

# Bertha's C o r n e r



By  
**BERTHA PARSONS**

## Old?

No, I'm not old, no, you're not old! There are old stories, old papers, old clothes, old cars, old houses and older people.

Many who know me know when I have a birthday, I get younger and my kids get older! If you ask how old I am, I don't know! I have to look at my license or ask my hubby. That is the truth!

I have never dwelled on how old or young I am. What difference does it make? Who really cares if I am 60 or 100? Yet I have friends who count their birthday as an "I'm getting old" time and not much left to do! I really want to shake them until their teeth rattle, (Mama used to say that to me!) Sure, some of us have lots of pain and trouble and being old, (whatever that means) seems to make our life worse. I'm here to tell you old are the new "young" or "middle age." I'll take young or middle age any day!

As I've said before, you control your attitude and your health. We could all be healthier. Yes, it's true; so much of what you feel about old is up to you! It's all in your head! One of my best friends who has migraines says, "That's right!" As a friend said a long time ago,

"Our mind controls a lot of what we do, say and think - that is really scary but true!

Every day we need to be thankful to be alive. If you have nothing else to be thankful for, being alive is one to put at the top of your list.. OK? Do we just take the day for granted? We say, "I'll do it tomorrow, I don't have time today." "Time," and "old," are two words we should really get to know better. Yes, we all will get older and yes, time will slip away before the day is done.

Do we have time later, or should we concentrate on today? I'm a do-it-today kind of gal! I do not like putting things off, Later may never come! Why not do it today? A tough question that I bet you are struggling with right now. We all put off something most every day and I do not know why. Am I lazy? Do I not care about the subject or person? Am I more important than the matter I should be taking care of?

Old is a state of mind and I don't want to live in that state! I'd rather move into happy USA, where I find old and new friends, where we don't count our years, we count our smiles and find joy together!

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## Vendor app issue delays start of rental payments to Dec. 6

Due to a vendor needing additional time to ensure its application platform is functioning properly, the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) announced today that it will reopen the Illinois Rental Payment Program on Monday, Dec. 6 instead of Monday, Nov. 8. While the date for the program reopening is now delayed, money from this round will still be distributed to approved Illinoisans before the end of the year as originally scheduled.

In the first round of ILRPP launched in May, IHDA reviewed all completed applications, approved more than 57,000 applications and paid out nearly \$540 million on behalf of renters experiencing pandemic-related hardships. Since 2020, Illinois has provided more than \$776 million in emergency rental assistance to help keep more than 103,100 Illinois seniors, families and others housed.

IHDA is continuously learning from previous application rounds and striving to improve the application process to ensure funds can quickly get to landlords and tenants who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The application portal requires additional testing to ensure it can accommodate the tens of thousands of applicants that may apply for ILRPP assistance. Applications will now be accepted beginning Monday, Dec. 6 through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Jan 9 at [illinoishousinghelp.org](http://illinoishousinghelp.org).

"While this delays the date we'll begin accepting applications, IHDA is committed to meeting the original timeline of disbursing rental assistance money to tenants and landlords in December," said IHDA Executive Director Kristin Faust. "We recognize this postponement may cause concern for tenants facing eviction, but there is help for renters available now."

For renters who are in need of immediate assistance, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) is currently accepting applications for rental assistance. Households looking for assistance should contact an IDHS Service Provider Agency to ask about rental assistance. Provider Agencies will help you determine if you

are eligible and help you apply for rental assistance. A list of Provider Agencies, as well as organizations helping with utility bills, free legal aid, and additional services can be found at [www.illinoisrentalassistance.org/](http://www.illinoisrentalassistance.org/).

Further aiming to reduce evictions in Illinois, a Court-Based Rental Assistance Program administered by IDHS is available to assist tenants outside of Cook County with active cases in eviction court. Tenants may apply for up to 12 months of past due rent and up to three months of future rent payments using their eviction court case number at [ilrpp.ihda.org](http://ilrpp.ihda.org).

The December 2021 reopening of ILRPP will provide more than \$250 million to renters and landlords in an effort to prevent evictions and keep families safe and secure while they regain their financial footing. The additional ILRPP funding is expected to assist more than 27,000 Illinois households. IHDA is currently working closely with its hired technology vendor partners to address unexpected issues and ensure the system is stable.

See RENT on other side

## Milford committee to host Ugly Sweater Christmas events

The group that works to light up Milford for Christmas is holding some festive events Saturday.

Lighting Up Milford Committee is inviting everyone to the Ugly Christmas Sweater Events from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday at Milford Christian Church, 811 E. Hickory. Activities include:

A 5K walk/run will kick off the day. Anyone interested in participating may call (815) 683-5070 for details.

A Vendor Pop Up & Baking Contest will also be held. Information is available by calling (815) 786-5649.

A chili, pulled pork and hot dog lunch will be available and there will be children's games.



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Atchie 217-495-2800 or Valarie Hinkle 217-274-2956.



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## Rent continued from other side

when the portal opens.

ILRPP provides direct funding to support Illinois tenants unable to pay their rent due to COVID-19-related loss of income. Approved applicants will receive one-time grants of up to \$25,000 paid directly to their landlords on their behalf. If the landlord chooses not to participate in the program, tenants may receive payments directly. In this application round, assistance will cover up to 18 months of emergency rental payments, including up to 15 months of missed payments and up to three months of future rent payments. Rent owed from June 2020

## Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 57. Tonight, increasing clouds. Low 51. Tomorrow, rain. High 59, low 33.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit [justthefacts.net/weather/](http://justthefacts.net/weather/).



## Honoring those who serve

Veterans, their family members and other residents listen at Thursday's Veterans Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at McFerren Park. The small gathering was undeterred by raindrops which peppered those assembled for the service.

through April 2022 may be paid for with ILRPP funds. Priority will be given to households earning less than 50% of AMI and to households with one or more members who have been unemployed for at least 90 days. Tenant eligibility requirements:

- Household lives in Illinois and rents their home as their primary residence.
- Household must have experienced a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the pandemic.
- Household income is below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), adjusted for household size.
- Household must have an unpaid rent balance.
- Proof of citizenship is not required. Rental assistance is not a "public charge" benefit.
- Tenants residing in state- or federally-subsidized housing are eligible to apply.

For additional information and updates, please visit [illinoishousinghelp.org](http://illinoishousinghelp.org).

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Hub City Media is hiring! We're looking for an entry level Technical Specialist and an experienced Lead Systems Engineer in our Rossville office. Learn more and submit your resume via [www.hubcitymedia.com/careers](http://www.hubcitymedia.com/careers).

Looking for a great job in the medical field? Interested in natural healthcare? Busy chiropractic office needs a team-oriented person with good customer service and phone skills. Candidate will be trained to assist with patient care. Robinson Chiropractic has 4 locations in Illinois: Danville, Hoopeston, Westville, and Watseka. Please send resume to [trina.keller@robchiro.com](mailto:trina.keller@robchiro.com).

Breakfast cook. Waitresses, Kitchen help needed. Apply in person at The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley, 719 W. Elm, Hoopeston.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is HIRING! New starting wage is \$18/hour. Full-time positions with benefits and part-time positions available for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shifts. Apply at [www.full-fill.com/employment-opportunities](http://www.full-fill.com/employment-opportunities) Applications available onsite. EOE

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking a full time applicator. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Silver Brothers is looking for part-time mixer drivers. Hours will vary. Must have Class B CDL, pass a drug test, be able to climb a ladder, and lift 75 lbs. Pay will be \$20/hour to an experienced driver. Perfect opportunity for a retired person wanting some extra money. Stop by 105 E. Washington, Hoopeston for application.

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