



CLINTON Journal

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2024 GRADUATES
See your 2024 area
high school graduates
inside this edition. **Sec. B**

Volume 118 • Number 18



File photo / Journal

City changes code governing CFD

Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON — Clinton resident Seth Redington addressed the city council about an ongoing issue he has pursued in regard to commissioner Dan

Ballenger.
“I think the city needs to audit the hours, because I’ve already requested and received them,” Redington told commissioners during the May 7 council meeting.
In response to a request by Redington about fire department on-call pay,

Redington said the city attorney responded the city does not have on-call pay.
Redington said he felt commissioner Ballenger should pay back to the city on-call pay he received while on duty during the Apple ‘n Pork Festival.
He added he felt

commissioners should not be able to benefit when making changes in city policies, “until the next election.”
“State statute clearly outlines that,” he said.

CITY / A2

LaTeaDa tea room marks 20 years as a Clinton destination

Gordon Woods
gwoods@theclintonjournal.com

CLINTON — When the pandemic lockdown started in 2020, eating establishment owners had to scramble to figure out how they would continue to do business.
Melinda Decker was one of those owners.
Since outdoor dining was permitted under COVID restrictions, her LaTeaDa tea room began serving outdoors and hosting outdoor music events. They proved so popular, four years later, they still host the regular events as they celebrate LaTeaDa’s 20th anniversary.
“My mom, my aunt, my cousins and I, we liked to go to tea rooms,” Decker said, remembering what

inspired her to open LaTeaDa in an old Victorian house on S. Madison Street. “There were a couple within driving distance, and we could make a day-trip out of it.”
Decker said the goal was something different for Clinton.
“We wanted to be a destination,” she said. “We wanted people to come to Clinton to make a day of it.”
Local businesses recommended LaTeaDa to their customers, which continues.
“We get calls all the time from Country Junction and the antique mall asking, ‘hey, do you have room for three’, or whatever,” Decker said. “They send people our way, we send people their way.”

20 YEARS / A2

Gordon Woods / Journal
Photo right: Left to right, Melinda Decker, Kristin McGlasson, Ramey, Burton, Kiersten Goff and Carol Hanafin.



Prison closures could send hundreds of jobs out of the Central Illinois area

Catrina Petersen
The Center Square

LINCOLN — “Save Logan Correctional Center” signs are popping up on front lawns in Lincoln as legislators raise concerns about a plan to close and demol-ish the facility in Logan County.
The Commission on

Government Forecasting and Accountability held a hearing in Springfield Friday. The topic that the bipartisan group of state legislators reviewed is the proposed closures of Stateville Correctional Center in Crest Hill and Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln.
Illinois Department

of Corrections Acting Director Latoya Hughes said the plan is to close Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln and relocate it in Crest Hill, where two modern facilities will be erected. About 500 employees in Lincoln would have to transfer.

PRISON / A7

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City / from A1

In response, Ballenger announced changes with regard to fire department policy.

“I’ve worked with the city administrator, city attorney and another attorney to get these in place,” he said.

Effective May 1, the commissioner of public health and safety will continue to serve as chief when responding to any fire call above department chief in his status as commissioner. The commissioner will continue to direct a fire scene in his capacity as commissioner.

“However, and I’m going to clear this up right now,” Ballenger said. “By Illinois State Statute, by city code, the commissioner is entitled to pay.”

Ballenger said, however, he has decided to accept no pay for his volunteer fire department service.

The city code will reflect a commissioner may remain on the volunteer fire department roster. Once a commissioner no longer serves on the city council, he still will continue as a member of the fire department.

“And, this is a big change here,” Ballenger added. “Members shall be considered volunteers and not part-time employees of the Clinton Fire Department.”

He said volunteers will be paid per call rather than hourly. He also said the volunteer group would file with the state as a nonprofit organization.

In additional business, the city council approved the following reappointments:

- John Hoblit, city attorney, for one year
- Kamren Wilford, city clerk, for one year
- Clint Lichtenwalter, city treasurer, for one year
- Tom Edmunds, city budget officer, for one year
- Steve Lobb, public works director, for one year
- Lloyd Francis, assistant public works director, for one year

Commissioners also approved reappointments and appointments under public health and safety:

- Steven Page, fire chief, for one year
- Taylor Baxter, public health officer
- Kamren Wilford, cemetery sexton, for one year

Residents may now get their annual clean-up vouchers from the city. Clean-up will run from July 1-August 16.

The council also approved the low bid from J.G. Stewart Contractors for the downtown sidewalk project for \$270,211.42; the purchase of 23 building lots in the Park Lane West subdivision for \$612,500; a cyber hygiene data sharing contract with CISA; and a contract for city administrator services.

20 years / from A1

Staff at the DeWitt County Museum also frequently recommend LaTeaDa to their visitors.

LaTeaDa often host local organizations and events.

“We love to do events, come up with different event themes and ideas,” Decker said. “Anything that will draw people here.”

She said they generally look to do events outside the tea room’s regular hours.

“Our regular hours, for the most part, during the week are kind of limited,” Decker said.

She said they are sometimes asked if they would ever start offering breakfast or dinner, but she said it just isn’t feasible.

Decker said extending LaTeaDa’s hours to accommodate that would mean “we would never leave.”

“There’s a lot of prep work and there’s a lot of behind-the-scenes work,” she said.

Nevertheless, the tea room remains popular, drawing visitors from around central Illinois, and the outdoor events have worked out nicely.

“The outdoor events thing has been really good for us,” Decker said. “COVID kind of forced our hand because we could do things outside.”

Decker’s husband and brother worked to expand the patio of their outdoor venue, and with help from some volunteer teens renovated a small barn on the property.

“Everybody has been very accepting, very encouraging,” she said. “Our neighbors are fabulous.”

Decker starts booking bands early in the year because some of them are so popular. She already has planned a couple of bands for the 2025 season.

“Our only issue ever is the weather.”

The menu at LaTeaDa gets changed five time a year with a special menu at Christmas.

There also is the boutique on the second floor, where visitors can do some shopping after they eat. It, too, changes with the seasons.

“We do a lot of women’s clothing, purses, jewelry, accessories, and there are a lot of gift type things there,” Decker said.

They also have what Decker described as a “pretty good carry-out business.”

“It really took off after COVID,” she said.

LaTeaDa has an app to order their food. It will save the customer’s information, and they also can accumulate points to save some money. And, sometimes specials are offered on the app.

Since the tea room is so popular, Decker does recommend people call ahead for reservations to avoid being disappointed.

Call (217) 935-8855. Also visit LaTeaDa on Facebook and at www.lateadacanton.com. They’re open for dining Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and for shopping Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.



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Journal

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NEWS

How you can protect yourself from identity thieves

Selena Higgins
Social Security district manager, Normal, Ill.

Identity theft is when someone uses your personal information to impersonate you or steal from you. These crimes can impact your physical, mental, and emotional health and lead to lost opportunities that are often hard to measure. Learning more about identity theft can help you keep your personal information safe.

Types of Identity Theft
There are 2 types of identity theft you should be aware of:

- Thieves stealing your data, physically or digitally, without contacting you directly.
 - Thieves contacting you directly and convincing you to provide sensitive information.
- In these instances, you may never know how the thief got your information.
- How Identity Thieves Use Your Information
Identity thieves steal personal information like your name, address, credit



card or bank account numbers, Social Security number (SSN), and medical insurance account numbers. They use this information to:

- Buy items with your credit cards or bank accounts.
 - Obtain new credit cards or accounts in your name.
 - Use your SSN to get a job.
 - Open phone or utility accounts in your name.
 - Steal your tax refund.
 - Use your health insurance to obtain medical care.
 - Pretend to be you if they are arrested.
- How to Spot Identity Theft
To spot identity theft:
- Keep track of your

- mail for missing bills or other documents.
- Review your credit card and bank statements for unauthorized transactions.
 - Obtain and review your credit reports regularly to make sure they do not include accounts you have not opened.
- Ways to Prevent Identity Theft
While no plan is perfect, taking the precautions below can help you better protect your personal information:
- Protect documents that have personal information.
 - Ask questions before giving out your SSN.
 - Protect your personal information online and on your phone by using a strong password and adding multi-factor authentication when offered.
 - Safeguard your information on social networks.
- What to Do if You Believe Someone Has Stolen Your Identity
- Report fraud to

- the company where it occurred.
- Contact a credit bureau to place a fraud alert on your credit report.
 - File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at www.identitytheft.gov.
 - File a police report.

For more information about how to protect your SSN from identity thieves, read our publication, Identity Theft and Your Social Security Number at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10064.pdf. Please report suspected Social Security imposter scams — and other Social Security fraud — on the Office of Inspector General’s website at www.oig.ssa.gov/report.

It’s important to protect yourself against identity theft because it can damage your credit status. Repairing this damage can cost you a great deal of time and money.

Please share this information with your family and friends.

Recovery group to participate in May Days

CLINTON — Information on resources that are available for individuals struggling with addiction will be available at Clinton May Days.

DeWitt County Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) will host a site at the event on May 17, 18 and 19 in downtown Clinton. Free materials include NARCAN and information on local recovery resources.

DeWitt County ROSC is part of a statewide network of organizations funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery. ROSC sponsors events for people in recovery and their families, hosts NARCAN training and works to educate the public on addiction and recovery assistance that is available in the community.

For more information on ROSC services, contact Maggie Memmott at (217) 935-3427, or mmemmott@piattmhc.org.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

DeWitt County Sheriff’s Office

May 3-10

Krish Patel, 18, Decatur, was issued a Citation for Speeding (85 mph in a 55 mph zone). Patel was released with a Required Court Appearance.

Thomas Bolton, 62, Farmer City, was arrested on a DeWitt County Warrant Charging him with Can/Revoke/Susp Regis/IL. Bolton given a Court Date and Released.

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

Illinois Department on Aging seeks nominations for 2024 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame

Nominate an outstanding older adult by June 1

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) is seeking nominations of outstanding older adults for possible induction into the Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame later this year.

“Being named to the Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame is a tremendous honor for individuals who have made a positive and lasting impact in their communities,” said IDoA Acting Director Mary Killough. “I encourage anyone who has been inspired by an older adult in their life to submit a nomination soon before the June 1 deadline.”

The Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame honors the accomplishments of current and long-time Illinois residents aged 65 and older. Inductees are selected from public

nominations in four categories:

- Arts, sports, and entertainment
- Community service
- Education
- Labor

Anyone may nominate an older adult for this award, though self-nominations are prohibited. Nominators of 2024 Hall of Fame inductees are expected to help coordinate and participate in an award ceremony, to be scheduled this fall, honoring their nominee.

Nominations must be submitted electronically or postmarked on or before June 1, 2024, to be considered for the induction Class of 2024. Nominations are evaluated and scored by members of the Illinois Council on Aging, a state-led advisory group of aging experts and older adults.

Since its inception 30

years ago, the Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame has inducted 137 inspiring older adults. View past inductees, find more information, or submit a nomination here.

About IDoA: IDoA serves and advocates for older Illinoisans and their caregivers by administering quality and culturally appropriate programs that promote partnerships and encourage independence, dignity, and quality of life. For information about the Department’s programs and services for older adults and persons with disabilities, visit <https://ilaging.illinois.gov/> or contact the Senior HelpLine toll-free at 1-800-252-8966, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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Clinton Journal

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The Garden Bug

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— Brenda Weaver

Source: morningchores.com

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OPINION

HISTORY ALMANAC

1948 - The Soviet Union recognized the new state of Israel.

1954 - The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled for school integration in Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka. The ruling declared that racially segregated schools were inherently unequal.

1956 - The first synthetic mica (synthamica) was offered for sale in Caldwell Township, NJ.

1973 - The U.S. Senate Watergate Committee began its hearings.

1975 - NBC TV bought the rights to show “Gone With the Wind.” The one time rights cost NBC \$5,000,000.

1980 - Rioting erupted in Miami’s Liberty City neighborhood after an all-white jury in Tampa acquitted four former Miami police officers of fatally beating black insurance executive Arthur McDuffie. Eight people were killed in the rioting.

1985 - Bobby Ewing died on the season finale of “Dallas” on CBS-TV. He returned the following season.

1987 - Eric ‘Sleepy’ Floyd of the Golden State Warriors set a playoff record for points in a single quarter with 29.

1987 - An Iraqi warplane attacked the U.S. Navy frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf, killing 37 American sailors. Iraq and the United States called the attack a mistake.

1990 - Kelsey Grammer was sentenced to 30 days in jail for DWI.

1996 - U.S. President Clinton signed a measure requiring neighborhood notification when sex offenders move in. Megan’s Law was named for 7-year-old Megan Kanka, who was raped and killed in 1994.

1997 - Rebel leader Kabila declared himself president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, formerly Zaire.

1997 - Sylvester Stallone and Jennifer Flavin were married in London.

Amber Waves



Unearned errors

Our founding fathers wanted open and even raucous debate in the passing of legislation. The key then was all parties were seeking an agreement on legislation. The concept of my way or the highway was not the preferred model of government.

Fast forward to today’s politics in Washington DC and witness the change. Today personal gain and ego outweigh the common good in many instances. What follows is a brief outline of current unearned errors by both political parties.

Kevin McCarthy lost his House Speakership due to a rebellion of a small minority of ultra-right Republicans in the House. This small group literally shut down our government for several days while Republicans sought to get their act together and elect a new Speaker. The Democrats sat on the sidelines and let the chips fall viewing this as not their problem. Almost all political pundits agreed that former Democratic Speaker would have never gotten herself in this situation to begin with. The Republicans writhed in an open public display of ineptitude. This was an unearned error.

Fast forward a few months and Michael Johnson is the new

Republican Speaker of the House. He works out some bipartisan legislation with Minority Leader Jeffries to keep the government funded and working much to the chagrin of arch conservative Marjorie Taylor Greene. She files the motion to again remove the Speaker. Another unearned error was looming, until the adults in the room decided that personal egos needed to be corralled by the common good. Republican and Democratic representatives voted to table Taylor Greene’s motion. Both Minority Leader Jeffries and Speaker Johnson should be commended for putting partisan politics aside and acting in consort for the better good of the nation.

The Democrats have their own version of rebellion in the extremes of the Progressive Left and often referenced by the “Squad” members of the House. This group has interjected themselves into the Israel/Hamas conflict. That they are concerned about civilian Palestinian deaths in a combat zone is a legitimate issue to debate. The problem is that they have gone so far as to seek the end of the State of Israel, this nation’s closest ally in the Middle East. President Biden has now



curtailed certain arms shipments to Israel, which Congress authorized and Biden signed into law. With President Biden caving in to the demands of the Progressives, the President appears weak on both the international and national venues. This error was unearned and easily avoidable, but in its present posture it will take massive efforts by both the President and Congress to remedy.

The prosecution of Donald Trump appears to be the biggest unearned error of the current poltical season. I believe this column has been very clear that I am not a fan of either Biden or Trump in the current election cycle. I am a strong fan of fair and impartial justice in our court system. The current prosecution of Trump in a Manhattan courtroom in New York simply leaves me befuddled. Federal prosecutors and the federal

elections commission all decided there was no crime and declined to prosecute Trump.

I have watched this trial on several networks and listened to pundits from both the left and the right. I am at a loss to being able to define what the felony is that Trump is accused of by the elements. Yes, there are numerous tawdry and moral failure allegations made by a pornographic film actress. Trump’s former attorney, Cohen, speaks with vitriol when describing Trump. These characterizations certainly do not describe an alter boy. The problem for the prosecution is that a crime must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt to obtain a conviction.

That is a stretch that I do not see the prosecution achieving at this time, even in liberal Manhattan. As nasty as the sexual allegations are, the public seems not to care. Trump’s poll numbers are rising and Biden’s are falling. This particular prosecution seems to have an underlying political force behind it and it is clearly faltering. This prosecution, for the results it is getting with or without a conviction, strikes many as an unearned error.

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.

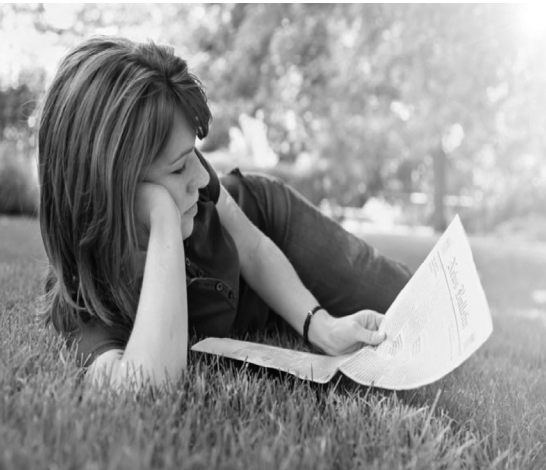
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COLUMNS/OPINION

...The best nine years of my career

Clinton Community,

On June 28, 2024, I will retire. I will have completed nine years as the CUSD 15 superintendent and 33 years of my public-school career. It went by very quickly! I have told friends, and now I will tell all of you, that this has been the best nine years of my career. I moved my family here in July of 2015 excited to take on a new position that I hoped would allow me to grow professionally and as a person. I will say that the experience did not disappoint me, and I sure hope it did not disappoint any of you either. I got to share my perspective on leadership and my faith.

I want to express my gratitude to the board that hired me back in December of 2014. They had confidence in me to do the work and let me operate the district accordingly. I can't express how much their support meant to me. I want to express my gratitude toward those that have served on the board since then, who also gave me the same support. The board in place today has been an outstanding group with which to work. We went through a tough couple of years together during the pandemic, but I knew I had their support every day.

I have gotten to know many great people over my time working for CUSD 15. The teachers and support staff have been great as we have tried new things and strived for improvement every year. Again, we survived two tough years together as well. I will never forget that!

The administration team changed a little bit from 2015 until today. I have enjoyed working with all of them as individuals and as a team. I truly believe we all helped each other during our time together. The Unit Office

staff has changed over since 2015. They are a wonderful group of people who have supported me to the utmost each day. I miss those that started with me and retired before me.

I appreciate my friends in the local media who were probably too good to me at times. Local law enforcement has been a wonderful partner as well, and I could list numerous community agencies and dignitaries with whom I've worked.

Lastly, from my wife Jody and me to the community of Clinton, we thank you for the immediate embrace of our family when we moved here. My youngest son was half way through high school when we moved. Who does that to their kid?! The community and his classmates made him feel welcome immediately and allowed us to exhale. It also allowed us to add to our family. I've made so many good friends in the business community while doing business, being a member of Rotary and working with city and county government. I never met any resistance because the entities all worked together for the betterment of the community.

I can't think of a better place to have ended my career, and a better place to live in retirement. Although my job at the district is ending, Jody and I will still be living here in the place that made us feel like we were at home. I will see you around town. God bless!

Curt Nettles
Superintendent
Clinton School District CUSD 15

Losing friends

I'd heard that once we seniors reach a certain age, we start losing people -- friends, acquaintances, other senior relatives -- they start dying one by one. I'd reached my age unscathed by much of that loss, and was happy to consider that it might always be so, that the others I hold dear would continue being part of my days. But no, that unfortunate phase of life has caught up with me.

It got to the point where I didn't want to answer the phone, so sometimes I didn't. I would unplug it the night before and wouldn't plug it in the next day until noon. I would tell myself it was because I didn't want my sleep disturbed by the robocalls or sales pitches. But the truth was that I feared hearing about yet another death in my circle.

I had to take myself in hand to deal with the endless sadness about the ever-growing list of appearances at funerals. My way of handling the grief has been to get out of the house at least once each day, no matter what.

SENIOR NEWS LINE
by Matilda Charles

On Monday afternoons, I walk and socialize dogs at the humane society, working with the animals to get them more suitable for adoption. On Wednesdays, I shelve books in the library, usually the kid section.

On Friday afternoons, I deliver prescriptions for a pharmacy here in town. I was told that most of the customers are other seniors who aren't well enough to get out to pick up their own prescriptions, which has certainly been an attitude adjustment as I ponder their conditions (unhealthy) versus mine (healthy enough to play with dogs, shelve books and so on.)

The other days I walk laps at the rec center. Getting out every day helps. But I still dread answering the phone.

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New rules after a dishonorable discharge

Not all of us left the service unscathed and with an honorable discharge (and all the benefits that would give us) clutched in our fist. Some of us, for one reason or another, did not make it out with an honorable or general discharge, or we even had a bad conduct discharge and/or a court martial. We left lots of benefits on the table when that happened.

That's changing, at least a little bit.

There are now finalized rules about discharge determinations that expand health care and benefits for some of those who did not

VETERANS POST
by Freddy Groves

get an honorable discharge. They're calling it a "compelling circumstances exception."

There are certain circumstances where prior actions can now be reviewed. They'll take into consideration a list of things, such as length of prior service, mental health at the time, any sexual harassment or assault, physical problems, anything caused by combat

duty and other reasons and circumstances for the actions that caused the discharge you were given.

You have to apply to see what their determination is. You might find that they conclude, once they know all the facts, that the discharge is under conditions other than dishonorable.

If you want to apply, see: www.va.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions/.

Additionally, see the detailed factsheet at benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/docs/COD_Factsheet.pdf.

You can apply online, over the phone or by mail, or you can even show up at a VA medical facility and ask for care. Any of those will get the ball rolling. You'll be sent a letter asking for details. Give them. It's your chance to provide evidence or make a statement about what was going on that led to the less than honorable discharge. You can mail your reply or deliver it to a VA office, and you can also ask for a hearing to present your evidence at a VA regional office.

The new rule will take effect June 25, 2024.

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Gov. J.B. Pritzker

207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL. 62706
(217) 782-6830

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

88th District State Rep.
Dan Caulkins
Springfield Office:
205 A-N Stratton Office Build-
ing

Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8163
District Office:
715 West Imboden Drive
Decatur, IL 62521
(217) 876-1968
(217) 876-1973 FAX

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

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

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 32:6-7a

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. You are my hiding place;

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

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

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

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH
Answers
E T E L R I S I N G
A R E U Y G S L F Y
R U O A F R L F O T
E Y R F E A A S U H
A P L T E I U G N G
C S A C T R N N D I
H W A H E I E Y O M
W L F L D K D H A T
P U Y I W I L L T M
L T H E M W H I L E

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Thessalonians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Titus 1, Paul wrote that unto the pure all things are ...? Gold, Righteous, Worthy, Pure
3. What archangel is mentioned by name in the book of Jude? Gabriel, Silas, Michael, Melchizedek
4. In 1 Kings 21, who forbid Naboth to give his vineyard to Ahab? The Lord, Jezebel, Absalom, Balaam
5. Jared was the father of Enoch and lived how many years? 110, 450, 600, 962
6. In Psalm 103:5, what bird’s youth is renewable? Dove, Eagle, Raven, Swallow

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Pure, 3) Michael, 4) The Lord, 5) 962, 6) Eagle

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.
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Singing praises to olive oil

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights.

No, I am not talking about singing praises to Popeye’s girlfriend even though he thinks she is a slick chick. I am talking about the frying medium and ingredient used in cooking and on salads.

Before the days of being concerned with cholesteryl levels, lard was widely used in cooking and other things. Beginning in ancient days and carried through to our day, olive oil was used for cooking in the Mediterranean regions. So was lard to an extent. But lard was mostly used as tallow for making soap and candles. It also served as a lubricant and applied to wounds.

The Holy Bible mentions olive oil roughly 150 times. No doubt the anointing oil was olive oil. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Whale fat or blubber was used for such things as oil for lamps, lubricating, and much more. With all said and done, olive oil is much better as a fry medium and ingredient. It has many advantages over other oils and fats used in cooking.

Primary information is



The Culinary Corner Chef
Roger Joss

that there are three basic types of olive oil; virgin, extra virgin & pure. Extra virgin comes from the first cold pressing. Virgin comes from subsequent pressings. Pure has had the “impurities” filtered out.

In the case of olive oil, impurities are a good thing. “Impure” simply means additions to the unadulterated base product. For example, if we add salt to pure water, the water becomes impure. Regarding olive oil, impurities simply indicate the retention of more of the olive than just the oil. These impurities contain extra flavor and medicinal values.

The pure olive oil is best for frying since it takes higher temperatures before it begins to smoke. The pure has longer shelf life. For cooking with olive oil, I would suggest pure oil. But after the food is cooked, I would add extra virgin olive oil for its flavor

and health factors.

Cold pressing olives for their oils goes without saying. Heating olive oil chemically changes the oil besides destroying the health benefits. The extraction is done by crushing the olives with a huge stone wheel or roller. It could also be done under foot. It is left undisturbed for the oils to drain out and be collected.

Olive oil, I love thee; let me count the ways. One, you have a way about you that restores my heart and keeps my arteries clear. Two, you give me good fillings with vitamin E and fatty acids. Three, your omega 3 and 6 factor minimizes obesity and diabetes. Four, you eliminate oxidants from my system with your chlorophyll. Five, your sterols help to eliminate cholesterol in me. Six, you make me feel young again bringing freshness and flavor back into my life.

Rather than sending you flowers, I prefer eating you up; having you on my lettuce salad with a sprinkle of ground pepper.

Until next time, peace to all.

Social Security expanding access to SSI program

Possible through expansion of ‘Public Assistance Household’ definition

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Social Security Administration recently published a final rule, “Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household.”

This final rule announces one of several updates to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) regulations that will help people receiving and applying for SSI. SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults aged 65 and older. These benefits help pay for basic needs like rent, food, clothing, and medicine. People applying for and receiving SSI must meet eligibility requirements, including income and resource limits.

Under the final rule, beginning September 30, 2024, the agency will expand the definition of a public assistance household to include households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payments and households where not all members receive public assistance. The expanded definition will allow more people to qualify for SSI, increase some SSI recipients’ payment amounts, and reduce reporting burdens for individuals living in public assistance households.

The revised rule also changes the definition of a public assistance household when determining who in a household receives public assistance. The new rule defines a public assistance household as one that has both an SSI applicant or recipient, and at least one other household member who receives one or more of the listed means-tested public income-maintenance (PIM) payments (the any other definition). The previous policy required all household members to receive public assistance. This change benefits SSI recipients living in households where only some members receive public assistance.

“I’m committed to making systemic changes to help people access the critical benefits they need, including SSI,” said Martin

O’Malley, Commissioner of Social Security. “By simplifying our policies and including an additional program geared towards low-income families, such as the SNAP, we are removing significant barriers to accessing SSI. These changes promote greater equity in our programs.”

SNAP is the first PIM benefit added to the agency’s public assistance household definition since it was established in 1980. This change helps ensure the agency’s policies better represent the current landscape of means-tested programs in the United States.

These changes are key because, if an applicant or recipient is determined to be living in a public assistance household, the agency assumes they are not receiving assistance from other household members that would otherwise be counted as income. This will allow more people to qualify for SSI and in some cases, receive a higher SSI payment.

This regulation update is one of several that Social Security is publishing to improve the SSI program. The agency recently announced it will exclude the value of food from SSI benefit calculations. (Refer to Press Release | Press Office | SSA) The agency also recently announced it will expand its rental subsidy exception, currently only in place for SSI applicants and recipients residing in seven States, as a nationwide policy. (Refer to Press Release | Press Office | SSA)

Social Security continuously examines programmatic policy and makes regulatory and sub-regulatory changes as appropriate.

For more information on the SSI program, including who is eligible and how to apply, visit Supplemental Security Income (SSI) | SSA.

To read the final rule “Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household,” visit Federal Register: Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household.

Prison / from A1



Catrina Petersen / The Center Square
Several red and white ‘Save Logan Correctional Center’ signs on front lawns in Lincoln, Illinois

“The department estimates that if staffing patterns stay consistent with current trends, there will be approximately 850 positions available in our other department facilities within a 90 mile radius of Logan Correctional Center,” said Hughes.

COGFA member state Sen. Sally Turner, R-Beason, questioned whether IDOC and the Illinois Capital Development Board had done their due diligence in balancing the best options. She suggested building the new facility closer to Lincoln or just rehabilitating the Logan Correctional Center.

IDOC officials said the reason they want to move Logan Correctional Center out of Lincoln is because the Will County and Cook County areas have more rehabilitation programs available for inmates and that will ultimately improve the recidivism rate.

“The folks that work at Logan Correctional Center, they have jobs and homes and we can’t expect them to drive 70 miles at \$4 a gallon for gas to go and work somewhere else,” said Turner.

Along with demolishing Logan Correctional Center, IDOC plans to demolish Stateville Correctional Center and rebuild a new, modern prison in that same area. The employees at Stateville will have to transfer, temporarily, while

CDB plans and executes the construction of the new facility. Hughes said most Stateville employees will be offered jobs at the Northern Reception and Classification Center, which sits on the same property as the current Stateville prison.

“In addition to the Northern Reception and Classification Center, there are three correctional facilities within 65 miles of the Stateville Correctional Center. The department estimates about 1,000 IDOC positions should be available within 65 miles of the Stateville Correctional Center,” said Hughes.

State Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer, R-Murrayville, pointed out it’s likely the CDB won’t follow through on the demolition of Logan Correctional Center, despite the department confirming that their funding request includes the demolition.

“They’ve got the Lincoln Development Center that was closed and it is still sitting there and the state has done nothing with it,” said Davidsmeyer. “As we are looking at this [rebuild and demolition project] we’re still neglecting the things we have been neglecting for decades and telling these communities we won’t do that to them. While we’re looking at big projects like this, maybe the state should look at cleaning up other areas as well.”

Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 includes \$900 million to demolish and rebuild the correctional centers and the administration estimates the construction costs at \$805 million to \$935 million.

American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Council 31 Deputy Director Mike Newman argued IDOC’s proposal to close both prisons is in violation of the State Facilities Closure Act.

“The department simply states that the closure will not significantly disrupt programming [at Stateville],” said Newman. “But the proposal provides no additional explanation on how it will ensure the incarcerated individuals at Stateville will have access to the same educational and vocational opportunities that are available now.”

According to the IDOC’s website, Stateville Correctional Center offers more classes and programming than any other facility in Illinois.

“The department is simply asking the commission for pre-approval well in advance of whenever the department comes up with an actual plan some time within the next five years. The department’s so-called recommendation states that it is only considering moving Logan Correctional Center from its current location and that no final

decision has been made,” said Newman. “What exactly is the commission being asked to approve?”

Newman told COGFA that Logan Correctional Center has about 500 employees who need to transfer, and the department suggested employees could go to Decatur Correctional Center or Lincoln Correctional Center, but there are only 54 job vacancies between both of those facilities.

Every indicator shows that the state’s prisons are becoming increasingly more dangerous for employees and the incarcerated, Newman said, and that relocating individuals in custody will only exacerbate the problems within the state’s prisons.

Newman also said there’s a problem transferring inmates to Decatur because that is a minimum-security, dormitory-style facility and most of the medium-security females at Logan cannot be safely transferred there.

As far as the economic impact to Lincoln if Logan Correctional Center is relocated to Stateville, Newman said there are hundreds of indirect jobs that will be lost.

COGFA, which can only make recommendations about such plans, is scheduling additional meetings about the proposed closures.

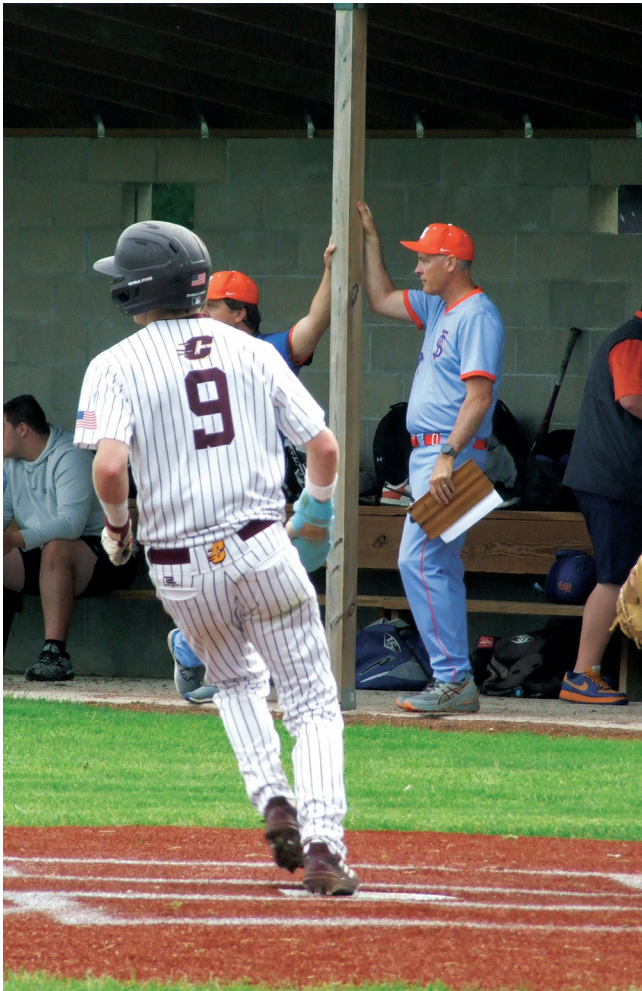
SPORTS



Gordon Woods / Journal

CHS Maroons vs St. Teresa Bulldogs

Above: Josh Bass (13) at bat during Monday’s Maroons’ home non-conference game against St. Teresa. **Below, left:** Mason Walker (9) scores for Clinton. **Below, right:** Brooks Cluver passes on a high pitch in Monday game at home.



www.theclintonjournal.com

NEWS



Courtesy of Extension / DeWitt County 4-H
Lillian Elsea and Amyla Horn competed in state 4-H competition.

State horse competition showcases 4-H members’ knowledge and skills

CLINTON — The annual state 4-H Hippology Contest and 4-H Horse Speaking Contest took place on April 13 at the University of Illinois campus. DeWitt County 4-H members participated in both contests, demonstrating their knowledge and skills beyond riding.

Lillian Elsea and Amyla Horn competed in Intermediate Hippology and finished in the top 25. Stephanie Niesen competed in Senior Hippology and finished in fourth place.

Hippology is a challenging contest where 4-H members answer a variety of questions about horse health, breed characteristics, management and feeding. Members must also solve a problem in front of a panel of judges.

Stephanie Niesen also participated in several divisions of the Horse Speaking Contest, including Senior Formal Speech, Senior Extemporaneous, Interpretative Reading, and Senior Individual Presentation. Niesen’s original individual presentation took first place, and she finished in the top five for each of the other divisions.

The Illinois 4-H Horse Speaking Contest encourages the development of self-confidence and public speaking skills. Participants compete in five divisions: formal speech, individual presentation, team presentation, extemporaneous speaking, and interpretative reading. Presentations must be original, factual, and pertain to the horse industry or be horse-related.

Applications available for mental health funding in June

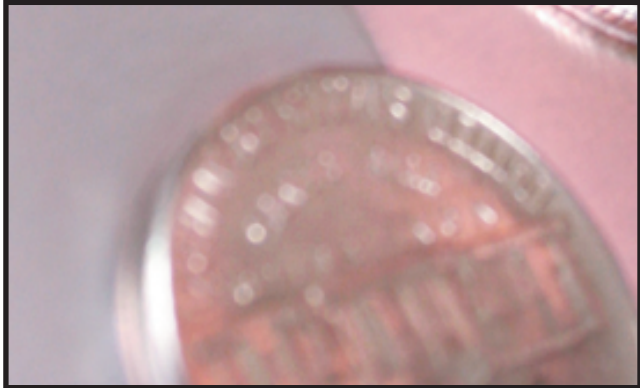
CLINTON — The DeWitt County Mental Health Board is accepting applications for FY 2025 funding for mental health, substance use, and developmental disability services and programs serving DeWitt County residents.

Nonprofit or governmental organizations must submit applications online during the period June 1-July 1, 2024. Technical assistance sessions will be held on June 6 at 11 a.m. and June 25 at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

Attendance is not required to apply.

Applicants will be asked to attend a meeting with Board members in July to review their applications. To express your intent to apply and request meeting links, request a copy of FY 2025 funding criteria and application procedures, and ask questions, contact Sharon Mills, Board Administrator, at smills@dewittcountymhb.com.

Application procedures also can be found at the Board’s Website at www.dewittcountymhb.com.



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Journal**
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(15 words - 2 publications - price must be listed)



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5-17-2024
PLEASE READ YOUR Classified ad or display ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes, notify us immediately. We will make changes for errors and adjust your bill but only if we receive notice on the first day the ad is published. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages, which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper, which, reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser and not the newspaper is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. Advertising is also subject to credit approval.

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. (TFN)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. *A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. The Clinton Journal strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before

placing a child in its care.
*Family homes that care for no more than three (3) children under the age of twelve or which receive only children from a single household, for less than 24 hours per day, are exempt from licensure as day care homes. The three children to whom this exemption applies includes the family's natural or adopted children and any other persons under the age of 12 whether related or unrelated to the operator of the day care home. [DCFS Rule, Part 377.3 (c)]

203 HELP WANTED

THE CLINTON JOURNAL is seeking a substitute delivery driver. Responsibilities include picking up paper bundles 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)

PLACE A RUM- MAGE 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.

REAL ESTATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

ELISSA E WILIAMS; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,

DEFENDANTS.

NO. 23 FC 24

250 MAPLE STREET WELDON, IL 61882

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 April 17, 2024, will on June 12, 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. 14-09-280-008

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 250 Maple Street

Weldon, IL 61882

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family.

The Judgment amount was \$57,870.26.

Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently

in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosure-sales.mrpllc.com>.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 23-145051L

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO

COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

I3242692

Legal 20035RE
May 3, 10, 17. 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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PLAINTIFF,

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BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 24 IN BLOCK 2 IN THE VILLAGE OF WELDON, THENCE NORTH 75 FEET, MORE OR LESS TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 22 IN SAID BLOCK, THENCE EAST 60 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 75 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 24, THENCE WEST 60 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BE-

GINNING, BEING SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DEWITT, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

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Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to

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VACANCY NOTICE NO. 25

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 June 7, 2024
- Special Education Teacher (LBS1) for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline June 7, 2024

Clinton Junior High School

- Special Education (LBS1) Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline June 7, 2024

Clinton Elementary School

- Special Education (LBS1) Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Reading Intervention Teacher for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Teacher – 5th Grade for 2024-2025 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Teacher – 2nd Grade for 2024-205 school year**, application deadline June 7, 2024
- Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>, application deadline June 7, 2024

Douglas/Lincoln Schools

- Douglas & Lincoln Intervention Specialist for 2024-2025**, this position will serve both Douglas and Lincoln Elementary Schools and the major responsibilities include providing support to the instructional process by developing intervention strategies, facilitating student success in academics, delivering small-group and individual student instruction, analyzing data, and collaborating with all staff. application deadline June 7, 2024
- School Counselor for 2024-2025 school year**, Candidates will need to have a Master's degree or higher in school counselling, social work, or a related field awarded by an accredited institution of higher learning. This position serves preschool, kindergarten, and first grade across two campuses. Early childhood and family outreach experience is preferred. Duties will include but are not limited to small group lessons in social emotional support with progress monitoring, staff training, parent/family support for at home interventions and serving as a part of the building and district crisis team. Collaboration with teachers and administrators for curriculum/intervention ideas and decision making will be required. Candidates will work in unison with administration, preschool coordinator, nurse, special education team and general staff to support special education evaluations. Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply. Application deadline June 7, 2024
- Lincoln Preschool Co-Teacher for 2024-2025**, this position will be for a preschool teacher participating in a co-teaching model at Lincoln and would include IEP facilitation as well as general support. Must have Early Childhood credentials. Special Education Endorsement and/or Special Education Letter of Approval preferred, application deadline June 7, 2024
- PE Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>

Lincoln School

- Teacher Aide**, please see website for requirements for paraprofessional license <https://roe17.org/licensure/paraprofessionals>

Athletics

- Girls Wrestling Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cUSD15.org
- Boy's Assistant Wrestling Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cUSD15.org
- Freshman Boys Basketball Coach**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@cUSD15.org
- Assistant Baseball Coach - CJHS**, please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at mkoeppe@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

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Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 23-145051L

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

I3242692

Legal 20035 & RE May 3, 10, 17, 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEWITT COUNTY - IN PROBATE IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAMELA S. SNYDER, DECEASED

2024-PR-17

CLAIM DATE NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION

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

Letters of Office were issued on April 15, 2024 to Morgan Massey, 6487 Little Galilee Rd., Clinton, Illinois 61727 as Independent Executor. The attorney for the estate is Bryce A. Lynch of Taylor & Lynch, LLC, 216 South Center Street, P.O. Box 478, Clinton, Illinois, 61727.

Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, Clinton, IL 61727, on or before November 17, 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 24th day of April, 2024.

Morgan Massey, Independent Executor of the estate of Pamela S. Snyder, Deceased

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

LEGAL 20041 May 3, 10, 17, 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Estate of:

ILENE HAYS, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-16

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Ilene Hays of DeWitt County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 19, 2024, to Ronna Simmons, 4533 Walton Drive, Decatur, Illinois 62521, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 West Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative or both, on or before October 28, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 30th day of April, 2024.

Randall W. Segatto - 06193211 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-4868 rsegatto@barber-law.com LEGAL 20046 May 10, 17, 24, 2024

LEGAL

Notice of Public Sale is hereby given that an auction will be held online on www.lockerfox.com beginning on June 12, 2024 at 12:00 pm ending June 19, 2024 , 12:01 pm to sell the following individuals' articles to enforce lien against such articles, for storage furnished at Storage Unlimited, 18709 Dewitt Road, Dewitt, IL 61735 , (217) 935-3200 under a rental agreement with:

12:01 pm, Monique J. Saintmire, occupant of space 2D11, items: motorhome (no title)

LEGAL 20050 May 10 and May 17, 2024

LEGAL

DeWitt County Zoning Board of Appeals Case A38-2024

Notice is hereby given that the proposed amendments have been filed with the above-named board. It is being proposed to revise **Chapter 155: Zoning** of the DeWitt

County Code of Ordinances. Multiple revisions to the entire Chapter is being proposed. A copy of the proposed revisions is available in the Zoning office at the County Building.

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that a public hearing will be held on the above-mentioned recommendations on June 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible. Said hearing will be held in the DeWitt County Building, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, IL.

David Waters, Chairman DeWitt County Zoning Board of Appeals

LEGAL 20051 May 17, 2024

LEGAL

Notice is hereby given that Budgets and Appropriation Ordinances for the Corporate Town and Road District of Clintonia Township, DeWitt County, for fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025 are available for public viewing at the 9180 Township Road, Clinton, IL 61727. They can also be viewed on the Clintonia Township website: clintonia-township@frontier.com.

Clintonia Township Clerk

Debra Coale

LEGAL 20052 May 17, 2024

LEGAL

The City of Clinton Public Works Department is seeking quotes for installation of an HVAC unit at one of its buildings. Interested and qualified contractors need to contact Steve Lobb, Public Works Director, for details. Quotes should be submitted (sealed) to City Hall by 10:00 a.m. May 31, 2024, when they will be opened. Contact City Hall at 217-935-6552 to set up meeting with the Public Works Director.

LEGAL 20053 May 17 2024

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY - IN PROBATE IN THE MATTER OF CAROLYN J. HANNON, DECEASED 24-PR-23 **CLAIM DATE NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION** Notice is given

of the death of the above named decedent;

Letters of Administration - Will Annexed were issued on May 10, 2024 to First Mid Wealth Management, by Laura M. Reichart, Vice President as independent administrator. 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 West Washington Street, Clinton, Illinois, 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 1, 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

terminate independent administration may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court at the above address.

Dated this 14th day of May, 2024.

First Mid Wealth Management, by Laura M. Reichart, Vice President, independent administrator of the estate of Carolyn J. Hannon, deceased

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@dewittcountylaw.com

LEGAL 20054 May 17, 24, 31, 2024

BRYCE A. LYNCH

Natural gas prices could triple over next 10 years

Hannah Meisel
Capital News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Consumer natural gas bills could triple over the next 10 years without state intervention, according to a report from the Building Decarbonization Coalition and Groundwork Data.

The report attributes much of the potential increase to the fact that most utility infrastructure spending is going toward technology that’s likely to be phased out anyway. The report’s authors argue the need for a “managed” transition away from natural gas as more builders and homeowners choose to use electricity for

building heat, as opposed to traditional gas-powered options.

“An ‘unmanaged’ transition will be far more expensive and far more inequitable, and it’s proven in large part by how much it costs to maintain the gas system,” Dorie Seavey, the report’s author, said last week.

The Building Decarbonization Coalition is backed by utilities, such as California’s Pacific Gas and Electric, as well as companies like Google, Salesforce and LG, according to the coalition’s website. The head of the Illinois Citizens Utility Board, a consumer advocacy group, applauded the report last week.

“The crippling cost of heating bills has already caused a financial emergency for many Illinois families, and this new study shows that current conditions represent only a fraction of the fiasco to come if spending by gas utilities is not held in check,” CUB Executive Director Sarah Moskowitz said in a statement.

The report’s authors presented their findings to regulators, advocates and industry representatives last week as part of the state’s ongoing “Future of Gas” proceeding, aimed at identifying how best to regulate the fossil-fuel reliant industry as the state continues to transition to clean

energy.

The city of Chicago is considering mandating electric heat in some new construction and Illinois lawmakers proposed incentivizing electrification earlier this month.

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.

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Republicans sue over law banning legislative candidate slating

Hannah Meisel
Capital News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — One week after Gov. JB Pritzker signed an elections-related measure that his fellow Democrats quickly muscled through the General Assembly, Republicans sued over the new law, alleging the majority party is blocking ballot access to would-be legislative candidates.

The law, passed early this month as the legislature’s spring session ramps up to its scheduled May 24 adjournment, bans the long-running practice of political parties slating candidates to run if the party didn’t put up a candidate in the primary.

The practice has been used by both Democrats and Republicans for decades when the winner of the opposite

party’s primary election is deemed beatable. Until Pritzker signed the new law, state statute allowed parties to designate a candidate within 75 days of a primary; this year, that date is June 3.

Four would-be GOP candidates are plaintiffs in the case, filed by the Liberty Justice Center, a libertarian outfit behind lawsuits intervening in state law and politics – including one that ultimately resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court striking down so-called “fair share” union dues in 2018.

According to the filing, “at least a dozen people” were set to be appointed to the November ballot through the slating process. The four plaintiffs on the suit were all designated by their local parties in March and April, but none of them filed their nominating

petitions before the law went into effect.

One of the four – Republican Daniel Behr of Northbrook – attempted to file petitions the afternoon before Pritzker signed the bill into law, and ended up filing them just six minutes after the governor’s signature was recorded on the bill the morning of May 3.

The suit cites but doesn’t name another candidate – Jay Keeven of Edwardsville – who was able to turn in his nominating petitions the day before Pritzker signed the law. Keeven is challenging Democratic Rep. Katie Stuart, also of Edwardsville.

The filing claims the timing of the law’s passage is unfair and undermines “free and fair elections.”

“The state has an interest in providing free and fair elections, and enacting

legislation in the middle of a well-established process for candidates to appear on the ballot, allowing some candidates to access the ballot and prohibiting others, is clearly contrary to the interest in providing free and fair elections,” the suit said.

But the Illinois State Board Elections is still accepting nominating petitions for slated candidates until June 3 and will still go ahead with the one-week petition challenge process thereafter.

“We are honoring the deadlines and procedures as defined before this bill was signed into law,” Board of Elections spokesperson Matt Dietrich told Capitol News Illinois, acknowledging the petitions will likely end up in court one way or another.

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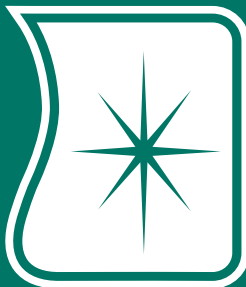
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Information from the National Weather Service




Saturday
Partly sunny
High 79




Sunday
Sunny
High 84




Monday
Sunny
High 83



Tuesday
39% chance
of rain
High 79



Wednesday
Sunny
High 80



Thursday
Partly sunny
High 72

Weather History

May 17

1991: Severe thunderstorms moved across Illinois during the afternoon and evening hours. Baseball-size hail was reported at Oakwood in Vermilion County, with 2 inch diameter hail at Minonk, in Woodford County. In Logan County, a semi was overturned in Elkhart due to 80 mph winds; several trees were also blown over.

2017: A dust storm affected central Illinois from mid afternoon into mid evening. Visibility was reduced to near zero in open areas, and caused closure of several roads. This included I-72 from Jacksonville to Springfield, and I-55 from McLean to Bloomington. Winds gusting from 40 to 50 mph, dry topsoil, and loose soil from recent planting, combined to produce the blowing dust. Further northwest, severe thunderstorms produced tornadoes in Rock Island, Mercer, and Henry Counties.

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Victorian on corner lot. Some updates!

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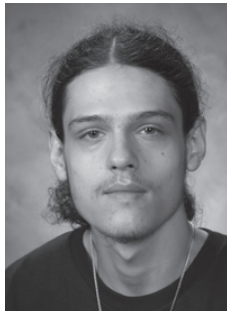
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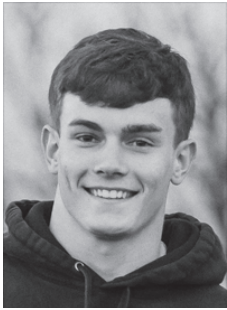
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Class of 2024





**Congratulations
Addison Douglas**

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of you!*

Love, Mom and Dad

05172024



**Congratulations
Alex Chrispen**

*Congratulations bud, I love
you*

Love, Mom

05172024



**Congratulations
Alyvia Helfand**

*Never stop reaching for the
stars. We are so proud of you!*

*Love,
Dad, Mom, Lanie & Scooter*

05172024



**Congratulations
Carly Reynolds**

*Embrace the future with
confidence as your journey
is filled with endless
possibilities. We are so proud
of you!*

*Love,
Mom, Dad, Chase, & Cason*

05172024



**Congratulations
Chyneah Holt**

*We can't wait to see what you
have planned for this world!*

Love, Mom and Dad

05172024



Briana Nicholls



Andrew Page



Carlye Parson



Connor Patterson



Zoe Peavler



Grace Pennell



Kristianna Pollock



Tristin Potts



Zoe Quick



Karla Ramirez Rodriguez



Brook Reeves



Carly Reynolds



Sean Saylers



Logan Schultz



Nickalas Sigler



Jordan Simmons



Paige Skandera





Trenton Sloat-Shannon



Dakota Spaugh



Miranda Stanek





**Congratulations
Leah Foehr**

*Always so proud of you!
Go be GREAT!*

*Love you,
Mom and Dad*

05172024



**Congratulations
Mason Walker**

*Mason,
We've had fun watching you
grow and are excited for
what's next!*

*Love,
Mom, Dad, Colton & Easton*

05172024



Best of luck
as you 'nail down' your
future plans!

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**Congratulations to
the Class of 2024**

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May God bless you!





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Ryan Stapleton



Isiah Stephenson



Jacob Strange



Wayde Sugg



Eric Sutton



Kyndall Taylor



Aubrey Thayer



Braden Thayer



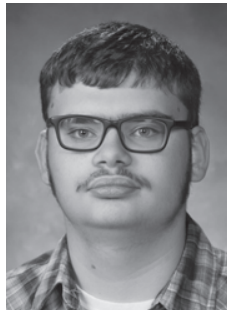
Aiden Toohill



Madison Tucker



Mia Villanueva



Jonathan Waddell



Mason Walker



Jaxon Ward



Densil Wheeler



Megan Wilkinson



Olivia Witts



Ellie Young



Blaine Zbinden

Clinton graduating seniors not pictured:
Briahna Collier, Aniya Cortez, Carson Decker, Ashley Hall, Trayce Lacroix, Weselly Lauderdale, Matthew Messenger, Zachary Moore, Oscar Osorio, Austin Quinones, Curtis Roberts, Rey Trujillo.




Congratulations Dawson Graves

Well done Dawson!
Best wishes at Mizzou.
We love you.

Mom, Dad, Keaton & Tatiana

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Congratulations Ellie Young

Congratulations, Ellie Shae!
We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Sophie

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Congratulations Eric Sutton

Congratulations, Eric!
We love you! Remember,
adventure is out there - enjoy
every moment of it!

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Congratulations Heidi Humble

Congrats! Be proud! Dream
BIG!! We love you!!!

Love,
Mom & Dad

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Congratulations Kylie Barton

Keep shining bright in all you
do! Good luck at SIU! We
love you!

Love, Dad, Mom, & Mya

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Congratulations Sarah Mills

Congratulations Sarah Mills
and the class of 2024! Your
future is bright.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Sisters

05172024



Congratulations Ryan Stapleton

We are so proud of you! Can't
wait to see what your future
holds!

Love you so much!
Your Family

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Congratulations Tristin Potts

We are so proud of all your
accomplishments, hard work,
and your kind heart.

Mom & Dad

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Congratulations Zoe Quick

Just stay you kiddo. We love
you and are so proud!

Mom and Dad

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Class of 2024

							
Sydney Beckman	Savannah Berry	Caden Brown	Paige Browning	Logan Bucholz	Rylee Burnett	Colbey Burton	Cuda Cline
							
Kayla Cole	Shylan Cook	Breanin Flannell	Gus Friedrich	Matthew Gum	Keith Hammer	Jackson Hawn	Lexie Hay
							
Alexa Hobbs	Hayden Howell	Josie Huff	A.J. Johnson	Cohen Johnson	Thilia Jones	Trista Kramer	Zach Lewis

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Trentn Sloat-Shannon	Elizabeth Deavers	Rey Trujillo
		
Isiah Stephenson	Ana Robinson	Sarah Russell

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Class of 2024

							
Haley Martinsen	Ty Meeker	Colin Michaels	Aaron Miller	Kenneth Murphy	Tommi Passero	Wyatt Pearl	Cole Pemble
							
Damjien Penny	Lauren Peterson	Aurora Petmecky	Phoebe Reynolds	Peyton Roy	Jan Saez	Matt Schumacher	Evelyn Shankles
							
Tarynn Spieker	Alex Summers	Adrianna Tetens	Kyle Wakins	Addison Warsaw	Melia Warsaw	Bryant Williams	Jasmine York
							
Lauren Zander	Cassie Zimmerman						

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Jackson Dunn



John Fenton, III



Megan Frye



Dalton Hughes



Savannah Porter



Kira Rigg



Brooklyn Sayers




Lilian Summer



Myles Von Behren


Nice Work,
Graduates!

As you turn the page to the next chapter, we hope you find success, satisfaction and meaning in your future endeavors. Keep up the great work, and enjoy your big day!



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How to plan a fulfilling gap year

(METRO) — Many high school students tend to enjoy a few months of summer vacation after they graduate, and then embark on new adventures at college or trade school. Graduating college seniors follow a similar path of joining the workforce or beginning post-graduate work after earning their degrees. But such paths are not the only ones available to students. Some students may want to consider a gap year.

A gap year is a break from academia to pursue other interests or even experiential learning, according to Forbes. It's more than just a time to relax, and can prove especially helpful to self-development and discovery. If time and budget allows, taking a gap year can be a worthwhile and productive endeavor. Here are a few ideas and benefits relating to gap years.

- Hone skills: Some see a gap year as a chance to goof off or lounge around. Instead, this break provides an opportunity to sample the workforce and gain experience. Individuals can seek opportunities that will be relevant to the careers they intend to pursue in the future. A future certified public accountant, for example,

may want to spend tax season working with an accounting firm to learn the ropes.

- Learn a language: Students may think a gap year is the perfect opportunity to become more proficient in a foreign language or two. Bilingualism can be a key advantage in one's job search and future career. Traveling to a country where a studied language is spoken and learning it while immersed in the culture can be a particularly effective means to acquiring language skills.
- Engage in a passion project: There are many projects that may be put on hold because of lack of time or resources while in school. A gap year can be the ideal time to write more or explore an innovative new business idea.
- Perform service work: A gap year can be an opportunity to engage in social change or to help a cause. Certain people may want to travel to underprivileged areas on humanitarian missions or teach English to students overseas. These are experiences that will promote personal growth and help boost a résumé when it comes time to find a job.
- Improve academic performance: A study by Colorado College's Gap Year



Research Consortium reported that those who participate in gap years exceeded their predicted GPAs by roughly 0.15 points. A gap year may help a person become a better student.

- Land an internship: Some companies may want to extend internship offerings beyond the standard semester. Many professionals land their jobs through networking, so taking

time away from school to participate in a lengthy internship can make for a smoother entry into that company should one want to work with them in the future.

Taking a gap year may not be the traditional route for students, but the benefits of time away from formal learning can be profound.

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