



IllinoisTimes



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When DCFS makes mistakes, children die

Year after year, basic errors by state child protection workers result in tragedy

10 CHILD WELFARE | George Pawlaczyk

PrEP to Prevent HIV

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City of Springfield penalized for violating Fair Housing Act

“Ignorance of the law is no excuse,” judge said

GROUP HOMES | Dean Olsen

The seven-year-old court case that determined Springfield illegally discriminated against people with disabilities through residential zoning is approaching a conclusion.

The late U.S. District Court judge Richard Mills ruled in March 2020 that the city violated the federal Fair Housing Act through a spacing ordinance prohibiting two homes for people with disabilities from operating within 600 feet of each other.

A federal jury in July 2022 then decided the city should pay a total of \$293,000 in damages for the violation. Included was \$162,000 in compensatory damages to the three adult male residents of the home that led to the lawsuit, on Noble Avenue near Washington Park, and to their guardians.

The jury also awarded \$131,000 in compensatory damages to Individual Advocacy Group, a Romeoville-based nonprofit that was providing services to the men in the Community Integrated Living Arrangement home, or CILA, that they began renting in 2014.

IAG contended it didn't know there was another group home nearby and that it deserved a waiver from the zoning requirement.

IAG and Sangamon County resident Mary Valencia, sister and guardian of one of the original three residents, Alan Dennis, who died in 2017 of natural causes at age 62, first filed the civil lawsuit in December 2016.

The lawsuit prevented the three men from being forced to leave the home after the Springfield Zoning and Planning Commission and the City Council in November 2016 voted to deny a conditional permitted use application that would have granted an exception from the spacing requirement.

Mills issued a preliminary injunction in 2017 that prevented the city from kicking the men out of the home while the case proceeded.

After the 2022 jury decision, payment of damages remained pending while a different



Two of the three adult male residents are pictured in front of their group home on Noble Avenue. The city of Springfield has been ordered to pay compensatory damages to the residents, as well as civil penalties, for violating the Fair Housing Act by trying to limit where such homes could be located. PHOTO BY LEE MILNER

U.S. District Court judge, Sara Darrow, considered a civil penalty against the city requested by the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. Federal prosecutors joined the case as a plaintiff in 2017.

Darrow on Dec. 7 ordered the city to pay a civil penalty of \$61,982 to the federal government. The judge also ordered that the city pay IAG \$53,654 in “prejudgment interest.”

The U.S. Attorney's Office said this was one of the largest civil penalties that the U.S. Department of Justice has obtained against a municipality in Illinois for violations of the FHA.

Remaining is the issue of attorney fees, with IAG wanting the city to pay the agency's legal costs and the city contending that some of the attorneys charged rates that were too high and

unjustified.

Rulings on the merits of the case and damages took place during the administration of former mayor Jim Langfelder, when the city's corporation counsel was Jim Zerkle. Zerkle never filed an appeal.

The current corporation counsel, Gregory Moredock, who is part of new Mayor Misty Buscher's cabinet, said he doesn't think the city will appeal Mills' ruling or the jury's award of damages to the individuals. He said he will recommend that the City Council amend the spacing ordinance.

However, Moredock told *Illinois Times* on Jan. 22 that some issues still need to be decided before the city pays damages, the civil penalty and interest.

“We have until a final order – after attorney fees are resolved – to decide whether to appeal any or all aspects of the case,” he said. “A final decision on whether and what we will appeal has not been made as of this date.”

When issuing the civil penalty, Darrow noted that the city argued the spacing rule “was adopted to protect group homes from being segregated into a single neighborhood” and that the spacing rule was enacted by city officials in 1990 “in a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of the FHA.”

However, Darrow faulted the city for not updating the ordinance after a 2002 federal court ruling said such a spacing requirement would be discriminatory.

“Ignorance of the law is no excuse,” the judge wrote in her December ruling, adding that the “case law interpreting the FHA's disability provisions had sufficiently developed by 2016 to find blameworthy the enforcement of this ... discriminatory spacing rule.”

Darrow said the city's zoning ordinance made it more difficult for people with disabilities to transition from institutions to residential living situations in the community. That right was guaranteed by the 1999 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs. L.C.*, she said.

Darrow said the civil penalty against Springfield will “make clear to municipalities that these facially discriminatory spacing rules may not be used to hinder the trend of shifting persons with disabilities from institutions to community-based residences.”

Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division said in a news release that the court's decision “makes clear that there are real consequences to cities and other municipalities when they unlawfully and immorally exclude people with disabilities from residential neighborhoods.”

U.S. Attorney Gregory Harris of the Central District of Illinois said the case resulted in a “groundbreaking civil rights decision.” Assistant U.S. Attorney Joshua Grant said: “This case illustrates what can happen when government action erodes a basic human right. A group of individuals almost lost their home.”

Darrow permanently enjoined the city from taking any action against the owners or residents of the home and ordered city officials and staff to undergo fair housing training.

Charlene Bennett, chief executive officer of Individual Advocacy Group, said she hopes other municipalities in Illinois that still impose restrictive and potentially illegal zoning on people with disabilities take note of the Springfield case.

“I'm hoping it gets resolved soon,” she said. “I'm just so disappointed it's taken this long for justice to occur.”

Bennett said it was difficult to hear the prejudices of some neighbors toward people with disabilities aired at public meetings in Springfield in 2016 before IAG decided to file suit.

“It's been a rough struggle,” she said. □

Dean Olsen is a senior staff writer at Illinois Times. He can be reached at dolsen@illinoistimes.com, 217-679-7810 or twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT.

Editor's note

No wonder he got Nikki mixed up with Nancy; they're both from his same nightmare. The worst fear of a would-be strongman is a strong woman, and Nikki Haley is strong in the right places. Running against a character, she has character, along with political experience and life experience. She knows race and racism from the inside out, and she says she won't judge women who get an abortion. Telling her to drop out may just make her mad. And if he somehow manages to escape her wrath, he'll have Kamala to deal with next.
— Fletcher Farrar, editor

Making city government more helpful to businesses

Office of Planning and Economic Development has new staff, new positions

DEVELOPMENT | Dean Olsen

Springfield's Office of Planning and Economic Development will focus on data and innovation to make city government more efficient, helpful to businesses and in line with Mayor Misty Buscher's goal of creating more good-paying jobs in the city.

Those are among plans for the office under Val Yazell, who was hired back to head OPED by Buscher after her election in 2023.

Yazell, who previously led the office under former mayor Jim Langfelder until March 2021, said she is excited about the professionals she has hired to fill long-vacant positions. Several of them just started in the office in November.

"The important thing for me was to find people who were self-starters, who were high-performing, who could think for themselves," Yazell said. "It doesn't happen every day that you get someone who has those qualities and those traits."

OPED has an annual budget of \$24.7 million, 94% of which represents funding from local, state and federal sources for grants and other allocations to address community needs, Yazell said. The remaining 6% of the budget pays operating costs, including salaries.

Yazell pointed to new hires and new roles for people in the office as key to carrying out her goals for the office:

Julia Cave is operations director for community development and has more than 20 years of experience in public and health service administration. Cave worked in OPED previously but in a different role.

Kayla Graven, operations coordinator for business development, previously was executive director of Downtown Springfield Inc.

Sai Joshi is the city's Bloomberg-Harvard fellow, and Amy Rasing, operations coordinator for grants, has spent more than three decades in nonprofit leadership at the local, state and national levels.

"These women are remarkable in supporting one another and helping one another," Yazell said. "I knew I needed people around me who could problem-solve and didn't expect me to solve every problem, so I needed people just as strong as I am and as capable as I am."

The office will work harder to collect data and make decisions on spending money based on data, Yazell said. For example, decisions on who should receive tax-increment financing revenues from property taxes, and how much should be allocated, will be weighed based on



Staff members of Springfield's Office of Planning and Economic Development include (from left) Kayla Graven, Julia Cave, Val Yazell, Sai Joshi and Amy Rasing. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN.

the potential increase in assessed valuation that a TIF-assisted project will create for future property taxes, she said.

Staff members also will work collaboratively to determine whether a developer seeking assistance may be helped by a variety of programs and not just the specific program that the developer initially had in mind, she said.

That brainstorming will result in more effective use of the local, state and federal funds at OPED's disposal, she said.

"The goal of this department is to better our community," Yazell said.

And for the staff, the key to achieving that goal is "knowing all the programs and being able to work together," she said.

"There is a huge commitment to technology and a commitment to innovation, and our mayor is very supportive of that," Yazell said. "But you know, let's face it, it takes time, it takes finances, and it takes a cultural commitment. In the coming year, we'll be further along, but we will never be done because if you're truly committed to innovation, you're just always doing that."

OPED is working to revamp its website to make it more user-friendly "so people can

inquire about the programs directly online instead of us having to mail them program information," Cave said.

The department also plans to be more active on social-media platforms such as LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook to promote its services.

One of Joshi's focuses will be to develop a strategy for the city's land bank. And she is spearheading the use of the recently announced \$450,000 grant the city received in Reconnect funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce for the Springfield Economic Empowerment Project.

Buscher said the new federal funding will help "improve the economic mobility of our distressed communities. Our public, institutional and philanthropic partners' coalition has been leading the way to bridge economic gaps locally."

The project's ultimate goal is to expand training initiatives such as Lincoln Land Community College's Workforce Equity Initiative and the Highway Construction Careers Training Program.

Other partners in the project include The Springfield Project, Springfield-Sangamon

Growth Alliance and the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln.

The grant, Joshi said, will "essentially help us to have a full-time person or a couple of part-time people who are working on developing this strategy further and working on developing the partnership further."

To respond to complaints that the city isn't "business friendly," several OPED staff members have received training from Harvard University faculty on innovation and are part of an interdepartmental team looking at potential improvements to propose to Buscher in the spring.

"We're interviewing people internally and externally," Joshi said. "We're meeting with department heads and staff who are involved in this process."

Graven said she is working to make sure OPED's customers are served better.

"Whenever a business comes to us and is not understanding the permitting process, we can help introduce them to the person they need to communicate with, or maybe we can be an advocate for them or an ally," she said.

Cave's latest focus is plans for a city-sponsored, four-day training program Feb. 5-9 for people wanting to become certified lead abatement contractors. The city currently doesn't have any local-based, certified contractors to remove lead-based paint from homes, she said.

"We have many families with poisonous lead in their homes that are waiting for assistance," Cave said.

There will be 18 spots available for the free training, a value of more than \$500. More information and registration for the spots are available by phone at 217-789-2377 or at info.oped@springfield.il.us.

In her role, Rasing said she is examining the city's various grant programs for individuals and groups to "maximize our resources, both internally and externally."

"We're looking at grants, and the applications for grants, and the use of those grants," to make sure the money "aligns with everything else that we're doing," she said.

Rasing said she is considering "doing more storytelling" to the public about the impact of grants. □

Dean Olsen is a senior staff writer at Illinois Times. He can be reached at dolsen@illinoistimes.com, 217-679-7810 or twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT.

Show me the money

Lucky Horseshoes have ambitious plan to renovate stadium, seeking financial support

DEVELOPMENT | Scott Reeder

The Springfield Lucky Horseshoes have \$10 million in ideas about how to improve Robin Roberts Stadium.

But the question is: Who will pay for it?

“First and foremost, it starts with the ownership group,” said Jamie Toole, an executive and an owner of the team. “Our ownership group has shown a commitment and a willingness to invest, such as in the video board and beer garden. We’ve done a few things on our own. Second, the owner of the building needs to engage.”

The ballpark is owned by the Springfield Park District.

Park Board President Leslie Sgro said Jan. 21 that neither she nor other members of the board have seen the proposal that Toole is advocating. She added that it originates from an architectural study jointly funded by the Horseshoe ownership and the Park Board.

Joe Petty, an architect and the owner of J.H. Petty and Associates in Springfield, completed the renderings of proposed renovations.

He said the cost of the study was \$17,500.

“It’s kind of a broad overview of what’s possible without really getting down and dirty into the weeds,” Petty said.

“I’m hoping that the board will see it in February,” Sgro said. “It was a joint project between the Horseshoes and the Park District. So, we each kicked in money to do this. We offered to let them take the lead – sort of driving the bus on it – but our first preliminary meeting between the Shoes and (Park District) staff, not even the board, is Feb. 7.”

Sgro added that she and the rest of the board want to see the stadium flourish.

“They’re excited and that’s a good thing,” she said. “Any improvements at Robin Roberts



A rendering showing some of the proposed renovations to Robin Roberts Stadium.

COURTESY OF J.H. PETTY AND ASSOCIATES

are a good thing. And that’s why we’ve invested money ... I’m all for improvements for the stadium. We just have to figure out a responsible way to pay for them.”

Sgro added, “We’re partnering with District 186 to help the Shoes get more parking, which I think is a critical component to their success. And we can work with various partners to make the Shoes successful in Springfield.”

Taxpayer dollars from the Park District will need to be part of the equation, Toole said.

“I’m not saying they underwrite the entire project, or even half,” Toole said. “I’m saying (they) have to engage. You own the facility. And, you know, from our perspective, there’s resources that they have access to that they have not allocated to Robin Roberts Stadium. And for whatever reason, I just think that the ballpark has not been a priority.”

Toole said there are other sources of money that need to be explored such as private and

government grants. Another possible funding source would be selling the naming rights to the stadium, he said.

The stadium is named after Robin Evan Roberts, a Springfield native and Lanphier High School graduate. He was a major league pitcher and an inductee into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

“This is something that we’re trying to handle with kid gloves because we have such great respect for Robin Roberts and that family and the tradition. But the reality is a lot of ballparks are maintained and improved with a naming rights partnership,” Toole said. “So, it may be Dublin Pub Field at Robin Roberts Stadium or something like that. But that could be a significant annual contribution that goes into the facility that helps go toward these enhancements and these improvements.”

Special state funding may also be sought. “When you can get the local leadership –

meaning the mayor, the city council, the park board, the local politicians – pulling on the same rope, on the same side, then I think you are positioning a project that the state says, ‘Yeah, this makes a lot of sense. It’s the capital city, let’s go make this thing happen,’” Toole said. “We basically try to look at every different opportunity to get resources into this facility to create more of a long-term, sustainable facility.”

But what improvements do the Horseshoes believe are needed to have a sustainable facility?

The architectural renderings speak more in broad strokes than fine details. Even the \$10 million figure is at best a guesstimate, Toole said. He added the improvements would likely come in a series of phases.

“(Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility, restrooms and concession stands – those are priorities,” he said. Since the team’s inception, the Horseshoes have said these aspects of the stadium are in dire need of renovations.

Other proposed changes for Robin Roberts Stadium include a new turf field, enhanced lighting, an improved concourse, a brick facade and having a new fan section on right field.

Toole said new turf is critical.

“I think that the field turf is probably the economic driver from our perspective,” he said.

“When you’re going to recruit bigger events – you want to go get University of Illinois to play University of Missouri in an annual baseball game or series – you need to have these modern amenities to go and create the revenue generation to turn those schools’ attention to say, ‘Yeah, let’s go to Springfield.’” □

Scott Reeder, an Illinois Times staff writer, can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes.com.

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•Southern Outreach Centers (Litchfield & Hillsboro) •Main Campus (Springfield)

Instructor, Nursing: LLCC is searching for two Instructors. Both positions will teach in the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program which prepares students eligible to take the NCLEX-RN examination. A master's degree in nursing, by state statute, is required and candidates must have a state of Illinois nursing license (or be eligible to apply for one). Faculty salaries are determined by education level and experience and will be between \$49,545 - \$89,100. Both positions are located in Springfield.

Instructor, Respiratory Care: This position will operate at HSHS St. John's Hospital in Springfield, IL. A Bachelor's degree is required, and applicants must have a current state of Illinois Professional License for Respiratory Care. Faculty salaries are determined by education level and experience and will be between \$49,545 - \$89,100. Employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a criminal background check and drug-screen. This position will be open until filled; however, for guaranteed consideration, applications must be submitted on or before February 19, 2024.

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NEWS

New rules for assault weapons

ASSAULT WEAPONS | Peter Hancock, Capitol News Illinois

New permanent rules will soon go into effect spelling out how people who own assault weapons and related items that are now heavily regulated in Illinois can register them with the Illinois State Police.

The legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules voted along party lines Jan. 16 to let the rules go into effect, ending months of negotiations and debate between supporters of the law and gun rights advocates.

"Obviously, this is an issue where there is a difference of opinion on a partisan basis, and I think you saw that play out today," Sen. Bill Cunningham, D-Chicago, a co-chair of the committee, told reporters after the meeting.

The rules are the result of an assault weapons ban that state lawmakers passed last year in the wake of a deadly mass shooting at an Independence Day parade in Highland Park in 2022.

That law, known as the Protect Illinois Communities Act, bans the sale, purchase, manufacture or possession of a long list of firearms that are defined as "assault weapons," as well as several types of attachments, large-capacity magazines and certain kinds of high-power ammunition.

Under that law, people who already owned such items before the ban took effect are allowed to keep them. But to do so legally, they were supposed to register those items with the Illinois State Police before Jan. 1.

Last fall, ISP published temporary "emergency" rules that went into effect Oct. 1, enabling people to begin filing online registrations ahead of the Jan. 1 deadline. But many gun owners, gun rights advocates and state lawmakers pushed back against the rules, complaining that they were too vague in some areas, too complicated in others, and generally impossible to comply with.

In response, ISP held additional public hearings in October and November as it worked to craft permanent rules.

One of the concerns raised during the discussions focused on how ISP planned to collect and store information about the items people registered, and what the agency would do with that information if the law is eventually overturned as unconstitutional.

So far, the law has survived legal

challenges in both state and federal courts, but the National Association for Gun Rights, which is the major plaintiff in one of the federal lawsuits, has said it plans to file an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court within the next several weeks.

Rep. Ryan Spain, R-Peoria, who also co-chairs the committee, said he was frustrated by the short timeframe used to adopt the new rules and by the way some issues were handled. He then offered a motion to prohibit ISP from adopting the rules, arguing that the rules do not meet a requirement in state statute that they be "simple and clear" so that people and groups affected by them can understand them.

That motion failed because it needed eight votes on the 12-member committee but only received six.

Spain then made a motion to "object" to the rules on the same grounds that they were not "simple and clear." An objection has little practical effect on the rule, except that it requires the agency to respond to the objection in writing within 90 days before the rule can take effect.

That motion, which only requires a simple majority of members taking part, passed on a 6-5 vote.

That vote allows ISP to move forward by adopting the permanent rules and enforcing them into the future. But it remains unclear how many assault weapon owners will comply with the law by registering those firearms.

According to data maintained by ISP, just under 30,000 individuals had filed registration forms ahead of the Jan. 1 deadline. Those registrations covered roughly 69,000 firearms that fall under the ban as well as nearly 43,000 accessories.

It is not known what percentage that represents of the total number of assault weapons and banned accessories in circulation in Illinois, but many people have suggested that a large number of gun owners will refuse to comply with the registration requirement.

Cunningham, however, said he was not concerned about speculation of widespread noncompliance with the law.

"I would just repeat what I said earlier, which is the law is in place, and I would encourage people to follow the law," he said. □

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OPINION

LETTERS

We welcome letters. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. We edit all letters. Send them to editor@illinoistimes.com.

STUDY FIRE DEPARTMENT

This was an interesting article ("City-operated ambulance service to be considered," Jan. 4). The firefighters tout the need for more ambulances with the increase in EMS calls. But as a taxpayer, I would suggest that the fire department should be studied and possibly revamped to hire and staff more EMS employees and reduce the number of firefighters, since they are going on fewer fire calls. I have to believe the salary for an EMS employee is far less than the current firefighters, which would help the city by reducing salary cost as well as pension cost. I hope they continue to look into this as Ward 1 Ald. Chuck Redpath suggests.

James Patton

Via illinoistimes.com

SUPPORT AMBULANCE COMPANIES

Why not give our current ambulance

services the money so that they can purchase more ambulances and pay for additional staff? Seems like that would make more sense.

Mary Younkin

Via illinoistimes.com

LEFT A FEW THINGS OUT

Being nice to others is commendable. Church leaders not mentioning Christ, when granted a public forum by *Illinois Times*, indicates replacement priorities ("First Pres enlarges its welcome," Jan. 11). I'm curious to know how the \$7 million of updates, without nary a mention of active members, are being funded. Perhaps *Illinois Times* will tell us in an update?

C.S. Stahlman

Springfield

BUILDING NOT IMPORTANT

Not a thing about what the church teaches or that Jesus Christ preached. Evangelism is not accomplished by boasting of physically updating your building. The body of Christ is not in its buildings.

Victor Edwards

Springfield.



Kainan Rinaberger, president of Springfield Fire Fighters Local 37, says the city should begin formal negotiations with the union to supplement what the three existing ambulance providers offer to residents. Springfield City Council members will consider purchasing an ambulance in the next fiscal year for what could be the first step toward a multimillion-dollar, city-operated ambulance service to supplement privately operated ambulances and shorten response times in medical emergencies. PHOTO COURTESY LOCAL 37

B.B. & T. CLUB: MY MOM VERA'S MEMORY

As a little girl I lived in Chicago; my friends took piano lessons, "elocution lessons," and sometimes dancing lessons. Our parents had a music club which met at alternate houses. We listened in as the president hit the gavel and called the meeting to order. The secretary read "minutes" and ended with "Respectfully submitted." We formed our own club, but what to name it? We discussed music: Mozart, MacDowell, but chose "The Buster Brown and Tige Club" from a favorite newspaper comic. I would be secretary: I had little red notebooks wherein I'd write "respectfully submitted." At our first meeting we performed various talents then held the election. I was chosen president while Hilda Duck was given the little notebooks and got to write the magic words, "respectfully submitted." We made club rules: one was "I promise for one year to refrain from intoxicating drinks" another my older sister (no member) added: "No sarcastic remarks allowed" though we didn't know that word's meaning. We signed our names: H. Duck, V.A Wardner, N. McAllester, Elizabeth Reemer, C. McAuliffe, M. Geary, E. Duck. At the meeting's end I rinsed the silver pitcher used for lemonade and found in the bottom buttons, a button hook, and an assortment of safety pins. In later years two presidents of the National Federation of Music Clubs emerged from these clubs: one from the adult club and one from the children's club: my mother, V.A Wardner!

BAD POLICY

Great, that should be plenty of space to let all the homeless on the steps (of the church) come inside. It will be safer inside for them to drink and do illegal drugs. Are the parishioners even aware this is taking place on their property? People are getting hurt by this policy, which leads to drugs, alcohol and overdoses.

Garret Moffett

Via [Facebook.com/illinoistimes.com](https://www.facebook.com/illinoistimes.com)

DISINGENUOUS

This is in regard to the recent article about Teresa Haley ("Haley: Remarks 'taken out of context,'" Jan. 18). According to the story, "She said she used the word in the video when she was summarizing and referring to the same term used by at least two other Illinois branch presidents during the meeting."

If that term was so bad (as she claims), why on earth did she repeat it? To repeat a word or phrase without criticism suggests that you agree with it, which is so disingenuous. The guilt is still there.

The article states, "Haley told *Illinois Times* she regretted repeating her peers' comments."

She should, but again, the term must not be that bad if she chose to repeat it. At that point, it's not leadership, it's gossip.

Stephanie Goebel
Springfield

Push to create permanent Child Income Tax Credit

POLITICS | Rich Miller

One of the bigger state budget expansion fights we could see play out in Springfield this spring is the creation of a permanent \$300 Child Income Tax Credit.

The new proposal has been scaled back from last year's \$700 per child tax credit bill, which went nowhere in the House after it was introduced in February and ultimately had 15 sponsors and cosponsors. But proponents say even the downsized version would make a major difference.

The problem, of course, is the cost, pegged at about \$300 million per year. As I've told you before, number crunchers with the Governor's Office of Management and Budget are saying that Illinois could face a budget deficit of \$891 million next fiscal year, which begins July 1. That deficit could rise to \$1.4 billion in Fiscal Year 2026 and \$1.66 billion in FY27.

But this issue has real potential to take off in the General Assembly.

"We have the data that shows roughly 60% of the recipients of this benefit across the state would be Black and Brown households," said Rep. Mary Beth Canty, D-Arlington Heights, recently on WTTW's "Chicago Tonight" program. "We're talking about being able to make a difference in the lives of about 1,500,000 children across Illinois. That is a game changer for families."

The idea is framed as a partial replacement for the now-expired but massive 2021 expansion of the federal Child Tax Credit. "Monthly checks of up to \$3,600 offered parents reliable resources to pay for basic goods, like formula, diapers and school supplies, and basic necessities like shelter, utilities and food," wrote Natalie Foster in a recent *Crain's Chicago Business* op-ed. "The expanded federal CTC slashed child poverty in half, decreased food insecurity and improved educational outcomes."

"This is something that has to be dealt with at the federal level," Rep. Canty admitted last week. Efforts are indeed being made in Washington, D.C., to revive a scaled-down version of the federal tax credit program. A bipartisan agreement has been announced, but D.C. being D.C., nobody can be certain that it can actually pass.

So the states, Canty said, "have a real opportunity to make a difference. There are 14 other states that are running programs like this."

Asked how she would pay for the new

tax credit program, Canty said, "Where there is a will there's a way," which is not exactly an answer. "We always talk about a budget being a moral document," Canty said, "So when you talk about your policies, those are the things that you want people to know, but what we fund is where your morals really are. Those are your real values."

All true, of course, but, unless he goes along with it, this could be one of the most interesting challenges to the governor's effort to tamp down attempts to add permanent costs to the budget in the face of possible future deficits.

Keep in mind that more than half of all current House Democrats never served under then-Gov. Bruce Rauner's budget disasters, and the budget crunch during the pandemic's early stage was beyond anyone's control and was dealt with in just a few session days, so the newbies really have no idea what it's like to try and manage a adequate deficit year.

Meanwhile, Capitol News Illinois reported in December on the Commission

on Equitable Public University Funding, which is "tasked with developing a new model for funding higher education."

The news service reported that "some draft meeting materials presented at the board's November meeting suggest it would require as much as an overall \$14,000 per-student increase in state appropriations to fully fund higher education. With 130,000 undergraduates and 56,000 graduate students enrolled at state universities this year, these numbers suggest the needed funding increase could reach into the billions."

Not included in the article was the arithmetic, which would total \$2.6 billion in spending. That's per year, by the way.

There's just no possible way the state can pay for that. But it could be in the realm of possibility for another spending "ramp," something along the line of what the state did with pension funding and with gradually bringing all K-12 schools up to adequate funding levels.

Anyway, just add that potential cost to the pile. □

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When DCFS makes mistakes, children die

Year after year, basic errors by state child protection workers result in tragedy

CHILD WELFARE | George Pawlaczyk

Over the past 15 years, abused children put under the care of the state of Illinois have been beaten, tortured, starved, suffocated, fatally drugged and burned alive. In one particularly disturbing case, a convicted child abuser who once used a 2-year-old boy as a BB gun target managed to deceive child protection investigators to live with a woman and her young children, where he videotaped himself sexually assaulting a 3-year-old girl.

These children and many others have been killed or seriously injured despite the intervention of the Department of Children and Family Services, whose investigators form the state's primary defense against child abuse.

An *Illinois Times* review of public records issued between 2010 and 2024 shows that 176 children under the age of 13 have been killed after coming under the care of the department. Another 272 child deaths of children under the care of the department have resulted from undetermined causes. Abuse and neglect have

been rampant, even though 174 watchdog investigations of death and serious injury cases were opened during this period by the Office of the Inspector General for DCFS.

The OIG is the legal overseer of the department. It has repeatedly criticized child protection workers for not following their own rules and for making highly questionable decisions that imperiled children. These investigations generated more than 750 recommendations from the OIG to DCFS on how to improve child safety, most of which have been adopted. DCFS also launched a statewide error reduction program in 2008. In 2019, a child protection think tank at the University of Chicago urged sweeping reforms.

And yet in the 2023 OIG overall assessment of DCFS performance, an annual "Report to the Governor and General Assembly," homicides of children under 13 spiked at 20 deaths, the highest single-year total in a decade. These children died during the previous fiscal year

that ended June 30, 2022. Children continue to die at a steady rate in cases where state child protectors are blamed for mistakes.

For instance, the 250-plus-page 2023 OIG report included an account of a 5-year-old girl who was dropped from the top of a six-story parking garage. In February 2021, she fell 50 feet and slammed onto frozen ground. She survived, but suffered brain and spine injuries and a fractured skull. Her facial bones were smashed and her arms broken.

A 2021 DuPage County indictment charged her mother, Jerica Crawford, then 28, with dropping her daughter. Crawford herself jumped and was also severely injured from the 50-foot drop. She pleaded not guilty and was jailed. A status hearing on the case is set for Jan. 30.

However, according to an OIG investigation, the tragedy could have been prevented if DCFS child protection staffers had followed a crucially important regulation: always check for mental health records. OIG obtained Crawford's records

a year after the child was injured. They revealed that the young woman had been psychiatrically hospitalized 11 times over six months just a year and a half before she came to be investigated by DCFS for alleged drug abuse.

According to the OIG report, the mental hospitalization records showed that Crawford had "suicidal ideation and had thoughts of killing her then 3-year-old child." It continued, "Child protection staff did not interview medical or mental health providers, nor did they obtain the mother's mental health records, which documented a significant history of mental health concerns."

DCFS investigators let her keep custody of her child after Crawford agreed to drug counseling. She later denied that she said she would hurt her daughter, the OIG report stated.

Failure to follow their own rules and lapses in judgment "show an agency in deep dysfunction," said Cook County Public Guardian Charles Golbert in a written response. His office

provides legal representation throughout Cook County to thousands of neglected and abused children.

“It also speaks volumes about the devastating impact of DCFS’s vacancy rate for critical need investigators, which has been in violation of a federal court order for many years,” he wrote. “Its investigators labor, not only in an inept bureaucracy, but under untenable caseloads.”

Golbert was referring to a child protection investigator vacancy rate that in April of 2022 stood at 21%, with 651 on the job statewide. The current vacancy rate for child protection investigators is 10.8%, with 750 working, according to Heather Tarczan, communications director for DCFS. She said that 85 positions remain unfilled.

“DCFS does all that they can with the resources and the laws they have available to them to make the best decisions they possibly can to fulfill their mission of protecting children,” she said. “No one wants to see a child die or become injured, no one, especially not the agency that is protecting them.”

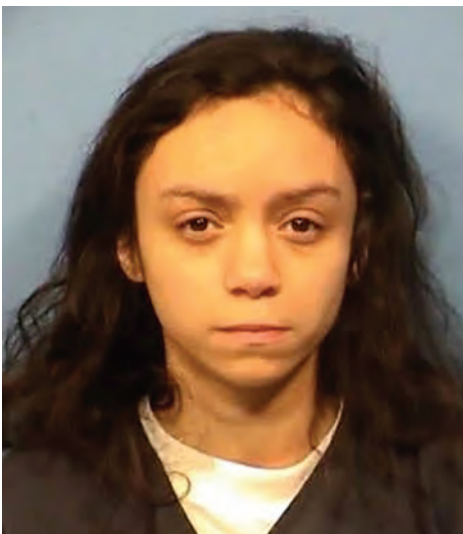
But the department has been under fire regularly for years for failing to protect children in its care. The turnover in the department’s top position reflects the recurrent problems that plague DCFS.

Marc Smith is the 10th director or acting director to hold the job since 2013. Last year, he was personally cited for contempt of court 12 times for failing to remove children from psychiatric hospitals long after they were cleared for release. While the contempt citations were dismissed on appeal, an appellate court termed Smith’s response to the issue as “woefully short.”

Smith has resigned, effective Jan. 31. He did not respond to a request for an interview. Heidi Mueller, director of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, will take over DCFS on Feb. 1.

Senator Dan McConchie, R-Lake Zurich, a longtime critic of DCFS, was asked about persistent mistakes by child abuse staffers.

“It is clear to the people of Illinois and anyone following, there are still significant issues at DCFS,” he stated in a written response.



Jerica Crawford, 28, in a jail mugshot after she was charged in 2021 with dropping her daughter, 5, from atop this six-story parking garage in Winfield. The girl survived but suffered serious injuries. DCFS investigators failed to obtain the mother’s psychiatric records. DUPAGE COUNTY BOOKING PHOTO RIGHT, PHOTO BY GEORGE PAWLACZYK



He added, “Although the administration has made some improvements to DCFS, this is not an area where the children in need should continue to wait to see significant progress. We need action, not more patience.”

DCFS handles nearly 95,000 cases in a year, according to Tarczan, but only a small percentage come to the attention of OIG overseers.

These OIG death and injury reports do not become public for up to two years following a child death or injury, long after media attention has faded. Because of privacy laws, all victims’ names and the locales where abuse or death occurred are left out. As with this article, news reporters sometimes are able to link the anonymous reports to identifiable events. But without further publicity, the OIG investigations go virtually unnoticed by the public.

In her preface to the 2020 annual report, then-acting OIG director Meryl Paniak wrote, “I am disheartened that many of the problems I identify here have been identified before.”

Paniak, then in her second and final year with the OIG, identified two particular dangers to child safety: Children killed after DCFS left them with abusive parents and investigators who take shortcuts leading to tragedy. Paniak declined to comment for this story.

Denise Kane, who held the job of OIG director for more than two decades, wrote in the preface of the 2018 annual report, her final year, “Investigative and intact family services workers’ caseloads were dangerously high – in some instances 50-100 percent above the prescribed limit.” Limits were set by a federal consent decree.

She added, “In some overloaded offices, investigators were actually offered incentives to close cases.” In a telephone interview with *Illinois Times*, Kane said incentives included \$25 gift certificates to Applebee’s restaurants.

Referring to a current 60-day goal to close cases, she said gift certificates “do not guarantee the integrity of an investigation. Not when you have 15 or 17 cases or more...you are likely then to be putting kids in danger.”

A critical delay

A special report in the 2023 annual OIG assessment of DCFS listed 24 cases where investigators failed to interview children reported to the hotline as abused or neglected within the state’s strict 24-hour rule.

It stated: “The OIG identified a systemic pattern in child protection investigations where there was a significant delay in child protection investigators making initial contact with children after a hotline call.” However, the OIG did not respond to a request to answer how many cases overall were checked for delays in the 24-hour rule.

Tierney Stutz, deputy director of DCFS, said 95% of calls to the state abuse hotline that are referred for investigation result in a face-to-face interview with a child within seven days.

“DCFS looks forward to our continued partnership with the OIG and will work closely with them to implement all recommendations with expediency,” Tarczan, the spokesperson, said in a written response to a question about the department’s reaction to the 24-hour rule.

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One case of delayed initial contact in the report ended in the suffocation death of 8-year-old Amaria Osby in her bedroom in Chicago on May 25, 2022. The OIG special report listed a hotline abuse call to the girl's home 62 days before she died. Nevertheless, no DCFS investigator contacted her until the day before her mother, Andreal Hagler, allegedly suffocated her.

The family had come to the attention of DCFS in March of 2022 after police were called about domestic abuse by Hagler against the girl's father, Demarcus Osby. A DCFS case was opened against the mother and the next day, on March 23, the investigator rang the doorbell. No further attempt was made to contact the girl until the day before she died, more than two months later.

The OIG 24-hour rule report stated that when Amaria was finally interviewed, a DCFS investigator found "that the child appeared happy and comfortable in the home with her mother."

Amaria's mother has been charged with her murder. She pleaded not guilty.

The OIG found 24 cases in seven counties where the 24-hour rule was not followed. Delays ranged from 29 days to over 10 months.

The OIG investigated each of these cases and presented summaries of what was found without including victims' names nor identifying the county. Of the total, 17 cases were "unfounded," meaning no abuse or neglect was found. Seven cases were "indicated," meaning that abuse or neglect was found.

Of the 24 cases, six children died, two in unfounded cases and four in indicated cases. One child drowned. The cause of death for four of the children was not specified, although none of these resulted in a criminal charge.

"The OIG found that this occurrence (of failing to follow up within 24 hours) was statewide and included both abuse and neglect allegations," the report stated. The OIG recommended that police be called to help locate hard-to-find families and conduct wellness checks.

Defies common sense

OIG oversight investigations include DCFS decisions that defy common sense.

In the 2017 annual report, an infant was reported to have died one hour after birth. While investigating the premature death, "Investigators discovered that several years earlier, "...the father had taken the mother into the basement of the family home, forced her head through a noose affixed to the ceiling and left her hanging for approximately one minute." The father and mother denied the attack, but the report stated the mother later "... confirmed to officers she had in fact been hung by the neck."

However, the DCFS child protection



Heidi Mueller, who previously served as the state's director of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, was named director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services effective Feb. 1. PHOTO COURTESY ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

investigator and the case supervisor decided "that while they believed the hanging incident" occurred, "the children could not be considered at risk since they had not witnessed the attack." Two children, age 9 and 12, lived at the home.

Despite the attempted hanging, DCFS "determined the children were safe in the custody of the father." A local court agreed, but when the OIG recommended DCFS appeal the ruling the department refused, according to the report.

The OIG's last words in the matter were, "The father's sociopathic behavior presents a risk to the children."

Golbert, the public guardian in Cook County, said, "You cannot make workers wise. But you can ensure that investigator and worker caseloads are consistent with national norms and in compliance with court orders. You can also give workers the tools, resources and supports that they need."

He added, "Reform must be data-driven. But frankly, you don't need a Ph.D. in social work to know that you don't keep kids with a father who hangs his wife."

A similar incident is described in the 2023 OIG report involving the suicidal behavior of the mother of 7-year-old Nathaniel Burton. She was charged with murder in her son's suffocation death.

Before her son died, Sarah Safranek, now 36, had been investigated by DCFS 15 times. She was allowed to keep her children 13 of those times. Twice she was allowed to keep them after she agreed to counseling. Complicating the case, the OIG report stated, were Safranek's multiple suicide attempts, although like the previous case involving hanging, DCFS child protection workers downplayed their importance.

Once Safranek took pills trying to kill herself, the report said, but: "The child protection

supervisor agreed with a recommendation to dismiss the child abuse case finding, noting that the mother took the pills knowing the father would be home soon." The supervisor claimed Safranek knew rescue would soon be at hand "and that the children were unaware of the overdose."

Two months later Safranek tried again, taking an overdose "after her children were asleep," according to the report. However, "Thirty minutes later she became scared and woke up her husband, who called 911," the OIG investigators reported.

She was psychiatrically hospitalized after both attempts, but OIG overseers found that DCFS workers did not obtain her mental health records. She was still allowed to keep her children. In both suicide incidents and after her two psychiatric admissions, according to the OIG report, Safranek was cleared by DCFS of potentially harming her children. "In both incidents, it was reasoned that the children did not know of her attempts, rather than the actual risk her behavior created," the OIG concluded.

Safranek repeatedly told investigators that she was too stressed to handle child care and asked for help. Still, abuse and neglect reports against her were dismissed.

Five months later, her 7-year-old son, Burton, who was found to have a lacerated liver, was found dead of suffocation. Safranek was charged with his murder in Ogle County. She pleaded not guilty and remains in jail awaiting a status hearing this month.

Egregious errors

This newspaper's review found dozens of flagrant errors by DCFS workers in OIG reports of child deaths and serious injury. The death of 4-year-old Christopher Valdez stands out as an example of how not to conduct child protection.

Christopher died on his birthday a day after Thanksgiving in 2011 when repeated beatings left him too ill to eat. His mother, Crystal Valdez, was convicted of murder and sentenced to 35 years. Her boyfriend got 75 years.

Numerous headlines reported the boy was tortured, but the state's negligence in the case never became public until Jan. 1, 2013, when that year's "Report to the Governor and General Assembly" was published. As usual, the anonymous account failed to generate public outrage.

But it should have. The OIG death report found that the child protection investigator falsely claimed to have conducted numerous interviews and interventions that never really happened.

She did not keep required case paperwork and her supervisor never asked for it. And his boss, the case manager, did not intervene. The OIG report said: "By not requiring the investigator to produce required documentation of her work on the case, he (the case manager) allowed the investigator's fictional account of events to become the narrative of what had occurred."

As a result, the case was "unfounded," or dropped. Christopher, who remained with his mother, died three months after the case was closed.

However, the OIG review noted that the investigator "had been assigned an extraordinarily high volume of cases and was responsible for servicing an unreasonable amount (sic) of clients." The investigator was fired and the supervisor and manager were suspended.

In September 2012, Nathaniel Beller, 29, lifted his 9-year-old son into a bathtub filled with four gallons of gasoline, walked to an open second floor window, lit a cigarette, and called out to Cicero police below.

The incident followed a dispute with his girlfriend, Taniya Johnson, who had calmed him down that morning and then left for work where she called police. Beller refused to let them in. Officers could hear children coughing inside but couldn't convince Beller to let them go. He threatened to burn them.

After several hours, Beller released his son, along with his 3-year-old daughter. Police found the boy's socks were wet with gasoline.

Beller was arrested and hospitalized for psychiatric treatment. His two children were removed by court order to the care of a maternal aunt.

In the weeks that followed, DCFS workers, counselors and staff at the state-operated psychiatric hospital failed to communicate. Beller was never charged with any crime and was free to leave.

According to an OIG report, "No coordination existed between DCFS and the Illinois Division of Mental Health to ensure that

the father complied with his aftercare program” upon release from the hospital. A hospital administrator interviewed by the OIG stated that “since the father’s participation in services had not been ordered by the court, they were powerless to compel him to comply with the discharge plan.”

Beller appeared in juvenile court two days after release from the hospital seeking visitation with the children he had threatened to burn. The judge granted supervised visits. The DCFS investigator did not interview Beller in court and was unaware “he had been referred to aftercare services and had failed to attend,” according to the oversight report.

Two months after pouring gasoline into the bathtub, Beller was “indicated” by DCFS for risk of injury to his children and the mother, Johnson, was “indicated” for risk of harm, the OIG report stated. The case was then closed, with the children in the care of the aunt.

The OIG investigation included interviews with staff at the psychiatric hospital and a counseling center who said they had tried to contact the DCFS investigator but were unable to reach her “because her voice message mailbox was full.”

Eventually, the father’s visits migrated to the aunt’s home where the children lived. The OIG also found out that officials at the school the boy attended were unaware of the restrictions leveled by the court as to who could pick him up after school. Johnson was supposed to be accompanied by an adult designated by DCFS but instead picked her son up alone.

With the case closed and court-ordered visiting restrictions not enforced, Beller and Johnson moved with the children to the paternal grandmother’s home in Lakewood, near Chicago, in violation of a court order.

On Dec. 29, Beller, who had persisted in refusing counseling or to take medication, “lit his family on fire” after dousing them with gasoline. The daughter, then 4, Johnson and Beller died in the blaze. The boy was burned over 35% of his body and hospitalized in critical condition.

Cruelty unchecked

You might not have been able to tell from looking at him, especially when he smiled and wore his U.S. Army uniform, but Joseph R. Sipple was a cruel person.

In 2011, Sipple, then 25, was convicted in Grundy County of aggravated battery of a child and sentenced to two years in an Illinois prison. He was paroled after serving just one year.

Police records show that during the incident Sipple took an ex-girlfriend and her 5-year-old son hostage and held them for 20 hours. During this time, “He engaged in extreme and sadistic abuse of the boy that included repeatedly punching and kicking, strangling him with a cord, pulling on his genitals and stuffing soiled underwear in his mouth.” After his release from prison, Sipple was not to contact the ex-girlfriend or her children.

But in 2012, Sipple was pulled over during a traffic stop. The ex-girlfriend was sitting in the passenger seat. The boy who had been tortured was in the back seat.

This resulted in a parole violation and a DCFS child abuse investigation. Police requested that the OIG for DCFS check an out-of-state conviction of Sipple for assault of a child. The state was not identified.

Through the out-of-state check, OIG learned that Sipple had abused another ex-girlfriend’s child, a 2-year-old boy who he used as a human target when he practiced with a BB gun. Pellets from these air rifles can penetrate skin or an eye. He also punched the toddler in the genitals and then forced him to engage in abuse of his mother, who Sipple had tied to a chair. But Sipple was not sent back to prison for a parole violation.

Instead, the OIG recommended that a “clinical screener” be brought into the abuse investigation to determine if the ex-girlfriend was capable of protecting and raising her children. According to an OIG report, “The specialist concluded that counseling for the mother, abused son, and the man was adequate to mitigate any potential harm despite the man’s



Joseph R. Sipple, who served a short prison sentence for abusing a 5-year-old child in Grundy County and once used a 2-year-old as a target for a BB gun, shot himself to death in 2014 after being cornered by police pursuing him for two murders. PHOTO PROVIDED

history of calculated, sadistic violence...”

OIG called the screener’s report “cursory and boilerplate.” The screener did not actually interview the mother but relied on caseworker notes.

During the six weeks it took for a supervisor to approve the report, Sipple lived with the woman and her children, although she told DCFS investigators he was not allowed at her house.

In June of 2014, Sipple became the prime suspect in the murders of still another ex-girlfriend, Kelli Denker, 30, and her mother, Donna Denker, 60. They were found shot to death in their Dwight home.

Two weeks later on June 26, police from several agencies chased Sipple’s van and cornered him. He committed suicide before he could be arrested. The handgun found with him was later

determined to be the same one that killed the Denkers.

After his death, Illinois State Police searched a computer connected to Sipple and found “explicit photos” of him engaged “in sexual behavior with the girlfriend’s 3-year-old daughter.” This attack had occurred after the traffic stop when the girlfriend and boy were found with Sipple.

During police interrogation, the little girl’s mother said Sipple broke her daughter’s leg, requiring her to be hospitalized. ISP continued their investigation, according to an OIG report, “and found photos of the man and the girlfriend engaged in sexual acts in the presence of the girl in the hospital room.”

The clinical screening that had determined it was safe for Sipple to be around the girlfriend and her children was somehow never turned over to caseworkers assigned to help the family. After Sipple’s death, DCFS closed the case for child abuse even though a newly assigned caseworker was unaware of the ISP finding that the woman had continued to live with Sipple.

Finally, according to the OIG report, the caseworker asked that the case be closed but “submitted the request incorrectly stating the mother had no contact with the man for six months prior to his death.” The caseworker then mistakenly filed the entire DCFS investigation under the category: service completed successfully.

It was the final mistake in a mistake-ridden case. □

George Pawlaczyk worked as an investigative reporter at the Belleville News-Democrat for 24 years covering deficiencies in Illinois state agencies and social justice issues. In 2010 he won a George Polk Award for coverage of extended solitary confinement of mentally ill prisoners at the now-closed Tamms Correctional Center and in 2007 a Robert F. Kennedy Award for a series on failures at Illinois DCFS to protect children. Both awards were won with his former reporting partner Beth Hundsdoerfer. He can be reached at 618-560-6462 and gapawlaczyk@gmail.com.

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The legendary Stevie Nicks, celebrated by seven singers, at the Legacy Theatre

MUSIC | Tom Irwin

Calling all fans of Stevie Nicks to The Legacy Theatre this weekend for the show you've had "Dreams" of ever since "Rhiannon" avoided a "Landslide" by hanging out with a "White-Winged Dove," just to name drop a few of Nicks' greatest hits. Titled *Sisters of the Moon* and designated as a reading of the Stevie Nicks songbook, the program sets seven women of varying ages from 19 to closer to Ms. Nicks' current age (she was born in 1948), performing nearly 30 Stevie songs with a live band. Developed in-house at the theater, the presentation delivers all the expected platinum hits while digging deep into the vaults of the extensive catalog created by this celebrated music artist.

According to Scott Richardson, founder and executive director of the Legacy, the concept first surfaced back in April of 2023, when singer and actor Lori Ann McCabe (*Always, Patsy Cline, Mamma Mia!*) presented her "Linda Ronstadt Songbook" concert at the theater and lighting director Luke Becker mused about doing a similar Stevie Nicks show. Everyone involved agreed what a fine idea it was, so Richardson and McCabe began the work of setting the stage by inviting Stevie-styled singers involved in our community theaters and choosing what songs to perform. Rehearsals began around Thanksgiving of 2023 and worked their way through holiday schedules, then began in earnest a few weeks ago.

McCabe said they "consulted with lifelong Stevie fans and concertgoers" in the area to see what songs would be best to perform and ended up with "a broad spectrum" spanning Nicks' career, which is an extraordinary one when you take a good long look at it. She is the only woman inducted twice into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame (with Fleetwood Mac and as a solo artist), has notched some 65 million in record sales in the U.S. alone and is listed as one of the "100 Greatest Songwriters of All Time" by *Rolling Stone* magazine. She's recorded duets with Tom Petty, Don Henley and Kenny Loggins, performed on stage with countless major acts and inspired generations of female singers, including The Dixie Chicks, Beyoncé and Taylor Swift. She remains relevant and resourceful, through continued nationally touring (her 2024 tour begins in February and she'll be at Soldier Field in Chicago June 21) and recently releasing recorded music (her career-spanning, retrospective box set came out in 2023).



The cast of "Sisters of the Moon: The Stevie Nicks Songbook" at The Legacy Theatre (L to R) Rachel Larison, Devin Dinora, Erica Metzger, Ellen Tuttle, Betsy Buttell, Emilie Heckenkamp and Cynda Wrightsman. The band features (L to R) Cory Brown, Gary Davis, Mary E. Myers, Blake Martin and Michael Sullivan.

Richardson remarked how with the age variances of the performers, they could then present different eras of Nicks' career and commented on how the singers, now forever known in theater circles as the "Seven Stevies," bonded and complemented each other, working together while having fun bringing the songs to life. McCabe, who due to scheduling

conflicts unfortunately won't be in the show, said that all seven singers will be on stage simultaneously for most of the concert, with a different soloist taking a lead vocal while the others join in to produce the numerous harmonies found in most Stevie Nicks songs.

Even without McCabe being in the program, Richardson gives Lori Ann full credit, saying, "without her there would be no show." She added that with his gifts for creative staging, "there will be a full package" of costuming, lights and "tricks up his sleeve" to accompany the singing of Stevie's songs. Vocalists performing as the "Seven Stevies," include Betsy Buttell, Devin Dinora, Emilie Heckenkamp, Rachel Larison, Erica Metzger, Ellen Tuttle and Cynda Wrightsman. With her extensive experience in area theater, McCabe offered the observation that to her these women ranged from "lifelong friends" to "kids who she watched grow up in theater" as well as a few others in between.

No Stevie Nicks concert would be complete without a "rocking band" and this group consists of theater veterans who perform with local combos as well, including Cory Brown, Blake Martin, Michael Sullivan, Gary Davis and Mary E. Myers. Considering the range of Nicks' material and the caliber of musicians doing those original recordings, expect these players to be having some fun learning parts and performing the music.

McCabe added that the show will be "jammin' in and jammin' out," as tribute will definitely and gloriously be paid to one of the most popular and enduring music artists of the last 50 years by these area performers set to bring the songs of Stevie Nicks to the stage.

Tom Irwin is a Springfield singer-songwriter and musician who was lucky enough to see Stevie Nicks perform with Fleetwood Mac in Superjam '76 held at Busch Stadium in St. Louis June 29, 1976, but he doesn't remember a whole lot of it.

Times and tickets

Sisters of the Moon: The Stevie Nicks Songbook, runs Jan. 26, 27 and 28, with the Friday and Saturday shows at 7 p.m. and the Sunday show at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and online at www.atthelegacy.com or \$30 day of show at the Legacy Theatre (101 East Lawrence Avenue. 217-528-9760) box office.



Panelists on the Feb. 1 program: Driss El-Akrich, Xuna Hu, Isabel Skinner, Vidya Sundareshan

A Springfield view of immigration

Citizens Club programs Feb. 1 and 15 offer a local look at a global topic

PUBLIC AFFAIRS | Cinda Ackerman Klickna

An impressive group of speakers will headline two evening forums focused on immigration in Springfield. Sponsored by the Citizens Club of Springfield, the programs will be held Feb. 1 and Feb. 15 6-7:30 at St. John's Hospital's Dove Conference Center, 619 E. Mason.

Citizens Club President John Kelker, Program Director Beverly Bunch, and lead organizers of the programs and Citizen Club Board members, Sammi Mander and Lingling Liu, have planned the programs to provide a local look at immigration. Kelker says, "Our club highlights issues of a local nature, and this is one that turned out to be worthy of a two-part evening program."

The Citizens Club's regular monthly presentations are usually on the fourth Friday of the month at 8 a.m. at the Hoogland. The Jan. 26 program will look at the shortage of health professionals in Springfield.

Mander says the two evening forums will be an opportunity to hear from people who immigrated to Springfield. It may be surprising to some to learn that of the 115,000 citizens in Springfield, 4.37% are immigrants. Looking at national statistics – out of the 340 million citizens in the U.S., 13.7% are immigrants. Mander says, "Many on the panel at each event have stories of what prompted them to seek a different life and why they came here. We want to go beyond the typical narrative about immigration and focus on facts and the ways so many have contributed to the vibrancy and the fabric of the Springfield community. In addition, we want to look at what policies and practices around immigration would help our community be even more vibrant."

Experts will delve into the stories of immigrants as well as challenges faced and the impact of historical and current legislation on immigration. Questions from

the audience will be taken at the end of each program.

Moderator David Steward, retired faculty member of SIU School of Medicine, will lead the discussions. Panelists include some who are immigrants themselves, others who are experts in the field. The Feb. 1 session, called "History, Challenges and Contributions" includes panelists Driss El-Akrich, the first Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant in Arabic in the U.S., Xuna Hu, currently a real estate agent who immigrated from China, Isabel Skinner, assistant professor in the School of Politics and International Affairs at UIS, and Vidya Sundareshan, originally from India, a professor and Chief of Infectious Diseases at SIU School of Medicine.

The Feb. 15 session, "Building a More Immigrant-Inclusive Springfield," brings together Elizabeth Brago Boateng, from Ghana, who holds several degrees and won a book award in Ghana at the age of 17; Brooke Depenbusch, Assistant Professor of Legal Studies at UIS whose research examines U.S. social policy; Yves Doumen, originally from Cameroon, who founded The Motherland Gardens, a nonprofit organization that works to address food insecurity through a sustainable urban agriculture system in Springfield; and Veronica Espina, who was a journalist in Santiago, Chile, came to the U.S. on a Rotary Scholarship, earning a degree at UIS in Community Arts Management and founded the Springfield Immigrant Advocacy Network (SIAN).

The sessions are free and open to the public. Reservations are appreciated but not required. More information can be found on the Citizens Club Facebook page. □

Cinda Ackerman Klickna discovered impressive bios of the panelists and looks forward to hearing their stories.

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Sourdough baking an ancient process

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

Countless cooks caught the sourdough baking bug in the early days of the COVID-19 lockdown. Yeast was scarce and with time on their hands, modern bakers discovered the joys of this ancient process. I was fortunate to grow up with artisanal sourdough baking, but as a Midwestern kid in the 1990s it was anything but trendy. Inspired by *Breads from La Brea Bakery*, a culinary tome from award-winning baker Nancy Silverton, my mother set out to create her own sourdough starter using yeast from wild grapes that we foraged from the woods behind our house. More than 30 years later, her starter is still going strong and even though my mom has since passed, I take comfort in knowing that part of her is quite literally alive in my kitchen.

When the COVID-19-era baking trend emerged, my jar of starter had been “sleeping” quietly in the back of my refrigerator for years. To leaven bread, sourdough starter must be active and requires twice daily feeding of flour and water at room temperature. It can be put to “sleep” by feeding and then refrigerating it until you’re ready to wake it up and use it again. For starter that’s used regularly, this usually takes a couple days of feeding, but mine had been in the fridge so long that it took nearly six weeks before it became vigorously bubbly and active again. Consequently, I had six weeks’ worth of “discard” that I needed to make something with or pitch. These have since become my go-to preparations and I often bulk up my starter just so I have the discard to make these recipes.

It takes weeks to create a sourdough starter from scratch, but those interested can pick up a sample of Mom’s original starter along with instructions at It’s All About Wine on Wabash Avenue.

Sourdough Biscuits

Hands down the best biscuit ever.

Ingredients:
1 cup flour (I use King Arthur white whole wheat flour)
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon each salt and sugar
½ cup very cold butter
1 cup sourdough discard
2 tablespoons milk or cream

Combine the flour, baking powder, salt and sugar in a mixing bowl. Grate in the butter on the large holes of a box cutter, then mix gently to incorporate. Alternatively, you can



combine the dry mixture with cold cubed butter in a food processor and blitz until it’s the consistency of coarse meal, then transfer to a mixing bowl. Combine the sourdough and milk and then add to the biscuits. Mix gently with a spoon to form a shaggy dough. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and knead briefly. Pat the dough into a rough rectangle, then fold it in thirds like a letter. Pat the dough flat and repeat the fold, then gently pat it out to a thickness of ½ inch. Cut out biscuits and arrange them on a greased baking sheet. For optimal rise, place the biscuits in the freezer for 30 minutes before baking. At this point the biscuits can be frozen solid and then transferred to a freezer bag and stored for up to two months.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 400 degrees (350 if biscuits are frozen solid). Place the biscuits in the oven and bake for 15-25 minutes, depending on their size and if they are frozen. They’re done when golden brown and spring back lightly pressed in the center. Baked, cooled biscuits can also be frozen. Thaw at room temperature then reheat for five minutes in a 325-degree oven.

Variations:

-Savory cheddar biscuits: Reduce the butter to 6 tablespoons, add one cup grated sharp cheddar, ¼ cup diced green onions and ½ teaspoon each onion and garlic powder.
-Cinnamon raisin: When patting out the dough, sprinkle cinnamon sugar and brandy-soaked raisins onto each layer before folding. Drizzle the baked cinnamon-raisin biscuits with a glaze made from powdered sugar, cream cheese and milk.

Sourdough Apple Spice Bread

Ingredients:
6 tablespoons vegetable oil
¾ cup brown sugar
½ cup sourdough discard
2 cups applesauce
2 eggs
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon each baking soda, baking powder and cinnamon
¼ teaspoon each cloves and nutmeg
Heaping ½ cup dried apple bits (available at Food Fantasies)

Cinnamon sugar for sprinkling over the top

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Combine the vegetable oil, brown sugar, sourdough discard, applesauce and eggs in a mixing bowl and stir until thoroughly combined. Whisk together the flour, spices, salt and baking powder/soda, then add this to the applesauce mixture. Add the apple bits and mix gently until just combined. Pour the batter into a greased 9x5-inch loaf pan, sprinkle the top with cinnamon sugar and let rest for 10 minutes before placing in the preheated oven. Bake for one hour, covering with foil if needed after about 45 minutes. The bread is done when a toothpick inserted into the middle of the bread comes out clean and dry. Let cool for 20 minutes before serving.

Sourdough Flatbreads

Ingredients:
1 ⅔ cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons olive or vegetable oil
4-5 tablespoons plain full fat yogurt (NOT Greek style)
½ cup sourdough starter
Melted butter or olive oil, for brushing flatbreads

Combine the flour, salt and oil in a mixing bowl and use a whisk or fork to mix thoroughly. Whisk together four tablespoons of the yogurt and the sourdough starter, then add this to the flour mixture. Mix briefly with a spoon to form a shaggy dough (add an additional tablespoon of yogurt if the dough is too dry), then turn it out onto a lightly floured surface and knead for about one minute until the dough is smooth and elastic. Cover the dough and let rest for 30 minutes, or refrigerate overnight. (Overnight rest will yield more complex flavors.)

Cut the dough into 12 uniform pieces and roll each into a ball. (Keep the rolled balls covered so they don’t dry out.) Preheat a large nonstick or cast-iron skillet over high heat. Using a rolling pin (a straight sided wine bottle works if you don’t have a rolling pin), roll out a dough ball to form a 4-inch round (for naan type breads) or an 8-inch round for tortillas. Working one at a time, place a flatbread in the hot dry skillet and cook for about 45 seconds per side. The breads will brown and puff up slightly. Transfer to a rack, brush lightly with butter on both sides and allow to cool slightly before serving. □



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MUSIC

January-ing music ends

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin


Here we are already at the last weekend of January and finally just in for a full slate of dates permitted by the weather for all of us music lovers. The last two weekends were a bit on the cold side to say the least (and I always try to say the least), but we are ending on a definite upswing with the temps, giving us no reason to not get out and go. And by the way, if you hadn't figured it out yet after 20 some years of me preaching about it, there are a multitude of live music activities available for your attention and attendance.

An excellent place to start this week comes with hearty congratulations and a heartfelt welcome to Isabella Szabo as the new executive director of the Springfield Area Arts Council. She managed the University of Illinois Springfield Visual Arts Gallery from 2022 until now and her work at the SAAC office inside the Hoogland Center for the Arts begins Feb. 1.

The council, around since 1976, serves Sangamon and Menard counties and is responsible for organizing First Night Springfield, Artist on the Plaza, Poetry Out Loud, Friday Night Jazz & Blues, Art After Hours, Music at the Market and participating in other programs such as the popular, downtown-based, summertime Levitt AMP music concerts. Sheila Walk, retiring after several years at the council, including being at the helm since 2018, continues to manage the art education programs at the organization. Hip, hip, hooray for all the good stuff the council did, does and will do. Again, we welcome Isabella aboard.

I wrote an article appearing elsewhere in this *IT* issue about *Sisters of the Moon*, a concert and show at the Legacy Theatre this weekend that's all about doing the Stevie Nicks songbook. By using vocalists involved in our community theater, plus band members you may recognize as acclaimed area musicians, the program is in-house produced and, if you attend, you would most certainly be following the "buy local" concept. As I wrote in the other piece, Nicks has really been a huge force in popular music for decades, arguably more than any other female artist, and plenty of male ones as well, so go get your Stevie on.

Dumb Records plays it smart downtown by selling precious vinyl records, keeping up the cool arcade and hosting live music shows. This Friday at 7 p.m. expect a hip-hop happening, something we don't get



Maui Grimm takes it straight to Mowie's Cue this Friday night.

enough of here in Mr. Lincoln's Hometown, featuring traveling acts Esby573, K101, Rios Mios and Shon the Greatest. Be aware, as their Facebook post from last week says with understatement galore, "Wow, just realized we have a ton of shows coming up." The Dumb folks have booked five in February and five more in March, so get downtown and support your local record store whenever possible.

Lots of regular Springfield bands play all weekend at the usual haunts, but here are a few less-frequent players worth a visit. On Friday, Maui Grimm comes down from up north to sing songs in a solo show at Mowie's Cue and catch Birds of a Feather, featuring area musicians doing Phish music, at The Curve Inn.

Saturday, I spy Scarlet's Darling, an original Springfield rock trio, at Buzz Bomb, Dysfunctional Family with Chris Sorenson Project killing it at Goodfellas and Gage McCoy bringing it on at the Main Gate.

Sunday afternoon delivers self-penned songs and more by Ethan Taylor Stephenson at It's All About Wine and quirky covers by Captain Quirk at Danenberger Family Vineyards.

That does it for me. See you in February. □

MUSIC

Live music within 40 miles of Springfield. Dates, times and locations are subject to change, so we suggest calling before attending an event.

Attention bands, bars and musicians: submit your shows and photos online at www.illinoistimes.com or by email calendar@illinoistimes.com.

Thursday Jan 25

**Kortney and friends
open mic**
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7-11pm

John Drake
Crows Mill Pub, 7-10pm

**Jackpot Karaoke with
Debbie Cakes**
Curve Inn, 7-11pm

**Open mic with
Bob Besser**
Door 4 Brewing Co., Decatur,
6pm

it Solista Mariachi Gabriel
El Arriero Mexican
Restaurant, 6-8pm

J.C.B. Entertainment Karaoke
La Fiesta Chatham, 6-10pm

Open mic
The Railyard, 4-6pm

Open mic with Silas Tockey
Spirited Republic/Limerick
Brewing Company, Lincoln,
7-10pm

Friday Jan 26

**Jeff Young and the Bad
Grandpas**
Amber's Place, 7-10pm

**Tony Logue & The 184,
Chance Stanley**
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,
7pm

**J.C.B. Entertainment
Karaoke**
Bald Buddha Brewing,
7-11pm

**Friday Night Jazz - Adjunct
Policy**
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

**Buzzed Karaoke with DJ
Smokey J & The Hootie
Sound Machine**
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,
6-11pm

Matt Eck
Crowne Plaza Springfield, 6:30-
10pm

Birds of a Feather
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Menace To Sobriety
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 8-10pm

Nicky and Bob Besser
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur,
5pm

**it Esby573, K101, Rios
Mios, Shon the Greatest**
Dumb Records, 7pm

Tom Irwin & those Raouligans
George Rank's, 8-11pm

Micah Walk
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

Dan Grover
Hy-Vee Wahlburgers,
5:30-7:30pm

JackAsh
Jamie's Route 66, Southern
View, 6-9pm

Karaoke
JB's Hideout, Blue Mound, 8pm-
12am

**Angel Brown's Smooth N'
Blue Band**
Lime Street Cafe, 7-10:30pm

Joel Honey
Locals Bar, Pawnee, 8-11pm

Karaoke with Jamie Lynn
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm

Maui Grimm
Mowie's Cue, 8pm

John Stevens
New Moon Cafe, Decatur,
6-8pm

Friday Night Karaoke
Pier 55 Lounge, 8pm

The Tangents
The Next Stop Saloon, Mount
Pulaski, 7-10pm

Roxschool
Weebles Bar & Grill,
7-11pm

Saturday Jan 27

Thomas J Beverly
1st and 3rd Boutique and Wine
Bar, Petersburg, 3-6pm

Roy Caudill
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,
2pm

Scarlet's Darling
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,
7-10pm

Lick Creek
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Too Hype Crew
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 8pm

**Dysfunctional Family with
Chris Sorenson Project**
Goodfellas Pub, 7-11pm

Myers - Brant - Paoni
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

The Tangents
Jelleybean Bar and Gaming,
Mechanicsburg, 7-10pm

Backwoods Burden Band
Kuhl Tyme Korner, Jacksonville,
8pm-12am

**Angel Brown's Smooth N'
Blue Band**
Lime Street Cafe, 7-10:30pm

Karaoke
Locals Bar, Pawnee, 9pm

Gage McCoy
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 7pm

Renegade Karaoke
Northern Lights Lounge,
8:30pm-12:30am

The Greg Bickers Band
Pop's Place, Decatur, 2-5pm

Open mic
Stella Coffee & Tea, 10am-
12:30pm

The Cocktails
The Blue Grouch, 7-10pm

Dean Z: The Ultimate Elvis
UIS Performing Arts Center,
7:30pm

UNCHAINED
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-11pm

Sunday Jan 28

Not Petty
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester,
3-6pm

Captain Quirk
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 2-5pm

Tom Irwin
Harvest Market Coffee Bar,
10am-1pm

Isaiah Christian
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford,
2-5pm

Ethan Taylor Stephenson
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

Stefan Hillesheim
Pop's Place, Decatur,
3-6pm

John Drake
Slaughterhouse Brewing Co.,
Auburn, 1-4pm

The Tangents
Trails End Saloon, Curran,
3-6pm

Devin Williams
Whiskey Ridge Saloon,
Breckenridge, 3-6pm

Monday Jan 29

Stefan Hillesheim
The Alamo, 7pm

Al Kitchen
Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta,
6-9pm

Tuesday Jan 30

**Karaoke with
Debbie Cakes**
The Blue Grouch Pub,
7-11pm

Open jam
George Rank's, 8-11pm

**Songwriter open mic
with Tom Irwin**
It's All About Wine, 6-9pm

**Open mic with
Jim Ackerman**
Silver Sevens Gaming Pub &
Parlor, 6:30-9:30pm.

Open mic with Tom Beverly
Wings Etc, 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday Jan 31

**Devin Williams and
Zach Eymann**
Benderz, Auburn, 7-10pm

**Open mic with Joel Honey
and Silas Tockey**
Boone's, 7-10pm

Karaoke
Clique, 9pm-1am

Karaoke
Crows Mill Pub, 8-11pm

Al Kitchen and friends
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar &
Grill, Museum & Entertainment
Complex, 6-9pm

**Karaoke with
Debbie Cakes**
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-11pm

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CALENDAR



Springfield’s Immigrant Stories, Parts 1 and 2

Thu., Feb. 1, 6-7:30 p.m. and
Thu., Feb. 15, 6-7:30 p.m.
Dove Conference Center, HSHS
St. John’s Hospital
619 E. Mason St.

HISTORY | Two-part panel discussion to examine immigration here, U.S.

it America is a nation of immigrants. Wave after wave of immigrants built this nation – “the great melting pot” - and put their mark on it. The Citizens Club of Springfield is planning a two-part panel discussion about immigration in the U.S. as well as here in the capital city. “This program aims to highlight the history of immigration in the U.S., contributions made by diverse immigrant groups in Springfield as well as challenges faced. Subject matter experts will also share the impact of historical and current legislation on immigration and migrant flows,” says a club release. The first part, titled “History, Challenges and Contributions,” will feature panelists Driss El-Akrich, Isabel Skinner, Vidya Sundareshan and Xuna Hu. The second part, titled “Building a More Vibrant Springfield,” will feature panelists ·Elizabeth Brago Boateng, Brooke Depenbusch, Yves Doumen and Veronica Espina. David Steward will moderate both events. The event is free and open to the public. RSVP and learn more by visiting the event’s Facebook page.

Special Music Events

Dean Z – The Ultimate Elvis
Sat., Jan. 27, 7:30-9:30pm.
For nearly two decades, Dean Z has performed thousands of shows for Elvis fans around the globe. He was named by Elvis Presley Enterprises as the world’s greatest Elvis tribute artist in 2013. uispac.com. \$29.50-\$125. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

Sisters of the Moon
Jan. 26-27, 7pm and Sun., Jan. 28, 2pm. “The Stevie Nicks Songbook.” Spend an evening listening to local vocalists perform Nicks’ hits from her

days with Fleetwood Mac and through her solo career. With Betsy Buttell, Devin Dinora, Emilie Heckenkamp, Rachel Larison, Erica Metzger, Ellen Tuttle and Cynda Wrightsman. atthelegacy.com. \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

Tunes from the Toons!
Fri., Jan. 26, 7:30-9pm. Go on a zany adventure as animated cartoon characters come to life through music. From the *Mickey Mouse March* to Remember Me from Coco to How Far I’ll Go from Moana, there’s something for everyone. Yaniv Dinur will be the conductor. ilsymphony.org. \$22,

\$44, \$66, Students (Age 24 and under): \$10. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-522-2838.

Armfolk youth music, dance troupe

Fri., Jan. 26, 5:30pm. Watch a group of young Armenian artists and musicians (ages 12-21), dressed in exquisite costumes, perform a repertoire of Armenian dances and instrumentals. Features nine dancers and three musicians playing ancient instruments. Part of a U.S. tour sponsored by the Reunite Cultures Fund, an international cultural exchange funded by Rotarians. Free.

Donations accepted. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-522-4415.

Books & Authors

Reconsidering the American Dream

Wed., Jan. 31, 6-7pm. Heartland Book Club. Sarah Smarsh’s book, “Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth,” reexamines the American dream. Advance registration required. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-5993.

Theater & Comedy

it 1619: The Journey of a People

Sat., Jan. 27, 7pm and Sun., Jan. 28, 2pm. A new musical by Ted Williams III. Three modern characters lead audience members on a journey through multiple performance pieces leaving viewers both inspired and challenged about the progress of America’s African sons and daughters. hcfta.org. \$30-\$75. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Brew Ha Ha - Comedy Open Mic Night

Thu., Jan. 25, 7:30-9:30pm. Hosted by Larry Smith. Eight open spots each night for eight minutes each. Sign up ahead of time with Larry via Facebook Messenger or by emailing larrysmithcomedy@gmail.com. Spots will be assigned as they are received. Free. Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 406 E. Adams St.

Improv Game Night

Sat., Jan. 27, 8pm. Capital City Improv presents Clue, Pictionary, Cards Against Humanity - all your favorite board games, with a twist. hcfta.org. \$15. Hoogland Center for the Arts Club Room, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Jose Sarduy

Fri., Jan. 26, 7:30-10:30pm. Jose Sarduy brings his comedy act to the Broadgauge. broadgauge.com/events. \$25. Broadgauge, Petersburg, 101 North 7th St., 217-386-5669.

Sketch comedy show meeting

Thu., Jan. 25, 7pm. So you want to be a comedian? Performers, writers and producers are invited to an organizational meeting to develop a sketch comedy show to be performed downtown in the spring. Call or show up for more details. Free. Panichi Law Office, 843 S. Fifth St., 217-638-1596.

Stand up comedy

Fri., Jan. 26, 8pm. Featuring nationally touring comics and local favorites. Presented by Goodfellas Pub and D+ Effort Productions. Call for more info. No cover. Goodfellas Pub, 518 N. Bruns Lane, 217-679-2119.

Art & Architecture

Alpaca Fiber Felting

Sat., Jan. 27, 11am-3pm. Learn to needle-felt, dyed alpaca fiber. Create 2-5x7 hearts with choice of embellishments and take one to do at home. Enjoy tasty treats and refreshments. For ages 10 and up. \$35. Phoenix Center: Out On Second, 120 E. Scarritt St., 217-414-8953.

The Architecture of Government Buildings

Wed., Jan. 31, 10:30am. Andrea Aggertt, architect of the Capitol, will discuss how both function and beauty are essential to architecture. Learn about those considerations and historical preservation with updates about work in progress. Register online or call 217-782-7388. illinoisstatemuseum.org. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-7386.

Art History Happy Hour

Thu., Jan. 25, 5:30-7pm. Marianne Stremsterfer will explore how Dale Chihuly’s artistic expression developed from interior design to using hot glass and transitioned to paintings to express his ideas for new pieces. Following the discussion, join Mario Clarke for a glass-blowing demonstration. springfieldart.org. Free. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

it “Local Perspectives”

Sat., Jan. 27, 12-5pm. Opening reception for a show of original work by local artists. perspectivesartgallery.com. Perspectives Art Gallery, Petersburg, 112 S. Sixth St., 217-361-7929.

“Origins” opening reception

Fri., Jan. 26, 5:30-7:30pm. Featuring ceramics by Danny Brikshavana and photography by James Hawker. Refreshments provided. Artist talk at 6pm. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

“Turn On Every Light”

Thu., Jan. 25, 5:30-8pm. An reception for an exhibition of work by Heather Brammeier. The exhibit will be displayed through February 8. Free. UIS Visual Arts

Gallery, HSB 201, One University Plaza, 217-206-6506.

Film & Television

The Quiet Girl

Sun., Jan. 28, 1, 4pm. The story of a young girl who is sent away from her dysfunctional family to live with her mother’s people, Seán and Eibhlín Cinnsealach, a middle-aged couple she has never met. Part of the Molly Schlich Independent I International Film Series presented by the Springfield Art Association. springfieldart.org. \$10; students with ID \$5. AMC Classic Springfield 12, 3141 Mercantile Dr., 217-523-2631.

A Night at the Cinema

Fri., Jan. 26, 8-11pm. Free movie night. Classic movie to be show. Concessions and bar available. Ad Astra Wine Bar & Market, 308 E. Adams St. 217-679-1323.

Auditions

The Lincolns of Springfield auditions

Jan. 27-28, 1-5pm. Audition for the second season of *The Lincolns of Springfield* at The Hoagland Center for The Performing Arts. Actors sought for more than a dozen ensemble roles ranging from young Mary Todd to William Stanton. Actors must be able to sing harmonies, dance and act. Stipends based upon experience, training and ability will be paid. The play will run from May 30 through June 9 at The LRS Theater. Email TheLincolnsOfSpringfield@gmail.com for more information and to set up auditions. Free. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Auditions for John Proctor is the Villain

Sun., Jan. 28 and Mon., Jan. 29, 6pm and 7pm both days. Cast and crew sought for production of Kimberly Belflower’s new play. Crew interviews at 6pm, auditions at 7pm. Limited number of scripts available at front desk, Brookens Library. uis.edu/theatre/auditions. Studio Theatre Level 1, Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6150.

Faith & Philosophy

Labyrinth Walk


Mon., Jan. 29, 6-8:30pm. This walking meditation is a unique spiritual experience. aluuc.org. Free. Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 745 Woodside Road, 217-801-2698.

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Job Opening for Access Coordinator with a local not-for-profit agency serving people with disabilities in a five-county area.

Duties: Coordinates Home Modification program for consumers in the SCIL service area. Performs accessibility surveys for entities required to comply with local, state, and federal access laws. Maintains records of Consumers using SCIL policies and procedures.

Must have own transportation to travel within a five-county service area.

Qualifications: BA desired; Associate's degree with two years related experience required; or five years experience with demonstrable knowledge and skills. Excellent interpersonal communication and problem-solving skills and experience with electronic reporting systems are necessary. Personal experience or involvement in and an understanding of disability rights desired. **Commitment to the independent living philosophy is essential.**

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Please send a resume and cover letter to:

Springfield Center for Independent Living
 330 South Grand Avenue West
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ATTN: Executive Director-E-mail: scil@scil.org

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■ Fairs & Festivals

Virden 4th Sunday market
 Sun., Jan. 28, 9am-4pm. Flea market features antiques and collectibles, crafts, Disney items, coins, baseball cards and movie posters. Breakfast and lunch available. More than 60 dealer tables all inside and warm. Food donations welcome for the pantry. Free. Virden Knights of Columbus, Virden, 1320 N. Dye St., 847-345-9983.

■ Fundraisers and Galas

Crime Stoppers Trivia Night
 Sat., Jan. 27, 6:30-10pm. The 13th annual event. Hosted by Joe Crain and Sam Madonia, with other guest appearances. \$15 per person; tables of up to ten people \$150. Doors open at 5pm. Live entertainment, raffles. Drinks must be purchased on site. Food concessions available, or you can bring your own. Call for more info. BOS Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 217-622-9547.

■ Lectures & Meetings

Al-Anon District 19 of Greater Springfield
 Mondays-Saturdays. Ten meetings are held in the local area each week. Five are in-person and four are hybrid of in-person and via Zoom. One meeting is Zoom only. Visit spi-alanon.weebly.com or call for more information. Various locations, Springfield, 217-891-2981.

ICON membership meeting
 Mon., Jan. 29, 6:30-7:30pm. Hear an informative update from Harvard fellow Sai Joshi as she nears completion of her two-year fellowship with the city of Springfield. Joshi, a young leader in government innovation and public policy, has global experience working in India, Africa, Europe and the U.S. in international organizations, NGOs and academic institutions. Joshi will share activities and initiatives related to her fellowship including innovation, community development, blight remediation and economic development for the east side. Free. South Side Christian Church, 2600 S. MacArthur, 217-218-9465.

Overeaters Anonymous
 Mondays, 5:30pm. The only requirement is a desire to stop eating compulsively. Unity

Church, 417 E. Cordelia St., 217-416-1648.

Overeaters Anonymous
 Saturdays, 10am. Springfield First United Methodist Church, 2941 S. Koke Mill Road, 217-416-1648.

Illinois Pork Expo
 Tue., Jan. 30, 8am-8pm. Annual trade show showcases the outstanding producers and businesses in the Illinois pork industry in one centralized location. Includes exhibits and auction. In the evening, the trade show floor also serves as the back drop for a legislative reception. BOS Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 217-788-8800. ilpork.com.

■ Bulletin Board

AARP Tax Aid
 Through Jan. 30, 10am-2pm. AARP tax aid volunteers will be at Senior Services of Central Illinois. Stop by to schedule your tax aid appointment. ssoci.org. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-528-4035.

Chess Tournament
 Sat., Jan. 27, 10am-2pm. Mini chess tournament. Each player gets three games against assigned opponents. National ranking possible. Beginners welcome. Organized by the Springfield Chess Club. Second floor multipurpose room. springfieldchessclub.com. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-726-2584.

Elegant Wedding Expo Winter Edition 2024
 Sun., Jan. 28, 12-4pm. Meet wedding professionals, win door prizes, enjoy catered treats and delicious cakes. elegantweddingexpo.com. \$5 or \$40 VIP. BOS Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 800-745-3000.

Job fair
 Sat., Jan. 27, 10am-12pm. Looking for a job? Speak directly with many employers looking for help. Employers include Springfield School District 186, SIU School of Medicine and several state departments. Free. St. Patrick Catholic School, 1800 S. Grand Ave. E., 217-523-7670.

Springfield Chess Club
 Wednesdays, 5:30-8pm. Casual games for the public and club members of all ages and skill levels. Meets weekly at the White Oaks Mall food court.

Free. White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash Ave., 217-726-2584.

St. Pat's Job Fair
 Sat., Jan. 27, 10am-12pm. Speak directly with employers. Springfield School District 185, Illinois Healthcare and Family Services, Ill. Dept. of Innovation and Technology, SIU School of Medicine, Hospital Sisters Health System, Springfield Urban League, Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services, Ill. Dept. of Corrections and others. Free!. St. Patrick Catholic School, 1800 S. Grand Ave. E., 217-525-7670.

Springfield Watch & Clock Show and Sale
 Sat., Feb. 3, 11am-2pm. Event provides a great opportunity to buy, sell or simply look and learn about mechanical clocks and watches. Sponsored by the Route 66 Watch & Clock Club. Free. Casey's Pub (Knights of Columbus Hall building), 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 217-241-7101.

Cat adoptions
 Fourth Saturday of every month, 12-3 p.m., and First Saturday of every month, 12-3 p.m. Forever Home Feline Ranch will have cats available for adoption. Opportunities also available for fostering and volunteering. Donations welcome. Ace Hardware, 1600 Wabash Ave., felineranch@gmail.com. felineranch.org.

■ Health & Fitness

Let's Get Fit
 A chair-based group exercise program designed to meet the needs of older adults who are looking to incorporate more physical activity into their lives. Classes consist of aerobic, strengthening, balance and flexibility exercises. Meets in person. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-528-4035.

■ Sports

Beginner's Platform Tennis
 Wednesdays, 5:15-6:45pm. Through Feb. 28. Try a new and exciting game every Wednesday during the winter months. Includes beginner drills focusing on stroke techniques and strategy, and some fun play. Participants can join in Platform League play after learning the basics. Next league begins in January. Call for more info. Velasco Tennis Center, 1501 S. Grand Ave W, 217-546-4103.

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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
—SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,

vs.
VICTOR J. FUGNITTI, JR.; ILLINOIS
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY;
FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CHICAGO;
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT;

Defendant(s).

CASE NO. 2022FC000246

Property Address: 2827 South 13th Street

SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

Public notice is hereby given that in
pursuance of a judgment of said Court
entered in the above-entitled cause on
June 14, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell
of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a
sale on February 20, 2024, commencing
at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Building,
200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL
62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest
bidder or bidders the following described
real estate, or so much thereof as may be
sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit:
Commonly known as: 2827 South 13th
Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
P.I.N.: 22-10-0-402-026

First Lien Position: Single Family Resi-
dence; Judgment Amount \$54,241.99
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-
1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS
605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1),
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE
PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER
THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE AS-
SESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED
BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF
SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND
COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION
(g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS
CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.

Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the
time of sale and the balance due within
24 hours of the sale. All payments for the
amount bid shall be in certified funds pay-
able to the Sheriff of Sangamon County.

The person to contact for information
regarding this property is:
Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo &
Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road,
Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-
6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale.

This communication is an attempt to col-
lect a debt and any information obtained
will be used for that purpose.
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563
(630) 453-6960
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHRISTIAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK - PAWNEE, an
Illinois banking corporation,
Plaintiff,

vs.
CLETUS K. EDWARDS, ETHIC, A WEALTH
BANK, successor to Admirals Bank, FIRST
CORPORATE SOLUTIONS, LLC, UNKNOWN
OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
No.: 2022-FC-51
NOTICE OF COURT SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that
pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure
entered by
the Court in the above entitled cause the
property hereinafter described or so much
thereof as
shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment,

will be sold to the highest bidder. The sale
shall be
subject to Court approval. Buyer will be
entitled to possession 30 days after the
sale is

confirmed by the Court.
(A) The name, address and telephone
number of the person to contact for
information

regarding the real estate is:

Timothy J. Rigby

Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol
Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Telephone: (217) 753-0055

(B) The common address and other
common description, if any, of the real
estate is:

530 South Main Street, Taylorville, Illinois
62568

(C) Tax Identification Number: 17-13-27-
403-006-00

(D) A description of the improvements on
the real estate is:

Two story, ten room, approximately 2,725
gross living area residence with three
bedrooms and two bathrooms.

(E) No times have been specified in the
judgment of foreclosure for inspection
of the
real estate prior to sale.

(F) The time and place of the sale are:
Time: 9:30 a.m. March 7, 2024

Place: Christian County Courthouse

101 South Main Street

Taylorville, Illinois 62568

(G) The terms of the sale are:

Twenty-five percent (25%) of sale price at
time of sale and balance within
twenty-four (24) hours.

(H) Title will be conveyed subject to
any liens or encumbrances prior to the
mortgage

of United Community Bank, all general real
estate taxes, special assessments if any,
easements

and restrictions of record, and all en-
croachments, if any.

UNITED COMMUNITY BANK - PAWNEE, an
Illinois banking corporation,
Plaintiff

Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)

Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)

Hart, Southworth & Witsman

Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol

Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Telephone: (217) 753-0055

trigby@hswnet.com

aprilaman@hswnet.com

NOTE: This communication is made for
the purpose of collecting a debt. Any
information
obtained in response to this communica-
tion may be used for that purpose.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

—SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FLAGSTAR BANK, N.A.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ADREAN SNAPP; DEDRICK SNAPP;
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT;

Defendant(s).

CASE NO. 2022FC000204

Property Address: 1141 N. 5th St. Spring-
field, IL 62702

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

Public notice is hereby given that in pursu-
ance of a judgment of said Court entered
in the above-entitled cause on November
8, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of
Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale
on February 20, 2024, commencing at
9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Building,
200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL
62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest

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bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: Commonly known as: 1141 N. 5th St. , Springfield, IL 62702
P.I.N.: 14-27.0-104-032
First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$119,516.65
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563
(630) 453-6960
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
MIDFIRST BANK
PLAINTIFF,
-vs-
Unknown Heirs and/or Legatees of Barbara Jean Dooley, Deceased; Denise Neumann; L.C. Clay; Julie Fox, as Special Representative for Barbara Jean Dooley, Deceased; United States of America; City of Springfield, an Illinois Municipal Corporation; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS DEFENDANTS
NO. 20 CH 27
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on June 14, 2023; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on February 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.
Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/ or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Commonly known as 512 White City Boulevard, Springfield, IL 62703
Permanent Index No.: 14-35.0-280-004
Improvements: Single Family Residential

The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.
The judgment amount was \$78,709.70. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For Bid Amount contact:
Sale Clerk
LOGS Legal Group LLP
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
Bannockburn, IL 60015
ILNOTICES@logs.com
(847) 291-1717
MidFirst Bank
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
Bannockburn, IL 60015
(847) 291-1717
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg
(6277119)
Michael N. Burke (6291435)
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)
Mallory Snyderman (6306039)
Thomas Belczak (6193705)
Debra Miller (6205477)
Amy Aronson (6206512)
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: RICHARD D. MARTIN, Deceased.
Case No.: 2024-PR-8
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of RICHARD D. MARTIN of Sherman, Illinois, and that Letters Testamentary were issued on January 10, 2024, to BRADLEY D. MARTIN, as Executor, of 1912 Turtle Creek Drive, Chatham, IL 62629, whose attorney is Duane D. Young of Young Law Partners, P.C., 1300 South 8th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62703.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, and with the offices of Young Law Partners, P.C., Attorneys for Executor, or both, within six (6) months from the date of publication and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representatives and to their attorneys within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
BRADLEY D. MARTIN, Executor of the Estate of RICHARD D. MARTIN, Deceased
Attorneys' Address:
Duane D. Young
Registration No.: 3091457
YOUNG LAW PARTNERS, P.C.
1300 South Eighth Street
Springfield, Illinois 62703
Telephone: (217) 544-8500
Facsimile: (217) 544-6200
8051-939097

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the estate of: Eunice Brown, Deceased
Case No. 23-PR-466
Claim Notice
Notice is given of the death of Eunice Brown. Letters of Office were issued on Dec. 28, 2023 to Stephen Brown as Executor, 8191 E. State Route 54, Riverton, IL 62561. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the Representative, on or before, July 25, 2024. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative within 10 days after it has been filed.
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EVELYN MARIE MERTZ, DECEASED
Case #2024-PR-9
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE/NOTICE TO HEIRS
Notice is given of the death of EVELYN MARIE MERTZ. Letters of office have been issued to MARY ANN LEPPER, 317 Virginia Lane, Rochester, IL 62563, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent

Executor, or both, on or before July 25, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Notice is also given to CADENCE MARTIN and HARLEY MARTIN (whereabouts unknown), that an Order was entered in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois, on January 11, 2024, admitting Decedent's Will to Probate (said Will having been dated September 2, 2014). You are named as an heir of Decedent in the Petition for Probate of said Will.
Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of Admission, any heir may file a Petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court or by other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 6-21), or successor provision.
Heirs also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 8-1), or successor provision, to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within 6 months after January 11, 2024. Filings are to be made with the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://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://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk to your local Circuit Clerk's office.
Dated this 11th day of January, 2024.
Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Estate of: BRUCE S. SIMON, Deceased.
NO. 2023-PR-468
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Bruce S. Simon of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 11, 2024, to Marguerite A. Simon, 1820 South Wiggins Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62704, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before July 18, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 11th day of January, 2024.
Matthew J. Cate - 06272040
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP
P.O. Box 79
Springfield, IL 62705
(217) 544-4868

matthewwcate@barberlaw.com
349024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VIRGINIA PALIC, DECEASED
Case #2023-PR-430
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND UNKNOWN HEIRS
Notice is given to JOSEPH S. VUKITS, CHRISTOPHER VUKITS, AMANDA VUKITS and to THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF VIRGINIA PALIC, Deceased, including any unknown heir who may be a minor or a disabled person, that a Supplement to Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary was filed in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois, on January 10, 2024. You are named as an heir of Decedent in said Supplement to Petition for Probate of Will. Within 42 days after January 10, 2024, any heir may file a Petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court or by other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 6-21), or successor provision.
Heirs also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 8-1), or successor provision, to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within 6 months after January 10, 2024. Filings are to be made with the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701.
E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://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://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk to your local Circuit Clerk's office.
Dated this 10th day of January, 2024.
Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
Attorneys for Executor
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF ALAN L. MYERS, DECEASED
No. 2023 PR 450
CLAIMS NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Alan L. Myers. Letters of Office were issued on January 8, 2024, to Kevin N. McDermott, 109 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 9th day of January, 2024.
Kevin N. McDermott
Attorney for the Estate of Alan L. Myers
109 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

(217) 753-4070
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497
Kevin@KevinNMcDermott.com

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF GABRIEL C. CHIARO, DECEASED
No. 2024 PR 6
CLAIMS NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Gabriel C. Chiaro. Letters of Office were issued on January 9, 2024, to Blake Chiaro, 3605 Cranston Court, Springfield, Illinois 62704.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 9th day of January, 2024.
Kevin N. McDermott
Attorney for the Estate of Gabriel C. Chiaro
109 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701
(217) 753-4070
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497
Kevin@KevinNMcDermott.com

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF CAROL MAFFIA SWINEY, DECEASED
No. 2024 PR 3
CLAIMS NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Carol Maffia Swiney. Notice is given to all heirs and creditors that Letters Testamentary were issued on January 9, 2024, to Kevin N. McDermott, 109 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 as Executor of the Estate.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 9th day of January, 2024.
Kevin N. McDermott
Attorney for the Estate of Carol Maffia Swiney
109 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701
(217) 753-4070
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497
Kevin@KevinNMcDermott.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE THE ESTATE OF PHILLIP W. SIMPSON
DECEASED
Case No. 2023-PR-474
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is hereby given of the death of PHILLIP W. SIMPSON. Letters Testamentary were issued on January 3, 2024, appointing CAROLYN S. SIMPSON, 3255 Kentucky 1992, Warsaw, KY 41095, as Executor, whose attorney is Creighton

R. Castle of Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C., 900 Community Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, Phone: (217) 525-1571. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Circuit Court, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated: January 5, 2024
Clerk of the Circuit Court
200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701
8051-938828

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In Re the Estate of:
THOMAS R. MCGEE,
Deceased.
No. 2023-PR-478
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Thomas R. McGee, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 3, 2024, to James A. McGee, as Independent Executor, whose address is 4182 N. Clarendon Ave., Unit 3S, Chicago, Illinois 60613, and whose attorney of record is William D. Reid, Elmore & Reid, 808 South Second Street, Springfield, IL 62704. 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 may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of issuance of Letters, and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

James A. McGee
Independent Executor
ELMORE & REID
Attorneys At Law
808 South 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62704
217/523-2340

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
CLAYTON K. MARQUARDT,
Deceased.
No. 2023-PR-471
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to creditors of the estate of the death of Clayton K. Marquardt. Letters of Office were issued to David C. Marquardt and Erica E. McAteer, as Independent Administrators, whose addresses are 3064 Buena Vista Drive, Springfield, IL and 19 West Washington Place, Springfield, IL, respectively. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 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 may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 South 9th Street, Suite 405, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before July 11th, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is re-

quired by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered such notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, 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://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Dated: January 3rd, 2024
Attorney for Independent Co-Executors:
Sorling Northrup
Jerry S. Bauer, Attorney
1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200
P.O. Box 5131
Springfield, IL 62705
Telephone: 217-544-1144
Fax: 217-522-3173
E-Mail: jsbauer@sorlinglaw.com

Divorce
STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of
Kenya Ware, Petitioner
And
Denis Ware, Respondent
Case No. 2023 DC 329
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Denis Ware, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 11th day of February, 2024, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition.

Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of
Kneoca L. Roberson, Petitioner
And
Charles Wells, Respondent
Case No. 2023 DC 000058
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Charles Wells, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 11th day of February, 2024, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition.

Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

Name Change
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Abigail Jordyn Mullens
For change of name to
Abigail Jordyn Marx
Case No. 2024MR000031
PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Abigail Jordyn Mullens to Abigail Jordyn Marx pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 25, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Cheyanne Grace Bishop
For change of name to
Cheyanne Grace Leka
Case No. 2024MR000019
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Cheyanne Grace Bishop to Cheyanne Grace Leka pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Hannah Leigh Bertolis
For change of name to
Hannah Leigh Miles
Case No. 24 MR 17
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Hannah Leigh Bertolis to Hannah Leigh Miles pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Kelly Sue Bertolis
For change of name to
Kelly Sue Miles
Case No. 24 MR 16
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Kelly Sue Bertolis to Kelly Sue Miles pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Brianna Dawn Pitchford
For change of name to
Brianna Dawn Gleason
Case No. 2023MR000412
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Brianna Dawn Pitchford to Brianna Dawn Gleason pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Jacqueline Dawn Pitchford
For change of name to
Jacqueline Dawn Gleason
Case No. 2023MR000413
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court

praying for the change of name from Jacqueline Dawn Pitchford to Jacqueline Dawn Gleason pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Courtney Renee Wiedeman
For change of name to
Leo Ren Wilder
Case No. 2024MR000013
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Courtney Renee Wiedeman to Leo Ren Wilder pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 18, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
David Michael De Beaulieu
For change of name to
Michael David DeBeaulieu
Case No. 2023 MR 000404
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Feb. 27, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from David Michael De Beaulieu to Michael David DeBeaulieu pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Jan. 11, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2017-3, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE
PLAINTIFF,
v.
SANDRA J. DAVIS F/K/A SANDRA J. STRUCKLEY F/K/A SANDRA J. DAVIS RAWLINGS F/K/A SANDRA RAWLINGS; CLARENCE E. DAVIS; FIRST BANK A SAVINGS BANK; WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST AS TRUSTEE FOR PNPMS TRUST IV; FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS.
CASE NO.: 2023FC000193
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
3519 SHERIDAN STREET
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you:

SANDRA J. DAVIS F/K/A SANDRA J. STRUCKLEY F/K/A SANDRA J. DAVIS RAWLINGS F/K/A SANDRA RAWLINGS CLARENCE E. DAVIS
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
that Plaintiff commenced this case in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County against you and other defendants, for foreclosure of a certain mortgage lien recorded against the real estate described as follows:
LOT 233 OF SOUTHLAWN, SECOND PLAT, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTH-EAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN.
Common Address: 3519 SHERIDAN STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
PIN: 22-14.0-179-017
Said mortgage was executed by SANDRA J. DAVIS AND CLARENCE E. DAVIS, as

mortgagor(s) and ASSOCIATES HOME EQUITY SERVICES, INC., as mortgagee, on 2/26/2001 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois as Document Number 2001R08013.
You have been sued. Read all documents attached to this Summons. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Summons called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case.
After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail.
You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees.
It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this.
Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill our and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Summons can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website.
¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios.
Unless you file your Appearance and Answer/Response in this case in the office of the clerk of this court by 2/24/2024 A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR DECREEE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR IN THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT.
David Mazzella
6344319
Robertson Anschutz Schneid Crane & Partners, PLLC
205 N. Michigan Suite 810
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (561) 241-6901
E-mail: ilmail@raslg.com
File: 23-144032
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
8051-939039

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
PLAINTIFF,
v.
ADRIAN WATKINS; MATHEW P. RYAN; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS.
CASE NO.: 2023FC000223
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
2003 N 17TH ST
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you:
ADRIAN WATKINS
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
that Plaintiff commenced this case in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County against you and other defendants, for foreclosure of a certain mortgage lien recorded against the real estate described as follows:
THE EAST HALF OF LOT FIFTEEN (15) IN BLOCK FIVE (5) OF SAUNDER'S SUBDIVISION OF PART OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPTING & RESERVING THE NORTH 80 FEET THEREOF. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Common Address: 2003 N 17TH ST SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
PIN: 14-23-106-033
Said mortgage was executed by DELORES D. WATKINS AND ADRIAN WATKINS, as mortgagor(s) and MARINE BANK, as mortgagee, on 5/28/2014 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois as Document Number 2014R13438.
You have been sued. Read all documents attached to this Summons. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Summons called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case.
After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail.
You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees.
It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this.
Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill our and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Summons can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website.
¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios.
Unless you file your Appearance and Answer/Response in this case in the office of the clerk of this court by 2/24/2024 A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR DECREEE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR IN THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT.
David Mazzella
6344319
Robertson Anschutz Schneid Crane & Partners, PLLC

205 N. Michigan Suite 810
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (561) 241-6901
E-mail: ILmail@raslg.com
File: 23-164509
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
8051-939038

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
VICTOR J. FUGNITTI, JR; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CHICAGO; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT;
Defendant(s).
CASE NO. 2022FC000246
Property Address: 2827 South 13th Street SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on June 14, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on February 20, 2024, commencing at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: LOT ONE HUNDRED EIGHT (108) OF MILLERS' BUNN PARK ADDITION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER, AND THE WEST 21 1/2 ACRES OF THE NORTH 30 ACRES OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND MINERALS. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Commonly known as: 2827 South 13th Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
P.I.N.: 22-10-0-402-026
First Lien Position; Single Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$54,241.99 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563
(630) 453-6960
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com
8051-938811

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHRISTIAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK - PAWNEE, an Illinois banking corporation,
Plaintiff,
v.
CLETUS K. EDWARDS, ETHIC, A WEALTH BANK, successor to Admirals Bank, FIRST CORPORATE SOLUTIONS, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
No.: 2022-FC-51
NOTICE OF COURT SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the Court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. The sale shall be subject to Court approval. Buyer will be entitled to possession 30 days after the sale is confirmed by the Court.
(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Timothy J. Rigby
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
(B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 530 South Main Street, Taylorville, Illinois 62568
(C) The legal description of the real estate is: Lot 6 and the North 6 feet of Lot 7 in Powell's Addition to Taylorville, an Addition situated in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 27, Township 13 North, Range 2 West of the Third Principal Meridian, according to the plat of said Addition recorded April 21, 1908 in Book 1, Page 73. Except the coal and other minerals underlying the surface of said land and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal and minerals. Situated in Christian County, Illinois.
Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, easements, restrictions and any other matters of record.
Situated in Christian County, Illinois.
Tax Identification Number: 17-13-27-403-006-00
(D) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Two story, ten room, approximately 2,725 gross living area residence with three bedrooms and two bathrooms.
(E) No times have been specified in the judgment of foreclosure for inspection of the real estate prior to sale.
(F) The time and place of the sale are: Time: 9:30 a.m. March 7, 2024
Place: Christian County Courthouse
101 South Main Street
Taylorville, Illinois 62568
(G) The terms of the sale are: Twenty-five percent (25%) of sale price at time of sale and balance within twenty-four (24) hours.
(H) Title will be conveyed subject to any liens or encumbrances prior to the mortgage of United Community Bank, all general real estate taxes, special assessments if any, easements and restrictions of record, and all encroachments, if any.
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK - PAWNEE, an Illinois banking corporation,

Plaintiff
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
NOTE: This communication is made for the purpose of collecting a debt. Any information obtained in response to this communication may be used for that purpose.
8051-938804

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FLAGSTAR BANK, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ADREAN SNAPP; DEDRICK SNAPP; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT;
Defendant(s).
CASE NO. 2022FC000204
Property Address: 1141 N. 5th St. Springfield, IL 62702
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on November 8, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on February 20, 2024, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: THE NORTH HALF OF LOT SIX (6) OF MARTIN RAFTER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD.
EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 1141 N. 5th St., Springfield, IL 62702
P.I.N.: 14-27.0-104-032
First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$119,516.65 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563

(630) 453-6960
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com
8051-938801

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS
SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
MILLENNIUM BANK,
Plaintiff,
v.
SHRI GHANSHYAM LLC D/B/A SHRI GHANSHYAM D/B/A BAYMONT INN & SUITES, SANGITABEN PATEL, DRAKE MOTEL, INC., U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Case No. 2023 FC 000222
Commercial Foreclosure
Property Address: 5871 S. 6th Street Springfield, Illinois 62703
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, by the Plaintiff MILLENNIUM BANK, against you and other Defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 4 A OF THE REDIVISION OF LOT 4 OF WANLESS' SOUTH VILLAGE PLAT NO. 1 EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY.
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PIN(s): 22-27.0-376-005
Commonly known as: 5871 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL 62703
The Mortgage was made on July 2, 2018 by Shri Ghanshyam LLC, an Indiana limited liability company, as mortgagor, to Millennium Bank, as mortgagee and recorded on July 9, 2018 in the Office of Sangamon County Recorder, Illinois as Document No. 2018R13942.
Summons was duly issued out of the Circuit Court of the Sangamon County against you as provided by law, and that suit is now pending.
Now, therefore, unless you, the above Defendants, file your answer to the complaint in this case or otherwise file your appearance in the office of the Circuit Court Clerk, on or before February 13, 2024 a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint.
YOU ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TIME IN WHICH THE SUBJECT REAL ESTATE MAY BE REDEEMED FROM FORECLOSURE, PURSUANT TO LAW, COMMENCES TO RUN WITH THE FIRST DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
Prepared By:
Edmond M. Burke (#6276406)
C. Cy Porras (#6324512)
Chuhak & Tecson, P.C.
120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60606
T: 312-855-4314
eburke@chuhak.com
cporras@chuhak.com
I3235998

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
MIDFIRST BANK
PLAINTIFF,

-vs-
Unknown Heirs and/or Legatees of Barbara Jean Dooley, Deceased; Denise Neumann; L.C. Clay; Julie Fox, as Special Representative for Barbara Jean Dooley, Deceased; United States of America; City of Springfield, an Illinois Municipal Corporation; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
DEFENDANTS NO. 20 CH 27
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on June 14, 2023; Jack L. Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on February 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.
Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Said property is legally described as follows:
LOT THIRTY-NINE (39) OF WHITE CITY SUBDIVISION, SECOND PLAT. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD.
Commonly known as 512 White City Boulevard, Springfield, IL 62703
Permanent Index No.: 14-35.0-280-004
Improvements: Single Family Residential
The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.
The judgment amount was \$78,709.70. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For Bid Amount contact:
Sale Clerk
LOGS Legal Group LLP
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
Bannockburn, IL 60015
ILNOTICES@logs.com
(847) 291-1717
MidFirst Bank
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301
Bannockburn, IL 60015
(847) 291-1717
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119)
Michael N. Burke (6291435)
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)
Mallory Snyderman (6306039)
Thomas Belczak (6193705)
Debra Miller (6205477)
Amy Aronson (6206512)
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE

BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.
8051-938659

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition.
A petition for a variance of sections: 155.112, Surfacing, 155.136, Regulations for surfacing of off-street loading facilities, 155.143, Plan of off-street parking or loading areas, and 155.480, Landscape, Screening and Lighting Regulations, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Petitioner desires to develop the unimproved portion to the property for use as commercial parking. Petitioner previously requested similar variances which were granted on December 20, 2018 for a period of five years in docket 2018-071. The petitioner, to be in compliance with the zoning ordinance, respectfully requests variation from provisions of the Zoning Ordinance as they apply to the property as follows: Sections: 155.112 to allow construction of an open off-street parking and vehicle storage area of dustless millings and rock without requiring a wearing surface of asphaltic concrete or comparable hard surface; 155.136 to allow to construct open off-street loading spaces of dustless millings and rock without requiring a durable hard surface pavement; 155.143 to proceed with constructing an open off-street parking and vehicle storage area of dustless rock and millings without requiring plans for accessory off-street parking areas or a building permit; 155.480 to allow construction of a parking area without requiring a landscape plan, including but not limited to installation and maintenance of parking lot landscaping, screening and lighting and the points related thereto. Improvements (or structures) located on said property are a house and two garages and dirt and millings. Subject property is currently classified in the I-1, Light Industrial District, Section 155.040. Legally described as: Parcel 1: SIXTY(60) FEET OFF OF THE EAST SIDE OF THE EAST TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) FEET OF THE SOUTH THREE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN (397) FEET OF LOT FIFTEEN (15) OF HARRY T. ALLEN'S SUBDIVISION IN THE EAST HALF (1/2) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (NW ¼) AND PART OF THE WEST HALF (1/2) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE ¼) OF THE NORTHWEST (NW/4) OF SECTION THIRTY-SIX (36), TOWNSHIP SIXTEEN (16) NORTH, RANGE FIVE (5) WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPT THE SOUTH 20 FEET OF THE EAST 60 FEET OF LOT 15 OF HARRY T ALLEN'S SUBDIVISION IN SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS.
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
2833 E. COOK STREET, SPRINGFIELD IL, PIN: 14-36-177-014
PARCEL 2: BEGINNING AT A POINT 917.44

FEET WEST OF THE CENTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THENCE WEST ON THE HALF SECTION LINE 66.8 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 679.27 FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF THE C.I. & W. RAILROAD ; THENCE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID RAILROAD 85.15 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 627 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

ALSO,

THE WEST 1 ACRE OF THE EAST 5 ACRES OF THAT PART OF LOT TWO (2) LYING NORTH OF THE NORTH LINE OF COOK STREET, WHICH SAID LOT TWO (2) IS PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NOTRHWEST QUARTER AND A PART OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF SAID LOT TWO (2), REFERENCE BEING MADE TO A SURVEY FILED MARCH 30, 1926, IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF SANGAMON COUNTY, AND RECORDED IN BOOK 225 OF DEEDS AT PAGE 8.

EXCEPTING FROM THE ABOVE PARCELS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND: THE SOUTH 20 FEET OF THE WEST 2 ACRES OF THE EAST 5 ACRES OF THAT PART OF LOT TWO (2) LYING NORTH OF AND ADJACENT TO THE NORTH LINE OF COOK STREET. SAID LOT TWO (2) BEING A PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER AND A PART OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN.

EXCEPT ALL COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID PREMISES, WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE THE SAME BY EXTENDING ENTRIES THEREUNDER. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

2901 E. COOK STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL. PIN: 14-36-177-038.

PARCEL 3: PART OF LOT 15 IN HARRY T. ALLEN'S SBUDIVISION LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13 ON PAGE 30 IN THE SANGAMON COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE, DESCRIBED MORE PARTICULARLY AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A FOUND IRON PIN MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE AFOREMENTIONED LOT 15, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 07 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 15 A DISTANCE OF 332.78 FEET TO A FOUND IRON PIPE MARKING THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING , THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 57 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 59.57 FEET TO A FOUND IRON PIPE THECE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 371.90 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 03 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 50.00 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 16 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 241.64 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25 MINUTES, 11 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 109.73 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 81.83 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE NORTH 44 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 19 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 169.22 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, THENCE SOUTH 55 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 121.16 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID PARCEL CONTAINS 0.865 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. ALL

AS SHOWN PARCEL 1 ON PLAT OF SURVEY BY JOSEPH L. GREENE, IPLS # 1915, DATED JANUARY 25, 2018. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. NO COMMON ADDRESS. PIN: 14-36.0-177-047

The subject property is commonly known as 2833 & 2901 E. Cook Street, Springfield, Illinois

The petitioner is Depend-a-Bull Motors Inc 1 (commonly known as Depend-a-Bull Motors Inc), By Its Attorneys, Delano Law Offices , LLC, Thomas C. Pavlik, Jr., and Sarah Delano Pavlik, of Counsel. Docket No. 2024-007

John Harris
Deputy Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition.

A petition for a variance of sections: 155.020, Regulations of the OFF Office District, & 155.021, Regulations of R-5(a) and (b) General Residence and Office District, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Subject property is zoned R-5 (b), which permitted uses incorporate uses allowed by Section 155.020 of the OFF Office District, which restricts warehouse office use of the building with storage utilizing no more than 20% of the total floor area. To improve marketability of the property, and to be in compliance with the zoning ordinance, petitioner respectfully requests variation of Sections 155.020 and 155.021 of the Zoning Ordinance for the property to allow use of the building for wholesale offices with storage restricted to utilizing no more than 8,000 square feet of the building, subject to the following further restrictions: a) There are no more than two (2) users of the building at any given time; b) There is no outside storage allowed other than business vehicles of the building users; c) There is no storage of toxic chemicals on the Property.

Improvements (or structures) located on said property are an approximately 10,720 square foot building. Subject property is currently classified in the R-5 (b), General Residence and Office District, Section 155.021.

Legally described as: Lot 49 of Cheryl Estates, an Addition to the City of Springfield, Illinois, being part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian, according to the plat thereof recorded in the Recorder's Office of Sangamon County, Illinois, August 25, 1977, in Book 23 of Plats at Page 14 as Document Number 390392. Parcel identification number 22-34.0-177-009

The subject property is commonly known as 6444 South Sixth Street Frontage Road East, Springfield, Illinois

The petitioner is PAGE PROPERTIES OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY, LLC, By Its Attorneys Hart, Southworth & Witsman, Mike Southworth of Counsel. Docket No. 2024-006

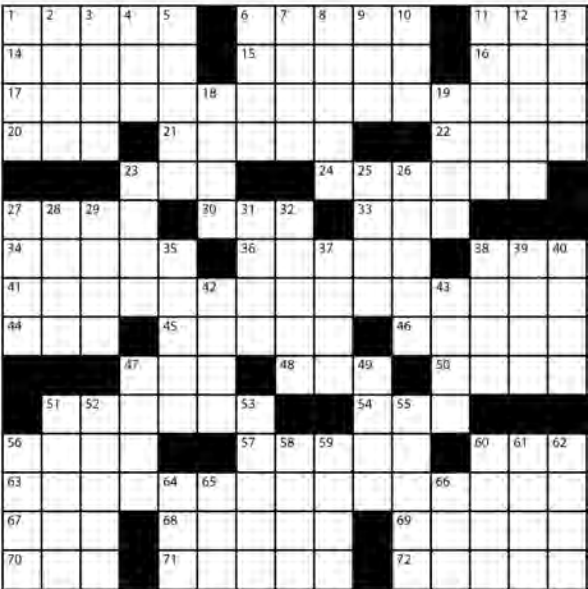
John Harris
Deputy Zoning Administrator

Important lights

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 825

Across

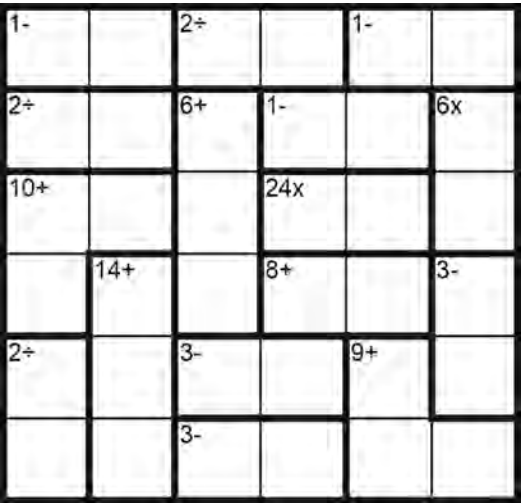
1. Grinch disguise
6. Set on fire
11. Cleopatra biter
14. Nano and shuffle
15. Trunk item
16. Lipton product
17. Sailor's meteorological concern, in a saying
20. S.A.T. takers
21. Code name
22. "If all ___ fails ..."
23. Identify
24. Represent with symbols
27. Like some losers.
30. "Act your ___!"
33. Frisk, with "down"
34. Attempts
36. Montezuma, for one
38. "The Matrix" hero
41. Something followed in a classic movie
44. Language suffix
45. In the lead
46. Because
47. King Kong, c.g.
48. Collector's goal
50. Sounds of relief
51. Language organ
54. Yahoo! competitor
56. Make, as money
57. Understands
60. Chart topper
63. Super Bowl I champs
67. Once more: Abbr.



68. Grant's successor
69. Fable writer
70. Part of an E-mail address
71. Cow catcher
72. Meg and Nolan
- Down
1. Old-fashioned letter opener
2. Copycat
3. Nonverbal O.K.'s
4. N.F.L. scores
5. Billy Joel's "Don't ___ Why"
6. Nicholas II, for one
7. Prefers, with "for"
8. Japanese noodle dish
9. ___-Magnon
10. Part of H.M.S.
11. Inclined
12. Taste, c.g.
13. Use a beeper
18. Eastern discipline
19. In order
23. Leave in a hurry, with "out"
25. Oil cartel
26. Carpet fasteners
27. Eye problem
28. Mine finds
29. Anger, with "up"
31. Kotter of "Welcome Back, Kotter"
32. Pound and Stone
35. All lathered up
37. Ocean motion
38. Soul singer Hendryx
39. A pop
40. Lyric verses
42. "Say ___"
43. Iranian coin
47. "Rule, Britannia" composer
49. "Look what I did!"
51. Florida's Key
52. "You ___ kidding!"
53. Dentists' pictures
55. Academy Award
56. "Good grief!"
58. Blinkers
59. Lhasa ___ (dog)
60. The Bee Gees' "___ Liar"
61. Clothes presser
62. Medicinal amts.
64. Flyers' org.
65. Call to Bo-peep
66. Lock opener

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 825

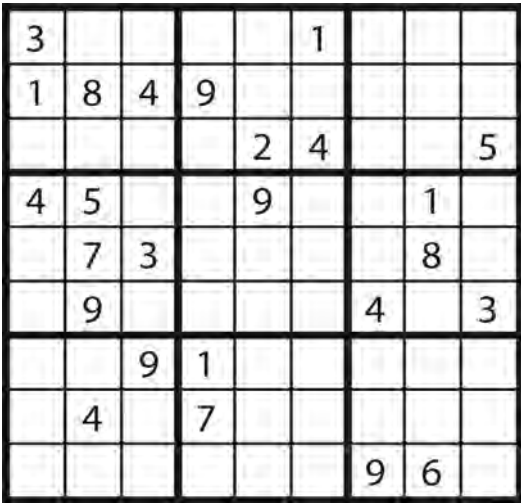
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty hard

Sudoku No. 825

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive.

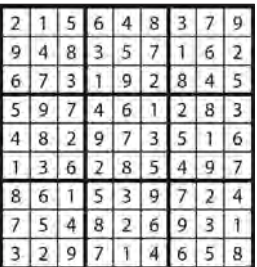


Difficulty medium

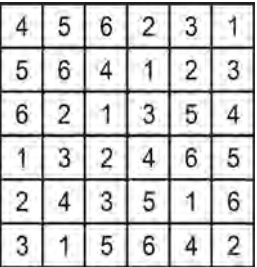
Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #824



Sudoku answers from #824



JoshJosh answers from #824

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