

School district responds to complaint

Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON — The U.S. Department of Education has agreed to review a complaint filed by a Clinton parent against the Clinton School District.

The Department of Education’s Chicago Office for Civil Rights notified Tyler Smith their office would investigate his allegation “the district discriminates against persons with physical and mobility impairments.”

The agency’s letter to Smith notes his claim the playground at Clinton Elementary School is “inaccessible.”

“Please understand that opening an investigation does not mean that OCR has made a decision about the complaint,” Smith was advised in the letter.

SCHOOLS / A3



Helping keep the parks clean

Kids from The Vault teen center recently held their monthly serve day by working to pick up trash from the city’s parks.

See another photo on A2.

Courtesy of The Vault

Arbor Day ceremony April 27 to honor Carol Thompson

CLINTON — The Clinton city arboretum will be named in honor of Carol McFeeters Thompson on April 27 during the annual observance of Arbor Day.

The ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the arboretum site in the 1000 block of East Jefferson Street. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at Douglas Elementary School, 905 East Main Street.

THOMPSON / A2

Farmer City approves new budget

Council also approves TIF grant to solve property issue

Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON — The Farmer City Council approved an amendment for the city’s FY 2024 budget as well as the budget itself on Monday.

“There haven’t been a lot of changes that needed to be made,” city manager Sue McLaughlin said.

She reported that the few changes required were all from the general fund.

“Our Social Security and Medicare costs were a little higher than expected,” McLaughlin reported. “And, the sewer fund had some unexpected expenses.”

She said the city was still within its appropriations limit.

“This is to make sure the bottom line of each area is within the budget,” she said. “We’re still in good shape, obviously.”

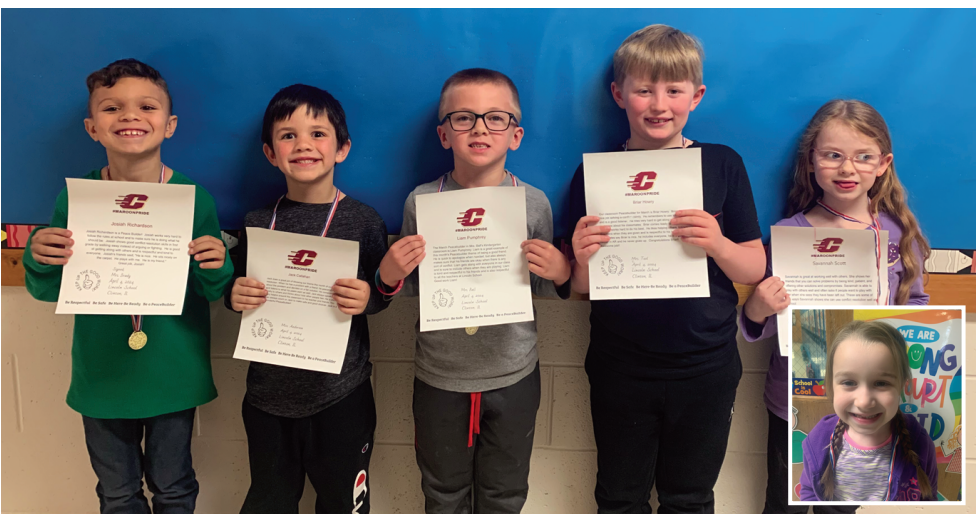
The council approved the budget running from May 1, 2024-April 30, 2025.

“I’m not crazy about going into deficit budget,” McLaughlin said. “It’s very minimal; it’s only \$20,000.”

She said much of the additional expense involved the city’s garage project and a new vehicle for the police department.

“So, there are some costs here we just couldn’t avoid,” McLaughlin said.

FC / A2



Courtesy of Lincoln School

Lincoln School March PeaceBuilders

Shown are Lincoln School PeaceBuilders for March. The school’s March theme was conflict resolution and PeaceBuilders showed great problem-solving skills. Left to right, Josiah Richardson, Jack Callahan, Liam Pumphrey, Briar Howry, Savannah Scott, and Evelyn Hilt. **Douglas School PeaceBuilders on A8.**

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SCAN ME

NEWS



Courtesy of The Vault

Parks clean-up day

Kids from The Vault teen center recently held their monthly serve day by working to pick up trash from the city's parks.

GOVERNMENT
FORECLOSURE SALE

Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, at 11:00 am **INSIDE** the
main entrance of DeWitt County Courthouse,
201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, IL.

102 S. Portland Place, Clinton, IL

Property is sold "As Is"

Terms of sale: 10% of purchase price due at time of sale by
Cashier's Check/Official Bank Check Payable to the United States
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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

Thompson / from A1

A proclamation to honor Thompson, a naturalist who volunteered at Weldon Springs State Park for 13 years before she was hired by the state as the park's first interpreter, was approved in February by the Clinton City Council. The Clinton Tree Commission recommended the proclamation for Thompson, who served on the Tree Commission.

In comments on the decision to honor Thompson, Tree

Commission Chairman John Baker cited Thompson's love of nature and her dedication to teaching.

"Carol's enthusiasm for the outdoors was contagious. She was responsible for educating local students and people of all ages about the wonders of nature. As a member of the Tree Commission, Carol worked tirelessly on many projects. We are proud to honor Carol's memory by naming the

arboretum after her," said Baker.

Before her death in 2015 at age 59, Carol served 18 years as park interpreter. She was part of the volunteer effort to locate the one-room Union Schoolhouse to the park and compile the professionally curated exhibits at the Texas Township Hall nature center.

The Arbor Day ceremony will also include the planting of a swamp oak tree donated by the

DeWitt Clinton Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. The Clinton Boy and Girl Scouts will attend to conduct a flag raising ceremony.

The annual Arbor Day celebration is sponsored by the Tree Commission to encourage the planting of trees to improve our environment and add to the urban forest fostered by the city and the Tree Commission.

FC / from A1

The city's fund balance still would remain in the 70-80 percentile range, she added.

"So, we're way ahead of the game."

She also reported the city was having a positive month so far balancing revenue and expenditures.

McLaughlin also updated the council on an ongoing property issue.

"This is the land and house we've invested quite lot in attorney's fees forcing the original owner to demolish it," she said.

McLaughlin said the

house had posed a city health hazard.

"Then, it had a fire, and the roof has fallen in," McLaughlin said.

She said the new owner of the property, Tony Gum, had agreed to demolish the house. She said he has so far complied with all the city's requests concerning the property.

"He is requesting TIF (Tax Increment Financing) assistance, and because of the addition of the building, I'm recommending an emergency percentage," McLaughlin said.

Normally that percentage would be 20-30 percent, but she said an emergency percentage of up to 50 percent could be authorized, "because he's agreeing to do it right away." She added the issue with the property had been continuing for about the past year.

The low quote to demolish the house was \$8,700, of which the city would cover half.

A court order already was in place to demolish the house, said city attorney Jeff Hanley.

"This isn't Mr. Gum's problem," Hanley said. "He didn't cause the problem."

But, Hanley said the city was making an attempt to expedite the demolition.

The council approved the TIF grant.

The council also approved a resolution to appoint members to the city's newly-formed zoning commission. The council moved in March to begin the process to assume zoning authority from the county over the corporate limits of Farmer City.

NEWS

Schools / from A1

Smith approached the school board in 2023 about accessibility issues at CES, where his son, who has limited mobility, was a student at the time. Smith later expressed frustration, saying he did not feel the district was doing enough to address the issue.

School superintendent Curt Nettles told the Journal this week that after Smith's initial concerns the district added pathways for students with mobility issues to access most parts of the playground at CES and the district researched the type of surfacing suggested.

Nettles also contacted several other superintendents in the area, "to determine what, if anything, they do differently than we do."

"None of them went above what we do," Nettles said. "I sat in a meeting with over 25 superintendents from around Central Illinois and asked the same questions of them about equipment, surfacing and future plans."

Nettles said none of the other districts did more than the Clinton School District nor had plans to.

The district in the 2020-2021 school year discussed plans for future facilities' improvement. Nettles said they solicited opinions and ideas from administrators and school board members. From those meetings, the district categorized those plans as "needs, wants and possibilities someday," according to Nettles.

"We then identified things in the 'wants' category that we could begin to move on and planned financing and timelines for those as well," Nettles said.

Nettles, school district business manager Drew Goebel and the school board made the final decision on the long-term improvements plan working with the district's buildings and grounds committee.

School districts are required by the Illinois State Board of Education to have a 10-year Health, Life Safety plan.

Nettles said an interview he gave earlier with a Champaign news outlet was aired by the station in such a way as to give the impression the district planned to resurface all of its playgrounds.

"We never told the family we would resurface our playgrounds," Nettles said.

Nettles said the district worked with its architects to fulfill its obligation under the Health, Life, Safety plan.

The district was contacted by the Office of Civil Rights about Smith's complaint, Nettles said. The OCR requested information from the district, which the district compiled and sent.

The district received confirmation the OCR received the information on March 6.

"Based on our conversations with the Regional Office of Education and the documents we were provided, we are confident we are in full compliance," Nettles said.

Roger Moody

CLINTON — Roger D. Moody, 73, of Clinton, passed away at 7:09 p.m. on April 14, 2024, at St. John's Hospital, Springfield.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Clinton American Legion, 219 N. Elizabeth St., Clinton, with Pastor Marsha Funneman officiating. A celebration of Roger's life will follow. The family requests casual attire. The family entrusted Calvert Funeral Home, Clinton, with cremation rites.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to DeWitt County 4-H.

Roger was born on June 7, 1950, in Decatur, the son of Beryl E. and JoAnn (Anderson) Moody.

Survivors include his children, Angela (Julie)



Moody, Springfield, and Chad Moody, Slidell, La.; siblings, Ernest (Lynn) Moody, Springfield; Larry Moody, Clinton; and Janet (Jun) Caba, Savoy, Ill.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Thelma May.

Roger owned and operated Moody Home Improvement for several years and also farmed. He was an avid fisherman.

Online condolences may be made at www.calvertmemorial.com

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Clinton Police Department

Citations
04/05/24
Staycea R. Whitlock 41, Wapella Operating Motor Vehicle with Suspended Registration. Notice to Appear issued.
04/06/24
Stephanie D. Britton 38, Bloomington Operating Motor Vehicle with Suspended Registration, and Operating Uninsured Motor Vehicle. Notice to Appear issued.
04/07/24
Jonathan P. Peterson 19, Clinton Possession Adult use Cannabis in Motor Vehicle outside approved container-Driver
04/08/24
Breanna N. Shofner 21, Clinton Operating Motor Vehicle with Suspended Registration, and Possession of Adult use cannabis in Passenger area of Motor Vehicle-Driver

On 04/08/24 Clinton Police arrested William B. Sims 21, Clinton for Criminal Damage to Property. Sims was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections for processing.

On 04/09/24 Clinton Police arrested William R. Wooldridge 52, Clinton for Aggravated Battery. Wooldridge was transported to the DeWitt County Jail and released to Corrections.

DeWitt County Sheriff's Office

March 29-April 12

Dayton Prawl, 27, Wapella, was issued Citations for Operating Uninsured Vehicle and No Valid Driver's License. Prawl was released with a Required Court Appearance.

James Howell, 38, Clinton, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant charging him with Forgery/Issue/Deliver Document. Howell was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Larry Clingempeel, 43, Clinton, was arrested and charged with Driving While Driver's License, Permit, or Privilege to Operate Motor Vehicle is Suspended or Revoked. Clingempeel was released with a Required Court Appearance

Julian Johnson, 19, DeWitt, was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. Johnson was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Kyren Buggar, 21, Clinton, was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. Buggar was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Douglas McDonald, 57, Springfield, was issued a Citation for Speeding (90 mph in a 55 mph zone). McDonald was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Dara Entwistle, 52, New Holland, was issued a Citation for Operating Uninsured Vehicle. Entwistle was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Investigation into the scene of an accident which occurred at 1300 on 4/9/24 revealed that Layne Burns, 67, Geneva, was traveling east on IL-54 prior to passing Kleemann Road. Burns

crossed the center line and side swiped Nathan Spencer, 37, Farmer City, on the rear driver's side of the vehicle and struck the trailer attached to Spencer. After the collision, Burns overturned onto the roof. Burns vehicle sustained damage to all portions of the vehicle. Spencer sustained damage to the rear driver side door, rear driver side quarter panel, bed of the truck and the rear tires and axle. Spencer's trailer sustained damage to all portions. Burns was issued a citation for Improper Lane Usage and released.

Ethan Janowski, 18,

Mahomet, was issued a Citation for Speeding (76 mph in a 55 mph zone). Janowski was released with no Required Court Appearance.

Hoah Lafollette, 23, Decatur, was issued Citations for Operating Uninsured Vehicle and Speeding (67 mph in a 45 mph zone). Lafollette was issued a Notice to Appear and was released.

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

WAPELLA SAYS Y.E.S. PRESENTS

Family Game Night

April 20 @ 5PM at Wapella Community Center

Enjoy a free night of games and pizza with the family! Games will be given away to each family at the end of the night.

We will be accepting canned food items for the local food pantry!

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OPINION / COLUMNS

HISTORY ALMANAC

1967 - Surveyor 3 landed on the moon and began sending photos back to the U.S.

1971 - Russia launched the Salyut into orbit around Earth. It was the first space station.

1975 - India launched its first satellite with aid from the USSR.

1977 - Alex Haley received a special Pulitzer Prize for his book "Roots."

1982 - NASA named Sally Ride to be first woman astronaut.

1982 - NASA named Guion S. Bluford Jr. as the first African-American astronaut.

1982 - The U.S. announced a ban on U.S. tourist and business travel to Cuba. The U.S. charged the Cuban government with subversion in Central America.

1987 - In Phoenix, AZ, skydiver Gregory Robertson went into a 200-mph free-fall to save an unconscious colleague 3,500 feet from the ground.

1987 - The last California condor known to be in the wild was captured and placed in a breeding program at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

1989 - A gun turret exploded aboard the USS Iowa. 47 sailors were killed.

1989 - In El Salvador, Attorney General Alvarado was killed by a car bomb.

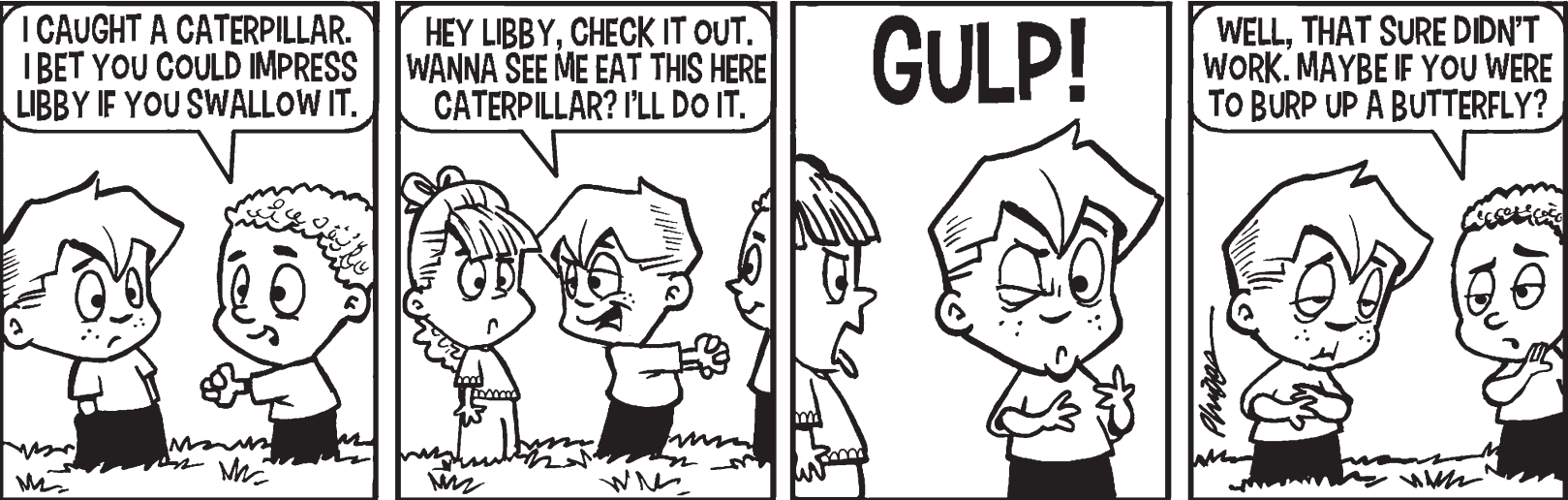
1993 - The Branch-Davidian's compound in Waco, TX, burned to the ground. It was the end of a 51-day standoff between the cult and U.S. federal agents. 86 people were killed including 17 children. Nine of the Branch Davidians escaped the fire.

1994 - A Los Angeles jury awarded \$3.8 million to Rodney King for violation of his civil rights.

1995 - The Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, OK, was destroyed by a bomb. It was the worst bombing on U.S. territory. 168 people were killed including 19 children, and 500 were injured. Timothy McVeigh was found guilty of the bombing on June 2, 1997.

1998 - Wang Dan, a leader of 1989 Tienanmen Square pro democracy protests, was freed by the Chinese government.

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

My 300th column ...and slippery slopes

This is the 300th column I have written for the Clinton Journal.

I wish to thank many of you for your kind comments to me when we meet at the grocery store or a restaurant. I enjoy the feedback, sometimes, especially so if you have a difference of opinion from me.

The column reflects my personal observations about the community and family as well as political thoughts. Admittedly, some columns seem to flow and others become a chore at times. Basically, I enjoy voicing my opinion and equally enjoy your responses to that opinion.

Lastly, I wish to thank Gordon Woods and the staff of the Clinton Journal for their support. I have never been told what to write or what to avoid by the Journal, and that freedom is appreciated. Occasionally, Gordon will correct my grammar and that keeps me in line.

SLIPPERY SLOPES—There are legal issues for which many people want to join the bandwagon without giving thought about where that bandwagon is going. The 2021 school shooting at Oxford High School in Michigan may be a classic example.

By all accounts, Ethan Crumbley was a then 15-year-old boy with mental health issues that were not adequately addressed. Ethan had voiced some serious anger issues to his parents, but they did not fully

comprehend the depth of Ethan's anger. His parents had purchased a pistol as a gift for Ethan, and the father kept the pistol in the parents' bedroom.

Ethan would go to school, and while in class, he started to draw pictures of mayhem and the pistol. The teacher viewed his activities as disturbing and sent him to the principal's office. The school was concerned and called Ethan's parents to come get him.

The parents declined, citing work obligations. Ethan then went back to class. At that time, he took the pistol out of his backpack and shot and killed four of his classmates. He would wound an additional seven people at the school. Ethan would be tried as an adult and was sentenced to life without parole as a juvenile. That sentence by itself is an anomaly in the criminal justice system.

The Supreme Court had previously ruled that juveniles could not be sentenced to life without the possibility of parole unless the facts of the case were so horrendous as to justify such a sentence. There are very few people who have objected to the sentence given Ethan in this case.

The concerning issue is with his parents James and Jennifer Crumbley. Michigan law allows parents to be held criminally accountable for the acts of their children if they could have reasonably prevented such action.



Illinois law allows parents to be held civilly accountable for the acts of their children. If Johnny breaks a store window, then Mom and Dad may be required to pay for the damages. Most people don't get too excited about that.

Michigan took this one step further and said the parents could be held "criminally" accountable for the actions of their children even if they had no knowledge or involvement in the actions of their children. In this case, separate juries found Mom and Dad guilty of involuntary manslaughter for the actions of their child. Mom and Dad were sentenced to 10-15 years in prison for the actions of their son.

The majority of public opinion seems to believe this was a proper outcome for the parents. This case is horrific, and the public's anger is fully understandable. However, what are the ramifications?

In this case, you have a third party, parents, going to prison for the willful acts of the offender, their son. The parents did not fire the gun and they did not encourage

the criminal acts of their son. Perhaps they were negligent in not understanding the depth of their son's anger, but does that warrant a criminal charge?

Take this fact pattern home. What happens if your child, who has been showing some anger issues at home, goes to school with a weapon and kills someone? You could be held criminally responsible.

What about the school? The school in the Michigan case clearly observed that Ethan was having a bad day and called the parents. The school did not call the police or the mental health professionals to evaluate Ethan. What is the school's criminal or civil liability, if any?

These are hard questions with no easy answers. The moral concept of holding parents accountable for the action of their minor children has been with us through the ages. That accountability has had limitations. Michigan has greatly diminished those limitations. As a matter of public policy, do we as a society want to hold a third party criminally responsible for the acts of another. That is a very slippery slope.

Editor's Note: Congratulations to Dick on his milestone as a columnist for the Journal. We value his contribution to the newspaper and to the community.

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 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.

Election letters: The Journal will accept for a fee letters from private citizens endorsing candidates or ballot measures. There will be a charge of \$20 for up to 250 words for these types of letters.

Candidates must purchase political advertising.

www.theclintonjournal.com

OPINION / COLUMNS

Spring cleaning and safety

It's time to begin my annual spring cleaning, and this year it's going to be a bit different. Instead of just sticking with the window cleaning, closet organizing and dryer vent vacuuming type of activities, I'm going to concentrate on safety.

Grab bar in the shower: I'm going to bite the bullet and admit I probably should have one. I'll hire a handyman to make sure it's done right with the screws put into the studs so it won't come out.

New batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors: While the handyman is here, I'll have him install them because, yes, I've given up ladders.

Small rug: The little rug I have in front of the kitchen sink has to go. It has a curled corner, and while I've managed not to trip on it, I need to remove it.

The pantry: After stocking up on extra items for the last few years because of the Covid pandemic, it's time to be sure I didn't let any items slip past their expiration date. I'll need

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

to pull out every single thing and check the dates. This will include olive oil, spices, rice and all canned goods. In the laundry room this will include bleach, which can go stale and lose potency. (I'll need to look up the production codes to see when it was manufactured. After one year, it's probably degraded.)

Clutter: Yes, I've let certain things accumulate. I let myself get lazy over the winter about taking stacks of magazines to recycling (mostly because of the ice that always surrounds the recycling bins downtown). But they have to go.

Drugs: Expired drugs will need to go to the drop-off for disposal so they don't end up in a landfill.

Consider whether you want to add these ideas to your own spring cleaning list this year.

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Plan for your future during 'Financial Literacy Month'

Selena Higgins
Social Security district manager, Normal

We celebrate Financial Literacy Month (FLM) every April to promote financial education and well-being in the United States. FLM also serves as a reminder that Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. Our online tools are here to help you understand your

potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your Social Security Statement (Statement) using your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Your Statement is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and



survivors' benefits.

If you're planning to retire, you can visit our Plan for Retirement webpage at www.ssa.gov/prepare/plan-retirement.

Here you can compare how different future earnings and retirement benefit start-dates might affect your future benefit amount.

Please tell your friends and family about the steps they can take to improve their financial knowledge by exploring their personal my Social Security account. If they don't have an account, they can easily create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Compensation for service-related conditions

Service-connected injuries and conditions for which you can receive compensation can be either physical or mental. But there's no one-size-fits-all when it comes to how much compensation you can receive. Whether it's hearing loss or depression, or cancer or PTSD, each one has a different rating, which results in a different level of compensation.

The Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating you are assigned after being approved is based on the severity of your condition. Your compensation will be based partially on that and partially on whatever else might increase that compensation, such as



by Freddy Groves

having a family or a disabled spouse, or if you've suffered severe disability or loss of limbs.

And from there it gets even more complicated.

It's possible for your rating to change over time if your condition worsens, but even when combining multiple ratings (conditions) it's nearly impossible to reach 100% disability.

Increasing your final rating by combining smaller ratings (for multiple conditions) is difficult because there

are rules, charts and math to consider. There is combining the numbers, converting, rounding up or down to the nearest 10. For example, you can't take a 20% rating and a 60% rating and come up with an 80% rating. In this case, the actual combined rating equates to 68%, but it's rounded up to 70% ... because the chart says so.

Combining three or more disabilities is even more complicated. And nowhere on that chart is a rating of 100% disability.

A 100% disability rating, if given, can be temporary (until your condition clears up or gets better) or permanent if given for severe conditions such as blindness or loss of

limb. But reaching that level without those severe conditions is difficult enough that whole legal websites across the internet are devoted to that one effort: getting a 100% disability rating.

To wade through the disability compensation ratings and benefits, go to www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/rates-index.asp#howcalc.

The ratings calculator can be found at www.va.gov/disability/about-disability-ratings.

The VA is currently taking 158 days to make decisions about claims.

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CLINTON Journal

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General Manager, Ad and Classified Sales, Legal Notices
Katy O'Grady-Pyne
kpyne@theclintonjournal.com

Editor, News, Composing
Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

Tel. (217) 935-3171

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Mayor - Tom Edmunds
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935-2394
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President Joseph Biden
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Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2152
or
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Sen. Tammy Duckworth
524 Hart Senate Bldg. Washing-
ton, D.C. 20510
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(202) 228-0618 FAX

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1740 Longworth House Office
Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5271
Fax: (202) 225-5880

ILLINOIS GOVERNMENT
Gov. J.B. Pritzker

207 Statehouse
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(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@ilhousegop.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
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Springfield Office:
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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.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
Fr. Derrick Mwesiga, pastor
9 a.m.-Sunday, Tues. & Thurs. Mass
9 a.m.-First Saturday
www.saintpatrickwapella.org
E-mail: stpatrickwapella@yahoo.com

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 31:23-24

Love the LORD, all his faithful people! The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.

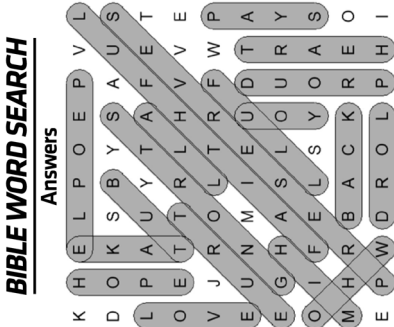
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E G H A S L O U R Y
O I F E L S Y O A S
M H R B A C K R E O
E P W D R O L P H I

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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Substitute lunches

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights.

As a chef and nutritionist, I cannot approve the types of lunches the state provides for certain institutions. As a result, I took on the added responsibility of preparing my son’s lunches.

He has maintained a proper weight and enjoyed passing his doctor check-ups with flying colors. I wish for that to continue. If you wish to do the same, I shall instruct you how to prepare adequate lunches.

First and foremost, do your best at working with fresh foods, especially vegetables. And it is with vegetables we start. Canned green beans are usually at the soft stage due to the high heat required for canning. It has lost vitamins and minerals. If green beans are canned in a water bath rather than a pressure cooker, that helps. However, this does not address freshness.

Using green beans directly from the garden is best. Next best is buying them from the grocery store. Check them over for any blemishes. For judging freshness, see how



The Culinary Corner Chef Roger Joss

well the bean snaps. It should never be rubbery. If you store them in a sealed bag, they will soon mold even in the refrigerator. They need circulating air. Before use, be sure to rinse beans thoroughly. Remove the tip ends and cut to bite size. Heat some clarified butter in a skillet to about 300°F. This will help set the bean juices. Thus, maintaining moisture and vitamins. If some beans get scorched, that is good. It adds a nice subtle flavor.

Next stage is to sweat the beans until they reach the al dente stage. The sweating improves the preservation of the vitamins & minerals. It also heightens the natural bean flavor. The beans are ready as a side dish or for adding to a salad. A light sauce may be used. I prefer mine simply seasoned.

This same procedure can be used for Broccoli and cauliflower. For Broccoli

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Jeremiah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. The villains Sanballat and Geshem are only mentioned in which book? 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
3. From Ephesians 5, what did Paul recommend as a substitute for wine? Water, Laughter, Love, Holy Spirit
4. Who condemns drinkers who start early in the morning? Job, Isaiah, Ezra, Esther
5. Which king had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen? David, Jehoash, Solomon, Neco
6. Who wrote the book of Revelation? John, Jude, Matthew, Peter

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) John (the Revelator), 3) Isaiah, 4) Isaiah, 5) Solomon, 6) John (the Revelator)

“Test Your Bible Knowledge,” a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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NEWS

Komatsu mining truck named 2024 ‘coolest thing made in Illinois’

Cole Longcor
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — A mining truck manufactured by Komatsu was crowned the winner of the 2024 “Makers Madness” contest, earning the title of “the coolest thing made in Illinois” at the Governor’s Mansion Wednesday.

The truck was one of more than 200 entries in the 5th annual contest hosted by the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association and sponsored by Comcast Business. The bracket-style contest lasted eight weeks and collected almost 315,000 votes for the products entered, narrowing them down to the top 16, then to the final four, which were recognized Wednesday.

The truck, made by Komatsu in Peoria, has a hauling capacity of up to 400 tons and has “new innovations in suspension transmission, electric drive technology and

autonomous operation,” according to Komatsu. The 980E-5 truck weighs more than 1.3 million pounds.

Dan Funcannon, a vice president at Komatsu, said the trucks are the “coolest machines on the planet.”

“These machines are manufactured in Peoria and shipped around the world to support mining the minerals and materials that are required to do this manufacturing around the globe,” he said at the ceremony Wednesday. “We feel it’s a big honor and also responsibility to sell these products throughout the world.”

Gov. J.B. Pritzker congratulated the finalists and said manufacturing is key to the state’s economy.

“This room is full of talented and driven people who continue to propel our state toward a brighter future,” he said. “Our economic growth is due in large part to the thriving manufacturing sector that



CAPITOL NEWS
ILLINOIS

you all help to build every day.”

Three other finalists were also recognized at the ceremony, covering a wide range of products. Mullen’s Imitation French Dressing, made by J.D. Mullen Company in Palestine, was founded by World War I veteran and Illinois restaurateur John Mullen. The MQ-25 Stingray Drone Refueler, built by Boeing in Mascoutah, is the first unmanned aircraft to refuel another aircraft midflight. Enviro Buildings’ Mod Box, made by Craig Industries in Quincy, is a modular insulated outdoor building used for construction and security offices.

According to the Illinois Manufacturers’

Association, the industry is responsible for almost a third of the state’s jobs and contributes more than \$580 billion to the economy annually.

The Rosenberg moon habitat, made by Ingersoll Machine Tools in Rockford, was the 2023 winner. Another mining vehicle, the 797F mining truck by Caterpillar, was named the winner in 2020.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of newspapers, radio and TV stations statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.

2023 DeWitt County final multiplier announced

SPRINGFIELD — DeWitt County has been issued a final property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, according to David Harris, director of the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR).

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the “multiplier,” is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly important because some of the state’s 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g., school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there was no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

Under a law passed in 1975, property in Illinois should be assessed at one-third (1/3) of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures. Farmland is assessed at one-third of its agriculture economic value and not subject to the state equalization factor. Assessments in DeWitt County are at 33.37% of market value, based on sales of properties in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2023 taxes, payable in 2024.

Last year’s equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The final assessment

equalization factor was issued after a public hearing on the tentative factor. The tentative factor issued on 23-Feb-2024 was 1.0000.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If the three-year average level of assessment is one-third of the market value, the equalization factor will be one (1). If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than one (1). And if the average level of assessment is less than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than one (1).

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease. Tax bills are determined by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens. If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments increase.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual’s portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.

Legislation designed to support local Illinois news media advances

Kevin Bessler
The Center Square

(The Center Square) — Legislation moving through the Illinois Statehouse aims to reverse the spread of news deserts in the state.

A Local Journalism Task Force found that Illinois has lost 232 newspapers since 2005. The state has also lost 85% of its newspaper journalists, the highest percentage in the country.

The Strengthening

Community Media Act is moving through the legislature. The bill as amended would create a student journalism scholarship program. If enacted, the legislation also prevents local news organizations from being purchased by out-of-state companies unless there is a written 120-day notice before the sale occurs.

State Sen. Steve Stadelman, D-Rockford, said too often, large organizations buy up local media outlets to the surprise

of local communities.

“You have private equity firms buying newspapers, consolidating them, then providing very little local news content, laying off a lot of local reporters and eventually shutting them down,” said Stadlman.

Earlier this year, Stadelman, a former TV anchor, said the biggest issue that newsrooms are facing is that the advertising revenue stream has gone to big tech companies, which has left local news outlets with a large financial

burden. A separate measure he proposed, Senate Bill 3591, to require social media companies pay local news outlets when someone shares their stories on a different platform has not advanced.

Senate Bill 3592 with the journalism scholarship program and written notice of sale provisions did advanced out of the Senate Executive Committee by a 9 to 2 vote and can now be taken up by the full Senate before going to the House for further action.



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

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NEWS



Courtesy of Douglas School

Douglas School March PeaceBuilders

Shown are Douglas School's March PeaceBuilders. The school's March theme was conflict resolution and PeaceBuilders showed great problem-solving skills. Left to right, Kenzie Patterson, Ella Herrera, Everett Cahall, Maitland Girardi, Jesse Staton, and Clayton Coakley, below, right.

It's not

TOP SECRET

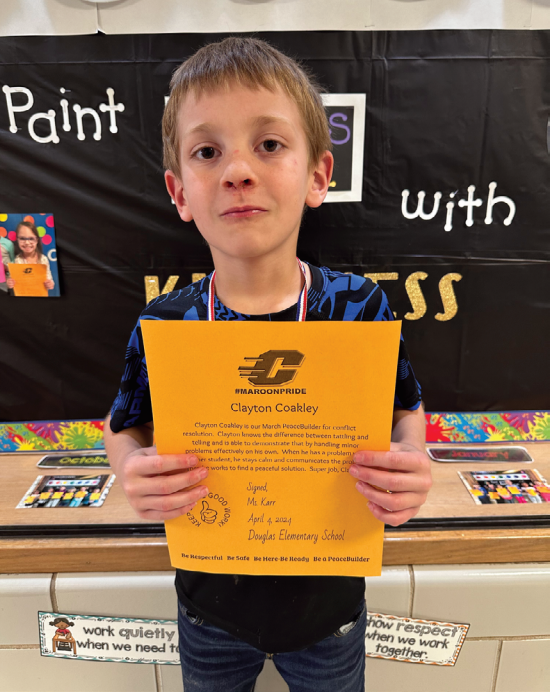
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BRIDGE BITES

A TALE OF TWO SUITS

♠ T8652 ♥ K6 ♦ A876 ♣ AJ	♠ AQ ♥ A72 ♦ 9432 ♣ 6542		♠ 9743 ♥ 9543 ♦ Q ♣ T973
	North		
	West	East	
	Declarer		
		♠ KJ ♥ QJT8 ♦ KJT5 ♣ KQ8	

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

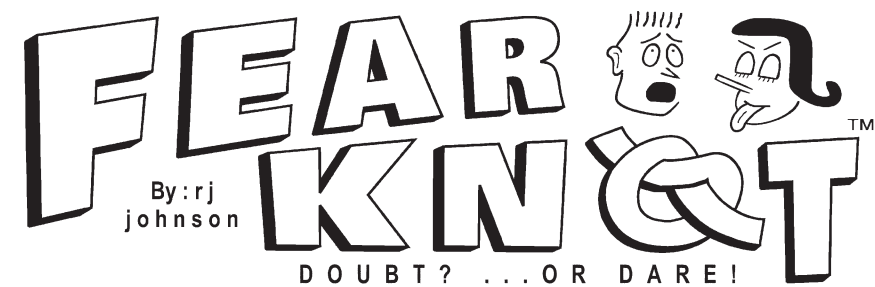
Thanks in large part to the horrible Spade duplication (where ten HCP bring in two measly tricks), 3NT needs some luck. And, after the opening lead of the Spade Five, 3NT also requires careful play in Diamonds and Hearts. Can you make nine tricks?

Your best chance for nine tricks is to score four Hearts and three Diamonds. How do you play the Diamonds? Yes, you must take the tiny precaution of leading a low Diamond from the board. The trap to be avoided is running the Nine, that would be fatal in the actual case where East has the singleton Queen and where West's spots would prevent the suit from running. So, Dummy's ♠Q wins the opening lead, and a low Diamond is led, to the Queen, King and Ace.

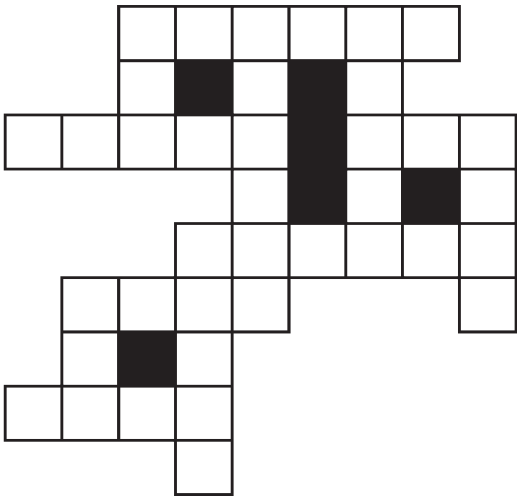
West returns the Spade Two, again won on the board. You get back to hand with a Diamond (East pitching a Club), but refrain from cashing the two other Diamond winners, they may provide some useful back and forth later in the play. Instead, you lead the ♥Q, covered by the King and Ace. Back to hand with the ♥J, both defenders following, but neither dropping the all-important Nine.

Where is that Nine? You don't know for sure, so you will go with the odds. West's opening lead was the Five, and he later played the Two, so he appears to have started with a minimum of five Spades. West also started with four Diamonds, that's nine of his cards accounted for. By contrast, East started with a total of only five cards in those suits. Clearly, East has more room in her hand for Hearts, and the odds tell you to finesse against East for the Heart Nine rather than to play for the drop. So, you cash the Diamond Ten, cross to Dummy's carefully preserved Nine, and finesse the Heart Eight. Nine well-earned tricks!

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



- GPU
CALGEN
AFTLE
♥APLE
♥TOPLAR
ILN
LGFU
♥EPCRA
♥GTO
FATOLA
AGPNA
♥ETAN



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!

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		
+			+		+			
		-		÷		= 1		
÷			+		×			
		+		-		= 2		
=			=		=			
4			15		54			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Super Crossword

APPLICATION
PROCESS

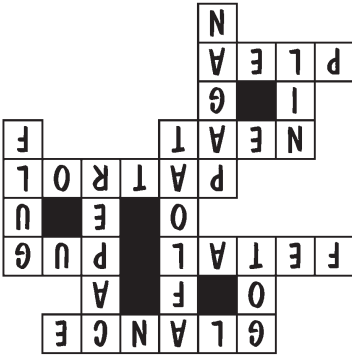
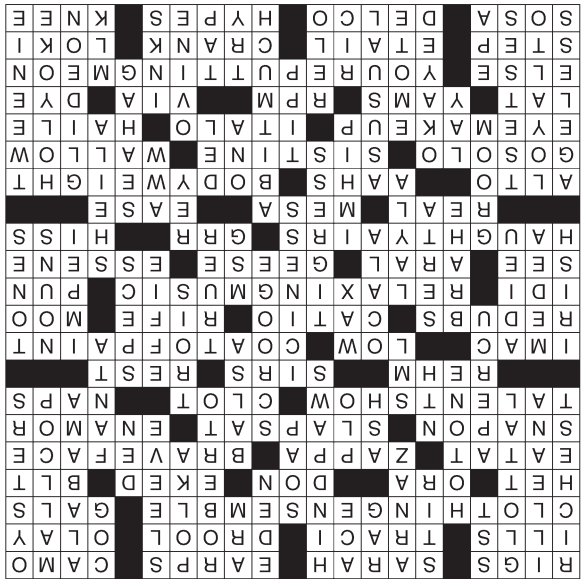
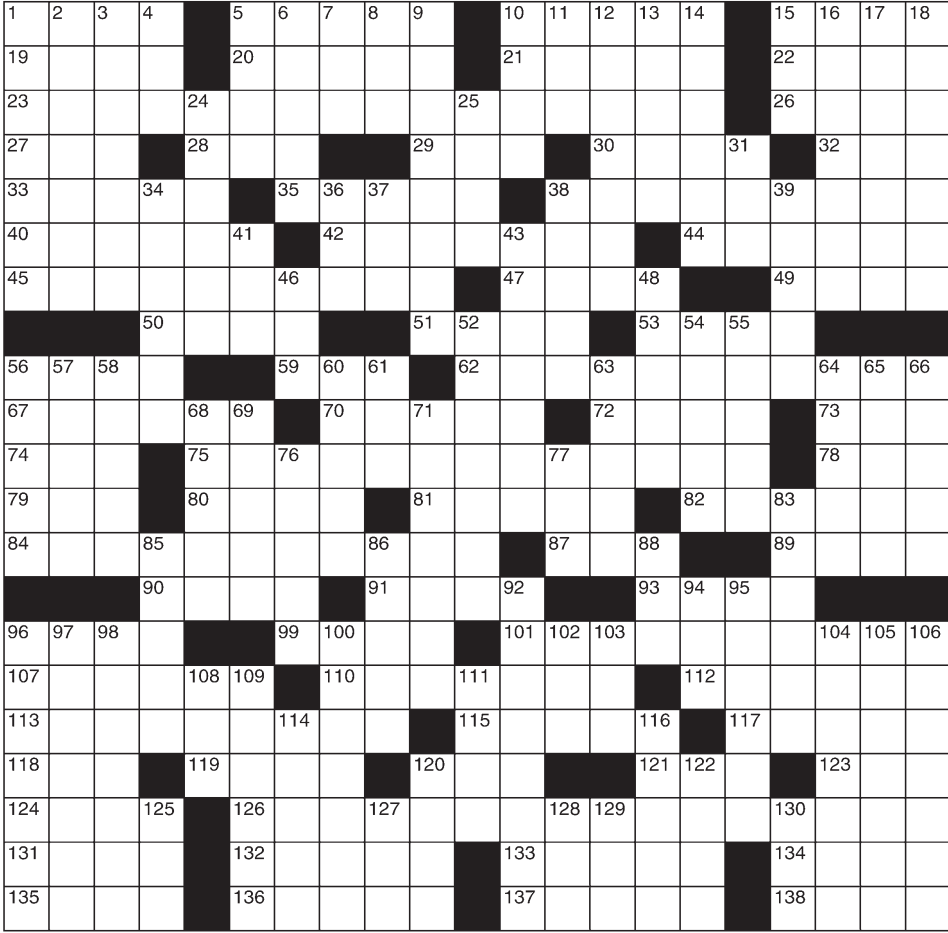
ACROSS

- 1 Big trucks
5 "Serial" podcast host Koenig
10 Brothers Wyatt, Virgil and Morgan
15 Like GI garb, often
19 Woeful things
20 Bingham of "Baywatch"
21 Slobber
22 Nivea rival
23 Outfit
26 Lasses
27 All upset, with "up"
28 "... flaw — feature?"
29 Actor Knotts
30 Wrung (out)
32 Deli classic
33 Bother a lot
35 Frank of rock
38 Outward display of courage
40 Attachable with a click
42 Hits, as a fly
44 Fill with love
45 "The X Factor," e.g.
47 Congeal
49 Short sleeps
50 Diane once of NPR
51 Gentlemen
53 Breather
56 Apple option
59 Cow sound
62 Primer for a wall, e.g.
67 Names anew
70 Outdoor enclosure for a tabby
72 Abundant
73 Cow sound
74 Despot Amin
75 It's often played during a massage
78 "Let us spray," e.g.
79 Recognize
80 Central Asia's — Sea
81 Honking birds
82 Old Jewish ascetic
84 Snootiness
87 Cur's warning
89 Snake's warning
90 Not bogus
91 Small plateau
93 Give relief to
96 Choir female
99 Responses to massages
101 Something revealed by a scale
107 Fly without a co-pilot, e.g.
110 Like a famed Vatican chapel
112 Roll around in mud or dust
113 Mascara, e.g.
115 Writer Calvino
117 Ethiopia's — Selassie
118 Ovid's lang.
119 Tubers often candied
120 Engine speed meas.
121 By way of
123 Tattooist's supply
124 Otherwise
126 What eight answers in this puzzle might say if they could talk?
131 Increase, with "up"
132 Internet sales
133 Increase, with "up"
134 Villain in "The Avengers"
135 609-homer Sammy
136 AC— (big name in auto parts)
137 Promotes heavily
138 Leg joint
DOWN
1 Most wealthy
2 Actress Douglas who starred in "Grace of My Heart"

- 3 Pertaining to an opening of the larynx
4 Former jet to JFK
5 Mix, as batter
6 Desi of Desilu Studios
7 Sleazy paper
8 King topper
9 Furry feet in back
10 Biblical utopia
11 Shirt part
12 Clemente of baseball
13 Oompah band genre
14 Shirt part
15 Tooth on a gearwheel
16 A Gulf state
17 Patroller around a food court
18 Bivalve mollusks
24 Sweltering summer day
25 Ivory, e.g.
31 Lion's hideout
34 Fast glance
36 Burnt residue
37 Gp. once led by Arafat
38 Raft wood
39 Soda brand
41 Utmost
43 Dickens' miser
46 Opposite of lge.
48 Three, to Fifi

- 52 Slippery road condition
54 "The Hunger Games" escort
55 Blueprint data, in brief
56 From Dublin or Cork
57 Jason's wife, in myth
58 "Ta-ta!" in Tours
60 Central Florida city
61 Crayon stuff
63 Less of a lie
64 Louvre Pyramid architect
65 Adjectives modify them
66 Message-leavers' cues
68 Astronomer Tycho —
69 Mattress brand
71 Fierce female feline
76 1972 Eric Clapton hit
77 Chinese menu letters
83 Aussie girl
85 Newlywed man
86 "Got it, man"
88 San Luis —
92 Slightly excessive
94 "How cute!"

- 95 Ugly foe of Popeye
96 Neverending
97 Not deserting
98 Frightful flies
100 Like always
102 "Ode — Grecian Urn"
103 Costa — Sol
104 Use as a skating surface
105 Mount — College (Elaine Chao's alma mater)
106 12-year-old kid, say
108 Set in place
109 Gave the nod
111 — City (Ohio town named for William Henry Harrison's moniker)
114 Theatricalize
116 Like sheep
120 Move, to a Realtor
122 Tattooist's supplies
125 Green org.
127 Case of The Cars
128 Endeavor
129 Spying setup
130 Big name in civ. rights



answer



Super Crossword

		54		15		4
=			-	8	+	3
2 =	6					
	×		+			÷
	4 =	1	÷	1	-	5
	+		+			+
11 =	2		-	9	+	7

ANSWERS

Go Figure!

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4-19-2024
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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 in Clinton and delivering them to local and area businesses in a timely manner. Typically takes 1-2 hours each Thursday morning. MUST have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and valid insurance. Apply by calling 217-935-3171 or email kpyne@the-clintonjournal.com. (203TFN)

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203 HELP WANTED

IN-HOME HEALTH CARE WORKER WANTED. 1-2 days/week. Call 217-935-2596. (203042624)

305 GARAGE SALES

12561 MIDDLE CREEK ROAD, CLINTON, South of Weldon Springs, April 19-20, 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Large garage sale. Two vintage Schwinn 10 speeds, 2 women's bikes, broadcast spreader, 2 cow tanks, twin bed, portable grill, coolers, lanterns, kitchen items, lots more. (305041924)

LEGAL

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,
v.

ESTATE OF NANCY J. ABBEY, DECEASED; LUCAS YOUNG; NICOLE BROWN; DEREK YOUNG; JEREMY YOUNG; UNKNOWN OWNERS, INCLUDING UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF NANCY J. ABBEY, DECEASED; UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF NANCY J. ABBEY, DECEASED; UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF NANCY J. ABBEY, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; and JOHN P. BROWN, as Special Representative of the ESTATE OF NANCY J. ABBEY, DECEASED,

Defendants.

CIVIL NO. 22-cv-3114

NOTICE OF MARSHAL'S SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court in the above-entitled cause, the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.

1. The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information

regarding the real estate is:

Brittany Taylor, Assistant Loan Specialist, USDA Rural Development, 2110 W Park Court, Suite B, Champaign, IL 61821. Telephone: (217) 352-3536 Ext 4

2. The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 102 Portland Place, Clinton, Illinois 61727.

3. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot 1 in Block 1 in Portland Place Subdivision of a portion of Lot 1 of 60 acres off of the South end of the West ½ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East of the 3rd Principal Meridian, AND ALSO Lot 2 in Block 1 in Portland Place Subdivision being a subdivision of a portion of Lot 1 of 60 acres off the South end of the West ½ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East of the 3rd Principal Meridian, situated in the City of Clinton, County of DeWitt, in the State of Illinois.

Tax ID# 07-35-209-018; this real estate has been Improved by a single-family residence.

4. The real estate may be inspected prior to sale at the following times: (Available for inspection during business hours upon reasonable advance notice to the county office listed above.)

5. The time and place of the sale are Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., inside the main entrance of the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL ATTENDING THE SALE.

6. The terms of the sale are:

10% of purchase price payable at time and place of sale by Cashier=s/

Official Bank Check made payable to the United States Marshals Service. Balance to be paid by Cashier=s/Official Bank Check made payable to the United States Marshals Service and received by the United States Marshal, 100 NE Monroe Street, Peoria, Illinois 61602, within thirty (30) days of date of said sale. If the balance is not received within said time period, the 10% payment made at time of sale shall be forfeited to the United States, the sale shall be void and a new sale shall be scheduled by the Court.

7. Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes for the years 2023 and thereafter to be paid by buyer(s), which are a lien upon the real estate, and special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record. Buyer(s) shall also be responsible for payment of the real estate transfer tax (35 ILCS 200-31-45).

8. Said property is being sold at this judicial sale "AS IS" WITHOUT ANY WARRANTIES OF HABITABILITY OR ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED.

9. Upon receipt of the entire purchase price amount, a Certificate of Sale shall be forwarded to the Marshal for execution describing the lands and tenements purchased and the sum paid therefor to be tendered to the purchaser. Upon confirmation of said sale by the Court, the holder of said Certificate of Sale shall be entitled to a deed for said premises.

10. 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.

DATED at Springfield, Illinois, this 31st day of January 2024.

/s/Brendan O. Heffner
BRENDAN O. HEFFNER
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

LEGAL 20014
March 29, April 5, April 12, and April 19, 2024

LEGAL

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

Estate of: John Douglas Reeder, Jr. Deceased.
CASE NO. 2024-PR-14
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE
Notice is given to the creditors of the death of John Douglas Reeder, Jr., of 5654 N. 19th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85015. Letters of Office were issued on March 19, 2024, to Jack Castelletti, Independent Executor, 4440 N. 35th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85017, whose attorney is Kevin Hammer, 219 E. Main Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration
April 5, 12, 19, 2024

at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of DeWitt County Circuit Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington, Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before October 5, 2024, or, if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in the Notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the representative's attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 1st day of April, 2024. Kevin Hammer Attorney for the Estate of John Douglas Reeder, Jr. 219 East Main Street Clinton, IL 61727 217/935-7063 kevinghammer@hotmail.com
LEGAL 20017
April 5, 12, 19, 2024

LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF DEWITT
Estate of: Mildred J. Sturgeon Deceased.
CASE NO. 2024-PR-15
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE
Notice is given to the creditors of the death of Mildred J. Sturgeon, of 4954 Green Valley Rd., Clinton, Illinois 61727. Letters of Office were issued on March 22, 2024, to Diana M. Oakley, Independent Executor, 503 E. Howard St., Kenney, Illinois 61749, whose attorney is Kevin Hammer, 219 E. Main Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.



Cedar Circle Apartments
Senior Garden
1 & 2 BR Apts
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62 yrs or disabled any age
Rent based on income
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QUILTS-ART-ANTIQUES-POTTERY- JEEP and MUCH MORE ESTATE SALE
722 W. North St., Clinton, IL
Friday, April 19 - 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday, April 20 - 9:00am - 4:00pm
BLOW OUT SUNDAY - 10:00am-2:00pm
- Bring Your Best Offer -
This 2-story home and garage is full of great antiques, collectibles, vintage, Mid Century and much more.
1995 JEEP CHEROKEE 4 Dr, 4 WD; QUILTS & Linens; UNUSUAL; 2 Doll Houses, completely furnished; FURNITURE; RUGS; ART; JEWELRY; POTTERY, CHINA & GLASS; APPLIANCES: Washer & Dryer & Refrigerator; ACCESSORIES & DÉCOR; TOY FURNITURE & APPLIANCES; ENTERTAINMENT; YARD & TOOLS; HOLIDAY and more.
*Cash or Credit will be accepted. All purchases over \$1000 cash only.
* ABSOLUTELY NO PERSONAL CHECKS.
* We DO NOT PROVIDE FURNITURE MOVING or loading service - please bring your own OR make arrangements.
Staff is NOT available to assist.
* NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS or INJURIES of any kind.
*ALL SALES ARE FINAL - NO EXCHANGES, REFUNDS OR RETURNS
* NO PRICES GIVEN PRIOR TO SALE
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HPTrader Estate Sales LLC
217-251-5871

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 310 E. Clinton
 800-658-6584
 Cell:
 5217543-6069

RESTAURANT

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Guests - Miller Range
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 602 W. Main Street, Clinton, IL
 Licensed in the Family Service Building
1/2 OH
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BARBERS

CAPTAIN'S GALLERY
 41 Clinton East, Business
 2nd Floor
 Open Monday - Friday
 9am - 5pm
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BAR & GRILL

DJ - FRIDAY, JULY 6
 1001 E. Clinton Street
 217-935-6067

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DJ Spin On Saturday 12-2
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 Free Pool Monday-Thursday

BARBERS

Breakers
 Clinton
 935-6063

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Snapper's Bar & Grill
 1001 E. Clinton Street
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BARBERS

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 On-Bus Restaurant
 Polish Sausage - Hot Dogs
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Breakers
 Clinton
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MONEY.**

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Call the Advertising Department.

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CLINTON
Journal



**CLINTON COMMUNITY UNIT
SCHOOLS**

VACANCY NOTICE NO. 23
Please apply on-line at
www.applitrack.com/Clinton/onlineapp
unless noted otherwise.

Clinton High School

- **Spanish Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Special Education Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **English Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024

Clinton Junior High

- **Special Education Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year,**
application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Administrative Assistant/Front Office 2024-2025 school year,**
application deadline April 26, 2024

Clinton Elementary School

- **Reading Intervention Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Teacher – 5th Grade for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Teacher – 2nd Grade for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> , application deadline April 26, 2024

Douglas/Lincoln Schools

- **Preschool Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, 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 April 26, 2024
- **Library Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> application deadline April 12, 2024

Lincoln School

- **Preschool Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline April 26, 2024
- **Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals> application deadline April 26, 2024

Athletics

- **Assistant Wrestling Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe1@cusd15.org
- **Freshman Boys Basketball Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe1@cusd15.org
- **Assistant Baseball Coach - CJHS**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe1@cusd15.org

Cafeteria

- **Kitchen Staff 4.0 hrs daily (split shift)**, please apply online, pick up an application at the unit office or email Beth Tedrick Btedrick@cusd15.org.
- **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 & Van Drivers (HRS as needed)**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office. Bus Drivers must have or be willing to obtain CDL.
- **Sub Bus/Van Monitors, Sub Crossing Guard, (HRS as needed) opportunity to sub for kitchen or bus monitor**, please apply online or pick up application at the Unit Office.

Nursing/Health

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

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

Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of DeWitt County Circuit Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington, Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before October 5, 2024, or, if mailing or delivery of a Notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in the Notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the representative's attorney within ten days after it has been filed. Dated this 1st day of April, 2024.
Kevin Hammer
Attorney for the Estate of Mildred J. Sturgeon
219 East Main Street
Clinton, IL 61727
217/935-7063
LEGAL 20018
April 5, 12, 19, 2024

Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the DeWITT County Law and Justice Center; Room 404; or claims may be filed with the Executor. If filed with the Clerk, within 10 days mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Executor and to her attorney and file with the Clerk proof of such mailing or delivery.
Dated: 4-11-24
Linda Malone
21 Glencoe Street
Bellevue, IL 62221
by: /s/ Russell E. DePew
Russell E. DePew,
Attorney for the Estate

Russell E. DePew
DePew & Dehn
201 West Olive
Street
Bloomington, IL
61701
(309) 829-7002
depewlaw@aol.com
ARDC# 6171853

LEGAL 20022
April 19, 26, May 3,
2024

LEGAL

LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
SIXTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
DeWITT COUNTY
IN THE MATTER
OF THE ESTATE
OF GAYLARD
L. WIKLE, DE-
CEASED
2024PR000011
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of
the death of GAY-
LARD L. WIKLE,
of Waynesville,
Illinois. Letters of
office were issued
on March 21, 2024,
to LINDA MALONE
whose attorney is
Russell E. DePew
of DePew & Dehn,
201 West Olive
Street, Bloomington,
Illinois 61701.

Notice of
PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby
given that the
Wapella Zoning
Board of Appeals
will conduct a public
hearing on Wednes-
day May 8, 2024 at
7:00 pm. The hear-
ing will be held at
the Wapella Village
Hall, 312 Main St.,
Wapella, IL.
The purpose of the
hearing is to review
an application for
a variance. The
ordinance requires
that all auxiliary
buildings be placed
in the rear yard.
Applicant requests
a variance to place
a shed in the front
yard. The recom-
mendation of the
ZBA will be submit-
ted to the Village
Board for final
action.
Interested par-
ties are invited to
attend.

LEGAL 20023
April 19, 2024



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Time to
Celebrate
Love, Life
& Happiness

Share your engagement, wedding, anniversary or milestone birthdays FREE OF CHARGE in the Clinton Journal!

Include a photo and the details you want to share with your community! The Clinton Journal will publish your news at NO CHARGE in an upcoming edition!

Send your life event to: Gordon Woods at gwoods@theclintonjournal.com.

Let's celebrate together in your community newspaper!

CLINTON
Journal

111 S. Monroe St., Clinton, IL 61727
PHONE: (217) 935-3171 • FAX: (217) 935-6086

NEWS

Maintaining a lawn routinely roamed by pets

(METRO) — Vibrant, green lawns can draw attention to any landscape. Many homeowners toil for hours each week to ensure their lawns are pristine, or invest in lawn care services to help maintain a yard if they do not have the time to do so themselves. While many treatments can be applied to lawns to help them thrive, animal waste is not among them. Pet owners who aspire to have beautiful lawns will have to take a few extra steps to ensure lawns can persevere despite the presence of furry companions.

Reseed with a damage-resistant grass
There are many different types of grass, and some are more resilient than others. Tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and Bermuda grass are just some of the grass varieties that can capably handle pet

traffic. If replacing the entire lawn is not possible, consider reseeding or addressing the areas that pets frequent.

Strengthen the root system
It may be tempting to cut the lawn short, particularly if dogs or cats like to nibble on longer blades of grass. But that approach could be doing the lawn a disservice. According to The Home Depot, letting the lawn grow to at least three inches will help keep moisture in the soil and prevent evaporation. That moisture will strengthen the roots, creating a healthier lawn for pets and people.

Create pet paths
Various materials can be used in these high-traffic areas to minimize the sights and signs of pet traffic. Mulch or crushed stone can establish these pet

highways and look like intended features.

Set boundaries
Pet urine contains high levels of nitrogen, which can burn grass and turn it brown. It's not possible to water down urine or pick up solid waste immediately every time a pet goes outdoors, so designate a pet-friendly spot for potty time. Use fencing or a dog run to separate this area and help mitigate "land mines" all over the lawn. Fencing also can keep pets out of vegetable gardens and away from potentially toxic plants.

Avoid chemical lawn treatments
When pets use the yard and rest on the lawn, you'll need to eliminate products that can be harmful to them. Choose all-natural fertilizers and weed and



pest preventatives.

Look for alternatives
If maintaining a lawn with pets seems like an uphill battle, consider swapping out your landscape with a variety of materials. Scale back on grass, and incorporate groundcover, hardscape materials like pea

gravel, or extend the patio. Artificial turf also is an option, as it won't brown and wither. Some turf products can even be quickly and thoroughly cleaned with water. It can take some trial and error for pet parents to protect their lawns from the effects of having furry friends playing in the yard.

Six replacement trees for invasive Callery pear

URBANA — Now considered an invasive species, Callery pear is a widely used ornamental flowering tree with negative effects on native ecosystems. The tree is still bought, sold, and planted because it has not yet made the list of plants included in the Illinois Exotic Weed Act. Until policies are amended, educational outreach and word of mouth are the best ways to combat the use of Callery pear. What trees make good replacements for Callery pear in the landscape? Numerous Illinois native species make suitable alternatives or replacements.

American Fringetree
Chionanthus virginicus

Also known as Grancy Graybeard, the American fringetree is a medium-sized deciduous tree that blooms in late spring. It is known for fragrant flower clusters with white fringe-like petals. Other features are the smooth, silver-gray bark and attractive fall foliage. Fringetree is a host plant for several insect species, and the fruit is a food source for many birds, including the cardinal, blue jay, and pileated woodpecker.

American Hornbeam Carpinus caroliniana

The American Hornbeam, also called ironwood and musclewood, is a medium-sized tree with distinctive muscle-like fluted bark and very hard wood. While not known for showy flowers, hornbeam produces subtle catkins in spring. It's valued for its unique form and attractive, doubly serrated leaves that turn a yellow-orange color in fall. Though an understory tree in its natural habitat, hornbeam tolerates a range of conditions,

including clay soil and black walnut toxicity.

Red Buckeye Aesculus pavia

In late spring, red buckeye exhibits 6 to 10-inch long panicles of beautiful orange-red flowers that attract hummingbirds. These blooms give way to shiny brown seeds inside a smooth husk. The large, palmately compound leaves are a glossy green in summer and drop early in fall. Red buckeye is hardy to zone 6 and may be marginally hardy in the colder climates of northern Illinois.

Serviceberry
Amelanchier spp.

Serviceberry is a small native tree that offers ornamental appeal like Callery pear. Its showy white flowers in the spring result in colorful, edible summer fruit that attracts birds and other wildlife. They are hardy to zone 4 and prefer moist, well-drained soil that is slightly acidic but tolerates many soil types in community environments. The downy serviceberry, A. arborea, offers beauty every season, and smooth shadbush, A. laevis, has very tasty fruit. Autumn Brilliance, Amelanchier x grandiflora, is a natural hybrid of A. laevis and A. arborea that is commonly used in yards and parks.

Flowering dogwood
Benthamidia florida, previously Cornus florida

Flowering dogwood is another beautiful native tree with year-round seasonal interest, but don't eat the fruit. Though it's food for many songbirds, the bright red drupe or fruit is quite bitter to humans. Flowering dogwood blooms in spring with large white bracts appearing as large flower petals. The true flowers

are small and yellow-green, inconspicuously located in the center of the bracts. Cultivated varieties boast more colorful flowers, fruit, and fall leaves. Some research suggests that cultivars of the species are not as beneficial to pollinators and other wildlife.

Eastern redbud
Cercis canadensis

Eastern Redbud is a small deciduous tree with vibrant pink spring flowers that bloom directly on the branches before leaves appear. This adds a splash of color to the dull grey of early spring and is a valuable resource for many pollinators, including hummingbirds. Part shade is best in hot summer climates, but, like dogwood, it will also perform in full sun. Also, like dogwood, redbud is quite susceptible to verticillium wilt, a fungal disease that affects numerous species and for which there is no effective treatment beyond prevention.

For more on finding alternatives to the invasive Callery pear tree, connect with a location Extension office at go.illinois.edu/ExtensionOffice.

Sarah Vogel is an Illinois Extension horticulture educator for DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties. Gardeners Corner is a quarterly newsletter from gardening experts around the state. Each issue highlights best practices that will make your houseplants, landscape, or garden shine in any season. Join the Gardener's Corner email list at go.illinois.edu/GCsubscribe for direct access to timely tips.

Get your pressure canner tested for free by Illinois Extension

Caitlin Mellendorf
University of Illinois Extension

URBANA, Ill. — Spring is a great time to take inventory of your canning equipment to prepare for the summer canning season. If you have a dial gauge pressure canner, make it a habit to get it tested by Illinois Extension every year.

Various foods can be canned at home with a boiling water bath and pressure canner. Water bath canning is used for high-acid foods, including fruits and acidified tomato products. However, if low-acid foods, like meats and vegetables, are in your canning plans, you must use a pressure canner.

Over time, the needle on a dial gauge pressure canner can become inaccurate. If the dial gauge is not measuring the correct pressure, foods inside the pressure canner may be underprocessed, which

increases the risk of serious illness from botulism.

"A dial gauge pressure canner test will check if the needle is reading accurately," said Caitlin Mellendorf, nutrition and wellness educator. "Testing is free and takes approximately 15 minutes per canner. Knowing that the gauge is accurate is peace of mind and well worth the visit."

Call your local Extension office before bringing the equipment, as testing availability may vary among offices.

Learn more about home canning and preservation methods, including freezing, dehydration, and fermentation, at go.illinois.edu/food-preservation. Enjoy complimentary access to two educational series: Canning with Confidence and Fill Your Pantry.

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03/22/2024

Your Forecast


Information from the National Weather Service




Saturday
Sunny
High 53




Sunday
Sunny
High 56




Monday
Sunny
High 61



Tuesday
Cloudy
High 61



Wednesday
43% chance
of rain
High 57



Thursday
Cloudy
High 68

Weather History

April 20

2000: Severe thunderstorms rolled west to east across central Illinois throughout the morning hours. These storms produced tornado touchdowns near Illiopolis and Forsyth, and another tornado tracked from near Oreana to Argenta. This latter tornado lifted the roof off a home 2 miles northeast of Oreana, and part of a

roof in Argenta was lifted off. Earlier in the morning, the storms produced winds up to 85 mph in Cass, Tazewell and Menard Counties, causing damage to buildings, trees and power lines. In Tazewell County, a radio tower in Groveland was blown over, causing \$500,000 damage, and near Washington, an airport hangar was destroyed, damaging three planes.

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