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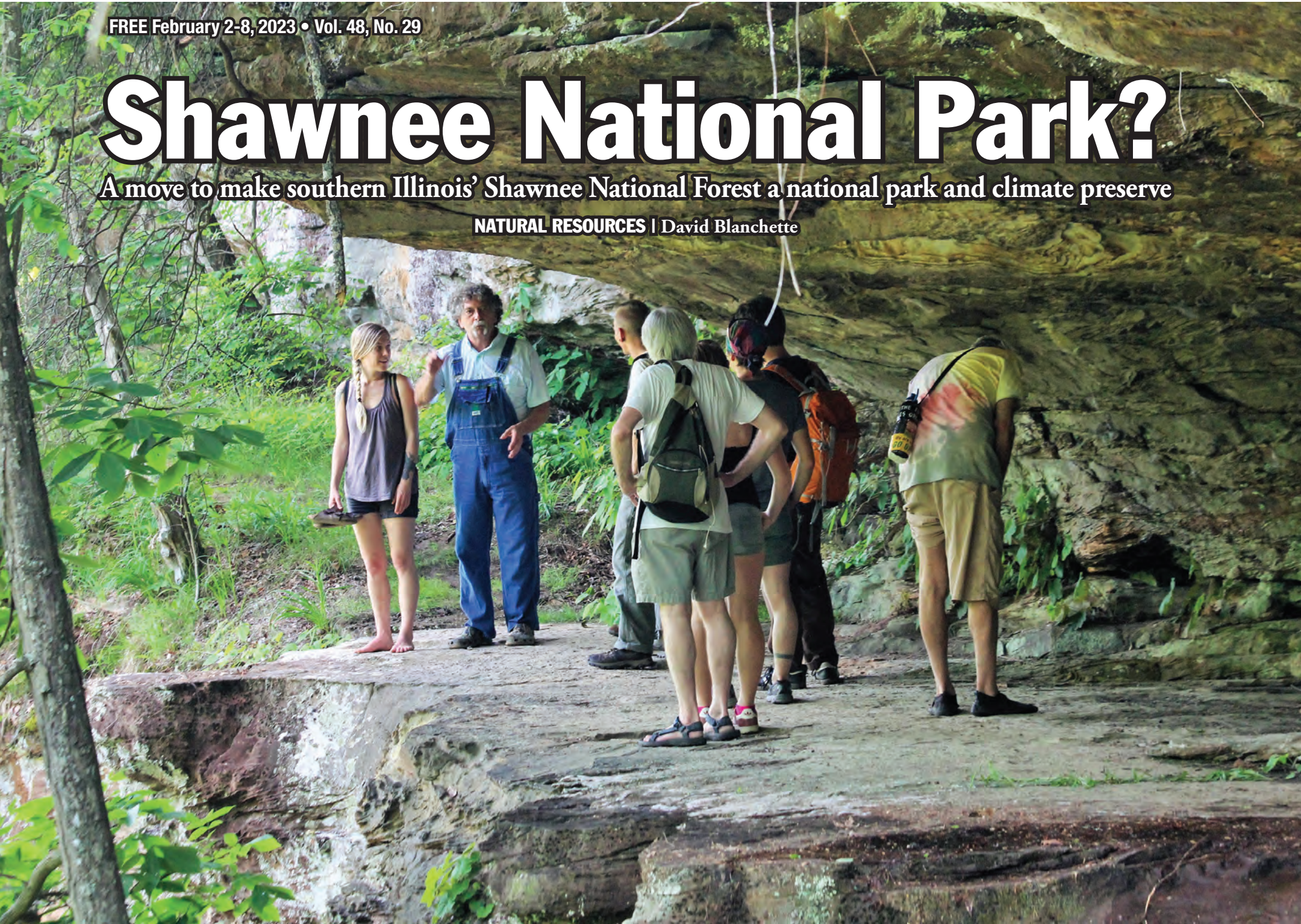
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# Mayoral candidates meet for first public forum

Business growth, infrastructure, labor unions among topics discussed

POLITICS | Dean Olsen

Springfield needs to create a more “business-friendly” permitting process for construction and improvement projects, and the city should spend more of its money to fix streets, sidewalks and sewers, mayoral candidate Misty Buscher said at a Jan. 25 debate with incumbent Mayor Jim Langfelder.

“We need to streamline our services in city hall,” Buscher, 52, the elected city treasurer for the past almost eight years, said at the mayoral candidate debate at the Hoogland Center for the Arts.

The debate was sponsored by *Illinois Times*, *Springfield Business Journal*, Midwest Family Broadcasting and the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce.

Langfelder, 63, is seeking a third consecutive four-year term in the April 4 election for a job that pays \$130,800 annually. He told the debate audience of more than 300 people that his administration, with the help of federal COVID-19 relief dollars, has put the city in its best financial shape ever after weathering a two-year state budget impasse under former Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and amid the current three-year-long COVID pandemic.

“During this unprecedented time, I continued city services while protecting our workforce, with zero layoffs or furloughs,” Langfelder said. “We did over \$50 million of infrastructure improvements (and) provided \$1.5 million in utility assistance to struggling businesses and residents.”

Buscher said she would have devoted more COVID relief funds to the city’s crumbling infrastructure. “Infrastructure has been ignored in our community for way too long,” she said.

If elected, she said she would put in place an all-online system for permitting and business plan submissions.

Businesses say the city is “difficult to do business with,” Buscher said. She didn’t fault city employees.

“It’s the system in place,” she said.

Buscher said she would create a position for a city employee who would keep applicants updated on the status of their permits and plans.

“Currently, we have to have the public search with us and call us and leave messages to find out where that process is,” she said.

Langfelder touted the current computer system that helps keep track of city permitting requests, though the mayor said he is “listening to our business community ... to make our services better.”

The candidates commented on a variety of issues as they answered questions submitted



Springfield City Treasurer Misty Buscher and Mayor Jim Langfelder face off in a Jan. 25 mayoral candidate debate at the Hoogland Center for the Arts heading into the April 4 election. Langfelder is seeking a third consecutive four-year term. PHOTOS BY LEE MILNER.



by audience members and posed by debate moderator Bernard Schoenburg, a retired *State Journal-Register* political reporter and columnist.

**POLITICAL LEANINGS:** Buscher, a self-described moderate Republican seeking one of the city’s officially nonpartisan elected posts, attended a rally that Donald Trump held in Springfield in November 2015 after the Sangamon County Democratic Party endorsed her initial successful bid for city treasurer that same year.

Buscher said at the time that she thought Trump would bring a “refreshing change,” and that his presidential candidacy helped move her from being an independent to a Republican.

“I voted for the candidate who I thought was going to bring new jobs, job creation, corporations, back to our states,” she said. “I came from a finance background, and it was important to me that we had jobs back in our community. ... That person did not govern the way I thought they would.”

Buscher said she has Democrats and Republicans “on my team.” But she wouldn’t say who she voted for in the 2020 presidential race when Trump lost to Joe Biden. She also wouldn’t say who she voted for when Democratic incumbent Gov. JB Pritzker defeated Republican challenger and state Sen. Darren Bailey in 2022.

Langfelder in 2016 didn’t make a pre-election endorsement in the governor’s race when Pritzker unseated incumbent Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner in 2018, but he said he voted for Pritzker in 2018 and 2022.

Langfelder said he is a moderate “Kennedy Democrat.” He said he voted for Biden in 2020. When asked whether he would vote for Biden again in 2024 if Biden runs, Langfelder said, “I would have to wait and see.”

**RELATIONSHIP WITH CITY COUNCIL:** Buscher said she would work to mend relations with, and communication between, the mayor’s office and the 10 alderpersons when it comes to matters in front of the council. The mayor casts a potentially tie-breaking 11<sup>th</sup> vote on the council.

Council members “seem to go on a fact-finding mission on most Tuesday nights,” Buscher said. “We need to communicate as an administration what’s on the agenda, why it’s on the agenda, and answer their questions. ... I want our aldermen to be empowered to do their job. They are the people who touch our citizens every day.”

Langfelder said he has a “good relationship” with the council that has benefited the city, though he said during the forum that the council blocked some initiatives he favored.

He alluded to a report from Business Insider, a New York-based business and financial news website, that in 2020 proclaimed Springfield the best city in America to live after the COVID-19 pandemic. “We’ve done that by keeping the council together, as well as our community, during these very challenging and difficult times for all of us,” Langfelder said.

“Direct communication” with the mayor’s office is always available to council members, he

said. He added that his deputy mayor calls each council member every week about upcoming agenda items, and there’s a council coordinator who can assist members as well.

## RELATIONSHIP WITH LABOR UNIONS:

Langfelder said union leaders aren’t supporting him this election cycle, which is surprising to many rank-and-file members. But he said he has a good relationship with unions and supports project labor agreements on city-funded projects.

Buscher received more than \$25,000 in campaign contributions from labor unions in the fourth quarter of 2022, including from Laborers Local 477 and unions representing iron workers, plumbers and sheet-metal workers.

“My relationship with unions is, I’m a woman of my word, and the unions know I’m a woman of my word,” she said.

She said the city hasn’t done a good enough job enforcing project labor agreements and prevailing-wage rules. “Labor knows that I will enforce the rules we have on the books, and that’s all they’re asking for,” she said.

**ATTENTION TO THE EAST SIDE:** Buscher said the city needs to spend more, and pay more attention to, improving the care of streets, curbs and sidewalks on the east side, where poverty rates are higher than in most of the city.

Langfelder said he has worked to improve the east side, pointing to council approval of, and city assistance for, the scheduled \$38 million redevelopment of the Poplar Place housing site by owner Chicago-based Related Midwest.

**NEW BUSINESS PREFERENCE:** When asked what kind of new businesses he would like to see come to Springfield, Langfelder said he would prefer to “retain what you have and build upon it.”

He said the city already is working with the health care community to expand and complement its footprint. “You do that across all our industries, with regards to education, energy, and really assess what we have and what would build upon their important assets,” he said.

Buscher said she wants to attract more businesses in the technology sector. “I have a 28-year-old who works in tech, and we have no jobs in Springfield for her, none. That’s a problem if I want my daughter to live in the town I live in.” □

*View the full version of the article and a recording of the forum online at [illinoistimes.com](http://illinoistimes.com).*

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## NEWS

# City TIF administrator on leave following arrest

CITY | Dean Olsen

Amid a mayoral candidate's criticism that Springfield isn't doing enough to promote economic development, a city employee described as the face of those efforts is facing a misdemeanor charge that he violated an order of protection against his estranged wife.

Ravi Doshi, business projects manager and tax-increment financing administrator in the city's Office of Planning and Economic Development, is on a "family leave" following his Dec. 28 arrest by Springfield police.

He was released from the Sangamon County Jail on his own recognizance the next day while the misdemeanor case proceeds. He has pleaded not guilty.

Doshi, who isn't represented by one of the unions covering city workers, didn't return a phone call seeking comment.

Mayor Jim Langfelder said he was aware of Doshi's arrest and expected Doshi to return from family leave sometime in February.

Langfelder said the case against Doshi was part of a "messy divorce situation." The mayor referred further questions about Doshi's status to Lynne Wooden, acting director of the economic development office.

Wooden declined to answer questions about Doshi, referring an *Illinois Times* reporter to city human resources acting director Ronald Cook. Cook said Doshi remains a city employee, and in late 2022 or early 2023 began to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave as part of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. Cook said Doshi can opt to use accumulated sick time and vacation time to avoid going without pay.

City Treasurer Misty Buscher, who is challenging Langfelder's bid for a third consecutive four-year term in the runoff to the April 4 election, said at a mayoral candidate debate Jan. 25 that the city needed to become more "business-friendly" to attract and retain more employers. Langfelder took issue with Buscher's statement.

Wooden's own employment situation could change in coming months. The 64-year-old former banker said she isn't sure how long after the April 4 election that she will remain with the city.

Wooden is paid \$105,525 per year and was hired by Langfelder in July after OPED had gone without a director since Langfelder fired Val Yazell in spring 2021.

The mayor said he is able to hire acting department directors for a year before they

require council approval. He said in July that he wouldn't ask the council to approve Wooden until after the April election. Before she joined city government, Wooden retired from banking in June after 10 years at INB.

Wooden said last summer that she didn't expect to be a long-term municipal employee, and she said on Jan. 31 that her plans haven't changed. But she said she hasn't set a date to retire from her city job.

Doshi, 36, has worked for the city since August 2021 and earns \$69,000 a year, according to city records. He previously worked for Gateway Foundation as a counselor, working with men who had substance-use disorder.

The criminal charge against Doshi, which carries a potential penalty of up to one year in jail, says he violated a protection order obtained by Alexa Doshi when he contacted her "by electronic means" on Dec. 23.

Alexa Doshi, 27, filed for divorce against Ravi Doshi on Nov. 10, citing "irreconcilable differences." They have three children, ages 7, 5 and 2.

Sangamon County Associate Judge Jennifer Ascher granted Alexa Doshi an emergency order of protection on Nov. 9. In her request for the order, Doshi said her husband has "a history of drug and alcohol abuse, but has claimed to be sober."

In early November, after Alexa Doshi had left the couple's Springfield home with the children, she said in the order of protection request that her husband "admitted he is still drinking" and that she fears for her safety.

Alexa Doshi said in the request that police found her husband "drunk and unconscious" at home on Nov. 7 after not showing up at work for a week. She said he was taken to a hospital after police had to "break the front door to get into the house."

The Springfield City Council, which approves the hiring of permanent department directors but not the people who work under those directors, hasn't been informed by the mayor's administration about Doshi's arrest or family leave, Ward 6 Ald. Kristin DiCenso said.

"I think we should have been informed of this, at a minimum," DiCenso said. "Many on the council work with Ravi frequently, and we're baffled by his absence. I've been through a divorce. ... It's a private matter until something like this happens. I can understand

how emotions can run high, but this is a serious situation. That we were kept in the dark about it is concerning at best.

"Ravi has been the face of OPED," DiCenso said, noting that it's her understanding Doshi has been away from work for about a month. "We should have been notified he was on leave, at the very least."

When asked why Langfelder didn't inform the council, he told *Illinois Times* that it was a "personnel matter. ... I don't know how that normally works."

Ward 8 Ald. Erin Conley, who, along with DiCenso has been a critic of Langfelder, told *Illinois Times* the lack of information from the administration is frustrating. "They don't tell us anything about anything," she said.

Conley said she "has some concerns" about Doshi returning in the wake of the misdemeanor charge.

"There needs to be some thoughtful conversations" about "where and how he works," Conley said. "It's a very public-facing office. When you're paid by tax dollars, you should be held to a higher standard."

Ward 2 Ald. Shawn Gregory said he was aware Doshi wasn't at work but didn't know that Doshi had been arrested. At the council's committee of the whole meeting Jan. 31, Gregory commended Doshi's work in administering the city's first round of business grants in 2022 that were funded by the city's share of taxes from the sale of recreational cannabis.

Gregory said the "whole team" in the economic development office — a department of about 10 people — "does a great job."

After the meeting, Gregory said he looks forward to Doshi returning.

"The type of energy that that young man brings is what we need in economic development," Gregory said. "He was a bright mind, we bounced things off each other. He would go out into the community, go sit down with the people, help them with their paperwork, meet with different stakeholders. He was really, really doing a great job."

"I'm going to support him," Gregory said. "I've made plenty of mistakes." □

*Dean Olsen is a senior staff writer at Illinois Times. He can be reached at [dolsen@illinoistimes.com](mailto:dolsen@illinoistimes.com), 217-679-7810 or [twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT](https://twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT).*



# Debt disagreement

Mayoral candidate wants to publicize list of businesses, individuals who have had debt forgiven

CITY | Scott Reeder

Springfield City Treasurer Misty Buscher, who is running for mayor, is calling for greater transparency when the city forgives debts or waives fines.

She contends that her opponent, incumbent Mayor Jim Langfelder, is unilaterally writing off debts without informing the council or the public. The mayor responded that is not the case.

"I'm not saying he's doing anything illegal. I'm just saying it's not a good way for the city to operate," she said. Buscher is calling for passing an ordinance that requires greater disclosure of forgiven debts and would require Springfield City Council approval before larger amounts are written off.

She noted that \$243,068 in utility charges owed the city by the owner of the Wyndham Springfield City Centre were written off by the mayor without first getting the approval of the City Council.

But Langfelder said the matter was discussed in closed session with the entire City Council before a compromise was reached with the hotelier who owed City Water, Light & Power.

"The consensus was to get as much as possible. The hotel potentially might go into a foreclosure or worse," said Corporation Counsel Jim Zerkle.

Langfelder said the hotel fell on hard times because of reduced occupancy during the COVID pandemic.

Some of what was owed the city was written off, but the city was able to recoup about \$1.2 million, Zerkle said. He said after the mayor and City Council members reached a consensus on how to proceed, city staff negotiated with the developer.

Zerkle said it would not be accurate to say the mayor acted alone.

But Buscher said there are other examples where substantial amounts of money owed the city have been waived without the knowledge or consent of council members. She cited two cases in the last year where property owners with poorly maintained buildings had \$42,000 and \$45,265 in fines waived.

But Zerkle said in the case of housing violations, city staff will often use the threat of the accrued fines as a means of

encouraging property owners to make the necessary repairs. Once the property is up to code, the fines are often waived, he said.

Langfelder said he does not personally involve himself in such cases.

Buscher said she would like to reveal the names of those who have had what they owed the city written off, but she has been told by Zerkle not to do so. A Freedom of Information Act request filed by *Illinois Times* for a list of all people and businesses with debts forgiven by the city in 2022 had not yet been responded to by press time.

Buscher said she believes the public has the right to know the identities of those catching fiscal breaks from the city. But Zerkle said he believes this sometimes could be interpreted by the courts as an unwarranted disclosure of private information.

He added he believes names can only be revealed if the matter has been litigated in court. Buscher said she disagrees.

Buscher said she has spoken to several council members about introducing an ordinance modeled after one in Bloomington that would require a monthly report disclosing all litigation settlements as well as waivers of claims or collections.

The report would not only be available to elected officials but the general public, she said.

Langfelder said he would not be opposed to such an ordinance but said there is nothing to keep Buscher's office from generating such a report now.

Buscher disagreed, saying that she does not have access to all settlement information from the corporation counsel or CWLP.

She believes no debt greater than \$10,000 should be forgiven by the city without first being approved by the City Council.

"It should be transparent whose debt is forgiven," she said. "As a taxpayer, I don't think this is right. Some of my friends, who are business owners, have been really upset that this kind of debt was forgiven for a business owner." □

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for *Illinois Times*, can be reached at [sreeder@illinoistimes.com](mailto:sreeder@illinoistimes.com).

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## NEWS

# City council ponders a ban on electric surfboards

Matt Scherer got a loan from the city to start a new business. Now some city council members are trying to ban it.

**BUSINESS | Scott Reeder**

A group of Springfield city council members are looking to foil the hydrofoil.

The hydrofoil in question is owned by Matt Scherer, an entrepreneur who wants to offer electric surfboard lessons on Lake Springfield.

Scherer said he took out a \$27,000 loan from the city of Springfield to start the business but now the city's council members are eyeing outlawing the watercraft at the city's lake.

According to *Surfer Today*, electric surfboards are specially designed boards powered by lithium-ion batteries that allow riders to glide across any water body at high speeds. They are equipped with an electric jet-propulsion system activated by a wireless handheld remote control and don't rely solely on the energy of waves to gain speed.

Scherer, who is a city firefighter, purchased the surfboard and began offering lessons last summer on Lake Springfield as well as lakes in Decatur and Clinton.

In order to drum up interest in the endeavor, he said he rode the watercraft throughout Lake Springfield, and this apparently angered folks with homes on the lake as well as nearby clubs.

"I guess this all started on the California coast or something, but it's a new product for Illinois," said Ward 1 Ald. Chuck Redpath, who is sponsoring the ordinance to ban such devices. "So here in Illinois, they're not even on their radar yet. Our CWLP people did some research and found out that there is a high capacity of accidents and things like that.

"And we're pretty concerned with the safety of them. We've had a lot of calls from homeowners and from homeowners' associations who are obviously opposed to them. I've also had calls from people that are in the council of clubs out at the lake who believe this is a too dangerous situation."

City Water, Light and Power administers Lake Springfield.

The ordinance banning electric surfboards was to be voted on Jan. 30, but Redpath temporarily pulled it from the agenda and expects it to return for a vote this month.

Scherer said he has repeatedly sought to discuss the matter with Redpath but said the alderman has not returned any of his calls.



Springfield firefighter Matt Scherer received a low-interest loan from the city to start a new business offering electric surfboard lessons on Lake Springfield. Ward 1 Ald. Chuck Redpath, who represents the area around the lake, has introduced an ordinance to ban the use of such devices.

PHOTO COURTESY MATT SCHERER

He said he is willing to work with members of the city council to restrict the use of the electric surfboards to certain coves or to make other compromises.

He added some of the information provided to council members about the personal watercraft is inaccurate. The accidents that they have been informed about involve surfboards pulled behind motorboats – not self-powered ones like he uses, Scherer said.

Scherer said he remains perplexed as to why the city would have provided him with a low-interest loan to start the business if it did not want him to operate the watercraft on the lake.

"Well, I was perplexed by it, too," Redpath said. "We had no idea the mayor did this. He has spending authority up to \$50,000 that he can use without city council approval. And I don't know that the mayor realized the whole extent of this vehicle that he wants to put on the lake. I have brought it to his attention and CWLP has talked to the mayor about it, too. So, I think it slipped through cracks." □

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at [sreeder@illinoistimes.com](mailto:sreeder@illinoistimes.com).



# Opening doors to home ownership

Down payment assistance helps renters become buyers

HOUSING | Don Howard

Down payment assistance is on its way to low-income homebuyers through the Illinois Housing Development Authority. The program will be part of \$75 million in federal funds designated for IHDA by the Illinois General Assembly in legislation which went into effect Jan. 24. The money will allow IHDA to resume the popular “Opening Doors” program, which provides a forgivable down payment loan of up to \$6,000 to qualified buyers. The loan is forgiven over the course of five years.

The program is rooted in the concept that increased home ownership leads to healthier neighborhoods and healthier neighbors.

In a 2018 study for the U.S. Census Bureau, professors William M. Rohe and Mark Lindblad at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill found that high rates of home ownership lead to lower crime rates, greater involvement in civic activities, better psychological health and better performance by children in school. The study also found that low home ownership rates correlate with low marriage rates.

Fred Weber, a mortgage broker at Flat Branch Home Loans in Springfield, sees a lot of renters who want to become homeowners. He spends much of his time educating renters about how they can change from paying a landlord’s mortgage to paying their own.

“Many people who qualify for mortgages don’t realize that they do,” he says. “In fact, many renters face stricter financial requirements from landlords than they would from a mortgage lender.” He emphasizes that potential buyers don’t need perfect credit, they don’t need a lot of money for a down payment, and they don’t need to be in the same job for an extended period of time. “We have a policy



of never saying ‘no’ to someone who wants to buy a home. If they don’t qualify today, we give them guidance about what they need to do in order to qualify in the future.” Weber says he’s closed many loans for clients who didn’t qualify initially.

One of the biggest benefits of home ownership is the ability to pass along generational wealth. The Federal Reserve Board concluded in a 2019 report that for most families, a home is by far the most valuable asset that they own. On average, equity in the home amounts to about 90% of family wealth for those households with a mortgage and less than \$100,000 in income. As a result, the median net worth of renters nationwide is \$6,300 while the median for homeowners is \$255,000. This disparity disproportionately affects communities of color. According to the 2019 report, the median net worth of white families was \$188,200 in 2019, while black families, who are about 60 percent as likely to own a home, have a median net worth of

\$24,100.

The United States Census Bureau pegs average rent in Springfield at \$861 per month, a monthly payment that will support a 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage at 7.0% for about \$90,000, taxes and insurance included, with about \$120 a month set aside for maintenance. Most days there are dozens of homes available in Sangamon County at this price or less. Many renters have the financial means to service a mortgage, but lack a down payment.

IHDA (<https://www.ihda.org/lenders-realtors/lending-programs>) manages a number of programs that include loans and grants up to \$10,000 with the goal to “finance the creation and preservation of affordable housing in Illinois.” They also provide home ownership counseling to potential borrowers, since for many, home ownership is a new experience.

The city of Springfield also offers programs to help rehabilitate homes through Community Development Block Grant Funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development. The money is available to correct “building code deficiencies and other minor repairs of single-family, owner-occupied dwellings” such as “condemned furnaces, faulty wiring or actively leaking roofs.” Money is also available to low- to moderate-income families for major home repairs in the form of zero percent loans (<https://www.springfield.il.us/Departments/OPED/Documents/HmOwnerRehabProgram.pdf>).

Down payment assistance is fundamentally different from the mortgage interest deduction, which allows homeowners to deduct mortgage interest payments from their taxable income. The interest deduction is only available to taxpayers who itemize deductions, and the biggest chunk of that benefit goes to high-income taxpayers with large mortgages. It doesn’t benefit low-income first-time buyers, and in 2019 the Federal Reserve Board estimated that taxpayers subsidized these loans to higher-income taxpayers with an estimated \$196 billion in tax deductions.

In order to qualify for IHDA down payment assistance, borrowers must have decent credit and meet income and purchase price limits. IHDA states that almost 10% of all first-time homebuyers in Illinois receive down payment assistance. For Weber, that number is bigger. “I think about 15% of our borrowers receive IHDA down payment assistance. I’m glad the program has received funding again.” □

*Don Howard is an intern at the Illinois Times while completing his master’s degree in Public Affairs Reporting at the University of Illinois Springfield. He can be reached at [dhoward@illinoistimes.com](mailto:dhoward@illinoistimes.com) or 336.455.6966.*

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## OPINION



A group of environmental justice advocates have formed a new coalition, **Springfield Power to the People**, to transform our city to clean and renewable energy. The group is calling on citizens and leaders to plan for a just and speedy transition to clean energy.

### Ron Dougan writes his kids: 1948

"Jackie, Gramp just came in and told me one, two, three, what he objected to in certain departments and what he thought I should do about it. This distracts me but why I'm writing you in the middle of the day I don't know. I could be going to the plant to watch Sparky wash pipes and comment on his methods or take a bottle of skim and make everyone in the place taste it. We are thinking/ of putting vitamins D and A in skim, heat it high enough to give a caramel taste, then homogenize. Call it Dougan's Vita-Smooth Fat-Free Milk. That ought to bring in the business! Gramp just said 'I now see myself as others see me!'"

2022 Jacqueline Jackson

### LETTERS

We welcome letters. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. We edit all letters. Send them to [editor@illinoistimes.com](mailto:editor@illinoistimes.com).

### PURSUE SUSTAINABLE POWER

After reading Dr. Brandon Derman's recent editorial "This year CWLP needs a new, community-led Integrated Resource Plan," (Jan. 5), I would like to encourage Springfield Power to the People on their efforts to shape CWLP's future energy policies into more sustainable means.

I applaud Dr. Derman's request to local energy policy leaders to "plan for a just and speedy clean energy transition." Additionally, I would like to encourage them to have the foresight to include the potential public health consequences of ongoing reliance on fossil fuels, particularly on the counties' vulnerable populations.

Sangamon County has specific health concerns linked to fossil fuel emissions. In just one example, the most recent Sangamon County Community Health Needs Assessment prioritized emergency room usage for asthma and cardiovascular disease, particularly in Black populations, as an area of concern. Facts like this should be considered in a future IRP.

As a solution to the same problem, Louisville, Kentucky, recently converted an electrical power plant from coal and found a profound and sustained decrease in pediatric acute asthma cases (the kind that

require emergency room usage).

In Illinois, natural gas has recently been found to have more negative health consequences compared to all other fossil fuels combined. Natural gas contains very small particles that have been linked to many health problems, such as asthma attacks and hospital visits.

It is noteworthy that a growing number of forward-thinking communities are seeking healthier options to both coal and natural gas with cheaper Clean Energy Portfolios (CEPs), a combination of wind, solar, energy efficiency, demand response and battery energy storage.

I find it encouraging that there are members of our community who have the vision to realize that Springfield has the potential to become exemplary in transitioning to clean energy. Our state has chosen to take the lead on climate justice and equity, so the potential is here for Springfield to follow by considering healthier alternatives to fossil fuels.

*Kevin Atchason, chair  
Central IL Chapter of the Climate Reality Project*

### NO COMPROMISE

So, the Democrats – now that they are out of power in the House – should "reach across the aisle" for compromise?

Did Scott Reeder write something similar when Republicans were obstinate obstructionists the past two years? Or the first two years of the Obama administration ("Pick nation over party," Jan.

12)?

No? Then it's just his own partisanship masquerading as patriotism. He wants the Democrats to bend to the will of the GOP majority – because the Freedom Caucus is especially radical and kooky – as if that means the rest of the GOP's agenda is palatable to Democrats or their voters.

How do you wax on about the "realpolitik" and how it is a sign of a healthy democracy, then land on that conclusion? Unless, of course, you harbor a secret bias toward the modern GOP and couch your advocacy in supposed universal principles.

*Mary Harris  
Via [illinoistimes.com](mailto:illinoistimes.com)*

### FOCUS ON PEACE

I really appreciated Fletcher Farrar's column, "War doesn't work well. Here's a strategy for peace," (Jan. 19). It offers and supports an alternative solution to war – peace. Most media outlets focus only on the melodrama in order to persuade customers to buy into it. Consequently, the world is dealing with crisis today that may have been avoided if the public were aware of the events leading up to the crisis and if somebody, with knowledge of the history, would have intervened to find common ground so that later generations do not have to become involved in a war about it.

Thank you for focusing on peace. You are an example of how other editors should write about war.

*Debbie Quick  
Springfield*

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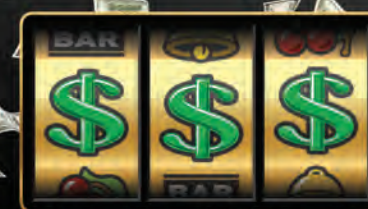
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## OPINION

# Illinois faces hurdles with auto manufacturers

POLITICS | Rich Miller

The *Rockford Register-Star* reported last week that the state of Illinois "has submitted what could be its best offer to keep the Belvidere Assembly Plant operating and save what could be thousands of jobs."

Stellantis announced in December it would idle its Jeep Cherokee assembly plant in February. So, there appears to be a glimmer of hope that the state can finally notch a victory with a carmaker after years of trying.

And Jalopnik recently reported that Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin told the Ford Motor Co. that he didn't want their \$3.5 billion electric vehicle battery plant which would employ 2,500 workers because the company had partnered with China.

Ford already has a big assembly plant in Chicago. Maybe the state could capitalize on this Virginia thing?

But something else happened in December which highlighted why Illinois has had so much trouble closing deals with the automotive industry, even with a couple of lucrative subsidy laws passed within the last year or so.

Volkswagen filed a federal lawsuit in December that described a bill which overwhelmingly passed both Illinois legislative chambers and was signed into law in 2021 as, "crony capitalism at work: redistributive legislation that takes hundreds of millions of dollars from some (but not all) motor vehicle manufacturers and, for no public purpose, deposits that money directly into the pockets of politically favored Illinois [car] dealers." The automaker claims the law is costing it an extra \$10 million a year.

The bill in question (HB3940) was hotly opposed by automotive manufacturers. The law forces manufacturers to reimburse car dealers at a much higher rate (the auto industry says it's a 50% higher rate) for warranty repairs. The bill came about after a labor dispute between dealerships and a mechanics union. They apparently decided to let the carmakers pay to resolve their monetary dispute, although the mechanics ended up on strike anyway because the dealers allegedly kept the new windfall initially instead of passing it through.

Just about every state legislator has multiple auto dealers in their districts and Democrats have been eagerly allying themselves ever closer with organized labor in past years, so the bill hit a sweet spot with both parties and cleared the House 85-24 and then passed the Senate without a single dissenting vote a few weeks later.

The manufacturers say the law is costing

the industry \$240 million a year. Yes, you read that right. \$240 million. Per year. They claim Illinois has the highest warranty repair costs in the nation. By far.

The manufacturers were furious and remain so. And since the cost of doing business in a state is a main factor in deciding where to locate a new plant or keep a plant open, the law is not helping Illinois overcome automaker objections.

The subsidies the state can offer simply don't compare with the gigantic annual cost of that 2021 law. Couple that with our high local property taxes (these electric vehicle plants take up huge amounts of space) and other costs and hurdles (Ohio, like Illinois, is not a "right to work" state, but has a new concierge system to quickly clear red tape), and you can see why the state hasn't yet convinced a national or international corporation to construct an electric vehicle-related facility here.

It's no secret that Illinois has reputational issues. People love to run Illinois down. It seems to be a major sport everywhere. When Gov. JB Pritzker recently appeared on CNBC

while he was at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, the first question he faced was how he would attract businesses when so many existing businesses want to leave Illinois.

That 2021 law merely added to the state's reputational problems. Manufacturers say that the bipartisan eagerness to quickly throw them under the bus is something they hadn't ever witnessed before here. The substance was bad enough, but the process was outrageous, they say. One industry lobbyist called the process a "radical departure" from the past. The whole thing is understandably given them quite a bit of pause.

Even so, a key labor leader says unions haven't yet been approached to repeal or modify the law (manufacturers disagree) and an official with the governor's office says they are unaware that this remains a big issue with carmakers.

I suppose we'll see what happens with the Stellantis Belvidere plant in the coming days. If Pritzker does cut a deal and convinces the company to stay and even expand, he'll have overcome some gargantuan hurdles. □





# No badge, no problem

Police board chair has gun permit reserved for real cops

LAW ENFORCEMENT | Bruce Rushton

The chair of the Illinois Police Training and Standards Board has a permit to carry a concealed firearm by virtue of being a retired police officer, even though he never was a sworn officer with arrest powers.

In his 2019 application for a permit to carry a concealed firearm via a program for retired law enforcement officers, Sean M. Smoot, under penalty of perjury, signed a form stating that he had been employed as a law enforcement officer for 10 years, had the power to make arrests and “was authorized to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution or incarceration of any person for any violation of law.” He told Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry, the agency that issues permits, that Leland Grove had employed him as a police commissioner.

Under state and federal law, only bona fide cops who have retired can obtain permits to carry concealed firearms through a program that began in 2004. Once granted by a state, the power to pack heat extends nationwide.

But Smoot never worked a beat in Leland Grove, where he was an alderman for a dozen years. The city has no personnel file for Smoot, nor any police reports prepared by him. Several online biographies, including one issued in December, when Gov. JB Pritzker announced that Smoot would become chair of the board tasked with training police, contain no mention of Smoot ever being a police officer.

In addition to training police, the board can revoke certifications to work as law enforcement officers and can investigate or review misconduct complaints against cops, a power recently granted to the board by the General Assembly. Pritzker appointed Smoot to the board in 2020.

“Throughout his career, Sean Smoot has prioritized making Illinois safer, sometimes in extraordinarily difficult circumstances,” Pritzker said in a December press release.

“I can think of no one who is more qualified for this position, and I wish him the very best of luck as he begins his term.”

Smoot, an attorney who is director and chief legal counsel for the Police Benevolent and Protective association, a police officers’ union, did not return phone calls or an email. Leland Grove police chief



In 2015, President Barack Obama appointed Sean Smoot as one of 11 members of a new Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

Dan Ryan, who signed a form stating, under penalty of perjury, that Smoot was a retired cop who met requirements to obtain a concealed weapons permit under the program for retired police officers, also could not be reached for comment.

In 2021, the Police Training and Standards Board fired Brent Fischer, the agency’s executive director, after the state inspector general determined that he had wrongly certified Howard Buffett, son of investor Warren Buffett, as a law enforcement officer after the younger Buffett donated money to law-enforcement causes, including a \$15 million donation to the board in 2016 and a \$10,000 donation for a police dog recertification program three years later. All told, Buffett’s donations to various law enforcement organizations totaled more \$143 million, the inspector general reported.

“Certification of law enforcement officer status, especially considering the significant public interest in maintaining integrity in that process, should not be minimized, nor should it be provided

based on someone’s ability to financially contribute, regardless of how great that assistance is, to the law enforcement community,” the inspector general wrote in a 2021 report that found Buffett had not completed basic law enforcement training courses.

Since obtaining his concealed weapon permit from Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry, Smoot has renewed it three times, most recently last summer, when Kenton Manning, program manager for Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry, was rangemaster and certified that all 30 rounds fired from distances ranging from five to 15 yards found their mark.

Manning says that his agency does not verify information included in written forms signed by applicants and representatives of departments who certify that applicants meet standards. About 9,000 retired cops in Illinois have permits issued by his organization, he says.

“I wouldn’t knowingly let someone who I knew wasn’t a sworn officer into the program,” Manning says. □

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# Helping the homeless

For seven years, Julie Benson has been serving Springfield's poorest. Doing small things with great love.

TIMES | Fletcher Farrar

Last week Julie Bartlett Benson got a 79-year-old Vietnam veteran into a hotel, where he could stay until Feb. 2, when his check comes in. She got a pregnant woman off the street for a week. The woman is trying to get into rehab, but she has a dog so couldn't get into a shelter. The night before I met with her, Benson was able to get propane to a woman in New Berlin who's living in a small travel trailer with her disabled son. Her work is unpaid, but even as a volunteer she rarely takes a day off, because "people don't have problems just Monday through Friday, 9 to 5."

"People reach out to me for all kinds of stuff," she said. "I wake up in the morning and people are calling me and instant-messaging me. I haven't even got my feet on the ground yet, and I've already got six things to do. Everybody knows how to get ahold of me." She says many have her phone number memorized, useful if they're in jail, or if they don't have a phone and need to call her from someone else's phone. She wears her number on her shirt: "Helping the Homeless in Springfield, Illinois, 217-652-1307."

Benson enjoys her life and her work, but it isn't easy to work amid so much pain. "It's heart-wrenching to hear some of the stories. But I don't cry in front of anybody. I go home and cry. Because they're looking to me to be a source of strength, and the last thing they want is somebody wimping. I've had grown men cry on my shoulder, saying, 'My mom was my strength and she's gone.' Some of them call me Mama."

For this work she needs a thick skin. "You know, you can do 20 things for people, and

if you don't do the 21<sup>st</sup> thing, you're no good. You're not the person they thought you were. Then a week later they're calling me and asking me for something. And it's over."

Being well known and, mostly, loved, is far different from when she started in January seven years ago after a whisper from God. "I was on my way to church that morning and I got a whisper that said, 'You're going to help the homeless people.'" She started out small, gathering donations of hats, gloves and scarves from church members, then went to the parking lot of an established Springfield homeless shelter, opened her trunk and started handing things out. The homeless people who gathered around were skeptical, wanting to know how much she was charging. And the shelter told her, "You need to conduct your business off the property. We don't need your help." After that she started parking across the street for her weekly handouts.

Her street ministry grew when her employer, Henson Robinson, gave her a used van in 2018 as a retirement gift, then she got a building where she and volunteers sort donations. She incorporated Helping the Homeless as a 501(c)3 nonprofit so donations are deductible, but she resisted growing her organization much beyond that. Helping the Homeless doesn't receive government grants, just private donations, and she doesn't solicit donations by mail. "I don't want to just manage people. I want to go out and meet the people. I've had people want to ride with me to help me. But I don't need anybody to open up the van door and hand out socks."

Even today she occasionally gets the feeling



Julie Benson wears her phone/text number on her shirt. Many who need her help have it memorized.

PHOTO BY FLETCHER FARRAR

from Springfield's established homeless-helping organizations that her help isn't needed. "They don't call me anymore." But you're not a threat to them? "They act like I am. They said I'm enabling people. But you know, giving somebody a sleeping bag is not enabling somebody. It's trying to keep them

from freezing to death."

She's pleased that the proposed new Helping Hands homeless shelter to be built on the eastern edge of Springfield plans to offer a wide range of services. But she worries that, even though there are plans to provide transportation, it's too far away from downtown for the people it serves. She scoffs at the long-range planning to reduce homelessness currently underway: "It's taking too long," Benson said. "They keep doing studies. But how many studies do you need in order to know that we don't have enough affordable, decent housing in this community?"

With housing in mind, in recent months she's launched a new business venture, called "Home Sweet Home sober-living LLC," which she owns by herself and for which she receives no grants. Last Oct. 4 with a bank loan she acquired a house on South Fifth Street. "I almost filled the house that night. And I thought, I've got a waiting list, I could fill another house. So I'm driving down Fourth Street and I see this 'For Sale' sign." On Jan. 5 she became the owner of a second building, with room to house more men. She plans to be strict about collecting rent. "People tend to be more responsible if they have to help pay for something." And she's serious about sober living, with plans to do random drug tests. "They have to be sober to live in the house. But if they test dirty, we will work on getting them the help they need. I'm not just going to boot somebody out the door." □

Fletcher Farrar is editor of Illinois Times.

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Garden of the Gods in the Shawnee National Forest. PHOTO BY LES WINKELER.

# Shawnee National Park?

A move to make southern Illinois' Shawnee National Forest a national park and climate preserve

NATURAL RESOURCES | David Blanchette

When a tree falls in this forest, the sound it makes is definitely being heard.

A grassroots proposal fueled by opponents of logging and other concerns is gaining traction to transform the 289,000-acre Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois into a national park and the nation's first climate preserve.

Proponents argue the designation would protect a valuable, incredibly diverse major ecosystem from destruction by logging and mining interests. They contend the current government agency that oversees the Shawnee, the U.S. Forest Service, sees the forest only for its trees as a lumber source.

But the proposal has many skeptics who

say the U.S. Forest Service has gotten better at managing the Shawnee. They argue that if the national park and climate preserve plan is approved, unchecked invasive species growth could destroy what is currently a vital recreational and economic resource for the region.

In 1996 environmental activists won a 17-year injunction against commercial logging, ATV use and oil and gas development in the Shawnee National Forest. But the U.S. Forest Service produced a new management plan aimed at addressing several of the concerns listed in the 1996 ruling, and in 2013 U.S. District Court Judge J. Phil Gilbert lifted the injunction.

Timber harvesting currently occurs on a few hundred acres each year in the Shawnee. Backers of national park and climate preserve status want that permanently reduced to zero. Everyone seems to agree that the Shawnee must be preserved. The big question remains: How can that best be accomplished?

## **“The best thing we can do is to leave those forests intact.”**

Southern Illinois residents Les and Judy Winkeler took a trip several years ago to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee and the Congaree National Park in South Carolina. The Winkeleres are big fans of natural areas and were impressed with the

flora and fauna they saw, until they put it in perspective with what they had almost in their own back yard.

“There is a four-acre area in LaRue-Pine Hills, part of the Shawnee National Forest, that has more species of plants than all of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park,” Les Winkeler said. “As we drove back home we discussed that the Shawnee is about five times larger than Congaree and it's so much more diverse. I mean my God, why isn't Shawnee a national park?”

About the same time, the Winkeleres saw a documentary about the 1990s effort to save the Shawnee National Forest from logging, and lengthy discussions ensued.



“Friends who are environmental activists were some of the principals in the documentary, and we had dinner one night and decided, ‘Hey, let’s try this,’” Winkeler said.

Winkeler is the retired sports editor of *The Southern Illinoian* newspaper, headquartered in Carbondale, and still does outdoor writing on contract for the paper. He wrote a column based on that dinner conversation, suggesting that the Shawnee become part of the National Park Service. The column also put forth the idea that the Shawnee be designated the nation’s first official climate preserve, an intact ecosystem that would remain untouched to help sequester and store greenhouse gases to stabilize atmospheric carbon dioxide levels.

Pope County, Illinois, resident John Wallace was one of the group of friends who came up with the national park and climate preserve idea.

“The mission of the Park Service is to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. It’s a better agency for actually caring for our public lands,” Wallace said. “The Forest Service has ‘productivity’ in their mandate. They fall under the Department of Agriculture, agriculture produces products, and the biggest product that the Forest Service has is trees.”

Wallace is perhaps the most well-known environmental activist in the Shawnee. For more than 34 years he has fought against logging and development in the forest, even going to jail once after he chained himself to a piece of logging machinery.

“I’ve seen the devastating impacts to wildlife, to natural communities, from their commercial-industrial log extraction programs. I am aware of how unjust it is,” Wallace said. “Eastern deciduous forests like the Shawnee are quite good at sequestering carbon, often better than some of the old-growth forests out west. The best thing we can do is to leave those forests intact.

“We hope this starts a movement around the country, especially in the Midwest, of creating more preserves out of our public land,” Wallace said. “We need to take drastic action, not subtle action, not politically viable action, not moderate action, to reduce our carbon production. Otherwise we face ecological collapse.”

**“It’s imperative that those types of activities remain permitted.”**

The city of Carbondale, which sits at the northern tip of the Shawnee National Forest, passed a resolution Dec. 13, 2022, supporting the creation of the Shawnee National Park and Climate Preserve.

“The city is intrigued by the possibility of this designation because the focus then would be on conservation and preservation, and we could see a boon to tourism,” said Carbondale City Manager Gary Williams. “We have a lot of hotel rooms and Airbnbs, we have 13



**The Shawnee National Forest, at the southern tip of Illinois, is 289,000 acres, larger than some national parks. It holds several state parks and recreation areas, including Dixon Springs, Bell Smith Springs, Ferne Clyffe and Cave-in-Rock, plus many lakes, trails, scenic areas and nature preserves.** CREDIT: U.S. FOREST SERVICE

wineries on the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail, so there is evidence to suggest that the creation of a national park will help facilitate additional tourism visits.”

Carbondale adopted a sustainability action plan last year and Williams said the city council feels that having a climate preserve is a way to utilize the forest to achieve some of their long-term sustainability goals. He said the designation wouldn’t affect traditional Shawnee recreational activities.

“Local residents in particular hunt, fish and trap in the Shawnee, so it’s imperative that those types of activities remain permitted,” Williams said. “Under a preserve you can define all of those activities and ensure that local residents can continue to enjoy the Shawnee as they have before.”

The Illinois Audubon Society, based in Springfield, also passed a December 2022 resolution supporting the national park and climate preserve proposal.

“Our mission is preserving the plants and

animals of Illinois, and the proposal is in line with that, so we supported it,” said Illinois Audubon Society Executive Director Joanne Fessett.

The Southernmost Illinois Tourism Bureau promotes the area as Shawnee Forest Country and considers the forest to be a key draw for the region, but remains neutral on the national park and climate preserve proposal.

“There certainly could be some benefit that a national park would bring, but we work well right now with the Forest Service, and of course, if that were to happen, would continue to work with the National Park Service,” said Bureau Executive Director Carol Hoffman. “We love promoting the area in any way we can with whatever agencies are appropriate.”

The first step toward changing Shawnee’s designation would be to convince Congress to authorize a feasibility study by the National Park Service. The land in question is already owned by the federal government so there would be no large land purchase expenditure.

The office of Congressman Mike Bost, whose 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District includes the Shawnee, did not respond to a request for a comment on the proposal.

**“Some of the finest land management in the nation.”**

Tim Pohlman is the U.S. Forest Service Ranger for the Shawnee National Forest. He acknowledged that the Forest Service had gone through a dearth of management several decades ago in the Shawnee, but is proud of the progress the agency has made in recent years.

“It is disconcerting that all of our harvests are reported to be clear cuts and that’s not the case. We are being told that we’re not meeting our objectives and that’s not the case either,” Pohlman said. “There’s some thinking that if you leave all of the trees standing, then that stores carbon. But just thinking that all we ever have to do is never cut another tree, well, the situation is more complex than that.”

Pohlman said the Forest Service authorizes



approximately 150 to 200 acres of timber harvest per year and those harvests are “partial cuts” where “we go in and take about half of what is there, maybe a little less, and leave the rest of it there for several years,” he said.

Pohlman said that most of the harvesting occurs among the 40,000 acres of non-native pine trees that were planted in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to help guarantee a steady supply of timber for the United States. Timber management also occurs in areas of the forest that contain oak and hickory, but Pohlman said the management in those areas is intended to bolster those desirable, original hardwood tree species.

“Oak and hickory don’t tend to do well in shade, they get out-competed by other species like maple, beech, elm and tulip poplar,” Pohlman said. “To maintain oak and hickory in the forest you have to work at it a little bit and create some gaps in the canopy so the light can get down to the forest floor.”

The Forest Service partners with several organizations, particularly The Nature Conservancy, to eradicate the nearly overwhelming amount of invasive plants that are choking out life on the Shawnee forest floor, particularly plants like bush honeysuckle and autumn olive. The partners conduct prescribed burnings on 10,000 acres each year and use mechanical removal and herbicides where appropriate to remove the invasive plants.

“Invasive species are so pervasive across the forest and it’s our concern that if the Shawnee shifts to a different agency that the focus won’t be as much on management, like invasive species control and prescribed fire,” said Tharran Hobson, the Southern Illinois program director for The Nature Conservancy. “Without management they’re going to become a real problem, and some of the areas that folks love because of the scenic beauty are going to be lost over time.”

“The Forest Service is doing a much better job now,” Hobson said. “There was a lot of criticism in the 1980s and 1990s but it’s a completely different Forest Service. The amount of planning and professionalism that goes into a lot of their projects is completely different.”

The Illinois Forestry Association is an organization of those who support conserving and managing Illinois’ five million acres of forest, including those with commercial interests. The association is a strong supporter of the way the U.S. Forest Service currently manages the Shawnee.

“We think it offers a perfect balance of carbon sequestration, recreation, wilderness and forest management, it really is a climate reserve as it sits,” said Illinois Forestry Association President Paul Deizman. “We think the forest leadership there practices some of the finest land management in the nation.”



**An invasive species removal crew from The Nature Conservancy in the Shawnee National Forest, from left to right: Makenna Baxter, Nathan Speagle, Danielle Cagin, Jessica Donvito and Carter Wyatt while preparing firelines at the Agropelter burn unit in Hardin County. PHOTO CREDIT: CARTER WYATT**



**Logging equipment at rest in a Shawnee National Forest cut in Bean Ridge in Alexander County. PHOTO BY JOH WALLACE**

Deizman said creating a national park in the Shawnee would be difficult because of the “checkerboard” nature of the current national forest footprint, which contains nearly as many parcels of private as federal land. He also said a national park designation would prevent responsible stewardship of the forest.

“Logging is certainly something that is part of a managed forest at some point,” Deizman said. “If nobody touches a forest, stands of trees die and that also gets attention.”

The Sierra Club usually falls on the side of environmentalists on issues, and is behind the idea to eliminate logging, drilling and

mining in the Shawnee. But the transfer of the Shawnee to the National Park Service is another matter.

“We have seen firsthand how the number and amount of invasive plants has exploded in the last 10 to 15 years, and we are concerned that areas in Shawnee National Forest will not be managed to protect these areas from being taken over by invasives,” said Barbara McKasson of the Shawnee Group, Sierra Club Illinois. “We also know the Forest Service has been working on timber restoration in several high-quality natural areas, and they have been able to increase the amount of management

with help from groups such as The Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club.”

## “Nature keeps moving.”

President Theodore Roosevelt created the U.S. Forest Service in 1905 to help ensure a steady supply of construction timber for the United States, and famed conservationist Gifford Pinchot was the agency’s first Chief Forester. The Forest Service currently administers 154 national forests

Pine trees were often planted on national forest land to keep the lumber supply going, particularly on marginal agricultural land such as was done in the Shawnee. But the Shawnee has not been a major source of construction timber for some time, according to Barry Johnson, the executive director of the Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers Association

“Most of the supply of lumber that we use to build homes is pine and comes either from Canada or the southern United States,” Johnson said. “The supply we use to build homes with is soft wood, and what you’re talking about in Shawnee is primarily hard wood.”

So, should the Shawnee be a hands-off or a hands-on resource for the region, state and nation?

“The Shawnee should stay with the U.S. Forest Service, and the Forest Service needs to be a little more assertive and not cower to every little group that wants to change something,” said consulting forester Bill Calvert from Breese, who has worked in the region for many years.

“The idea is sustainable forestry. As the big trees get old you cut those before they die, then you perpetuate the forest by letting the smaller trees grow, and young trees sequester a lot more carbon than older trees because they grow faster,” Calvert said. “Some of the environmental groups don’t want them doing anything, not one tree, not one bush, nothing. You can’t do that, nature keeps moving. So if you want to try to keep it as natural as possible, you’ve got to manage it.”

Les Winkler knows that the creation of a hands-off Shawnee National Park and Climate Preserve faces an uphill battle, but there are several factors that give him hope.

Winkler notes that there’s the current focus on the global climate and efforts to utilize trees to sequester as much carbon as possible. There are no national parks in Illinois and a lack of Midwest national parks in general, with the closest, besides St. Louis’ Gateway Arch, being Mammoth Cave in Kentucky and Indiana Dunes along the Great Lakes.

Winkler is realistic, but optimistic, about the grassroots Shawnee effort.

“I think the ultimate chance of success is pretty good,” Winkler said. “I’m 68 years old and I would love to see it in my lifetime. I think that’s realistic.” □



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# Student artists compete in 100th Scholastic Art Awards

VISUAL ARTS | Karen Ackerman Witter



**Regal, Painting by Sophia Corredato, Williamsville High School, Gold Key Award and American Visions Nominee, Tyler Casson, Art Teacher**

This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Art Awards, the premier art competition in the United States for students in 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Regional winners will be honored Feb. 5 at Springfield High School (SHS), and their artwork will be exhibited at the Springfield Art Association (SAA) February 5-23.

Many passionate individuals make this competition possible. Rosemary Buffington is one. She co-chairs the regional competition. The SAA is an enthusiastic partner. "It is so important for all to see that strong visual art programs still exist, and local students are excelling in them," said Betsy Dollar, SAA executive director. "I believe that some of the most imaginative works that we exhibit each year are in that show."

The Mid-Central Illinois Region covers

33 Illinois counties and was started by Rod Buffington in 1984. Students from this region submitted more than 600 entries. Art educators are crucial to the process. Beth Pianezza is one of 45 educators enabling their students to apply. "My role as a teacher is to foster an environment for students to feel encouraged to create artwork that conveys their personal worldview," said Pianezza, SHS art educator. She guides students in selecting artwork and helps them photograph and submit their work. Amy Lynn, Glenwood High School art teacher, says one of her most important roles is to inspire her students. She believes one of the best ways to do that is to encourage them to enter their creative artwork in the Scholastic art competition.

Panels of judges consist of local artists and former art teachers who select the winners

in multiple categories, such as photography, painting and drawing, sculpture and more. Jurors select works that exemplify the award program's core values of originality, skill and the emergence of a personal vision.

Gold Key awards represent the highest levels of achievement in originality, personal vision and technical skill. American Visions Nominees are Gold Key winners, considered best of show. Three of the five selected American Visions nominees are from Sangamon County – Jenna Robeen (Rochester High School), Katherine Minch (Springfield High School) and Sophia Corredato (Williamsville High School).

Of the 47 Gold Key award winners, 20 are Sangamon County students from Glenwood, Rochester, Springfield, Springfield Southeast and Williamsville High Schools; Franklin Middle School; Lincoln Magnet School; and Rochester and Williamsville Junior High schools. Winners of Gold Key awards and American Visions Nominees are automatically entered in the national competition. National jurors will select one nominee from each region for the American Visions Award. The Mid-Central Illinois Region also bestowed 68 Silver Key awards and 124 Honorable Mentions.

The regional awards ceremony is Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. at SHS, the first in-person event in three years. Mayor Jim Langfelder will present the Mayor's Choice Award. Lincoln Land Community College will present a \$1,000 scholarship to a student with an outstanding portfolio who plans to attend LLCC. Other monetary and gift card awards will also be presented, thanks to sponsors and other partners.

Feb. 5 is also opening day for the SAA exhibition (700 N. Fourth St., 11 a.m.-3 p.m.). The exhibition includes all of the entries receiving Gold Key and Silver Key awards and American Visions Nominees. Honorable Mention artworks will be projected on the wall of the gallery. The exhibition will be open Feb. 5-23 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.).

The SAA will also host an Honors Day on Feb. 24 for students and their teachers. All Gold Key recipients are invited, and each teacher may bring two students who entered the competition. "The students are released from their regular classes and come to the SAA for two workshops, one in the morning and one in the afternoon," said Dollar. "In some cases, they are exposed to media and processes that their schools don't offer. In other cases, it is a chance to work with a professional artist for a couple of hours and gain a new perspective."



**Recycled Rabbit, Sculpture by Katherine Minch, Springfield High School, Gold Key Award and American Visions Nominee, Beth Pianezza, Art Teacher**

The students' creativity will also be showcased throughout the community. Artwork will be displayed on a digital billboard on Chatham Road near Wabash Ave. during March and April. Organizers are working with Ace Sign Company to feature student art on bus benches this spring.

Top regional winners across the country are entered in the juried national competition and also considered for scholarships. National medalists and scholarship recipients are honored at a ceremony in New York City in June. National winners are also featured in an exhibition in Washington, D.C., and traveling exhibitions.

Teachers proclaim the benefits of this program. "Scholastics is a wonderful way for young artists to see what kind of art is being created in our region," said Amy Lynn. "The Scholastic Art Awards competition provides students the opportunity to gain recognition for their artwork locally and nationally, empowers them to trust that their voice is important and celebrates their creative endeavors," said Beth Pianezza. □



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CUT HERE



# Okonomiyaki – the Japanese vegetable pancake

FOOD | Peter Glatz

Tonight's shift in the restaurant is over. I clocked in over 10 hours today and I've only been able to get off my feet for my half-hour family meal break. I'm very tired and my back and feet hurt. Even though I still have three more shifts ahead of me before my next day off, I know that I'll be too wound up to fall asleep unless I decompress. Most nights I am awake past 1 a.m.

On my short walk home, I pass Xiao Bao, a very stylish Asian restaurant and lounge that's open late. It's only been open a few months and has gotten rave reviews. I take a seat at the bar, order a cocktail and peruse the food menu. I've learned that having food in your stomach helps slow down the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream and helps avoid a hangover. I ask the bartender: "What's good here?" She responds: "My favorite is the okonomiyaki. It's a Japanese hash-brown pancake that the owners learned to make while on their honeymoon in Japan."

Xiao Bao is the love child of Josh Walker and Duolin Li. After quitting their jobs in New York City, they embarked on a seven-month honeymoon throughout Asia, where they worked on a rice farm outside Osaka and learned Japanese cooking techniques. After returning to the United States, the couple settled in Charleston, South Carolina, where they started a series of pan-Asian pop-ups before opening a brick-and-mortar restaurant in 2011. After opening a second location in Charleston, they expanded to an East Nashville location, where I am now sipping my cocktail and unwinding from my restaurant shift.

The plate placed in front of me is an explosion of color and reminds me of Jackson Pollack's famous painting *Convergence*. It looks like a cross between a pancake and a frittata, garnished with a lattice of mayonnaise and sweet soy sauce drizzles, and topped with a dusting of seaweed powder and dried, smoked, fermented tuna flakes which are wiggling as if alive. I cut into it and find shredded cabbage, kale, carrot and scallion that have been mixed into the batter and fried to a hash brown texture. I take a bite and taste something that is sweet, spicy, smoky, and savory. I am hooked!

Okonomiyaki are made with a wheat flour batter and cooked on a griddle or *teppan*. They first appeared in Osaka during the 1930s and increased in popularity during World War II when rice became harder to come by. The name is derived from *okonomi* which translates to "how you want it," and *yaki*, meaning "cooked over direct heat."

Restaurants specializing in okonomiyaki



Okonomiyaki- Abstract Expressionism on a plate CREDIT- ANN SHAFFER GLATZ

will have menus with several options to choose from, much like an American pizzeria. Common add-ins include octopus, shrimp, pork belly, Chinese sausage, yam or kimchi. You pick your ingredients which are then mixed together in a batter. The batter is then poured onto a hot griddle known as a *teppan* and shaped into a circle with short metal spatulas. Once one side of the okonomiyaki has been cooked enough to hold together, it is flipped onto the other side. When both sides of the okonomiyaki are cooked, the toppings are added. Okonomiyaki sauce, which resembles Worcestershire sauce, and Kewpie mayonnaise are drizzled all over in zigzagging lines. Small flakes of dried seaweed are then sprinkled over. Often paper-thin shavings of katsuobushi are added, which because of the heat, move and dance as if alive. The okonomiyaki is then divided into quarters and left on the griddle so that every bite is eaten "fresh off the grill."

Making your own okonomiyaki in a home

kitchen is relatively easy. It is essentially a vegetable fritter in the form of a pancake. It is a very adaptable recipe and is a good way to put to use the leftover vegetables that are hanging out in your fridge's produce drawers. If you have any pickled sushi ginger, add it in. Fry up a couple pieces of diced bacon to mix into the batter. If your batter seems too runny, you can add a little panko. If you have any microgreens or sprouts, put them on top. The only tricky part is flipping it over. But don't stress. If it comes apart, just piece it back together, and cover your mishap with the toppings.

## Okonomiyaki (Japanese vegetable pancake)

Serves 1-2, depending on hunger

### Ingredients:

½ small cabbage, very thinly sliced (preferably using a mandoline), about 4 packed cups – 300 grams

1 medium carrot, peeled into thin ribbons using a vegetable peeler, and cut into matchsticks  
2 Lacinato kale leaves – ribs removed and discarded; leaves stacked, rolled into a cylinder, and thinly sliced crosswise  
2 scallions, very thinly sliced on a bias  
1 large egg, lightly beaten  
¾ cup cold water, more if needed  
1 cup all-purpose flour, more if needed  
1 tablespoon canola oil

Garnishes (see note below):

Bull-Dog sauce, for serving

Kewpie mayonnaise

Furikake seasoning

Katsuobushi flakes (optional)

Note: Look for Bull-Dog sauce, Kewpie mayonnaise, furikake, and katsuobushi flakes in the Asian section of your grocery store, at an Asian market, or Amazon. If you can't find Bull-Dog, mix equal parts ketchup and Worcestershire sauce with a few dashes of soy sauce. Kewpie mayonnaise is a Japanese sweet mayonnaise sold in a red-capped squeeze bottle. You can substitute Hellmann's. Furikake is a Japanese condiment containing dried seaweed. You can substitute finely shredded nori.

### Preparation:

In a large bowl, add the cabbage, carrots, kale and scallions. Stir in the egg and water. Sprinkle in the flour and stir to combine using chopsticks, if you have them. Depending on the water content of your shredded vegetables, you may need to add more water or flour to achieve a thick batter. The batter will be more like a potato pancake or hashbrown.

Heat the canola oil in a 10-inch nonstick skillet until shimmering. Add the okonomiyaki batter, and using the back of a metal spoon, spread the thick batter into a circle about ½- to ¾-inch thick, smoothing the top and gently pressing the pancake together. Cook until the edges of the pancake begin to brown, about 5 minutes. Once the edges brown, wait for 30 seconds before flipping the pancake over. Cover the skillet with a flat lid or dinner plate, and with a towel or pot holder, hold the lid firmly against the skillet and flip over, then carefully slide back into the pan.

Cook the other side until the edges brown, 3 to 5 minutes, then cook an extra 30 seconds before sliding the pancake onto a plate.

Drizzle with Bull-Dog sauce and Kewpie mayonnaise and sprinkle with furikake and some katsuobushi flakes, if using. Serve warm. □



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Wolf Crick Boys play the Backroom Lounge in Riverton this Wednesday.

## February music finds

**NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin**

Here we are rolling along with lots to see and do and hear as the music-makers are busy this time of year like I've never quite seen before. I'm going with the theory we're making up for the lost last few years by doing more music than ever before. Let's take a look and see what's shaking, shall we?

Before getting into the live music, I'd like to mention that there have been more than a few albums and otherwise self-penned releases in the last year on our scene, and I know several acts working on new records right now, including me. Folks writing their own songs and playing them in public is a thing always near and dear to my heart, partly because that's what I have done most of my life and mostly because creativity makes the world go 'round. Now here's some news about artists that I'm proud to call friends who just put out new, all-original music this past weekend. If you know of any more upcoming releases from local performers, please let me know and I'll do all I can to get the word out.

The Wolf Crick Boys, led by Greg "Lucky" Patterson with bandmates Patrick Miller, Keith "Tiger" Ramey and Tom "Dooley" Woolsey (you know it's a real band when a majority of the players have nicknames, an old wise guy who called himself Raoul once told me) released *All Quiet on the Western Front* last Sunday during a gig at the Sandbar Tavern. The Boys will be back at it at the Backroom Lounge in Riverton on Wednesday with the new CD, T-shirts and yes, even WCB fly swatters in tow.

Ben Bedford dropped *Valley of the Stars*, his sixth record, on Jan. 27, and he's getting good reviews already, especially in the UK. Bedford is currently on a run through Texas, Alabama and Florida and will be back in town next week. Both these artists are on digital platforms and

have physical CDs plus merch for sale online and in-person.

In another local creative endeavor, the UIS Performing Arts Center presents one more episode of the continuing narrative of *Black Futurez: Mixtape* on Friday and Saturday at the UIS Studio Theatre. Self-described as "a compilation of ideas and emotions from Black youth living through current times" and featuring creator and performer Reggie Guyton accompanied by artists and musicians, the show is about "weaving mythical lore, parable and personal experience" as part of the university's Our Stage/Our Voices program "in which the voices of historically underrepresented communities in the performing arts are amplified, with a goal of achieving diversity and inclusion," and don't you know it, we could sure use more of this thought process now and always.

Off we go to experience my friend and yours, Jose Gobbo, leading a quartet at the Friday Night Jazz series at Boones. Usually the ubiquitous and busy Brazil native is performing with others, but here's a chance to hear the immensely talented and well-studied jazz guitarist with his own choice of material and musicians.

For more original music this Friday night, Chicago Farmer cultivates the upstairs of the Broadgauge restaurant in Petersburg for a sit-down-and-listen concert by the popular, traveling singer-songwriter from Illinois. Opening the show is Pawnee native Avery Kern, who, as I wrote this last Monday, was playing on the rooftop at AJ's (stands for Alan Jackson) Good Time Bar on Broadway in Nashville, Tennessee. How about that!

Be sure to look at our music listings for all the other good stuff going on this week. □



## The Wedding Issue

The Illinois Times Wedding special issue will deliver a fresh take on weddings and celebrations of commitment. Wedding planning is made easier with a venue directory and articles relevant to this milestone day for every couple.

**Coming Feb. 16, 2023**

Space and copy due Feb. 8



## MUSIC



Roxschool plays Curve Inn Friday night.



Not Petty plays 1st & 3rd Boutique and Wine Bar Saturday.

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](http://www.illinoistimes.com) or by email [calendar@illinoistimes.com](mailto:calendar@illinoistimes.com).

### Thursday Feb 2

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

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

### Friday Feb 3

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

**Jose Gobbo Quartet**  
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

**Marty Bush and  
Johnny Lawhorn**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

**Roxschool**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**Mandy Rose**  
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur,  
7-10pm

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

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

**3's Company**  
Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill &  
Museum, 7pm

**John Stevens and Geoff Ryan**  
The Winery, Decatur, 8-11pm

### Saturday Feb 4

**Not Petty**  
1st and 3rd Boutique and Wine  
Bar, Petersburg, 3-6pm

**Soul Experience**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**Blue Country Revue**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse  
Brews, 6-9pm

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

**Randy Erwin**  
Stella Coffee & Tea,  
10:30am-12:30pm

**Weird Al Yankovic**  
UIS Performing Arts Center, 7pm

**Lil Higgs and the House Reckers**  
The Uptown Saloon, Farmersville,  
7pm

### Sunday Feb 5

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

**it Groove Daddies**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 2-5pm

**Curt Smith**  
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

**Rhodes and Battles Trio**  
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

**Open mic**  
Piper Glen Golf Club, 1-5pm

**Kruisin' Marrs**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 4-7pm

### Monday Feb 6

**Stone Cold Blues Band**  
The Alamo, 7pm

**Open mic with Joel Honey  
and Silas Tockey**  
Whiskey Jack's Sports Bar, 8-11pm

### Tuesday Feb 7

**J.C.B. Entertainment  
Karaoke**  
The Alibi, Rochester, 8pm-12am

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

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

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

### Wednesday Feb 8

**Wolf Crick Boys**  
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,  
7pm

**Open mic**  
Boone's, 7-10pm

**Karaoke**  
Clique, 9pm-1am

**Al Kitchen**  
Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill  
& Museum, 6-9pm

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



# Spring Guide

Coming Thursday,  
March 16, 2023

Advertising Deadline Wed., March 8, 5pm

### Attention publicity seekers:

Submit calendar events at  
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or email to  
[calendar@illinoistimes.com](mailto:calendar@illinoistimes.com).  
Deadline to submit extended  
calendar items for Spring Guide is  
**Friday, March 3, 5pm.**

Please be sure  
to indicate 'Spring Guide' in the  
subject line. Submit events at  
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We do not accept calendar items  
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Beth Irwin 217-679-7803  
Yolanda Bell 217-679-7802  
Ron Young 217-679-7807  
Haley Jackson 217-679-7804



## THE CALENDAR



Reggie Guyton portrays Robert Smalls in *Small Beginnings*. CREDIT: ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

### Black History Month events at the ALPLM

Feb. 1-28

Abraham Lincoln Presidential  
Library and Museum  
212 N. Sixth St.

<https://presidentlincoln.illinois.gov/>

### THEATER | *Small Beginnings*

**it** Celebrate the start of Black History Month and Abraham Lincoln's upcoming birthday with a variety of events at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum starting this week. The month features performances of *Small Beginnings*, a short play about Robert Smalls. Smalls, escaping slavery, took a Confederate ship in 1862 and used it to transport family members and friends to freedom. After the Civil War, Smalls was elected to Congress. Local actor Reggie Guyton portrays Smalls. The performances are set for 1 p.m. Feb. 2-3, 6-7, 15-17 and 23-24. A Q&A will follow each show. Besides the play, the ALPLM is offering a film series of mini-documentaries on important Black Americans, a read-a-thon and a Feb. 15 program on Oscar Dunn, the first Black man to serve as a state executive officer. A special exhibit examines the history of Black sororities. And museum admission will be free Feb. 11-12 in honor of Lincoln's birthday.

### ■ Special Music Events

#### "Weird Al" Yankovic

Sat., Feb. 4, 7pm. "The Unfortunate Return of the Ridiculously Self-Indulgent, Ill-Advised Vanity Tour." Lower your expectations. Again. \$39-\$89. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

#### Black Futurez: Mixtape - An Our Stage / Our Voices Event

Feb. 3-4, 7:30-9:30pm. Weaving mythical lore, parable and personal experience, this unfolding narrative can best be described as a compilation of ideas and emotions from Black youth living through current times. Featuring creator Reggie Guyton with special artist and musician guests. \$15. UIS Studio Theatre, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

#### First Friday Concert

Fri., Feb. 3, 7-8pm. A performance by soprano

Elizabeth Farris Byerline accompanied by pianist Mark Gifford. Free. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-522-3342.

### ■ Books & Authors

#### Authors Night

Tue., Feb. 7, 6pm. Meet local authors from a variety of genres and discuss local history at the Rochester Public Library's first Authors Night of the year. Participating authors and illustrators include Tammi Powlen Beck, Ray Bruzan, Mary Frances and Beverly Helm-Renfro and more. Event begins at 6 p.m. with a reception. Contact the library for details. Free. Rochester Public Library, Rochester, 1 Community Dr., 217-498-8454.

#### Blind Date with a Book

Mondays-Fridays, 9am-5pm and Saturdays, 10am-3pm. The Springfield Art Association is hosting a Blind Date with a Book.

Participants won't get to know what their book is until they purchase. Don't worry though, clues will be given such as genre and the first line from the first chapter to give you an idea of what the book is. \$12/Members, \$15/Nonmembers. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

### ■ Dance

#### Lion King

Sat., Feb. 4, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6pm. Join the Springfield Dance Theatre on an adventure in the African Pride Lands as a young lion cub learns the power of family and friendship in this coming-of-age tale. Meet with "Simba on the Savanna" in the Legacy Lounge 30 minutes prior to each performance. Each performance lasts just under an hour, making it kid (and parent) approved. \$20 advance, \$25 day of show. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 217-528-9760.

### ■ Art & Architecture

#### "Encaustic"

Fri., Feb. 3, 6-9pm. Works on Wood Group Gallery Show featuring Casey Lowry. This show, the first of 2023, is an homage to the versatility of wood. Works in the show include woodworking, spinning, mixed media, painting, sculpture and more. Free. DIM Art House, 319 Chatham Road.

#### Drawing studio

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30pm. An opportunity to improve drawing skills, hand-eye coordination and analytical skills in a studio setting. Work in the medium of your choice. All skill levels are welcome. Donations are welcome. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 801-810-9278.

#### Embracing Light

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. The Embracing Light show features pastel paintings by

Tracey Maras and ceramics by Colleen Halford. Winter is a quiet season when people become immersed in the stillness and silence of short days and long nights. Leading us to seek movement, color and light. Embracing Light is an endeavor to capture and share that essence. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

#### Group Gallery show and fundraiser

Through March 3. Open call for art created from actual APL adoptable pets. Proceeds split between the artists and organizations. APL will be on hand for the day of event with pets and information. Meet your muse. Deadline is March 3. Event is March 18, 2023. Free. DIM Art House, 319 Chatham Road.

#### "An Insatiable Desire to Create"

Sat., Feb. 4, 6-8pm. The art of Roland Folse. Oil and pastel paintings, ceramics, furniture and wooden pieces on display. Event also features introduction of 2023 Beaux Arts Ball co-chairmen. A "gallery talk" with Folse is set for 6:30 pm. David Strawn Art Gallery, Jacksonville, 331 W. College Ave., 217-243-9390.

#### "A tax on a bag and other landscapes" reception

Thu., Feb. 2, 5:30-8pm. A solo exhibition of painting and sculpture works by Chicago-based artist Frances Lee. An installation of sculptural paper objects and intimate paintings of the urban landscape, the exhibition considers contemporary questions of consumption and material politics. The exhibition will run through Thursday, Feb. 16. Free. UIS Visual Arts Gallery, HSB 201, One University Plaza, 217-206-6506.

### ■ Film & Television

#### Someone, Somewhere

Sun., Feb. 5, 1-3, 4-6pm and Tue., Feb. 7, 7-9pm. Rémy and Mélanie are two 30-year-old Parisians who try in vain to meet someone somewhere, especially on social media, even if they live right on the same floor of two terraced houses. Part of the Molly Schlich International & Independent Film Series. [springfieldart.org](http://springfieldart.org). Adults \$10, students \$5. AMC Classic Springfield 12, 3141 Mercantile Dr., 217-523-2631.

### ■ Food & Drink

#### Winter Old Capitol Farmers Market

Sat., Feb. 4, 8am-12pm. Union Station, 500 E. Madison, 217-544-1723.

### ■ History

#### "Martin Luther King Jr.: A Commemoration"

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 12-4pm. "Martin Luther King Jr.: A Commemoration," the second reinstall of this exhibit has been done to celebrate the life and legacy of King. Visitors will learn details about King's childhood and his efforts to fight for racial and social equity. It can be viewed until April 15. 217-391-6323. Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum, 1440 Monument Ave., 217-391-6323.

#### Black History Month Panel Discussion

Fri., Feb. 3, 7pm. National Park Service rangers Nick Sacco (Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site) and Ve' Amber Miller (Pullman National Historical Park) will participate in a Black History Month panel discussion. Free. Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum, 1440 Monument Ave., 217-391-3221.

#### Celebrating Our Existence From the Past to Present

Mon., Feb. 6, 10am-1pm. This African-American History Month event will provide a showcase of culture and its impact through fashion, design and the evolving of African-American history from the 1900s to the present. Free. A. Lincoln Commons, 5250 Shepherd Road, 2174730891.

#### "Growing Up X"

Through May 13. Gen X, the often overlooked Forgotten Generation, lies between Boomers and Millennials. Learn about the cultural touchstones that shaped this generation's youth, the last generation to have had an analog childhood. [illinoisstatemuseum.org](http://illinoisstatemuseum.org). Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-7386.

#### Small Beginnings

Feb. 2-3, 6-7, 15-17 and 23-24. Black History Month begins with the first of 10 performances of *Small Beginnings*, a short play about Robert Smalls. Smalls, enslaved from birth, commandeered a Confederate Ship in Charleston, South Carolina, and used it to take family and friends to freedom. The performances are followed by Q&A sessions. Free with admission. Abraham Lincoln



by Q&A sessions. Free with admission. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

### Ulysses S. Grant Press Conference

Sat., Feb. 4, 1-2pm. President US Grant will answer all of your tough questions. A list of frequently asked, hard-nosed questions will be provided to get things started. Grant is probably our most underestimated American hero. Listen to a variety of questions about his role in American history. FREE. Chatham Area Public Library, Chatham, 600 E. Spruce St., 217-483-2713.

### Faith & Philosophy

#### Healing Crystal Bowls Meditation

First Thursday of every month, 6-8pm. Immerse yourself in soothing, healing vibrations, sending harmony, peace and balance into our community world. Bring a mat to relax on the floor, if you choose. \$15 love offering is suggested, but not required. Unity of Springfield, 417 Cordelia, 523-5897.

#### Sacred Is the Call: Taizé Prayer at Sacred Heart Convent Chapel

Thu., Feb. 2, 7-8pm. In celebration of their 150th anniversary, the Dominican Sisters of Springfield will open their chapel to all for a Taizé-style prayer service. The facility is fully accessible and has plenty of free off-street parking. For more information on other anniversary events, visit [springfieldop.org](http://springfieldop.org) or call 217-787-0481. Free. Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, 1237 W. Monroe.

### Fundraisers and Galas

#### Annual Gala 2023

Fri., Feb. 3, 6-9:30pm. The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce will host this year's Annual Gala at the Crowne Plaza Springfield Convention Center. The dinner provides an opportunity to gather with business and community leaders. The 2022 Leadership Springfield graduates and 2022 Small Business Awards recipients will be honored. Dinner is at 7pm. Reservations needed. \$90 per person, \$120 for non-members. Crowne Plaza Springfield, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy., 217-525-1173 x 216.

#### Crime Stoppers Trivia Night

Sat., Feb. 4, 5-10pm. Team

registration tables \$150 or \$15 per person (10 person max per table). Live entertainment begins at 5pm. The Wall of Wine, 10 for \$10 raffle and huge 50/50 payout. Trivia starts at 7:00. BOS Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 217-622-9547.

### Children's Corner

#### Come and Play

Fridays, 10:30am-12pm. On Thursday mornings throughout February, the Youth Services staff invites children and their grownups to come for fun and socializing. Activities will vary week to week. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900 x 5612.

### Nature, Science & Environment

**Springfield Civic Garden Club**  
Mon., Feb. 6, 9am. Ken Johnson, a horticulture advisor with the University of Illinois Extension office, will discuss vegetable gardening. Learn how to decide what to plant, and where and whether to start seeds soon for a head start on your favorite vegetables. Visitors are welcome. Visit [scgc-il.org](http://scgc-il.org) or call 217-899-3283. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-522-4415.

### Lectures & Meetings

#### Coffee and Connections

Tue., Feb. 7, 7:30-8:45am. A morning networking event by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce providing a casual opportunity to meet other Chamber members over coffee and a light breakfast. \$5 members, \$15 guests. Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 2941 Plaza Dr., 217-525-1173.

#### Getting Started with Google Analytics

Thu., Feb. 2, 6-7pm. Larissa Hansen from Targeted Marketing Resources will go over the basics of how to use Google Analytics. Learn about navigating the interface and viewing reports to help measure your website's traffic. Free. Chatham Area Public Library, Chatham, 600 E. Spruce St., 217-483-2713.

#### Happiness Is AI-Anon

Wednesdays, 12pm. Meets in person and via Zoom. For in person, go through south side double glass doors. For Zoom, call for link info. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 815 S. Second St., 217-899-6041.

### RISE Young Professionals Kickoff Event

Wed., Feb. 8, 4:30-7pm. Join RISE Springfield for appetizers and networking with other young professionals. RISE Springfield is the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce's new group. There is no cost to attend. <http://www.gsc.org/rise>. Free. Home Plate Bar and Grill, 2571 Koke Mill, 217-525-1173.

#### Staying Connected AI-Anon

Thursdays, 5:15pm. Zoom only. Call for link. Via Zoom, Springfield, 217-415-3489, 217-652-8131.

### Bulletin Board

#### AARP Smart Driver Course

Tue., Feb. 7, 9am-5pm. The eight-hour AARP safe driving class, certified by the State of Illinois, could help you become eligible for a discount on your auto insurance. Members \$20, non-members \$25. Bring your driver's license, payment in check only and insurance card. Bring your lunch or request a meal by calling the Daily Bread program by Friday, Feb. 3. 217-528-4035. \$20-\$25. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-528-4035.

#### Backgammon Club

Wednesdays, 6-9pm. Live backgammon. Lessons available for beginners. First time entry is free. Harvest Market, 3001 Veterans Pkwy., 217-622-9447.

#### Cat adoptions

First Saturday of every month, 12-3pm. Forever Home Feline Ranch will have cats available for adoption. Opportunities are also available for fostering and volunteering. Donations welcome. Ace Hardware, 1600 Wabash Ave., 217-787-5100.

#### Springfield Chess Club

Wednesdays, 5-7pm. 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.

#### Springfield Watch & Clock Show

Sat., Feb. 4, 11am-2pm. The Watch & Clock Show and Sale, sponsored by the Route 66 Watch and Clock Club, provides an opportunity to buy, sell or simply look and learn about mechanical clocks and watches. Free. Casey's Pub, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 309-643-5241.

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## Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff, vs. JACK L. SKAGGS, SR., UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. No. 2022-FC-163 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court on the Complaint for Foreclosure 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. (A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: United Community Bank, Attn: Loss Mitigation, 1311 West Jefferson Street, Auburn, IL 62615; Telephone: (217) 438-5467. (B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 28 W. Kenney Street, Divemon, IL (C) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Single family residence. (D) The real estate may be inspected prior to sale at the following times: Not applicable. (E) The time and place of the sale are: 9:00 a.m. on March 7, 2023 in the 2nd Floor Board Chambers, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois (F) The terms of the sale are: Cash in hand on day of sale. Plaintiff may credit bid at the sale. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Purchase following the sale and a Sheriff's Deed upon confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. (G) Title will be conveyed subject to real estate taxes for 2021 and subsequent years and special assessments, if any; to building restrictions and restrictive covenants of record; to easements of record or in place; to rights of way for roads, streets, and highways; to rights of tenants in possession, if any. Sale is subject to approval of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. Any real estate transfer tax which may be due as a result of the sale shall be paid by the purchaser. BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Emmet A. Fairfield Registration No. 6180505 205 S. 5th Street – Suite 1000 P.O. Box 2459 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-8491 efairefield@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS REVERSE MORTGAGE FUNDING LLC, PLAINTIFF, vs. BERENT MEIJER; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS. NO. 21 CH 000098 11712 MECHANICSBURG BLACKTOP ROAD DAWSON, IL 62520 NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on June 22, 2022, Sheriff of Sangamon County will on 02/28/2023, in the boardroom of the Sangamon County Bldg., 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, at 09:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so

much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: TAX NO. 16-28.0-200-005 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 11712 Mechanicsburg Blacktop Road Dawson, IL 62520 Description of Improvements: The property is a single family. The Judgment amount was \$269,882.75. Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspections. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Information: Visit our website at http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpilc.com. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 21-077718IL PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. I3212320

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT –SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, vs. DAVID J. GERMAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2022FC000121 Property Address: 3213 S. Palmer St. Springfield, IL 62703 NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on November 9, 2022, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on March 7, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: Commonly known as: 3213 S. Palmer St., Springfield, IL 62703 P.L.N.: 22-14.0-127-015 First Lien Position; Single Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$96,100.74 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c) (1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY

NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

"THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE" W22-0067 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC; Plaintiff, vs. Melanie S. Hoyle; Defendants. Case No. 22 FC 44 Judge Presiding NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a judgment heretofore entered by the said court occurred in the above entitled cause, Sheriff of Sangamon, Illinois, will on March 7, 2023, at the hour of 09:00 AM at Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, County Board Chambers or Conference Room on 2nd Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate in the said judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy such judgment to wit: C/K/A: 2635 Huntington Road, Springfield, IL 62703 PIN: 22-14.0-278-028 The person to contact regarding information regarding this property is: Sales Dept., The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60603. Any questions regarding this sale should refer to file number W22-0067. The terms of the sale are Cash. 10% at time of sale, with the balance due within 24 hours. The property is improved by: single family home. The Property is not open for inspection prior to sale. The real estate, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and tenements, hereditament and appurtenances thereunto belonging shall be sold under such terms. 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 W22-0067 pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com I3212482

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS MIDFIRST BANK PLAINTIFF, -vs- Mark Albright a/k/a Mark M. Albright; Kathy Smock; Stephanie A. Albright; United States of America; DEFENDANTS NO. 22 FC 26 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on November 9, 2022; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on March 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Commonly known as 109 West Church Street, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677 Permanent Index No.: 04-13.0-485-013 Improvements: Single Family Residential The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. The judgment amount was \$63,028.72. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Bid Amount contact: Sale Clerk LOGS Legal Group LLP 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 ILNOTICES@logs.com (847) 291-1717 MidFirst Bank PIN: 22-14.0-278-028 One of Plaintiff's Attorneys LOGS Legal Group LLP Attorney for Plaintiff 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 (847) 291-1717 ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119) Michael N. Burke (6291435) Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452) Michael Kalkowski (6185654) Laura J. Anderson (6224385) Mallory Snyderman (6306039) Thomas Belczak (6193705) Debra Miller (6205477) Amy Aronson (6206512) THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE UNDER ASSUMED BUSINESS NAME ACT STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF SANGAMON TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that on the 6th Day of January, 2026 a Certificate of Ownership of Business was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Sangamon County, stating that Crystal Micheletta, Courtney Stubbs Intend to transact, or are transacting business in Sangamon County, State of Illinois, under the fictitious name to wit: Clean Worx and that they are the sole owner(s) and proprietor(s) of said business; and that the principal place of said business is located at: 1304 N. Patton, Springfield, IL 62707

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of: Carol Meadows, Deceased. No. 2023-PR-4 NOTICE TO HEIRS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE Notice is given of the death of Carol Meadows, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on January 5, 2023, to Earl Meadows, 2901 Biscayne Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62707, as Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Carol Meadows of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Earl Meadows and Joseph Meadows as the only heirs of Carol Meadows.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so 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. Paul Palazzolo Clerk of the Circuit Court Alan J. Jedlicka - 6291659 DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC Attorneys for Administrator One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: 217-544-2703 Fax: 217-544-4664 ajedlicka@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of: Joseph Ringold, Deceased. No. 2022-PR-469 NOTICE TO HEIRS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE Notice is given of the death of Joseph Ringold, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on January

5, 2023, to Joseph Ringold, Jr., 2008 N. 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, as Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Joseph Ringold of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Joseph Ringold, Jr. and Rolanda M. Acosta as the only heirs of Joseph Ringold. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so 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. Paul Palazzolo Clerk of the Circuit Court Sarah Delano Pavlik — 6269250 DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC Attorneys for Administrator One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: 217-544-2703 Fax: 217-544-4664 sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of: Margaret Stewart, Deceased. No. 2022-PR-475 NOTICE TO HEIRS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE Notice is given of the death of Margaret Stewart, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on January 12, 2023, to Kevin Stewart, 1600 East Jackson Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703, as Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Margaret Stewart of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Kevin Stewart, Ernest Stewart, Celia Ingram, Laura Taylor, Oscar Stewart, III, Terrie Hardy, Chelsea Allen, and Alyssa Allen as the only heirs of Margaret Stewart. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so 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. Paul Palazzolo Clerk of the Circuit Court Sarah Delano Pavlik – 6269250



DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC  
Attorney for Executors  
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: 217-544-2703  
Fax: 217-544-4664  
sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of:  
Richard L. Smothers,  
Deceased.  
No.: 2023-PR-8  
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE  
Notice is given of the death of Richard L. Smothers, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on January 12, 2023, to Linda Lauwerens, 195 South Tower Road, Dawson, Illinois, 62520, and Debra Smothers-Champley, 4001 Lincoln Trail, Taylorville, Illinois, 62568 as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701.  
Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Richard L. Smothers of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Gary Smothers, Faye Hay and Beverly Wiggs as the only heirs of Richard L. Smothers.  
The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representatives, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Sarah Delano Pavlik – 6269250  
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC  
Attorney for Executors  
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: 217-544-2703  
Fax: 217-544-4664  
sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of  
LYNN MARIE BRAND,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-42  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Lynn Marie Brand of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 26, 2023, to Lauren M. Brand, 3705 Bluestem Ct., Springfield, IL 62712, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Bernie G. Segatto, III, 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 August 2, 2023, 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 26 day of January, 2023.  
Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
bsegatto@barberlaw.com  
339013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
HAROLD BRUNTJEN,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-35  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Harold Bruntjen of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 24, 2023, to Darlene Bruntjen, 4610 Bellevue Dr., Springfield, Illinois 62711, 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 31, 2023 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 24 day of January 2023.  
Randall W. Segatto - 06190753  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
rsegatto@barberlaw.com  
339035

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
RICHARD L. POTTIER SR.,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-30  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Richard L. Pottier Sr. of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 24, 2023, to Cynthia Pottier, 28 Powell, Riverton, Illinois 62561, 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 31, 2023, 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 24 day of January, 2023.  
Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
bsegatto@barberlaw.com  
339056

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
VELMA MAE INGRAM,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-22  
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Velma Mae Ingram of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 19, 2023, to Alexander James Ingram, 7100 Gardenview Lane, Springfield, Illinois 62712, 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 26, 2023, 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 20th day of January, 2023.  
Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
bsegatto@barberlaw.com  
338925

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
MARTIN J. ROGERS, SR., Deceased  
Case No. 2022-PR-462  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of MARTIN J. ROGERS, SR., Letters of Office were issued on January 9, 2023 to JOSEPH A. ROGERS, 2638 Schooner, New Lenox, IL, as Independent Executor whose attorney is Donald M. Craven, 1005 N. 7th Street, Springfield, IL, 62702.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first Publication of this Notice. Any Claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
/s/ Donald M. Craven  
Donald M. Craven (#6180492)  
Attorney for Independent Executor  
Craven & Craven, P.C.  
1005 North Seventh Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Telephone: (217) 544-1777  
Facsimile: (217) 544-0713

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF CATHERINE LOUISE TAYLOR,  
Deceased.  
No. 2023PR000026  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Catherine Louise Taylor, a resident of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on December 29, 2022. Kevin William Taylor, whose post office address is 494 Belle Isle Court, Springfield, Illinois 62711, was appointed executor of her estate on January 19, 2023. The attorneys for the executor are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date 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 19th day of January, 2023.  
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
trigby@hswnet.com  
aprillaman@hswnet.com  
8051-929636

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF:  
BARBARA FRANKIE,  
Deceased  
CASE NO. 2023-PR-10  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of BARBARA FRANKIE, Letters of Office were issued on January 9, 2023 to THERESA FRANKIE PICKFORD, 304 Cartwright Dr., Springfield, IL 62704 as Independent Executive whose attorney is Donald M. Craven, 1005 N. 7th Street, Springfield, IL, 62702.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first Publication of this Notice. Any Claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
/s/ Donald M. Craven  
Donald M. Craven (#6180492)  
Attorney for Independent Executor  
Craven & Craven, P.C.  
1005 North Seventh Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Telephone: (217) 544-1777  
Facsimile: (217) 544-0713  
don@cravenlawoffice.com  
joe@cravenlawoffice.com  
maralee@cravenlawoffice.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
URSULA S. MCKEGNEY, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
No. 2022-PR-498  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Ursula S. McKegney, deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on January 4, 2023, to Anne C. Grotbo, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Brandon R. Clark, 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 10th day of July, 2023, 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 6th day of January, 2023.  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Brandon R. Clark  
Registration No. 6329553  
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705-2459

(217) 544-8491  
bclark@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
CHARLOTTE E. LOCKHART, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
No. 2023-PR-01  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Charlotte E. Lockhart, deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on January 5, 2023, to Douglas A. Davis, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Brandon R. Clark, 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 15th day of July, 2023, 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 9th day of January, 2023.  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Brandon R. Clark  
Registration No. 6329553  
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705-2459  
(217) 544-8491  
bclark@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
RICHARD E. OFFER, Deceased  
NO. 2023-PR-3  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of RICHARD E. OFFER, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on January 09, 2023, to RANDY OFFER, 12 Carlsbad Court, Springfield, IL 62712 as Administrator of the Estate, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 10th of July, 2023 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 09th day of January, 2023.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
DONNA J. ROBINSON, Deceased  
No. 2023-PR-015  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of DONNA J. ROBINSON, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on January 12, 2023, to Karen Gerlach, 9625 Wildwood Land, Chatham, IL 62629, as the Indepen-

dent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before July 12, 2023, or six (6) 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 12th day of January, 2023.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
ANITA M. COLE, Deceased  
NO. 23-PR-40  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of ANITA M. COLE, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on January 25, 2023, to ROBERT W. COLE, 2241 E Eleanor Ave., Springfield, IL, 62702 as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before July 26, 2023 or six (6) 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 25th day of January, 2023.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
GLORIA J. PETERSON, Deceased  
NO. 2023-PR-39  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of GLORIA J. PETERSON, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on January 25, 2023, to KIMBERLY J. HOLLOWAY, 84 Millstone Drive, Greenbriar, AR 72058and TROY M. WALKER 2235 E 1800 Ave, St. Elmo, IL 62458 as Independent Administrators, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before July 26, 2023 or six (6) 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 25th day of January, 2023.

Alex B. Rabin

Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold,  
LLP

1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
LULABELLE WOODRUM, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-9

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of LULABELLE  
WOODRUM. Letters of Office have been  
issued to DEBRA KAY JONES, 1454 Keim  
Circle, Geneva, IL 60134, 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, 2023, 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 attor-  
ney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 9th day of January, 2023.

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  
BERNARD F. RENNIER, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-12

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of BERNARD  
F. RENNIER. Letters of Office have been is-  
sued to DAVID J. RENNIER, 2004 West Road  
Drive, Springfield, IL 62711, 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, 2023, 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 attor-  
ney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 9th day of January, 2023.  
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  
WILLIAM W. BERCAW, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-25

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of WILLIAM  
W. BERCAW. Letters of Office have been  
issued to CRYSTAL R. BERCAW, 7 Marshall  
Court, Springfield, IL 62712, as Indepen-  
dent 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 10, 2023, 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 attor-  
ney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 19th day of January, 2023.  
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  
DENNIS KEITH SMELTZER, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-19

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of DENNIS  
KEITH SMELTZER. Letters of Office have  
been issued to CHRISTINE ANN HANSEN,  
1203 N. Madison St., Bloomington, IL  
61701, as Independent Administrator,  
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 Admin-  
istrator, or both, on or before August 10,  
2023, 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 Administrator  
and to the attorney within 10 days after it  
has been filed.  
Dated this 19th day of January, 2023.  
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  
ALBERT GEORGE HOVANEC, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-18

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of ALBERT  
GEORGE HOVANEC. Letters of Office  
have been issued to THOMAS FABIAN  
JERKOVITZ, 2004 Vale Street, Champaign,  
IL 61822, 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 10, 2023, 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 attor-  
ney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 20th day of January, 2023.  
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  
DAVID MOSES SCHERPINSKY, DECEASED

Case #2023-PR-37

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of DAVID MO-  
SES SCHERPINSKY. Letters of Office have  
been issued to JUNE ANNE SCHERPINSKY,  
2931 S. Hoover Ave., Springfield, IL 62702,  
as Independent Administrator, 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 Admin-  
istrator, or both, on or before August 10,  
2023, 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 Administrator  
and to the attorney within 10 days after it  
has been filed.  
Dated this 24th day of January, 2023  
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  
ELIZABETH PAULETTE PETTINGELL,  
DECEASED

Case #2023-PR-41

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of ELIZABETH  
PAULETTE PETTINGELL. Letters of Office  
have been issued to KAMELA SUE WOOD,  
235 N. Columbia, Springfield, IL 62702, 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 17, 2023, 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 attor-  
ney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 26th day of January, 2023.  
Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF:  
DARLA J. WILSON, Deceased  
CASE NO. 2022PR496

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of DARLA J.  
WILSON, Letters of Office were issued on  
January  
5, 2023 to DAWN E. MILLER, 1802 N 7ths  
St., Springfield, IL 62712 as Independent  
Executive  
whose attorney is Donald M. Craven, 1005  
N. 7th Street, Springfield, IL, 62702.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in  
the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court,  
Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield,  
Illinois 62701, or with the Representative,  
or both, within 6 months from the date  
of the first Publication of this Notice. Any  
Claim not filed within that period is barred.

Copies of a Claim filed with the Clerk of the  
Circuit Court must be mailed or delivered  
to the Representative and to the attorney  
within 10 days after it has been filed.

/s/ Donald M. Craven  
Donald M. Craven (#6180492)  
Attorney for Independent Executor  
Craven & Craven, P.C.  
1005 North Seventh Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Telephone: (217) 544-1777  
Facsimile: (217) 544-0713  
don@cravenlawoffice.com  
joe@cravenlawoffice.com  
maralee@cravenlawoffice.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY

Re: the marriage of  
Mark Vaughn, Petitioner  
And  
Michelle Lorinitis, Respondent  
Case No. 2022-DN-285  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
Notice is given you, Michelle Lorinitis,  
Respondent herein, that this cause has  
been commenced against you in this court  
asking for a dissolution of marriage and  
other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise  
file your appearance in this cause in the  
office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon  
County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before  
the  
19th day of February, 2023, a judgment of  
dissolution of marriage and other relief may  
be granted as prayed for in the Petition.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY

Re: the marriage of  
Terrell J. Florence, Petitioner  
And  
Megan Grace Jennings, Respondent  
Case No. 2022-DC-309  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
Notice is given you, Megan Grace Jennings,  
Respondent herein, that this cause has  
been commenced against you in this court  
asking for a dissolution of marriage and  
other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise  
file your appearance in this cause in the  
office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon  
County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before  
the  
26th day of February, 2023, a judgment of  
dissolution of marriage and other relief may  
be granted as prayed for in the Petition.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY

Re: the marriage of  
Shayla Staggs, Petitioner  
And  
James Staggs, Respondent  
Case No. 2022-DN-328  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
Notice is given you, Shayla Staggs,  
Respondent herein, that this cause has  
been commenced against you in this court  
asking for a dissolution of marriage and  
other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise  
file your appearance in this cause in the  
office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon  
County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before  
the 26th day of February, 2023, a judg-  
ment of dissolution of marriage and other

relief may be granted as prayed for in the  
Petition.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY

Re: the marriage of  
Rance Anthony Robinzine Jr., Petitioner  
And  
Kyeriana Michelle Robinzine, Respondent  
Case No. 2022-DC-221  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Kyeriana Michelle  
Robinzine, Respondent herein, that this  
cause has been commenced against  
you in this court asking for a dissolution  
of marriage and other relief. Unless you  
file your response or otherwise file your  
appearance in this cause in the office of  
the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in  
Springfield, Illinois on or before the 2nd day  
of March, 2023, a judgment of dissolution  
of marriage and other relief may be granted  
as prayed for in the Petition.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Circuit Clerk

ADOPTION NOTICE – STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
County of Sangamon, Seventh Judicial  
Circuit Court of Sangamon County. In the  
matter of the Petition for the Adoption of  
Baby Boy Overturf, a male child. Adoption  
No. 2023-AD-4. To Unknown Fathers and  
All Whom It May Concern: Take notice that  
a petition was filed in the Circuit Court of  
Sangamon County, Illinois, for the adoption  
of a child named Baby Boy Overturf. Now,  
therefore, unless you Unknown Fathers and  
All Whom It May Concern, file your answer  
to the Petition in the action or otherwise file  
your appearance therein, in the said Circuit  
Court of Sangamon County, Room 405, in  
the City of Springfield, Illinois, on or before  
the 27th day of February, 2023, a default  
may be entered against you at any time  
after that day and a judgment entered in  
accordance with the prayer of said Petition.  
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/FAO/ gethelp.asp  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo, Sangamon County Circuit  
Clerk  
Dan E. Way, Attorney for Petitioners  
1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703

ADOPTION NOTICE – STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
County of Sangamon, Seventh Judicial  
Circuit Court of Sangamon County. In the  
matter of the Petition for the Adoption of  
Leonardo Armani Angeli, a male child.  
Adoption No. 2023-AD-92. To Adrianna  
Lee Santiago: Take notice that a petition  
was filed in the Circuit Court of Sangamon  
County, Illinois, for the adoption of a child  
named Leonardo Armani Angeli. Now,  
therefore, unless you Adrianna Lee  
Santiago, file your answer to the Petition  
in the action or otherwise file your appear-  
ance therein, in the said Circuit Court of  
Sangamon County, Room 405, in the City of  
Springfield, Illinois, on or before the 3rd day  
of March, 2023, a default may be entered  
against you at any time after that day and  
a judgment entered in accordance with the  
prayer of said Petition.  
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/FAO/ gethelp.asp  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo, Sangamon County Circuit  
Clerk  
Dan E. Way, Attorney for Petitioners  
1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS In the matter of the Petition of  
Angela Beth Antonucci For change of name to  
Angelina Raiya Tonucci Case No.: 2022-  
MR-000210  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on March  
7, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying  
for the change of name from Angela Beth  
Antonucci to Angelina Raiya Tonucci,  
pursuant to the statute in such case made  
and provided.  
Dated: Jan. 26, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK,  
an Illinois banking corporation, Successor  
by  
Merger to Illini Bank,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF  
JOYCE L. RAY, Deceased, DAWN M. CARR,  
SEAN M. WHITLEY, SHANNON M.  
MCALLISTER, UNKNOWN OWNERS  
AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
Case No. 2023-FC-000015  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
Notice is hereby given to UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND LEGATEES OF JOYCE L. RAY and  
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD  
CLAIMANTS of the real estate described  
below, Defendants in the above-entitled  
case, pursuant to the provisions of Sections  
2-206, 15-1218 and 15-1502 of the Code  
of Civil Procedure, that the above-entitled  
mortgage foreclosure suit is now pending  
in said court and the day on or after which  
a default may be entered against Defen-  
dants is February 28, 2023.  
Plaintiff has certified the following regard-  
ing said foreclosure action filed on January  
17, 2023.  
1. The names of all Plaintiffs and Case  
Number are as follows: United Community  
Bank, an Illinois banking corporation; 2023-  
FC-000015.  
2. The court in which said action was  
brought is as follows: Circuit Court for the  
Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County,  
Illinois  
3. The name of the title holder of record is:  
Heirs at Law and Legatees of Joyce L. Ray  
4. A legal description of the real estate  
sufficient to identify it with reasonable  
certainty is as follows:  
Lot 7 in Block 2 of STROTT & KIDD'S  
SUBDIVISION of Blocks 1 and 2 of Robert  
Allen's Subdivision  
5. A common address or description of the  
location of the real estate is as follows:  
1147 N. 7th Street, Springfield, IL 62702  
6. The Tax Identification Number(s) for the  
real estate is/are as follows: 14-27.0-  
128-026  
7. An identification of the mortgage sought  
to be foreclosed is as follows:  
Name of Mortgagor: Joyce L. Ray  
Name of Mortgagee: Illini Bank  
Date of Mortgage: September 19, 2016  
Date of recording: September 20, 2016  
County where recorded: Sangamon County,  
Illinois  
Recording document identification: Docu-  
ment No. 2016R25859  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo



CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Emmet A. Fairfield  
Registration No. 6180505  
205 S. 5th Street – Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-8491  
efairfield@bhslaw.com  
8051-929590

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois  
banking corporation,  
Plaintiff,

vs.  
JACK L. SKAGGS, SR., UNKNOWN OWNERS  
AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.

No. 2022-FC-163

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court on the Complaint for Foreclosure 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.

(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: United Community Bank, Attn: Loss Mitigation, 1311 West Jefferson Street, Auburn, IL 62615; Telephone: (217) 438-5467.

(B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 28 W. Kenney Street, Divernon, IL

(C) The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot Four (4) in Block Seven (7) of Charles G. Brown's Subdivision. Except the coal and minerals underlying the surface of said land and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal and minerals situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.

(D) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Single family residence.

(E) The real estate may be inspected prior to sale at the following times: Not applicable.

(F) The time and place of the sale are: 9:00 a.m. on March 7, 2023 in the 2nd Floor Board Chambers, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois

(G) The terms of the sale are: Cash in hand on day of sale. Plaintiff may credit bid at the sale. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Purchase following the sale and a Sheriff's Deed upon confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois.

(H) Title will be conveyed subject to real estate taxes for 2021 and subsequent years and special assessments, if any; to building restrictions and restrictive covenants of record; to easements of record or in place; to rights of way for roads, streets, and highways; to rights of tenants in possession, if any. Sale is subject to approval of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. Any real estate transfer tax which may be due as a result of the sale shall be paid by the purchaser.

BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Emmet A. Fairfield  
Registration No. 6180505  
205 S. 5th Street – Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-8491  
efairfield@bhslaw.com  
8051-929647

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
REVERSE MORTGAGE FUNDING LLC,  
PLAINTIFF,

VS.  
BERENT MEIJER; SECRETARY OF HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
DEFENDANTS.

NO. 21 CH 000098

11712 MECHANICSBURG BLACKTOP ROAD  
DAWSON, IL 62520  
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDG-  
MENT OF FORECLOSURE  
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLO-  
SURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on June 22, 2022, Sheriff of Sangamon County will on 02/28/2023, in the boardroom of the Sangamon County Bldg., 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, at 09:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:

ALL OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE1/4) OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT (28) (EXCEPT A CERTAIN CEMETERY LOT BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID QUARTER QUARTER SECTION, RUNNING EAST ON LINE 13 CHAINS 87 LINKS; THENCE SOUTH 6 AND 1/3 DEGREES WEST 41/2 CHAINS, THENCE SOUTH 63 AND 3/4 DEGREES WEST TO THE MIDDLE OF THE SPRINGFIELD AND DECATUR STATE ROAD, THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY AND WESTERLY ALONG SAID MIDDLE LINE TO WEST LINE OF SAID QUARTER QUARTER SECTION, THENCE NORTH TO BEGINNING) AND (ALSO EXCEPTING A STRIP DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING 3127 FEET SOUTHEAST OF THE WEST LINE OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT (28) AND EXTENDING IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 158 FEET ALONG A CENTERLINE FOR A HIGHWAY KNOWN AS SECTION 46 STATE AID ROUTE 3F AS SAID CENTERLINE IS STAKED AND SURVEYED BY SANGAMON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AS A STRIP OF UNIFORM WIDTH OF 60 FEET, SAID STRIP LYING ADJACENT TO AND 30 FEET NORTHERLY AND SOUTHERLY OF SAID CENTERLINE AS SHOWN BY PLAT ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF SANGAMON COUNTY RECORDER IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 26 CONTAINING 0.06 ACRES, MORE OR LESS) CONTAINING 30.29 ACRES MORE OR LESS, ALL IN TOWNSHIP SIXTEEN (16) NORTH, RANGE THREE (3) WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ALL IN TOWNSHIP SIXTEEN (16) NORTH, RANGE THREE (3) WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN.

TAX NO. 16-28.0-200-005  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 11712 Mechanic-  
sburg Blacktop Road  
Dawson, IL 62520  
Description of Improvements: The property is a single family.

The Judgment amount was \$269,882.75.  
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

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

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

The property will NOT be open for inspec-

tion. Prospective bidders are admon-  
ished to check the court file to verify all  
information.

The successful purchaser has the sole re-  
sponsibility/expense of evicting any tenants  
or other individuals presently in possession  
of the subject premises.

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

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

For Information: Visit our website at <http://iforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.  
Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla  
Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's  
Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200,  
Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088.  
Please refer to file# 21-07718IL

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

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

I3212320

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.

LINN PERKINS, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE  
OF DELORES M SULLIVAN, DECEASED;  
UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS; MARY SMITH; THEODORE  
BISHOP A/K/A TED BISHOP; ANTHONY  
BISHOP A/K/A TONY BISHOP; UNKNOWN  
HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF HELEN HOLDER;  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF SHIR-  
LEY BISHOP; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGA-  
TEES OF MELVIN BISHOP, JR.; UNKNOWN  
HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF FRANK BISHOP;  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JOHN  
BISHOP; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES  
OF LOREN BISHOP; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND  
LEGATEES OF DELORES M SULLIVAN,  
DEFENDANTS.

NO. 22 FC 000122

2461 GRIFFITHS AVENUE  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702

JUDGE

PRESIDING JUDGE

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,

Unknown Owners and Non-Record

Claimants

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Helen

Holder

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Shirley

Bishop

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Melvin

Bishop, Jr.

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Frank

Bishop

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of John

Bishop

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Loren

Bishop

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Delores

M Sullivan

defendants, that this case has been com-  
menced in this Court against you and other  
defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a  
certain Mortgage conveying the premises  
described as follows, to wit:

LOT THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY (370)

EXCEPT THE WEST 34 FEET THEREOF AND

THE WEST 45 FEET OF LOT THREE HUN-  
DRED SEVENTY-ONE (371) OF CHARLES S.  
WANLESS' NORTHGATE ADDITION SIXTH  
PLAT, EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MIN-  
ERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID  
LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS  
IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL  
AND MINERALS.

Commonly known as: 2461 Griffiths

Avenue

Springfield, IL 62702

and which said Mortgage was made by,  
Delores M Sullivan

Mortgagor(s), to

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of  
the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon Coun-  
ty, Illinois, as Document No. 2018R20895;  
and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise  
file your appearance in this case, on or  
before February 21, 2023, A JUDGMENT  
OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN  
AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN  
THE COMPLAINT.

E-filing is now mandatory with limited  
exemptions. To e-file, you must first create  
an account with an e-filing service provider.

Visit [http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-  
providers.htm](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](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp) or talk  
with your local circuit clerk's office. If you  
cannot e-file, you may be able to get an  
exemption that allows you to file in-person  
or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more  
information or visit [www.illinoislegaldid.org](http://www.illinoislegaldid.org).

If you are unable to pay your court fees,  
you can apply for a fee waiver. For informa-  
tion about defending yourself in a court  
case (including filing an appearance or fee  
waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go  
to [www.illinoislegaldid.org](http://www.illinoislegaldid.org). You can also  
ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee  
waiver application.

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

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC

Attorney for Plaintiff

1 N. Dearborn St. Suite 1200

Chicago, IL 60602

Ph. (312) 346-9088

File No. 21-07559IL-705371

I3211453

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
LONGVIEW COMMUNITY BANK, successor  
to The Farmers Bank of Mt. Pulaski,  
Plaintiff,

v.

TODD S. PULLIAM, UNKNOWN OWNERS  
AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.

No.: 2022-FC-53

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Notice is given to defendants, TODD  
S. PULLIAM, UNKNOWN OWNERS and  
NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following  
described real estate, that the above  
entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now  
pending, and the day on or after which  
a default may be entered against said  
defendants is FEBRUARY 27, 2023.

The Plaintiff has certified that the above  
entitled mortgage foreclosure action was  
filed on October 14, 2022, and is now  
pending.

(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case  
number are identified above.

(ii) The court in which said action was  
brought is identified above.

(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:  
Todd S. Pulliam.

(iv) A legal description of the real estate  
sufficient to identify it with reasonable  
certainty is as follows:

The South 75 feet of Lot 97 in Wanless'  
Springfield Heights Addition.

Except all coal and minerals together with  
the right to mine and remove same.

Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.

Tax Identification Number: 14-23.0-479-  
034

(v) A common address or description of the  
location of the real estate is as follows:  
2377 East Converse Avenue, Springfield,  
Illinois.

(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought  
to be foreclosed is as follows:

(A) Nature of instrument: Mortgage, as  
modified.

(B) Date of mortgage: Mortgage: Septem-  
ber 18, 2019; Modification: April 10, 2021.

(C) Name of mortgagor: Todd S. Pulliam.

(D) Name of mortgagee: Longview Com-  
munity Bank, successor to The Farmers  
Bank of Mt. Pulaski.

(E) Date and place of recording: Mortgage:  
September 25, 2019; Modification: June  
1, 2021, all in the Recorder's Office of San-  
gamon County, Sangamon County, Illinois.

(F) Identification of recording: Mortgage:  
Document No. 2019R20490; Modification:  
Document No. 2021R14689.

LONGVIEW COMMUNITY BANK, successor  
to The Farmers Bank of Mt. Pulaski, Plaintiff  
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)

Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6225930)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman

Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol  
Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Telephone: (217) 753-0055

trigby@hswnet.com

aprillaman@hswnet.com

8051-929715

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF DAVID  
E. CAPRANICA AKA DAVID E. CAPRANICA,  
JR., DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS

AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE  
OF DAVID E. CAPRANICA AKA DAVID E.  
CAPRANICA, JR., DECEASED, UNKNOWN  
CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF  
DAVID E. CAPRANICA AKA DAVID E. CAP-  
RANICA, JR., DECEASED, RYAN CAPRANICA

AND KATIE MUSSER AKA KATHLEEN R.  
HUNTER,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 23-FC-3

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

2012 N. 19TH ST.

SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Heirs and  
Deviseses of David E. Capranica aka David  
E. Capranica, Jr., deceased, Unknown  
Claimants and Lienholders Against the  
Estate of David E. Capranica aka David E.

Capranica, Jr., deceased and Unknown  
Claimants and Lienholders Against the  
Unknown Heirs and Deviseses of David  
E. Capranica aka David E. Capranica, Jr.,  
deceased, Defendants, this case has been  
commenced in this Court against you and  
others, asking for foreclosure of the Mort-  
gage held by the Plaintiff on the property  
located at 2012 N. 19th St., Springfield, IL  
62702, more particularly described as:

i. The names of all plaintiffs and the case  
number are identified above.

ii. The court in which said action was  
brought is identified above.

iii. The names of the title holders of record  
are: Heirs and Deviseses of David E. Cap-

ranica, Jr., an unmarried person, deceased  
iv. A legal description of the real estate  
sufficient to identify it with reasonable  
certainty is as follows:

THE SOUTH 22 FEET OF LOT 34 AND THE  
NORTH 19 FEET OF LOT 35 IN WANLESS

SANGAMO AVENUE ADDITION TO THE  
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. EXCEPT ALL COAL  
AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID  
LANDS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO

MINE AND REMOVE SAME. SITUATED IN  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Permanent Index Number: 14-23.0-126-  
034

v. A common address or description of the  
location for the real estate is as follows:

2012 N. 19th St., Springfield, IL 62702

vi. An identification of the mortgage sought  
to be foreclosed is as follows:

Names of the Mortgagors: David E. Cap-  
ranica, unmarried man

Names of the Mortgagee: PNC Bank,  
National Association

Date of the Mortgage: March 18, 2021

Date of the recording: June 21, 2021

County where recorded: Sangamon County

Recording document identification: Docu-  
ment No. 2021R16813

UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or other-  
wise file your appearance in this cause in  
the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the  
Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South  
9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1629 on

or before March 6, 2023, A JUDGMENT  
OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN  
AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE

COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE.

CLERK OF THE COURT

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT,  
AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE  
USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Julie Beyers (#6217185)

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
Attorneys at Law

P.O. Box 740

Decatur, IL 62525

Send Notice/Pleadings to:

Veronika J. Miles (#6313161)

Email: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com

Telephone: (217) 422-1719

Facsimile: (217) 422-1754

8051-929802

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
TOWN AND COUNTRY BANC MORTGAGE  
SERVICES, INC.,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF  
CHRISTINE M SEITZ, DECEASED, UNKNOWN  
CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST

THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE M SEITZ,  
DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND  
LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN

HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF CHRISTINE M  
SEITZ, DECEASED, GEORGE LANCASTER  
AND STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING

COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS,  
Defendants.

CASE NO. 22-FC-257

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

700 S. NEW STREET

SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Heirs and  
Deviseses of Christine M Seitz, deceased,  
Unknown Claimants and Lienholders  
Against the Estate of Christine M Seitz,  
deceased and Unknown Claimants and  
Lienholders Against the Unknown Heirs and  
Deviseses of Christine M Seitz, deceased,

Defendants, this case has been com-  
menced in this Court against you and oth-  
ers, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage  
held by the Plaintiff on the property located  
at 700 S. New Street, Springfield, IL 62704,

more particularly described as:



i. The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.  
ii. The court in which said action was brought is identified above.  
iii. The names of the title holders of record are: Heirs and Devisees of Christine M. Seitz, deceased  
iv. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:  
The South 40 feet of the North 220 feet of Lot 30 of the ASSESSOR'S SUBDIVISION of the Northeast Quarter of Section 33 and part of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 16 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Permanent Index Number: 14-33.0-255-001 aka 14-33-255-001  
v. A common address or description of the location for the real estate is as follows: 700 S. New Street, Springfield, IL 62704  
vi. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: Names of the Mortgagors: Christine M. Seitz  
Names of the Mortgagee: Town and Country Mortgage Services Inc  
Date of the Mortgage: August 4, 2006  
Date of the recording: August 10, 2006  
County where recorded: Sangamon County  
Recording document identification: Document No. 2006R30729  
UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1629 on or before February 27, 2023, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE.  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Julie Beyers (#6217185)  
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
Attorneys at Law  
P.O. Box 740  
Decatur, IL 62525  
Send Notice/Pleadings to:  
Veronika J. Miles (#6313161)  
Email: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com  
Telephone: (217) 422-1719  
Facsimile: (217) 422-1754  
8051-929652

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
TOWN AND COUNTRY BANC MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC.,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF ROBERT MARK GREY, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT MARK GREY, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF ROBERT MARK GREY, DECEASED AND JOSH GREY, Defendants.  
CASE NO. 22-FC-235  
PROPERTY ADDRESS:  
2428 S. 8TH ST.  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Robert Mark Grey, deceased, Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Estate of Robert Mark Grey, deceased and Unknown Claimants and Lienholders Against the Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Robert Mark Grey, deceased, Defendants, this case has been commenced in this Court against you and

others, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage held by the Plaintiff on the property located at 2428 S. 8th St., Springfield, IL 62703, more particularly described as:  
i. The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.  
ii. The court in which said action was brought is identified above.  
iii. The names of the title holders of record are: Heirs and Devisees of Robert Mark Grey, an unmarried person, deceased  
iv. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:  
THE SOUTH 20 FEET OF LOT 812, AND THE NORTH 30 FEET OF LOT 813, IN HARVARD PARK SECOND PLAT.  
EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND OTHER MINERALS.  
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
Permanent Index Number: 22-10.0-104-002  
v. A common address or description of the location for the real estate is as follows: 2428 S. 8th St., Springfield, IL 62703  
vi. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: Names of the Mortgagors: Robert Mark Grey, an unmarried person  
Names of the Mortgagee: "MERS", Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, acting solely as nominee for Town and Country Banc Mortgage Services, Inc., its successors and assigns  
Date of the Mortgage: May 19, 2017  
Date of the recording: May 22, 2017  
County where recorded: Sangamon County  
Recording document identification: Document No. 2017R12766  
UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1629 on or before March 6, 2023, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE.  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Julie Beyers (#6217185)  
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
Attorneys at Law  
P.O. Box 740  
Decatur, IL 62525  
Send Notice/Pleadings to:  
Veronika J. Miles (#6313161)  
Email: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com  
Telephone: (217) 422-1719  
Facsimile: (217) 422-1754  
8051-929800

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
DAVID J. GERMAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS  
Defendant(s).  
CASE NO. 2022FC000121  
Property Address: 3213 S. Palmer St.  
Springfield, IL 62703  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE  
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on November 9, 2022, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on March 7, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street,

Springfield, IL 62701, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: LOT 56 OF SOUTHLAWN. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
Commonly known as: 3213 S. Palmer St. , Springfield, IL 62703  
P.L.N.: 22-14.0-127-015  
First Lien Position; Single Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$96,100.74  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.  
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County.  
The person to contact for information regarding this property is:  
Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit [www.dallegal.com](http://www.dallegal.com) 24 hours prior to sale.  
This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC  
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120  
Naperville, IL 60563  
(630) 453-6960  
[midwestpleadings@dallegal.com](mailto:midwestpleadings@dallegal.com)  
8051-929711

"THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE"  
W22-0067  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC;  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Melanie S. Hoyle;  
Defendants.  
Case No. 22 FC 44  
Judge Presiding  
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a judgment heretofore entered by the said court occurred in the above entitled cause, Sheriff of Sangamon, Illinois, will on March 7, 2023, at the hour of 09:00 AM at Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, County Board Chambers or Conference Room on 2nd Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate in the said judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy such judgment to wit:  
LOT SEVENTY-ONE (71) OF CHARLES S. WANLESS' LAKELAWN, FOURTH PLAT.  
EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR

RESERVED OF RECORD.  
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
C/K/A: 2635 Huntington Road, Springfield, IL 62703  
PIN: 22-14.0-278-028  
The person to contact regarding information regarding this property is: Sales Dept., The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60603. Any questions regarding this sale should refer to file number W22-0067. The terms of the sale are Cash. 10% at time of sale, with the balance due within 24 hours. The property is improved by: single family home . The Property is not open for inspection prior to sale.  
The real estate, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and tenements, hereditament and appurtenances thereunto belonging shall be sold under such terms.  
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  
W22-0067  
[pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com](mailto:pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com)  
I3212482

Date of Sale: February 15, 2023, 1:00 P.M. Location: Westside Storage, 3142 South Douglas Avenue, Springfield, IL 62704.  
BLD 55 #9 5x12  
Kurt Curry  
16 Concord Square #2  
Boston, MA 02118  
BLD G #26 10x10  
Mark Manneh  
2651 W Lawrence Apt 3A  
Springfield, IL 62704  
BLD I #51 5x10  
BLD I #54 5x10  
Yvette Pearson  
1015 S 15th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
BLD A #84 10x10  
Anthony Utterback  
2501 Wabash Ave  
Springfield, IL 62704  
BLD C #45 5x10  
Harlan Wittenauer  
311 South Livingston St  
Springfield, IL 62703  
BLD I #50 5x10  
Eric Jackson  
3405 Gaines Mill Road  
Springfield, IL 62704

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION  
To enforce Self Storage Lien in default of payment of rent a private auction will be held  
Saturday February 11, 2023 at 9:00a.m. Northend Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL.  
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.  
Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance by February 8th, 2023.  
No personal checks will be accepted.  
Charon James Unit 1-8  
Charlotte Burnett Unit 2-19  
Charon James Unit 2-38  
Allen McIntosh Unit 4-39  
Kristi Stover Unit 5-29  
Rachel Netznik Unit 6-17  
Edward Joseph Thomas Unit 9-25

Heather Hofman Unit 11-17  
Cheryl Goza Smith Unit C-4  
Charon James Unit C-8  
Britney Dyer Unit C-12  
Bertha Bostic Unit G-3

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS REAL ESTATE PURSUANT TO 65 ILCS 5/11-76-4.1  
WHEREAS, The Village of Illiopolis Board of Trustees (the "Village") has determined that it is necessary to sell certain surplus real estate pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11 -76-4.1; and  
WHEREAS, the Village has established the terms of said sale.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Illiopolis, Illiopolis, Illinois, AS FOLLOWS:  
SECTION 1: The Mayor and his authorized Village representatives are directed to sell the real estate identified as:  
Part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 7 Township 16 North, Range 1 West of the 3rd P.M., described as follows: Beginning at a point 30 feet East and 268.50 feet South of the Northwest Corner of said Quarter Section and running thence East 184 feet, thence South 197.50 feet to the North Right of Way line of Matilda Street, thence West along the said along the said North Right of Way line of Matilda Street, 184.00 feet, to the East Right of Way line of a public road, thence North along the said East Right of Way line of said public road, 197.60 feet, to the point of beginning, Sangamon County, Illinois.  
Together with an Easement for purposes of roof over-hang of building now located in the Northeast Corner of the above described premises, said Easement extending 9 inch wide to the East, along the North 61 feet of the East Boundary of the above described premises; together with an Easement for purposes of repair, painting, re-construction and other general maintenances of the North and East elevation, walls, and foundation of the building now located in the Northeast Corner of the above described premises, said Easement extending 5 feet wide to the North, along the East 105 feet of the North Boundary, and extending 5 feet wide to the East, along the North 65 feet of the East Boundary, of the above described premises: Together with the industrial fence now located upon and extending along a part of the East Boundary of the above described premises.  
Commonly known as 500 Block of West Matilda Street, Illiopolis IL 62558 Property Tax ID Number. 18-07.0-301-004  
The total acreage of the real estate is approximately 0.83 acres, has 2 buildings and the real estate is presently zoned B-1 (Neighborhood Business District).  
SECTION 2 - TERMS OF SALE: The sale shall include the following terms and conditions:  
1. The asking price is One-Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00)  
2. Offers to Purchase shall be submitted in writing to the Village Clerk of the Village of Illiopolis at 302 5th Street, Illiopolis, Illinois. Offers shall be accepted for Forty- Five (45) days after the date of publication of this Resolution in the newspaper.  
3. The real estate is being sold AS-IS, with no warranties expressed or implied. Environmental and engineering studies and the appraisal are available upon request.  
4. The offer to purchase shall not be contingent on financing or any other contingencies.  
5. Buyer to receive possession at closing.

6. Seller shall provide title insurance for the purchase price from Prairie Land Title Company, subject to the permitted exceptions and the Title Company's usual and customary exceptions.  
7. The closing to occur within Forty-Five (45) days of the execution of the Contract to Sell Real Estate by the Village's Board of Trustees.  
8. Twenty percent (20%) of the sales price (earnest money) is due at execution of Contract to be held by Title Company as Escrowee.  
9. Closing to be subject to the customary prorations for the sale of commercial real estate in Sangamon County, Illinois.  
10. Real Estate Taxes to be prorated through date of closing.  
ADOPTED BY THE Board of Trustees of the Village of Illiopolis, Illiopolis, Illinois at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16th day of January, 2023.  
PASSED AND APPROVED by the Village of Illiopolis Board of Trustees of the Village of Illiopolis, Illinois, and filed in the office of the Village Clerk of Illiopolis, Illinois on the 16th day of January, 2023.  
/s/ Sam L. Rogers  
Mayor  
Attested to:  
/s/ Lori Correa  
Village Clerk  
Note: An open house of the property is planned Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
v. Case No. 2022-FC-256  
RYAN CAPRANICA; KATIE MUSSER; HEIRS AT LAW OR LEGATEES OF DAVID E. CAPRANICA, JR. AKA DAVID E. CAPRANICA, DECEASED; PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; and UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE is hereby given to UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants in the above-entitled case, pursuant to the provisions of 735 ILCS 5/15 1218 and 15 1502 and Sec. 2 206 that the above-entitled mortgage foreclosure suit is now pending in said court and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said Defendants is March 2, 2023.  
The Plaintiff has certified the following regarding said foreclosure action filed on December 28, 2022.  
(i) The names of all Plaintiffs and the case number are as follows: Bank of Springfield, an Illinois banking corporation; Case No. 2022-FC-256.  
(ii) The court in which said action was brought is as follows: Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(iii) The name of the title holder of record: Heirs at Law or Legatees of David E. Capranica, Jr. aka David E. Capranica, deceased.  
(iv) Legal description and common address of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty are as follows:  
The South 22 feet of Lot 34 and the North 19 feet of Lot 35 in Wanless Sangamo Avenue Addition to the City of Springfield. Except any interest in the coal, oil, gas and other minerals underlying the land which have been heretofore conveyed or reserved in prior conveyances, and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal, oil, gas and other minerals, if any.  
Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.



Common address or location of mort-  
gaged premises:  
2012 North 19th Street, Springfield,  
Illinois 62702  
Parcel Number:  
14-23.0-126-034  
(v) Identification of the mortgage sought  
to be foreclosed is as follows:  
Name of mortgagor: David E. Capranica  
aka David E. Capranica, Jr.  
Name of mortgagee: Bank of Springfield  
Date of mortgage: December 5, 2014  
Date of recording: December 10, 2014  
County where recorded: Sangamon  
County, Illinois  
Recording document identification:  
2014R32711  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
SORLING NORTHROP  
Brian D. Jones, of Counsel – ARDC  
#6286510  
1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200  
P. O. Box 5131  
Springfield, IL 62705  
Telephone: 217-544-1144  
Telefax: 217-522-3173  
E-Mail: bdjones@sorlinglaw.com  
cc: Cindy L. Jupp, Paralegal  
E-Mail: cljupp@sorlinglaw.com  
8051-929886

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:  
CARL WILLIAM CLARK,  
Deceased.  
Case No.: 2022-PR-488  
CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of CARL  
WILLIAM CLARK of Springfield, Illinois,  
and that Letters Testamentary were  
issued on December 22, 2022, to WIL-  
LIAM E. CLARK, as Executor, of 1629 E.  
Morgan, Springfield, IL 62703, whose at-  
torneys are Duane D. Young and Stephen  
Ilden of Young Law Partners, P.C., 1300  
South 8th Street, Suite Two, 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.  
WILLIAM E. CLARK, Executor of the Estate  
of CARL WILLIAM CLARK, 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  
8051-929884

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
MIDFIRST BANK  
PLAINTIFF,  
-vs-  
Mark Albright a/k/a Mark M. Albright;  
Kathy Smock; Stephanie A. Albright;  
United States of America;  
DEFENDANTS  
NO. 22 FC 26  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
Public Notice is hereby given that pursu-

ant to a Judgment entered in the above  
entitled matter on November 9, 2022;  
Jack L. Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's  
Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on  
March 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon  
County Building, Sangamon County Board  
Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street,  
Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest  
bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time  
of sale and the balance within twenty-  
four (24) hours, the following described  
premises situated in Sangamon County,  
Illinois.

Said sale shall be subject to general  
taxes, special assessments or special  
taxes levied against said real estate  
and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages.  
The subject property is offered for sale  
without any representation as to quality  
or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff  
and in "AS IS" condition.

Upon the sale being held and the  
purchaser tendering said bid in certified  
funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued  
and/or a Certificate of Sale as required,  
which will entitle the purchaser to a  
deed upon confirmation of said sale by  
the Court.

Said property is legally described as  
follows:  
LOT EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK ONE (1) IN THE  
VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PLAINS. SITUATED  
IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 109 West Church  
Street, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677  
Permanent Index No.: 04-13.0-485-013  
Improvements: Single Family  
Residential

The property will NOT be open for inspec-  
tion prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes  
no representation as to the condition of  
the property.

The judgment amount was \$63,028.72.  
Prospective purchasers are admonished  
to check the court file and title records to  
verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE  
MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE  
THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION  
FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN  
ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE IL-  
LINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Bid Amount contact:  
Sale Clerk  
LOGS Legal Group LLP  
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301  
Bannockburn, IL 60015  
ILNOTICES@logs.com  
(847) 291-1717  
MidFirst Bank  
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys  
LOGS Legal Group LLP  
Attorney for Plaintiff

2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301  
Bannockburn, IL 60015  
(847) 291-1717  
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S.  
Berg (6277119)  
Michael N. Burke (6291435)  
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)  
Michael Kalkowski (6185654)  
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)  
Mallory Snyderman (6306039)  
Thomas Belczak (6193705)  
Debra Miller (6205477)  
Amy Aronson (6206512)

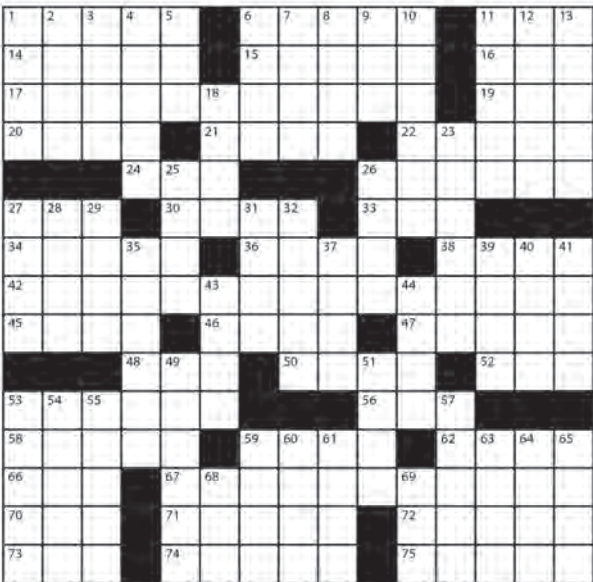
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT  
AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL  
BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE  
BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL  
LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EX-  
TINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANK-  
RUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN  
REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE  
IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE  
THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR  
PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO  
COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL  
OBLIGATION.  
8051-929748

# Coined phrases

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 775

Across  
1. Dutch exports  
6. Beef cuts  
11. 100 yrs.  
14. Flies alone  
15. "It's \_\_\_ cause"  
16. \_\_\_-tzu  
17. A whole divided  
four times, in  
music  
19. Hot time in Haiti  
20. Rod at a pig  
roast  
21. Campus bigwig  
22. Modern letters  
24. \_\_\_ de cologne  
26. Advisories  
27. Downs' opposite  
30. Lowlife  
33. "Holy moly!"  
34. Silence  
36. Gallop  
38. "Star Trek"  
counselor  
42. Being trivial  
45. \_\_\_-Seltzer  
46. "I cannot tell  
"

47. "Groovy!"  
48. What "it" plays  
50. A long way off  
52. Auction offering  
53. Hightails it  
56. Put on the line  
58. "In what way?"  
59. Capitol Hill  
worker  
62. Ascend  
66. "\_\_\_ you  
kidding?"  
67. Preppy's wear  
70. Paper size: Abbr.  
71. Go over, as lines  
72. "Home \_\_\_"  
73. \_\_\_ Cruces,  
N.M.



74. Long-winded  
stories  
75. Fruity pastries

Down  
1. Many A.B.A.  
members  
2. Arrange, as hair  
3. Jai \_\_\_  
4. Death in Venice  
5. Mach 1 breaker  
6. Endangered  
7. Arm part  
8. Night light  
9. L.A. clock setting  
10. "Remington  
" of 1980's  
TV  
11. Cloudless  
12. Suffer a loss,  
slangily

13. Christmas songs  
18. Cabinet dept.  
23. What to do "in St.  
Louis"  
25. \_\_\_ Stadium in  
Queens  
26. Got gray  
27. Annapolis sch.  
28. Pop singer Collins  
29. Use a straw  
31. Eurasia's \_\_\_  
Mountains  
32. Craze  
35. Goes blading  
37. Scale starter  
39. Iranian coin  
40. "I'm \_\_\_ you!"  
41. "\_\_\_ Rhythm"  
43. Falls behind  
44. About, on a memo  
49. Embraces

51. Brother of Cain  
53. "I \_\_\_ return"  
54. \_\_\_ Pottü  
55. Decorative jugs  
57. Start of a refrain  
59. Word jumble:  
Abbr.  
60. Ancient Peruvian  
61. Salon supplies  
63. "\_\_\_ one..."  
(opiner's  
opening)  
64. Dispatched  
65. "\_\_\_ Tu" (1974  
hit)  
68. Victorian, for  
one  
69. Bit in a horse's  
mouth

# Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #774

7	4	9	8	2	3	6	5	1
5	2	3	4	1	6	8	7	9
8	6	1	5	7	9	4	2	3
2	9	7	3	4	1	5	6	8
6	3	8	9	5	7	1	4	2
4	1	5	6	8	2	3	9	7
9	8	4	2	3	5	7	1	6
3	7	2	1	6	4	9	8	5
1	5	6	7	9	8	2	3	4

Sudoku answers from #774

6	4	1	3	2	5
5	1	4	2	3	6
1	5	2	4	6	3
2	3	5	6	1	4
3	2	6	5	4	1
4	6	3	1	5	2

JoshJosh answers from #774

# JoshJosh

by J. Reynolds - No. 775

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.

4-	2+	2-	40x		
			6x		2÷
120x			3		
2-		2+		2-	
2+		1-		14+	
2+		30x			

Difficulty medium

# Sudoku

No. 775

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

7		1						4
	2	3		1				
			2					1
1								9
	8	4			7			2
		5			3			
							9	
		2	9				1	5
	3	8					6	

Difficulty medium



HyVee®

# MEGA MEAT SALE

3-DAYS ONLY | FEB. 3 - 5



**1.99lb.**  
Ground chuck  
85% lean, 15% fat  
(fresh from our service  
case, limit 2 lb.)



**2.77lb.**  
Hy-Vee Choice  
Reserve boneless  
beef top round roast



**.59lb.**  
Gold Leaf chicken  
leg quarters  
sold in a 10 lb. bag  
for **5.90**



**5.00**  
Fish Market  
cooked shrimp  
tail-on, peeled &  
deveined 51 to 60 ct.,  
12 oz. pkg.



**3.99**  
Fresh Atlantic  
Verlasso skinless  
salmon portion  
farm-raised 4 oz.



buy one, get one  
**FREE**  
Marinated pork loin  
filet or tenderloin  
Hormel Always Tender  
select varieties  
1.1 or 1.5 lb. **7.99ea.**



**1.88lb.**  
Half boneless  
pork loin  
Hormel Always Tender



**3.99**  
Hy-Vee  
Choice Reserve  
beef center cut  
sirloin steak 8 oz.

While supplies last! Some exclusions apply. See store for details. Valid at your Springfield, IL Hy-Vee store February 3- 5, 2023.

**WEEK 1**  
LU# 17520

Hy-Vee  
Pasta Sauce  
select varieties  
23 to 24 oz.

**.99**

Limit 1 total with coupon.  
Limit 1 coupon per customer.  
Good February 3 - 5, 2023

**WEEK 1**  
LU# 17540

Blue Bonnet  
Sticks  
select varieties  
16 oz.

**.99**

Limit 1 total with coupon.  
Limit 1 coupon per customer.  
Good February 3 - 5, 2023

**WEEK 1**  
LU# 17510

Simply Done  
Bath Tissue or  
Paper Towels  
select varieties  
6 big rolls or  
12 double rolls

**3.99**

Limit 2 total with coupon.  
Limit 1 coupon per customer.  
Good February 3 - 5, 2023

**FUEL SAVER  
FRENZY!**

**EARN 50¢ OFF PER GALLON**

**WITH A MINIMUM  
\$50 PURCHASE**

Must show/include **LU #80506** to redeem.  
USE PROMO CODE **SPRINGFUEL50** WHEN SHOPPING ONLINE

Offer valid with qualifying purchases. Some restrictions apply. See store for details. Offer is not stackable. One Fuel reward per Fuel Savers + Perks Card.  
Good February 3 - 5, 2023

HyVee® 2115 S MacArthur Blvd, Springfield, IL | (217) 726-1001