



IllinoisTimes

FREE November 23-29, 2023 • Vol. 49, No. 17

# Winter Guide







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# BOS Center one step closer to major expansion

Creation of a tourism improvement district would finance a \$100 million project

TOURISM | Dean Olsen

A tourism improvement district that would finance a \$100 million expansion of Springfield's downtown convention center cleared a major hurdle recently, with the proposed district – and a future surcharge on room rates – receiving majority support from the city's hotels.

"It's a big step," said state Rep. Mike Coffey, R-Springfield, a downtown restaurant owner who chairs the municipally operated convention center's board. "There's still a lot of work to be done."

The Sangamon County Board voted unanimously Nov. 14 to hold a Dec. 19 public hearing on the proposed Sangamon County Convention Center Tourism District and take a final vote to create the district at that time.

The board was able to schedule the public hearing because owners and representatives of the 19 hotels signing petitions supporting the concept met the statutory requirement that their properties pay more than 50% of the state share of hotel/motel taxes in the proposed district.

Coffey said it's important to form the district by the end of December to comply with legislation passed by the Illinois General Assembly in May and signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker in June.

The measure, tucked inside a larger bill and sponsored by Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, modified the February law that allowed communities to create tourism improvement districts. The latest tweak gave Sangamon County the unique opportunity to form such a district with a lifespan of 20 years rather than the regular five years.

The longer lifespan would help the district, proposed to cover all of Sangamon County, to arrange for long-term financing that would fund a 120,000-square-foot expansion of the



Looking southwest at the corner of Ninth and Adams streets, a preliminary rendering shows what a proposed expansion of the BOS Center could look like. The Sangamon County Board hopes to create a tourism improvement district to finance a \$100 million expansion of the convention center. RENDERING COURTESY OF EVAN LLOYD ARCHITECTS

Bank of Springfield Center.

Such a project, which could begin as soon as next year on county-owned land now used for a parking lot immediately south of the BOS Center, would almost double the 44-year-old center's current capacity.

"More importantly, an expansion will allow the BOS Center to shine for what it was intended in 1979 – as an entertainment, expo and concert venue," said Scott Dahl, director of the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The project would be at least partially financed with a to-be-determined assessment fee of up to 5% of the room rate.

Backers of the proposed district say the expansion, discussed for years, would allow

the center to attract bigger conventions and offer more entertainment, filling hotel rooms and benefiting the hospitality industry throughout the area. All but three of the hotels in Sangamon County are in Springfield.

Among hotels that went on record supporting creation of the district were the Wyndham Springfield City Centre, Ramada by Wyndham Springfield North on Northfield Drive, Statehouse Inn & Conference Center and Hilton Garden Inn on South Dirksen Parkway.

It wasn't possible to reach the overseas owners of the downtown President Abraham Lincoln DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, adjacent to the BOS Center, to sign a petition before the Nov. 14 County Board meeting, Coffey said.

Not all hotels in Springfield submitted petitions, but the only hotel that specifically refused to sign was the Crowne Plaza Springfield, according to County Board chairperson Andy Van Meter.

According to Van Meter, the out-of-town owners of the Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway, said they don't think the hotel would benefit from larger conventions in Springfield.

Representatives of the Crowne Plaza didn't respond to a request for comment.

The district would be guided by a board of directors that would include lodging business owners.

Van Meter, a Springfield Republican, said

there is "very broad support for this project" from local governmental leaders and the business community in Sangamon County.

"This project has so much good will surrounding it," he said, "but the devil's in the details, and we have to see if we can get it to work."

Coffey agreed but said the project is "a no-brainer for Springfield."

The Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority Board has decided to pay the California-based legal consulting firm Civitas \$65,000 to \$70,000 to guide the formation of the tourism district. And the board is expected to pay \$65,000 for a feasibility study to further refine and scope of the expansion and help determine the precise amount of surcharge to be tacked onto hotel room bills.

County leaders could seek state funding to offset some of the costs, Coffey said.

Construction on the project could begin in 2024 at the earliest, Van Meter said. Preliminary drawings done for the SMEAA Board included a skywalk over East Adams Street to connect the main BOS Center with the expansion.

"We're in the very beginning, investigation stage of all of this," Van Meter said. □

*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).*

## Editor's note

ICON – Inner City Older Neighborhoods – holds its annual meeting and "Celebration" Nov. 27. This hardworking organization celebrates by honoring supporters with "good neighbor" awards. But it is ICON that most deserves the honor. For 13 years now, the group has been meeting and strategizing, dutifully attending city council meetings and generally doing the grunt work that can result in systemic change. Its issues include "problem properties," with problems ranging from irresponsible landlords, to dysfunctional tenants, to trying to get the city to tear down abandoned houses. Reforming Springfield's garbage collection system has been difficult, so fly dumping remains a problem, but ICON keeps trying. Many challenges remain, including racial inequity and distrust. Historic preservation, which could make old neighborhoods sparkle, has never been a Springfield priority. Rules surrounding TIF funds make them hard to use for rehabbing residential properties. Through all these challenges, over all these years, ICON persists, reminding all who will listen, "You don't have to move to live in a better neighborhood." – Fletcher Farrar, editor





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## NEWS

# State school board weighs increased funding requests

**EDUCATION | Peter Hancock, Capitol News Illinois**

Officials at the Illinois State Board of Education say they're receiving more requests for increased funding for next year than the state could possibly afford, and they're bracing for the possibility that budgets will start to tighten in the near future.

"It does appear that revenue will be a little bit tighter in the next four to five years," ISBE's chief financial officer Matt Seaton told the board at its monthly meeting Nov. 16. "And with other state pressures, whether that be pension payments or what have you, it would be our anticipation that the budgets are going to start to restrict a little bit."

Seaton delivered a summary of the funding increase requests that ISBE received from districts and members of the public during a series of hearings on the agency's budget last month. Those requested increases, he said, totaled just over \$1.7 billion.

The largest of those was for an increase in Evidence-Based Funding, or EBF dollars. That's the formula that lawmakers approved in 2017 aimed at eventually bringing all districts up to an adequate level of funding.

Under the law, the state is required to add at least \$350 million in new funding each year to its preK-12 spending, with the bulk of that money earmarked for districts that are the least adequately funded. During the budget hearings, however, advocates pushed for an even bigger increase – roughly \$550 million.

Advocates made a similar request last year. But Tony Sanders, who took over as state superintendent of education in February, was reluctant at that time to request more than what is required under state law. He has indicated he's unlikely to change that position.

"I'm in it for the long run to make sure that we're able to sustain that funding year over year at the \$350 million level," Sanders, a former superintendent of School District U-46 in Elgin, told Capitol News Illinois during an interview in March. "So I was fully on board with \$350 million. But even as a former school district leader, I was not supportive of the \$550 million that was being requested."

Seaton said many of the funding requests ISBE received during the hearings were similar to previous years – an additional \$75 million for early childhood education, for example, and \$10 million more for career and technical education.

But he said there were also some new categories of funding requests this year, including requests to replace a stream of temporary federal funding that is about to be discontinued. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, or ESSER funding, helped cover some extraordinary expenses schools incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

So far, according to ISBE data, nearly \$7.8 billion of ESSER funding has come to Illinois since March 2020, but nearly all of that went directly to school districts.

Of that money, about \$5.3 billion has been spent, with more than a third – \$1.8 billion – going toward salaries, \$1 billion going toward purchased services such as outside contracts, and \$681 million for supplies and materials.

That funding stream will end in September 2024, which will leave many districts facing some tough budget choices heading into the 2024-2025 academic year.

The budget discussion at the state board came one day after the Governor's Office of Management and Budget issued its latest five-year revenue projections. That report included a \$1.4 billion upward revision to the revenue estimate for the current fiscal year, bringing the total estimate for this year to just over \$52 billion.

But the report by GOMB also said that bump in revenue could be largely offset by \$1 billion in additional spending needs this year. And the report suggests that revenue for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins July 1, could drop slightly, to \$51.5 billion, and then experience modest growth in the years after that.

GOMB noted that while most economists are no longer predicting an imminent recession, several "recession related characteristics" exist that could affect future economic performance, and thus future state revenues. Those include consumers dipping into savings and taking out more debt to maintain spending levels and the resumption of student loan repayment that could reduce consumer spending.

The discussion at ISBE was only a preliminary step toward developing a budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year. Seaton said agency staff will make a more formal proposal at the board's December meeting. The board is expected to vote on a formal budget request in January. □





Donna Brown reads to children at Laketown Elementary School during a Nov. 20 event. PHOTO BY JOSH CATALANO

# A love of literacy

Nonprofit seeks to improve reading skills among low-income children

**LITERACY | Scott Reeder**

Donna Brown is a woman with a vision to have every child in Springfield learn to read. The 62-year-old founder of iMagicNation is launching an outreach in January at Matheny-Withrow Elementary School to mentor children at the school that is underperforming in reading. But her long-term dream is to build a literacy center on Springfield's east side. "I describe myself as a word nerd. I'm one of those people who just loves to read. When I worked for District 186, I recruited volunteers to work with kids. ... I guess because of my personal interest, I created several literacy programs where volunteer tutors came in and worked with students on their reading. We called them reading volunteers or reading tutors." After her position as a volunteer coordinator was eliminated, Brown founded iMagicNation, a nonprofit geared toward improving children's reading skills. Before the pandemic, she said her organization partnered with Black Hawk Elementary School for four years. But during the period of remote learning, the literacy mentoring partnership ended. For the past two years, her organization has partnered with the Springfield Urban League to tutor children in reading at summer camps. Now iMagicNation has purchased four lots on the northeast corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and Spruce streets in hopes of one day building a literacy center. But the building's construction comes with a \$3.5 million price tag, Brown said. The group held its first fundraiser last month and raised \$5,000. "It starts with one donation at a time — one person buying into it at a time," said Calvin Allen, a coordinator for the Urban League. "And there's plenty of donors that would, I believe, buy into a quality program such as hers knowing the need. So, I think it can happen." Improving reading skills is vital for ending the cycle of poverty many children find themselves born into, he added. "If kids are struggling with reading — if you don't have about a third-grade reading level — by the time you're in high school, they'll be way behind," Allen said. "If you're not able to read, the chances of graduating (decrease) dramatically, and a large percentage of people who don't graduate end up being incarcerated. So, there's a direct correlation between reading and incarceration." "Introducing kids to the joy of reading is critical. And, (iMagicNation) does it with a passion. They do it with care and love. They give kids opportunities to select what book they want to read. But they do more than that. They talk with them one-on-one." Brown said she sees an enormous disparity in resources available between the city's more affluent west side and its east side. "It's not that the kids on the east side

are not capable of learning," she said. "It is that they don't have the resources or the parents with the wherewithal or the financial resources to put them in private tutoring," she said. Anne Brewster, director of the Children's Dyslexia Center of Springfield, said the capital city is not unique in the disparity of reading test scores between wealthier and poorer neighborhoods. "I don't think that Springfield particularly is doing something really wrong and everybody else is getting it right. I think it's a problem that exists across our country, and I think people are becoming increasingly aware. I'm not sure that you can point to one root cause," Brewster said. "If you could point to one root cause, then we would have solved this problem by now. I think it's very complex. There's a lot of variables that have led us to where we are now, and it's going to be a complicated solution to the problem as well," she said. But Brown said one solution may be to bring more resources closer to where poor children live. "If we really want to get kids involved and reading, we have to go to where the kids are, because they can't come downtown or wherever." □ Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at [sreeder@illinoistimes.com](mailto:sreeder@illinoistimes.com).

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## NEWS

# Kayla Graven to join city of Springfield

DSI executive director going to work for the Office of Planning and Economic Development

**CITY | Dean Olsen**

Kayla Graven looks forward to broadening the focus of her economic development expertise to all of Springfield.

Graven, 34, told *Illinois Times* that the “opportunity to grow as a professional” attracted her to Springfield city government after working since 2018 at Downtown Springfield Inc., where she has been the nonprofit organization’s executive director the past two years.

Val Yazell, director of the city’s Office of Planning and Economic Development, said Nov. 20 that city officials are in “final conversations” with Graven to join the city in the “next few weeks” as the office’s operations coordinator.

Graven would earn about \$75,000 per year, and her hiring wouldn’t require Springfield City Council approval, Yazell said.

“All of her experience in economic development ... will be a real plus for us,” Yazell said of Graven, whose responsibilities would include tax increment financing and other economic incentives.

Yazell said Graven is an ideal candidate to assist a 12-person office that has been hampered by vacancies in recent years.

Graven’s last day at DSI will be Nov. 24.

“I have loved working for DSI, and it’s given me so much experience,” she said.

DSI Board President Tony Schuering, an associate attorney at Brown, Hay & Stephens, said in a news release: “We extend our sincere thanks to Kayla for the time, energy and vision she has poured into DSI and downtown Springfield. We wish her the best in her next chapter and look forward to continuing building on the successes that DSI has had during Kayla’s tenure.”

Schuering said a search to fill the executive director position will start soon.

Graven, a Decatur native who grew up on her family’s farm near Warrensburg, earned a bachelor’s degree in management and organizational leadership from Illinois College in 2011. She worked for WSEC, the predecessor to WSIU-TV, as well as Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Illinois, before being hired at DSI.

Graven said she is proud of her accomplishments at DSI, where she previously



**Kayla Graven, who has served as the executive director of Downtown Springfield, Inc. for the past two years, is going to work for the city of Springfield’s Office of Planning and Economic Development as the operations coordinator.**

PHOTO BY JOSH CATALANO

served as program coordinator and assistant director. She pointed to the success of the Old Capitol Farmers Market – a program of DSI – in opening safely for curbside distribution in April 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

She said she has assisted several small businesses – including The Wakery and Whimsy Tea Company – as they began selling at the farmers market and became successful enough to move into brick-and-mortar sites.

“DSI has worked tirelessly to fulfill its mission of creating and supporting a vibrant downtown through collaboration, creativity and leadership,” she said. “Through projects like the Levitt-AMP Concert Series and the Isringhausen DRIVE Grant, we have thrived to make downtown the crown jewel of Springfield.” □

*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).*



# State Supreme Court weighs constitutionality of lifetime restrictions on child sex offenders

Decades after conviction, man says limits on where he can live serve no valid purpose

**COURTS** | Peter Hancock, Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Supreme Court is weighing whether it is constitutional to impose lifetime restrictions on where a person can live after they've been convicted of a sex crime involving a minor.

"It's been 21 years – almost 21 years since my conviction," Martin Kopf told the court's seven justices Nov. 15. "I have been totally offense-free. Not even a moving violation. But yet, they still say that I'm dangerous."

Kopf, now 54, pleaded guilty in 2003 to aggravated criminal sexual abuse for an incident involving a 15-year-old boy. According to a published report of the incident, Kopf, who was a high school basketball coach at the time, was accused of sexually assaulting a member of his team during a sleepover at which he allegedly served the boy alcohol.

According to court records included in briefs filed with the Supreme Court, Kopf served three years of probation and reportedly has had no other criminal convictions since then. Still, because he was convicted of a sex crime involving a minor, Kopf remains subject to an Illinois statute that requires him to register for the rest of his life as a sex offender and prohibits him from ever living in certain areas.

Those residency restrictions cover any place within 500 feet of a "playground, child care institution, day care center, part day child care facility, day care home, group day care home, or a facility providing programs or services exclusively directed toward persons under 18 years of age."

More than a decade after his conviction, Kopf and his wife were shopping for a home. They settled on a building lot in Hampshire, in Kane County. Before purchasing the property, they checked with both the Illinois State Police and the Hampshire Police Department to make sure it complied with his residency restrictions. Records indicate both agencies told him that it did.

Kopf and his wife moved into their new house in August 2018. Three months later, in November, they were told there was a child day care facility within 500 feet of their home and, as a result, they would have to move.

Unable to find an apartment that met the residency restrictions and where the landlord



The Illinois Supreme Court building in Springfield. The Supreme Court is weighing whether it is constitutional to impose lifetime restrictions on where a person can live after they've been convicted of a sex crime involving a minor. CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS PHOTO BY JERRY NOWICKI

would accept a registered sex offender, Kopf and his wife bought a travel trailer and took up residence in an RV park in Marengo. But they were soon evicted from there due to his status as a sex offender and, eventually, Kopf resorted to sleeping in the back of his pickup truck.

In court challenges, Kopf has represented himself while arguing, among other things, that the law enforcement agencies were negligent for failing to notify him that the property did not comply with the residential restrictions. He also argued the restrictions themselves were unconstitutional.

In a June 2021 ruling, Kane County Circuit Judge Kevin Busch dismissed most of Kopf's claims. But he did declare the law unconstitutional, saying it violated constitutional guarantees of due process and equal protection.

Specifically, Busch said there was no rational basis behind the residential restriction. He pointed to scientific studies showing there is little or no evidence to suggest such residency restrictions reduce the chance of someone reoffending. He also pointed to contradictions in the law, noting that an offender is free to live next door to a house where multiple children live, but not

one where the parent has multiple children and also looks after someone else's children.

Busch also noted that the law only restricts the residency of people convicted after the law took effect, while offenders who purchased their homes before the law took effect are allowed to stay there for as long as they choose.

Lawyers for the state, however, argued that the state has a legitimate and compelling interest in protecting children from sexual predators and that the law does not have to be perfect to pass constitutional scrutiny.

"Although the residency restriction may not protect every single child within the state of Illinois from living or being within 500 feet of the residence of a child sex offender, it does protect some children," Assistant Attorney General Kaitlyn Chenevert told the court. "And this court (in a previous case) did explain that the legislature need not prevent every single evil in one statute."

The court took the case under advisement and is expected to issue a decision within the next several months. □

*Peter Hancock is a reporter with Capitol News Illinois. He can be reached at phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com.*

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HUNTER LAKE A WASTE

Stop – enough already! Quit wasting time, resources and my tax dollars on Hunter Lake (“More hurdles for Hunter Lake,” Nov. 9). We do not need it. Take care of the lake we already have.  
*Stephanie Goebel  
Springfield*

DON'T BE SHORTSIGHTED

After reading this article it gives the impression that Wetlands and Watersheds Branch Manager David Pfeifer from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is looking for another study and does not realize the water supply issue is not the only factor stated to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concerning the purpose and need of this project. I agree, though, that to think Springfield and its surrounding communities are not going to grow in the coming decades is shortsighted.

A good example is when the new power plant by Pawnee is completed, CWLP is going to pick up a 300,000 gallon-per-day water customer. I hear they have future plans for expansion, which could increase that to 750,000 gallons per day.

One thing is for sure, if Springfield does not have the water to grow it might not, and who thinks having an 8,000-acre state park bordering our city limits will not help Springfield grow in the future?

*Reg Davis  
Via [illinoistimes.com](mailto:illinoistimes.com)*

USE ACCURATE NUMBERS

CWLP has been making wild predictions of population growth for 58 years. When Hunter Lake was first conceived, CWLP predicted that by 2000 there would be twice the population currently served. This time,

it took a study that initially claimed modest population growth, and CWLP then insisted on a high-growth model that grossly inflated that figure, then added 5% more for good measure.

In seven of the last 11 years, Sangamon County has seen population declines. Overall, population is down about 1% since 2012. The growth is mostly to areas not served by CWLP (South Sangamon Water District, Curran-Gardner, south and west).

The EPA didn't say that the population won't grow, but that CWLP's projections are unsupported by any evidence. Population trends are, overall, less important than CWLP's own actual retail water use data, which show a steady decline of 14% over the last nine years and flat demand for 40 years before that.

As CWLP once noted, “water conservation is the enemy” of retail sales, and we are reaping the benefits of federally mandated water conservation for water-consuming devices such as toilets, washers, dishwashers shower heads, etc. Now we have a larger population than 50 years ago using less water, and these measures will bear more fruit over the coming years as water hogs are replaced.

There's almost 30% more water staying in the lake now than there was in 2016 when CWLP reapplied. Plus, we can now draw it down to the conservation pool (8 feet more water) than before 2021. The U.S. EPA agrees there is no demonstrable need and even if there was, there are cheaper, better alternatives that won't obliterate thousands of acres.

*Don Hanrahan  
Via [illinoistimes.com](mailto:illinoistimes.com)*

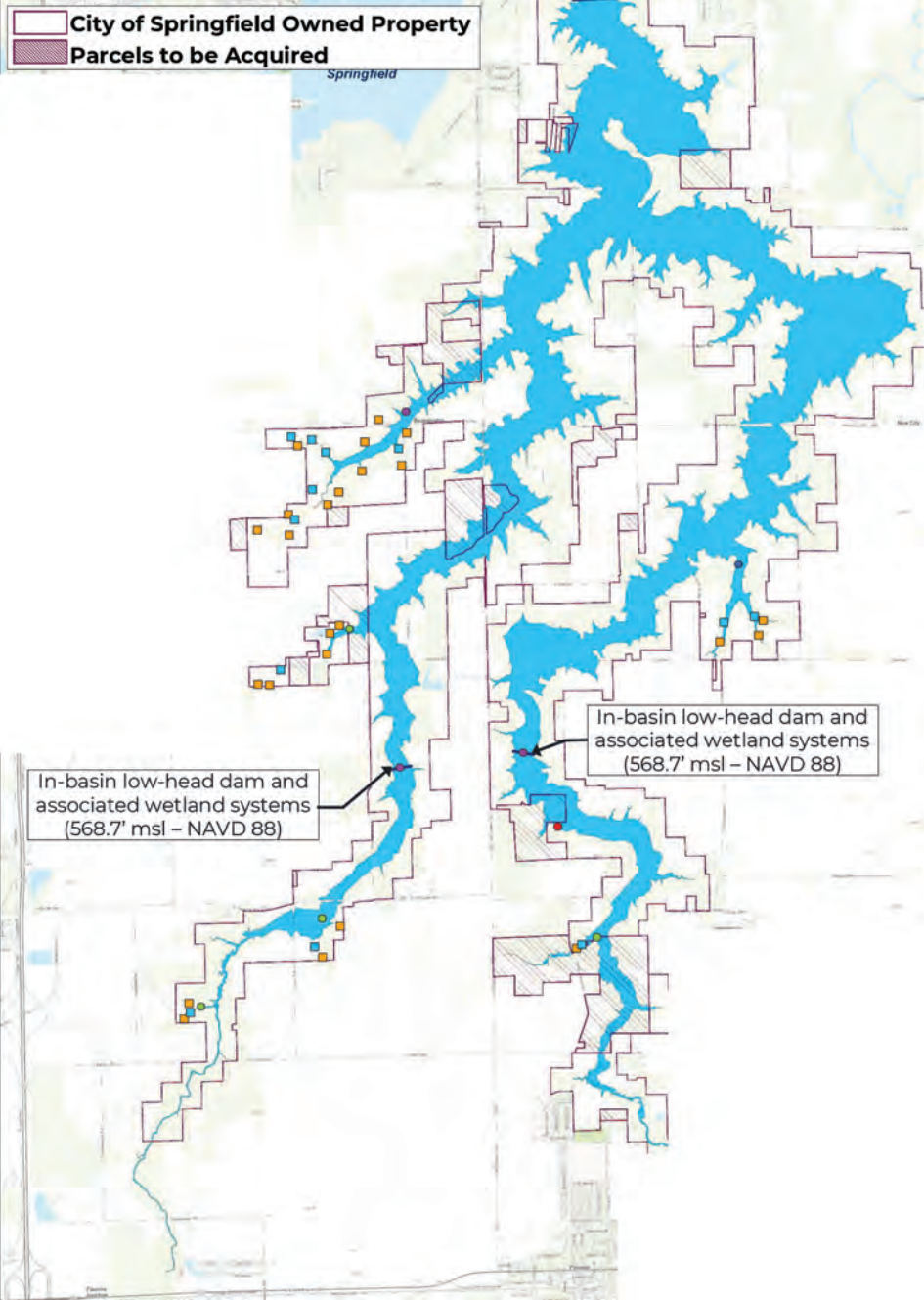
CARE FOR TENNIS COURTS

I read the article from Ed Wojcicki about the growth of pickleball (“More pickleball courts on the way,” Winter REGEN). I'm all for progress, but what about the park district successfully maintaining the existing tennis courts (those that they didn't remove) in our various city parks?

Personally, I think it has always been a conflict of interest for the park district to maintain both the Washington Park (fee charged) tennis courts and those that are free to the public. The Washington Park courts are in great condition, yet the free tennis courts are in desperate need of repair. There are huge cracks in them, and weeds are growing through the cracks. How is this fair to members of the public who can't afford to play on the paid tennis courts and have to use free tennis courts? No one wants to risk an injury on damaged courts, so of course, they remain unused. Such a pity for all of the kids who would like to develop their tennis skills for high school competition.

Would it be possible for the free courts to be repaired and some sort of structure added

Proposed Hunter Lake Integrated Design Features/BMPs



The U.S. EPA has recommended denial of a permit that would allow the city of Springfield to build a second lake, but city officials say it's not a deal breaker for constructing Hunter Lake.

**Generosity Poem**

I knew my dad's farm manager left on about a day's notice for a better job. I later knew about the following letter (and disapproved!) but this was my parents' way: "Dear Friends: You know I promised you \$10,000.00 in my will. It seems to me that I should take this amount from out of the will and get it to you in full, half this year and half next. You can then use it at your discretion. I will record it as gifts over two years to save you taxes. Best of wishes for the future." Reading this now, as I winnow out papers, I hope my parents' generous spirit extended to myself. I do note the grandkids have inherited it.

2023 Jacqueline Jackson

to protect them from the central Illinois elements?

Tennis was here way before pickleball. Let's get the courts in great condition for future generations of tennis players.  
*Deb Pilapil  
Springfield*

HONORABLE MISSION

Glad they have permission and are using proper cleaning materials ("Restoring gravestones of Civil War veterans," Nov. 9).

It's an honorable mission to restore these headstones.  
*Deon Bishop  
Via [Facebook.com/illinoistimes](https://www.facebook.com/illinoistimes)*

ACCEPTABLE VICES

The vices of the world become acceptable in Illinois once the state realizes it can make money off them ("From colleges to cannabis," Nov. 16).  
*Ted Harvatin  
Via [illinoistimes.com](mailto:illinoistimes.com)*



# Father-daughter team treasures common bond



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Nicole Harbour*

From a young age, Bennie Strumpher had a passion for coins.

"I became interested in them when I was about 10 years old," he said. "My dad worked at a coal mine and he came home with a sock full of coins – they paid him in silver dollars. So he laid the coins out on the table. They were pretty and I fell in love with them."

From sorting through silver dollars in a bank vault as a child to traveling along the trade show circuit with his family as an adult, Strumpher's love affair with coins helped guide his life.

In 2007, he found a place for that love

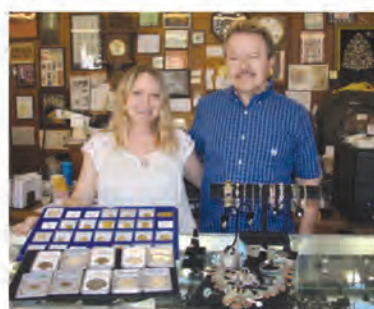
to take root when he bought Decatur Coin and Jewelry, a business that has been located at 104 N. Main St. in downtown Decatur since 1972.

Bennie Strumpher wasn't the only Strumpher with an affinity for coins. His daughter, Samantha, happily followed in his footsteps.

"I went to a lot of coin shows with my dad," she said. "I'd take coins around to dealers and sell them for him. I'd leave with a box full of coins and I'd come back with a hand full of checks or cash."

"She was really little, probably 10 or 12 then," Bennie Strumpher added.

And she's been by her father's side at Decatur Coin and Jewelry since



the very beginning, mostly handling the vintage costume jewelry customers bring in.

"I love being with my dad and experiencing with him daily the passion he has for this place, and that he's helped me



create, as well," she said.

Handling everything from coins, pocket watches and vintage paper money to costume, gold and silver jewelry, Bennie and Samantha believe it's their ethics and service that make their business stand out from others. "We're a 'pay-it-forward' organization," Bennie Strumpher said. "If you have something worth a lot of money, we're going to offer you a lot of money, about 90 percent on the dollar. We have paid out over 14 million dollars to people just like you in the past few years," Strumpher said.

"We are professional numismatists and travel the coin show circuit buying investor grade coins that we seldom encounter here at the shop.

"We 'know' where the value is and many of my long term clients have become wealthy by paying for our experienced eyes. High eye appeal coins I sold just a few years ago for a couple of hundred dollars are worth thousands today," Bennie Strumpher said.

Bennie and Samantha are staying busy, enjoying their customers and enjoying their work.

"I don't have to work. I do this because I enjoy it," said Bennie Strumpher. "I could have retired a long time ago, but I've been doing this for 40 years, and I hope to keep doing it as long as my eyes and health are good." "I love what I do," Samantha Strumpher agreed. "I love all the jewelry, and the coins, too."

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# Pursuing a lost cause

Proponents of Invest in Kids focused on political theater, not compromise

**POLITICS | Rich Miller**

I don't know whether or not the legislative Democratic leadership would've allowed a vote, but it is puzzling to me that the people behind the extension of the state's Invest in Kids Act program didn't at least try to run a bill that would've wound the program down over a period of years.

Continuing to allow income-tax credits for donations to private school scholarship funds for kids who were already enrolled in the program would've protected those individual children from being kicked out of the schools over an inability to pay. Legislation like that would've given both sides a veto session win, and kept the program on life support so that a future General Assembly might decide to restart it down the road.

More than a few people were pushing behind the scenes for a wind-down bill. The bill to extend the program for five more years didn't have enough votes to pass in the spring, when it needed 60 in the House and 30 in the Senate. Those constitutional requirements jumped to 71 and 36, respectively, after May 31. A wind-down compromise seemed prudent.

And yet, the people who were so forcefully demanding that the General Assembly extend the program for another five years made no overt moves to protect scholarships for the 9,600 existing scholarship recipients, hundreds of whom were bussed to Springfield to shout slogans in the Statehouse halls.

Too many proponents of keeping the program alive seemed more interested in battling with teachers' unions than finding a way to the bargaining table. But those teachers' unions, along with other labor groups, are now being quietly courted by Republicans because the party has lost so many wealthy benefactors like Bruce Rauner and Ken Griffin, who both exiled themselves to southern Florida. Other longtime top Republican contributors have either passed away or retired and lost interest in Illinois politics. They need money to compete, plain and simple.

A compromise (HB4194) floated by a small handful of House Democrats on the first day of a two-week veto session attracted a total of just four Democratic sponsors. The bill, which specifically required more scholarships to poor children, mainly served to highlight the problems with the existing statute, particularly that not nearly enough poor and minority kids have been receiving the scholarships as proponents had insinuated. The bill never moved an inch.

The House's new bill also allowed Senate Democrats to point the finger away from

themselves, telling everyone that they wanted to wait and see what happened to the bill in the other chamber before committing publicly to a vote either way in the Senate.

House Republican Leader Tony McCombie claimed at one point that the bill had, tops, 57 "Yes" votes in her chamber. Remember, it needed 71. McCombie was counting all 40 of her members, but some Republicans, including the far-right Illinois Freedom Caucus, opposed the belated compromise. And others who are seeking teachers' union contributions quietly opposed the legislation.

Leader McCombie's estimate of 17 House Democratic votes may have been short. Others said the House Democratic total was significantly higher. But House Speaker Chris Welch has an unwritten rule that bills which don't have enough support from his own caucus members to pass on the floor won't get called. In this case, that number would've been 71 out of 78 House Democrats, which was an impossibly large number of votes, considering the amount of liberal and progressive "No" votes in his caucus to begin with and the

significant pressure by the teachers' unions and their allies. Beating this bill was the unions' only veto session goal, and they went all-out to make sure everyone knew they were laser-focused on the topic.

So, we ended up with several session days of very loud, media-friendly protests by proponents and very little actual legislative progress. It was good (and likely quite expensive) theater, but that's about it.

Loss-chasing is when gamblers who are falling behind increase their bets in order to catch up, only to almost always fall even further behind. The proponents clearly had money to burn on a lost cause, and then they doubled-down during veto session on a compromise that wasn't going to be called for a vote and exhibited no will to offer up a phase-out.

It almost looked like some of the people pushing the extension were more interested in maintaining lucrative income tax credits in perpetuity and punching at unions than making sure that at least some kids had assistance. □



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# Christmas tree substitutes

HOLIDAY | Tara McAndrew

Christmas brings out not only credit cards, but creativity, especially for those who seek alternatives to the traditional Christmas tree. Some choose alternatives to be more environmentally friendly, some because they want easier decorations. Others are tight on money or space, or just want something different.

There are loads of ideas for tree substitutes. Google “Christmas tree alternatives” and you’ll find dozens of websites with photos.

Of course, one of those is Martha Stewart (Was there a doubt?). Among her ideas is a branch tree. Gather some interesting branches and place them – perfectly spaced out, of course – in a decorative container. She used a jasperware vase, but you could use a holiday pitcher, painted coffee can or thrift-shop teapot. Use your imagination. Decorate the branches with ornaments, as usual.

Others have gathered fallen branches or driftwood and nailed the pieces together in the shape of a tree, which could be stored and used again.

Sarah Phillips of Rochester made a 2-D tree on her wall one year. “I wanted to keep my holiday decorations simple, to save time and energy,” she says. “But I still wanted a few lovely symbols of the season. I always save the holiday cards I receive with friends’ family photos, so I ended up combining those with the new holiday photos I received and taped them to the wall in the shape of a Christmas tree.”

Wall trees made with a variety of materials are popular. You can secure pine tree branches to the wall, starting with a short one at top and using increasingly larger ones until you reach the bottom, to create the shape of a pine tree. Then decorate them with lights and ornaments. Martha has a photo of this on her website (marthastewart.com).

Another idea is to create a wall



Springfield resident Théa Chesley decided to simplify her Christmas decorations and now decorates one of her houseplants every holiday season.

PHOTO COURTESY THEA CHESLEY

tree using holiday wrapping paper and bows. One creative designer on hgtv.com used old garden tools to make a wall tree.

Are you a bibliophile? Dust off your books to create a tree. Start by making a circle on the floor with books. On top of those, pile more books to shape a smaller circle. Repeat until you put one book at the top.

Your alternative tree can still be green – use a plant. Springfield

resident Théa Chesley did that when she wanted to simplify her decorations. “Instead of buying a tree, hauling it home and into the house, stabilizing it in a stand, decorating it, keeping it watered, un-decorating it and disposing of it, all without anyone’s assistance guaranteed, I sought an easier way,” she said. While shopping one day, she found her solution – “four, little, 18-inch Norfolk Island Pines in a small pot,

decorated with red and white bows and little jingle bells.” She named it Mikey, after a friend. Some years she decorated it with red chili pepper lights, others with small glass ornaments or key chains she got as promotional freebies. It’s now 6 feet tall and still the star of her holiday season.

Maybe you’re overloaded with round ornaments. Glue them together, alternating sizes and colors, to create a tree. Bonus – you can save it and reuse. If you don’t have enough ornaments, check local thrift stores to keep this alternative inexpensive. Or attach the ornaments to a wall or door in the shape of a tree to make another type of wall tree. Place wrapped gifts at its base.

Those who are really crafty and have time might want to make a PVC pipe tree. Cut various sizes of PVC, then attach them in a tree shape to your wall or door. Place small ornaments, holiday candy, toys or anything colorful inside each piece of PVC. You can do the same thing with round pieces cut from various types of wood branches. If you have time, paint them different colors first.

An especially lovely alternative tree can be made by stringing lights from a single point in your ceiling to create a circle on your floor. The lights will fan out to make the shape of a tree. In the middle you can place a Nativity, glass ornaments, pine branches or other decorations. Make sure to keep the lights on all night so no one accidentally runs into them when it’s dark.

Another twist on the tree if you’re merely short on space is to hang your Christmas tree from the ceiling. Decorate it first and attach each ornament securely to the branches with twist ties or string. And don’t dip into the egg nog before hanging it upside down or you might spend the holidays in the hospital.

If you choose to create a different type of tree, have fun and use your imagination. □

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# Christmas 100 years ago

HOLIDAY | Tara McAndrew

In 1923, the holidays followed a year that saw the lingering aftermath of World War I and the hint of the next, as well as other cultural changes. America's soldiers finally pulled out of a defeated Germany and our country adjusted to a new president, Calvin Coolidge, after Warren Harding died. Adolf Hitler's rise began that November after he was arrested for attempting to take over the German government and the U.S. attorney general made a controversial move declaring it legal for women to wear pants. All this while Americans continued to deal with the prohibition of alcohol, some better than others.

In Springfield, things were looking up, according to the Dec. 25 *Illinois State Journal* editorial:

"We have good reason to mourn (this year's) departure, for it has been good to all of us here in this garden spot of the world, this Eden of the Twentieth Century." Internationally renowned local poet Vachel Lindsay seemed to disagree in his poem published in the paper that day, in which he called Springfield the "City of my Discontent."

Gift-givers didn't see it that way, at least not the day before Christmas. The *Journal* reported it was a heavy shopping day throughout the city. Local stores had been advertising their wares, such as A. Dirksen and Son's "fancy pillows, table scarves, hearth rugs, doll buggies, and cedar chests." The hearth rugs were the cheapest of all, starting at 75 cents, while the cedar chests were for big spenders at \$10 to \$45 apiece.

Boys' "high-cut storm boots" were a relative bargain at Klaholt's on the south side of the square for \$1.25 and up, while The Music Shop at 221 S. Fifth St. offered the latest in listening pleasure – a Victrola, no price listed. As my dad used to say, if you have to ask how much it is, you can't afford it. (According to Victor Records' website, the latest Victrola models cost at least \$150 that year).

As shoppers filled their baskets downtown, local movie-star-wannabes auditioned at the *Illinois State Register* newspaper offices. "Movie Producer (Joseph Maddern) Here Today to Meet Persons Interested in Playing a Part in a Real Film" declared the *Register* on Dec. 24. The film was produced by the paper and Springfield's Majestic Theatre. Fifty people would be cast for the locally filmed production to be called *She Would be a Vamp*. The New York Public Library describes vamps as "promiscuous but emotionally cold women," who were big in popular culture back then.

Area country clubs and churches prepared for their holiday dinners, pageants and sermons



John Brown Dixon of Springfield in front of his family's Christmas tree in December 1926.

PHOTO COURTESY SANGAMON VALLEY COLLECTION

while Santa gave "candy, fruit, and nuts" to the "crippled and tubercular children" at St. John's Tuberculosis Sanitarium near Riverton on Dec. 23, according to the next day's *Register*. (The complex is now home to the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis).

Thanks to the "Personal" columns of the local papers, the whole town knew where some Springfieldians were traveling to spend their holidays and with whom, or who was visiting those that stayed home. The "Sufferers" columns detailed who was in the hospital, and often, for what malady. There were no medical privacy laws then. Getting your appendix out? Everybody knew.

On Christmas Day, the *Journal* published holiday greetings from former residents who had moved away. One was philanthropist and Sears mogul Julius Rosenwald, born here in 1862 in Lincoln's neighborhood, who reminisced about earlier days: "My memory goes back to the time when we had no paved streets and when the wagon wheels sunk in up to the hubs..."

Another was reporter Octavia Roberts, who recalled holidays here: "For me, Christmas must ever mean a square with a court house in

the center, a municipal Christmas tree on its lawn, the whole closed in by stores whose show windows are brave with holly and evergreen and set out with their most tempting wares. Around the square the townspeople rush, on last errands, and hundreds of farmers and their wives mingle with them, their arms heavy with bundles."

On Christmas Eve in 1923, that charm remained, reported the Dec. 25 *Journal*. "Last night, throughout the city, Christmas trees, gay with light and tinsel were visible in innumerable homes." Good Fellows, Salvation Army and other charities had made sure that "there was none in want."

Christmas came and went without snow that year, according to the next day's *Journal*. While many were still merry, the day brought grief to some. A local girl was shot that afternoon while trying roller skates Santa brought her. In Williamson and Franklin counties, 75 men were arrested during a violent raid on Christmas Eve for selling illegal booze. And "many lives" around the country were taken by the bootleggers' "poison hooch," according to the paper.

It was the Roaring Twenties, after all. □

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# Take time off from toxic relatives

Enjoying a low- or no-contact holiday season

HOLIDAY | Carey Smith

The holiday season usually brings to mind happy families celebrating. But for people who have little or no contact with their family, by choice, this time of year can bring stress, anxiety and dread.

The most common reasons for limiting contact with one's family include emotional and other abuse, unresolved addiction and toxic family patterns of interaction. We often put up with behaviors from our family that we would rarely tolerate in our friends and colleagues. Most people who limit or eliminate contact do so only after years of attempting resolution, followed by making a very difficult decision, sometimes with the help of a therapist.

For those with loving families, the idea of going low or no contact is a sad one. But for those with toxic families, parting ways or limiting interactions leads to a drastic improvement in mental health. Going low or no contact is not meant to punish a family member, but rather is an act of self-care, a way of protecting our mental health and shielding our immediate family (especially our children) from the harm we experienced.

Low or limited contact means interacting with family only on certain occasions, often Thanksgiving or Christmas. It may mean making a brief appearance at a family celebration, sending a card or a phone call. It can be quite a challenge to interact with toxic family members in a way that does not result in drama.

Gray rocking means to interact as little as possible with any details of one's life and is one strategy employed by those who maintain minimal contact. Don't talk about work,



family, hobbies or anything else that may give one's toxic family ammunition to start the inevitable war. Rather, stick to the utterly boring minutia of daily life. And if the war starts, do not show any emotion in response or engage in any way.

Eliminating contact with one's family can make it easier in some ways, such as no longer having to navigate the tricky waters of interaction. But it can be harder in other ways, such as trying to enjoy the holidays despite not having a loving family with whom to celebrate or having to explain to co-workers that no, there is no traveling home for the holidays.

Many of us have unpleasant memories of holidays spent with our toxic family of origin, and those memories can make it hard to enjoy the holidays with our chosen family and friends, or our partner and/or children. There are a variety of ways to get through the

holidays, including with therapist support.

Friendsgiving has become more popular throughout the years, with the drunken shouting matches of childhood replaced with good food, games or movies with friends. Friendsmas can be a thing also!

Others with toxic families may take a trip to a location that does not celebrate the holiday in question, or to a favorite location to celebrate being together without one's toxic family. Others simply stop celebrating holidays, instead filling the time with self-care such as long, luxurious baths or going camping with their dog.

Sometimes a new celebration is in order, such as transitioning from bad Christmas memories to happy solstice memories. Another option is celebrating traditions that were never a part of the festivities of our family of origin, like driving around and sipping hot chocolate

while seeing holiday light displays, Christmas caroling, baking holiday treats to share with friends and neighbors, wearing Christmas jammies all day, making a new holiday food to become a tradition, celebrating at home instead of traveling, having a sober holiday, using an Advent calendar or giving and receiving books on Christmas Eve.

Substituting traditions of our own making can go a long way to recover the holidays for our own enjoyment. It can make the holidays a time to look forward to instead of a time to dread.

For those without toxic families, how can you make the holidays a little brighter for those of us who do have them? One way is to not make a big deal if you find out someone is low or no contact with their family. It may not be easy for you to understand, but not many people want or need to hear the depths of trauma that may have triggered this decision, nor should anyone feel pressured to share those details to make their decision understood. Assume that someone who has gone no or low contact has experienced a life that makes this decision a logical one.

Open your home to friends who have no one else to celebrate the holidays with. Although we may think of holidays as being for our families, Friendsgiving and Friendsmas can add a certain depth of joy to our celebrations. Above all, support their decision on how they would like to celebrate the holidays, or even to not celebrate. □

*Carey Smith has been no-contact with her parents for several years and has found holiday joy in celebrating the winter solstice.*



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# Downtown holiday happenings

HOLIDAY | Stacie Lewis

The excitement of the holiday season returns with a whirlwind of holiday activities and shopping when the much-anticipated Old Capitol Holiday Walks kicks off on Nov. 25 for Small Business Saturday. You'll find downtown storefronts of locally owned businesses, restaurants and bars beautifully decorated in traditional and contemporary Kwanza, Hanukkah and Christmas decorations. Inside each you will find the showrooms and shelves brimming with gifts and special treats. Activities for that first day of the walks will culminate at Sixth and Adams streets for the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony at 4 p.m. Santa will be there for the lighting (he wouldn't miss it for the world), as will Abe and Mary Lincoln.

Whether it's holiday crafts, games, live performances or winter indulgences, you will be able to find your favorite downtown holiday activities once again this year — a few with new twists.

Holly the Lighted Bus will be downtown on Wednesday evenings, but may pop up anywhere throughout the city at the drop of a hat. Santa, too, decided that he is going to

hit the streets and make appearances at several downtown locations each Saturday.

Many places are also caught up in the spirit of cheer and joining in the Holiday Walks with activities and entertainment in the coming weeks for merrymakers of all ages. Performances of *The Nutcracker* by the Copper Coin Ballet Company at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, kids' activities at Kidzeum and the Illinois State Museum, tours of the wonderfully decorated Illinois Governor's Mansion and Dana-Thomas House, not to mention ice skating, holiday markets and fun with Abe and Mary Lincoln — the entertainment list is endless.

This year's Old Capitol Holiday Walks are made possible by many generous sponsors and hours of teamwork by staff and volunteers. All these efforts have culminated in a season-long symphony of celebratory events that are sure to get kids from 1 to 92 into the holiday spirit. Check the schedule so you don't miss a minute of the action, then bundle up and step out into this year's season of sights and sounds and holiday cheer.

## SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY AND OLD CAPITOL HOLIDAY WALKS KICKOFF

Saturday, Nov. 25, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Enjoy decorations for all of the season's holidays. Many of the unique and charming downtown businesses will be open with extended hours and holiday specials. Shoppers at participating businesses will receive a red ticket for every purchase, giving them a chance to win a cash prize. The Old Capitol Holiday Walks, where you can dine, drink and shop in beautiful downtown Springfield, will continue every Wednesday and Saturday through Dec. 23.

## TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, Nov. 25, 4 p.m. It's now an annual tradition in Springfield to gather around the Christmas tree at Fifth and Adams streets as it is lit to usher in the holiday season. Free.

## HOLLY, THE LIGHTED BUS

Saturday, Nov. 25, 4-7 p.m. This festive bus will be downtown at the tree-lighting ceremony and on Wednesday evenings, 4:30-5:30 p.m., through December. You might even catch her making cameo appearances throughout the city

during the holiday season.

## JAYCEES HOLIDAY LIGHTS PARADE

Saturday, Dec. 2. Begins at dusk. A dazzling and festive parade with all the spectacle needed to usher in the holiday season. Starts at Jefferson and Seventh streets, proceeding to Fifth to Monroe to Sixth to Washington streets.

## ILLINOIS PRODUCTS HOLIDAY MARKET

Friday, Dec. 1, 4-9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Celebrate the holiday season with local food and goods, live music and a whole lot of holiday cheer. Explore local vendors, participate in special events and enjoy a unique shopping experience. Live entertainment, food and desserts. Y Block, north of the Governor's Mansion.

## WINTER FARMERS MARKET

Saturday, Dec. 16, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. The Old Capitol Farmers Market continues through the winter months. December's market will be held indoors and outdoors on Union Station. Customers can park for free at the Abraham



Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library parking garage.

#### VISIT SANTA DOWNTOWN

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. That jolly guy will be shop hopping around downtown every Saturday, so be sure to check this schedule to learn his whereabouts.

Nov. 25, Springfield Visitors Center, Fifth and Adams streets.

Dec. 2, Illinois Products Holiday Expo, Y Block north of the Governor's Mansion.

Dec. 9, Kidzeum of Health and Science, 412 E. Adams St.

Dec. 16, Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St.

Dec. 23, Springfield Visitors Center, Fifth and Adams streets.

#### ABE AND MARY LINCOLN SATURDAYS

Saturdays, Nov., 25, 12-4 p.m. and Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Abe and Mary will be playing games with kids, reading Christmas stories and talking about days gone by. You can find them at the Springfield Visitors Center at the corner of Fifth and Adams streets. 800-545-7300.

#### WINTER NIGHTS AT THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 5-7 p.m. ALPLM will offer expanded hours with free admission to enjoy the exhibits and performances. Catch the *Ghost of the Library* show, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Café space and children's activity tables, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 4-7 p.m. The Museum Gift Shop will be open until 7 p.m. The Prairie Winds Ensemble will entertain guests touring the "Here I Have Lived: Home in Illinois" exhibit. The performances will take place on Saturday, Nov. 25, Wednesday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Dec. 2, between 5 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. in the Illinois Gallery. The Copper Coin Ballet Company and area dancers will present *The Nutcracker* on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. Performances are free, but a ticket is required for admittance. 217-558-8844.

#### KIDZEUM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Join in the fun with holiday activities and crafts. Free with paid admission. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., and Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m. 217-679-2123.

#### ILLINOIS GOVERNOR'S MANSION HOLIDAY TOURS

See the mansion in all of its holiday finery. The tours are free, but registration is required. Call for the tour schedule and more information, or find the "Illinois Governor's Mansion: Holiday Walk Experience" on eventbrite.com. Illinois Governor's Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St. 217-210-1020.

#### ICE SKATING RINK

Wednesdays 5-8 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m.-7 p.m., through December 16. This rink of age-old fun is managed by Sangamon CEO high school students at Union Station. Check the DSI website for info on tickets and skate rental. downtownspringfield.org.

#### DANA-THOMAS HOUSE FESTIVITIES

The Dana-Thomas House, decked out in holiday style, will be open for 30-minute tours on Wednesday and Friday evenings through Dec. 22. More family fun will be offered on Friday evenings with make-your-own s'mores at the fire pit in the courtyard, hot cocoa and crafts. 217-782-6776.

#### ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND FESTIVITIES

The Illinois State Museum has a full lineup of free family holiday events and children's crafts and activities. Admission is also free. Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. 217-782-7386.

#### CRAFTS AND STORYTIME

Saturdays, 1-3pm. Through Dec. 16. Join in free, family-friendly fun. No reservations needed. Vachel Lindsay Home State Historic site, 603 S. Fifth St., 217-524-0901.

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**U.S. Initiatives in the Arctic: Dealing with Changing Realities**  
**Speaker: Mary Thompson-Jones, Ed.D.**  
Tuesday, December 5th • Illini Country Club  
5:30PM Cocktails and Dinner • 7PM Program

Career diplomat, professor, and published author on U.S. foreign policy and the practice of diplomacy. Her book, "To the Secretary: Leaked Embassy Cables and America's Foreign Policy Disconnect" (Norton 2016), was praised by Joseph Nye as "a fascinating account of how diplomacy really works from the bottom up." Her diplomatic experience spans a 23-year career as a foreign service officer in leadership roles in the Czech Republic, Canada, Guatemala, Spain, and Washington, D.C. She is a professor at the U.S. Naval War College and has a forthcoming book on the United States national security and the Arctic.

Reservations are required for Dinner. Cost of dinner is \$40/person. Prepayment is required. Contact Lynn McMenamin 217-502-6956 or [lcm1300@aol.com](mailto:lcm1300@aol.com)

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Friday by 5pm for the following Thursday issue

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The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul the Apostle

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Sunday December 17- 4:00 PM

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Saturday December 2 • 2pm

Sunday December 3 • 2pm

UIS Performing Arts Center  
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[CopperCoinBallet.org](http://CopperCoinBallet.org)



DESIGN: SCOTT RICHARDSON ILLUSTRATION: LIZ PULIDO





# Get outside during the holidays

Family time, gift-giving and well-being all benefit from being outdoors

**HOLIDAY | Pamela Savage**

It is well-known that spending time outdoors improves mood, reduces stress and contributes to physical well-being. But with all the business of the holiday season, sometimes we forget to head outdoors. Many of our images of the holidays include everyone cozying up under blankets around an indoor fireplace, but let's not forget to celebrate the holidays outside, too. Heading outdoors with friends and family during the holiday months can be a wonderful way to relax and to honor nature as we move into the brisk but beautiful winter months.

Perhaps one of the best days to head outside soon is for the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year that marks the onset of winter. Early pagan winter solstice traditions were created to celebrate the "birth of the sun," because even though the solstice is the shortest day of the year, every day following the solstice has more and more sunlight. Many celebrate the solstice by spending time in nature, lighting the night and inviting the light to come back – what a wonderful sentiment to share during the holidays.

There are many ways to celebrate the solstice as a family. One that I love is to decorate a live, outdoor tree with edible ornaments for birds and animals. Edible ornament ideas include cranberry garlands, peanut butter pine cones, seed ornaments or DIY-citrus-bird feeders. All of these eco-friendly outdoor ornaments can be made with children of all ages.

Another use for citrus at the solstice or during the holidays is to make pomanders. Pomanders are oranges or lemons with whole cloves pressed into the rind. Simply push the cloves into the rind of an orange, making shapes and designs (and releasing a wonderful

scent) as you go. Some kids find this tricky if the cloves feel sharp, so you can use a peeler to remove some fruit rind ahead of decorating, or take a toothpick and make starter holes to help. Pomanders can be used to decorate indoors or outdoors and make a lovely small gift.

The winter solstice is one opportunity to honor and celebrate nature during the holiday season, but there are others. Consider scheduling some time outdoors during your big holiday gathering, whether it be a hike through a local woods or prairie, a family game of football, pickleball or catch, or an outdoor fire at sunset. And don't forget to incorporate the outdoors into your gift-giving.

As we honor nature this holiday season, including eco-friendly alternatives to wrapping and gifting is paramount. Last-minute gift-giving in particular really lends itself to eco-friendly ideas. Rather than pay for expedited shipping on something you are only half sure that your recipient will enjoy, shop for instant gifts such as online gift cards or printable certificates.

For a larger gift, show a loved one that you care while protecting wildlife by dedicating a tree, bench or woods in their honor. You may also choose to give a charitable donation to organizations fighting to conserve the outdoors, such as the Clean Air Task Force or The Nature Conservancy, or to a local haven for nature such as Lincoln Memorial Garden, Jubilee Farm, the Sangamon Valley Group chapter of the Sierra Club or the National Audubon Society. □

*Pamela Savage is a freelance writer in Springfield. She is looking forward to spending time outdoors this holiday season.*

St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church

# HOLIDAY FAIR & BAKE SALE

Saturday, December 2nd  
10am-3pm  
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## POW/MIA Christmas Remembrance

Saturday, December 2, 1:00 pm  
Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Oak Ridge Cemetery

Join us for a ceremony to honor and remember the Illinoisans still listed as POW/MIA from the Vietnam War. Heart ornaments will be provided; you may also bring your own weather-proof ornament for the tree.




# ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

August 8-18, 2024

## Holiday SALE!

<b>MEGA PASS</b> \$70.00	<b>ADMISSION</b> \$45.00
<b>JUMBO PASS</b> \$80.00	<b>PARKING</b> \$40.00



## 1850s community CAROL SING

Sat., Dec. 16, 2023, 6:00 PM

Travel back in time to the 1850s this Christmas season and join Abraham and Mary Lincoln for special music, worship and a carol sing.

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**2023 Brown Bag Concert Series**  
12:15 - 12:45

<b>November 29</b> Devon Carpenter, harpist
<b>December 6</b> Wild Columbine
<b>December 13</b> Johnnie Owens, vocalist
<b>December 20</b> Nichol DelGiorno, organist

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# World-renowned tenor to perform in Springfield

The Pharmacy Gallery hosting An Evening with Emmanuel di Villarosa

HOLIDAY | Jean Campbell

The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space in downtown Springfield will host An Evening with Emmanuel di Villarosa, a famed opera singer, on Dec. 8. This is a rare opportunity for music lovers to experience an incredible talent in an intimate venue.

The singer will perform a number of famous arias, including “E lucevan le stelle” from Puccini’s *Tosca* and “The Flower Song” from Bizet’s *Carmen*. He also will treat the audience to Christmas classics such as “Ave Maria” and “O Holy Night,” as well as several Neapolitan love songs. And he promises a few “surprises.”

During his career, di Villarosa performed in the principal roles of Don José in *Carmen*, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* and Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, to name a few. He performed 30-plus roles throughout his career, adding that the role of Don José is his favorite.

“I believe my voice is a God-given gift,” says di Villarosa. “Many people have beautiful voices but to stand out, one must interpret the nuances and emotion of the music, whether it be sad, angry or sweet. You make the song or aria your own by discovering what is important to you as an artist to express within the parameters of the composition.”

The opera singer spent his childhood in New York City. He says he was drawn to music at an early age, starting to sing along with the radio and play melodies on his mother’s Steinway piano at 4 years old. He also taught himself to play the guitar. At age 10, he won a talent competition singing the Elvis song “Old Shep.” With that, his mother recognized his talent and enrolled him in vocal lessons. When he was 12, his family moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he sang with the esteemed Atlanta Boys Choir. He also was



Emmanuel di Villarosa

accepted into the Georgia Governor’s Honors Program for singing.

“My mother was very influential,” he notes. “She introduced me to many facets of music, including Broadway musicals, pop, rock and blues. I fell in love with all kinds of music, but the first time she played opera singer Mario Lanza for me, I said, ‘That’s it! That’s what I want to do!’ And I delved into it.”

After high school, di Villarosa returned to New York to attend The Juilliard School

and the Manhattan School of Music on a full scholarship. Despite his training and accolades, di Villarosa’s journey to professional opera was not smooth or easy.

“The usual path was to be accepted into an apprenticeship program with an opera company,” he explains. “I auditioned but didn’t get any offers.”

He was disappointed, but he didn’t give up. “I decided to contact smaller, regional opera companies in and around New York to get my foot in the door and was hired to perform principal roles.”

He also continued perfecting his voice by working with vocal coaches and a new vocal teacher, Giovanni Consiglio, who is a well-known and gifted Italianate opera tenor. Consiglio taught him everything he needed to know about his vocal technique.

During those years, di Villarosa supported himself with income from his own recording studio, working in office jobs, waiting tables and bartending.

His first break came in the mid-1990s. He auditioned for the Des Moines Metro Opera and was hired for the company’s well-known opera summer festival.

That was followed by his big breakthrough. He was invited to audition with the New York City Opera Company for two operas: Verdi’s *Rigoletto* and Puccini’s *La Bohème*. He admits it was not his best audition, but he was hired for the touring company of *La Bohème* in the principal role of Rodolfo. That opened a door for him, and soon after, he began singing with the Metropolitan Opera Company.

He moved to Europe in 2003 and performed on stages around the world, including The Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Teatr Wielki in Warsaw, Poland, and Opéra de Marseille in Marseille, France. After returning to the states, he took a hiatus from his demanding singing schedule to explore composing and other musical projects.

He followed his heart and moved to Springfield in 2021. He has a recording studio here where he offers vocal lessons to students and adults. Going forward, he plans to share his talent at other venues. □

*Jean Campbell is a Springfield freelance writer who is looking forward to di Villarosa’s upcoming performance.*

## An Evening with Emmanuel di Villarosa

**Date:** Dec. 8 **Time:** 6:30-9 p.m. with the concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 East Adams St.

**Tickets:** Advance tickets are not required, but seating is limited. To reserve seats, visit [pharmacygallery.com/donate](http://pharmacygallery.com/donate). Include the number of seats and “tenor” in the notes. The suggested cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple, which includes hors d’oeuvres, wine and beer. Formal attire is encouraged.

## HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

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5:00pm-8:00pm

**Saturday, Dec. 9**

9:00am-3:00pm



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# Holiday events calendar

## ■ Special Music Events

### An evening with Emmanuel di Villarosa

Fri., Dec. 8, 7:30pm. The world-renowned tenor will present popular arias, Christmas favorites and other selections. Formal attire is encouraged. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks are included. Suggested donation of \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 801-810-9278.

### Holiday Pops in the Heartland

Fri., Dec. 15, 7:30pm. Presented by the Illinois Symphony Orchestra and led by four distinguished guest conductors vying to become the ISO's next music director. Wonderful entertainment for the holiday season. uispac.com. \$22-\$66. Students \$10. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

### Abbey Road's Christmas with the Beatles

Sun., Dec. 17, 7-9pm. This Beatles tribute act gives attention to every detail of the iconic band's performance -- Liverpoolian dialects, vintage instruments and spot-on costumes. Then they present the top hits of the Beatles along with some great holiday tunes. uispac.com. \$ 28.50 - \$78.50. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

### Brown Bag Concert Series

Wednesdays, 12:15-12:45pm. Through Dec. 27. Enjoy a free concert during the lunch hour. Bring your own lunch or purchase a brown bag lunch for \$5. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

### Chicago Farmer

Wed., Nov. 22, 8-10pm. From a small-town farming community, Cody Diekhoff logged plenty of highway and stage time under the name Chicago Farmer before settling in the city in 2003. Profoundly inspired by fellow Midwesterner, John Prine, he's a working-class folk musician. Jon-Mark Robb will open the evening. broadgauge.com. \$20. Broadgauge, Petersburg, 101 North 7th St., 217-386-5669.

### Christmas Charity Concert

Sat., Dec. 16, 7-8:15pm. Ring in the holiday season with special guest performers. Featuring the cast of *Holiday Inn*, radio personality Jim Leach, the 2023 Miss Illinois Festival Queen, the

Rochester High School cast of *Back To The 80's* and many more local artists. Donations welcome. Third Presbyterian Church, 1030 N. Seventh St., 217-528-0457.

### Dual Piano Christmas

Dec. 15-16, 7pm and Sun., Dec. 17, 2pm. Damien Kaplan and Mark Gifford, a duo that has been called "Improvisational and strategically comedic," are back for more mischief and music. hcfta.org. \$18-\$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

### It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Dec. 1-2, 7pm. Enjoy an evening of Christmas music presented by the Land of Lincoln Chorus, along with local barbershop quartets. hcfta.org. \$18. Seniors and students receive discounts. Hoogland Center for the Arts Peggy Ryder Theatre, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

### Live string quartet performance

Sat., Dec. 2, 1pm. Musicians will perform pieces written by Randy Erwin in the Illinois Gallery while visitors explore the "Here I Have Lived" exhibition. presidentlincoln.illinois.gov. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

### LLCC Fall Choir Concert

Fri., Dec. 1, 1, 7pm. Lincoln Land Community College Choir presents a concert themed "Homeward." llcc.edu. Free. A. Lincoln Commons, 5250 Shepherd Road, 217-473-0891.

### The Prophecy Show

Thu., Dec. 21, 7:30pm. A tribute to the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. This St. Louis powerhouse, performing in the style of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, will bring its signature and highly-energized rock opera back to create an extravagant holiday musical production. uispac.com. \$39-\$85. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

### Sinatra and Friends Christmas Show

Fri., Dec. 22, 7pm and Sat., Dec. 23, 2pm. Starring Robbie Howard, a world-renowned impersonator and tribute artist. Hear Dean Martin, Randy Travis, Andy Williams, Burl Ives and more. Students \$28, adults \$32 and seniors \$30. hcfta.org. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

### Sizzling Strings

Fri., Dec. 1, 7-9pm. Listen to the



Downtown Springfield, Inc.'s Old Capitol Holiday Walks begin Nov. 25 and take place through Dec. 23.

Chamber Orchestra of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra in this performance led by conductor Naomi Woo and featuring violinist Roy Meyer. Stick around for Coda Conversations after the performance. ilsymphony.org. \$26, students (age 24 and younger) \$10. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-522-2838.

### Thanks for the Holidays

Sun., Nov. 26, 2-3:30pm. Presented by Sound Celebration Chorus and Chorus Quartets and Chorus Ensemble, with special guests the Pleasant Plains High School Madrigal Singers and a trombone quartet, Slidin' By. Goodwill offerings for Springfield-area micro food pantries welcome. soundcelebrationchorus.org. Free. St. John's Lutheran Church, 2477 W. Washington St., 217-725-0754.

### Unto Us a Child is Born

Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30pm. A performance by the Springfield Choral Society including Handel's *Messiah*, Part One, Bach's

*Magnificat* and other selections. A percentage of the proceeds benefit The Matthew Project. \$20. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-522-3342.

## ■ Theater & Comedy

### Cirque Dreams Holidayze

Tue., Dec. 12, 7pm. This brilliant and whimsical family holiday spectacular wraps a Broadway-style production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. Watch as a fantastical cast of holiday storybook characters come to life on stage. Includes an original musical score and twists on holiday classics sung live. uispac.com. \$25-\$102. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

### Holiday Inn

Dec. 1-2, 7:30pm, Sun., Dec. 3, 2pm, Dec. 8-9, 7:30pm and Sun., Dec. 10, 2pm. An favorite from Irving Berlin. This joyous musical

features thrilling dance numbers, laugh-out-loud comedy and a parade of Berlin hit songs. hcfta.org. \$18-\$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

### The Lalas, Burlesque

Fri., Dec. 8, 8pm. The Lalas, the best in burlesque. Show features classic rock and blues music, perfectly choreographed dance moves, and so much fringe you'll wonder how they got it all on the plane. dfv-wines.com. \$25. Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 12341 Irish Road, 217-488-6321.

## ■ Dance

### The Nutcracker

Dec. 2-3, 2-4pm. Presented by the Copper Coin Ballet Company with more than 100 local dancers. This timeless holiday classic has enchanted audiences for generations. Experience Clara's magical dream, and create

beautiful holiday memories for the young and young-at-heart. uispac.com. \$42-\$50. Sangamon Auditorium, UIS, 1 University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

### The Nutcracker Ballet

Sat., Dec. 2pm, 2-3, 6-7pm and Sun., Dec. 3, 2-3pm. This fast-paced, family friendly adaptation of the holiday classic is performed by dancers from the Springfield Youth Performance Group Studio Company, Preparatory Company and local young dancers, including cast members from Boys and Girls Clubs. Call for ticket info. syppfoundation.org. \$15-25. Sacred Heart-Griffin High School, 1200 W. Washington, 217-553-4475.

## ■ Art & Architecture

### Call for participants - Art After Hours

Dec. 2-20. Participants sought for this biennial workers' art exhibit. The program gives employers of





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# Dana-Thomas House



**Dana Thomas House Evening Holiday Tours**  
Wednesdays Nov 22, 29, 6, 13, 20 - 4pm-7pm  
Tours every 30 minutes starting at 4 pm, last tour 6:30 pm


**Dana Thomas House Festive Fridays**  
Fridays Nov 17, 24, Dec 1, 15, 22 - 4pm-7pm  
Tours every 30 minutes starting at 4 pm, last tour 6:30 pm  
hot cocoa and s'mores in the courtyard,  
take home crafts

**Art Glass at Night Specialty Tour by Frank Marchant**  
Saturdays Dec 2nd 5:15pm and 6:30pm  
Dec 9th 5:15pm and 6:30pm

**Treasures: Wright and Japan**  
December 17th 10am and 1pm



301 East Lawrence Avenue  
Reservations required on Eventbrite  
217-782-6776  
[dnr.historicspringfield@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.historicspringfield@illinois.gov)

## UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN

G.F. Handel: Messiah, Part One • C.P.E. Bach & W.A. Mozart  
J.S. Bach: Magnificat

**Springfield Choral Society**  
Jacobsen Woollen, director

**Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30pm**  
**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**

# Tickets are \$20

At the door or online at [springfieldchoralsociety.org](http://springfieldchoralsociety.org)  
25% of proceeds benefit The Matthew Project



## HOLIDAY

businesses, government agencies and medical and educational institutions a chance to show their creativity and accomplishments outside work. Call the Springfield Area Arts Council for info. [springfieldartsco.org](http://springfieldartsco.org). M.G. Nelson Family Gallery, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-753-3519.

### Senior Crafty Creations

First Wednesday of every month, 10:30-11:30am. Through March 6. A series of casual craft meetups for seniors on the first Wednesday of each month. Connect, create and relax with other people in an easygoing environment. All supplies provided. To help with supplies, consider donating \$5 per session. Free. Ball-Chatham Senior Center, Chatham, 111 W. Mulberry St., 217-483-2713.

### Watch and Clock Show and Sale

Sat., Dec. 2, 11am-2pm. This show provides a great opportunity to buy, sell or simply look and learn about mechanical clocks and watches. Have a clock, wristwatch or pocket watch and want to learn more about it or sell it? Bring it along. Sponsored by The Route 66 Watch & Clock Club. See the Facebook page for more info. Free. Knights of Columbus Casey's Pub, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 309-643-5241.

## Film & Television

### Christmas Classics

Dec. 15-16, 7pm. Bring the whole family for these timeless classics. Friday showing *It's a Wonderful Life* and Saturday showing Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. \$10 at the door or \$5 with a food bank donation. Doors and bar open at 6pm. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

## Auditions

### Auditions for drama, comedy

Fri. and Sat., Dec. 1 and 2. Become a part of a new and original theatrical experience. Have You Scene It Productions will be holding auditions for a comedy and drama. Performances dates are April 12-13. Call for details. Grant Conservatory of Music and Dance, 501 W. Elliott Ave., 217-553-8282.

## Food & Drink

### Mark Twain Holiday Tea

Sat., Dec. 9, 1pm. Learn about popular tea customs while participating in a special program focused on Mark Twain. Includes tea, tea foods, gifts and original programming. [edwardsplace.org](http://edwardsplace.org). \$50. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St.,

217-523-2631.

### Holly Fair and Bake Sale

Sat., Dec. 2, 10am-3pm. A delicious annual holiday tradition. Gyros, vegetable soup, baklava, spinach pie and pastries. Eat in or take out. St. Anthony's Hellenic Orthodox Church, 1600 S. Glenwood Ave., 217-522-7010.

## History

### What Was Ours film screening

Tue., Nov. 28, 6-8pm. Learn more about repatriation as the documentary *What Was Ours* follows members of the Arapaho Tribe as they navigate the return of their sacred and cultural items from the Chicago Field Museum. A Q&A session with Heather Miller will follow the film. [heather.a.miller@illinois.gov](mailto:heather.a.miller@illinois.gov). Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-5992.

### Christmas at the Front

Sat., Dec. 9, 2-8pm. Learn how soldiers of the past celebrated Christmas on the front. The Soldiers Aid Society will be on hand to show how they helped soldiers during the Civil War, not only at Christmas, but year round. The living history detachment will be on hand to answer questions. Illinois State Military Museum, 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd., 217-761-3910.

## Faith & Philosophy

### 1850s Community Carol Sing

Sat., Dec. 16, 6-7:30pm. Travel back in time to the 1850s this Christmas season, and join Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln for special music, worship and a carol sing. The Lincolns will greet visitors, and everyone is invited to attend in period costumes. [lincolnschurch.org](http://lincolnschurch.org). First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

### Candle-Lighting Service

Sun., Dec. 17, 6-7pm. Reawaken the Christ light within. Music, singing and fellowship. [unityofspringfieldil.org](http://unityofspringfieldil.org). Love offering. Unity of Springfield, 417 Cordelia, 217-523-5897.

### Christmas Eve Service

Sun., Dec. 24, 5pm. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

### Christmas with Hope Church

Sat., Dec. 23, 7-8pm and Sun., Dec. 24, 11am-12pm, 1-2pm, 3-4pm. We see different pictures in different seasons of our life. This holiday season we consider our different frames for Christmas and share the most wonderful time of the year. Children's programming both days for kids



Copper Coin Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker* at UIS Performing Arts Center on Dec. 2-3. PHOTO BY PATRICK RUSSELL

up to fifth grade. ASL interpreter provided at Saturday's 11am program. [myhope.church](http://myhope.church). Hope Church, 3000 Lenhart Road, 217-787-1446.

### Comedy concert with Greg Tamblyn

Sun., Dec. 10, 12-1:30pm. Get a healthy dose of conscious comic relief and enjoy some hilarious, heartfelt musical musings and mindful mischief. Greg Tamblyn's songs and stories impart empowering life messages and spiritual insights through the right-brain doorway of music and laughter. \$20. Unity of Springfield, 417 Cordelia, 217-523-5897.

### Labyrinth Walk

Mon., Nov. 27, 6-8:30pm. This walking meditation is a unique spiritual experience. [aluuc.org](http://aluuc.org). Free. Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 745 Woodside Road, 217-801-2698.

### Christmas at Calvary

Sun., Dec. 10, 6pm. A night of celebrating the birth of the Savior through songs of praise, worship and rejoicing. Calvary Church Hazel Dell Campus, 501 W. Hazel Dell Road, 217-546-9700.

### Christmas at West Side

Fri., Dec. 22, 5pm and 7pm, Sat. and Sun., Dec. 23 and 24, 1pm, 3pm and 5pm. A starting point for people to discover how much the birth of Jesus matters for them. West Side Christian Church, 2850

Cider Mill Lane, 793-2800.

### Christmas Cantata

Sun., Dec. 10, 10:30am. Enjoy beautiful Christmas music performed by the New Life Choir and a full orchestra under the direction of Dr. See Tsai Chan. Springfield First United Methodist Church, 2941 S. Koke Mill Road, 217-793-9760.

## Holiday Observances

### Vietnam Christmas Remembrance

Sat., Dec. 2, 1pm. Honor and remember the Illinoisans listed as prisoners of war or missing in action (POW/MIA) during the Vietnam War. The names of the soldiers will be read. Families and friends are welcome to hang their weatherproof ornaments on the tree. [dnrhistoric.illinois.gov](http://dnrhistoric.illinois.gov). Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Oak Ridge Cemetery.

### Wreaths Across America

Sat., Dec. 16, 11-12am. A part of wreath-laying ceremonies conducted across the country at the same time as the ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Wreaths Across America is a nonprofit organization supported by volunteers and wreath sponsors. This year's theme is "Serve and Succeed." Free to attend. Camp Butler National Cemetery, 5063 Camp Butler Rd, (217) 492-4070.

## Holiday Happenings

### Thee Office Christmas Party

Sat., Dec. 16, 6:30pm. The Office Christmas Party for All. Includes hors d'oeuvres, ugly sweater contest, games, photo booth, pictures with Santa, food truck, white elephant gift exchange and more. Launch event of The Culture Experience LLC. Partygoers must register at [thecultureexperience.com](http://thecultureexperience.com).

### Alternative Holiday Fair

Fri., Dec. 1, 4-8pm, Sat., Dec. 2, 9am-2pm. Shop fair trade goods, enjoy a meal and learn about local and national nonprofits. Items for sale include toys, jewelry, housewares, scarves, ornaments, bake sale and more. Call for more information. First Church of the Brethren, 2115 Yale Blvd. 217-685-1610.

### Candlelight Christmas

Fri., Dec. 8, 5-9pm and Sat., Dec. 9, 3:30-9pm. Experience the sights and scents of Christmases long ago in the candlelit historical buildings. If you catch a chill from the nippy weather, warm up by the crackling fire in the stone fireplace. Clayville Historic Site, Pleasant Plains, Route 125, 217-481-4430.

### Caroling at the Carillon and Jingle Bells Spectacular

Sun., Dec. 10, 3-5:30pm. Gather around a roaring bonfire and sing

Christmas carols accompanied by the Carillon. The Trinity Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Jan Zepp, will provide musical interludes. Free. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-3853.

### Christmas at Sugar Creek

Sat., Nov. 25, 10am-3pm. A holiday tradition. Fifty vendors, used book sale, bake sale and one-stop holiday shopping. Free admission. Non-perishable food items welcome for the local food pantry. Free admission. Sugar Creek United Methodist Church, Chatham, 1022 New City Road, 217-725-4359.

### Christmas Market

Sat., Dec. 2, 10am-5pm. Find unique gifts not found at the Big Box stores. Includes photos with the Grinch, musical performances, make-and-take kid crafts, and gingerbread cookie decorating. See the Facebook page for more info. \$5 or \$11 for ages 3-12. Brinkerhoff Mansion, 1500 N. 5th St., 217-361-5555.

### Christmas tree lighting

Sat., Nov. 25, 4pm. Kick off the holiday shopping season in downtown on Small Business Saturday with the annual lighting of the Christmas tree. [downtownspringfield.org](http://downtownspringfield.org). Free. Old State Capitol Plaza, between Sixth and Fifth streets at Adams, 217-544-1723.



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## HOLIDAY

### Christmas with Santa

Sat., Dec. 2, 10am-2pm. Clayville Historic Site, Pleasant Plains, Route 125, 217-481-4430.

### First Night Springfield

Sun., Dec. 31. An annual celebration of the arts with live music, dance and art exhibits at various downtown venues. A family-friendly, handicapped-accessible and affordable event. Snacks available for purchase. \$20, children \$5. Hosted by the Springfield Area Arts Council. Downtown Springfield. 217-544-1723.

### Happy HoliGays

Sat., Dec. 9, 9am-3pm. A local LGBTQ+ artisan open house. Visit with some favorite local creators, decorate cookies and get some Christmas goodies. Vendors, make and take ornaments and cocoa and cider bar. OUT on Second, Springfield, 120 E. Scarritt St., 217-528-5253.

### Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

Fri., Dec. 8, 5-8pm and Sat., Dec. 9, 9am-3pm. Unique gifts, beautiful art and crafts, and all items are handcrafted by local artisans. aluuc.org. Free admission. Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 745 Woodside Road, 217-585-9550.

### Holiday Craft Fair

Fri., Dec. 1, 10am-3pm. Sewn, knitted, crocheted and woven items, pottery, gift baskets, bead work, Christmas decorations and more, plus baked good. Cash or checks only. Jubilee Farm, 6760 Old Jacksonville Road, 217-787-6927.

### Holiday Embroidery

Sat., Dec. 2, 9am-12pm. Create small embroidered objects appropriate for the winter holidays and gift-giving. edwardsplace.org. \$25 members; \$35 others. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

### Holiday Lights Parade

Sat., Dec. 2, 5:30pm. Begins at dusk. A dazzling event for the season with a possible sighting of the jolly old elf himself. Hosted by the Springfield Jaycees. Starts west on Jefferson Street to Fifth Street to Monroe Street to Sixth Street and ends at Washington Street. Free. Downtown Springfield, Downtown, 217-544-1723.

### Holiday Open House

Sat., Dec. 2, 1-4pm. See Edwards Place decked out in holiday finery, listen to Christmas songs played on a piano that Lincoln once listened to and visit with Santa who will be dressed in

his Civil War era Christmas attire. Refreshments served. edwardsplace.org. Free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

### Holiday Tours

Experience the beautiful holiday decorations at the Illinois Governor's Mansion with a 30-minute tour. eventbrite.com. Free. Illinois Governor's Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-210-1020.

### Holiday tree lighting ceremony

Fri., Nov. 24, 5-5:30pm. Watch a short parade down Plaza Drive followed by the lighting of the beautiful trees in the Plaza. Merchants will be open offering great merchandise for the holidays. bunnngourmet.com. Free. Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 2941 Plaza Dr., 217-971-3996.

### Holiday Zoo Lights

Thursday through Sunday, 5-9pm through Dec. 17, then daily through Dec. 23. Take a stroll through the zoo and enjoy thousands of lights and themed lighted displays, stopping at the photo opportunities for your holiday pics. Enjoy the Zoo Choo Express hot chocolate bar or roast a marshmallow over the fire pit. Henson Robinson Zoo, 1100 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-585-1821.

### Jacksonville Festival of Lights

Nov. 24-Dec. 31, 5-9pm. This magnificent drive-thru experience will be the festive highlight of the holiday season. Food pantry donations accepted. \$10 per car. Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 110 N. Westgate, 217-245-5119.

### Jubilee Farm Holiday Craft Fair

Fri., Dec. 1 through Sun., Dec. 3, 10am-3pm. Holiday craft fair with baked goods. Free gifts for those who bring their own bag. jubileefarm.info. No entrance fee. Jubilee Farm, 6760 Old Jacksonville Road, 217-787-6927.

### Local Small Business Holiday Market

Sat., Nov. 25, 9am-4pm. Support local independent businesses and causes from across the state and shop small at this annual holiday market. Besides vendors, it includes Santa, Bluey, gift wrapping, excerpts of *The Nutcracker* by the Springfield Youth Performance Group, salsa dancing and an American Business Club Amtryke giveaway. illinoislocal.org. \$3. Illinois State Fairgrounds Exposition Building, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-391-4302.

### New Year's Eve Masquerade Party

Fri., Dec. 29, 11:15am. Sparkling juice, appetizers, masquerade mask, and live music by Curt Smith. centrallseniors.org. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-528-4035.

### Small Business Saturday and Holiday Walks Kickoff

Sat., Nov. 25. Many of the unique and charming downtown businesses will be open with extended hours and holiday specials. See the tree lighting at 4pm at the corner of Fifth and Adams Street. Holly, The Lighted Bus will be there along with Santa, and Abe and Mary Lincoln. Downtown Springfield, Downtown, 217-544-1723.

### Springfield Holiday

#### Extravaganza Winter Show

Sun., Dec. 10, 11am-6pm. Family-friendly holiday craft fair with over 100 vendors, live entertainment, an old-fashioned cake walk, visits with Santa, concessions and more. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-725-8047.

### Villa DeWolf Christmas Open House

Sat., Dec. 2, 2-5pm. Enjoy an afternoon of conversation, music and visits by Gus and Annie Ayers and family, and Mr. Lincoln. Music provided by pianist Tim Chipman, refreshments and tours. Adults \$15, children \$5. Villa DeWolf, Jacksonville, 876 W. State St., 707-349-7790.

### Winter Centerpiece Workshop

Sat., Dec. 9, 9-10:30am, 12:30-2pm. Construct a winter centerpiece for your table, made with fresh evergreens and colorful blooms. springfieldparks.org. \$50-\$55. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

### Winter Nights at the Museum

Wednesdays, Saturdays, 4-7pm. Through Dec. 23. The museum is joining in the Holiday Walks with dance selections from *The Nutcracker* by the Copper Coin Ballet Company, and winter-themed arts and crafts for kids in the Winter Wonder Workshop. in Lincoln's Cafe. presidentlincoln.illinois.gov. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

### Fundraisers and Galas

#### Giving Tree Fundraiser

Friday, Nov. 24 through Sunday, Dec. 31. Help animals at the Animal Protective League of Springfield by visiting participating businesses and selecting an ornament off a displayed tree. Each ornament

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### Sunday, Dec. 17, 6:30 pm - Candle Lighting Service

Reawaken the Christ light within. Music, singing, and fellowship.

### Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:00 am - Christmas Sunday Service

### Sunday, Dec. 31, 10 am - "Burning Bowl" Releasing Ceremony

Release all that no longer serves us as we start the New Year.

### Monday, Jan. 1, 6 pm - Crystallize Your Intentions for 2024

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## Alternative Holiday Fair

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Saturday, December 2 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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## HOLIDAY

features an item needed by the APL. Buy the item and place it in the donation bin at the business or bring it to the APL. See the website for a list of businesses. [apl-shelter-org](http://apl-shelter-org). Animal Protective League, 1001 Taintor Road, 217-544-7387.

### Springfield Urban League 97th Anniversary Dinner

Fri., Dec. 1, 5:30-9:30pm. "Empowering Communities: Building Strength, Equity, and Opportunity." Acclaimed filmmaker Ryan Coogler will be the keynote speaker. Social hour at 5:30pm, dinner and program at 6:30pm, followed by entertainment and a reception. [springfieldul.org](http://springfieldul.org). \$75 per person, tables \$800. Crowne Plaza Springfield, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy., 217-789-0830 ext. 1100.

### Children's Corner

**Junior and Senior Naturalists**  
First Saturday of every month.. Through Dec. 2. A hands-on nature exploration program. At each session participants will learn about a different nature topic, make a craft and enjoy outdoor play and exploration. Junior naturalists ages 5-8 meet 10am-12pm. Senior naturalists ages 9-12 meet 1-3pm. [lincolnmemorialgarden.org](http://lincolnmemorialgarden.org). \$15. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

### Little Lincoln's Fireside Tales: Thank You

Tue., Nov. 28, 10-11am. Join the ALPLM's Education Team as it shares stories and activities to express its gratitude and learn the magic words, "Thank You." Can't make it in person? Check out the virtual option via Zoom at 9am, Thursday, Nov. 30. [presidentlincoln.illinois.gov](http://presidentlincoln.illinois.gov). Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

### Meet St. Nicholas, the real Santa

Sat., Dec. 9, 2:30-5:30pm. Join in the fun and excitement. Get a photo with St. Nicholas, enjoy a hot chocolate, take home a coloring book and candy. Free. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 815 S. Second St., 217-544-5135.

### Mission Day

Sat., Dec. 2, 11am-2:30pm. Board games for kids ages 4-16. All kids receive a gift. Winners of game tournaments receive a special prize. Adult volunteers to supervise games are welcome. Parents asked to bring store-bought cookies only. Sponsored by the Freedom in Holiness Mission. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

### The Polar Express Pajama Party

Sat., Nov. 25, 1, 6pm and Sun., Nov. 26, 1pm. Be greeted by conductors, and welcomed to the cocoa party by dining car servers. Young travelers will also enjoy crafting and cocoa before continuing on to a special screening of the film. A photo with a special holiday guest is included. [atthelegacy.com](http://atthelegacy.com). \$15 advance; \$20 day of show. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

### Sensory-Friendly Visit Times

First Sunday of every month, 9-11am. Through Dec. 1. Lights and noises are turned down to make the museum more comfortable for visitors with sensory differences so they can explore and discover the galleries at their own pace. Headphones are available for loan at the admissions desk. [kidzeum.org](http://kidzeum.org). Admission. Kidzeum of Health and Science Children's Museum, 412 E. Adams St., 217-971-4435.

### Tiny Adventurers

First Wednesday of every month, 10-11am, 1-2pm. Through Dec. 6. A nature exploration program for children ages 3 to 5 with an adult chaperone. Participants will learn about a nature topic, make a craft and enjoy a story. [lincolnmemorialgarden.org](http://lincolnmemorialgarden.org). Free. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

### Treat Tree Workshop

Thu., Dec. 21, 9-11am. Get messy and make wildlife-friendly ornaments for your trees. Participants ages 5-9 will make different kinds of edibles out of birdseed, spices, and fruits. [springfieldparks.org](http://springfieldparks.org). \$35-\$40. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

### Nature, Science & Environment

#### Winter Holiday Floral Show

Dec. 2-20. Monday-Friday 12-4pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-5pm. Enjoy over 500 poinsettias nestled among the decorated fresh evergreens and lush tropical foliage. Free. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

#### Fresh Evergreen Wreath Making Workshop

Sat., Dec. 2, 9am-12pm or 1:30-4:30pm. Bring pruning shears and any custom decorations for your wreaths. Plant materials, wreath frames and wire will be provided. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. \$50-\$55. Washington Park Botanical

Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

### Springfield Civic Garden Club

Mon., Dec. 4, 9:30am. Four club members, who also are floral designers, will share their favorite seasonal floral arrangements and give arranging tips. Includes raffle of the arrangements. Visitors are welcome. For more info, call or visit the Facebook page. Free. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-899-3283.

### Lectures & Meetings

#### Inner City Older Neighborhoods meeting

Mon., Nov. 27, 5:30-7pm. The annual ICON meeting and Good Neighbor Awards. Open to the public. Includes dinner and cash bar. Dinner is free for members. Membership dues are \$20. Call to make reservations. \$25. Maldaner's Restaurant & Catering, 222 S. Sixth St., 217-218-9465.

#### Working Toward Systemic Equity with Courageous Vulnerability

Wed., Nov. 29, 6-7:30pm. Joe F. Bozeman III, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at Georgia Tech, will introduce the Systemic Equity Framework and its application in civil and environmental engineering research, offering guidance on achieving equitable outcomes through courageously vulnerable actions. [uis.edu](http://uis.edu). Free. UIS Brookens Auditorium, One University Plaza, 217-206-6245.

### Bulletin Board

#### Annual Food Drive

Sat., Dec. 2, 9am-12pm. Presented by the AAUW Springfield Branch and Junior League of Springfield, Inc. to benefit the Central Illinois Food Bank, Springfield area micro pantries, Springfield Immigrant Advocacy Network, and UIS Cares Food Pantry. Food, household items, personal care items and monetary donations are welcome. Prevention First, Inc., 2800 Montvale Dr., 217-793-7353.

#### Illinois Product Holiday Market

Fri., Dec. 1, 9am-4pm, Sat., Dec. 2, 11am-6pm and Sun., Dec. 3, 11am-4pm. Enjoy seasonal shopping at an outdoor market decked out for the holidays. Browse the vendors under festive twinkling lights. Live music, ready-to-eat food, Illinois Wine tent, prize giveaways and children's activities. Y Block, north of the Governor's Mansion, 217-782-2172.

Downtown Springfield Inc's

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# A writer as big as Texas

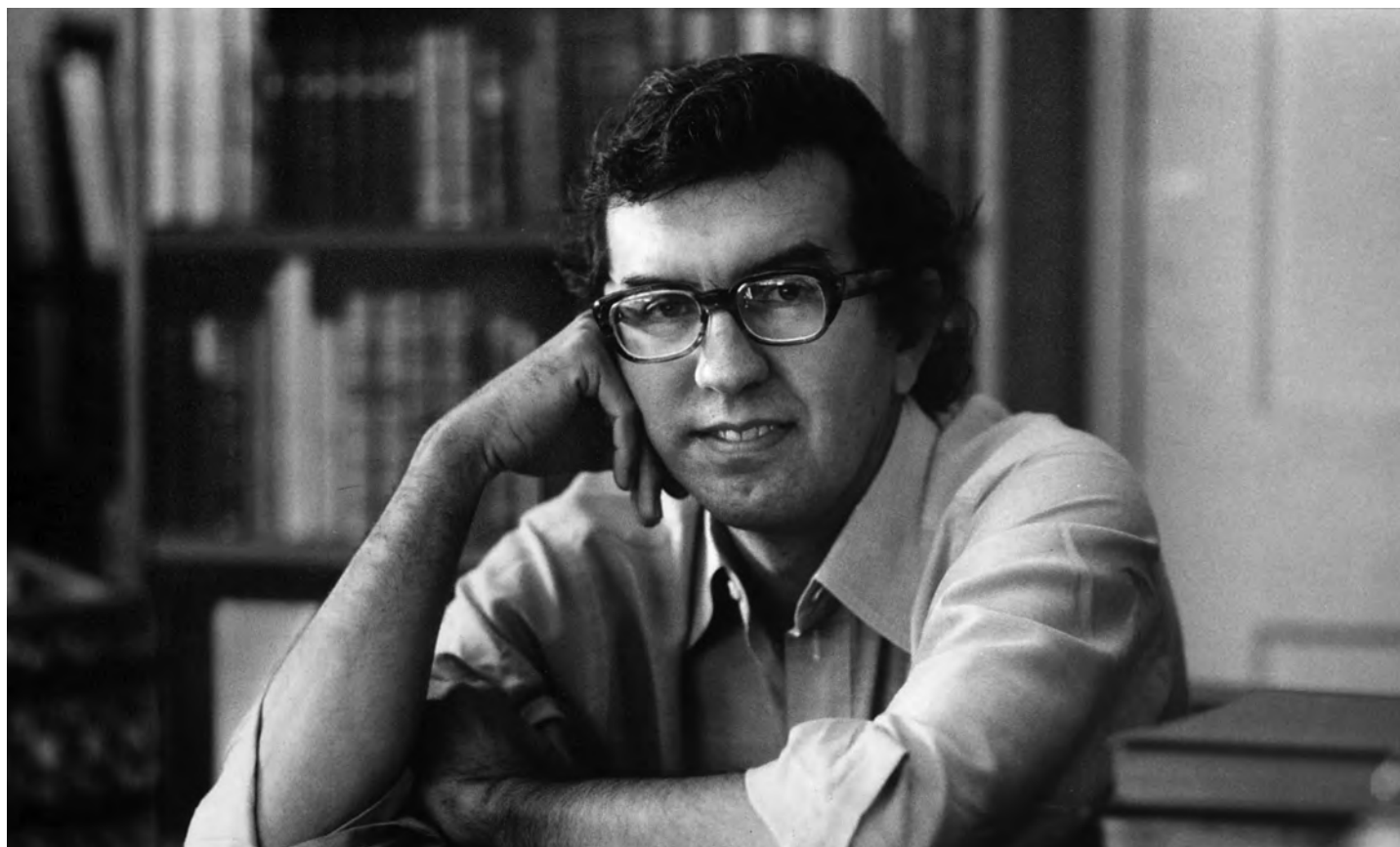
The new biography of the late Larry McMurtry, someone Illinoisans should get to know

BOOK REVIEW | Stuart Shiffman

Why, you might ask, am I writing a review of a biography of Texas author Larry McMurtry in the Arts and Culture section of *Illinois Times*? It is a good question because the 473-page biography, *Larry McMurtry: a Life*, by Tracy Daugherty, has little connection to Illinois. The only link to our state that I could find in McMurtry's life was his acceptance to the University of Illinois as a graduate student in the school's writing program. It was one of two programs that accepted the young writer. He chose the other school, Rice University, and, as is often remarked, the rest is history.

I write about him because I read him, and I hope this will serve as an introduction for any *Illinois Times* readers who don't yet know him. McMurtry is an important figure in American culture. His books on the American West went a long way towards painting a true portrait of the West, its mythical figures and unique culture. McMurtry's writing career spanned more than 60 years and, disciplining himself to write at least 10 pages a day, he wrote more than 40 books. His first novel, *Horseman Pass By*, was published when McMurtry was 25 years old. The story became the Academy Award-winning film, *Hud*, and McMurtry's career as a writer was established. The author's third book, *The Last Picture Show*, was a semi-biographical novel of his youthful years in Archer City, Texas, a one-stoplight town later made famous in Peter Bogdanovich's film. The film is in the top 100 of the American Film Institute, secured Academy Awards for Cloris Leachman and Ben Johnson and won critical acclaim and many artistic awards. At the time of its premiere in Archer City, Larry McMurtry was not yet 30 years old.

Young McMurtry never strayed far from his grandfather's cattle ranch 18 miles from Archer City. His passion for books and writing was self-acquired. He did not grow up in a house or community that was book-centered. After graduation from North Texas University, McMurtry embarked upon a writing career. He was awarded a master's degree from Rice University and then participated in a one-year writing program at Stanford under the leadership of Wallace Stegner. It was at Stanford that McMurtry, needing to supplement his income, embarked upon a life of collecting and selling books. It was also at Stanford where he met another young writer, Ken Kesey, whose *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* would become one of the world's best-loved novels. Throughout his life, McMurtry had a unique ability to acquire friendships with writers and filmmakers.



The writer Larry McMurtry at his home in 1978. He is the subject of *Larry McMurtry: a Life*, by Tracy Daugherty, St. Martin's Press, 2023.

His first marriage ended in divorce but during his life he would have relationships with actresses Cybill Shepherd, Diane Keaton and writer Susan Sontag. The material in Daugherty's biography touching upon these relationships comes from McMurtry's own writings and Daugherty seems content to rely upon that material without deeper investigation.

McMurtry was a disciplined writer. He completed his writing early in the day and using a Hermes portable typewriter. His books covered a wide range of subjects, but the main subject was Texas, both contemporary and historical. His goal was to destroy many of the myths of his home state. Accomplishing this task occasionally led to McMurtry facing conflict from native Texans. When his novel *The Last Picture Show* was filmed in Archer City, the local newspaper published an angry letter about writers who degraded and attacked the morals and attitudes of Texans. Throughout his life McMurtry maintained a love-hate relationship with Archer City.

He owned and operated Booked Up, a large bookstore in the community, which during his life occupied multiple buildings on the main street of the town. At one point there were four buildings housing 450,000 books. Before his death he held a multiday auction that brought booksellers from across the United States to Archer City.

His writing also transferred well to the film screen. In addition to *Hud* and *The Last Picture Show*, his novel *Terms of Endearment*, published in 1975, grossed \$165 million as a film and garnered five Academy Awards. His novel *Lonesome Dove* won a Pulitzer Prize and remains one of the most popular television miniseries in history. Ironically, McMurtry viewed the success of his book somewhat differently than did the critics. "I thought I had written about a harsh time and some pretty harsh people, but to the public at large, I had produced something nearer to an idealization; instead of a poor man's *Inferno* filled with violence, faithlessness and betrayal, I had actually delivered

a kind of *Gone With the Wind* of the West, a turnabout I'll be mulling over for a long, long time." In 2005, McMurtry and Diana Ossana wrote the screenplay adaptation of an Annie Proulx short story titled *Brokeback Mountain*. It won the two writers an Oscar. McMurtry accepted the award wearing a tuxedo jacket, blue jeans and western dress boots.

McMurtry wrote about and lived in an ever-changing culture. After he died in 2021, the Texas legislature honored his memory with a resolution celebrating his life. Recently, a member of that same legislature said that Texas might need to ban *Lonesome Dove* from its schools because it was too sexually explicit. *Larry McMurtry: a Life* is an extraordinary biography of a talented writer and a unique figure of American literature. □

*Retired Judge Stuart Shiffman of Springfield frequently reviews books for Illinois Times on subjects including sports, history, biography and courtroom fiction.*







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# A party in your freezer

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

Great food takes time, a commodity that's in notoriously short supply during the frenetic holiday season. The freezer is a savvy host's best friend, especially if you're wanting to wow guests with sumptuous homemade treats. Whether you're planning ahead for a grand holiday soiree or just want to be prepared for last-minute gatherings, these freezer-friendly hors d'oeuvres are reliable favorites. While these recipes can be time-consuming to prepare initially, they keep extremely well in the freezer and are easy to customize. The homemade rough puff pastry is a loving touch in my baked brie recipe, but feel free to substitute store-bought, all-butter puff pastry if you're short on time.

## Savory stuffed mushrooms

36-48 button mushrooms, depending on size, washed well

1 medium onion  
2 cloves garlic  
2 stalks celery  
1 tablespoon butter  
½ cup breadcrumbs  
1 egg  
½ cup milk  
1 pound sausage  
2 tablespoons chopped parsley  
2 cups shredded cheese  
Salt and pepper to taste

Remove the mushroom stems and reserve. Use a small spoon to scoop out the gills of the mushroom and hollow it slightly – add the scrapings to the reserved stems. Place the prepared mushroom cap on a lined baking tray. Place the mushroom's stems and pieces in the bowl of a food processor and chop very finely. You can do this by hand, but make sure to thoroughly chop the stems.

Heat the butter in a skillet over medium-high heat. When it's hot, add the finely chopped mushrooms along with a tiny pinch of salt. Stir periodically until the mushrooms are no longer releasing moisture. While the mushrooms are cooking, place the onion, garlic and celery into the food processor and chop finely. Add the chopped onion mixture, along with a small pinch of salt, to the mushrooms in the skillet and cook until those vegetables cease to release any liquid. Transfer to a bowl and allow to cool.

Add the egg, milk and breadcrumbs to the vegetable mixture and mix well to combine, then add the sausage. Use your clean hands to mix until just combined.

Preheat the oven to 375. Use a tablespoon to fill the prepared caps with the sausage mixture and arrange on a baking sheet.



Homemade baked brie in a puffed pastry.

If planning to serve immediately, place a small sprinkle of cheese over the top of each mushroom. If planning to freeze, do not bake with the cheese yet. Bake for 20-28 minutes, depending on the size of the mushrooms.

Remove from the oven and either serve or set aside to cool slightly.

To freeze, place the cooled mushrooms in a single layer inside a zip-top bag. Freeze flat on a tray for up to a month. To reheat, preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Arrange the mushrooms on a lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with cheese, then bake for 8-12 minutes, depending on size, until mushrooms are hot and the cheese is bubbly.

## Brie en croute

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1/2 cup white whole wheat flour (or use all AP)  
½ teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon baking powder  
2 sticks frozen unsalted butter

½ cup heavy cream, cold  
1 8-ounce wheel of young brie  
1/4 cup chutney, pepper jelly or jam of your choice  
1 egg, well-beaten  
Sliced apples, to serve

Combine the dry ingredients in a bowl and mix well. Grate the butter into the dry ingredients and mix briefly with a fork or fingers to form a crumbly meal with some pea-sized lumps of butter remaining. Add the cream and mix very briefly before turning the mixture out onto a floured surface. Knead it once or twice to bring the dough together, then shape it into a log and roll it into a rectangle about 8 inches by 11 inches. Sprinkle with flour on both sides then fold the dough in thirds like a letter. Roll it again into an 8 inch by 11 inch rectangle, fold in thirds, then wrap in plastic and let rest for 30 minutes.

Roll the dough into a 13-inch square on

a floured surface. Place the wheel of brie in the center of the dough and spread ¼ cup of chutney or jelly over the top of the brie. Fold the corners of dough over the brie to meet in the middle, then crimp the edges to seal and brush with beaten egg. Freeze on a parchment-lined tray for 30 minutes, then wrap well with plastic wrap and store in the freezer in a zip-top bag for up to a month.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Remove the plastic wrap and place on a lined baking sheet. Bake in a 400-degree oven for 30-35 minutes until the crust is golden brown. Remove from the oven and let rest at least 20 minutes before serving. Serve with sliced apples. To slice apples ahead of time and prevent them from browning, dissolve 1 teaspoon of salt in a pint of cool water and add a squeeze of lemon juice. Soak apples in salt solution for 10 minutes, then pat dry and store in zip-top bags.

## Spinach, caramelized onion and gruyere turnovers

1 pound yellow onions, peeled and sliced thin  
2 tablespoons butter or olive oil  
1 10-ounce package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry  
1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme or rosemary  
8 ounces cream cheese, softened  
8 ounces grated gruyere  
⅛ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 pound frozen phyllo pastry  
1 pound butter, melted and cooled

Sauté the sliced onions in butter with a pinch of salt until golden brown and caramelized, about 40 minutes. Add the caramelized onions, spinach, herbs, cream cheese, gruyere and nutmeg. Mix well and season to taste with salt and pepper. Let cool.

To assemble the triangles, place one sheet of phyllo on a clean, dry surface longways in front of you (cover the remaining phyllo with a towel to prevent them from drying out). Brush half the sheet lengthwise with butter, then fold in half to create a long rectangle. Brush half of this sheet lengthwise again with butter, then fold once again to create a long, skinny rectangle. Place a tablespoon of the filling onto the end of the strip and form a triangle by folding the right corner to the opposite side, similar to folding a flag, continuing until the entire strip is folded up. Repeat with remaining filling and phyllo. Freeze flat on a tray, then transfer to an airtight container and store in the freezer. To bake, preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Arrange turnovers on a baking tray and bake until golden brown, about 12 minutes. □





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## MUSIC

# Thanks for the music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Hello, everyone, and welcome to the 2023 Thanksgiving edition of *Now Playing*. As you give those thanks on Thanksgiving Day proper, don't forget to give a shout out, however humble, to all of the musicians, venues, fans and participants in general that make our music community the vibrant and scintillating scene it is.

As usual, your cherished *Illinois Times* comes out on Wednesday during Thanksgiving week to give folks a chance to grab the paper (either literally off the stand or figuratively online) before the ensuing holiday and coming weekend. This also allows us to cover Thanksgiving Eve for live music, a day that has truly become the biggest party night of the year over the past few decades. It's easy to understand why the Night Before Thanksgiving, also known as Blackout Wednesday or in a new one for me, Drinksgiving, is such a big party night for those who have nothing to do the next day but eat, nap and watch football on TV. In our capacity as a live music column, we shall diligently report on all of the goings-on, then after a hopefully quiet day of nourishment and resting on the holiday, continue through the weekend with commendable entertainment events.

Now let's take a gander at what's on the menu for this Wednesday night in our celebrated *IT* music listings. There's a slew of acoustic acts, including Gracia Harrison at the Buckhart Tavern (Buckhart), Devin Williams at the Bird Tavern, Thomas J Beverly at Oogie's & JJ's (near Glenarm), Michael Allen at the Next Stop Saloon (Mount Pulaski), Chicago Farmer with Jon-Mark Robb at Broadgauge (Petersburg, as a ticketed event) and, the already scheduled, but likely in for a surge this night, open mic with Silas and Joel at Boone's. Bands on tap include The Final Foursome Band with Hipbone Sam at the Final Four (Sherman), Brandy Kristin Band at the Funky Monkey (Taylorville), Sushi Roll at The Hangout (Jacksonville), No Backup Plans at Weebles, Branded at Y-Zoe's (Taylorville), UNCHAiNED at Danenberger Family Vineyards (near New Berlin), RockHouse at the Main Gate and Lick Creek at Motorheads. I have no idea why so many of these shows are in the small towns around the city, but as you can see in the undeniable print, they are.

As I mentioned last week, and as an astute reader you probably already knew, there ain't much happening on Thursday night (even though one might think there is opportunity here for a big time somewhere after the meal digests), so let's dig into the weekend that



Gracia Harrison plays the Buckhart Tavern this Wednesday night.

sallies forth after our day of Thanksgiving.

Friday explodes with a ton of cool shows in a very wide assortment of styles including Wayward Motel and They Came in Drovers at the Gin Mill, the Spoonbenders at George Rank's, Elvis Himself at Harvest Market, Suns of Circumstance at Blue Grouch, Captain Geech at Casey's Pub, Off the Wall at the Curve Inn and Angel Brown at Lime Street.

Saturday has stuff all over including The Rick Mari Band at Mowie's Cue and a couple downtown gigs with Johnnie Owens at Ad Astra and Pickin' Pear at Buzz Bomb.

If you have any steam left by Sunday (which could understandably be more of a DoneDay than a FunDay), enjoy your afternoon with Josie Lowder and Nate Cozadd at Hill Prairie Winery (near Oakford) or Bruce Baise at Lucky's on the Square (Petersburg). Then again, perhaps the Sound Celebration Chorus presenting *Thanks for the Holidays*, its third annual free Christmas concert, at St. John's Lutheran Church would be in line as a kickoff for the Yuletide season.

Have yourself a joyous Thanksgiving time. □



## MUSIC

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

Attention bands, bars and musicians: submit your shows and photos online at [www.illinoistimes.com](http://www.illinoistimes.com) or by email [calendar@illinoistimes.com](mailto:calendar@illinoistimes.com).

### Wednesday Nov 22

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

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

**Gracia Harrison**  
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester,  
7pm-1am

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

**Karaoke**  
Crows Mill Pub, 8-11pm

**Deja Voodoo**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**UNCHAINED**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 8pm

**Hipbone Sam**  
Final Four Sports Bar, Sherman,  
8-10pm

**Brandy Kristin Band**  
The Funky Monkey, Taylorville,  
8pm-12am

**Sushi Roll**  
The Hangout Bar & Grill,  
Jacksonville, 8pm

**RockHouse**  
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-12am

**Thomas J Beverly**  
Oogie and JJ's Bar, Chatham,  
6:30-9:30pm

**Lick Creek**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar &  
Grill, Museum & Entertainment  
Complex, 7pm-12am

**Devin Williams**  
The Bird Tavern, 6-9pm

**Michael Allen**  
The Next Stop Saloon, Mount  
Pulaski, 8pm-12am

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

**No Backup Plans**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 8pm

**Branded**  
Y-Zoe's Bar, Taylorville, 8pm

### Friday Nov 24

**Laid Back Country Picker,  
Jason Evans**  
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

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

**Suns of Circumstance**  
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7am

**Professional Development**  
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

**Bruce Baise**  
Brookhills Golf Club, 7-10pm

**Buzzed Karaoke with DJ  
Smokey J**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 6-10pm

**Captain Geech and the Shrimp  
Shack Shooters**  
Casey's Pub, 7pm

**Off The Wall**  
Curve Inn, 6-9pm

**JUMP - America's Van Halen  
Experience**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 8pm



Sushi Roll plays Route 66 MotorHeads Saturday.

**Spoonbenders**  
George Rank's, 7:30-10:30pm

**it Wayward Motel, They  
Came in Doves**  
The Gin Mill, 7pm

**Tom Irwin**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse  
Brews, 6-9pm

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

**John Stevens**  
New Moon Cafe, Decatur,  
6:30-8:30pm

**Black Friday Karaoke**  
Pier 55 Lounge, 8pm-12am

**After Sunset**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar &  
Grill, Museum & Entertainment  
Complex, 8-11pm

**UNCHAINED**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-11pm

### Saturday Nov 25

**Johnnie Owens**  
Ad Astra Wine Bar and Market,  
2-5pm

**Pickin' Pear**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,  
7-10pm

**Broken Stone**  
Curve Inn, 7-10pm

**70s Acoustic Show**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse  
Brews, 6-9pm

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

**Gage McCoy**  
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

**The Rick Mari Band**  
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

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

**it Sushi Roll**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar  
& Grill, Museum & Entertainment  
Complex, 8pm

**Thomas J Beverly**  
Slaughterhouse Brewing Co.,  
Auburn, 6-9pm

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

**The Tangents**  
Walby's Place, Ashland, 7-10pm

### Sunday Nov 26

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

**Josie Lowder and Nate Cozadd**  
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

**Bruce Baise**  
Lucky's on the Square,  
Petersburg, 3-6pm

**William Marsala**  
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

**Thomas J Beverly**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-6pm

### Monday Nov 27

**RJ Mischo**  
The Alamo, 7pm

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

### Tuesday Nov 28

**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**  
Silver Sevens Gaming Pub &  
Parlor, 6:30-9:30pm.

**Open mic with Tom and Geoff**  
Wings Etc, 6:30-8:30pm

### Wednesday Nov 29

**MJ Curry Band**  
Benderz, Auburn, 7-10pm

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

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

**Karaoke**  
Crows Mill Pub, 8-11pm

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

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

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**Call Daron at  
217-679-7801  
or email  
[legals@illinoistimes.com](mailto:legals@illinoistimes.com)**



**Memorial Health**

**Memorial Health System seeks a Nuclear Medicine  
Technologist III in Springfield, IL.**

Duties: Responsible for patient care, using physics and math to decay out the radioactive isotopes and prepare doses for patients which includes calculation and measurement of the radioactivity within the dose. The technologist must be able to operate highly technical equipment and understand the properties of x radiation in addition to the beta radiation that is produced by the radiopharmaceuticals used in the treatment of the Molecular Imaging patients. The Molecular Imaging technologists work very closely with the Radiologist in the care and treatment of the patients. Requirements: Bachelor's in Nuclear Medicine Technology or closely related field. Must be registered nuclear medicine technology, ARRT-R or NMTCB, in good standing or registry eligible. The maximum allowable time to practice in a registration pending status is 3 months. Active license required from Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety in nuclear medicine. Maintain BLS CPR Cert. Full-time.

To apply: Send letter of application and resume to Eric Guthrie at 932 N Rutledge St, Springfield Illinois 62702.

Memorial Health System is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

**HELP WANTED**

Office help needed for medium size cemetery. Responsible for processing payroll, preparing quarterly taxes, enter information into spreadsheets and databases as well as other general typing. Prepare and maintain our paper files, answer phone and assist public

Caretaker for medium size cemetery. Responsible for all aspects of selling and digging graves, pour footings for grave markers, ordering supplies and preparing and maintaining paperwork for each function. Supervise and assist ground maintenance crew with mowing, string trimming and other duties in maintaining cemetery grounds. Must have a valid Illinois drivers license and the ability to operate a backhoe. Send resume to **Oak Hill Cemetery, 4688 Old Route 36, Springfield, IL 62702.**

**Real Estate Foreclosure**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff, v. JAMES PRICHARD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. No.: 2023FC79 NOTICE OF COURT SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the Court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. The sale shall be subject to Court approval. Buyer will be entitled to possession 30 days after the sale is confirmed by the Court. (A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Timothy J. Rigby Hart, Southworth & Witsman Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-0055 (B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 1832 East Keys Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62702 (C) Tax Identification Number: 14-23.0-376-009 (D) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Five room, approximately 806 square foot ranch on a concrete slab with two bedrooms, one bathroom, and one car garage. (E) No times have been specified in the judgment of foreclosure for inspection of the real estate prior to sale. (F) The time and place of the sale are:

Time: 9:00 a.m. December 12, 2023 Place: Sangamon County Courthouse 200 South Ninth Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 (G) The terms of the sale are: Twenty-five percent (25%) of sale price at time of sale and balance within twenty-four (24) hours. (H) Title will be conveyed subject to any liens or encumbrances prior to the mortgage of United Community Bank, all general real estate taxes, special assessments if any, easements and restrictions of record, and all encroachments, if any. UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930) Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535) Hart, Southworth & Witsman Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-0055 [trigby@hsw.net](mailto:trigby@hsw.net) [aprilaman@hsw.net](mailto:aprilaman@hsw.net) NOTE: This communication is made for the purpose of collecting a debt. Any information obtained in response to this communication may be used for that purpose.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff, v. 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. Case No. 2022-FC-256 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. (A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Suzanna Scherf BANK OF SPRINGFIELD 3400 Wabash Avenue Springfield, IL 62711 Telephone: (217) 529-5555 (B) The common address and other common descriptions, if any, of the real estate is: 2012 North 19th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702 (C) Parcel Number: 14-23.0-126-034 (D) Description of the improvement on the real estate is as follows: Single Family Residence (E) The real estate will not be open for inspection prior to sale. (F) The time and place of the sale is: 9:00 AM on December 12, 2023, on the 1st floor of 1 Copley Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701. (G) The terms of the sale are cash or certified funds at time of sale. (H) The subject property is sold subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate,

all general real estate taxes which have not yet become due and payable, with special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record, and existing leases, if any, applicable zoning laws; property is sold "AS IS, WHERE IS, and with no warranties", and without any representation as to quality or quantity of the title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff By: /s/ Brian D. Jones One of Its Attorneys SORLING NORTHRUP 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 Fax: 217-522-3173 E-Mail: [bdjones@sorlinglaw.com](mailto:bdjones@sorlinglaw.com)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS INTEGRITY SOLUTIONS REALTY, LLC, Plaintiff(s), vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARY LOU WATTS, CHARLES E. WATTS, JR., GERTRUDE PEYTON A/K/A TRUDY PEYTON, KENNETH CARY, STEPHANIE HURST, CINDY SUTHERIN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s). Case No. 22 FC 105 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on December 19, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and 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 said Judgment, to wit: Common Address: 839 SOUTH WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 P.I.N. 14-33-0-328-030 Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information. The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.



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 this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff  
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808  
Timothy R. Yuell - ARDC #6192172  
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847  
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724  
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924  
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
Pleadings@nevellaw.com  
SL  
# 22-01525

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
MICHAEL W. ANNERINO, CRYSTAL ANNERINO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Defendant(s).  
Case No. 23 FC 58  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on December 19, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and 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 said Judgment, to wit:  
Common Address: 329 E. JONES, WILLIAMSVILLE, IL 62693  
P.I.N. 07-04.0-427-025 A/K/A 07-04-427-025  
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.  
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.  
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.  
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 this property is a condominium unit

which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff  
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808  
Timothy R. Yuell - ARDC #6192172  
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847  
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724  
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924  
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
Pleadings@nevellaw.com  
SL  
# 23-00583

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
JASON WOODBURY; KIMBERLY WOODBURY; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;  
Defendant(s).  
CASE NO. 2023FC000070  
Property Address: 1610 South Pasfield Street Springfield, IL 62704  
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 September 13, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on December 19, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit:  
Commonly known as: 1610 South Pasfield Street , Springfield, IL 62704  
P.I.N.: 22-04.0-209-013  
First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$82,623.53  
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

# PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
DOROTHY MARCUSSEN ROSS, DECEASED  
No. 2023 PR 411  
CLAIMS NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Dorothy Marcussen Ross. Letters of Office were issued on November 15, 2023, to Peter D. Ross, 508 South Walnut Street, Rochester, Illinois and Frances R. Gatlin, 66 Lambert Lane, Springfield, Illinois, as Co-Executors.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed electronically in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Executors, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 15th day of November, 2023.  
Kevin N. McDermott  
Attorney  
109 South Seventh Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
(217) 753-4070  
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497  
Kevin@KevinNMCDermott.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER of the Estate of:  
Minak Baldwin,  
Deceased.  
No. 2023-PR-392  
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE  
Notice is given of the death of Minak Baldwin, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on November 7, 2023, to Sonja Blazetic, 100 Mesa Trail, DeLand, Florida, 32734, as Independent 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 Minak Baldwin of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Sonja Blazetic, Aaron Baldwin, Vanessa Tackett, Steven Knapp and Jeffrey Cameron as the only heirs of Minak Baldwin.  
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.  
Joseph B. Roesch  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Sarah Delano Pavlik – 6269250  
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC  
Attorney 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 A. EUGENE GERBER, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
No. 2023-PR-000361  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of A. Eugene Gerber, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on November 7, 2023, to Alfred E. (Chip) Gerber, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Harvey M. Stephens, 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 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 15th day of May, 2024, or three months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 10th day of November, 2023.  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Harvey M. Stephens  
Registration No. 6198845  
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705-2459  
(217) 544-8491

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES S. TOMLIN, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-71  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of JAMES S. TOMLIN. Letters of office for ancillary administration in Illinois has been issued to JOHN C. JENNINGS, 6232 State Route 123, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677, as Independent Ancillary 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 Ancillary Executor, or both, on or before May 21, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Ancillary Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 8th day of November, 2023.  
Patrick J. Sheehan, III  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street, Suite A  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217)544-0701

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

OF LOUISE ELLEN STUENKEL, DECEASED.  
NO. 2023-PR-401  
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS  
Notice is given of the death of LOUISE ELLEN STUENKEL, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 7, 2023, to STEPHEN J. STUENKEL of 2916 Lakeshire Dr.; Springfield, Illinois, whose attorney is DelGiorno Law Office, LLC; 2160 S. 6th Street, Suite D1, Springfield, Illinois 62703.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 16th day of November 2023, being the date of first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htmto> learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.  
Dated this 8th day of November 2023.  
STEPHEN J. STUENKEL, Administrator of the Estate of LOUISE ELLEN STUENKEL, Deceased  
BY: DelGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC  
By: /s/ Anthony J. DelGiorno, Attorney  
Attorneys for Estate:  
Anthony J. DelGiorno (IARDC 6277358)  
DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC  
2160 S. Sixth St., Ste. D  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Tel: (217) 773-5337  
Service: [service@delgiornolawoffice.com](mailto:service@delgiornolawoffice.com)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHERYL MATTSSON-HEBRON, DECEASED.  
Case No.: 2023-PR-382  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of CHERYL MATTSSON-HEBRON on October 15, 2023. Letters of Office as Independent Administrator were issued on the 8th day of November, A.D., 2023, to JARED MATTSSON, 73 Emporia Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, 62702, whose attorney of record is R. Stephen Scott, Scott & Scott, P.C., 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois, 62701.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed.  
DATED this 8th day of November, A.D., 2023.  
Estate of CHERYL MATTSSON-HEBRON, Deceased,  
By: JARED MATTSSON, Independent Administrator  
BY: /s/ R. Stephen Scott  
R. Stephen Scott,  
Scott & Scott, P.C.,  
His Attorneys  
PREPARED BY:  
R. Stephen Scott (02533391)

SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C.  
Attorneys at Law  
611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200  
Springfield, IL 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-8200  
Facsimile: (217) 753-8206  
Email: [rss@scottscottscottlaw.com](mailto:rss@scottscottscottlaw.com)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
DIANA K. GRIFFITTS,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-332  
AMENDED CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Diana K. Griffiths of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 19, 2023, to Steve H. Griffiths, 16 Cottage Grove, 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 May 14, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 7th day of November, 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](mailto:bsegatto@barberlaw.com)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MAXINE LOUISE ROGERS, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-402  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of MAXINE LOUISE ROGERS. Letters of Office have been issued to SUSAN KAY TAPSCOTT, 204 E. Main St., Box 346, Mechanicsburg, IL 62545, 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 May 21, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 7th day of November, 2023.  
Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES R. CRAWFORD, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-403  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of JAMES R. CRAWFORD. Letters of Office have been issued to TRENT M. CRAWFORD, 205 N.



Cedar, New Berlin, IL 62670, 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 Administrator, or both, on or before May 21, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 7th day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY ANGELA MAURER, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-394  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of MARY ANGELA MAURER. Letters of Office have been issued to REGINA A. EICHINGER, 1525 S. Whittier Ave., Springfield, IL 62704, 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 Administrator, or both, on or before May 21, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 7th day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY W. DALBY, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-397  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of LARRY W. DALBY. Letters of Office have been issued to DAVID C. MARR, 11 Shekelton Road, Modesto, IL 62667, 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 May 21, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 7th day of November, 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 ROBERT F. KILBURY, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-393  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of ROBERT F. KILBURY. Letters of Office have been issued to LAURA ELIZABETH KILBURY, 1316 Kenyon St., NW, Apt. #1, Washington, DC 20010, as Independent Administrator with the Will Annexed, 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 Administrator with the Will Annexed, or both, on or before May 15, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator with the Will Annexed and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 2nd day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONNA J. HOLLIDAY, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-97  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of DONNA J. HOLLIDAY. Letters of Office have been issued to JOSHUA E. THOMPSON, P. O. Box 111, Mt. Pulaski, IL 62548, 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 May 15, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 2nd day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALEXANDER J. BARLOW, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-386  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of ALEXANDER BARLOW. Letters of Office have been issued to CATHERINE BARLOW, 4608 Venetian Drive, Springfield, IL 62703, 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 May 15, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 1st day of November, 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 KERNELLE MARIE HENRY, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-391  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of KERNELLE MARIE HENRY. Letters of Office have been issued to ALISON HENRY, 817 W. Dorlan, 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 Administrator, or both, on or before May 15, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 1st day of November, 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 CHARLES P. SALVO, DECEASED  
Case #2023-PR-384  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of CHARLES P. SALVO. Letters of Office have been issued to CHARLES P. SALVO, JR., 11934 Noland Street, Overland Park, KS 66213, 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 May 15, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 1st day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

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

In the matter of the estate of: Roy Lee Withers, Deceased  
Case No. 23-PR-242  
Claim Notice  
Notice is given of the death of Roy Lee Withers. Letters of Office were issued on Aug. 17, 2023 to William Withers as Legal Representative, 114 W. Elliott Ave., Springfield IL 62702. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the Executor, on or before, May 9, 2024. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor within 10 days after it has been filed. Joseph B. Roesch  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY  
Re: the marriage of Charles L. Rutherford, Petitioner And Ann M. Rutherford, Respondent  
Case No. 2023 DN 000280  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
Notice is given you, Ann M. Rutherford, 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 16th day of December, 2023, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joseph B. Roesch  
Circuit Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Patrick Badral Batsaikhan  
For change of name to Badral Patrick Batsaikhan  
Case No. 2023-MR-000371  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on Jan. 2, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Patrick Badral Batsaikhan to Badral Patrick Batsaikhan pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Nov. 16, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of David Robert Weber  
For change of name to David Robert Lane  
Case No. 2023-MR-000365  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on Dec. 26, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from David Robert Weber to David Robert Lane pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Nov. 16, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Elias James Poindexter  
For change of name to Elias James Hampsey  
Case No. 2023-MR-000364

PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on Dec. 26, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Elias James Poindexter to Elias James Hampsey pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Nov. 9, 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,  
v.  
SAMANTHA ELDER, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
Case No. 2023FC000198  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
Notice is hereby given to 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 Defendants is December 22, 2023. Plaintiff has certified the following regarding said foreclosure action filed on November 13, 2023.  
1. The names of all Plaintiffs and Case Number are as follows: United Community Bank, an Illinois banking corporation, successor by merger to Illini Bank; 2023FC000198.  
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: Samantha Elder  
4. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:  
LOT FORTY-FIVE (45) OF CENTRAL PLACE, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
5. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 1512 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704  
6. The Tax Identification Number for the real estate is as follows: 22-04.0-232-004  
7. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: Name of Mortgagor: Samantha Elder  
Name of Mortgagee: Illini Bank  
Date of Mortgage: September 10, 2013  
Date of recording: September 23, 2013  
County where recorded: Sangamon County, Illinois  
Recording document identification: Document No. 2013R31178  
/s/ Joseph B. Roesch  
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  
8051-937512

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

Plaintiff,  
v.  
MARK E. PIERCE, KARALYN A. PIERCE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
Case No. 2023FC000197  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
Notice is hereby given to 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 Defendants is December 22, 2023. Plaintiff has certified the following regarding said foreclosure action filed on November 13, 2023.  
1. The names of all Plaintiffs and Case Number are as follows: United Community Bank, an Illinois banking corporation; 2023FC000197.  
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: Mark E. Pierce and Karalyn A. Pierce  
4. A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:  
LOT 5 IN CLEAR CREEK PARK. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD  
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
5. A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 8809 River Birch Road, Dawson, Illinois 62520  
6. The Tax Identification Number(s) for the real estate is/are as follows: 15-36-426-005  
7. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows: Name of Mortgagors: Mark E. Pierce and Karalyn A. Pierce  
Name of Mortgagee: United Community Bank  
Date of Mortgage: September 27, 2021  
Date of recording: October 1, 2021  
County where recorded: Sangamon County, Illinois  
Recording document identification: Document No. 2021R27010  
/s/ Joseph B. Roesch  
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  
8051-937501

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff,  
v.  
JAMES PRICHARD, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
No.: 2023FC79  
NOTICE OF COURT SALE  
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the Court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. The sale shall be



subject to Court approval. Buyer will be entitled to possession 30 days after the sale is confirmed by the Court.

(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Timothy J. Rigby  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055

(B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 1832 East Keys Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62702

(C) The legal description of the real estate is: Lot 104 of Spaulding's Second Illinois Watch Factory Addition. Except all coal, minerals and mining rights heretofore conveyed or reserved of record.

Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Tax Identification Number: 14-23.0-376-009

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(D) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Five room, approximately 806 square foot ranch on a concrete slab with two bedrooms, one bathroom, and one car garage.

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

(F) The time and place of the sale are: Time: 9:00 a.m. December 12, 2023  
Place: Sangamon County Courthouse  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

(G) The terms of the sale are: Twenty-five percent (25%) of sale price at time of sale and balance within twenty-four (24) hours.

(H) Title will be conveyed subject to any liens or encumbrances prior to the mortgage of United Community Bank, all general real estate taxes, special assessments if any, easements and restrictions of record, and all encroachments, if any. UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff  
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
trigby@hswnet.com  
aprillaman@hswnet.com  
NOTE: This communication is made for the purpose of collecting a debt. Any information obtained in response to this communication may be used for that purpose.  
8051-937406

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff,  
v.  
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.  
Case No. 2022-FC-256  
NOTICE OF SALE  
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described

or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.

(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Suzanna Scherf  
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD  
3400 Wabash Avenue  
Springfield, IL 62711  
Telephone: (217) 529-5555

(B) The common address and other common descriptions, if any, of the real estate is: 2012 North 19th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702

(C) The legal description of the real estate 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 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. Parcel Number: 14-23.0-126-034

(D) Description of the improvement on the real estate is as follows: Single Family Residence

(E) The real estate will not be open for inspection prior to sale.

(F) The time and place of the sale is: 9:00 AM on December 12, 2023, on the 1st floor of 1 Copley Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701.

(G) The terms of the sale are cash or certified funds at time of sale.

(H) The subject property is sold subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, all general real estate taxes which have not yet become due and payable, with special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record, and existing leases, if any, applicable zoning laws; property is sold "AS IS, WHERE IS, and with no warranties", and without any representation as to quality or quantity of the title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.

BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff  
By: /s/ Brian D. Jones  
One of Its Attorneys  
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  
Fax: 217-522-3173  
E-Mail: bdjones@sorlinglaw.com  
8051-937396

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE OF CIM TRUST 2022-NR1 , Plaintiff,  
vs.  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS; JEANNE SCHMUCK; RICHARD MEANS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF VIRGINIA E. MEANS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;  
Defendant(s).  
CASE NO. 2023FC000185  
Property Address: 1407 North Franklin Avenue Springfield, IL 62702  
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed,

notice is hereby given you, RICHARD MEANS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF VIRGINIA E. MEANS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; , defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: THE NORTH 75 FEET OF THE SOUTH 200 FEET OF THE EAST 160 FEET OF LINCOLN PARK, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF "LINCOLN PARK SUBDIVISION". SITUATED IN THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF SANGAMON IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
P.I.N.: 14-21.0-451-019  
Said property is commonly known as 1407 North Franklin Avenue , Springfield, IL 62702 and which said mortgage(s) was/were made and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 2003R73648, and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending.  
NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Sangamon County on or before DECEMBER 18, 2023, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. 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 <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 [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp).  
This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120  
Naperville, IL 60563  
Telephone: (630) 453-6960  
Facsimile: (630) 428-4620  
Attorney No. Cook 64727, DuPage 293191  
Service E-mail: [midwestpleadings@dallegal.com](mailto:midwestpleadings@dallegal.com)  
8051-937381

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS  
INTEGRITY SOLUTIONS REALTY, LLC, Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARY LOU WATTS, CHARLES E. WATTS, JR., GERTRUDE PEYTON A/K/A TRUDY PEYTON, KENNETH CARY, STEPHANIE HURST, CINDY SUTHERIN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendant(s).  
Case No. 22 FC 105  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on December 19, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public

auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and 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 said Judgment, to wit: LOT 11 IN BLOCK ONE OF VAN BERGEN PLACE FIRST ADDITION, EXCEPTING COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OF RECORD, IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
Common Address: 839 SOUTH WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704  
P.I.N. 14-33-0-328-030  
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.  
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.  
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.  
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 this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).  
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808  
Timothy R. Yueill - ARDC #6192172  
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847  
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724  
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924  
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
[Pleadings@nevellaw.com](mailto:Pleadings@nevellaw.com)  
SL  
# 22-01525  
8051-937320

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
MICHAEL W. ANNERINO, CRYSTAL ANNERINO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Defendant(s).  
Case No. 23 FC 58  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on December 19, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and 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 said Judgment, to wit: LOTS ONE (1), TWO (2), AND THE EAST HALF OF LOT THREE (3) OF TAYLOR AND JONES' ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE.  
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: 329 E. JONES, WILLIAMSVILLE, IL 62693  
P.I.N. 07-04.0-427-025 A/K/A 07-04-427-025  
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.  
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.  
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.  
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 this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).  
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808  
Timothy R. Yueill - ARDC #6192172  
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847  
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724  
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924  
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
[Pleadings@nevellaw.com](mailto:Pleadings@nevellaw.com)  
SL  
# 23-00583  
8051-937309

**Notice by Publication**  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF GEORGE W. LEET, III, Deceased.  
No. 2023PR367  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of George W. Leet, III, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on August 30, 2023. Janet L. Foraker, whose address is 3040 East Trinity Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62702, was appointed independent administrator of his estate on November 15, 2023. The attorneys for the independent administrator are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, Suite 501 One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, San-

gamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of 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 independent administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 15th day of November, 2023.  
Mike Southworth (ARDC #6186085)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
[msouthworth@hswnet.com](mailto:msouthworth@hswnet.com)  
[aprillaman@hswnet.com](mailto:aprillaman@hswnet.com)  
8051-937566

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition for reclassification of property from R-2, Single Family and Duplex Residence District, Section 155.017, to OFF, Office District, Section 155.020, and a variance of Section 155.097 (a) , Required Accessory Off-Street Parking Spaces: Office Buildings, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. To be in compliance with the zoning ordinance, petitioner respectfully requests reclassification of property from the R-2 zoning classification to the OFF, Office zoning classification to allow the use of the property for professional office space in connection with Petitioner's property management business, DRN Rentals, LLC.; and a variation of 155.097(a) requiring at least one (1) accessory off-street parking space for each 200 square feet of floor area, by reducing the accessory off-street parking spaces required from approximately four (4) spaces (based upon 792 sq. ft. of floor area) to zero (0) off-street parking spaces. Petitioner further requests should the request for re-zoning to the OFF zoning district be denied, then petitioner requests a use variance to use the subject property as professional office space in connection with a property management business; and any other relief deemed just or appropriate. Improvements (or Structures) located on said property are an improved structure. The subject real estate is currently classified in the R-2, Single Family and Duplex Residence District, Section 155.017. Legally described as: The West 41 feet of Lot Eight (8) of C.A. Gehrman's Addition to the City of Springfield. Tax Identification # 14-27.0-101-053  
The subject property is commonly known as 119 E. Calhoun Avenue, Springfield, Illinois.  
The petitioner is Daniel R. Nika, By His Attorneys SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C., Patrick J. Sheehan, III of Counsel. Docket No. 2023-053  
John Harris  
Deputy Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition for reclassification of property from R-1, Single Family Residence District, Section 155.016, and S-1, Neighborhood Commercial and Office District, Section 155.030, to R-2, Single Family and Duplex Residence District, Section 155.017, of the Springfield



Zoning Ordinance. Petitioner is the owner of the real estate commonly known as and located at 2060 Westchester Blvd (“Church Building Property” and “Corner Parcel”), and is negotiating a purchase contract of approximately 1.5 surveyed acres of the parcel directly south of the Church Building Property, which is commonly known as and located at 3415 Chatham Rd. “Surveyed Parcel”. Petitioner attached Exhibit A which is a Site Plan for Springfield Bible Church’s future building and parking lot improvements. As the parcels have various zoning districts, petitioner request is made to bring the subject properties in conformity and to allow for purchase and the approval of a tract survey of 1.5 acres. Petitioner respectfully requests that the “Church Building Property” and the “Corner Parcel” be reclassified from R-1 to R-2; and that, upon completion and approval of the tract survey, the “Surveyed Parcel” be reclassified from S-1 to R-2.

Improvements (or Structures) located on said property are: an improved structure used for church worship services (and related activities) and a parking lot on the Church Building Property; landscaping and a sign on the Corner Parcel; and the Surveyed Parcel is currently an unpaved vacant lot. The subject real estate is currently classified for the Church Building Property and The Corner Parcel - R-1, Single Family Residence District, Section 155.016; and The Surveyed Parcel – S-1, Neighborhood Commercial and Office District, Section 155.030. Legally described as: “Church Building Property”: Part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, more particularly described as follows: From the Northeast corner of said Section 18, West on the Section line 117.39 feet; thence South parallel to the East line of said Section 18, 30.00 feet to the point of beginning; thence Southeasterly 102.78 feet to a point 67.39 feet West of the East line of the said Section; thence East 10.00 feet; thence South parallel to the Section line 114.20 feet; thence West 387.68 feet to a point 235.50 feet South of the North line of said Section; thence North 205.50 feet; thence East 327.22 feet to the point of beginning. Tax Identification #22-18.0-226-032

“Corner Parcel”: From the Northeast corner of said Section 18, West on the Section line 117.39 feet; thence South parallel to the East line of said Section 18, 30.00 feet to the point of beginning; thence Southeasterly 102.78 feet to a point 67.39 feet West of the East line of the said Section; thence East 10.00 feet; thence South parallel to the Section line 114.20 feet; thence East to the West line of Chatham Road; thence North along the West line of Chatham Road to the intersection of the South line of Westchester Blvd.; thence West along the South line of Westchester Blvd to the point of beginning. Tax Identification #22-18.0-226-033 “Surveyed Parcel”: The North 134 feet of the East 493 feet of that part of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 234 feet South of the Northeast Corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 18; thence South along the East line of said Section 18 a distance of 810 feet; thence West at right angles a distance of 685 feet; thence North parallel to said East line of said Section 18 a distance of 810 feet; thence East at right

angles a distance of 685 feet to the point of beginning. Tax Identification #22-18.0-226-026

The subject property is commonly known as: 2060 Westchester Boulevard “Church Building Property” & Corner Parcel”; and 3415 Chatham Road (part of) “Surveyed Parcel”, Springfield, Illinois. The petitioner is Springfield Bible Church, By Its Attorneys SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C., Patrick J. Sheehan, Ill of Counsel. Docket No. 2023-052 John Harris Deputy Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition for reclassification of property upon annexation from R-1, Single Family Residence District, Section 155.016, to OFF, Office District, Section 155.020, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Subject property is currently located in Sangamon County and zoned A- Agricultural. A petition for annexation to the City of Springfield has been filed with the City Clerk’s Office. Petitioners are the Contract Purchaser of subject property and respectfully request that, upon annexation, to have a zoning classification as OFF, Office District, to permit the construction and use of a commercial day-care center. Subject property is located on the East side of the approximate 200 block of S. Bradfordton Road, and contains approximately 9.38 Acres. Improvements (or structures) located on said property are none, unimproved lots. Subject property is currently classified in the Sangamon County A- Agricultural district. Legally described as: The North One-Half of the South One-Half of Lot 5 as shown upon the Plat of the Partition of the Estate of Robert Archer, recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, in Book “Y” at Page 444, being a part of the West One-Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 35, Township 16 North, Range 6, West of the Third Principal Meridian. EXCEPT, a parcel of land lying in the Northeast Quarter of Section 35, Township 16 North, Range 6 West of the Third Principal Meridian, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a found iron pin, said iron pin being the Northwest corner of said Quarter Section; thence South 00 degrees 48 minutes 37 seconds East a distance of 992.65 feet, along the West line of said Quarter Section, to the point of beginning of the hereinafter described parcel of land; thence North 89 degrees 29 minutes 56 seconds East a distance of 55.31 feet; thence South 00 degrees 44 minutes 51 seconds East a distance of 496.32 feet to the South property line; thence South 89 degrees 29 minutes 56 seconds West, a distance of 54.77 feet, along said property line, to a point on the West Quarter Section line; thence North 00 degrees 48 minutes 37 seconds West, a distance of 496.32 feet, along the West Quarter Section line, to the point of beginning. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Commonly known as: No Address Bradfordton Road, Springfield, Illinois 62711. Tax Identification No. 13-35.0-200-040 and 13-35.0-200-042. The subject property is commonly known as Tax Identification Numbers 13-35.0-200-040 and 13-35.0-200-042, No Address, Bradford-

ton Rd, Springfield, Illinois. The petitioners are Ryan Maisenbacher and Kasi Maisenbacher, as Contract Purchasers, by their Attorneys Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, Daniel L. Hamilton, of Counsel. Docket No. 2023-050 John Harris Assistant Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition for reclassification of property from OFF, Office District, Section 155.020, to S-2, Community Shopping and Office District, Section 155.031, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Petitioner seeks reclassification of subject property from OFF to S-2 to permit uses consistent with those in the immediate vicinity, and to increase marketability of the property. Improvements (or Structures) located on said property are none, unimproved. The subject real estate is currently classified in the OFF, Office District, Section 155.020. Legally described as: Lot 4 of ILES BUSINESS PARK. EXCEPT that part of Lot 4 and another lot conveyed by Warranty Deed recorded December 3, 2008 as Document No. 2008R44429 and described as follows: Commencing at an iron pin found at the Northeast corner of Lot 3; thence South 00 degrees 45 minutes 44 seconds East on the East line of Lot 3, a distance of 199.09 feet to an iron pin set and the point of beginning. From said point of beginning; thence continuing South 00 degrees 45 minutes 44 seconds East on the East line of said Lots 3 and 4, a distance of 175.31 feet to an iron pin; thence South 89 degrees 14 minutes 16 seconds West, a distance of 31 .41 feet to an iron pin; thence North 44 degrees 43 minutes 39 seconds East, a distance of 5.49 feet to an iron pin set; thence North 00 degrees 45 minutes 44 seconds West, a distance of 171.89 feet to an iron pin set; thence South 89 degrees 52 minutes 05 seconds East, a distance of 27.50 feet to the point of beginning. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Commonly known as: 2600 South Koke Mill Road, Springfield, Illinois 62704. Tax Identification No.. 21-12.0-202-025 The subject property is located at 2600 South Koke Mill Road, Springfield, Illinois. The petitioner is KOKE MILL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY, LLC, by its Attorneys Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, Daniel L. Hamilton, of Counsel. Docket No. 2023-049 John Harris Assistant Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition to reclassify property from R -2, Single-family and Duplex Residence District, Section 155.017 to R-3 (b), General Residence District, Section 155.018 and to vary Sections: 155.056, Minimum Required Lot Area Per Dwelling Unit; and 155.091 (b), Required Accessory Off-Street Parking Spaces: Residences, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Subject property contained four Multi-family dwelling units, located in the R-2 Zoning District, which was considered a non-conforming use. Pursuant to Section 155.157, Discontinuance of Use, subject property lost it’s non-conforming use when it discontinued active continuous

operations for a period of 6 months. The petitioner, to be in compliance with the zoning ordinance, respectfully requests to reclassify property from R-2 to R-3 (b) to allow the use of all four dwelling units; and to vary Sections: 155.056 to allow 4 dwelling units on a lot containing 7200 square feet of lot area instead of the 10,000 square feet of lot area required per code; and 155.091 (b) to allow 4 accessory off-street parking spaces instead of the 6 required per code. In the alternative, petitioner requests a use variance in the R-2 district to allow the use of a 4 unit multi-family residential dwelling unit. Improvements (or structures) located on said property is a 4 unit residential structure. The subject property is currently classified as R-2, Single-family and Duplex Residence, Section 155.017. Legally described as: S 30’ L 17 & N 20’ L 18 B 3 WILLIAMS PLACE, City of Springfield, Illinois. PIN: 14-33.0-377-005. The property is located at 1120 S. MacArthur Boulevard, Springfield Illinois. The petitioner is VEGAS PROPERTY INVESTMENTS & RENOVATIONS LLC, by it’s Attorneys Craven & Craven, P.C., Donald M. Craven, and Joseph A. Craven of counsel. Docket No. 2023-048 John Harris Deputy Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition for variation of provisions of Section 3 (Setbacks) and Section 3 (Setbacks) Subsections (A) and (B) of Appendix A of the Land Use Plan for Lake Springfield and its Marginal Properties. Petitioners are Lake Lease holders of subject property and desire to construct an enclosed room addition of Twenty-Two (22’) feet by Twenty-Four (24’) feet to expand the living area of the dwelling unit on said property, which, while the majority of the enclosed room addition will be greater than Seventy-Five (75’) feet from the shoreline of Lake Springfield, a portion of the enclosed room addition generally characterized as its southern corner would, at its closest point, would be approximately Sixty (60’) feet from the shoreline of Lake Springfield. To be in compliance with the land use plan, petitioner respectfully requests to vary (i) LAKE LAND USE PLAN, APPENDIX A, SECTION 3 RELATIVE TO THE SEVENTY-FIVE FOOT SETBACK to allow an enclosed room addition of Twenty-Two (22’) feet by Twenty-Four (24’) feet to be constructed nearer than Seventy-Five (75’) from the shoreline of Lake Springfield, and (ii) LAKE LAND USE PLAN, APPENDIX A, SECTION 3, SUB-SECTIONS (A) AND (B) SETBACK RELATIVE TO ADJACENT LEASEHOLDERS’ BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES, to allow an enclosed room addition of Twenty-Two (22’) feet by Twenty-Four (24’) feet that, while most of the structure will be greater than Seventy-Five (75’) feet from the shoreline of Lake Springfield, is closer to the shoreline than the adjacent leaseholders’ buildings or structures. The enclosed room addition would be farther than Five (5) feet nearer the shoreline than the existing structure allowed by code. Improvements (or Structures) located on said property are a frame building consisting of one dwelling unit. The subject real estate is currently classified in the R-1, Single-Family Residence District, Section 155.016. Legally described as: Tract 19, West Fairview Area of Lake Lands in Section 33 in Capital Township in Sangamon

County, Illinois, commonly known as 40 W Fairview Ln, Springfield, Illinois 62711, and further identified as Tax ID # 22-33.0-451-006. The subject property is commonly known as 40 West Fairview Lane, Springfield, Illinois. The petitioners are Joseph A. Kilpatrick and Megan J. Bricker, as Lake Lease Holders. Docket No. 2023-051 John Harris Deputy Zoning Administrator

The Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Center West to hear the following petition. A petition to vary Section 155.069 (a) (1), Fences, of the Springfield Zoning Ordinance. Petitioner was previously granted relief by Docket 2022-028 for variation of Section 155.069 (a) (1) to allow a 6 feet in height chain link fence in the required front yard with a 10 feet setback off of Estill Drive and a 45 degree cut out at the corner intersection. Petitioner has started construction on the 6 feet in height chain link fence, which is closer to the right-of-way line than relief granted by docket 2022-028. Petitioner, to be in compliance with the zoning ordinance, respectfully requests a variance of Section 155.069 (a) (1) allowing a 6 foot in height, chain link fence, 50 percent open, in a required front yard setback, to approximately 2 feet of the front property line, instead of the four foot in height fence allowed per code. The fence is for security, privacy and protection of property. The decision by the Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission will be final determination of this matter. Improvements (or Structures) located on said property is a frame building consisting of one dwelling unit and a frame two car garage located on the rear portion of the property. The subject real estate is currently classified in the R -1, Single Family Residence District, Section 155.016. Legally described as: L6 Primm Estills Sub #1, situated in County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, Tax ID 14-09.0-101-007. The subject property is commonly known as 987 Estill Drive, Springfield, Illinois. The petitioner is Gregory Chunes Docket No. 2023-047 John Harris Assistant Zoning Administrator

Date of Sale: November 29, 2023, 1:00 P.M. Location: Westside Storage, 3142 South Douglas Avenue, Springfield, IL 62704. BLD O #137 5x10 Chris Cairy 318 W Harris St. Petersburg, IL 62675 BLD KK #7 5x12 Brendan Durbin 2921 Holmes Ave. Springfield, IL 62704 BLD N #118 10x10 John Durham 2901 S. 5th St. Springfield, IL 62703 BLD A #83 10x10 Alexis Muldrow 816 West Lenox Springfield, IL 62704 BLD B #66 5x10 Allan Prichard 2804 Ridge Ave Springfield, IL 62702

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF Jabari & Jacobi Murphy No. 2023-GR-182 To: Ronald Murphy and unknown fathers at address unknown: Please be notified that Henrietta Nolden has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Jabari & Jacobi Murphy, minor children. You are required to answer said Petition By December 11, 2023 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF TAYLOR COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA In re: M.S. Taylor Co. Case 23-JA-13 ORDER OF PUBLICATION TO: Brian Slater and ANY UNKNOWN/ UNDETERMINED FATHER OF ANY CHILD INVOLVED Be advised that a matter is pending in the Circuit Court of Taylor County, West Virginia, involving your parental rights, if any, the child(ren) whose mother is Catherine Johnson. You must appear and defend any such rights at a hearing on January 4, 2024 AT 9:00 a.m. in the Circuit Court of Taylor County, located at Courthouse, Second Floor, 214 W. Main St., Grafton, WV 26354. You are entitled to counsel at every stage of this proceeding. You may serve a response upon the Taylor County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Claire Neihaus, whose address is 214 W. Main Street, #B11, Grafton, WV 26354, or the Court itself at the aforementioned address. If you fail to do so and/or fail to appear at the hearing, judgment by default will be taken against you and your parental rights may be forever terminated, and you may thereafter be barred from asserting any future claims for parental rights.”

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF Hazel Dougherty No. 2023-GR-216 To: Shayne Dougherty and unknown fathers at address unknown: Please be notified that Meghan Rogers has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Hazel Dougherty, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By December 18, 2023 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of MOHAMMED AMEEN DADA, Deceased. NO. 2023-PR-412 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Mohammed Ameen Dada of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 16, 2023, to Mahnaz Dada, c/o Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Bernard G. Segatto, Ill, 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 May 23, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the



representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 16th day of November, 2023.  
Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705-0079  
(217) 544-4868  
bsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In Re the Estate of:  
CHARLES EDWARD WALLNER,  
Deceased.  
Case No.: 2023PR000404  
CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Charles Edward Wallner, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 13, 2023, to Trevor S. Wallner, as Independent Executor, whose address is c/o his attorney of record, Barry O. Hines, 1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A, Springfield, Illinois 62704. The Estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration, at any time, by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or May, 23, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 13th day of November, 2023.  
Trevor S. Wallner  
Independent Executor  
Barry O. Hines - 01220918  
Attorney at Law  
1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A  
Springfield, IL 62704  
Telephone: (217) 698-8444  
Email: Barry@HinesLaw.net

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
KATHLEEN HELEN CAMPBELL,  
Deceased.  
No. 2023-PR-353  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of KATHLEEN HELEN CAMPBELL. Letters of office were issued on October 16, 2023 to SHARON L. CAMPBELL, 5 Allison Court, Springfield, Illinois 62703, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is James S. Dunn, 212 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Room 405, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, being Nov. 22, 2023. 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 representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.  
SHARON L. CAMPBELL, Independent Executor  
By JAMES S. DUNN, Attorney for Independent Executor  
Date: Nov. 16, 2023  
JAMES S. DUNN

Attorney at Law  
212 South Second Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
217-528-2873 office  
dunnandmclaw@aol.com

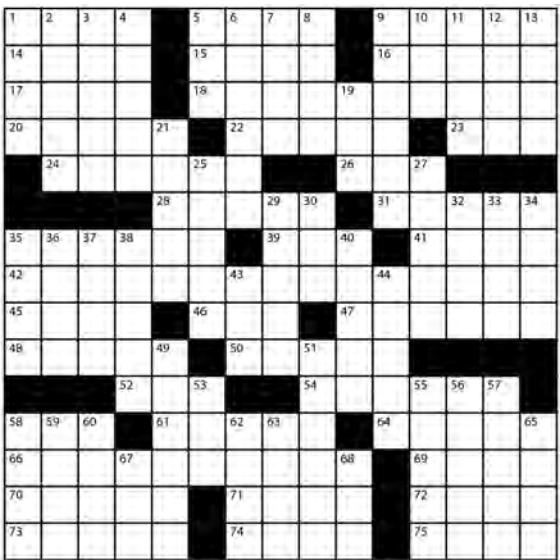
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
-SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
JASON WOODBURY; KIMBERLY WOOD-BURY; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;  
Defendant(s).  
CASE NO. 2023FC000070  
Property Address: 1610 South Pasfield Street Springfield, IL 62704  
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 September 13, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on December 19, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit:  
LOT TWENTY-FOUR (24) IN BLOCK FOUR (4) OF PAYNE'S GRAND AVENUE SUBDIVISION NO. 2.  
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: 1610 South Pasfield Street, Springfield, IL 62704  
P.I.N.: 22-04.0-209-013  
First Lien Position: Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$82,623.53 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.  
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is:  
Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC  
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120  
Naperville, IL 60563  
(630) 453-6960  
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com  
8051-937690

## Principal puzzle

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 817

### Across

1. Word that precedes the start of each starred answer  
5. Stanley Gardner  
9. Places a call on an old phone  
14. Charity  
15. Cut the crop  
16. Dairy spokescow  
17. -bitty Defendant(s)  
18. \*\*\* Make more efficient  
20. Mars has two  
22. Beethoven's "Joy"  
23. The "p" in r.p.m.  
24. Goal-oriented activity  
26. Abbr. in a business letter  
28. Have dinner at home  
31. SeaWorld whale  
35. Gets smart  
39. Head, slangily  
41. Yard sale tag  
42. \*\*\* They're often tipped on sidewalks  
45. Clearasil target  
46. Call for help  
47. Carpenter's need  
48. Grand  
50. Notes  
52. Declare  
54. Monkey business  
58. Gear tooth  
61. Navigational aid  
64. Foul moods  
66. \*\*\* After an unspecified time  
69. 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit



70. Actress Zellweger  
71. Slog (through)  
72. Kid's ball material  
73. Calculus calculations  
74. Breaks a commandment  
75. Gaelic tongue

### Down

1. Disable  
2. Choir voices  
3. "old for this!"  
4. Justin Timberlake's former group  
5. Hosp. areas  
6. Comeback  
7. Fat  
8. Fencer's blade  
9. Personal problems

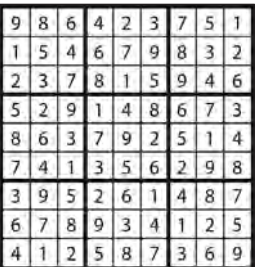
10. Down with the flu  
11. Take (try some)  
12. Field of work  
13. Nostradamus, for one  
19. Chowd down  
21. Part of an act  
25. Bridge positions  
27. Item of neckwear  
29. Occupied, as a lavatory  
30. Discouraging words  
32. "tale's best for winter": Shak.  
33. Coal site  
34. "Back in the"  
35. Future atty.'s exam  
36. Carve in stone  
37. "Rule, Britannia" composer  
38. Snorkeling sites  
40. Range rover

43. May honoree  
44. Flings  
49. Bitter and sweet  
51. Actor Brando  
53. Who's solving this puzzle  
55. Absurd  
56. Hot or cold drink  
57. Mixes up  
58. Michael of "Juno"  
59. Partner of "done with"  
60. Heredity unit  
62. Snoozes  
63. Sheryl Crow's "Wanna Do"  
65. Out of harm's way  
67. Grant-giving grp.  
68. Football gains: Abbr.

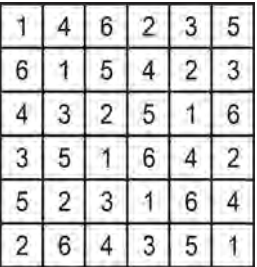
## Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #814



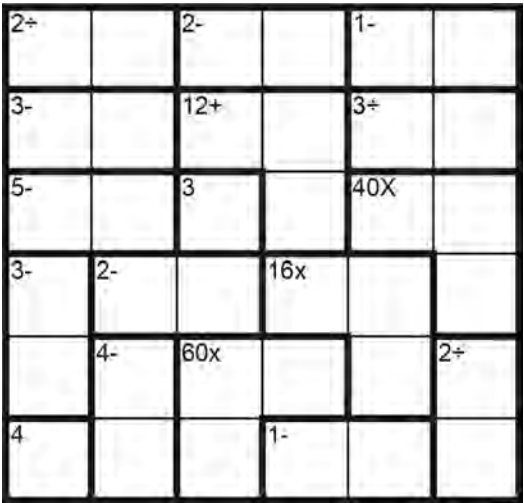
Sudoku answers from #814



JoshJosh answers from #814

## JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 817

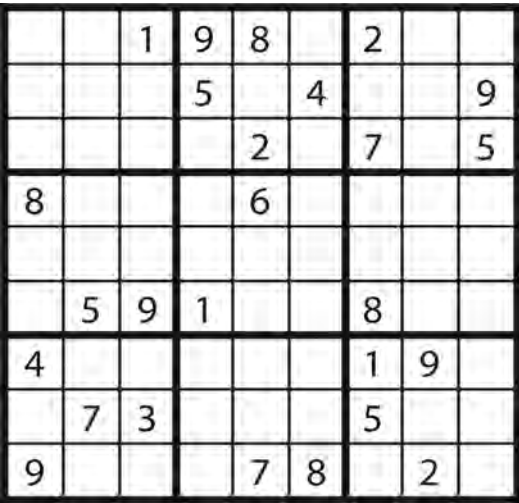
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty medium

## Sudoku No. 817

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



Difficulty hard



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