

OBITUARIES  
PENCE, Nancy



# CLINTON Journal

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## City opens street though new subdivision

Gordon Woods

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CLINTON — The street running through the city's new subdivision, located between Leander Street and Park Lane, opened recently. Commissioner Ken Buchanan touched on the topic earlier this month during the city council meeting.

"There will be a four-way stop on the corner of Park Lane and Somerset," Buchanan said. "We will be putting up some temporary signs and letting people know."

Buchanan also commented about political signs. He said the city ordinance not only prohibited the erection of political signs on city rights-of-way, it prohibits all signs in those areas.

Commissioner Dan Ballenger said work will soon begin on the renovation of Kiwanis Park.

"All the equipment is

sitting down at the street department," Ballenger said. "All packaged, ready to go."

He said city administrator Tony Harris was in contact with the contractor, "to start the process for what we have to do to get the ground ready. Steve (Lobb) and his guys also will be involved with it."

During the March 4 meeting, commissioners also approved the following:

- a resolution accepting offers for lots 18, 19 and 20 in the city's new subdivision
- a supplemental resolution for the S. Jackson Street project for \$1 million
- purchase of a line locator for the sewer department from Subsurface Solutions for \$6,729
- purchase of a metal locator for the sewer department from Subsurface Solutions for \$1,202

## Lincoln historian Guy Fraker visits Homestead April 27

CLINTON — Author and historian Guy C. Fraker, will visit Clinton to share his insight regarding the story of Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, the young lady believed by many to have been Lincoln's first sweetheart.

Fraker's presentation, "Abraham Lincoln & Ann Rutledge: Is the Story True?" will take place at the C.H. Moore Homestead & DeWitt County Museum's carriage

barn, 219 E. Woodlawn, in Clinton, on Sunday, April 27, at 1:30pm.

In addition to publishing two books about Abraham Lincoln and the Eighth Judicial Circuit, Fraker has written and spoken extensively about Lincoln, not only in the State of Illinois, but at various other venues around the country.

See **FRAKER** / A2



Courtesy of DeWitt Clinton DAR

## DAR presents Good Citizen Award

The DeWitt Clinton DAR Chapter recently presented Heyworth High School student Katelyn Pickett with its Good Citizen Award. Pictured are Pickett, left, and Nancy Primeaux, Good Citizen Award committee chairman. Good Citizen candidates are high school seniors who exemplify the qualities of a Good Citizen, dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. Other Good Citizen candidates who were unable to attend the meeting included Lillian Enger, Blue Ridge High School, Talan Thrasher, Clinton High School, and Kaydance Wooton, DeLand-Weldon High School.



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NEWS

Fraker / from A1



Courtesy of the DeWitt County Museum

In addition, he was a consultant on and participant in Abraham Lincoln: Prelude to the Presidency, an award-winning nationally distributed documentary produced by WILL-TV (PBS). He was also co-curator of Prologue to the Presidency,

a permanent exhibit at the David Davis Mansion Historic Site. For several years he was an instructor at OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Illinois. From 2013 to 2017, he served as chairman of Looking for Lincoln, the action arm of the Abraham

Lincoln National Heritage Area. Currently, Fraker continues to contribute to a variety of periodicals on a wide range of Lincoln topics. He is co-chairman of the New Salem Committee of the Abraham Lincoln Association, which is working with other partners to rejuvenate

and revitalize the iconic Lincoln site. Fraker's presentation will share his knowledge of the relationship shared by Lincoln and Rutledge during their time in New Salem. This special presentation is admission-free and open to the public, courtesy of Fraker and

the DeWitt County Museum Association. No reservations are necessary. Additional parking is available in the lot across from the museum. For more information, contact the C.H. Moore Homestead & DeWitt County Museum by calling 217-935-6066.

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NEWS

The humble hamburger

Welcome to my little corner of culinary delights. What, hamburger again? Now that is a statement not often heard among teenagers. A nice juicy hamburger is always a welcomed addition in a group of not just teenagers. Children of all ages, on up to adults, find it enjoyable. And chefs should not look down on the humble hamburger. I know that Chef Ramsay does not, and Chef Julia Child didn't. The point I am making is that if this is true, more should be done about it. In the last article, we got a good start. And now, let us continue again with hamburger.

Some of you may not recall that I covered this subject of hamburgers in articles 089 to 092 starting



The Culinary Corner Chef Roger Joss

back in June 29, 2018. Since this was early in my writings, it covered the basics. I needed to cover it early for the simple fact it would be included with other articles such as spaghetti sauce. It would be good for you to dredge up those earlier articles for refreshing your mind. I now cover the more advanced application of hamburger preparations and cooking.

With hamburger, one need not stay with the classical approach. As I often have stated, experiment, try new

things, be adventurous. You might surprise yourself. I will give a few suggestions. We know hamburger deals with ground beef. Why not include strips of other meats mix into the hamburger? Shred the meat such as thin sliced beef or ham. Could try certain lunch meats. Sauté the meat with a sprinkling of herbs. Mix this in with the uncooked hamburger. Might wish to add a few other items such as mushroom pieces.

Think of other favorite food that could be incorporated. We like pizza. It might be fun trying to create a hamburger incorporating the toppings you enjoy on a pizza. But keep in mind that you are building a hamburger and not an actual pizza. Therefore, do

not add pepperoni as you would on a pizza. Shred the pepperoni first. Do not forget to add your oregano. What would a pizza burger be without it? For the Cheese, you could add a slice. I would suggest grating it and possibly broiling it.

Another type of burger one can try is one with vegetables. For this, I would suggest the julienne cuts especially for bell peppers. Rather than have sliced or slivered onions distributed on top, course chop or mince the onion and mix into the hamburger. But before mixing, squeeze some of the juice out of the onions.

Do not expect great successes to occur first thing. Never get disappointed when trying

something new. This is a learning process time-period that teaches you the methods best used for the type of cooking you wish to achieve. Give yourself plenty of leeway

for mistakes. For it is from mistakes one learns to improve in uncharted waters. Above all, enjoy doing it.

Until next time, peace to all.

Wapella and Long Point cemeteries clean-up day Saturday, March 22

WAPELLA — The Wapella and Long Point Cemetery will have a clean-up day on Saturday, March 22 at 10 a.m. All old grave decorations will be removed to get ready for the mowing season.

For questions contact James Murphy at 309-261-1208 or Camille Redman at 217-853-2754.

DeWitt 84 Lodge scholarship applications now available

CLINTON — DeWitt # 84, the Masonic Lodge, in Clinton, announces it has established the “Richard E. Goff Memorial Scholarship” for the 2025 college year.

The scholarship was established in honor of the late Richard E. Goff, who was a supporter of continuing education and was a long-time member of Clinton’s Masonic Lodge. Applications for the scholarships are available through Student Services

at Clinton High School and are open to any Clinton High School student who will attend college. There is a separate scholarship available for students attending vocational/technical school.

The amount of scholarships available will be determined by the number of applications received.

The Clinton Masonic Lodge has been in Clinton for 175 years.

Life-saving NARCAN available in DeWitt County

DEWITT, Co. — DeWitt County organizations are working together to save lives.

Narcan (Naloxone), the opioid-overdose reversal drug, is available free of charge throughout DeWitt County, according to DeWitt County ROSC (Recovery Oriented System of Care).

In addition to first responders who carry Narcan, the public can get free Narcan 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through an outdoor weatherproof cabinet located (or soon to be) at these locations: Farmer City Public Library, Vespasian Warner Library in Clinton, Weldon Village Hall, and Kenney and Wapella Fire Departments. A host-site for a sixth box is being sought.

The DeWitt County Community Mental Health Board provided funding for the cabinets. Host-sites will work with the ROSC and the Health Department to monitor and supply the cabinets.

During business hours, residents can get free Narcan at the DeWitt-Piatt Bi-County Health Department, Heritage

Behavioral Health Center, Warner Hospital, and the Neighborhood Care Center in Clinton. Anyone that uses opioids, whether they are prescribed or illicit, and their family members, should have Naloxone on hand in case of accidental overdose or misuse by someone in the home. Anytime Narcan is used, 911 also should be called if first responders aren’t already on the scene.

Maggie Memmott, ROSC coordinator reported that “seven lives were saved because of Narcan in DeWitt County in 2024.”

Narcan is easy to administer through a nasal spray. The next free public training is March 28, 1 pm, at DeWitt Manor Community Room, in Clinton. Training is available free of charge through the DeWitt County ROSC (Recovery Oriented System of Care) by calling Memmott, at 217-935-8804. The ROSC is available to walk with anyone on their journey to recovery and provide support for the family, said Memmott.

Nancy A. Pence

BLOOMINGTON — Nancy A. Pence, 76, of Bloomington, formerly of Clinton, passed away at 9:55 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2025 at her home surrounded by loved ones.

To honor Nancy’s wishes, there will be no services. A private family gathering will be held at a later date.

Nancy was born on August 28, 1948, in Kenney, the daughter of John and Martha Pence.

Survivors include her children, Tracy (Randy) Rich, of Bloomington, and Lewis (Tracy) Loudermelt, of Clinton; two grandchildren, Nancy

Puckett and Brian Dubson, both of Clinton, along with four great-grandchildren. Also surviving are her siblings, Allen (Barb) Pence, of Wapella, Dennis Pence and Julie Pence, of Marion, Ill.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Martha Pence, one brother, Mickey Pence, and one half-brother, Ron Tucker.

Nancy worked for many years at Clinton Imperial China Inc. and Wallace Press. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

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# OPINION

## HISTORY ALMANAC

1965 - The U.S. launched Ranger 9. It was the last in a series of unmanned lunar explorations.

1965 - More than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began a march from Selma to Montgomery, AL.

1966 - In New York, demolition work began to clear thirteen square blocks for the construction of the original World Trade Center.

1971 - Two U.S. platoons in Vietnam refused their orders to advance.

1972 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states could not require one year of residency for voting eligibility.

1974 - In Londone, an at-tempt was made to kidnap Princess Anne on the Mall.

1980 - U.S. President Jimmy Carter announced to the U.S. Olympic Team that they would not participate in the 1980 Summer Games in Moscow as a boycott against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

1980 - On the TV show “Dallas”, J.R. Ewing was shot.

1982 - The movie “Annie” premiered.

1982 - The United States, U.K. and other Western countries condemned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

1984 - A Soviet submarine crashed into the USS Kitty Hawk off the coast of Japan.

1985 - Larry Flynt offered to sell his pornography empire for \$26 million or “Hustler” magazine alone for \$18 million.

1985 - Police in Langa, South Africa, opened fire on black people marching to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings. At least 21 demonstrators were killed.

1989 - Randall Dale Adams was released from a Texas prison after his conviction was overturned. The documentary “The Thin Blue Line” had challenged evidence of Adams’ conviction for killing a police officer.

1990 - “Normal Life” with Moon Unit & Dweezil Zappa premiered on CBS-TV.

1990 - Australian businessman Alan Bond sold Van Gogh’s “Irises” to the Gerry Museum. Bond had purchased the painting for \$53.9 million in 1987.

## Amber Waves



## Disarray

Disarray—a state of disorder; confusion.

If you were to ask my wife for the definition of disarray, she would simply point to the top of my desk and roll her eyes. Politically speaking, my definition of disarray is the Republicans two years ago and the Democrats today.

Two years ago the Republicans couldn’t coalesce behind Kevin McCarthy for Speaker of the House. After numerous ballots they voted McCarthy in as Speaker, only to boot him out of office several month later.

The Freedom Caucus of the Republican Party rebelled and disarray occurred. Today, Trump is the power player and he is essentially forcing order in the House. Trump is this power force that the nation has yet to fully comprehend. As long as he keeps marching, order seems to prevail.

The downside is that Trump is a lame duck President and sooner or later there will be those who want his office making noise. Will that bring disarray? Perhaps, but it appears that we are going to have at least two years of Trump

dominated policy. If you like the Trump policies you’re in great shape. If you and the Trump policies are at odds, the next two years will difficult.

The Democrats under Nancy Pelosi as Speaker broached no dissent. Pelosi ruled with an iron hand and whoa be unto anyone who dared to challenge her. The current minority leader, Jeffries, lacks the charisma and clout of Pelosi.

The Democrats lost the House, Senate and the Presidency in one fateful sweep this past November. To say that the Democratic Party today is in disarray is an understatement. The House Democrats opposed the Republican continuing resolution to keep the government funded. Democratic Senate Minority Leader Schumer and nine other Democratic Senators joined the Republicans in the Senate to enact the legislation. Schumer’s actions have thoroughly angered the House Democrats and there is now talk of Schumer losing his Minority Chair position. The Republicans with a slim majority appear to really be



in control and the Democrats are floundering.

On the national scene no single Democrat or group of Democrats have risen to the top of the Party. The Democrats have Newsom, Harris, AOC, Pritzker and many others who are yearning for their Party’s leadership, but none risen to the top. Granted, there is a lot of time before the next election, but there is no cohesive leadership today.

Government works best when there is order in the elected chambers. We had order when Tip O’Neil was Speaker and Jerry Ford was the Minority Leader. We had order when Clinton was President and Gingrich was the Speaker. The nation would be much better served

if we could simply regain the order those 4 gentlemen maintained.

SMASH CAKE— This past week our one year old granddaughter had her first birthday party in the back room of Sorrentos. There was the cake and the pizza and my daughter in law tells me she has a smash cake for Ellie. I had no clue what she was talking about. She then opened a box that had a 9” round cake with blue icing and the number one in yellow. You put the cake on the kid’s high chair and let her go to town. She smashes the cake and eats what her little fingers can grab. It was a rather cute mess.

Ellie devoured the frosting. She also got her first science lesson. She mixed the blue and yellow frosting all over her face to achieve a green frosting total mess. She loved it and it did wash off.

*Richard Koritz is an Illinois native, attorney and former DeWitt County State’s Attorney.*

## 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.

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OPINION

The Trump-Zelenskyy meeting

In the Oval Office, Trump’s unprovoked attack against Zelenskyy was unconscionable. A columnist defended Trump claiming his purpose was to stop the war, continuing, absolute assurance Russia would have no sway over Ukraine.

No such claim was stated during that Oval Office Trumped-up debacle. I call that a balloon statement. The more air one blows into it, the more it looks impressive but without substance.

The columnist did not know the contractual constructs yet claimed its value. What is meant by “have no sway over?” No sway over Zelenskyy, over resources, over the people, etc.? Could that mean unconditional?

One thing which is absolute is that the agreement was conditional in two major ways. Keep in mind that supporting Ukraine has been non-conditional and should therefore be non-negotiable. Yet, Trump threatened to end all aid if Zelenskyy refused being totally subjugated. I call that extortion.

One condition was the negotiations of mineral and rare earth metals for the United States. That could reach past \$1 trillion.

Here is how extortion works. A gangster sells protection for a business owner. If he pays, they promise to give him no trouble. However, there is no guarantee they would step in if their buddies rob and mistreat the owner. In short, selling protection with no guarantees. Take it or suffer the consequences is the unspoken guarantee. It’s the gangster’s way, and Trump knows it well.

Zelenskyy saw through this immediately. Did you not hear him ask what guarantees he had? Did you not hear him state that Putin had broken all 25 previous contracts he had with Ukraine?



Put yourself in Zelenskyy’s shoes. Would you sign such a one-sided contract that rips away half your country’s wealth leaving you with no protection, guarantees or recourse? Would a lawyer allow his client to sign such an atrocity?

This brings up one other legal matter. Trump and Putin worked on this contract or agreement behind closed doors. They excluded the main person, Zelenskyy. Think about this for a minute. They wanted the element of surprise and spring it on him at the last minute. They know Zelenskyy, with his country in ruins, desires an end to this killing Puttin started. And finally, with Zelenskyy knowing what was going on with those two, he had to decline for the good.

Imperative to keep in mind that this contractual negotiation purposely excluded Zelenskyy. Notwithstanding Ukraine has the greater concern and need in this matter. What was going on between Ukrainian’s major supporter and Ukraine’s greatest enemy behind Zelenskyy’s back? Trump lacks transparency, which by now, is common knowledge. What can Zelenskyy expect from such conduct?

All money given by the United States through Congress during Biden’s administration had no strings attached. If anything, it was a wise investment for America and its allies to help keep Putin in check. That in itself was repayment enough for

any contributions. Yet, Trump and MAGA dares to take credit. They had nothing to do with that money but use it as a bargaining chip.

My mother periodically gave her sister gifts of money for necessities such as food and shelter. After her death, would it be ethical of me to demand favors of my aunt because of my mother’s cash gifts? No. Therefore, what makes this Trump deal ethical? On top of which, Trump gave Zelenskyy no assurances whatsoever.

Did you notice, Trump kept ignoring Zelenskyy’s plea that Putin broke all 25 agreements in the past? Zelenskyy is smart enough to wonder what agreements did Trump and Putin make? Zelenskyy was kept in the dark.

The Ukrainian territory Russia now occupies is rich with minerals and rare earth metals. The estimated value is 26 trillion U.S. dollars. Trump wants 50 percent of that without any peace guarantees. Compare this with the total contributions U.S. gave to Ukraine: 68.4 billion dollars in military aid and 53.44 billion dollars in humanitarian aid totaling 121.84 billion dollars. In other words, Trump is demanding \$12.973 trillion from an investment of \$53.44 billion that Biden’s administration put through.

Putting this into perspective. \$121.85 billion to help Ukrainians in need should be a gift. A whopping \$880 billion ripped away from needy Americans on Medicaid to give to the ultra-rich. Don’t get blindsided by inconsequential arguments coming from MAGA.

The obverse of the coin is that the Biden aid we provided came from our military stockpile. This in turn produced more jobs and prosperity for Americans; a win win situation. Look it up.

ELECTION LETTERS

Michelassi will be a good representative for Clinton

I am writing to express my support for Helen Michelassi for Mayor of Clinton. We will choose a new mayor for Clinton on April 1, and I believe Helen Michelassi is the best qualified to do the job. Helen has served as executive director of a large organization that serves people with disabilities in over 30 counties. She knows how to handle a budget and is experienced with employment matters. She will hit the ground running on Day 1.

I have known Helen for many years as a fellow board member for The Write Stuff For Kids Inc. There is no job too small or large for her. She is the first person to volunteer to shop and pack school supplies for the more than

300 children we serve each year.

For more than three decades, Helen has worked with the Holiday Food Basket Committee, The Write Stuff For Kids Inc. and other groups that support our community.

People who know Helen know she will be a good representative for Clinton. When she retires this summer, she will bring along her experience meeting state leaders, law enforcement and professionals who may be good partners for the things we need in Clinton.

Please join me in electing Helen Michelassi our next mayor.

Tere Tedrick  
Clinton

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CHURCHES

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

- 1. Is the book of Lot (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. From what book does a woman call on the north and south wind to blow on her garden? Proverbs, Daniel, Hebrews, Song of Solomon
- 3. What was Herod’s last name who had John the Baptist beheaded? Pilate, Laban, Herod, Antipas
- 4. Who said in Deuteronomy 6, “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord”? Moses, Joshua, David, Jacob
- 5. From Exodus 16, what bird served as food for the Israelites in the wilderness? Dove, Quail, Duck, Robin
- 6. In Revelation 9, what sort of creatures had tails like snakes? Sheep, Oxen, Horses, Fish

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Song of Solomon, 3) Antipas, 4) Moses, 5) Quail, 6) Horses

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey’s subscriber site at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).  
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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie’s Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 36:5-6

Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals.

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

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Area Churches Directory

Crosspoint of Clinton

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

Christ Lutheran Church & preschool

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

Clinton Church of Christ

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

Clinton 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.”

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

502 N. Monroe Street, Clinton  
(217) 935-3727  
Fr. Thomas R. Szydluk, pastor  
8:30 a.m. - Wed. & Fri. mornings Mass  
4 p.m.-Saturday Mass

Texas Christian Church

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

The Blessed Hope Seventh-Day Adventist Church

112 N. Monroe St., Clinton  
(217) 731-4005  
9:30 a.m.-Saturday, Sabbath school  
11 a.m.- worship with pot luck afterwards

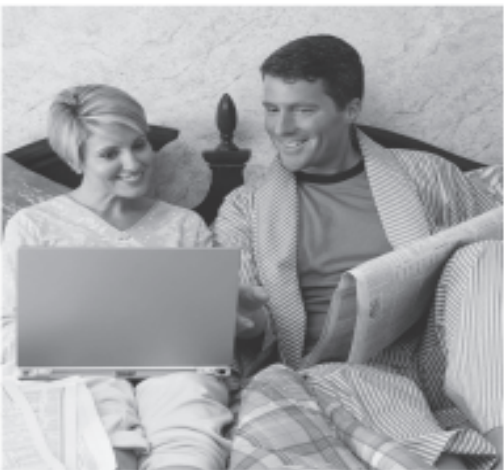
Wapella Christian Church

101 N. Poplar  
(217) 731-4404  
Josh Gorrie, minister  
Wapellacc.com  
9 a.m.-Sunday school  
10 a.m.-worship

M N S T V A I N V E  
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S Y U T E D D A H I  
T K O N R V R S T T  
S A I O T E A V O S  
E D T E S E A E B U  
H E N E S R I K H J  
G E A R E G A V B I N T  
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CJFILL



# NEWS / COLUMNS

## Social Security Administration’s top social media pages

Selena Higgins  
Social Security District  
Manager in Normal

We strive to provide the public with accurate and helpful information. In addition to the resources available on our website at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov), we post useful information on our social media channels. We invite you to learn about our programs and services on our social media pages:

- Our Social Security Blog – Here we post articles about our program, current events, and

online services. We respond to general questions and comments people share. You can read our articles and subscribe at [blog.ssa.gov](http://blog.ssa.gov). Our blog is now available in Spanish at [blog.ssa.gov/es](http://blog.ssa.gov/es).

- Facebook – [www.facebook.com/socialsecurity](http://www.facebook.com/socialsecurity). Facebook is our primary page for sharing information about our programs and services with our vast network of followers and advocacy groups.
- Administración del Seguro Social – [www.facebook.com/segurosocial](http://www.facebook.com/segurosocial). Our Spanish Facebook page shares

information about our programs and services.

- X – [@SocialSecurity](http://www.x.com/socialsecurity). This page to provide timely information and updates about our programs and services with our followers and advocacy groups.
- Seguro Social – [www.x.com/segurosocial](http://www.x.com/segurosocial). On this page we share information about our programs and services in Spanish.
- Instagram – [www.instagram.com/SocialSecurity](http://www.instagram.com/SocialSecurity). On this page we share stories and



resources that can help you and your loved ones.

- YouTube – [www.youtube.com/SocialSecurity](http://www.youtube.com/SocialSecurity). We have many informative videos on this page. Our videos cover

online services, applying for retirement and disability benefits, Social Security-related scams, and much more. We also offer some of our videos in Spanish and other languages.

You can find a full list of our social media channels at [www.ssa.gov/socialmedia](http://www.ssa.gov/socialmedia). Connect with us on social media to learn helpful information and ask general questions. But remember, you should never post personal information on social media. Follow along and share our pages with friends, neighbors, or loved ones today.

## Scams against seniors are getting worse

Data breaches and financial scams against seniors are at all-time highs. What was bad before is apparently even worse now.

Why do scammers target seniors? Here are the top reasons:

- They perceive that we have a lot of money. After all, we worked all those years ... we saved a lot of cash, they assume. And now we have huge pension and Social Security income that surely puts us in a high income bracket, they assume.
- Many of us grew up in an era when we were

### SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

polite to people on the phone. Scammers take advantage of that and coax us into divulging private information.

-- Many of us aren't especially skilled with technology. We press buttons on our phone that we shouldn't, or click links in strange email, not realizing that we've just enabled the download of a virus or made a connection to the scammers.

Here are a few suggestions

for staying safe in the war with the scammers:

Order your credit report from TransUnion, Equifax and Experian and go over them line by line. Be sure there isn't anything you don't recognize, that no extra loans show up and no additional names are listed. To do this, go online to [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com) and order your free credit reports. If you spot something wrong, report it at [IdentityTheft.gov](http://IdentityTheft.gov) or call the National Elder Fraud Hotline at 833-372-8311.

Lock down your credit at all three credit bureaus. This will keep anyone from

opening credit in your name.

To learn safety on your electronic devices, ask your senior center, library or even your bank for a class on how to avoid falling for an online scam.

And perhaps most valuable of all: Don't feel the need to be polite if a stranger calls you on the phone and starts asking questions. Just hang up. Better yet, don't answer if you don't recognize the number.

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## VA by the numbers

According to a recent headline, the Department of Veterans Affairs processed one million disability claims two weeks faster than they did in the last fiscal year.

The VA has been averaging 10,000 claims processed each week. Recently on one day alone they processed 12,000 claims, the highest number they've ever reached. By January they'd processed benefit payments totaling \$62 billion and saw their accuracy rate go up to 92%.

Which is all good news for those who are waiting for their claims to be processed.

While it's all over the

news that the VA fired 1,400 probationary employees in the latest round of forced dismissals, what you might not see touted anywhere is that the VA is still hiring for the 300,000 mission-critical slots it needs to fill.

Those 1,400 employees were "probationary," which means they'd been on the job less than a year in non-mission-critical jobs or were in a different employment category for less than two years. The savings from that opens up \$98 million to be put into health care benefits.

Those 300,000 mission-critical positions they need to fill are exempt from the hiring freeze and include

### VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

94,000 nurses, 3,000 physical therapists and 12,000 pharmacists -- all necessary for health care services.

Additionally, per the blog put out by VA Secretary Doug Collins, the elimination of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in the VA frees up \$14 million for health care services. Halting the contracts for DEI training and materials adds another \$6 million to the kitty.

And while it doesn't add

any dollars to the health care budget, the new VA flag policy does have value. Specifically, it limits the types of flags that can be on display at VA facilities. The U.S. flag, Prisoner of War (POW) flag and Missing in Action (MIA) flag are on the very short list of flags that may be displayed at the VA.

If you'd like to keep an eye on what Secretary Collins is doing and saying, go to Secretary's Blog at [news.va.gov/category/secretarys-blog](http://news.va.gov/category/secretarys-blog) and watch the videos.

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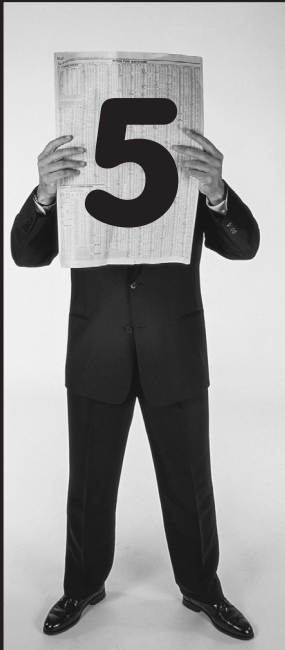
THE CLINTON JOURNAL

If you are concerned about the future of your Social Security & Medicare benefits, let your congressional representatives know it.

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Rep. Mary Miller-Republican**  
<http://marymiller.house.gov>  
Washington, D.C. office  
1740 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-5271  
Fax: (202) 225-5880

**U.S. Senate**  
**Sen. Dick Durbin-Democrat**  
[www.durbin.senate.gov](http://www.durbin.senate.gov)  
364 Russell Senate Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-2152  
or  
525 S. Eighth St.  
Springfield, IL. 62703  
(217) 492-4062

**Sen. Tammy Duckworth-Democrat**  
[www.duckworth.senate.gov](http://www.duckworth.senate.gov)  
524 Hart Senate Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-2854  
(202) 228-0618 FAX



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

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SPORTS



Photos Gordon Woods / Journal

# CHS over DEHS 14-1 at home

CLINTON — The Clinton Lady Maroons walked over the DEHS Lady Panthers on Monday 14-1 at home. Humble, Thompson and Smith each had 3 runs, Humes and Fentress each with 2. Obermeyer had 1 run.

Clinton plays again at home today at 4:30 p.m. against Lexington.



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BRIDGE BITES

AN AFTERNOON NAP

	♠ Q432 ♥ J ♦ AKQT2 ♣ J53	
	North	
♠ ♥ 7432 ♦ 753 ♣ AKQ742	West East	♠ AKJT965 ♥ 65 ♦ J64 ♣ 9
	Declarer	
	♠ 87 ♥ AKQT98 ♦ 98 ♣ T86	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
		1♦	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

East’s 3♠ bid was preemptive, showing a long suit (usually 7 cards) and a weak hand, its purpose being to make life difficult for the opponents. And so it does, pushing N-S into an ugly 4♥ contract which has 5 top losers.

West cashes his three Clubs and then, for want of better, shifts to a Diamond. Dummy wins that, and draws trumps. It was fortunate for Declarer that West started with no Spades, otherwise he would have been down two in a hurry. But now, if Declarer can bring home the Diamond suit, both of those Spade losers will disappear and this rotten contract will actually make! Do you play Diamonds from the top (hoping that they are 3-3 or that East has Jx)? Or do you finesse the Ten (playing West to have Jxxx)?

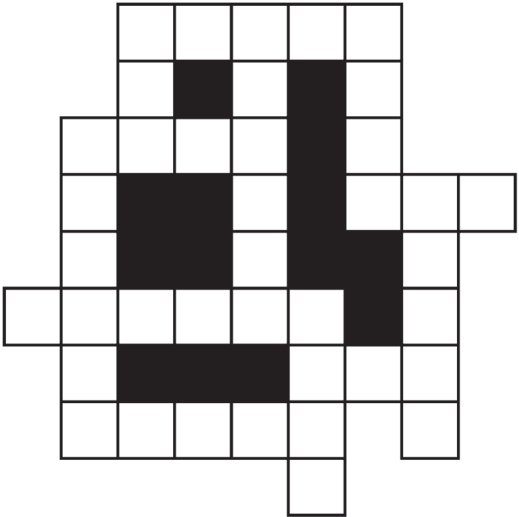
It may be tempting to think “East has seven Spades and West has none, therefore West is more likely to have Diamond length” But that’s only part of the picture and Declarer will count the whole hand. East started with seven Spades, two Hearts, and one Club, that much we know. This leaves three Diamonds, no more, no less! So Declarer confidently plays the Diamonds from the top and the Spade losers are thrown off. It pays to count in this game!

It also pays to stay awake. Yes, you noticed, the defense was fast asleep! East must ruff the third Club, just in case West has no Spades. Now the Spades are cashed and it is down two. And let’s also mention that West should have helped his dozing partner by leading a *low* Club at Trick 3. *That* will wake him up!

For bridge in the Clinton-Bloomington-Normal area, contact Mike Tomlianovich by phone:



- ♥ AYM
- HENLIA
- TELAH
- HMTE
- NALETI
- ♥ PTA
- ♥ NAYM
- ♥ NTSAG
- ♥ SHA
- ANTGEM
- RSPMI
- HECT



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.

	+		×	7	= 77			
+		-		+				
	-		÷		= 4			
×		+		×				
	+		-		= 3			
=		=		=				
60		11		54				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Super Crossword

CROSS WORDS

ACROSS

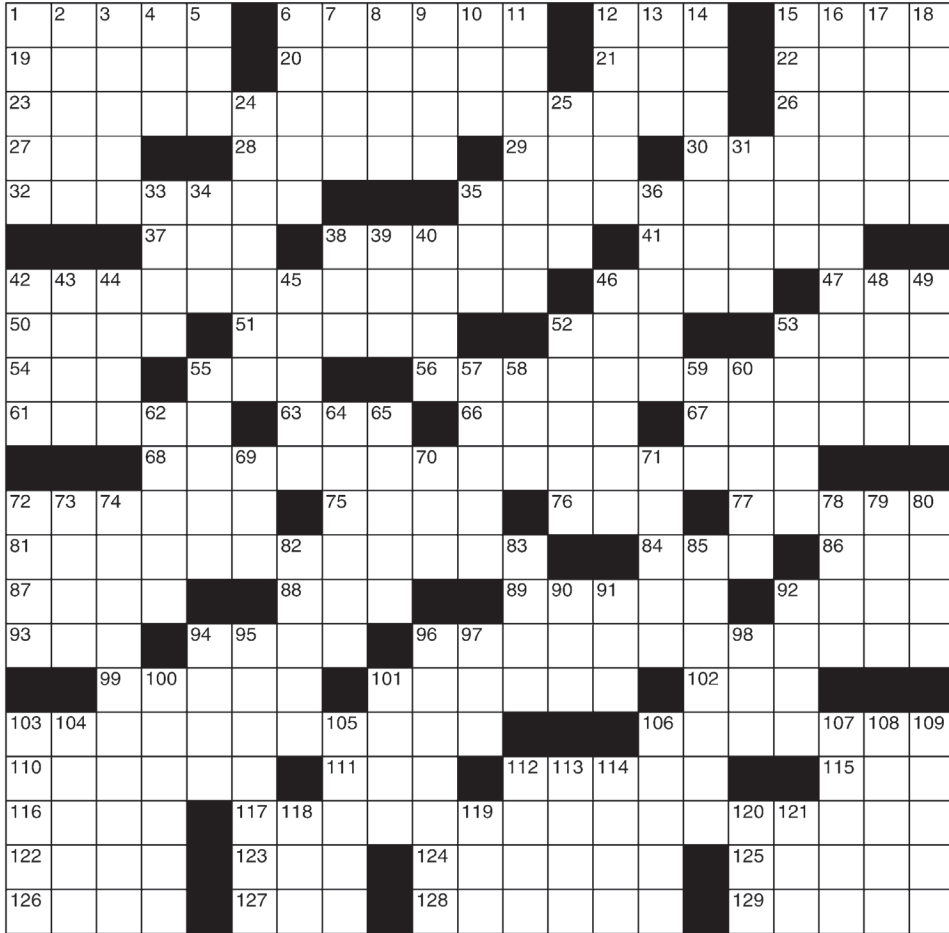
- 1 Swing by  
6 Sop up  
12 Fez or beret  
15 General — chicken  
19 Preface  
20 “Hello” singer  
21 Santa — winds  
22 Eight, in Berlin  
23 Alternative to potstickers  
26 Trevi  
27 Golf prop  
28 Requiring lots of attention  
29 L-P linkup  
30 “— Up My Heart” (1997 “NSYNC song)  
32 Call before the court  
35 Touchy topic  
37 Skit-filled NBC show, in brief  
38 Texas-Louisiana border river  
41 Three, in Paris  
42 H.G. Wells’ Doctor Moreau, e.g.  
46 Penetrating

- 47 Get older  
50 Give off  
51 Shaggy’s nickname for his dog  
52 Pollen lover  
53 Actress  
54 “Life Is Good” rapper  
55 Letter after pi  
56 212 degrees Fahrenheit, for water  
61 “Yup”  
63 Big Apple sch.  
66 Alpha Sig, e.g.  
67 Speaks from a soapbox  
68 Right after being baked  
72 Fake: Prefix  
75 Stalagmite site  
76 Camera type, in brief  
77 Acting award  
81 Brand of hard cider  
84 Google Play download  
86 Tokyo sash  
87 Prefix with byte or ton  
88 Suffix with Euclid

- 89 An ex-Trump  
92 Fix typos, say  
93 Plus more: Abbr.  
94 \$5 bills, in slang  
96 Intense controversy  
99 “That doesn’t ring —”  
101 Regressed  
102 — -la-la  
103 Group of warriors in “Kung Fu Panda”  
106 Church part for the clergy  
110 Chant  
111 Boxing great  
112 Flummoxed  
115 Suffix with Motor  
116 British prep school  
117 Oxidizer in liquid rocket propellants  
122 Swedish soprano  
123 ‘50s prez  
124 — Mae (HUD corp.)  
125 Yo-yo part  
126 Lucy’s guy  
127 Toon  
128 Villains’ looks

- 129 What nine key words in this puzzle are synonyms of  
DOWN  
1 Panorama  
2 Entomb  
3 Navigate  
4 A Gershwin brother  
5 Male tabby  
6 Eve of old TV  
7 — one’s time  
8 Missile in the Gulf War  
9 “Heavens!”  
10 Shred  
11 — Stakes (horse race)  
12 Kayak cousin  
13 “Gemini Man” director Lee  
14 Grazing land  
15 “Proud Mary” star — P. Henson  
16 Makes the Billboard  
Top 40, e.g.  
17 Of a resistance unit  
18 Artery insert  
24 Like Brits  
25 Pertaining to  
31 Black, to Poe  
33 Aide: Abbr.  
34 U.S. “Ltd.”  
35 Female sib

- 36 Dutch artist Jan  
38 — -Cat  
39 From — Z  
40 Lettuce type  
42 Option list  
43 East Asian nanny  
44 Platter  
45 — Lodge (motel chain)  
46 Actor Harvey  
48 Heredity unit  
49 Wolfs down  
52 Malaise, with “the”  
53 Horse colors  
55 Little — (the Ocean State)  
57 Proposal  
58 Original NYC subway line  
59 State exec.  
60 Before surgery, in brief  
62 “Star Trek” lieutenant  
64 Agave plants  
65 Salt Lake City native  
69 Additionally  
70 Fertilizable gametes  
71 Chimp’s kin  
72 Book division  
73 Vexed state  
74 Dairy case containers  
78 Musical finale  
79 Somewhat  
80 Act of liturgy  
82 Film units  
83 Uses a trowel  
85 Noodles in peanut sauce  
90 Battle (for)  
91 Additionally  
92 Israel’s Abba  
94 Vast stretch  
95 Large tuna  
96 Wild rants  
97 Gorilla, e.g.  
98 Historic time  
100 Olympic swimmer  
101 Actress  
Taylor  
103 Grazing land  
104 De-knot  
105 Renowned  
106 Asteroid found in 1801  
107 Chocolate drink  
108 T-man Ness  
109 Big dipper  
112 Comic  
Meara  
113 Rake prong  
114 Mix, as paint  
118 Luau guitar, for short  
119 Martini liquor  
120 Longtime CBS series  
121 30-day mo.

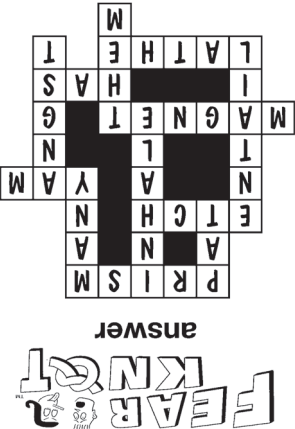


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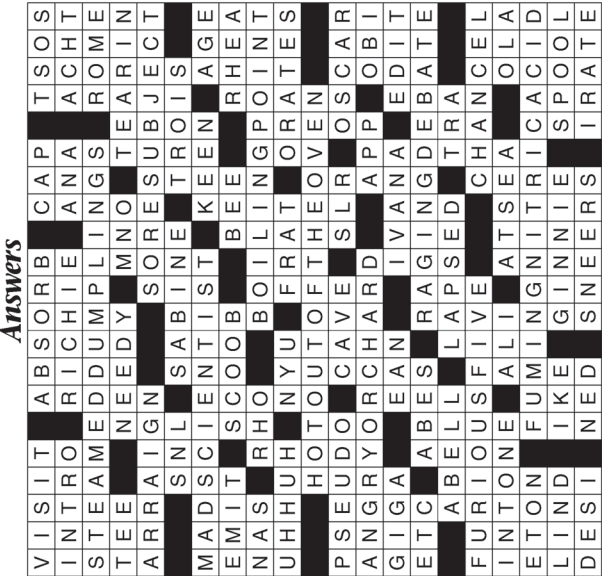
CLINTON Journal

Go Figure!

	7	= 77				
	×		+	2	×	6 = 3
8	-	1	÷		-	54
+		-		+		
3	+	9	×	5	=	60



Super Crossword





Classified

FREE!

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

Marketplace

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03/21/2025  
**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 child-care facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. The Clinton Journal strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of

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

**307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**PATIO SET.** Glass top table with umbrella, four folding chairs. \$95. 217-

944-2106  
(30703282025)

**REAL ESTATE**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS Heartland Bank and Trust Company, PLAINTIFF Vs. Keith Chapman; Serena Leigh Chapman; "Unknown Owners" and "Non-Record Claimants," DEFENDANTS No. 2024FC5 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 12/02/2024, Sheriff Mike Walker of DeWitt County will sell

the mortgaged real estate described below to the highest bidder in an online auction, located at <https://DeWittCountySheriff-IL.roup.com/>. Bidding will begin on 04/14/2025 at 10:00 AM CDT and will remain open until at least 04/16/2025 at 10:00 AM CDT. The auction's end date and time will be extended automatically if one or more bids are placed within the last two (2) minutes of the auction. These extensions of time will continue until at least three (3) minutes elapse with no bidding. The notice of sale relates to the following described mortgaged real estate: PIN: 07-35-304-007 Improved with a: Single Family Residence COMMONLY

KNOWN AS: 701 S. Cain Street, Clinton, IL 61727  
Sale Terms: The winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within 24 hours of the auction's end. Accepted payment methods include certified or cashier's check. Personal checks are not accepted. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to

confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection. If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 01/01/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due

under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assess-

ments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against

**LAND AUCTION**  
Peoria County, IL  
ONLINE ONLY AUCTION  
APR 3rd @ 10 AM  
Property: N Eden Rd, Elmwood, IL 61529  
Parcel: 12-21-300-007.  
121.1 acres offering income-producing farmland, recreational opportunities, and excellent building sites  
Auctioneer/Broker Brad Chandler  
Property Peddler Inc. 618-221-5727  
Find the auction on the home page at **PROPERTYPEDDLER.COM**

## 52ND ANNUAL LAKE FORK COMMUNITY AUCTION

Lake Fork, IL  
Located on 8 acres just 3 miles SW of Mt. Pulaski on Rt. 54  
12+ auctioneers on site!  
**Saturday, March 29 at 9:30 a.m.**  
Pancakes & Sausage or Biscuits & Gravy served  
March 29: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Annual Meat Sale: March 19-27  
Consignments accepted March 29 starting at 8 a.m.  
For more information, call Delmar Stewart at 217-871-5793 or 217-792-5662 the week of the sale.

**CT INVESTMENTS MINI STORAGE**

5x10.....	\$35/month
10x10.....	\$50/month
10x15.....	\$70/month
10x20.....	\$90/month

**CLEARY BUILDING CORP.**  
WEEKDAY HOURS:  
8 am -12 pm &  
1 pm -5 pm

At Cleary Building Corp.  
8515 Cleary Road • Clinton, IL 61727  
**(217) 935-3122**

**VIRTUAL ONLINE**

**DE WITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION**  
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025 AT 11:00 AM<sup>CT</sup>

**200 TAXABLE ACRES± • 2 TRACTS**

**SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Tract 1 is located 8 miles west of Clinton, IL, Tract 2 is located 4 miles northwest of Clinton, IL. Clinton is located 20 miles north of Decatur or 22 miles south of Bloomington, IL. The land is further described as being located in Section 29, T20N-R1E, Barnett Township, and Section 7, T20N-R2E, Clintonia Township, De Witt County, Illinois.  
*Farmers & investors, don't miss this opportunity to purchase these Class A farms with an open lease for the fast-approaching 2025 crop year.*  
**ROBERT TRAPP TRUST**  
Representing Attorney: Mike Barton  
Bellatti, Barton, Cochran & White, LLC | (217) 793-9300  
944 Clock Tower Drive, Suite A, Springfield, IL 62704  
Auction Manager: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767

**SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS**  
(844) 847-2161  
[www.SullivanAuctioneers.com](http://www.SullivanAuctioneers.com)  
License #444000566

**Clinton School District CUSD#15 2025-2026 School Year**

**CJHS Head Wrestling Coach**  
**CJHS Assistant Wrestling Coach**  
**CJHS 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach**  
**CHS Head Cheer Coach**

Apply online at:  
<https://jobs.redroverk12.com/org/CUSD15> All coaching positions please apply online or email letter of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation to Matt Koeppel, AD, at [mkoeppe@cUSD15.org](mailto:mkoeppe@cUSD15.org)



the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, 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 successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. The property will NOT be open for inspection, and the Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information. For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Jacobs & Pinta 77 W. Washington Street, Suite 1005 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 263-1005 Please refer to file number: 2024FC5 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.

LEGAL 20277 RE  
March 7, 14, 21, 2025

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS Heartland Bank and Trust Company, PLAINTIFF Vs. Keith Chapman; Serena Leigh Chapman; "Unknown Owners" and "Non-Record Claimants," DEFENDANTS No. 2024FC5 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 12/02/2024, Sheriff Mike Walker of DeWitt County will sell the mortgaged real estate described below to the highest bidder in an online auction, located at <https://DeWittCountySheriff-IL.roup.com/>. Bidding will begin on 04/14/2025 at 10:00 AM CDT and will remain open until at least 04/16/2025 at 10:00

AM CDT. The auction's end date and time will be extended automatically if one or more bids are placed within the last two (2) minutes of the auction. These extensions of time will continue until at least three (3) minutes elapse with no bidding. The notice of sale relates to the following described mortgaged real estate: Legal Description: LOT 1 IN BLOCK 1 OF ROBERT D. SAMUEL'S SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO PLAT RECORDED AUGUST 22, 2003 IN PLAT BOOK "A", PAGE 279 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DEWITT, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. PIN: 07-35-304-007 Improved with a: Single Family Residence COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 701 S. Cain Street, Clinton, IL 61727 Sale Terms: The winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within 24 hours of the auction's end. Accepted payment methods include certified or cashier's check. Personal checks are not accepted. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection. If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 01/01/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g) (4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgag-

ee's attorney. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, 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 successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. The property will NOT be open for inspection, and the Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information. For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Jacobs & Pinta 77 W. Washington Street, Suite 1005 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 263-1005 Please refer to file number: 2024FC5 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. 6114-950700

LEGAL 20277  
MARCH 7, 14, 21, 2025

LEGAL

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE

IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY DEWITT 25-MR-1 Public notice is hereby given that on March 28, 2025 at 10 am in Courtroom A at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, IL 61727 there will be a hearing on my Petition in said Court praying for the change of my name from Tehya Jean Spallinger to Tehya Jean Smith. **TEHYA JEAN SPALLINGER**

LEGAL 20282  
March 14, 21, 28, 2025

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff,

vs. ROBERT ISAAC WINSTEAD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. Case No.: 2022FC9 Property Address: 501 S Chicago St, Dewitt, IL 61735 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING, ROBERT ISAAC WINSTEAD defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOTS 1, 2, 3 AND 4 IN BLOCK 1 IN ROBBINS'S ADDITION TO MARION, NOW THE VILLAGE OF DEWITT Commonly known as: 501 S Chicago St, Dewitt, IL 61735 Names of the titleholders of record: Robert Isaac Winstead. Date of the Mortgage: November 5, 2014. Name or names of the mortgagors: Robert Isaac Winstead. Name of the mortgagee: Bank of America, N.A.. Date and place of recording: November 17, 2014; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of DeWitt County, Illinois. Identification of recording: Document No. 242951 NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before April 13, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). You can also ask

your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application. 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. Lender Legal PLLC 1800 Pembrook Drive, Suite 250 Orlando, Florida 32810 Tel: (407) 730-4644 Service Emails: [cstrong@lenderlegal.com](mailto:cstrong@lenderlegal.com) [EService@Lender-Legal.com](mailto:EService@Lender-Legal.com) LLS13417 \_s/ Chandray Strong, Esq. Chandray Strong, Esq. Counsel of Record for Plaintiff ARDC # 6321577

Legal 20284  
March 14, 21, 28, 2025

LEGAL

**DeWitt County Zoning Board of Appeals Case A42-2025** Notice is hereby given that proposed amendments to Chapter 155: Zoning of The DeWitt County Code of Ordinances have been filed with the above-named board.

The proposed case is to create a:

Battery Energy Storage System Ordinance

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that a public hearing will be held on the above-mentioned recommendations on April 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible. Said hearing will be held in at the DeWitt County Building, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, IL.

David Waters, Chairman DeWitt County Zoning Board of Appeals

LEGAL 20285  
March 21, 2025

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CLINTON, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEWISEES OF LEONARD L. SPURLING, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE

ESTATE OF LEONARD L. SPURLING, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEWISEES OF LEONARD L. SPURLING, DECEASED, RANDY E SPURLING, DEEDEE STROUD, BRENDA L REYES, PATRICIA A VAUGHAN, TERRY S VINSON AND WILLIAM P. BUTCHER, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF LEONARD L. SPURLING, DECEASED, Defendants. CASE NO. 24-FC-21 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Heirs and Devises of Leonard L. Spurling, deceased, Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Estate of Leonard L. Spurling, deceased and Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Unknown Heirs and Devises of Leonard L. Spurling, deceased, Defendants, this case has been commenced in this Court against you and others, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage held by the Plaintiff on the property located at 203 S Fuller St., Kenney, IL 61749, more particularly described as: i. The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above. ii. The court in which said action was brought is identified above. iii. The names of the title holders of record are: Heirs and Devises of Leonard L. Spurling, deceased iv. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows: LOT 1 IN BLOCK 15 IN THE ORIGINAL TOWN, NOW VILLAGE OF KENNEY, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DEWITT, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. Permanent Index Number: 11-15-318-005 v. A common address or description of the location for the real estate is as follows: 203 S Fuller St., Kenney, IL 61749 vi. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: Names of the Mortgagors: Showanda R. Polite, a single person and Leonard L. Spurling, a single person Names of the Mortgagee: National City Mortgage Co Date of the Mortgage: December 16, 2003

Date of the recording: December 22, 2003 County where recorded: DeWitt County Recording document identification: Document No. 206772 in Book 480 on Page 183 UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, P.O. Box 439, Clinton, IL 61727-0439 on or before April 11, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE. AND NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, DeeDee Stroud, Defendant, this case has been commenced in this Court against you and others, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage held by the Plaintiff on the property located at 203 S Fuller St., Kenney, IL 61749, more particularly described as: LOT 1 IN BLOCK 15 IN THE ORIGINAL TOWN, NOW VILLAGE OF KENNEY, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DEWITT, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. Permanent Index Number: 11-15-318-005 Commonly known as: 203 S Fuller St., Kenney, IL 61749 UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington Street, P.O. Box 439, Clinton, IL 61727-0439 on or before April 14, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE. CLERK OF THE COURT THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Julie Beyers (#6217185) HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Attorneys at Law 601 East William Street Decatur, IL 62523 Send Notice/Pleadings to: Veronika J. Miles (#6313161) Email: [Non-Cook-Pleadings@hsbatlys.com](mailto:Non-Cook-Pleadings@hsbatlys.com) Telephone: (217) 422-1719 Facsimile: (217)

422-1754 6114-951264  
LEGAL 20286  
March 14, 21, 28, 2025

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DEWITT COUNTY - IN PROBATE IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HAROLD DUANE HARRIS, DECEASED 2025-PR-11

CLAIM DATE NOTICE - INDEPENDENT CO-ADMINISTRATION

Notice is given of the death of the above-named decedent; Letters of Office were issued on March 10, 2025 to Stanley T. Harris, 613 S. McClun St., Bloomington, IL 61701 and Jill K. Martin, 2634 Tabor Rd., Clinton, IL 61727 as independent co-executors. 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 September 29, 2025. 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 obtained from the Clerk of the Court at the above address. Dated this 10th day of March, 2025.

Stanley T. Harris and Jill K. Martin, independent co-executors of the estate of Harold Duane Harris, 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-](mailto:attorneys@dewitt-)



tcountylaw.com

LEGAL 20290  
March 14, 21, 28,  
2025

LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF DEWITT  
Estate of: Priscilla Irene Lamb Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2025-PR-16  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE  
Notice is given to the creditors of the death of Priscilla Irene Lamb, of 507 N. Maple St., Clinton, Illinois 61727. Letters of Office were issued on March 12, 2025, to Helen Elaine Gibson, Independent Executor, 2345 S. Mt. Zion Rd., Decatur, Illinois 62521, whose attorney is Kevin Hammer, 219 E. Main Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of DeWitt County Circuit Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 21, 2025, 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 12th day of March, 2025.

Kevin Hammer  
Attorney for the Estate of Priscilla Irene Lamb  
219 East Main Street  
Clinton, IL 61727  
217/935-7063  
[kevinghammer@hotmail.com](mailto:kevinghammer@hotmail.com)

LEGAL 20291  
March 21, 28, April 4, 2025

LEGAL

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-1  
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL TAX LEVY OF THE

CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
BE IT ORDAINED, by the Trustees of the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois:  
SECTION 1: That in addition to the other revenues of the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois, there is hereby levied on the taxable property, real and personal, of the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois, the sum of \$190,000.00 as a general appropriation for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2026, said assessment so levied to be used for the following purposes: SEWAGE PUMPING, TREATMENT & WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
Corporate Chlorination \$130,000.00  
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund \$24,000.00  
Social Security & Medicare \$15,000.00  
Total: \$21,000.00  
SECTION II: The said levy shall be on the basis of the valuation assessed and equalized for the said current fiscal year, and the County Clerk of the County of DeWitt and the State of Illinois hereby authorized and directed to extend the tax upon the taxable property of the said CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois, and the County Treasurer of the County of DeWitt and the State of Illinois is hereby appointed to collect the same, and the assessment by the Assessor of Clintonia Township, in said CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, had in said County and State, is hereby accepted and approved by the said CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT.  
SECTION III: That, at a special election held on July 24, 1954, in the said CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois, a majority of the votes at said election authorized the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT to levy for corporate purposes upon property within the territorial limits of the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DeWitt County, Illinois, in addition to the amount now levied, an additional aggregate amount for which each year shall not exceed an additional .083% of the full fair cash value of said property as equalized or assessed by the

Department of Revenue of the State of Illinois.  
PRESENTED to the Board of Trustees of the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT this 13 day of March, 2025.  
APPROVED: /s/ Steve Schaefer  
Steve Schaefer, President  
ATTEST: /s/ Chris Sharpe  
Chris Sharpe, Clerk/  
Treasurer

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
SS  
COUNTY OF DEWITT

CERTIFICATE

I, CHRIS SHARPE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the clerk in and for the CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance passed by the PRESIDENT and BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, being entitled ORDINANCE NO. 2025-1, ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL TAX LEVY OF THE CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS, on the 4 day of February, 2025, the ordinance being part of the official records of said CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT.  
DATED this 13 day of March, 2025.  
/s/ Chris Sharpe  
CHRIS SHARPE, Clerk of the Clinton Sanitary District

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

CLINTON SANITARY DISTRICT, Plaintiff, vs. KARI HARRIS AS THE DEWITT COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER, Defendant.

2025-MR-4

WRIT OF MANDAMUS

This cause comes before the court on this 26 day of Feb, 2025 with the plaintiff, by Taylor & Lynch, LLC, its attorneys, and Defendant, by her attorney, Dan Markwell, and the court having considered the facts, arguments of the attorneys for the parties, and otherwise being fully advised in the premise finds as follows:  
This court has jurisdiction of the subject matter hereto and of the parties hereto.  
The facts alleged in the Complaint are accepted as evidence.  
The parties agree

after considering all of the facts and circumstances, that a Write of Mandamus shall issue.  
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:  
A. The DeWitt County Clerk, Kari Harris, is hereby directed to accept the Tax Levy Ordinance, originally filed in a timely fashion, subject of course to the Clerk's determination of whether said filing meets all applicable Illinois laws, including but not limited to the Illinois Truth in Taxation laws.  
B. This court retains jurisdiction over the parties hereto and the subject matter hereof for purposes of enforcing the terms of this order.

/s/ Karle Koritz  
JUDGE

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

LEGAL 20292  
March 21, 2025

LEGAL

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**

To the legal residents of the Town of Harp in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois, that the ANUAL MEETING of said Town will take place on **TUESDAY, APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month.**  
The Town meeting for the transaction foe miscellaneous business of said Town will be held at the hour of 7 o'clock P.M. on said day at Hard Town Hall and a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. Dated at Harp Town Hall, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2025.

/s/ Debra J. Wilson  
Town Clerk

LEGAL 20293  
March 21, 2025

LEGAL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS - CHANCERY DIVISION CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SER-

VICES, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF WINIFRED DUNN, DECEASED; DEWITT SAVINGS BANK; HEATHER MYERS; ALLEN DUNN; CYNTHIA SUTHERIN, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF WINIFRED L. DUNN, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
Case No.: 2024FC20  
Property Address: 919 W North St, Clinton, IL 61727  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF WINIFRED DUNN, DECEASED defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 9 IN BLOCK 1 IN DEBOICE'S SUBDIVISION OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND, TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A STONE IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 2 EAST OF THE 3RD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AND THENCE WEST ON THE SECTION LINE 508 FEET, THENCE NORTH 1,346 FEET, THENCE EAST 511 FEET TO THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF SAID SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, THENCE SOUTH 1,346 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, IN DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
Commonly known as: 919 W North St, Clinton, IL 61727  
Names of the titleholders of record: Winifred L. Dunn.  
Date of the Mortgage: May 7, 2010.  
Name or names of the mortgagors: Winifred L. Dunn.  
Name of the mortgagee: DEWITT SAVINGS BANK.  
Date and place of recording: May 17, 2010; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of DeWitt County, Illinois.  
Identification of recording: Document No. 229523.  
NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before April 20, 2025,

A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit [www.illinoislegalaids.org](http://www.illinoislegalaids.org). For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to [www.illinoislegalaids.org](http://www.illinoislegalaids.org). You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.  
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.  
Lender Legal PLLC  
1800 Pembroke Drive, Suite 250  
Orlando, FL 32810  
Tel: (407) 730-4644  
Service Emails: [Mrak@lenderlegal.com](mailto:Mrak@lenderlegal.com)  
[EService@Lender-Legal.com](mailto:EService@Lender-Legal.com)  
15532-730  
\_\_\_\_s/ Michael Rak, Esq.  
Michael Rak, Esq.  
Counsel of Record for Plaintiff  
ARDC # 6340367

LEGAL 20294  
March 21, 28 & April 4, 2025

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SARA A. PRIMMER, DECEASED  
2025-PR-17

CLAIM DATE NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION  
Notice is given of the death of the above-named decedent; Letters of Office were issued on March 13, 2025

to Melissa Lenz, 22061 N. 825 East Road. Carlock, Illinois 61725 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 October 6, 2025. 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 obtained from the Clerk of the Court at the above address. Dated this 14th day of March, 2025.

Melissa Lenz, independent executor of the estate of Sara A. Primmer, 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@dewittcountylaw.com](mailto:attorneys@dewittcountylaw.com)

LEGAL 20295  
March 21, 28 & April 4, 2025

LEGAL

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO the legal voters, residents of Tunbridge Township in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 8 Year 2025 at the hour of 6:15 P.M. at the Tunbridge Township Building, 412 E. Crosley St., Kenney, IL for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said township; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measure

sas may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. Dated March 21, 2024,  
Kari Williams  
Tunbridge Township Clerk  
LEGAL 20296  
March 21, 2025


LEGAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF DEWITT  
Estate of: Arlene B. Hoffman Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2025-PR-14  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE  
Notice is given to the creditors of the death of Arlene B. Hoffman, of 115 S. Isabella St., Clinton, Illinois 61727. Letters of Office were issued on March 13, 2025, to Sandy Barretts, Independent Executor, 66 Somerset Dr., Clinton, Illinois 61727, whose attorney is Kevin Hammer, 219 E. Main Street, Clinton, Illinois 61727. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the Estate must be filed in the office of the Clerk of DeWitt County Circuit Court, DeWitt County Courthouse, 201 W. Washington St., Clinton, Illinois 61727, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 21, 2025, 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 14th day of March, 2025.

Kevin Hammer  
Attorney for the Estate of Arlene B. Hoffman  
219 East Main Street  
Clinton, IL 61727  
217/935-7063  
[kevinghammer@hotmail.com](mailto:kevinghammer@hotmail.com)

LEGAL 20297  
March 21, 28, April 4, 2025





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### LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Santa Anna Township, DeWitt County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Santa Anna Township Hall from and after 9 A.M. on March 14, 2025. Notice is further given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be at 7:00 P.M. on April 08, 2025, at Santa Anna Township Hall and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at this meeting. Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

Michelle Castle, Supervisor

### LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ROAD & BRIDGE BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Santa Anna Township Road District, DeWitt County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Santa Anna Township Hall from and after 9 A.M. on March 14, 2025 through April 15, 2025. Notice is further given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be at 7:15 P.M. On April 08, 2025,

Joetta Gammage, Clerk  
Town of Santa Anna, DeWitt County

LEGAL 20298  
March 21, 2025

at Santa Anna Township Hall and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at this meeting. Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025

Michelle Castle, Supervisor  
Joetta Gammage, Clerk  
Town of Santa Anna, DeWitt County

LEGAL 20299  
March 21, 2025

### LEGAL

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of Clintonia, in the County of DeWitt, State of Illinois, **Annual Town Meeting** of said Town will take place on **Tuesday, April 08, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.** at 9180 Township Road, Clinton, IL 61727 The agenda for the meeting will be:

Call to order/Appoint Moderator, reading of the minutes from 2024, public comment,


Old Business, New Business-Discuss and vote on Resolution to Oppose Township Consolidation into County Government, expenses and revenues available for FY 2025 for review.

The next Annual Town Meeting will be April 14, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. at 9180 Township Road, Clinton, IL 61727. The next regular monthly meeting of the Township board will be April 15, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.


Close meeting.

Debra Coale  
Clintonia Township Clerk

LEGAL 20300  
March 21, 2025



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NEWS

The heartwarming tale of Willma Hoover and her extraordinary pies

A Journey of Love, Dedication, and Generosity

In a quaint little town of Hudson, Illinois, nestled among corn and soybean fields, lives a remarkable woman whose spirit and generosity have warmed the hearts of many. Willma Hoover is 92 years old. Despite her age, she possesses energy and zest for life that would put people half her age to shame. Her secret? A lifetime of love, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to helping others.

The Beginning of a Legacy

Willma grew up in a time when the world was a different place—simpler, perhaps, yet filled with its own challenges. Baking was not just a hobby; it was a necessity. From a young age, Willma learned the art of baking from her mother. The kitchen was a place of solace where

the warmth of the oven and the aroma of freshly baked goods brought comfort and joy.

The Love of Baking

Over the years, Willma perfected her craft. Her pies became legendary in the community, baking pies for her church, family and friends. Made from scratch, with the finest ingredients and a touch of magic, her pies were more than just desserts—they were expressions of love. Every flaky crust and flavorful filling told a story, a testament to her dedication and skill.

Inspiration to Give Back

Willma’s connection to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital began when her grandson’s nephew became a St. Jude patient and the efforts to save his life. She learned about the incredible work they do for children with life-threatening

illnesses. She was deeply moved by their mission to advance cures and means of prevention for pediatric catastrophic diseases through research and treatment. She decided to use her talent for baking to support this noble cause.

The Auction Initiative

At the age of 92, when most people would be content with a quiet retirement, Willma launched an extraordinary initiative. She decided to bake a pie every month for an entire year, to raise funds for St. Jude. at the annual St. Jude Feed in Hudson, Illinois.

The Pies of the Year

Every month, the successful bidder lets her know what kind of pie they would like and eagerly awaited the unveiling of Willma’s latest masterpiece. January’s pie might feature a



rich, spiced apple filling, perfect for warming the soul in the winter chill. February could be a decadent chocolate cherry pie, just in time for Valentine’s Day. As spring blossomed, March’s pie might showcase a vibrant lemon meringue, while April introduced a delicate strawberry

rhubarb.

A Legacy of Love

Wilma’s story is a testament to the power of love, community, and the impact one person can have, regardless of age. Her pies were more than just delicious treats; they were symbols of hope and generosity. Willma’s initiative inspired others to find their own ways to give back, creating a ripple effect of kindness that extended far beyond her small town.

The Continuing Journey

Willma’s tale is a beautiful reminder that it is never too late to make a difference. Through her love for baking and her unwavering commitment to helping others, she has left an indelible mark on the world legacy of love, one pie at a time.

Feds pull grant funding from Illinois fair housing discrimination investigations

Lily Carey  
& Medill Illinois News Bureau  
/ Capital News Illinois

CHICAGO — John Petruszak opened his email Feb. 27 to find a message he called “shocking”: the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development had rescinded two grants it had awarded to his advocacy organization, the South Suburban Housing Center.

The grants, which represent 37% of the center’s budget, hadn’t been rescinded through any misstep by the organization. Rather, at the order of the Trump administration’s newly established Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, the grant was being terminated because it “no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities,” the letter read.

The message came as a surprise to Petruszak, the center’s executive director. Fair housing organizations like his offer legal services and support to anyone facing discrimination in the housing market on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, familial status or disability, receiving hundreds of complaints each year. In 2023, private fair housing nonprofits across the country handled over 75% of all housing discrimination complaints.

“Fair housing is really a fundamental right,” Petruszak said. “It’s a check and balance on the housing market, just like democracy

is a check and balance on our governing systems.”

But a drastic reduction in these organizations’ capacity or a mass shuttering of fair housing nonprofits could leave renters and prospective homebuyers with fewer avenues for justice if they face discrimination from landlords, real estate agents or neighbors.

Petruszak said the South Suburban Housing Center will have to cut its housing enforcement team down from five full-time staffers to one or fewer. The Homewood-based organization typically investigates up to 250 complaints each year but won’t be able to keep up with this demand after these cuts are made, he said.

Metcalf Federal Building

The Ralph H. Metcalf Federal Building in Chicago’s Loop houses the Midwest Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Andrew Adams)

Since 1987, the federal government has helped fund private organizations that investigate cases of housing discrimination through its Fair Housing Initiatives Program, or FHIP.

The South Suburban Housing Center is one of at least 60 fair housing groups nationwide, including at least four in Illinois, that saw their FHIP grant funding suddenly pulled last month. The organizations represent about half of all of the fair housing grant recipients.

Advocates said they heard from the National Fair Housing Association that some organizations saw all of their grants terminated, while others saw only partial cancellations.

The groups all received the exact same message, which consisted of about three sentences and provided little detail other than attributing the grant rollback to President Donald Trump’s executive order establishing the Department of Government Efficiency.

In response, four fair housing groups, backed by the National Fair Housing Alliance and law firm Relman Colmax, sued HUD and DOGE in Massachusetts’ federal court on Thursday. The lawsuit, filed on behalf of all of the groups that had their grants terminated, alleged the government’s decision to rescind the grants was unlawful, and noted the funding had already been authorized by Congress.

In a statement provided to Capitol News Illinois, a HUD spokesperson said that “the Department is responsible for ensuring our grantees and contractors are in compliance with the President’s Executive Orders,” citing only the Trump order that established DOGE.

“If we determine they are not in compliance, then we are required to take action,” the spokesperson said in an email. “The Department will continue to serve the American people, including those [who] are facing

housing discrimination or eviction.”

Dominic Voz, director of fair housing for the Evanston-based fair housing nonprofit Open Communities, said the cancellations “felt like an attack on civil rights in housing.”

“All of our work is about justice, and it’s not about one group, it’s for everybody,” Voz said. “We’re on the side of the law, so we are not a political group.”

The 1968 Fair Housing Act outlawed discrimination in any housing-related transactions. According to HUD, the law also requires that “all federal programs relating to housing and urban development be administered in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing.”

“This is something that has continued for decades upon decades, including under the last Trump administration,” said Emily Coffey, director of equitable development and housing for the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights. “It’s shocking, at this stage, that the administration would sidestep the longstanding bipartisan appropriation of this funding.”

The lack of federal grant funding, which many fair housing groups have depended on for over 30 years, could be an “existential threat” for advocates and renters alike, Voz said. The Chicago area has a well-documented history of redlining, the

practice of withholding financial services or loans from people who live in neighborhoods with higher numbers of racial minorities.

While the south suburbs, where Petruszak’s work is based, were once heavily redlined, shifts to affordable housing policies in Chicago led many Black residents to move to the area from the city in the late 20th century. That history continues to impact the area’s housing market today, making fair housing work “essential,” Petruszak said.

“There’s a great deal of historical documentation of discriminatory practices in the housing market that led to the south suburbs changing from a predominantly white area in the 1970s and 80s, to a predominantly Black area by 2000,” he said. “It’s an area where monitoring for discrimination in housing is most crucial, because of the historical nature of this discrimination.”

Though the federal grants to the South Suburban Housing Center represent more than a third of its overall budget, they funded 92% of its housing enforcement and education programs annually. The two grants that were terminated amounted to \$550,000 combined.

Open Communities’ canceled grants amounted to 25% of its annual budget, according to Voz. The group, based in the northern suburbs of Cook County, dedicates these resources to investigating landlords

accused of discrimination and filing human rights complaints. One of its lawsuits, filed in the U.S. District Court of Northern Illinois in 2023 helped prevent landlords from using artificial intelligence to reject rental applications.

FAIR / A16



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# WEATHER



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03/22/2024

## Your Forecast


Information from the National Weather Service




**Friday**  
Partly sunny  
High 60




**Saturday**  
Sunny  
High 52




**Sunday**  
75% chance  
of rain  
High 53




**Monday**  
Partly sunny  
High 53



**Tuesday**  
Sunny  
High 49



**Wednesday**  
Sunny  
High 51



**Thursday**  
Cloudy  
High 50

## Weather History

**March 21**  
2006: A major winter storm impacted central Illinois. A swath of heavy snow fell across much of the region, with 6 to 10 inch snowfall totals common. In addition, blizzard conditions occurred across Scott, Morgan, Sangamon, Christian and Shelby counties with wind gusts to 45 mph recorded. No major injuries or fatalities were reported, though numerous vehicle accidents occurred.

2008: Heavy snowfall occurred across portions of far northern Illinois, on the first full day of spring. Totals up to 11 inches were reported near Gurnee, with 5 to 10 inches common from Rockford to the northern Chicago suburbs.

## Fair / from A15

The Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights saw a three-year grant rescinded two years into its implementation, Coffey said. The grant comprised approximately 15% of the group’s annual budget. The group focuses primarily on filing lawsuits in federal courts, pursuing “high impact” cases related to large housing providers or local governments, Coffey said.

In Illinois, the Human Rights Act, passed in 1979, prohibits discrimination in housing and real estate against the same seven federally protected classes. The Illinois Department of Human Rights also helps intervene in instances of

housing discrimination. However, IDHR has struggled to keep up with the number of discrimination cases it has received over the past two years.

A 2022 expansion to the Illinois Human Rights Act added source of income as a class protected against housing discrimination. When this expansion took effect in 2023, IDHR began to see a “steady increase” in complaints, according to agency spokesperson Addie Shrodes.

It can sometimes take a few months for IDHR to address complaints when they’re filed, Shrodes said. But she said the department is also adding new staff to its fair housing division

next week and is hoping to support private fair housing organizations in any way possible.

Petruszak said it’s the responsibility of the state government to step up and assist fair housing groups impacted by funding losses.

“We’re not talking about a great deal of money — to the government, the FHIP grant is like a grain of sand in the Saharan desert,” he said.

For Coffey, though, it seems unlikely that the state would be able to fill the gap created by the federal government’s decision to rescind these grants.

“The state budgetary landscape is just as decimated by what’s

happening at the federal level,” Coffey said. “But without having access to lawyers to be able to push forward claims of housing discrimination, this discrimination is allowed

to go unchallenged.”

Lily Carey is a graduate student in journalism with Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, Media,

Integrated Marketing Communications, and a fellow in its Medill Illinois News Bureau working in partnership with Capitol News Illinois.

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