you to do business with us. We invite you to learn more at www.forrester.com/press-newsroom/forrester-2023-us-federal-customer-experience-index/. Please share this news with those who may need it.

www.theclintonjournal.com

The records center has caught up

The National Personnel Records Center, part of the National Archives and Records Administration, has finally cleared up a huge, four-year backlog of work. Caused by the Covid pandemic, at one time they had a list of 600,000 requests for records.

From what we hear, it was a crazy time, with only a certain number of emergency personnel allowed to work in the building at once to take care of must-have requests for things like documents for funerals and medical emergencies.

Now allowed back to work, they've dealt with

longer hours for staff, working weekends, additional staff and shifts, new technology and much more. At this point they've caught up, and ideally any normal requests for separation records should be handled within a week or so, with other types of records taking approximately 20 days. Meanwhile, they receive over 4,000 new requests each day. That's over a million per year.

The vast majority of the records at the record center are paper copies that must be found by hand. They've been busy digitizing all the files they can find, including asking the VA to digitize all the military



by Freddy Groves

service records they hold. In addition, the eVetRecs portal has been upgraded to handle requests for files online, and there is now a phone line to check the status of orders.

The fire of 1973 continues to impact efforts to produce records. With 16-18 million files reduced to ash, it's been necessary over the years to reconstruct information from various sources and locations to produce the requested files, such as DD Form 214. Some of

the alternate records they can search are final pay vouchers and medical/hospital records.

Staff at the records center should be applauded for their work under less than ideal conditions. I personally wondered if they would ever catch up, even with their plan of action and status report one year ago, but they have.

If you need to request service records, go to vetrecs.archives.gov/VeteranRequest/home.html and file your order online.

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Stay ready for the next storm

In many areas of the country it's been a harsh winter. Snow, ice, wind, flooding ... we've seen it all, sometimes several of those at the same time. We need to be prepared for whatever Mother Nature throws at us.

The first step is to know what's coming, and when. While the local news and weather can be your trusted source, having other options can't hurt. I like Wunderground (also known as Weather Underground) for the way it can target my area and

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

provide a wide variety of information. Keep www.wunderground.com as one of the bookmarks in your computer or get the app for your phone at the App store or Google Play.

Keep your devices charged up. A neighbor loaned me a handy charging gadget that stores enough battery "juice" to charge up a phone. I've since purchased one of my own.

Keep an eye on your prescriptions and know when you'll run out. Ask your pharmacist if you can get your refill a bit early, ahead of the next storm. How early you can do this will vary by state.

Have a list of contact numbers, written and taped to the inside of a kitchen cabinet door. Don't trust important numbers to only your phone.

Have at least three days of water and food on hand, things that don't need to be cooked if your power goes out. The same goes for your pets: Make sure you

have enough of their food.

Don't wait until the last minute to put gas in your car.

Invest in a small battery-operated radio and little camp lights. Have enough batteries on hand.

And perhaps most importantly, arrange to stay in communication with a few others if you have a nasty storm.

For more ideas, go to the AARP disaster preparation page at AARP.org/disasterprep.

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205 A-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8163

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(217) 876-1973 FAX

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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

CHURCHES

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

Lifebridges Church
200 S. Alexander Street, Clinton
(217) 570-0105
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
Fr. Thomas R. Szydluk, 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
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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.”

BIBLE WORD SEARCH
by Elie’s Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 31:5-6

Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God. I hate those who cling to worthless idols; as for me, I trust in the LORD.

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

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

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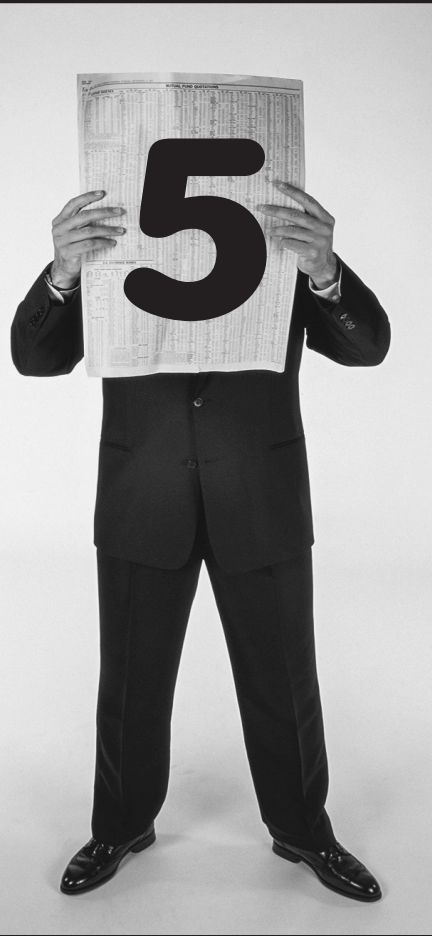
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ANSWERS

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Amorites, 3) One flesh, 4) Moth, 5) Og, 6) Fourth

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5

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5. It can be used as an educational tool for youth.

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OBITUARIES / NEWS



Courtesy of Douglas Elementary School

Douglas School January PeaceBuilders

Left to right are Douglas School's PeaceBuilder student for January, Roland Harvey, Mitchell Conrad, Aspen Hammond, Vallie Rudat, Emily Johnson and Donna Howard

Linda N. Huston

CLINTON — Linda N. Huston, 75, of Clinton, passed away at 10:30 a.m. on January 27, 2024, at her family residence, Clinton.

Services were conducted on Friday, February 2, 2024, at the Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, with Jim Kilson officiating. Burial followed at Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation was held at Calvert Funeral Home.

Memorials may be directed to the Linda Huston memorial fund.

Linda was born on January 23, 1949, in Russellville, Ala., the daughter of Vester and Ella C. (Lingelbach) Lovett. She married Charles Huston on January 25, 1969 in Rockford, Ill.

Survivors include her husband, Charles Huston, Clinton; daughters, Tracy (Lewis) Loudermelt, Clinton, and Tammi (Ronald) Dodd, Clinton; six grandchildren, Daniel Reynolds (fiancé, Summer Berry), Kenney; Clayton (Paige) Dunn, Kenney; Hanna (Michael) Gordon,



Clinton; Gage Huston, Clinton; Miracle Dodd, Clinton; and Ronald "R.J." Dodd, Jr. (girlfriend, Savannah Day), Clinton; nine great-grandchildren, Emma, Madison, Colt, Miles, Grant, Kenleigh, Sierra, Loren, and Jacob; and one sister, Mary Mena, Weldon.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Lee Lovett; and one sister, Shirley Merrill.

Linda loved to cook, tend her flowers, and watch the Hallmark Channels. Most of all, she loved spending time with her family and grandchildren.

Online condolences may be made at www.calvertmemorial.com

Doing MacDo again

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights.

Recall last time my musical metaphor. As we fit the music to our mood and liking, we go to restaurants accordingly.

There are high class restaurants where one might enjoy with their date, lover, or anniversary celebration. There are family restaurants with homecooked meals. Buffets for the real hungry, etc.

One might simply want a coffee and pastry at a Café or coffeehouse. When traveling on the road, a quick bite at a fast-foods seems apropos or a quick lunch during lunchbreak. But always, the needs fit the locality. Therefore, the dining practice must meet those conditions.

In France, a meal is to be enjoyed. It should fit their culture and ethnic disposition. Recall what I said about mood and music? Burger King's mistake was in not accepting cultural differences. They had a certain format and expected the French



The Culinary Corner

Chef Roger Joss

people to accept that.

Their inflexibility caused their complete failure in France. McDonald's catered to French preferences. It might be best if I simply list how a typical McDonald's operates in France. That might be better than putting it into an analytical teaching format.

A typical McDonald's in France is more spacious than ours in the U.S. People do not merely shuffle in and out for a quick bite. The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania attributes McDonald's popularity in France to McDonald's ability to provide foods prepared to match the French palette and eating habits. I shall first explain the eating habits.

Atmosphere primarily defines their eating habit. McDonald's provides a relaxed atmosphere with soft music complete with comfortable furnishings.

The French do not like to be rushed when trying to enjoy a meal.

It is common to take roughly two hours for dining. Therefore, the chairs are comfortable and the atmosphere most pleasant. The tables are elegant. The music is relaxing. The restaurant is decorated accordingly.

Although children are welcome and even encouraged to attend, the parent is responsible for their behavior. Children learn to behave early by responsible parents. Now for the cuisine.

France is known for its quaint cafés. McDonald's has their McCafé in their restaurants. However, the coffee is made expertly there. Not like it is here. There is even a lounge area for the McCafé complete with plush chairs, couches, and café style tables.


The food must be of top quality according to French standards. If not, the restaurant would totally fail. How about an Alpine burger with three different kinds of cheeses.

Here in the U.S., cattle used for making McDonald hamburgers

are mostly corn fed. In France, they are grass fed to improve the taste of the beef. Growth hormones are illegal in France but not in the U.S.

French cattle even have tracking records giving their time of birth, how they were raised, and where they were slaughtered and processed. Anyone for a McGallette des rois?

Until next time, peace to all.



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SPORTS

Lincoln Speedway officials announce 2024 racing schedule

LINCOLN — The 2024 season opener is just over two months at Lincoln Speedway, located at the Logan County Fairgrounds in Lincoln, IL. While the season opener is set for Friday, April 5, the full 2024 schedule is another exciting one with several marquee events including the FloRacing Series, DIRTcar Summer Nationals, MOWA Sprint Cars, the DIRTcar Fall Nationals, and great racing from the track's staple divisions. New to this year's schedule, the Bennett Memorial as part of season championship night.

Everything gets started with the two test-and-tune events to allow drivers a chance to shake down their rides for the new season. The Lincoln pre-season events will be held on Sunday, March 24 from 12:00–4:00 PM and Friday, March 29 from 5:00–8:00 PM. The two testing events were well attended last year, averaging 50 cars at each one.

The 2024 season opener will be held on Friday, April 5, featuring this year's staple divisions at the track, the DIRTcar Pro Late Models, Modifieds, Sportsman, Street Stocks, and the MARA Midgets. The Midgets ran their first season at the track in 2023 and had a highly successful season, averaging weekly fields of about 20 cars and putting on great racing.

This year's schedule will see two visits from the highly popular Built Ford Tough MOWA Sprint Cars, the first of which will take place on Friday, April 26, which is much earlier in the season than the last several years. The second MOWA 410 sprint car visit comes on Friday, August 16 as part of the Illinois State Fair race weekend sponsored by Farm & Home Supply in Lincoln.

Thursday, May 9 will see the best Super Late Model drivers in the country racing for a top prize of \$20,000 in the Castrol FloRacing Night in America event presented by Graue Chevrolet. The DIRTcar Modifieds will join to make it a huge night of racing.

The 305-winged sprints are scheduled to make two visits this season, the first of which will take place on Friday, May 17 along with the regular divisions. The 305 sprints will return on Friday, July 12 for a second visit.

The 8th annual Ed Cain Trucking Hornet Challenge is scheduled to return to the track on Friday, June 7. While the Hornet class won't be a regular division at the track this season, the June 7 race will be a big one, with extra pay and a strong field of drivers going for the large trophy.

Starting off the second half of the year will be the one and only appearance for the POWri National Midget League as SpeedWeek visits Lincoln on Sunday, June 16.

CHS, CJHS dance teams competing in IDTA state competition Saturday

CHS M-Squad and CJHS Dance Team will compete in the Illinois Drill Team Association's state competition on Saturday, Feb. 10 at the Bank of Springfield Center, in Springfield.



Courtesy of Woods Studio



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Courtesy of Clinton Junior High School

See RACES / A9

SPORTS

Otters 1st in Danville Super Splash



Courtesy of Clinton Otters / Rob DeLeon, Clinton YMCA

On Saturday January 27, the Clinton Otters competed in Danville at the 2024 Super Splash. The Otters finished 1st overall in team points in a field of seven teams. The Otter girls were led in team points by Aubrey Houser (74pts), Aliyah Ellison (73pts), and Addison Jackson (67pts). The Otter boys were led in team points by Brody Beck (80pts), Kruz DeLeon (70.5 pts), and Drew Moser (70pts).

RACES

The night will also be a great one for kids as there will be kids bicycle giveaways throughout the night. The DIRTcar Pro Mods will also make their only regular season visit.

Sunday, June 23 will be a special one as the DIRTcar Summer Nationals make their annual visit to the track. The Summit Modified Nationals will race alongside in the event which will be a can't miss for Super Late Model and Modified fans in the Midwest.

The BRANDT Red, White, and Blue Triple 30's are on schedule for Friday, July 5, celebrating the Independence Day Holiday week. 30 lap features are scheduled with special trophies and extra pay at the event, presented by long-time racing supporter BRANDT.

Rounding out the 2024 regular season schedule will be Season Championship night which will also be the first ever Bennett Memorial at the track. The event will see big money on the line for Pro Lates, Mods, Pro Mods, Sportsman, MARA Midgets, and Street Stocks. The event is held in memory for longtime race supporters, officials, and promoters, Tommy and Diane Bennett.

And last, but not least, the DIRTcar Fall Nationals will again return to the track in 2024 but with a new date which is a couple weeks later on the calendar. The later date will allow for more drivers all across the region to attend for a final night of national points toward the 2024 DIRTcar standings. The October 17-19 weekend will see Super Late Models, Pro Late Models, Modifieds, Pro Modifieds, and Street Stocks all in action.

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NEWS



Gordon Woods / Journal

Boring for fiber optic internet resumes

Contractors have resumed boring in town for installation of fiber optic internet cable. Cables have been run recently in the Flair and Flair II subdivisions, and work progressed here along S. Alexander Street this week.

More foggy conditions



Gordon Woods / Journal
Even in town, visibility was limited by Tuesday morning fog. **Right**, drivers negotiate the Center and Washington streets intersection. **Above**, Clinton Junior High School is barely visible from Illini Drive.



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Both Vulnerable
South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT Pass
Pass Pass

Playing bridge is a great activity to enjoy with one's spouse. However, some bridge Clubs have a Mr. and Mrs. Smith in their ranks, and perhaps these couples are temperamentally better suited to chess or backgammon.

At a Club duplicate the entire N-S field was having a bad day and missed the lay-down slam. Instead, they played in 3NT making the obvious 12 tricks, except at the table where a tricky Declarer scored an extra trick from an unlikely source.

Mrs. Smith knew that, after this auction, the lead of a major suit is usually called for. The ♠T was the obvious choice and Declarer won that with Dummy's Queen. Declarer now rattled off Dummy's Clubs, throwing from his hand two Diamonds, the ♥J and the ♥K (cunningly keeping the Heart Two!).

Next, Declarer cashed Spades and the defense lapsed into auto-pilot mode. Declarer seemed to be out of Hearts and so they both felt compelled to hang on to Diamonds. On the last Spade, Mr. Smith, who by now was down to ♥A and ♦KJ, tossed away the ♥A, wondering why Declarer was wasting time playing out the hand. At Trick 12, Declarer cashed the ♦A, and Mr. Smith leaned forward to claim Trick 13 with his ♦K. But Declarer rather took the wind out of Mr. Smith's sails by (somewhat mischievously) announcing "The board's good". And so it was, as the sneaky Heart Two was led to Dummy's Three for the 13th trick.

In the post mortem the Smiths exchanged ideas:

"Why didn't you"
"Did you really think I"
"keep a Heart? No reason"
"pitched Nine-Eight-Seven"
"to keep the"
"and kept the Two?"
"Diamond Queen unless"
"I wish you would"
"you were planning"
"pay attention"
"to win it at Trick 14"

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

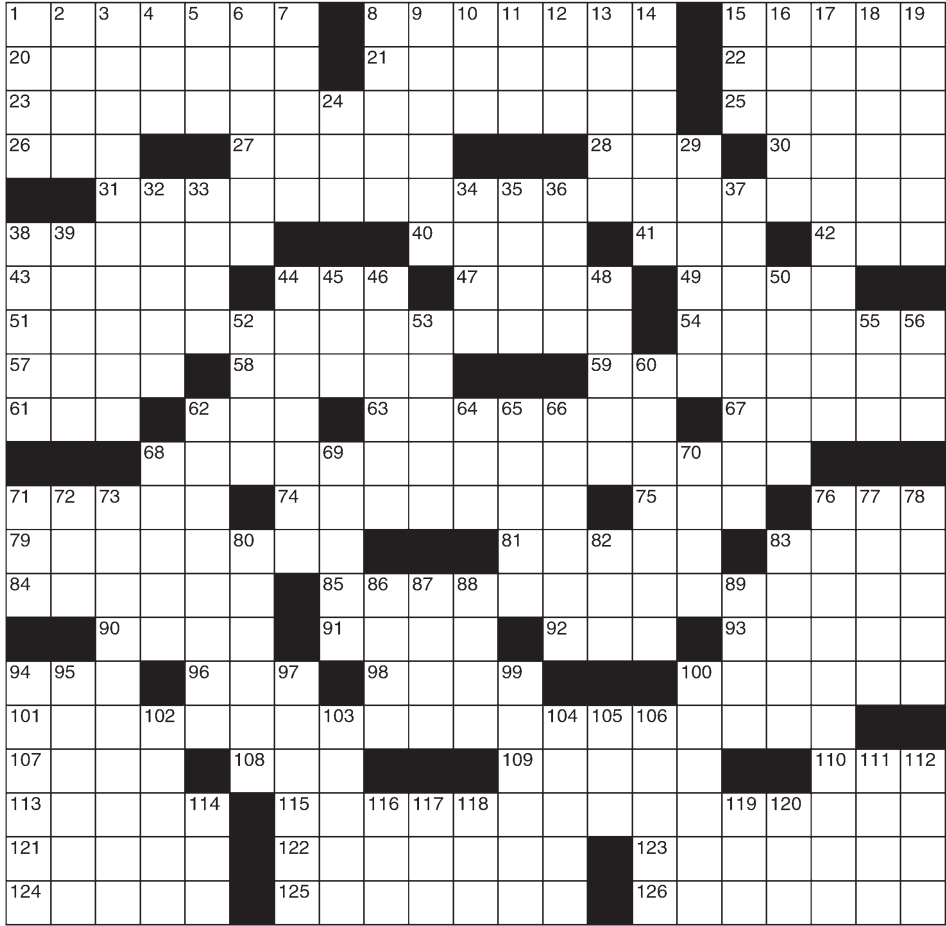
STORYBOOK SENTIMENT

Super Crossword

ACROSS

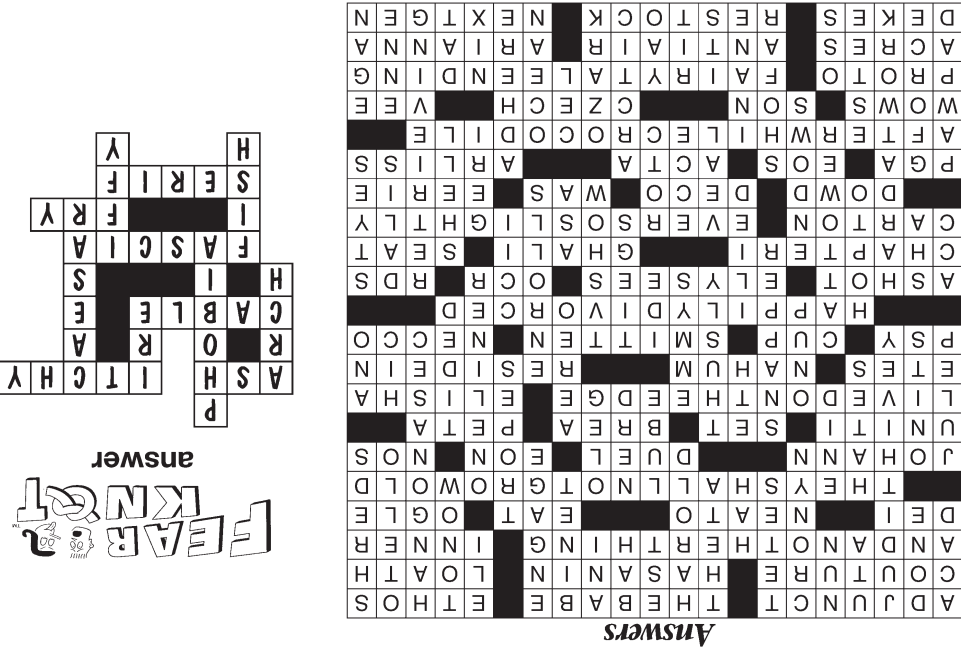
- 1 Auxiliary professor
8 Nickname for baseball great Ruth
15 Cultural value system
20 High-fashion clothing
21 Knows someone at the company, say
22 Reluctant (to)
23 "Wait, my rant isn't finished ..."
25 Private, as desires
26 Agnus — (lamb figure)
27 "Cool beans!"
28 Down dinner
30 Look lewdly
31 2018 war documentary directed by Peter Jackson
38 Composer — Sebastian Bach
40 Hamilton/Burr confrontation
41 Era upon era
42 Turndowns
43 Stati — (America, in Italian)
44 Stage design
47 La — Tar Pits
49 Gp. opposed to leather
51 Made a habit of taking risks
54 Actress Cuthbert
57 French for "summers"
58 Bible book after Micah
59 Dwell at
61 —Ops (CIA mind games)
62 Coffee holder
63 In love
67 Big name in candy wafers
68 2011-13 Fran Drescher sitcom
71 Give it — (try)
74 Paris' Champs- —
75 Certain scanning device: Abbr.
76 St. crossers
79 First book section
81 Former U.N. chief Boutros Boutros- —
83 Stool or pew
84 Milk container
85 Just a tiny bit
90 Op-ed writer
91 Art of Erté
92 Once existed
93 Eldritch
94 Links gp.
96 Canon camera brand
98 — part (role-play)
100 1996-2002 sports sitcom
101 Song phrase following "See you later, alligator"
107 Amazes
108 Daddy's boy
109 Prague citizen
110 Victor's hand gesture
113 Prefix with type or plasm
115 What's spelled out by the starts of six answers in this puzzle
121 Lot units
122 Countering an attack by missile, e.g.
123 Pundit
124 Hockey feints
125 Fill with more inventory
126 Like soon-to-be-unveiled tech
DOWN
1 Mil. school
2 Finished

- 3 She won a Tony for "Hurlyburly"
4 Stage actress Hagen
5 Pious sister
6 Actor Hume of "Cocoon"
7 Heads, to Henriette
8 Iota preceder
9 Novelist Robbins
10 N.Y. hours
11 Cranky cry
12 Singer
13 Stanford- — test
14 Occupy
15 — Lilly & Co.
16 Until this time
17 "Just one moment"
18 Verdi opera
19 Tears to bits
24 "Told ya so!"
29 Recurring themes
32 Detests
33 Author Blyton
34 Oil, informally
35 Dweeb's kin
36 Cassini of 20-Across
37 Quick quip
38 Minty Kentucky Derby drink
39 — last legs (about to collapse)
44 Biting turtle
45 Ordinal suffix
46 Like so, informally
48 Correo — (Spanish airmail)
50 — over (satisfied for the moment)
52 "Movin' —" (sitcom theme song)
53 Tube prizes
55 Brand of fruit drinks
56 Year, in Brazil
60 Signs up
62 Multilevel structure for Fluffy
64 Suffix with chlor- or fluor-
65 Model Cheryl
66 "ER" or "CSI"
68 Get a move on
69 Lead-in to "So sue me!"
70 Caesar's 202
71 N.C. State's NCAA div.
72 "— Na Na"
73 Toiling away
76 Fetching
77 Certain surrealist paintings
78 Eye maladies
80 Funds
82 Sly — fox
83 Tortoise's top
86 Calf product
87 Caesar's "Behold!"
88 Campus mil. program
89 Singer Halliwell
94 Underside of a dog's foot
95 Liftoff stress
97 Hebrew horn
99 With 106-Down, North Pole surround
100 Cling (to)
102 Perfumer
103 Absurd
104 Missouri's — Mountains
105 Toon pic
106 See 99-Down
111 Kin of -ette
112 Novelist Jennifer
114 Pre-CIA gp.
116 "— a girl!"
117 Fabric dye brand
118 Retired NBAer Ming
119 Vote down
120 "True —" ("Indeedy")



Go Figure! answers

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|---|----|----|
| 22 | | | 14 | | 12 | |
| 6 | - | ÷ | 1 | + | 9 | 15 |
| - | | | + | | - | |
| 7 | 1 | 5 | x | 7 | 14 | |
| x | | + | | x | | |
| 4 | + | 8 | ÷ | 3 | 4 | |



Super Crossword

FEAR KNOT

By : rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

RYF
CAFISA
♥EFSRI
♥HRCA
ABOHIP
RIE
IFHS
CYHIT
♥SHA
ARCASE
LECBA
FYFI

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!

| | | | | | |
|---|---|----|---|----|----|
| | x | | - | | 22 |
| + | | | - | | ÷ |
| | + | | + | | 14 |
| ÷ | | x | | + | |
| | x | | - | | 12 |
| 4 | | 14 | | 15 | |

1 3 4 5 6 7 7 8 9

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119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAX RECEIVING AND SENDING SERVICE
The Clinton Journal will facsimile documents to other fax machines for private parties and businesses. 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 only a couple minutes! Just stop by the Clinton Journal, 111 S Monroe, Clinton - no appointment necessary. (119TFN)

NEW TO TOWN? Stop by our office for your Free 2023-2024 Community Guide. This guide will tell everything you need to know about settling into Clinton and making it home. **Clinton Journal 111 S Monroe, Clinton**

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 HELP WANTED

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

305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

PLACE A RUMMAGE SALE AD IN THE CLINTON JOURNAL. Deadline for ads are: Monday, 5:00 PM for the following Friday edition. Rate: 1 publication and up to one week online,

up to 20 words for \$17.00, additional words are 25¢ a word. **OUR RAIN GUARANTEE:** If it rains on your sale day, we'll rerun the same ad (only date & time changes) for free. Must run within 2 weeks.

307 MISC FOR SALE

Queen bed. Mattress, box spring and headboard. Excellent condition. \$200. Call anytime 217-671-0349. 3070216

REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF, VS. JAMES THAXTON; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS. NO. 23 FC 20 410 NORTH MONROE STREET CLINTON, IL 61727 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on January 17, 2024, will on March 6, 2024, in DeWitt County Courthouse (Main Door), 201 West Washington St., Clinton., IL 61727, at 10:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of DeWitt, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: TAX NO. 07-27-485-004 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 410 North Monroe Street Clinton, IL 61727 Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The prop-

erty has a one car garage. The garage is detached. The exterior is wood siding. The color is blue. The gas is off. The water is off. The property does not have a fence. The property is vacant. The Judgment amount was \$66,055.62. Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Information:

CLINTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOLS

VACANCY NOTICE NO. 20

Please apply on-line at
www.applitrack.com/Clinton/onlineapp
unless noted otherwise.

Clinton High School

- **Spanish Teacher**, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Business Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Hallway Supervisor/Admin Support**, application deadline February 16, 2024

Clinton Junior High

- **Special Education Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline February 16, 2024

CJHS/CES

- **Teacher Aide 1-1.** (This position splits between two schools). Please see website for requirements for para license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline February 16, 2024

Clinton Elementary School

- **ESL Teacher (English as a Second Language)**, click link for full description, <https://5il.co/2e2m7> application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Teacher Aides**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Teacher Aide 1-1**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Teacher – 5th Grade**, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Administrative Assistant/Front Office**, application deadline February 16, 2024

Douglas/Lincoln Schools

- **Preschool Teacher**, this position will be for a co-teaching model to existing blended classrooms at both schools. Would include IEP facilitation as well as general support. Must have early childhood credentials. ECSE Endorsement preferred, application deadline February 16, 2024
- **Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline February 16, 2024

Lincoln School

- **Kindergarten Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline February 16, 2024

Athletics

- **Assistant Softball Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cUSD15.org

Cafeteria

- **Sub Kitchen Staff, plus opportunity to sub for crossing/bus monitor**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office.

Transportation

- **Bus/Van Monitors - Part Time**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office
- **Sub Bus Drivers**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office. Must have or be willing to obtain CDL. \$24.50 per hr.
- **Sub Crossing Guard, \$16.00 (HRS as needed) plus opportunity to sub for kitchen or bus monitor**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office.
- **Sub Bus/Van Monitors (HRS as needed) plus opportunity to sub for kitchen or crossing**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office

“An Equal Opportunity Employer”
All employees must pass state & federal background checks.

your answer to the Complaint in this cause or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois, on or before March 15, 2024, default may be entered against you and each of you at any time after that day and a judgment of partition may be entered.

/s/ Circuit Clerk

Prepared by:
CRAIG W. RUNYON
(# 6296475)
SAMUELS, MILLER, SCHROEDER, JACKSON & SLY, LLP
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
225 N. Water St., Ste. 301
P.O. Box 1400
Decatur, IL 62525-1400
Telephone: (217) 429-4325
Fax: (217) 425-6313

runyon@samuels-miller.com

Legal 19961
Feb. 2, Feb. 9, and Feb. 16, 2024

LEGAL

Assumed Name
Publication Notice

Public Notice is hereby given that on Monday, January 29, 2024, 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 of the persons owning, conducting, and transacting the business known as:

THE SACRED GRIEF COMPANY
919 N ELIZABETH STREET CLINTON IL 61727

Dated this 29 day of January, 2024

/s/ Kari L. Harris/sw
County Clerk

No. 2024DBA-0205

(SEAL)

Legal 19966
February 9, February 16, February 23, 2024

LEGAL

Assumed Name
Publication Notice

Public Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 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 of the persons owning, conducting, and transacting the business known as:

THE FLOWER SHED
801 S CAIN ST CLINTON IL 61727

Dated this 30 day of January, 2024

/s/ Kari L. Harris/sw
County Clerk

No. 2024DBA-0206

(SEAL)

Legal 19967
February 9, February 16, February 23, 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEWITT COUNTY - IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD LEE BOWMAN, DECEASED

No. 24-PR-2

CLAIM DATE
NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION

Notice is given of the death of the above-named decedent;

dent;

Letters of Office were issued on January 25, 2024 to Brenda Ruch-Popejoy, 869 East 3300 N. Rd., Farmer City, DeWitt County, Illinois 61842, as independent executor. 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, Illinois 61727, or with the Representative, or both, on or before August 23, 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 30th day of January, 2024.

Brenda Ruch-Popejoy, Independent Executor of the Estate of Donald Lee Bowman, Deceased

BRYCE A. LYNCH
6297077
TAYLOR & LYNCH, LLC
216 SOUTH CENTER STREET
P.O. BOX 478
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727
TEL: (217) 935-2183

FAX: (217) 935-8219
E-MAIL: attorneys@de Wittcountylaw.com

Legal 19968
February 9, February 16, February 23, 2024

LEGAL

INVITATION TO BID

The City of Clinton, Illinois will receive bids in the office of the City Clerk, 118 West Washington Street, 2nd floor, Clinton, Illinois 61727, for the purpose of solid waste removal for City properties. Bids must be submitted no later than 10 a.m., Wednesday, February 28, 2024. Bidder's packets are available at City Hall. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Legal 19970
February 9, 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
PLAINTIFF,

v.
BRYAN P ECK-ROTE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS.
CASE NO.: 2023FC27
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 523 EAST MAIN STREET CLINTON, IL 61727
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you: BRYAN P ECK-ROTE
UNKNOWN OWN-

BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS
& SERVICES GUIDE

Clinton Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& Tourism Bureau

100 S. Center St., Suite 101, Clinton, IL 61727
217-935-3364 • chamber@clintonilchamber.com
www.clintonilchamber.com

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Normal, Illinois 61761
Ph. (309) 452-2222
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Tim Leary - Owner/Operator

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Fax: (217) 935-4481

Jan Utterback
Broker
Cell: (217) 620-8668
www.utterbackrealestate.com
Email: janutterbacksells@gmail.com

Culligan.
better water. pure and simple.
Joel Jacobs
Owner
culligan12514@frontier.com

DJ Water Service Inc.
318 N Chicago St
Lincoln, IL 62656

Office: 217-735-4450
Fax: 217-732-8869
culligancentralillinois.com

J K E Heating Cooling Plumbing LLC
ID#058-113283 ID#055-013072

turn to the experts
Bill and Janis Ellis, Owners

P.O. Box 267
100 S. Locust Street
Wapella, IL 61777-0267

1-217-935-6463
Out of Area: 1-800-861-6333
E-Mail: jke61777@frontier.com

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CLINTON
Journal

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your business here.
217-935-3171

Contact Katy to advertise your business here. 217-935-3171

CJ2024-02-09-A.indd 14

2/6/24 5:05 PM

ERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS that Plaintiff commenced this case in the Circuit Court of DeWitt County against you and other defendants, for foreclosure of a certain mortgage lien recorded against the real estate described as follows: LOT 8 IN BLOCK 12 IN GIDEON'S ADDITION TO THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF CLINTON, INCLUDING ONE-HALF OF THE ALLEY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF SAID LOT, SITUATED IN THE CITY OF CLINTON, COUNTY OF DEWITT, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. A.P.N.: 07-35-105-009 Common Address: 523 EAST MAIN STREET CLINTON, IL 61727 PIN: 07-35-105-009 Said mortgage was executed by BRYAN P. ECKROTE, as mortgagor(s) and STATE BANK OF LINCOLN, as mortgagee, on 12/2/2017 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of DeWitt County, Illinois as Document Number 250851. You have been sued. Read all documents attached to this Summons. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Summons called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourts-help.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Summons can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourts-help.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios. Unless you file your Appearance and Answer/Response in this case in the office of the clerk of this court by 3/11/2024 A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR DECREEE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR IN THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT. David Mazzella 6344319 Robertson Anschutz Schneid Crane & Partners, PLLC 205 N. Michigan Suite 810 Chicago, IL 60601 Phone: (561) 241-6901 E-mail: ILmail@raslg.com File: 23-168861 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. 6114-939649

Legal 19971 February 9, February 16, February 23, 2024

IN THE MATTER OF THE KUMLER DRAINAGE DISTRICT

No. 6300 C.L.

DRAINAGE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of the Kumler Drainage District have filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of McLean County, Illinois, their List of Active Commissioners for 2023, their Certificate of Levy of Annual Maintenance Assessment, and their Current Financial Report for 2023 showing the amount of money collected by the Kumler Drainage District since the last preceding report and the manner in which the funds of the Kumler Drainage District have been expended for the period beginning November 1, 2022, and ending October 31, 2023.

Any owner of land within the Kumler Drainage District may file an objection to the report with the Clerk of the Court within ten (10) days after the date that this Notice is published. If no objections are filed, the Reports will be approved without hearing.

Don Everhart
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Jay D. Reece,
ARDC #6209821
Jay D. Reece, P.C.
802 N. Clinton St., Suite B
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
Phone: (309) 827-4055
Email: jreece@jdrpc-law.com

Legal 19972
February 9, 2024

5 Reasons to
READ
The
CLINTON
Journal

1. It helps you to learn something new every day, and slow down aging.
2. It gives you leads to connect with remarkable people and events
3. It's a source of inspiration, knowledge, and finding solutions.
4. It often triggers some responses, including memories and strong emotions from the brain.
5. It can be used as an educational tool for youth.

CALL TO SUBSCRIBE – 217-935-3171

Introducing the lightest folding power chair in the world

The Journey Air Elite features the latest carbon fiber technology for the ultimate in portability and performance

Mobility issues affect over 1 in 5 Americans. These individuals, and their loved ones, know how decreased mobility can result in loss of independence, pain and falling hazards. They are often stuck at home, missing out on a variety of activities, in a vicious cycle that diminishes their quality of life. In the past, mobility devices like scooters and power chairs were too heavy and bulky to transport easily. Now, carbon fiber material invented for the aerospace program has been used to create the ultimate mobility device. It's called the Journey Air Elite ... and there's nothing else like it on earth.

At only 26 pounds*, the Journey Air Elite combines lightweight portability with world class performance. It's simple to use joystick and powerful dual-motor drive system enables you to zip around quickly and safely. It's easy to maneuver, never tips, fits easily through doorways, and can go right up to a table or desk. Once you are done, just one pull on the seat handle



folds it up. There's a fold-down back to make it even easier to stow and store. It features flat-free tires and rear anti-tippers for added convenience and safety.

Just imagine how this chair can improve your life and make it easier for loved ones and caregivers to accompany you to activities and events you would have missed in the past. Don't spend another day stuck at home. Call today, and a helpful, knowledgeable consultant will help you get a Journey Air Elite of your very own. Don't wait – call now!

What makes it the best?

- Ultra-lightweight yet durable
- Speedy and maneuverable
- Comfortable and easy-to-operate
- Pulls right up to desks and tables
- 8-mile range on a single charge
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- Foldable for easy storage and transport

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Please mention code 601648 when ordering.

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*26 lbs is chair weight without the easily removable battery. Journey Air Elite is a personal electric vehicle and is not a medical device nor wheelchair. It is not intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position. Journey Air Elite is not covered by Medicare nor Medicaid. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LIFT OVERHEAD. LIFTING OVERHEAD poses risk of injury or death. © 2023 Journey Health & Lifestyle


8/7/01

8/7/01

WEATHER



American Heart Association.



WARNER HOSPITAL & Health Services

FREE CPR Training
Warner Hospital Wellness Center
Monday, February 12, 2024,
from 5:00pm-9:00pm
for Healthcare Workers (BLS).


Monday, February 19, 2024
from 5:00pm-9:00pm
for NON-Healthcare Workers.

Registration required.
Call Kelly at 217-937-5275
to reserve your FREE spot today!


We also offer on-site CPR training
for local businesses as well.
Call Kelly at 217-937-5275
for your free quote.

Your Forecast


Information from the National Weather Service




Saturday
Sunny
High 46



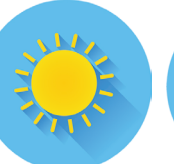
Sunday
Sunny
High 41




Monday
Sunny
High 42



Tuesday
Sunny
High 44



Wednesday
Sunny
High 43



Thursday
Cloudy
High 39

Weather History

February 9
1870: The U.S. Congress authorized the War Department to take weather observations at key marine ports, assigning this function to the Army Signal Service. The intention was to provide advanced warning of storm systems that could adversely affect marine interests. This service was the forerunner to the current National Weather Service.

February 10
1932: Spring made a very early appearance across central Illinois. Peoria reported a high temperature of 74 degrees, setting a record for the month of February. Other record high temperatures for the date included 75 degrees at Springfield, 73 at Lincoln, 71 at Decatur, and 68 at Champaign.



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100 N. Harrison, Clinton, IL
Duplex - Income Producing Property.
2 Bdrms, 1 bath, 1 car garage, 1 unit has basement.
\$184,900



COUNTRY CLUB ACRES
3371 Hilltop Ct., Clinton
4 Bdrm ranch home, complete remodel.
\$325,000



WILD ACRES SUBDIVISION
6920 Sharon Lane, Clinton, IL
9.28 Buildable Residential Acres
+ Shared Pond
\$159,900



WELDON
Lakeview Estates Subdivision
Lot #2 - \$29,500
Lot #17 - \$26,500 (SOLD)
Lot #18 - \$25,000 (SOLD)
Lot #28 - \$28,000
LOTS



FARMER CITY
0001 Depot Rd., Farmer City
3 Miles West, 2 parcels totaling 118 Acres
\$2,242,000



WOOD HAVEN ESTATES
5300 Asti Boulevard, Clinton, IL
Lovely 5 Bedroom, 3 1/2 bath ranch, finished
walkout basement. 2 fireplaces & 2 car garage.
SOLD

RE/MAX
CHOICE
THE 217 HOME TEAM

The217HomeTeam.com
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618 N. Chicago, Lincoln, IL

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Upon completion of appointment



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LIFETIME NO-CLOG
WARRANTY



MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY
FOR YOUR HOME



THE ONLY ONE-PIECE
SEAMLESS DEBRIS
SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.



SCRATCHGUARD®
PAINT FINISH

***Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free**

*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 2/29/24.

QUALITY TESTED

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

SINCE 1909

LeafGuard

18 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL





BBB
ACCREDITED
BUSINESS



A+
rating



SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE



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CJ2024-02-09-A.indd 16

2/6/24 5:06 PM