



18 MUSIC | Ole Stogie



21 HISTORY | Lilacs & Letters



17 FOOD | Polenta

FREE February 1-7, 2024 • Vol. 49, No. 27




Doing more for the homeless

Nonprofits, police department, expand services to address a growing need

12 HOUSING | Dean Olsen



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Feb. 10

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Credit card company monopolies impact small businesses

Sen. Dick Durbin proposes legislation to create more competition

BUSINESS | Scott Reeder

Strings are often attached in Mark Yeates' business transactions.

The owner of Dick's Shoe Repair, 314 W. Laurel St., enjoys putting new shoestrings on pairs of Oxfords or stitching new soles onto wingtips.

But one string he doesn't like is the one credit card companies attach to every charge-card transaction that happens in his shop.

"These credit card fees are awful. They take almost 4% of every charge that is made – it makes it difficult for a small business," he said.

In response, Yeates won't allow customers to make charges of less than \$5. Other Springfield merchants have taken to offering discounts to customers willing to pay cash.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Springfield, is pushing legislation geared toward increasing competition by giving merchants more choice in the credit card market, which is dominated by Visa and Mastercard.

"At a time when consumers and small business owners are already concerned about the high prices of everyday items, the Visa-Mastercard duopoly is only making it worse," Durbin said in a written statement. "That's why I introduced the Credit Card Competition Act, which would introduce competition and choice to the credit card market and bring down excessive credit card fees. Our economy thrives when competition is robust, and the credit card market should be no exception."

Last September, Durbin, along with U.S. Senators Roger Marshall, R-Kansas, and Peter Welch, D-Vermont, sent a letter to Visa and Mastercard insisting on an immediate reversal of their then-planned increase to credit card swipe fees on merchants and consumers – a move that is estimated to cost American businesses and merchants an additional \$502 million annually. In the letter, the senators renewed their calls for competition in the payment processing industry. They criticized



Mark Yeates, owner of Dick's Shoe Repair, said that credit card processing fees are "awful" for small businesses such as his. PHOTO BY LEE MILNER

Visa and Mastercard for what they called price-gouging tactics.

Building off of debit card competition reforms enacted by Congress in 2010, the bill would direct the Federal Reserve to ensure that the largest credit card-issuing banks offer a choice of at least two networks over which an electronic credit transaction may be processed.

Rob Karr, president of the Illinois Retail Merchants Association, told *Illinois Times* his association backs the measure.

"Currently, there's one network. It is largely owned and operated by the banks themselves, many of whom are card issuers. This would require them to allow at least one other processor to be operating and to allow retailers a choice. We think more than one (processor) would pop up."

While the credit card fees are nothing new, Karr said the problem is becoming more acute for retailers because of a marked change in customer behavior.

"The pandemic's effect was really to condition people to pay electronically for many, many more items. So, typically they would have paid cash for a cup of coffee. Now a lot of people are paying electronically for even the smallest items. The number of people using electronic payments has spiked, and that has passed on significant cost to the retailer. And for the retailer, there's no recourse for that. They have to pay whatever is demanded by the card companies.

Durbin's legislation has received endorsements from a wide range of small business, consumer and university groups, as

well as key unions, including International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the Service Employees International Union.

According to the Federal Reserve, Visa and Mastercard account for nearly 576 million cards, or about 83% of general-purpose credit cards. The two companies' market power and network structure have enabled them to impose fees on U.S. merchants that are among the world's highest, charging a total of \$93 billion in U.S. merchant credit card fees in 2022.

These fees include interchange or swipe fees which Visa and Mastercard require merchants to pay to issuing banks, as well as network fees that Visa and Mastercard require merchants to pay directly to them.

Consumers ultimately pay for these fees in the price of the goods and services they buy, Durbin said. Interchange fees are the second-largest cost for many small businesses – only behind labor costs. □

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

Editor's note

Thank you to history columnist Tom Emery for reminding readers (p. 10) that this is the 75th anniversary of Adlai Stevenson II becoming governor of Illinois. Less than four years later, Gov. Stevenson would become our state's gift to the nation, famously beginning his first presidential campaign with, "Let's talk sense to the American people." The line resonates today in Nikki Budzinski's bipartisan demeanor (p. 6) and JB Pritzker's straight talk (p. 7). But Stevenson had a sense sadly missing from today's cutthroat political battleground – a sense of humor. "You have the vote of every thinking person," a woman shouted to him during the 1956 presidential campaign. "That's not enough, madam," the Illinoisan replied. "We need a majority." – *Fletcher Farrar, editor*

Cover photos by Rich Saal



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Carlos Ortega has been hired as the next executive director of Downtown Springfield, Inc.
PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

DSI gets new director

Springfield native Carlos Ortega started Feb. 1

DOWNTOWN | Scott Reeder

Carlos Ortega, a man with a passion for promoting economic development, has set his sights on improving his hometown's central business district.

The Springfield native is Downtown Springfield Incorporated's new executive director. He began the job Feb. 1.

"He brings with him extensive nonprofit and business knowledge that we feel is going to translate very well to his role in DSI," said Blake Pryor, a commercial Realtor and board president of DSI. "It was pretty much evident that he was a self-starter, very passionate, and he had a demonstrated background in fundraising. Those were all qualities we were really seeking in an executive director."

DSI promotes economic development in the city's central business district.

Ortega, 35, worked for the Illinois Senate Republican caucus for six years and then spent four years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Africa. Most recently he has worked for Elevate CCIC, an organization similar to DSI in Mattoon.

"In that rural community I helped win a large grant to help facilitate the development of a business innovation center," he said.

But he added he is eager to begin work in Springfield.

"I grew up here. I still have family that lives in Springfield, and I'm passionate about helping others and serving others where I can," he said. He is 2006 graduate of Springfield High School and holds a bachelor's degree from University of Illinois Springfield.

"After I came back from Africa, I was a Peace Corps fellow at Western Illinois University where I received my master's," he said.

Ortega, who will earn about \$100,000 annually, fills the spot vacated in November by Kayla Graven, who left to become the operations coordinator for the city's Office of Planning and Economic Development.

"He's a public servant and he wants to make the community a better place wherever he is," Pryor said.

Ortega added he would like to build on the area's successful ongoing programs.

"I would really like to work off of the developments already established with downtown Springfield, such as the Levitt AMP Music Series, Momentum on Main Street, the farmers market — just making sure that those are continuing and are satisfactory," he said. "Also, I do believe that there's opportunity to redevelop some commercial spaces and engage the community."

He added he would like to emulate his success in Mattoon by doing something similar in Springfield, such as promoting a business incubator that would mentor budding entrepreneurs.

"I don't want to pick up and put something down on a community that doesn't fit," Ortega said. "So, it's about working with the community, understanding their needs first, and just trying to figure out what best avenues to push forward with." □

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

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Budzinski, the bipartisan Democrat

She draws the line at Trump: When he says who he is, believe him.

POLITICS | David Blanchette

The most surprising thing 13th District Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski found during her first year in office is that there are many more people like her in Washington, D.C.

“There are a lot of us who want to get things done and we work together to accomplish that,” said Budzinski, a Democrat from Springfield. “We see a lot of common interests and common goals and work together to find solutions.”

When the newly elected Budzinski last sat down with the *Illinois Times* (Freshman class, April 27, 2023), she was just a few months into her two-year term and expressed a strong desire to work with her fellow representatives from both political parties. She’s been able to do that, she said, by ignoring the partisan political rhetoric that seems to grab the headlines.

“I think the extremes within both of our parties exacerbate the polarization of our politics today,” Budzinski said. “If more of us come together and listen less to the extremes we would find more compromise and collaboration and much more of a functional federal government.”

Budzinski pointed to several Springfield-benefiting accomplishments as evidence that she’s able to work with both sides of the aisle. The Springfield Rail Improvements Project has received \$98.1 million in federal grant funding, including \$19.8 million that came from recently passed bipartisan infrastructure legislation, although the last \$138 million for the project has been delayed for one year, postponing a lot of construction planned for Springfield.

“I’m disappointed that the Springfield Rail Improvements Project did not receive the federal resources necessary in 2023 to keep the project on track,” Budzinski said. “In 2024, I’ll continue working closely with project leaders, Senators Durbin and Duckworth and the Department of Transportation to deliver the resources required to keep this vital project moving.”

Springfield’s Moving Pillsbury Forward project has received \$787,000 in federal funding, with more on the way, Budzinski said, if a bipartisan federal budget agreement can be reached. She and Republican Illinois Congressman Darin LaHood also cosponsored a bill to make the downtown site of the 1908 Springfield Race Riot a national monument.

Budzinski is also optimistic that a bipartisan solution can be found to the number one issue currently on her central Illinois constituents’ minds. Of the 26,000 calls, letters and emails her district offices have received this past year, immigration and the security of the United States’ southern border seem to be top concerns.

“The immigration system is broken and



PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

needs to be fixed in a bipartisan way. That’s not just about securing our border, but also giving a legal pathway to citizenship,” Budzinski said. “I’ve been working with my colleagues on additional funding for more officers and technology investments to detect illegal drugs.”

The 2018 federal farm bill expired Sept. 30, 2023, and many central Illinois residents are anxious about when a new farm bill might be enacted and what it might contain. Budzinski serves on the House Agriculture Committee and understands the bill’s importance. But she said there can be no farm bill until a federal budget is passed.

“We need a Republican leadership that is going to listen to the majority of us who want a pragmatic, bipartisan solution to getting a budget done,” Budzinski said. “I think once we get that done, then we can continue to focus on the farm bill.”

Budzinski is advocating for the inclusion of crop insurance and nutrition program support in a new farm bill. She also has bipartisan pieces of agricultural legislation that she hopes to get passed this year, laws that would help young and beginning farmers with student loan forgiveness and provide access to land-purchasing capital. Budzinski cites her bipartisan work with Congressman Zach Nunn, an Iowa Republican, in pushing those measures forward.

Investments in further agricultural research at the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and other area

institutions are also on Budzinski’s agenda, as are bipartisan efforts to promote biofuels produced using Illinois crops.

“Biofuels and sustainable aviation fuels reduce our carbon emissions and can become carbon-neutral if you partner them with technology centering on carbon capture sequestration,” Budzinski said. “We are also reducing the price of fuel at the pump, and the Next Generation Fuels Act would support year-round sales of an E-15 blend” in key Midwestern states, including Illinois.

The federal debt ceiling is also on the minds of many 13th District constituents. The debt ceiling is the legal limit on the total amount of debt that the federal government can accrue. The U.S. National Debt Clock lists the current national debt at \$34 trillion, or more than \$101,000 for every person in America. The current U.S. debt ceiling is \$31.4 trillion, far short of what the government owes, and debate continues about what should be done about the situation.

“The debate around the debt ceiling is false in some ways because these are all programs and initiatives that have already been appropriated. The debt ceiling is about paying the bills,” Budzinski said. “I have supported a bipartisan measure that would freeze spending for two years. We should be having spending conversations before we spend the money. Then when we say we are going to spend the money, we need to pay the bill.”

Then, of course, there is the elephant (and the donkey) in the room – the 2024 presidential election. This is one issue on which Budzinski is sticking with her party, and she agrees with many Democrats’ assessments that the future of our democracy is at stake in November.

“When somebody tells you who they are, you should believe them. Every day former President Trump says who he is, someone who is not inclusive or welcoming, that we should abandon our allies and partners around the world,” Budzinski said. “Someone who has challenged the basic principles of a free and fair election and not honoring the results simply because he did not like the results. That’s not a democracy.”

Budzinski will be ready if the vote tally certification in Congress foments another insurrection reminiscent of the one in January 2021.

“I have a constitutional duty to be there and be a part of that process, to stand up for what’s right and to stand up for our democratic values,” Budzinski said.

Budzinski addressed concerns about 81-year-old President Joe Biden’s age as he seeks re-election.

“People should move away from looking at a number to looking at his accomplishments and what that has meant for them in their daily lives,” Budzinski said. “We have a strong economy today, he has capped insulin costs, and passed an infrastructure bill that has allowed critical investments in central and southern Illinois.”

Budzinski will attend this year’s Democratic National Convention in Chicago and hopes the gathering will provide an opportunity to promote downstate Illinois.

Budzinski handles constituent inquiries through her regional offices in Springfield, Belleville, Champaign and Decatur. During her first year in office, Budzinski introduced 15 bills and cosponsored an additional 298, including “bipartisan legislation that supports working families, improves access to rural health care, expands critical veterans’ benefits, grows markets for our family farmers and addresses the mental health and substance use crises impacting too many of our loved ones,” she said.

But Budzinski’s biggest point of pride during her first year in office has been her ability to work with her congressional colleagues.

“One of the things that has served me well in this first year is bipartisanship,” Budzinski said. “This has to be more than just a slogan; it has to be something you’re practicing.” □

Influx of migrants to Illinois creates tensions

Lawmakers begin offering proposals to address recent arrivals

IMMIGRATION | Andrew Adams, Capitol News Illinois

Tensions rose again this week between Gov. JB Pritzker's office and Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson over how to handle the tens of thousands of people who have arrived in the state since August 2022 via buses or planes sent from Texas.

The most recent back-and-forth between the two came in response to the city's recent shift in its migrant strategy: away from building new shelters or even increasing capacity of existing shelters, instead focusing on getting migrants out of shelters and into other forms of housing.

The state had previously committed \$65 million to building a shelter in Chicago in November — an effort that has still not come to fruition.

"I'm deeply concerned," Pritzker said Jan. 22. "We do not have enough shelter as it is in the city of Chicago. The city has not told the state where they would like us to put our resources. We can't help if they don't identify those locations."

Johnson's administration is gearing up to enforce the city's 60-day eviction policy at Chicago's shelters. Enforcement of that policy was initially delayed due to dangerously cold weather but is set to go into effect next week.

At a news conference on Jan. 24, Johnson suggested that the state build shelters outside of his city.

"The state of Illinois can build a shelter anywhere in the state of Illinois, the state does not have to build a shelter in Chicago," Johnson said.

Within city government, Chicago's shelter policies have drawn criticism. Jan. 25, a group of 16 city aldermen penned a letter asking the mayor to walk back the eviction policy.

"To stand by the decision to impose 60-day limits on shelters without addressing these systemic issues leaves new arrivals without options for housing or shelter," the aldermen wrote. "This situation simply should not be acceptable."

Beyond Chicago, Pritzker joined eight other Democratic governors earlier this week in a letter to President Joe Biden and congressional leadership asking for more federal coordination of resources to help migrants.

"While political motivations continue to delay the negotiations, our economy, states and localities are bearing the brunt of the shortcomings of the existing immigration system," the governors wrote. "Therefore, as you return to Washington to resume work on



Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson speaks to reporters in Springfield during a visit to the Capitol in April 2023, shortly after winning the Chicago mayoral election. CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS FILE PHOTO BY JERRY NOWICKI

critical federal funding measures, we strongly urge Congress and the Administration to quickly negotiate an agreement on a border security legislative package."

In addition to Pritzker, the letter was signed by the governors of New York, Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New Mexico.

Conflict between the states and the federal government is also coming from the other side of the political aisle. Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court ordered Texas officials to allow federal agents to access the state's border with Mexico. Texas sued the federal government last fall after border patrol agents cut razor wire the state had put up, but the court upheld previous decisions that give the federal government sole responsibility for border security.

On Jan. 24, Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who has directed the busing program that has brought roughly 35,000 migrants to Illinois, invoked the U.S. Constitution by declaring that the number of migrants at the southern border constitutes an "invasion" of the country and referencing states' "sovereign interest in protecting their borders."

This week also saw several state lawmakers offer possible responses to the influx of migrants.

Rep. Kam Buckner, D-Chicago, penned an op-ed proposing that city and state policymakers use the fact that Chicago is set to host the Democratic National Convention as leverage to force federal action on immigration.

"If the federal government cannot adequately deal with the housing issue for

tenured Chicagoans and our new arrivals, then Chicago and Illinois should be prepared to rescind the offer to host the DNC," Buckner wrote in a piece for the *Chicago Tribune*.

But backing out of hosting the DNC is unlikely, as contacts with vendors have already been signed and federal law enforcement agencies are already setting out their plans for the event.

"The Democratic National Convention provides an unparalleled opportunity to invest in communities across Chicago," Natalie Edelstein, a spokesperson for the host committee said in a statement responding to Buckner's proposal.

Buckner is a member of the House of Representatives New Arrivals Working Group, an informal group of lawmakers recently convened by House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside. That group will likely be an important part of potential funding discussions for the state's migrant response this spring. While the governor's office is anticipating a \$1.4 billion surplus in the current year which ends June 30, next fiscal year is facing a projected deficit of \$891 million.

The state has so far spent or allocated more than \$600 million on programs relating to the recently arrived migrants, according to the governor's office, including a \$160 million package through the state's Department of Human Services announced in November.

Earlier this month, Pritzker said he brought up a potential supplemental spending plan to legislative leaders in Springfield, but those conversations have so far yielded no proposals.

Some Republican lawmakers, meanwhile, have asked Welch to hold public hearings on the migrant situation.

The Illinois Freedom Caucus, a group of conservative Republican state representatives, said they attempted to tour shelters in Chicago but were turned away.

While the Jan. 22 letter to Welch from Freedom Caucus members characterized the influx of migrants as an "ongoing illegal immigration crisis," many of the people bused to the state from Texas are seeking asylum, which generally means they can legally stay in the U.S.

Rep. Adam Niemerg, R-Dieterich, a member of the Freedom Caucus, said he and his colleagues hope to engage downstate Illinoisans on the issue.

"Transparency in government at any level is important," Niemerg said. □

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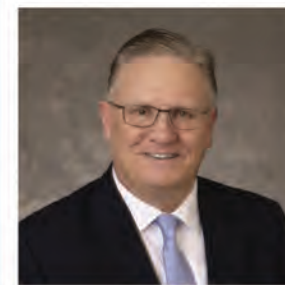
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LETTERS

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DON'T FUND PRIVATE BUSINESS

I can support tax money for infrastructure needs but draw the line at flat-out buying things for a commercial enterprise like a sports franchise. Chicago faces the same thing with the Bears wanting tax money for things they can afford and should buy themselves. If they want to move to Arlington, the state can pay for the roads and utilities, but that has to be the limit.

The same goes for Robin Roberts Stadium. Also, there's no point in preserving the stadium if you're going to change the name. The name was the reason for it.

Mark Suszko

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

GET IT DONE

I support this 100%. It can be a major attraction site with turf, and we can host concerts, ballgames and all kinds of fun things. The Springfield Park District is a great partner, and trust me, they will find a way to get it done. I stand with them and will do all I can to help this location and Chamberlain Ball Park.

We work hard to get things done on other sides of town, and we can surely work hard together and get this done, too!

Ward 2 Ald. Shawn Gregory

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

NOT WORTH IT

As I understand it, the rent paid by the Lucky Horseshoes won't even cover the utility bill. I like baseball. I have nothing against the Horseshoes, but I can't see this proposed renovation. It creates little to no tourism; the teams that come to play the Horseshoes don't even stay overnight in local hotels.

I wish them well, I just hope it doesn't come to fruition at taxpayers' expense. We are broke enough as it is. The proposed plan will not pay for itself, will not really do much in the way of tourism income, but it would make a nice stadium. It's easy to come up with all kinds of neat ideas when spending other people's money. If they can get the school district or park district to do it, more power to them.

Terry Young

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

BUILD BY SCHEELS

Build a new stadium in the sports park out by SCHEELS. This is a no-brainer. It's such a natural fit that I can't believe it hasn't been constructed already – what's the problem?

Paul Beatty

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



The Springfield Lucky Horseshoes have \$10 million in ideas about how to improve Robin Roberts Stadium, which is owned by Springfield Park District. The Horseshoes ownership and Park Board jointly funded an architectural study, but many questions remain about who would pay for the proposed improvements.

COURTESY OF J.H. PETTY AND ASSOCIATES

BUILD DOWNTOWN

Build a new stadium and people will buy tickets and come to games way more than at the current location. When there are no games, the stadium can be rented out for concerts or events. There is big money available through federal and state tourism grants. Don't renovate, move the stadium downtown.

Garret Moffett

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

TOWN WON'T SUPPORT IT

Sadly, Springfield just isn't supportive enough to warrant a multimillion-dollar renovation of the current stadium or the construction of a new stadium on the west side.

Ken Fritchman

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

WORK FOR PEACE

The Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist congregation is heartbroken by the violence and death the world continues to witness in Israel and Gaza. We grieve with our Israeli and Palestinian brothers and sisters who have lost loved ones. Our Unitarian Universalist principles and values affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every human being, and we know the peace we all long for cannot be achieved with continued violence. We must continue to dismantle systems of oppression and work toward liberation for all. We join the UUA in calling for an immediate ceasefire in this ongoing conflict.

Anna Sabin, President

Rev. Martin Woulfe, Minister

BAD BUSINESS MODEL

I'm not against someone making a buck, but investing in properties on the other side of the country is obviously going to lead to this kind of thing ("City pursues legal action against Olde Towne Apartments," Jan. 18.) Out of sight, out of mind. Well, until the rent checks stop coming in.

Adam Fagan

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

DODGED A BULLET

How lucky do the next-to-last bidders at the auction feel right now?

Loy Wrightsman

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

PLENTY OF DEMAND

I encourage people to use the new Breeze

Airlines out of Springfield for direct connections to Orlando and Tampa. I recently flew from Orlando to Springfield and was impressed with the up-to-date communications, easy check-in, clean plane and friendly service. They are cheap flights (but there are add-ons).

Many have raised concerns about our current Springfield airport. We are told demand dictates what can be offered. How is demand determined? Has anyone surveyed or asked us? Unfortunately, service is not helping demand. Flights out of Springfield continue to be taken out of service. Originally scheduled flights have been changed to later, inconvenient times, forcing a change in a connecting flight. The early morning flight to Chicago (packed every time I took it) has been moved to mid-afternoon. And, trying to make a connection back to Springfield from Chicago often forces one to stay overnight with nothing available until maybe late the next day.

High prices and lack of convenient schedules have forced flyers to not even consider Springfield and instead seek other connections through Decatur, Bloomington, Champaign and Peoria – all with food service and even sit-down restaurants (the Subway at the Springfield airport has never been open any time I have flown).

I love to travel and I would love to fly out of Springfield rather than drive to another airport. Just give us the service, and demand will boom.

Cinda Klickna

Springfield

Pecuniary Differential

Grampa paid us kids a nickel for dropping paper collars onto milk bottles after they came through the bottler: these collars were intermittent advertising to customers, something like a special on cottage cheese. My sister Patsy was indignant for putting in a morning's work for only 5 cents. She stormed over to the office where Dad pulled handfuls of quarters from his desk – he was used to upping payment to youngsters, for Grampa was living by the standards of what money was worth when he was growing up. I myself was paid 10 cents an hour detasseling in the '30s and '40s and felt not misused.

Chicago mayor walks back asylum welcome

POLITICS | Rich Miller

Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson's budget that he passed last November deliberately underfunded programs for asylum-seekers. The meager appropriation authority could be exhausted by April, but nobody knows yet what the city plans to do when it reaches that point.

Also last November, Gov. JB Pritzker made it clear to reporters that, "the state doesn't run shelters," and said he was waiting for the city to recommend shelter sites. "The state doesn't control property in the city of Chicago that could provide a location. The city really has to do that." Pritzker also criticized the city for not asking the General Assembly for additional money and noted, "We have spent much more money to support the system of asylum-seekers arriving here than the city has."

In December, the state declined to fund a huge, 2,000-bed tent shelter in the city's Brighton Park neighborhood after an evaluation of a city contractor's report by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency found that the remediation completed by the city "did not meet IEPA standards to receive [a formal letter stating no more mediation was needed] and was therefore not approved," an IEPA spokesperson reiterated last week.

The city was furious at the denial, and Mayor Johnson complained to reporters again last week that the state still has not fulfilled its promise to open those 2,000 new beds. The state claimed then and has ever since then that, despite repeated requests, the city has not yet offered up any more sites. Mayor Johnson told reporters this was not true. I'm still checking on this.

Also in December, Mayor Johnson announced a program to ticket and even impound buses carrying migrants to the city from Texas unless drivers followed rules for when and where their passengers could be dropped off. That quickly had the effect of forcing the bus companies to dump their human cargo in the suburbs and exurbs, where they are then directed to public transportation to Chicago. During the week ending Jan. 19, not a single bus from Texas arrived directly in Chicago, according to a document released to city officials.

The city has opened no new migrant shelters since November, although Chicago officials made it appear as if they were still working on plans to do so in December, specifically a shelter on the city's northwest side at a site owned by the Catholic Archdiocese. Will Chicago still open and operate that shelter? No. But the city has been

hoping that the state and/or the Archdiocese could open it, and now I'm hearing that the shelter might possibly go forward.

On Jan. 12, city officials went even further and told state legislators the city had "begun planning for rightsizing" its shelter system. That's corporate-speak for "downsizing," although a city official now says they probably shouldn't have used that word.

And then last week, Mayor Johnson told reporters that the state government "can build a shelter anywhere in the state of Illinois," adding the state "does not have to build a shelter in Chicago."

This, of course, ignores the fact that the migrants' stated preference is a Chicago destination. More importantly, it's also the politically targeted destination set by the Texas governor. In other words, the mayor can say what he wants, but they're coming regardless.

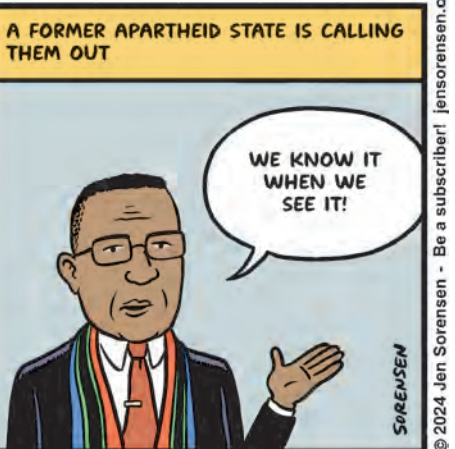
His comment also ignores the fact that the state has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on infrastructure and caring for asylum-seekers in Chicago. Expanding that out would be prohibitively expensive and disperse scarce human resources. There are only so many

people who are willing to do the work and qualified to do it. Dispersing those workers throughout a large geographic area would make their task a lot tougher. It may be unfair to the city, but that's where the infrastructure is.

Not to mention that suburban mayors aren't exactly falling all over themselves to take any of these folks in. When a reporter asked Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle last week if any suburban mayors had taken up her offer to open shelters, Preckwinkle said, "Those conversations didn't result in offers of assistance."

It's becoming more clear almost every day that, despite his initial promises to welcome the new arrivals with open arms and share with them the city's "abundance," Mayor Johnson's aim for weeks if not months has been to pull back from the task of accepting and caring for the continuing influx of asylum-seekers and return to his progressive agenda, like banning natural gas connections in most new construction.

Meanwhile, April gets closer every day. □



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Doing more for the homeless

Nonprofits, police department, expand services to address a growing need

HOUSING | Dean Olsen

There it stood, a three-foot-tall Christmas tree marking the entrance to a litter-strewn encampment in a wooded area near a railroad line on Springfield's north side.

The tree was decorated with about a dozen ornaments, with a dirty pink jacket serving as a skirt. A few steps down a hill from the tree was a cluster of tents, tarps suspended by tree limbs, a makeshift latrine, clothes, empty beer and soda cans, cooking utensils and a burn pit that smelled as if it had been used in the past 24 hours.

No one was at the outdoor site when Springfield police officer Michael Newman and Shanon Allen, the police department's community care coordinator, visited one 38-degree morning in late January. Newman, who had visited before, suspected most of the seven or eight people who used to live there probably had moved to abandoned buildings to escape the recent ice storm and subzero temperatures, though there was evidence one person remained but was gone for the time being.

Newman spotted some holiday knickknacks perched at eye-level on some of the tree branches. He said there was a "sense of pride" amid the squalor.

"That's all a lot of the unhoused have left — pride," he said.

Newman and Allen, who are based out of a makeshift office on the first floor of Lincoln Library near the magazine racks, said they know they are making a difference in connecting the unhoused with housing and health and financial services.

The police department "wants to be part of the solution," said Newman, the department's homeless outreach team coordinator. "We don't want to criminalize homelessness."

Newman and Allen said much more needs to be done. For example, Newman said there needs to be two or three more homeless outreach officers and more social workers such as Allen so all shifts can be staffed.

"If we had that, there would be a much quicker turnaround in serving people," he said. "We could be more intentional on how we handle individuals and their problems."

Newman and Allen are among a cadre of dedicated professionals in a variety of local agencies and organizations trying to do a better job of tackling homelessness in Springfield and the rest of Sangamon County.

Some have seen the problem get worse because of the COVID-19 pandemic, while



Springfield police officer Michael Newman, the Homeless Outreach Team coordinator, walks through a campsite in a timbered area on Springfield's north side where up to eight people had been staying. PHOTO BY RICH SAAL

others said there are signs of progress in reducing the number of unhoused people as officials carry out Springfield and Sangamon County's 2022-2028 Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness.

Moving out of crisis mode

The latest bright spot was the formal opening Jan. 17 of Helping Hands of Springfield's new site at 2200 Shale St., off South Dirksen Parkway. Sangamon County government officials decided to use \$9 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to renovate unused space in the county-owned complex.

The county is renting the space, which used to be part of the adjacent Sangamon County Juvenile Detention Center, to Helping Hands for \$1 a year so the

nonprofit's emergency shelter, housing and administrative services could be put under one roof. The detention center is walled off from the space used by Helping Hands.

The new Helping Hands complex can accommodate up to 140 adults who are homeless, as well as a few intact families with children. The facility is an important piece in the strategic plan to prevent homelessness whenever possible and ensure that when homelessness does occur, it is rare, brief and infrequent, according to Josh Sabo, executive director of a new Springfield nonprofit called Heartland HOUSED.

The opening, supported by Springfield and Sangamon County officials and nonprofits that serve the homeless, marked the first time in almost 20 years that a proposal for a comprehensive site wasn't defeated by

neighborhood opposition.

"One of the key strategies to help us reach 'functional zero' in 2028 is an emergency shelter system that functions as a foundation, that provides housing-focused services and helps people ultimately end the experience of homelessness," Sabo said.

"We've worked in crisis mode for two decades," he said. "Now it's time to move out of that so people can have the tools they need to leave the shelter and be supported in housing."

About 1,200 homeless people receive services in Sangamon County each year, a number that has been on the rise in recent years because not enough people are exiting homelessness, Sabo said.

The strategic plan called for 200 more housing units to be made available in 2023

for formerly homeless people who need up to two years of rental assistance and for people needing longer-term units and related case-management service. Similar increases are needed this year and in 2025 and 2026 for the plan to keep pace with the long-term goal of “functional zero,” Sabo said.

The 2023 numbers were short of the goal by about 60 units, Sabo said, but he added, “We’re making great progress.” More local fundraising may be needed to help carry out the homeless-reduction plan, and announcements about such a fund drive may be coming in the summer or fall, he said.

The new 22,000-square-foot complex replaces Helping Hands’ 15,000-square-foot, 50-bed shelter for men and other housing-related services at 1023 E. Washington St. Helping Hands is the county’s largest provider of shelter services.

Its new 140-bed facility now includes housing for women as well and incorporates the community’s low-barrier overflow shelter, which previously served 40 to 90 women and men each night and was operated by the Salvation Army out of its former Adult Rehabilitation Center at 221 N. 11th St.

By serving more clients at one location, offering up to three meals a day, offering more space for mental-health services and accommodating all of Helping Hands’ staff members under one roof, officials from the organization said clients will have more incentives to stay, and as a result, receive comprehensive services and gain access to short- and long-term housing quicker.

“This provides one location that allows us to connect with people who are most vulnerable, and it will streamline services,” Helping Hands Executive Director Laura Davis said.

The agency’s workers “won’t have to wait months and months trying to find somebody before we can move onto the next name,” she said.

A tearful Ronetta Hamilton, Helping Hands’ director of shelter services, said at a ribbon-cutting ceremony: “To a lot of you, this is just a new building. But to us, this is a place where people who have been forgotten can heal, so we are grateful for that.”

But Hamilton cautioned the public that reducing homelessness isn’t any one group’s responsibility, clients are in charge of their own lives, and American society lacks a cohesive system for treating the depression, anxiety and mental-health conditions that burden many of the unhoused.

“So to expect a homeless shelter to ‘fix’ people, that can never happen, because that’s not our job,” she said. “Our job is to be a safe place for people to be able to heal and connect them to the resources ... so that they can be that person you’re sitting next to in church, or the person you walk by in



Helping Hands held a ribbon cutting Jan. 17 for a new site off South Dirksen Parkway. Sangamon County officials used \$9 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to renovate unused space in the county-owned complex and are leasing it to Helping Hands for \$1 a year. This is one of the dormitory areas. PHOTO BY LEE MILNER

a grocery store, or the person you sit in a meeting with.”

Helping Hands will have doubled its staff – which will total 40 by later this year – to accommodate the new site and expand development of relationships with landlords to create more short- and long-term housing opportunities, Davis said. The agency also is

spending more to help pay clients’ rents.

By mid-2024, Helping Hands’ annual budget will reach about \$3 million, a tripling in previous spending, to pay for additional staff and rental costs. The increase largely will be funded with state grants, though donations are always welcome, Davis said.

The new complex is 3.5 miles from

Helping Hands’ previous shelter, which Sangamon County purchased for \$250,000 and plans to tear down so the county can construct a new \$3.5 million garage for the Sangamon Menard Regional Transit Program.

Helping Hands is using vans provided by the county to operate a shuttle service that gives regular rides to and from downtown Springfield for clients of the shelter, and clients receive free passes from the Sangamon Mass Transit District to take buses back and forth.

Hamilton, the shelter director, said clients are using those options, and the shelter hasn’t had to turn away anyone because of a shortage of space.

Julie Benson, founder and director of nonprofit Helping the Homeless in Springfield, supported Helping Hands’ former plan to open the proposed Center for Health and Housing in the 500 block of South 11th Street. But that plan was killed in 2019 by resistance from nearby residential neighborhoods and Springfield’s NAACP branch. The branch didn’t oppose the new site.

To Benson, the opening of the new site has been “a little chaotic,” but she wants Helping Hands to succeed.

“There are far more people on the street than when I started eight years ago,” she said. “It’s taking too long.”

Sabo anticipates local data demonstrating improvements in reducing homelessness by



The encampment where numerous people had been staying included a small Christmas tree and decorations placed at eye level on some of the tree branches. Officer Michael Newman said there was a “sense of pride” amid the squalor. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN



Officer Michael Newman checks a vacant house along North Grand Avenue after receiving a report that someone might be staying there. PHOTO BY RICH SAAL



Officer Michael Newman and Shanon Allen, community care coordinator for the Springfield Police Department, talk with Christopher Jackson at the Washington Street Mission Jan. 24. Jackson had been released from the Jacksonville Correctional Center the previous day. PHOTO BY RICH SAAL

late 2024.

The number of people panhandling on street corners with signs saying they are homeless is a separate issue, police and homeless service providers said. They said some panhandlers are homeless, others are trying to supplement the disability benefits they receive, and some may be poor but are members of panhandling rings.

Hamilton said each homeless person has a story, some more complicated than others, and many are dealing with mental-health struggles, addictions, abusive relationships and a history of emotional and financial trauma.

“We get it all here,” she said. “People don’t understand how hard our jobs are. ... We never know what we’re dealing with, but we know we’re dealing with broken people. People don’t show up at Helping Hands because it’s the place to be. They show up because something has happened in their lives that has brought them to our doors.”

“I’m looking for the next step”

Charles Kellman, 61, is from Brooklyn, a borough of New York City, but came to Helping Hands three months ago. Formerly employed by an exterminating company and recovering from a crack cocaine addiction, he said he moved to Springfield to be with a woman he met online.

He said he had to leave the mobile home he purchased when the woman’s adult daughter filed for an order of protection, alleging he was neglecting the woman, who has disabilities. The allegation isn’t true, he said.

Kellman said he is trying to get a state of Illinois identification card so he can get a job and get a place of his own. “I want to work,” he said.

He deals with depression and back problems but has been denied Social Security disability benefits. He said he has appreciated the kindness of the staff at Helping Hands.

“Without this place, I’d be living on the streets,” he said. “Even though this place is great, I don’t want to be here.”

Another Helping Hands client, Frankie Jones, 54, is from Kansas City and also moved to Springfield to be with a woman he met online. He was living with her in her mobile home for four years but became homeless in summer 2023 when the relationship ended and health problems interfered with his ability to work for a nearby horse stable.

Jones, who also deals with anxiety, said he is trying to secure SSI benefits and soon will look for a job as a landscaper or some other type of outdoor employment.

“I try to stay to myself,” he said. “I try to keep out of drama. If it weren’t for the staff, I don’t know what I’d be doing.”

Many adults who are homeless or formerly

homeless congregate each morning at Springfield's Washington Street Mission, 408 N. Fourth St., for a warm, safe place to spend time, drink coffee, eat doughnuts, attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and religious services, shower and get their laundry done.

The longtime charity also provides free clothing and is always looking for donations.

Colton Bradley, 25, who said he stays at the Helping Hands shelter and deals with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, said he often goes to Washington Street Mission for a "breath of fresh air."

Pastor Steve Ohl, 63, a Baptist minister who is the mission's chaplain, said as many as 150 people visit the mission each morning, up from the 70 to 100 who visited before the COVID-19 pandemic.

No one knows for sure, but he believes COVID led to more homelessness.

"I think COVID isolated a lot of people," he said.

The isolation and gaps in mental-health treatment caused mental health conditions to get worse, he said. And pandemic-fed inflation boosted rents, resulting in many people losing their homes, he said.

Christopher Jackson, 30, was at the mission after being paroled to Helping Hands after serving time in state prison in Jacksonville for theft and domestic violence in DeWitt County.

He said he wants to move back to Decatur to be closer to his two toddler daughters, who live with their mother, and appreciated meeting at the mission with Newman and Allen, the social worker and cop, respectively.

Newman and Allen visit the mission and other spots where the unhoused congregate. They said they are looking into options for Jackson, who said he doesn't like living at the shelter.

"I don't need to be at that shelter," Jackson said. "I'm looking for the next step." That step would be a job in landscaping, a field in which he has experience, he said.

Newman and Allen try to spend part of their days in their Lincoln Library office. Many people need help getting birth certificates or other documents that can help them get jobs and government benefits for income support and housing. The unhoused often have lost those documents over the years.

The pair sometimes are dispatched by police to emergencies, and sometimes they just meet random people on the street in need of help. They responded to a report of a man walking along the Third Street railroad tracks downtown but never found him and instead found William Larion, 46, and his wife, Carrie, 33, in a CVS parking lot along Carpenter Street.

The bundled-up couple, with Carrie in a wheelchair and all of their possessions loaded



Shanon Allen, left, and Michael Newman greet William Larion and his wife, Carrie. The couple told Newman they were newly homeless. PHOTO BY RICH SAAL

into a cart and a backpack, had been sleeping in various outdoor locations the past two months after losing their rental home, William Larion said. They were able to stay in a hotel a few nights during the recent cold snap, but money they received from Julie Benson's



Colton Bradley at the Washington Street Mission Jan. 24. PHOTO BY RICH SAAL

organization for that stay was temporary.

Heart problems interrupted William Larion's ability to work, according to the U.S. Army veteran. Larion said his post-traumatic stress disorder from combat overseas made him reluctant to use a homeless shelter, where he might have to be housed in separate quarters from his wife. She suffers anxiety when they are apart, he said.

William Larion said he hates the way people look at him in stores when they see his backpack and suspect he is homeless. "It's degrading," he said.

Newman, who met the couple in the morning, gave Larion the phone number of a veterans' assistance service, and Allen met with the couple in the afternoon, but it's unclear what happened to them. William Larion gave *Illinois Times* his cellphone number but didn't return messages.

More staff for the homeless outreach team would help with the follow-up of such situations, Newman said.

People who are unhoused sometime embellish stories and minimize the role their own flaws played in their situations, but they all deserve to be offered assistance, he said.

Newman and Allen walked down a long trail in a wooded area, about a mile from the first encampment they visited, to check on

Danny Schwartz, 45, who had constructed an outdoor camp of tarps, tents and coolers.

Schwartz said he was born and raised in Decatur and has been homeless for 13 years, mostly living outside, and occasionally has worked at restaurants. He told Allen that he doesn't like living in shelters.

"I really don't feel comfortable in there," he said while wrapped in blankets to protect against the cold.

Schwartz told Allen that he could use help getting a birth certificate so he could apply for public housing. Allen said she could help him out but that he would need to come to her office to sign documents.

It's unclear whether or when Schwartz will follow up. Despite his request, he is distrustful of the government and government programs, according to people who have tried to assist him.

Schwartz told *Illinois Times*, "I would rather be in a home, but I can't afford it."

Living at his encampment, he said, is peaceful.

"The weather is the downfall," he 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.

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CUT HERE

Polenta, the humble dish

Slow food full of protein and fiber

FOOD | Peter Glatz

Polenta, a type of cornmeal porridge or mush, is a humble peasant dish from northern Italy that predates the Roman Empire. Before Christopher Columbus introduced corn from the Americas to Europe, polenta was made from ground barley, fava beans, spelt, rye or buckwheat. Modern-day polenta is typically made from medium to coarsely ground yellow flint corn. Flint corn has a hard outer layer and soft interior that holds its shape when cooked, resulting in an al dente texture. Polenta has a mild corn taste and can soak up flavors from cooking liquids such as milk or stock.

The term “polenta” refers to both the Italian cornmeal product and the cooked dish. Though technically not “authentic,” if you can’t find the product labeled as “polenta,” you can use any kind of medium or coarsely ground corn, even grits. Unlike Italian polenta, which is made from flint corn, grits are made from a different variety known as dent corn, which tends to cook up creamier rather than the more toothsome polenta. Also available in stores are finely ground, faster-cooking “instant polenta,” and shrink-wrapped, precooked polenta that looks like a chubby sausage, though these versions are inferior in flavor and texture. As always, the quality of the finished dish reflects the quality of the ingredients used.

Polenta is a good source of protein and fiber, and compared to rice, pasta or potatoes, it is much lower in calories and fat. For people with celiac disease or gluten intolerance, polenta is a great substitute for wheat-based pasta and noodles. Though polenta is inherently gluten-free, it is important to check the product label to make sure it is processed and packaged in a dedicated gluten-free facility and not cross-contaminated with other wheat products. To designate a product as “gluten-free” in the U.S., it must contain less than 20 parts per million of gluten in the total product. That means for every million grains, there must be less than 20 gluten-containing grains.

In Italy, creamy polenta is often served family-style from a large wooden platter, allowing guests to serve themselves at the table. It can be topped simply with butter and cheese, or used as a base for ragù, braised meats, sautéed mushrooms or pasta sauce. Cooked polenta can also be spread out on a sheet tray, firmed up in the refrigerator, cut into smaller pieces and fried. Polenta is truly slow food. It takes time to cook and requires some patience, but the process is simple. First, you bring a pot of salted water to a boil. Once the water is boiling, you add the polenta in a slow, steady stream, whisking constantly to prevent lumps.



Creamy polenta with braised chicken and mushrooms. PHOTO BY ANN SHAFFER GLATZ.

Then lower the heat and simmer for 30 to 50 minutes, stirring and scraping the bottom of the pot about every five minutes or so. The polenta should be thick and creamy when it’s done.

In between stirring the polenta, you can grate cheese and finish up your toppings. Once the polenta is done cooking, you can serve it immediately or let it cool down for later. If preparing ahead of time, don’t add the cheese until just before serving. The polenta will thicken or firm up as it cools, so you might need to thin it down with a little water when reheating.

Creamy Polenta

Serves 4-6

Put on some music and pour yourself a glass of wine, because you’ll be hanging out by your stove for at least a half an hour. Any leftover creamy polenta can be refrigerated or frozen

and used to make fried polenta.

Ingredients:

4 cups water, milk or chicken stock or vegetable stock (see note below)
1 cup polenta, not instant
1 teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons unsalted butter (or if vegan: extra-virgin olive oil)
1 cup shredded parmesan (optional)

Notes:

Water produces the lightest polenta, with a mild corn flavor. Milk produces a heavier, but rich and creamy polenta. Stock infuses the polenta with more flavor but masks the flavor of the corn. You can split the difference and use half water and half milk, or half water and half stock.

Preparation:

In a large saucepan, add water, milk or stock,

and set over high heat. Slowly pour in the polenta while whisking continuously to avoid lumps and bring to a boil. Continue whisking and when the polenta starts to thicken, after about five minutes, lower the heat until it stops bubbling.

When the polenta is too thick to whisk, switch to a wooden spoon or silicone spatula. Cover the pan, but every five minutes, stir and scrape the bottom to prevent scorching. When the polenta pulls away from the side of the pan and thickens to the texture of soft scrambled eggs, remove from the heat. This may take anywhere from 30 to 50 minutes.

Stir in butter or olive oil, and season with the salt. Keep warm until ready to serve. If the polenta becomes too firm, whisk in a small amount of water. Just before serving, stir in the shredded parmesan, if using.

Fried Polenta

Serves 4

Top with marinara sauce, sautéed mushrooms, or swap out for the English muffin in eggs Benedict.

Ingredients:

One recipe of Creamy Polenta (see above)
Canola, avocado, or grapeseed oil

Preparation:

Lightly grease a rimmed quarter sheet pan or 10-inch round cake pan with oil. Pour hot polenta into the pan and spread evenly with a spatula. Press parchment or plastic wrap against the surface and trim the excess. Wrap the whole pan with plastic wrap, and refrigerate until cold and firm, at least two hours overnight.

When ready to cook: Preheat the oven to 200 degrees. Run a thin spatula or knife around the perimeter of the chilled polenta and invert it onto a cutting board. Cut into squares, rectangles, triangles, fries or use a biscuit cutter to cut into circles. Warm a large nonstick or cast-iron skillet over high heat and coat with two tablespoons of oil. When the oil starts to shimmer, add the polenta pieces in batches; do not crowd the pan.

They should sizzle as soon as they hit the oil. Cook without moving until the polenta is browned, crisp and easily released from the skillet, about three minutes. With a thin-edged spatula, turn over and repeat on the second side. Drain on paper towels. Transfer the fried polenta pieces to a sheet tray with a cooling rack and place in the oven to keep warm. The fried polenta should remain crispy for up to 20 minutes. □

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MUSIC

Merry February music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Whew, we just made it through January's subzero temps, rain, ice, fog and plain old gloominess. As we kick off February on a Thursday, I couldn't help but notice that the shortest of our months definitely packs a long list of holidays to celebrate. There's Groundhogs Day, Abe's birthday, Fat Tuesday, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day (along with George Washington's official birthday), leap day (this year) and it's also Black History Month. Plus, around Feb. 10, a few billion (seriously) people around the world will celebrate the Lunar New Year, listed as the Year of the Dragon for you restaurant placemat readers. I suppose in some ways we could consider the Super Bowl on Feb. 11 as about as big of a national holiday consensus that we experience. A good deal of these celebrations connect us through live music, so get ready for a fun-filled romp of a musical month. Let's get to looking at this week's offerings for now.

Thursday evenings deliver a nice grouping of jamming options with Ole Stogie doing a whole bunch of classic rock tunes played on a cigar box guitar out at Crows Mill Pub, while Ricarda Rosalina covers this week's Thirsty Thursdays night at El Arriero on Wabash Avenue. The open mics continue, with Jack Reilly and friends presenting at the Railyard Cafe and John Drake hosting musicians and poets at Ad Astra, while Kortney and friends do a rocking, full band, open jam at the Blue Grouch.

Nowadays, Friday nights seem to begin for many folks with a visit to Boone's for drinks and eats at the Springfield Area Arts Council-sponsored Friday Night Jazz & Blues music series. This week is a super-duper treat as The José Gobbo Trio lays it down front and center.

The entire month's lineup is quite an incredible list of longtime local groups all doing variously different things very well including The Michael Taylor Trio on the 9th, Stone Cold Blues Band on the 16th and Footprints with Virgil Rhodes on the 23rd. So now you can plan ahead (though you should just plan on going ahead and showing up anyway), knowing you may want to get there early to find a spot in the space where the music happens. And it won't be long before the happening is happening back outside in the friendly confines of the music garden. Wow, just pause and think of that for a moment.

Otherwise, it appears Friday's trend is to be a-rocking hard with Echoes of Pompeii



Ole Stogie plays his cigar box guitar at Crows Mill Pub this Thursday.

(Pink Floyd tribute) at Danenberger Family Vineyards, The Stone Giants at Goodfellas and Phantom Lordz (Metallica and more) with Enamel and Dysfunctional Family at The Curve Inn.

On Saturday night, the assortment of music is absurdly wonderful with Blue Note Trio, featuring Buddy Rogers, on jazz sax at Harvest Market upstairs, Broken Brogue bringing its Celtic music traditions from Decatur to Buzz Bomb and The Fairweather Friends, led by Mike Metz at VFW Post 755, doing Clapton, Petty, Dylan, Snyder and the like. Then, Fuerza Bruta, Home Invasion, No Guard, Discern and False Negative tag-team together for a Dumb Records in-house concert, as Jay Larson Band plays it in the pocket out at Mowie's Cue.

Sunday is chock-full of all kinds of stuff, especially in the area small towns, from Robert Sampson at Trails End in Curran to Joel Honey at Hill Prairie Winery near Oakford, Ella Gibson at Lucky's in Petersburg and Not Petty at 1905 Brewing Co. in Assumption.

Please remember to check our listings for all the many more exciting events going on in our music community and have fabulous fun 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 Feb 1

Open mic with John Drake
Ad Astra Wine Bar and Market,
7-9:30pm.

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

it Ole Stogie
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

Ricarda Rosalina
El Arriero Mexican Restaurant,
6-8pm

Jeff Newman
KJB's Pint Haus, Jacksonville,
9-11am

**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 Feb 2

Jason Eady with guest TBA
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,
2pm

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

**Friday Night Jazz - Jose
Gobbo Trio**
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

**Phantom Lordz with Enamel,
Dysfunctional Family**
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**Echoes of Pompeii - Pink Floyd
tribute**
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 8pm

Jenny Wagner
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur,
7-9pm

Jobe & Woody
Don's Place, Jacksonville, 8pm

Thomas J Beverly
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur,
7-10pm

The Stone Giants
Goodfellas Pub, 8-11pm

Lacey & Kirsten
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

Rod Grant
Hy-Vee Wahlburgers, 5:30-7pm

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

Karaoke with Jamie Lynn
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-
12am

The Screamin' B's
Pease's at BUNN Gourmet,
6:30-9pm

Midwest & Blessed
Springfield Beer Company,
Jacksonville, 6pm

White Lightnin'
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

Saturday Feb 3

**The Comancheros with
Caleb Atwood**
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,
8pm

Broken Brogue
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,
7-10pm

Sushi Roll
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**The Four Horsemen -
Metallica tribute**
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 8pm

**Fuerza Bruta, Home Invasion,
No Guard, Discern, False
Negative**
Dumb Records, 7pm

**The Blue Note Trio with
Buddy Rogers**
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

War Road Gypsy
JB's Hideout, Blue Mound,
8-11pm

JackAsh
Koo Koo's Nest, 3-6pm

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

**Karaoke with
Lori Crenshaw**
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-
12am

Jay Larson Band
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

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

Rod Grant
Pier 55 Lounge, 8-11pm

Jonny Vodka
Pop's Place, Decatur,
9pm-12am

Joel Honey
The Range Bourbon & Brew,
Chatham, 3-6pm

Kate Laine
Stella Coffee & Tea, 1
0-12:30am

The Tangents
Town Hall Pub, Loami,
7-10pm

The Fairweather Friends
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

West End Boogie Project
VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30-
10:30pm

Sunday Feb 4

**Buzz Bomb Fantastical
Folk Jam**
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,
4-6pm.

**Chris Camp and John Drake
Duo**
Danenberger Family Vineyards,
New Berlin, 2-5pm

Julie Jules & Co.
Harvest Market Coffee Bar,
10am-1pm

Joel Honey
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

The Larson Brothers
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

it Ella Gibson
Lucky's on the Square,
Petersburg, 3-6pm

**Demsfightinwords, Surfaced,
KEEP, La Pest**
Pizza Records, Jacksonville, 7pm

Marty "Big Dog" Mercer
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

Robert Sampson
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-6pm

Monday Feb 5

Marty "Big Dog" Mercer
The Alamo, 7pm

**Steph Maguire, Cass Jones
and Emily Perkins**
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,
6pm

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

Tuesday Feb 6

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

John Drake
El Arriero Mexican Restaurant,
6-8pm

**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 Feb 7

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

Karaoke
Clisque, 9pm-1am

Karaoke
Crows Mill Pub, 8-11pm

Karaoke
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur,
6-9pm

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

**Open mic with
Smokestacks**
Trails End Saloon, Curran,
7-10pm

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

Karaoke
Whiskey Jack's Sports Bar, 7:30-
11:30pm

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THEATER | New one-act play looks at poet Walt Whitman, Civil War

it A new one-act play focuses on one of America’s greatest poets – Walt Whitman – in the days after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. ALPLM actor Zaxxon Nation wrote the play and stars as Whitman (1819-1892) when Whitman was volunteering as a nurse for wounded Union soldiers in Washington, D.C. Besides tending the soldiers’ wounds, he also wrote letters home for them. Whitman, inspired by the war and Lincoln’s death, produced some of his best work at this time. Whitman admired Lincoln and after his death Whitman wrote two poems, “O Captain! My Captain!” and “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d.” After each performance, Nation, who has been working on the play since 2020, will answer questions from the audience about Whitman and his research work. ALPLM actor and musician Randy Erwin composed the music for the play. “Lilacs & Letters” opened Jan. 24. Tickets are free with regular admission to the museum. See the ALPLM site for dates and times.

■ Special Music Events

Date Night with Jazz
Sat., Feb. 3, 6:30-8pm. Graduate students Eli Naragon: and Adib Young will perform songs from the Great American Song Book, Jobim classics, and originals by jazz giants including Thelonius Monk, Wayne Shorter, Chick Corea and more. uispac.com. \$15. UIS Studio Theatre, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

First Friday Concert Series
Fri., Feb. 2, 7-8pm. The Land of Lincoln Chorus will present an evening performance of hymns and spirituals in the barbershop style. Free. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-522-3342.

■ Theater & Comedy

Lilacs and Letters
Thu., Feb. 1, 1:15pm. This one-act play features a single actor

portraying Walt Whitman, one of America’s most influential poets, as Whitman processes the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and tends to wounded Civil War soldiers. Free with admission. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

Mean Girls High School Version
Fri., Feb. 2, 7pm, Sat., Feb. 3, 2, 7pm and Sun., Feb. 4, 2pm. Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the wild and vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois. hcfta.org. \$18; seniors and students \$16; ages 12 and under \$12. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

■ Dance

Snow White, A Children’s Ballet

Fri., Feb. 2, 7-8pm and Sat., Feb. 3, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6pm. Presented by Springfield Dance Theatre, “Snow White,” an adorable children’s ballet, promises to bring a sprinkle of magic to Springfield and captivate audiences with its whimsical charm. This timeless tale of Snow White, brought to life through ballet, invites families to experience a world of enchantment. \$20. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 217-306-2288.

■ Art & Architecture

Art Tour: Behind the Ropes
Sundays, 3-4:15pm. Through March 17. Go behind the ropes and get up close to learn about the artists and the art that were handpicked by Illinois first lady MK Pritzker, the Illinois State Museum and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library. Sunday, Feb. 4 is completely reserved. Reserve

a spot at eventbrite.com. Free. Illinois Governor’s Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-782-6450.

it “Come Creative Spirit” call for artists
This juried interfaith exhibition will support diversity, understanding and mutual appreciation. All submitted artwork must be original and explore a spiritual or religious theme from any tradition. Hosted by the Springfield Art Association as part of the Liturgical Arts Festival. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 11. lafspringfield.org. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

Senior Crafty Creations
First Wednesday of every month, 10:30-11:30am. Through March 6. A series of casual craft meetups for seniors on the first Wednesday of each month. Connect, create and relax with other people in an easygoing environment.

All supplies provided. To help with supplies, consider donating \$5 per session. Free. Ball-Chatham Senior Center, Chatham, 111 W. Mulberry St., 217-483-2713.

“Turn on Every Light”
Feb. 1-8. Art work by Heather Brammeier. Open during normal gallery hours. UIS Visual Arts Gallery, HSB 201, One University Plaza, 217-206-6506.

Valentine Cookie Decorating
Sat., Feb. 3, 11am-1pm. Learn basic cookie decorating skills with local baker and artisan Angy Pruett. Cookies, icing, and all other materials provided. Just bring a creative spirit. Participants will design and decorate a dozen delicious cookies to take home. Choose any combination of Valentine conversation hearts, pride or trans flags, or design something unique. \$25. Phoenix Center: Out On Second, 120 E. Scarritt St., 217-414-8953.

“Wonder & Delight - Ambient Floral & Celestial Paintings”
Sat., Feb. 3, 6-8pm. Opening reception for artist Joanna Elizabeth Marsh and her show. Marsh, of Roeland Park, Kan., will speak about her paintings, which serve as a celebration of color and texture. The exhibit runs through Feb. 25. Free. David Strawn Art Gallery, Jacksonville, 331 W. College Ave., 217-243-9390.

■ Film & Television

Le Otto Montagne
Sun., Feb. 4, 1, 4pm and Tue., Feb. 6, 7pm. *The Eight Mountains*, an epic journey of friendship and self-discovery set in the Italian Alps, is a landmark cinematic experience as intimate as it is monumental. Part of the Molly Schlich Independent International Film Series presented by the Springfield Art Association. springfieldart.org. \$10; students with ID \$5. AMC Classic Springfield 12, 3141 Mercantile Dr., 217-526-2631.

Mystery Movie Monday
First Monday of every month, 7pm. Through May 6. You won’t know the title of the film until the red velvet curtain opens on the grand screen. Movies from across the spectrum of genres will be shown -- comedy, drama, suspense, musical, romance, western -- everything

but horror. Free popcorn. atthelegacy.com. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

■ Auditions

Noises Off
Sat., Feb. 3. A play within a play where a mediocre theatre troupe rehearses a touring production of a romp comedy, *Nothing On*. Unfortunately, almost nothing goes right. Show dates are April 12-14 and 19-21. Visit the Springfield Theatre Centre website for more info. springfieldtheatrecentre.com. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

■ History

Friends of Genealogy
Sat., Feb. 3, 2-3:30pm. An opportunity for those who research family histories to share sources and support. Attend monthly or just stop in for some research support and suggestions on a casual basis. Free. Chatham Area Public Library, Chatham, 600 E. Spruce St., 217-483-2713.

Springfield’s Immigrant Stories, Part 1
Thu., Feb. 1, 6-7:30pm. First of a two-part panel discussion highlighting the history of immigration to the U.S., contributions made by diverse immigrant groups in Springfield as well as challenges faced. Subject matter experts will share the effects of historical and current legislation on immigration and migrant flows. Presented by the Citizens Club of Springfield. See the Facebook page for more info. Free. Dove Conference Center, Prairie Heart Institute, 619 E. Mason St., 217-544-6464, ext. 44619.

■ Children’s Corner

Life’s Like a Box of Chocolates workshop
Sat., Feb. 3, 9-11am. For children ages 6-9, participants will create “chocolates” and learn about chocolate and nature. Children will pot up their own chocolate-themed medley of plants to take home. Call for more info and registration link. \$30 residents, \$35 nonresidents. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

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Snow White
Fri., Feb. 2, 7pm and Sat., Feb. 3, 1, 3, 5pm. With the guidance of seven dwarfs and the help of a few furry friends, watch as Snow White as she seeks freedom from the jealous Evil Queen and stumbles upon true love unexpectedly. A children's ballet presented by the Springfield Dance Theatre. atthelegacy.com. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

■ Nature, Science & Environment

Native Plant Seed Sowing Workshop
Sat., Feb. 3, 1-3pm. Alana McKean of Starhill Forest Arboretum will explain how to create a wildlife habitat by winter sowing native perennials. Bring a clean, transparent milk jug, along with native seeds, if you have them. Volunteers with the Illinois Native Plant Society and Springfield Audubon Society will help. Other supplies provided. Free. Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, 2315 E. Clear Lake Ave., 217-491-4448.

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. Free. Knights of Columbus Casey's Pub, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 309-643-5241.

Springfield Civic Garden Club
Monday, Feb. 5, 9:30am. Bill Budd will present a program titled, "The Life of a Honeybee Colony," about raising a honeybee colony effectively. Guests welcome to attend. Free. www.scgc-il.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-899-3283.

■ Lectures & Meetings

AI-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.

Black History Month: Walking Proudly
Wed., Feb. 7, 6-7:30pm. "Embodying liberation in Chicago's West African dance and drum communities." Dr. Queen Meccasia Zabriskie will engage the audience in a movement-based presentation about embodied liberation capital drawing on her historical, ethnographic and performance-based research in Chicago. uis.edu. Free. UIS Brookens Auditorium, One University Plaza, 217-206-6245.

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

Overeaters Anonymous
Mondays, 5:30pm. The only requirement is a desire to stop eating compulsively. Unity Church, 417 E. Cordelia St., 217-416-1648.

Re-entry to community and family life after prison
Tue., Feb. 6, 11:45am-1:30pm. A panel discussion about the challenges faced by former prisoners upon re-entry into the community. Will examine needs, resources, gaps and what the interfaith community can do to help. David Risley will moderate. shiftingintonewgear.org. Free. Temple Israel, 1140 Governor St., 217-546-2841.

■ Bulletin Board

Lincoln Land Depression Era glass & Pottery club
Mon., Feb. 5, 2-4pm. Learn about Depression Era glass and pottery. Meeting includes interesting lectures and show and tell time. Call for more information. Free. Hope Presbyterian Church, 2211 Wabash Ave., 217-529-3055.

Nash
Wed., Feb. 7, 1-1:30pm. Visit with the pet therapy

team, Christie and Nash. centralillinois.org. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-503-4643.

Presidential library volunteer orientation
Wed., Feb. 7, 5:30pm. Potential new volunteers at the Abraham Presidential Library and Museum will learn about available opportunities and what they need to know about the library and museum. Volunteers will be asked to attend three more two-hour training sessions on Feb. 21, Feb. 29 and March 6. Call to register. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8872.

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.

Winter Old Capitol Farmers Market

The market is open on the first and third Saturday of each month, from 8am-12pm. Find locally grown food, handcrafted items, local honey, baked goods and more. Link accepted and matched. downtownspringfield.org. Free admission. Union Station, 500 E. Madison, 217-557-4588.

■ 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 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) 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@hsw.net
aprillaman@hsw.net

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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF AUDREY J. THOMPSON, Deceased. No. 2024-PR-14

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the estate of the death of Audrey J. Thompson. Letters of Office were issued to Thomas L. Thompson, as Independent Executor, whose address is 6805 Ironwood Drive, Springfield, Illinois. 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 Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before August 1, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required 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 24, 2024
Attorneys for Independent Executor: Sorling Northrup
Aaron D. Evans, Attorney (6305883)
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: adevans@sorlinglaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF CLIFTON R. BAXTER, Deceased. No. 2023-PR-479

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the estate of the death of Clifton R. Baxter. Letters of Office were issued to Jan G. Baxter, as Independent Executor, whose address is 2104 Augusta Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62704. 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 Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before August 1, 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required 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 4, 2024
Attorneys for Independent Executor: Sorling Northrup
Aaron D. Evans, Attorney (6305883)
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: adevans@sorlinglaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the estate of: Cleda Arlene Morrow, Deceased Case No. 2023-PR-000477

Claim Notice

Notice is given of the death of Cleda Arlene Morrow. Letters of Administration were issued on Jan. 11, 2024 to Bradley Eugene Morrow as Administrator, 330 W. Frick St., Macon, IL 62544. 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, Aug. 1, 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 In the matter of the estate of: Christine Rigney, Deceased Case No. 2023-PR-000472

Claim Notice

Notice is given of the death of Christine Rigney. Letters of Administration were issued on Jan. 4, 2024 to Kristen Branham as Administrator, 7 Apache Drive, Springfield, IL 62711. 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, Aug. 1, 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

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LUCY E. LADD, DECEASED. NO. 2024-PR-29

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

Notice is given of the death of LUCY E. LADD, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on January 24, 2024, to STEVEN C. LADD of 1613 Chancellor Place, Chatham, IL 62629, whose attorney is DelGiorno Law Office,

LLC; 2160 S. 6th Street, Suite D1, Springfield, Illinois, 62703.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 1st day of February, 2024, being the date of 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 representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

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 with your local circuit clerk's office. Dated this 24th day of January 2024.

STEVEN C. LADD, Executor of the Estate of LUCY E. LADD, Deceased
BY: DelGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
By: /s/ Anthony J. DelGiorno, Attorney Attorneys for Estate:
Anthony J. DelGiorno, Attorney
IARDC No. 6277358
DelGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
2160 S. Sixth St., Ste. D-1
Springfield, IL 62703
Tel. 217-773-5337
Fax. 855-461-3250
Email: tony@delgiornolawoffice.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA K. ELDRIDGE, DECEASED
Case #2024-PR-23
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of BARBARA K. ELDRIDGE. Letters of Office have been issued to FREDERICK KOCHER, 208 Bristol Road, Chatham, IL 62629, 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 August 5, 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.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2024.

William P. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KAREN MARIE MOLLETT, DECEASED
Case #2024-PR-25
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of KAREN MARIE MOLLETT. Letters of Office have been issued to TERESA A. OSBURN, 2899 E. Walnut, Chatham, IL 62629, 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, Spring-

field, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before August 5, 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.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2024.

Patrick J. Sheehan, III
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DELILA A. MARTIN, DECEASED
Case #2024-PR-22
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of DELILA A. MARTIN. Letters of Office have been issued to THERESE MARIE MARTIN, 3800 Buckeye Drive, Springfield, IL 62712, 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 August 5, 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.

Dated this 23rd 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 OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the Matter of the Estate of EDWARD SAVORGINO, JR., Deceased.
IN PROBATE
No. 2024-PR-15
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of EDWARD SAVORGINO, JR., deceased. Letters of Office were issued on January 24, 2024, to William K. Miller, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Hugh F. Drake, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 31st day of July 2024, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. 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 this 24th day of January, 2024.

BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Hugh F. Drake
(Registration No. 6269666)
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
(217) 544-8491
hdrake@bhsllaw.com

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
matthewcate@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 the matter of the Petition of Laia Storm Ettress
For change of name to
Alaia Storm Ettress
Case No. 2023MR000388
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 Laia Storm Ettress to Alaia Storm Ettress pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: Feb. 1, 2024

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 Han-
nah 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

“THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A
DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION
OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT
PURPOSE”
42463

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Nationstar Mortgage LLC;
Plaintiff,
vs.
Erick Gudgel a/k/a Erick W. Gudgel;
Unknown Owners and Non Record
Claimants;
Defendants.
Case No. 23 FC 143
Judge Presiding
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication
having been filed, notice is hereby given
to you:
-Erick Gudgel a/k/a Erick W. Gudgel
-Unknown Owners and Non Record
Claimants
that Plaintiff has 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 premises described
as follows:
PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTH-
EAST QUARTER OF SECTION 16, TOWN-
SHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST OF THE
THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, BOUNDED AS
FOLLOWS, TO -WIT:
BEGINNING AT A POINT 20.91 3/4 CHAINS
SOUTH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF
SAID SECTION; THENCE RUNNING WEST
PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF
SAID SECTION, 5 CHAINS; THENCE SOUTH
PARALLEL WITH THE EAST LINE OF SAID
SECTION 1.25 CHAINS; THENCE EAST
PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF SAID
SECTION, 5 CHAINS; THENCE NORTH 1.25
CHAINS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.
EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL,
GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING
THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETO-
FORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR
CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND
EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF
SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINER-
ALS, IF ANY.
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.
C/K/A: 345 North Walnut Street, Rochester,
IL 62563
PIN: 23-16.0-226-016

said Mortgage was given by Erick Gudgel
a/k/a Erick W. Gudgel, Mortgagor(s), to
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems,
Inc., acting solely as nominee for Synergy
One Lending, Inc. dba Mutual of Omaha
Mortgage, Mortgagee, and recorded in
the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of
Sangamon County, Illinois, as Document
No. 2019R07174.
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](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](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp),
or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.
UNLESS YOU file your appearance or
otherwise file your answer in this case
in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of
Sangamon County, Sangamon County

Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street,
Springfield IL 62701 on or before March 4,
2024, A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR
DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED
AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR
IN THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT.
Russell C. Wirbicki (6186310)
Christopher J. Irk (6300084)
Cory J. Harris (6319221)
Tracey M. Coons (6311050)
The Wirbicki Law Group LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540
Chicago, IL 60603
Phone: 312-360-9455
W23-0286
pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com
I3237241

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 SAV-
INGS 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
my decide the case without hearing from
you, and you could be held in default and
lose the case.
After you fill out the necessary docu-
ments, 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 Applica-
tion 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, in-
cluding how to fill our and file documents.
You can also get free legal information
and legal referrals at [illinoislegalaid.
org](http://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
DECREE 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 SUBDIVI-
SION OF PART OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP
16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD
PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPTING & RE-
SERVING 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
my decide the case without hearing from
you, and you could be held in default and
lose the case.
After you fill out the necessary docu-
ments, 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 Applica-
tion 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, in-
cluding how to fill our and file documents.
You can also get free legal information
and legal referrals at [illinoislegalaid.
org](http://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
DECREE 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 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 judg-
ment, 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
Powel'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 Chris-
tian County, Illinois.
Subject to any and all covenants, condi-
tions, 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 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.
8051-938804

TO: Latoya Stapleton; Mataveon Walton;
Dashay Isheona; Dajah Walton; Nydajah
Walton; TSP-Hope Inc.; Anthony D

Schuering as R/A for TSP-Hope Inc.; City of Springfield c/o City Attorney; City of Springfield c/o City Clerk; Illinois Housing Development Authority; Illinois Attorney General for the Illinois Housing Development Authority; County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois; Occupant; spouses, heirs at law, devisees, if any, of the above mentioned persons, described as Unknown Owners; claimants, decree creditors, judgment creditors, if any, of the above mentioned persons, described as Unknown Owners or parties interested in said land or lots.
TAX DEED NO.: 2024TX000003
FILED: 1/18/2024
TAKE NOTICE
County of Sangamon
Date Premises Sold 11/12/2021
Certificate No. 141-403-2
Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2020
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number: Not Applicable
Warrant No. Not Applicable
Installment No. Not Applicable
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property located at: 902 South 14th Street, Springfield, IL 62703
Legal Description or Property Index No. 14-34.0-436-001
This Notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/17/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.
This Notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/17/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Springfield, IL 62701, on 8/19/2024 at 10:30 AM. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY
Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/17/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, IL 62701.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK
Address: 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-6700
NR DEED, LLC
Purchaser or Assignee
Dated: 1/18/2024
8051-939278

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and Aldermen of The City of Springfield will conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed Annual Appropriation Ordinance for The City of Springfield for the twelve month fiscal year commencing March 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025. The public hearing will take place:
TUESDAY, February 13, 2024, 6:30 pm
City Council Chambers
Municipal Center West
3rd Floor
300 South Seventh Street
Springfield, IL
The proposed FY2025 Municipal Budget is available for review by the public in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 106,

Municipal Center West, Springfield, IL or online at <http://www.springfieldcityclerk.com/Government/Budgets.aspx>. The City welcomes your written and verbal comments concerning the proposed municipal budget.
Dated: Thursday, February 1, 2024
Frank Lesko
City Clerk
In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any individual who is in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in or benefit from attendance at a public hearing of the City of Springfield should contact ADA Coordinator, at (217) 789-2270 prior to the meeting date.

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF Robert J. Hiler
No. 2023-GR-129
To: Robert D. Hiler at address unknown: Please be notified that Margarette Sisti has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Robert J. Hiler, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By February 26, 2024 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

To enforce Self Storage Lien in default of payment of rent a private auction will be held on
Saturday February 17, 2024, at 9:00a.m.
Northend Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL 62702
This is a private auction. In order to attend you must call 217-544-4521 a week prior to the auction date.
Please leave your name, telephone number and an email address.
Cash is the only form of payment accepted for the auction.
Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance on or before February 10, 2024.
No personal checks will be accepted for storage units that are in lien.
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
Jessica Kline Unit#5-7
Danny Crawford Unit#10-5
Roland Paoni Unit#10-9
Donald Caves Unit#1-13
Donald Caves Unit#5-23
Bonnie Sutton Unit#1-28
Tasia Noble Unit#6-26
Robert Buckley Unit#7-33
Susan Grant Unit#10-12
Jessica Spencer Unit#10-14
Hanna Minor Unit#11-12
Emily Dulski Unit#B-2
Berth Bostic Unit#G-3
Tamika Kirkwood Unit#H-17
Joanna Witherall Unit#I-18

CASE NO. 2023TX000204
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: ASHLEY SEWARD, WILLIAM GROVES, BAILEY GROVES, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 721 N 4TH ST, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 14-27.0-159-009
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent

real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-373-1. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
VOYAGEUR HOLDINGS LLC PETITIONER
8051-939067

CASE NO. 2023TX000203
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: CLARRISSA HUPP, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 2213 STROKEBRIDGE RD, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 14-23.0-255-004
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-362-5. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
SAFIRE HOLDINGS, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939066

CASE NO. 2023TX000202
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: 3208-3210 BRECKENRIDGE LLC, 3208-3210 BRECKENRIDGE LLC A DIS-SOLVED IL CORP C/O IL SECRETARY OF STATE BUSINESS SERVICES DEPT, CINDY KRUEGER, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 3210 BRECKENRIDGE DR, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-18.0-279-008
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-448-1. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
ROCKCREEK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939065

CASE NO. 2023TX000201
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: KYRA BRADLEY, MARGARET BRADLEY, CITIZENS EQUITY FIRST CREDIT UNION, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD C/O CITY CLERK, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 105 CART-WRIGHT DR, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 14-31.0-227-019
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th

Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-391-7. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
ROCKCREEK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939064

CASE NO. 2023TX000200
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: LAWRENCE SEELBACH, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 20 LAKEWIND DR, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-28.0-228-003
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-12-6. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
ROCKCREEK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939063

CASE NO. 2023TX000199
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: TRAVIS BRAZZEL JR, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 1716 S DOUGLAS AVE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-05.0-277-006
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-442-7. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
PRAIRIE LOCK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939062

CASE NO. 2023TX000198
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: VICKY MCGUAR AKA VICKI L MCGUAR, UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW AND/OR DEVISEES AND/OR LEGATEES OF CAROL MCGUAR, FRED MALCOM, SPOUSE OF FRED MALCOM, NICHOLAS BURTON, JAMES DAVIS, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD C/O CITY CLERK, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 1933 S 2ND ST, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-04.0-278-030

On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-440-1. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
PRAIRIE LOCK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939061

CASE NO. 2023TX000197
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: VELL'S PROPERTY, INC, VELL'S PROPERTY, INC C/O REG AGENT COREY WICKERSHAM, CHERYL LACY, MELISSA PETERS, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD C/O CITY CLERK, OCCUPANT 814 ENTERPRISE ST, OCCUPANT 816 ENTERPRISE ST, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 814-816 ENTERPRISE ST, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 14-27.0-251-013
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-376-5. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
PRAIRIE LOCK, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939060

CASE NO. 2023TX000196
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: SCOTT QUEDNOW, SONYA QUEDNOW, ABBY BITNER, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 1807 S GLENWOOD AVE, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-04.0-152-045
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-437-3. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
OLD SCHOOL INVESTMENTS LLC PETITIONER
8051-939059

CASE NO. 2023TX000195
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: AARON GRAVES, LISA MENNER, PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL KWAME RAOLU, ILLINOIS DEPT OF REVENUE C/O DIRECTOR DAVID HARRIS, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF

SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 524 S PARK, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 14-32.0-277-006
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-393-5. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
OLD SCHOOL INVESTMENTS LLC PETITIONER
8051-939058

CASE NO. 2023TX000194
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: JOYCE GREGORY, BRIANNA NOLTING, JOSHUA GREGORY, MORTON COMMUNITY BANK, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 10582 MAIN ST, LOWDER, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 33-26.0-132-012
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-69-2. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
OLD SCHOOL INVESTMENTS LLC PETITIONER
8051-939057

CASE NO. 2023TX000193
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: ALEX WATSON, MICHAEL SLAVE, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD C/O CITY CLERK, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK; OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition for Tax Deed on the following described property: Property located at: 2920 S STATE ST, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-09.0-152-008
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an application for an order on the petition that a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real estate taxes and/or special assessments for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-4-7. The period of redemption will expire on June 12, 2024.
DOLOMITE ENTERPRISES, LLC PETITIONER
8051-939056

CASE NO. 2023TX000192
FILED December 14, 2023

TAKE NOTICE
TO: JOHN C HEARD JR, CONNIE HEARD,
JOHN C HEARD SR, JP MORGAN CHASE
BANK NA, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD C/O CITY
CLERK, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK;
OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR
ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY;
AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES
INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND
UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition
for Tax Deed on the following described
property: Property located at: 101 VENUS
VILLA, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-21.0-251-011
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the
Circuit Court of Sangamon County,
Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S
9th Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield,
Illinois, the Petitioner intends to make an
application for an order on the petition that
a Tax Deed be issued. The real estate was
sold on November 12, 2021, for delinquent
real estate taxes and/or special assess-
ments for the year 2020. Certificate No.
141-448-5. The period of redemption will
expire on June 12, 2024.
DG ENTERPRISES, LLC - X, LLC PETI-
TIONER
8051-939055

CASE NO. 2023TX000191
FILED December 14, 2023
TAKE NOTICE
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW AND/
OR DEVISEES AND/OR LEGATEES OF
CAROL NANCE, BRANDY PERRINE, PAUL
PERRINE, BROCK PERRINE, MICHELLE
DAVIS, SANGAMON COUNTY CLERK;
OCCUPANTS, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR
ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY;
AND UNKNOWN OWNERS or PARTIES
INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOTS AND
UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS
This is NOTICE of the filing of the petition
for Tax Deed on the following described
property: Property located at: 2840 S 12TH
ST, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
Property Index Number: 22-10.0-402-017
On July 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM, in the
Circuit Court of Sangamon County,
Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th
Street, Courtroom 5D, Springfield, Illinois,
the Petitioner intends to make an applica-
tion for an order on the petition that a Tax
Deed be issued. The real estate was sold
on November 12, 2021, for delinquent real
estate taxes and/or special assessments
for the year 2020. Certificate No. 141-8-5.
The period of redemption will expire on
June 12, 2024.
DG ENTERPRISES, LLC - X, LLC PETI-
TIONER
8051-939054

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
PLAINTIFF,
v.
ESTHER V. DEGROOT; CYNTINA WARD;
REBECCA JURGENS; UNKNOWN HEIRS
AND LEGATEES OF RANDY DEGROOT;
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS;
DEFENDANTS.
CASE NO.: 2023FC000227
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
819 N DANIEL AVE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication
having been filed, notice is hereby given
to you:
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF
RANDY DEGROOT
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 433 SPAULDING'S CAPITAL PARK AD-
DITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, IL-
LINOIS, TOGETHER WITH ALL EASEMENTS
AND APPURTENANCES IN FAVOR OF SAID
ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY.
Common Address: 819 N DANIEL AVE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
PIN: 14-25.0-157-018
Said mortgage was executed by RANDY
E. DEGROOT AND ESTHER DEGROOT, as
mortgagor(s) and U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION, as mortgagee, on 8/9/2021
and recorded in the Office of the Recorder
of Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois as
Document Number 2021R32589.
You have been sued. Read all documents
attached to this Summons. To participate
in the case, you MUST file an official docu-
ment 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 my 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 pro-
vider. 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 Ap-
plication 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, in-
cluding 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.

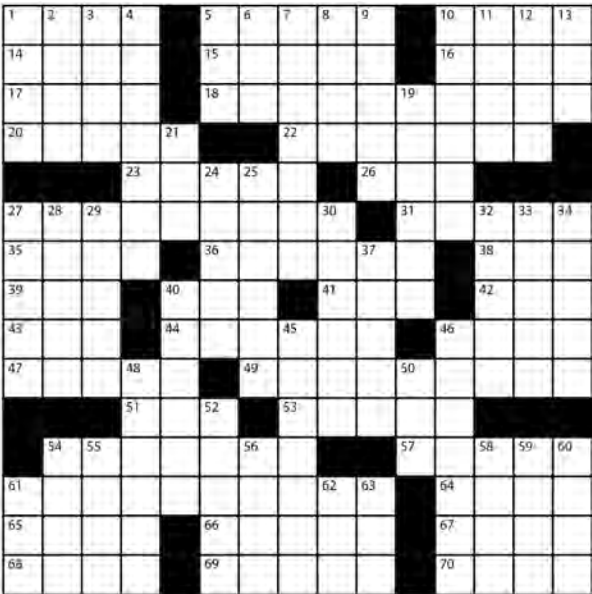
¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un
mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al
833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov
para obtener información sobre los casos
de la corte y cómo completar y presentar
formularios.
Unless you file your Appearance and
Answer/Response in this case in the office
of the clerk of this court by 3/4/2024
A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR
DECREE 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: lmail@raslg.com
File: 23-162488
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT
COLLECTOR.
8051-939389

Stumble

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 826

Across

1. Extend credit
5. Luxury Toyota
make
10. Support
14. "Take ____
leave..."
15. Lead and tin
alloy
16. Bounce back
17. Beige
18. ** Cartoon
beeper
20. Big name at
SeaWorld
22. Junior
23. "Here's to you!"
26. "Give ____
break!"
27. ** Hockey
advantage
31. Top dog
35. Zwei cubed
36. Men of steel?
38. Charge carrier
39. "Give ____ rest!"
40. Bran source
41. Marshal at
Waterloo
42. Fit ____ fiddle
43. On Soc. Sec.
44. Triads
46. Voting "no"
47. Affirm
49. ** Certain three-
pointer
51. St. Louis pro
53. Persona non ____
54. Popeye's muscle
builder
57. Greek letter
61. ** Praise giver
64. NPR Host ____
Conan
65. European erupter
66. ____ Janciro



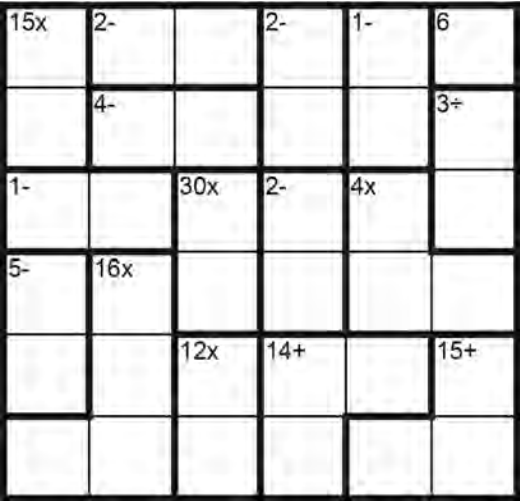
67. "Roots," e.g.
68. German donkey
69. "So what else
____?"
70. Word that could
follow the first
word of the
starred clues
10. Bay of ____
11. Clearasil target
12. "Moonstruck"
actress
13. It was split in 1948:
Abbr.
19. Restless
21. Kiev's land: Abbr.
24. Book club name
25. Many
27. Couples
28. Santa's reindeer,
e.g.
29. "____ way to go!"
30. Over there
32. Baby grand, e.g.
33. Plantain lily
34. "For want of ____"
37. Electrical pioneer
Nikola
40. El Atlantico, por
ejemplo
45. "Amen!"
46. Con
48. Like some lore
50. Cause of some
shaking
52. Native New
Zealander
54. Certain NCO's
55. Corn bread
56. A couple CBS
spinoffs
58. Clothing
59. "The Gift of the
____"
60. Gain ____ on
61. Shoebox letters
62. Dutch city
63. Opposite of FF

Down

1. "Hogwash!"
2. Carve in stone
3. Writer Ephron
4. It's used to make
rolls
5. Paper size: Abbr.
6. Fair-hiring inits.
7. Where inside info
is revealed?
8. Annul
9. Truth ____

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 826

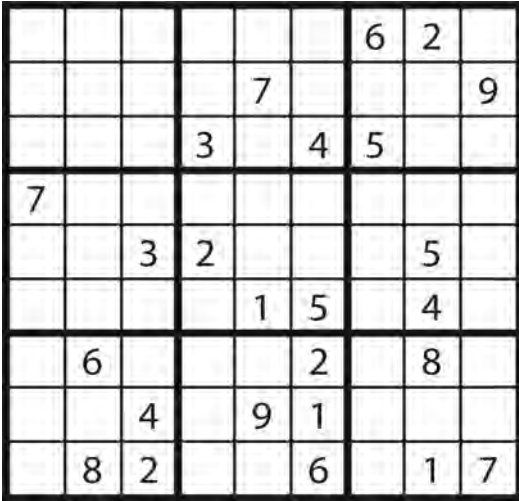
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column,
and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the
target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or
division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty medium

Sudoku No. 826

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

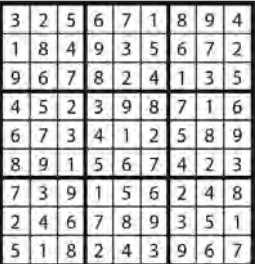


Difficulty hard

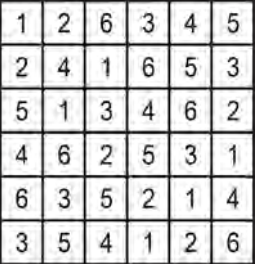
Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #825



Sudoku answers from #825



JoshJosh answers from #825

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