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# Two lawsuits against city proceeding

Former city employees claim reverse discrimination by mayor

DISCRIMINATION | Dean Olsen

Federal Appellate Court judges recently reinstated lawsuits filed by white former city employees who said they were victims of reverse discrimination by Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder.

The judges sent the cases of Diane Runkel, the city's former assistant purchasing agent, and Andrew Dunlevy, a former meter reader, back to U.S. District Court Judge Sue Myerscough in Springfield for further proceedings, which could include trials.

Judicial panels from the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided Oct. 18 in Runkel's case and Oct. 26 in Dunlevy's case that Myerscough erred in granting summary judgment requested by the city to dismiss the former employees' claims.

The appellate judges didn't rule on whether the mayor, who is white, discriminated against the former employees because of their race. But the judges said the workers met legal standards to avoid summary judgment dismissals of their cases.

John Baker, a Springfield lawyer representing Runkel, 65, and Dunlevy, 30, said he was pleased with the rulings because his clients believe race-based biases should not influence decisions in the workplace.

City officials have denied the workers' allegations but didn't respond to a request from *Illinois Times* for comment.

Runkel said she was denied a promotion to purchasing agent in 2018 after the departure of purchasing agent Sandy Robinson when Langfelder instead promoted a Black candidate, Cassandra Wilkin, 41, who had been working under Runkel's supervision.

Runkel, of Dawson, later sued the mayor and the city for allegedly violating

her equal protection rights outlined in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Moreover, she said the city retaliated against her for filing a charge of race discrimination with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The two-judge appellate panel wrote that the city "has told two incompatible stories about both how and why Wilkin was chosen for promotion and Runkel was not. One of those versions even relies explicitly upon race as a factor in the decision."

Runkel told both the departing Robinson, who was Black, and Bill McCarty, the city's budget director, that she was interested in being promoted to purchasing agent, but Langfelder chose to promote Wilkin, according to the ruling.

Runkel became "very upset" after learning she wouldn't be promoted and made several remarks to McCarty on the phone that McCarty later termed "disappointing," the ruling said.

The judges noted that the city disciplined Runkel for saying "offensive or profane" things to McCarty, including that she believed Wilkin was being hired as purchasing agent because of her race.

After Runkel filed the charge with the EEOC, the city asked Runkel to sign an agreement that rescinded a pay raise she had been offered and made it easier to fire her in the future. Runkel signed the agreement but retired from her position in April 2018.

Runkel's pay rate at the time was \$56,244 annually, according to city records. Wilkin's pay rate as the new purchasing agent was \$79,365. Wilkin no longer works for the city.

The appellate judges said Runkel offered



**Diane Runkel filed a lawsuit against the city alleging she was unfairly denied a promotion to purchasing agent in 2018 when the mayor instead promoted a Black candidate who had been working under her supervision.** PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN

evidence from an interview with a *State Journal-Register* reporter that indicates Langfelder chose Wilkin at least partly because he wanted to appoint a Black person as purchasing agent "for political and/or policy reasons."

In the February 2019 *SJ-R* interview, the mayor "specifically cited his hiring of a Black woman (Wilkin) to the position of purchasing agent as an example of how his administration was 'moving toward reflecting the city's demographics,'" according to the ruling.

The city told the EEOC that Wilkin was selected for promotion because she was better-educated than Runkel, had more seniority, displayed greater professionalism on the job and because Runkel misbehaved after learning of Wilkin's appointment.

The appellate judges said the city's last stated reason for not promoting Runkel is "on its face an after-the-fact rationalization of the city's hiring decision. ... Runkel's later actions upon learning she would not be promoted could not possibly have been a reason for the city's earlier decision not to promote her."

The judges wrote it was "equally troubling" that Langfelder testified in a deposition that

he "made the decision to promote Wilkin without ever comparing her to Runkel."

Dunlevy, a Springfield resident, sued the city for alleged race discrimination in 2019 after he was fired in August 2018 during a 12-month probationary period for inaccurately reporting readings on homeowners' water meters.

Dunlevy said in court documents that a Black co-worker, Tour Murray, 29, wasn't fired during Murray's probationary period even though he sometimes started work late, left early and took unauthorized, hours-long breaks during his shift.

The appellate ruling said Myerscough ruled against Dunlevy because she "concluded that the conduct at issue was so different that the men were not similarly situated."

The appellate judges said they reversed Myerscough's ruling because "the district court drew too narrow a comparison: The two men were sufficiently similarly situated for Dunlevy to at least bring his claims to trial."

The ruling said all the supervisors who worked beneath the mayor "unanimously agreed that both men should be fired, and they presented this recommendation to the mayor." Supervisors also discovered that Murray lied on his employment application by failing to disclose a seven-year-old burglary conviction.

Langfelder fired Dunlevy but not Murray, instead extending Murray's probationary period another six months.

The judges said Langfelder contended he never met Dunlevy or Murray, so he didn't know their races before making his decision.

"But the city asks every job applicant to fill out self-identification forms, which includes a question about their ethnicity," the judges wrote. "These forms were part of their personnel files that the mayor reviewed. A jury could thus reasonably infer that Langfelder was aware of their races."

Dunlevy's pay rate in 2018 was \$35,004 annually. He has since gotten a job as a correctional officer at the Illinois Department of Corrections, according to Baker.

Murray was on the city payroll most recently in 2020, when his pay rate was \$42,323.

Myerscough has been notified of the Court of Appeals rulings, but more hearings have yet to be scheduled in U.S. District Court for the two cases. □

## Editor's note

We're fortunate to have few vocal election deniers in these parts. But after "Stop the steal" became attempted armed robbery at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, writer Dusty Rhodes of Springfield decided to take a closer look at how voting gets done. She volunteered to be an election judge. In her column, "Election integrity up close," page 13, she describes her extensive training, the detailed procedures poll workers follow, and the camaraderie enjoyed across party lines. Elections work because election workers believe passionately in the ballot box, the heart of democracy. — Fletcher Farrar, editor





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## NEWS



With the number of foster children in Sangamon County reaching record levels, some kids are being housed at Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health Center, even if they don't require mental health services, due to a lack of area foster homes for placement.

# A crisis of care

Number of foster families not keeping pace with more kids coming into DCFS system

**FOSTER CARE | Scott Reeder**

The number of foster children in Sangamon County is near an all-time high and there are not enough homes for them to live in, the executive director of The James Project shared with *Illinois Times* recently.

The shortage has become so acute that children are bunking on cots in Department of Children and Family Services offices and emotionally well children are being housed in a Springfield mental health facility, Olivia Hayse, executive director of the James Project, said.

"When a kid can't be placed into a home right away, they stay at a DCFS office on a cot. They go sometimes to different institutions like Lincoln Prairie (Behavioral Health Center) – when they don't need to be there. And that gets put on their record as a foster child, even if they're not needing to have a stay there. That determines things for them as they get placed next, because if there's a history of being in Lincoln Prairie, that's sometimes a turnoff for potential foster parents."

Foster kids temporarily staying in settings such as a DCFS office is nothing new. While such placements are far from ideal, they underscore the need in the community for more families to agree to host foster kids, Hayse said.

Hayse said there are about 600 foster children in the Sangamon County area and around 200 homes available for placement.

Jessica Handy, a Springfield foster mom currently caring for three children, said she routinely receives calls from DCFS asking her to take additional placements.

"I used to write down every time I got contacted, and I quit doing that," she said.

"There are days when I get three or four calls. The day I got these two kids placed in my home – which was about a month ago – I had two more calls asking me if I would take more children from DCFS," Handy said.

Hayse said her experience with DCFS caseworkers is quite good, but the need is outstripping the supply of homes available for placement.

"Caseworkers are the unsung heroes of our community," she said. "They are dealing with a lot right now and get blamed for a lot."

Just why the number of foster kids is so high remains a bit of an open question.

"I'm not a researcher," Hayse said.

"There's an increase in violence in general in Springfield right now. Meth, I'm pretty sure, is on the rise. So, a lot of kids are being taken for abuse and neglect, but also for drugs being in the family and in the home."

The James Project, a ministry supported by about a dozen churches, is named after the Bible verse James 1:27 which says: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

The James Project currently provides five foster families with houses to live in at no cost. The organization also provides clothes, toiletries, beds, diapers and other items for area foster families and pay for enrichment activities for foster kids, such as gymnastics, karate and piano lessons. □

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

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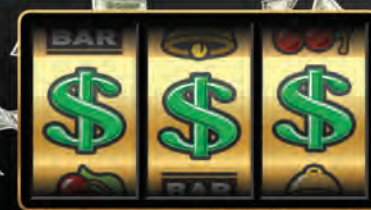
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# Multiple *Nutcracker* performances this holiday season

DANCE | Karen Ackerman Witter

*The Nutcracker* ballet is a holiday classic. For some *The Nutcracker* is a longstanding family tradition. Others may not have experienced the magical adventures of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince as they journey to the Land of the Sweets. There are multiple performances in Springfield this December at various times and locations with different cast members. All involve local youth who have devoted countless hours of training. Each performance has its own special character, so take time this holiday season to see one or more of these local presentations of *The Nutcracker*.

The Springfield Youth Performance Group (SYPG) Foundation will present its first rendition of *The Nutcracker, Land of the Sweets*, on Dec. 10 and Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Sacred Heart-Griffin Auditorium, 1200 W. Washington Street. Taryn Grant is director of community outreach for SYPG. Grant says this performance was designed to engage community leaders in working with local youth to have a positive impact. Grant invites the community to join in on the magic and excitement as Clara and the Nutcracker Prince travel through the land of the snow and the sweets while being entertained with lively dancing and colorful characters that will delight people of all ages.

The performance includes teenaged dancers from the SYPG studio company, junior high students in the preparatory program and dancers from the Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois. There will be "gentle narration" by Tiffany Mathis, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club, and Wendy El-Amin, Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Sacred Heart-Griffin head football coach Ken Leonard, the all-time winningest coach in Illinois High School Association history and fresh off his win for a sixth state football title, will portray Uncle Drosselmeyer. "I'm excited for my first-ever performance and especially with my granddaughter, Julia Leonard," said Coach Leonard. Leonard will be performing in both shows on Dec. 11. He shares the role with Sherman Mayor Trevor Clatfelter, who will be performing in the Saturday shows on Dec. 10. Children are invited to participate in free activities and crafts in the "Nutcracker's Workshop" 30 minutes prior to the start of each show. Grant's goal is to bring in new audiences and



Lucy Schmadeke and Mary Donathan will perform the Peppermint variation with the Springfield Youth Performance Group. PHOTO BY 1221 PHOTOGRAPHY

inspire families to make *The Nutcracker* a family tradition. Tickets may be purchased at [www.sypgfoundation.org](http://www.sypgfoundation.org). A livestream of the 2 p.m. show on Dec. 10 will also be available to purchase.

As part of the Downtown Springfield, Inc., Old Capitol Holiday Walks, Copper Coin Ballet will present selections from *The Nutcracker* Wednesday and Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) through Dec. 17. Copper Coin's dancers, along with dancers from other central Illinois communities, will take the stage in the ALPLM Union Theater. The ALPLM will begin distributing free tickets at 4 p.m. the day of the performance. The museum will also have arts and crafts activities for children at the Winter Wonder Workshop, located in the former cafe space. Copper Coin will also present a *Nutty Nutcracker* version on Thursday, Dec. 22, at the UIS Performing Arts Center. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <https://coppercoinballet.org/>.

Springfield Ballet will present *The Nutcracker* Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. at the UIS Performing Arts Center. Springfield Ballet is a nonprofit professional ballet company that has been performing in Springfield for 47 years. For more information and to order tickets, go to <https://www.springfieldballetco.com/>. □

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# Candidates file for municipal elections

Five of 10 wards are contested, plus mayor and treasurer's races

ELECTIONS | Dean Olsen

Five of Springfield's 10 wards will have contested races for spots on the City Council in the April 4 municipal election, and Mayor Jim Langfelder will face City Treasurer Misty Buscher in his quest for a third four-year term.

The Nov. 28 conclusion of filing for municipal offices also saw three candidates file for Buscher's job.

Incumbent City Clerk Frank Lesko is running unopposed for another term, as are council members Chuck Redpath of Ward 1, Shawn Gregory of Ward 2, Erin Conley of Ward 8, Jim Donelan of Ward 9 and Ralph Hanauer of Ward 10.

There won't be a primary held Feb. 28 for Springfield city offices — which are officially nonpartisan — because not more than four candidates filed for any race.

Langfelder, 62, previously was elected city treasurer before being elected mayor in 2015. "We have a great city, and I look forward to serving another four years," he said.

Among his accomplishments, Langfelder, who is married with three grown children, said he has helped "move the city forward" despite two years without a state budget and more than two years of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The mayor also touted his leadership in stabilizing City Water, Light and Power's finances, upgrading roads and bicycle lanes, guiding rail consolidation, and advocating for the downtown transportation hub.

Langfelder is a Democrat while Buscher, 52, said she is a "moderate Republican." Buscher is married with two grown children.

"I just didn't feel like in the last eight years our city has gotten better" when it comes to infrastructure, economic development and communication with the City Council and constituents, she said of her decision to run for mayor.

Among the treasurer candidates, Colleen Redpath Feger is Redpath's daughter and has served as deputy treasurer the past four years. Bill McCarty is the city's budget director, while Lisa Badge is finishing her first term on the Springfield Park Board.

Two incumbents who were initially appointed to their seats on the council are now being challenged as they run for reelection.

In Ward 5, incumbent Lakeisha Purchase will face Sam Cahnman and Calvin Pitts.

Purchase, 33, of the 900 block of North Sixth Street, is a supportive services specialist for the Illinois Department of Transportation and has served on the council since September 2021, when she was appointed to the post after

former alderman Andrew Proctor resigned. Purchase was elected twice as a Democrat to the Capital Township Board and resigned her spot on the board when she was appointed to the council.

Purchase, who is single, said she prides herself on constituent service and wants to continue focusing on economic development, infrastructure, public safety and "quality neighborhoods."

Purchase said she is excited to represent the ward, which she called "the economic engine of Springfield." The ward covers most of downtown, the Mid-Illinois Medical District, the former and current state Capitols, and several residential neighborhoods, including Enos Park.

Cahnman, 68, of the 400 block of East Jefferson Street, was elected to the Sangamon County Board on Nov. 8 after defeating incumbent Democratic member Rose Ruzic in the June 28 primary. Cahnman, a lawyer in private practice who is single, previously served on the County Board and was elected twice to the council before being defeated in 2011 by Proctor.

If elected to the council, Cahnman would have to resign the County Board seat, according to Stacey Kern, director of Sangamon County Clerk Don Gray's election office.

Cahnman said he decided to run again for council while he was campaigning for County Board and encountering residents dissatisfied with Purchase.

"People are desperately seeking hands-on representation," he said.

Cahnman said he would work to improve or demolish problem properties in Ward 5, crack down on crime and prioritize law enforcement. He also wants to see North Grand Avenue revitalized.

Calvin Pitts, 54, of the 1000 block of North Fifth Street, is the owner of Bringing Others New Empowerment LLC, or B.O.N.E., a construction and investment company, and president of the nonprofit Southtown Construction Training Center. He is a widower with four grown children.

This is Pitts' first attempt at elected office. "Now is a good time for our city to add some people with integrity on that council," he said. "My mission has always been to serve others. This is just another avenue to do just that."

In Ward 3, incumbent Roy Williams Jr., of the 2600 block of East Lawrence Street, is being challenged by William Eddington.

Williams, 63, was appointed to the

council in March 2021 to fill the seat vacated when former alderwoman Doris Turner was appointed to the Illinois Senate. Williams didn't return phone calls from *Illinois Times*.

Eddington, 59, of 1000 block of North Hill Street, is seeking elected office for the first time. He is a brick mason and owns Eddington Masonry. He is divorced and has two grown children and one grown stepdaughter.

Eddington said he is running to improve the east and north sides of Springfield. "The infrastructure is just going to pieces," he said.

Three of the five contested races on the council will fill open seats. Ward 7 Ald. Joe McMenamin has served three consecutive four-year terms and is prohibited by ordinance from seeking a fourth consecutive term; Ward 4 Ald. John Fulgenzi and Ward 6 Ald. Kristin DiCenso decided not to seek re-election.

There are three candidates running in Ward 4: Larry Rockford, Jason Ratts and David Yankee.

Rockford, 60, of the 1500 block of Maryland Avenue, retired in August as a maintenance supervisor for the city. He is married with three children, and is the brother-in-law of Mayor Jim Langfelder. This is his first run for elected office, and Rockford said he would work to improve roads, upgrade sewers and crack down on fly dumping.

Ratts, 50, of the 2900 block of Tanner Road, is a licensed practical nurse for Memorial Health. He previously was divorced and now is engaged, with three biological daughters and two stepchildren.

Ratts was elected three times as a Republican on the Sangamon County Board and served 11 years. He said he is running because of "my love of the North end."

Yankee, 46, of the 2300 block of Winnebago Drive, is a licensed financial adviser. He is married and a foster parent. He said he has no specific issues to work on for Ward 4 and hopes to use a seat on the council as a steppingstone to higher office so he can improve the state's foster-care system.

There are three candidates running in Ward 6: Alyssa Haaker, Jennifer Notariano and Dan Pittman.

Haaker, 33, of 2200 South Pasfield Street, a lawyer in private practice who is single, is seeking elected office for the first time. "I want to give back to Springfield," the lifelong city resident said.

Haaker said she wants to preserve public safety amid the planned expansion and improvements for MacArthur Boulevard.

Notariano, 39, of the 1600 block of South State Street, is a bid officer with the Illinois Capital Development Board and is married.

Notariano has been active in Democratic politics and previously served as a Democratic committeewoman in Capital Precinct 32. When she heard DiCenso was leaving the council, she said she decided to run "to keep a strong, progressive, female voice on the City Council."

Notariano, too, said she wants to promote traffic safety as MacArthur Boulevard is improved.

Pittman, 38, of the 2000 block of South Pasfield, previously ran as a Democrat for Sangamon County treasurer, losing to incumbent Republican Joe Aiello in the Nov. 8 race. He is married with two children and works as a public service administrator for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

A Marine Corps veteran, he said he looks forward to the MacArthur Boulevard project helping to revitalize the corridor.

Three candidates also are facing off in Ward 7: Brad Carlson, Jaleesa Davis and John Houlihan.

Carlson, 57, of the 2500 block of Argonne Avenue, is a policy analyst for the Illinois Senate Republican Caucus and is the married father of two adult children.

He is an elected Republican member of the Capital Township Board but said he would resign that position if elected to the council. He previously was a deputy Sangamon County clerk and chief of staff at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

"One of my top priorities will be to make sure existing infrastructure projects in Ward 7 are completed and to determine other areas in the neighborhood where additional improvements should be funded," he said.

Carlson said he also would focus on supporting the city's police and fire departments.

Davis, 33, of Longbow Lane, is the owner of Glaze Nail Salon and operator of a nonprofit group, Girls Glory, that provides free hair braiding to children. She is married and has four children.

She said she is seeking elected office for the first time "to bring awareness to public safety in our community."

Houlihan, of Glen Eagle Drive, works for the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus and is the son of Bill Houlihan, chairman of the Sangamon County Democratic Party. □



# Thieves target catalytic converters

Illinois ranks third in the nation, has seen a significant increase in thefts

**THEFT | Scott Reeder**

When Linda Nelson turned the ignition on her old Honda Accord, the vehicle roared louder than a hot rod.

At first the Springfield resident thought her car's muffler had fallen off, but she soon learned someone had crawled under her 23-year-old car and cut away its catalytic converter while it sat in her driveway.

She is hardly alone.

Catalytic converter thefts are on the rise in Illinois, and the thefts are proving costly for individuals and businesses alike.

According to State Farm claims data, Illinois ranks third in the nation for catalytic converter thefts and has experienced an increase since 2019, said Gina Morss-Fischer, a spokesperson for the insurance company.

A catalytic converter is an exhaust emission-control device that converts toxic gases and pollutants in exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine into less-toxic pollutants. U.S. law requires all cars made since 1975 to have such a device.

In recent years, thefts of the pollution-control devices have skyrocketed:

- In 2019, State Farm paid \$651,000 for just over 480 catalytic converter theft claims in Illinois.
- In 2020, State Farm paid over \$1.1 million for 740 catalytic converter theft claims in Illinois.
- In 2021, State Farm paid \$3.1 million for 1,985 catalytic converter theft claims in Illinois.
- In the first eight months of 2022, State Farm has already paid \$5.3 million for 2,770 catalytic converter theft claims in Illinois.



Springfield resident Linda Nelson was a victim of catalytic converter theft after someone cut it off her 23-year-old Honda Accord while the car sat in her driveway. PHOTO BY SCOTT REEDER

Nationally, State Farm alone has paid \$70.6 million for 31,835 catalytic converter theft claims from January through August this year.

Springfield Assistant Chief of Police Joshua Stuenkel said there have been 117 reported catalytic converter thefts in the city this year. One thing driving the thefts may be videos posted on the internet showing would-

be thieves how to remove the devices from a vehicle, he said.

The devices, which contain rhodium, palladium and platinum, can fetch hundreds of dollars in resale on the black market.

"They are worth more than gold," said Roger Brickler, an owner of Brickler Collision Services in Springfield. "Catalytic converters have platinum and other precious metals in them, and those metals are worth more than their weight in gold."

On Nov. 28, platinum was trading for \$988 an ounce, palladium traded at \$1,844 an ounce and rhodium traded for \$13,400 an ounce. Gold was trading for \$1,751 an ounce.

Last month, someone cut through the fence of Brickler's salvage yard on East Washington Street and sawed catalytic converters from "seven or eight" vehicles parked in his lot.

"I'm glad none of them belonged to customers. They were all cars that we were salvaging," he said.

Since the theft, Brickler has installed security cameras and taken steps to ensure salvaged vehicles are far less accessible to would-be thieves.

His business is hardly alone. Auto dealers, construction contractors and other salvage yards have all reportedly been struck by thieves in recent months.

Brickler said catalytic converters on certain older cars are more likely to be targeted by thieves because they have greater quantities of precious metals.

But one of the newer cars targeted is the Toyota Prius.

Springfield-area resident Tom Irwin had a catalytic converter stolen from his 2006 Prius about a year ago. The vehicle was being used by his college-age son, John, who lives in a Springfield apartment complex.

"He saw a hacksaw blade or something just underneath it. So, they just came in the middle of the night and jacked it up, cut it off, took off, and that was that," Irwin said.

It cost about \$500 for an off-market converter to be installed by a friend who is a mechanic. He said because the work was done by a friend, the cost was considerably lower than it otherwise might be.

The National Insurance Crime Bureau estimates the cost of catalytic converter replacements between \$1,000 and \$3,000. Since the vehicles targeted are often older, many of their owners no longer have full insurance coverage and are forced to pay for repairs out of pocket.

"We believe that these thefts are being committed by lone individuals rather than organized crews," said Sangamon County Sheriff Jack Campbell. "They are very easy crimes to commit because, for the most part, these vehicles are parked out in the open and often haven't been driven for a long time. My guess is that there are dozens and dozens of cases in Sangamon County that have gone unreported because the owners haven't realized that a theft has taken place because it's been so long since they last drove a particular vehicle."

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



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## OPINION



Employees of McFarland Mental Health Center who are represented by the Illinois Nurses Association and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees take part in informational picketing Nov. 16 outside the state-operated psychiatric hospital at 901 Southwind Drive in Springfield. More than 50 employees took part in the two-hour demonstration. PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE AMBROSE

### Holidays

my teacher friend replied when I asked if her kids were excited about 5 days off for thanksgiving that she ignored all holidays "Some few squeal that they are going to Cancun but too many know they probably won't eat for five days – the school lunch is their only meal." – not every town has st john's breadline, salvation army, churches

2022 Jacqueline Jackson

### LETTERS

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

### COMMON PROBLEM

Sadly, understaffing is happening everywhere ("Understaffing problematic at McFarland Mental Health," Nov. 23). Why do you think places like Brother James Court and St. Joseph's Home had to close? They cared for different people than McFarland, but they were not able to keep their doors open. There was not enough staff and little funds coming from the state to keep them afloat.

Mikki Buhl

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

### ALL TRUMP

Scott Reeder's column "When voters lack options" includes no mention of the gerrymandering Democrats did in state

legislative, congressional and judicial districts (Nov. 17). Look at the 13<sup>th</sup> District. But it's all Trump, Trump, Trump. It is like a drug with you in the media.

Ted Harvatin

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

### FEW CHOICES

In the state elections recently, I had choices ("When voters lack options," Nov. 17). But after that, not so much – locally none. So I left some blank spaces on my ballot.

Leslie JoJo Denny

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

### SAIL AWAY

The article "Speaker Welch reflects on growing House majority" shows where Illinois' continuous Democrat super-majority has taken us. We are indeed up a creek as long as our Democrat leaders ignore that we are drowning in debt. Sadly, the last election shows where we are without a paddle.

Illinois will continue down

this path with Pritzker at the rudder. When I can, I will sail away with my Social Security and bid Illinois bon voyage.

Jerald Jacobs

Springfield

### PLANT POLLINATORS

We do a pollinator yard and I love it ("Plant native pollinators this winter," Nov. 23)!

Amber Temerity Lozzi

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

### USE CATNIP

Bees love catnip. Just know it's a spreader and will survive pretty much anything.

Kris Anderson

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

### CONGRATS

Congratulations to the Rock Creek Presbyterian Church family. Great article from Cinda Klickna and she's right, what a beautiful setting ("Rock Creek Presbyterian celebrates 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary," Nov. 17).

Mary Coker

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



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## OPINION

# Will Illinois pass an abortion amendment?

POLITICS | Rich Miller

The Illinois Senate Republicans' new leader, John Curran, told Capitol News Illinois the other day that there was nothing left to do on the abortion topic in Illinois.

"The reality is, what else can we do here in Illinois?" Sen. Curran said. "The laws of Illinois are more weighted towards guarantees of the rights to have an abortion than any other state in the nation. There's no further to go."

However, House Speaker Chris Welch strongly indicated recently that a state constitutional amendment guaranteeing reproductive rights was a very likely prospect.

"Right now, we're a single Legislature or a single Supreme Court away from losing [abortion] rights," Welch told KSDK TV.

Welch will soon have more members of his party than any Speaker since the state constitution was revised to reduce the chamber's membership by a third. He said there were a number of explanations for his caucus' expansion, but the United State Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade was "monumental."

"It changed everything," Welch told me. "And the Republican Party, not just here in Illinois, but across the country, is wrong on those issues. They're just wrong. Until they get it right on those issues, I think they're gonna create opportunity for us to continue to expand."

Welch said he's never seen Democratic numbers like this before, calling the one-time Republican bastion of DuPage County, "BluePage." The county, he said, is "one of those areas where our message resonates more than the Republican Party," and predicted the GOP would continue losing ground if they don't change.

Most every pre-election poll claimed that voters ranked abortion low on their priority lists. Yet, the abortion issue seemed to drive voters to the polls this year. What happened?

Senate President Don Harmon told me it may have been a couple of things.

"Across the country, Democrats did about three points better than they were polling. And I think it's in part because of the way voters responded to [the repeal of Roe v. Wade]. This is the first time in a long time a long-held right has been taken away in such dramatic fashion. I think that did motivate voters, but not necessarily the voters we were calling because they weren't part of the turnout model. So I think when we unpack this, I think you're

going to see some voters, younger voters, younger women in particular – but not just women – who said, 'I'm not giving up my rights that easily and I'm going to go vote.'

"And I also suspect, and would love to prove it with the analysis of the numbers, something we saw anecdotally going door to door, that women who would traditionally be considered Republican women weren't thinking about voting Republican because of that issue. And they might have been lying to their husbands, they might have been lying to the pollsters, but they weren't lying once they got inside the voting booth."

To sum up, Harmon said, "I think voters we didn't think were going to turn out, turned out. And I think that voters who would traditionally vote for Republican candidates turned out and said 'I've had enough of this nonsense. I'm going to vote for a Democrat, or I'm certainly not going to vote for the crazy Republicans' and skipped a race."

The newly chosen leader of the powerful and successful pro-choice group Personal PAC told me she would "absolutely" work

with legislative Republicans to recruit pro-choice candidates.

However, Sarah Garza Resnick told me it was "too early to tell," when asked if she expected the Republicans to work with her. "But I think that any smart political strategist would need to read the tea leaves of what is going on and what the voters are sending a very clear message on. And if you want to stay relevant and get the other important issues that you care about discussed, then I think it would make sense to recruit and run pro-choice Republicans."

Garza Resnick stressed that she hasn't yet had a chance to talk with all other stakeholders about a possible constitutional amendment.

Even so, she said, "If you look at what happened in Kansas, and if you look at what happened where [abortion] was on the ballot in five states ... on Nov. 8, the people of this country overwhelmingly want choice to be protected and codified and they don't want it to be dismantled."

So, considering all that, "codifying on the constitutional level would make sense," Garza Resnick said. □





# Election integrity up close

How democracy works at the ballot box

GUESTWORK Dusty Rhodes

I've always considered voting to be a process somewhat like an oil change – an occasional and mildly inconvenient task necessary to keep the engine of democracy humming. I'd never thought twice about the mechanics involved until a couple of years ago, when people stormed our nation's Capitol screaming bloody murder about it. That horrific scene triggered my old reporter instincts. It made me want to go into the voting garage and see for myself how the government gets its fluids changed. And so in April of this year, I became an election judge.

Step one was in-person training. Election judges are required to attend a two-hour session that culminates in a three-page multiple choice test. The first time I went, I felt like the mom who couldn't help her kid with algebra homework now being dropped into a college calculus class. The instruction ranged from technical (which key was in which pouch) to the conceptual, like who could challenge a voter (virtually anyone), what poll watchers can do (look but not touch), and whether a baby in a stroller could wear a campaign-branded onesie into the polling place (no) or an adult could wear a red MAGA hat (depends).

For every conceivable scenario, there was a belt plus suspenders. There's a special process for dealing with voters who got a ballot by mail but didn't send it in (provisional ballot), every voter who voted early, even up to the night before (a fluorescent sticker gets put on their application), and a cool machine for voters who are visually impaired. If the power goes out, the tabulator machine has a backup generator. If the generator runs dry, there's an emergency bin to hold the ballots. Every significant action requires at least two judges (one from each political party).

Another thing I learned is that democracy runs on coffee. Election judges have to be at their assigned polling places by 5 a.m. and stay until polls close and all paperwork is completed, sometime around 8 p.m. A polling place may host multiple precincts (the one I worked at has three), and each precinct has five judges – three from the party that got the highest number of votes in that precinct in the three most recent gubernatorial elections, and two from the losing party.

For me, it was Judy Large. She has been an election judge off and on (mostly on) since the early 1980s, back in the days of punch card ballots with “hanging chads.” She has judged at polls in Williamsville, Sherman and several spots in Springfield. Recently



Dusty Rhodes, right, with fellow election judge, Judy Large. One benefit of being an election judge is making friends with someone from the other party.

retired, she had long careers in education and as the biomedical research administrator for SIU. During slow times (the primary didn't attract a lot of voters), we shared pictures of our pets and our gardens and traded tales of our various injuries. When I saw that she liked word games, I taught her how to play Wordle; when I discovered that she knew American Sign Language, I persuaded her to teach me a few choice insults.

Unlike the April primary, there was no slow time on Nov. 8. A voter was waiting at 5:45 a.m., while we were still setting up, and we had a steady stream of voters throughout the day. This robust turnout made all the judges giddy. Among the three precincts, a small rivalry ensued as we kept a running calculation on our respective percentages (our precinct always won).

You might wonder: What do election judges actually judge? All kinds of things. If

campaign signs are too close to the poll, we can remove them or have them removed. If a voter shows up wearing a Let's Go Brandon hat, we could vote amongst ourselves on whether that constituted electioneering. If a voter's signature doesn't match their application signature, we can decide whether to allow that person to vote (I know of only one challenge, and the voter produced his state ID). Judy and another veteran judge told me they wish we required state IDs from every voter. But when pressed to estimate numbers of questionable signatures, Judy agreed signatures evolve over time, and “usually, there's enough (similarities) there that I can tell it's OK.”

The real work begins at 7 p.m. on the dot – the very moment the polls close. “We're all on a high,” Judy says. “Adrenaline pops in and we're going 90-to-nothing to get results and show that we did our job.”

We open the bin beneath the tabulator and dump all the paper ballots into piles on the table top. Judges gather around and start sorting out ballots by precinct. Here's the quaint part: This process is done by looking at the initials the judge has scribbled on the top of each paper ballot. Each precinct has its own colored pens, so we sort the paper into three piles – black, red, green – and start counting.

To be perfectly clear: We count ballots (sheets of paper); we do not count votes. Votes are counted by the tabulator machine. At the time we open the bin, it spits out a tape that shows how many ballots were cast in each precinct, and our sole goal is to make sure our physical count matches the tape. We break the seal on the memory card compartment, pop it out, and put it into a special envelope.

After that, there's a lot of packing and signing. There's an extremely complicated system of pouches and envelopes, with ballots going straight into big gray suitcases (yes, those exist!) and sealed, never to be opened without a court order. Everything gets signed by all the judges, then transported downtown by two judges (one from each party) riding together in the front seat of the same vehicle.

Judy and I weren't on the transport team, so we dragged ourselves to our respective cars, weighed down by uneaten snacks and a sudden dearth of adrenaline. Only then did Judy ask, “Hey, did you see the results?” I had glanced one time at the top line tally on our tape, and noticed that Darren Bailey had 20ish more votes than JB Pritzker. “Well, Chicago will overwhelm that,” Judy sighed.

And that's the thing: Until that moment – after the results had been finalized and driven away in sealed security containers – no one in the room had discussed the outcome of any race on the ballot. Instead, we had spent considerable time and energy making sure every qualified voter could vote, everyone who had already voted could not, and that the machine count and the paper ballot count matched up.

I realize the system isn't perfect. But when I voted (early), I noticed the ballot included the name Don Gray, running for another term as county clerk, in charge of our elections. He is a Republican, and he was running unopposed. I had no problem coloring in the little oval next to his name. □

*Dusty Rhodes is a former staff writer at Illinois Times and a former reporter for NPR Illinois.*





A solar field near Murrayville in Morgan County. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

# Is this the best use of prime farmland?

Thousands of acres are being paved with panels

LAND USE | David Blanchette

What should be grown on central Illinois' prime farmland, seeds or solar panels?

That's the quandary facing central Illinois and other areas of the nation that grow the majority of the country's crops. A new solar energy installation, labeled the Double Black Diamond Solar project, is now being built and takes up more than 4,000 acres of land in Sangamon and Morgan Counties. That land, until now, has been used to grow corn and soybeans.

The Sangamon County area contains some of the world's richest soils, but it is also

now the home of lucrative leases for solar panel installations that have some landowners trading their cropland for two types of green — energy and money.

Solar advocates say we need the alternative energy source and there's enough land to go around for everybody. But an increasing number of people are asking why solar developers are seeking prime farmland instead of siting their developments on land that isn't feeding the nation.

It's green energy versus green crops, and the debate seems likely to intensify as more

alternative energy developments continue to move into the nation's heartland.

**“No one was thinking you would take this rich farmland out of production.”**

Lucy Stafford uses solar energy on her small farm near Pleasant Plains. But the location of the Double Black Diamond Solar project on prime farmland caused her family to sell another small farm they owned because they didn't want to be surrounded by acres of solar panels.

“It was just 10 acres, but it's almost

sickening because this was a family farmstead that had gone back into the 1850s,” said Stafford of the land along Sims Road near Waverly. “I'm a quasi-environmentalist, but I believe you have to balance the earth, soil, water and air. And all they are focused on right now is the air.”

Stafford and others who opposed the scale of the Double Black Diamond Solar project attended several Sangamon County Board and zoning meetings, but did not prevail in stopping the project.

“None of the ordinances envisioned



these 4,000-acre solar fields, and no one was thinking that you would take this rich farmland out of production,” Stafford said. “One of the things we learned during COVID was that we have to be self-reliant, especially in our food sources. I know we over-produce, but at some point we might not, and you just can’t get the land back.”

Darrel Thoma of Dowson Farms, the landowner for the vast majority of the Double Black Diamond Solar project, took the prime farmland concern into account while negotiating the long-term lease on their land with Swift Current Energy.

“No one knows what the future will hold, but at this time we don’t feel like the land being used for solar is hurting the food, feed and energy sectors of the market,” Thoma said. “Farming has a tremendous amount of production, market, financial, institutional, governmental and personal risk. We decided to lease this portion of our land to solar to reduce some of these risks.”

The Double Black Diamond Solar lease will stay with future generations of the Dowson family or pass to the next buyer if the land were ever sold. Thoma feels confident that the solar project won’t have a long-term detrimental effect on their land.

“We have spent a considerable amount of time working with Swift Current on our lease and the decommissioning of the land, if that is ever to happen,” Thoma said. “We appreciate Swift’s willingness to listen to our concerns.”

### “Flash a lot of money in front of people.”

John Hawkins is a farm owner near Buffalo and is also a trustee of the Sangamon Conservancy Trust, which has 6,000 acres of prime farmland under conservation easements. The trust will not allow solar or wind energy projects to be developed on easement lands because they feel that crop production is the best use for those properties.

“The problem with putting 500 acres of solar panels in is that, once they are done with it, you’ve got electric lines and metal,” Hawkins said. “They can decommission it, but you don’t know if they are going to decommission it back to the level that the ground was when it was installed. Once you are dead and gone and your family wants to restart the farm, they may not be able to.”

Hawkins pointed to the defense plant installation that was developed during World War II in eastern Sangamon County as an example of a supposedly temporary installation that has never gone away.

“They put in concrete storage huts on prime farmland and many of those structures are still there,” Hawkins said. “The cost to remove them is prohibitively high.”

Hawkins said that central Illinois prime farmland prices are at record levels, but alternative energy developers are still going



Lucy Stafford stands near a solar array on the roof of a farm building she owns near Pleasant Plains. Stafford's family sold a farm they had owned near Waverly since the 1850s when the 4,000-acre Double Black Diamond Solar project was sited nearby. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

after these ultra-expensive properties.

“Government subsidies and the developers of these renewable energy projects flash a lot of money in front of people,” Hawkins said. “It can be a lucrative investment for somebody who doesn’t look at the long term. For some farmers they think they are hitting the lottery.”

Walter Lynn is a Springfield certified public accountant who works with numerous

agricultural clients across the country.

“Biological capital is one piece that does not show on any financial statement. Do landowners have good soil, water infiltration and water holding capacity?” Lynn said. “I don’t think any solar company has any clue about that. There are going to be runoff issues, and I’m concerned about what’s going to be available for food production down the road

if we’re not being involved now in some smart siting.”

The Illinois Solar Energy Association’s Peter Gray argues that solar does indeed take the health of prime farmland into account.

“Solar farms are a temporary use of land that requires no water, pesticides or fertilizers,” Gray said. “Perennial ground cover improves soil and water quality around solar projects, so that when the land is returned to its prior condition at the end of the project’s life, it can be healthier and more productive.”

Gray said that solar will never take agriculture’s place in America’s economy, and enough solar can be installed to meet our energy goals without a noticeable impact on agriculture. He said the Double Black Diamond Solar farm occupies only about zero-point-seven percent of the farmland in Sangamon County. Gray points out that much of Illinois’ farmland is already used for the production of energy in the form of corn ethanol.

“The most important thing to remember is that landowners have the right to decide the best way to use their land and run their business,” Gray said. “Most people would agree that their government and their neighbors shouldn’t decide how they use their property or run their business.”



Solar panels wait to be installed at the Prairie Creek solar development in northern Morgan County.

PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE



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## FEATURE

### “Place solar in less productive areas.”

The Illinois Farm Bureau agrees that farmland owners should decide what is best for their properties, and the Farm Bureau works to keep its members informed about what to look for if they are approached by alternative energy developers.

“We have members who are interested in participating in solar projects and we have members who are concerned about solar projects being placed on prime farmland,” said Bill Bodine, director of business and regulatory affairs for the Illinois Farm Bureau. “Our policy, set by our members, supports solar energy as a portion of our energy portfolio, but it also supports efforts to locate solar projects on marginal or under-utilized lands.”

When the Sangamon County Board debated the rezoning of thousands of acres for the Double Black Diamond Solar project, District 25 board member George Preckwinkle opposed the rezoning because he felt the development should be located on less-valuable land.

“We need to protect the prime real estate of farmland and try to place solar in less productive areas,” Preckwinkle said. “I think we have a lot of sites that could be used, like the old Pillsbury Mill or the old Formosa plant.”

Preckwinkle and his sister, Lucy Stafford, own 13 Ace Hardware stores, half of which have solar installations. But those stores aren’t located on prime farmland.

“I understand the developers’ point of view, they want to make money, everybody likes that,” Preckwinkle said. “But I also think there’s a reason why you have zoning, to have the proper use of land for the greater good.”

Sangamon County Board District 3 member David Mendenhall was also against the Double Black Diamond Solar project location.

“This can have a potential negative impact, and not just on the farmers, but the seed dealers, the chemical dealers, the grain elevators and the trucking companies,” Mendenhall said. “As we continue to remove prime farmland, it’s going to be a bidding war for tenants paying cash rent.”

Mendenhall said Illinois would do well to look at Iowa’s Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Program, which encourages keeping farmland in production by allowing landowners to earn a tax credit for leasing their land to beginning farmers. He also feels that moving solar projects to less desirable land has benefits for everyone.

“I think Ameren and these other companies need to invest some of their money and move over to some land that’s currently under the federal government’s set-aside program that’s not being farmed now,” Mendenhall said. “That has a benefit for the government too, because they don’t have to pay these farmers to take this land out of production.”

Ameren Illinois has no role in the solar project site selection process, according to spokesperson Marcelyn Love, and alternative



**John Hawkins of the Sangamon Conservancy Trust. The trust will not allow alternative energy developments to be sited on prime farmland for which the trust holds a conservation easement.** PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

energy developers are responsible for the costs incurred to build the infrastructure that allows them to connect to Ameren’s system. Those costs, however, could be lower for a developer if a solar project is located closer to existing power facilities like those typically found near farms.

“Generally speaking, closer proximity to existing electric infrastructure does favorably affect the costs to interconnect,” Love said. “But other factors, including the capacity of the distribution facilities back to their link with the transmission system, can also affect interconnection costs.”

Daniel Sheehan is the development manager for Swift Current Energy.

“It made sense to locate the Double Black Diamond Solar project on these parcels because there was enough contiguous acres for a project of this size, as well as available transmission capacity in the area due to new transmission lines that were sited on the same property within the last five years,” Sheehan said.

“We are fortunate that the landowner who owns the vast majority of the property where the project is sited both lives locally and operates their land,” Sheehan said. “While the solar farm operates, the land will continue to stay in the family and the topsoil will be preserved for future generations.”

Morgan County has no rural zoning ordinance. Besides the Double Black Diamond Solar project near Waverly, the county has the Wolf Run solar project on its western side and the Prairie Creek solar project being

constructed to the north.

“The larger projects come and do their due diligence, talk to the board and have a public hearing, but there’s nothing in our county that would regulate them,” said Morgan County Board Chairman Brad Zeller. “We developed a memorandum of understanding with Wolf Run about complying with the Agriculture Mitigation Act and being good with the neighbors and notifications. We’d like to make that document a model for a countywide ordinance.”

“State law tells counties that we must have a wind ordinance,” Zeller said. “But so far solar has just kind of been excluded from that state process and left up to the counties.”

Swift Current Energy of Boston, the developer of the Double Black Diamond Solar project, was acquired in 2021 by Buckeye Partners and Nala Renewables.

According to Reglobal, Buckeye Partners is owned by IFM Global Infrastructure Fund, which owns and operates a global network of liquid petroleum pipelines, terminals and storage. Nala Renewables was formed in 2020 by commodity trading company Trafigra and the global investment management firm IFM Investors. Nala Renewables is focused on solar, wind and energy storage projects.

The \$535 million Double Black Diamond Solar project’s estimated 592-megawatt generation capacity will power the equivalent of approximately 97,000 homes. Construction is underway, with completion by late 2023. □





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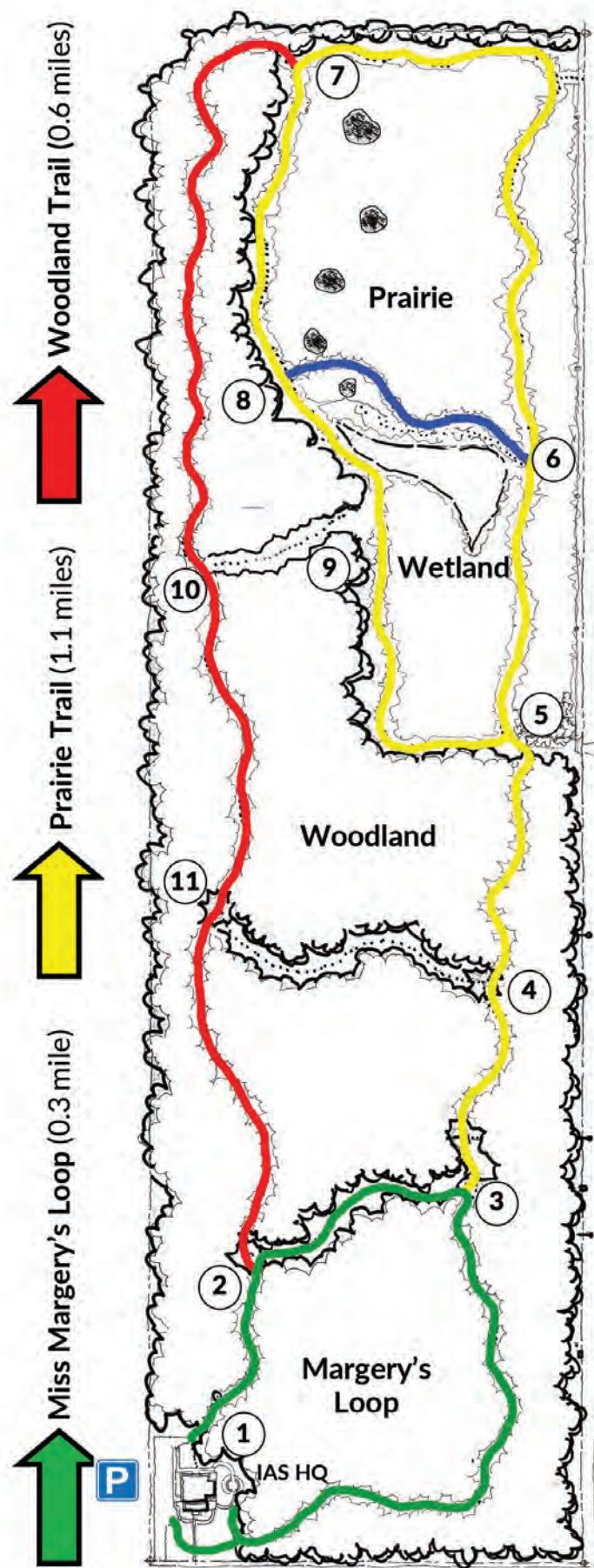
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The trails of Adams Wildlife Sanctuary are open dawn to dusk, 365 days a year. To download a trail map and to find additional information about this sanctuary and other IAS preserves, visit <https://illinoisaudubon.org>

# On behalf of wildlife

Springfield is home to the Illinois Audubon Society. For 125 years, Illinois Audubon has been fighting for species and habitat protection as the state's oldest conservation group. With new leaders at the helm, the fight continues for the good of wildlife. And society.

**WILDLIFE** | Jeanne Townsend Handy Photos by Tom Handy

All too often birdwatchers are portrayed as obsessive eccentrics, binoculars glued to their faces, oblivious to the world beyond their lenses. Yet the lengthy history of the Illinois Audubon Society, headquartered in Springfield, reveals a radically different depiction. Are the organization's members obsessive eccentrics? Certainly some. Binoculars glued to their faces? Quite often. But the people who have populated the ranks of the IAS, which is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year as the state's oldest nonprofit conservation group, have shown that not only are they aware of the world beyond their lenses, they are resolute defenders of the ecological communities to which their beloved birds belong.

When three women in Chicago signed the Illinois Audubon Society articles of incorporation in 1897, they and the others standing with them became true conservation pioneers. There were no designated reserves, no protection laws, and few ways to spread knowledge and concern about the loss of birds and their habitats. To put this in perspective, when the Illinois Audubon Society was founded, John Muir had established the Sierra Club a mere five years earlier, a national Audubon society was not in existence, and it would be two decades before the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, one of the oldest wildlife protection laws, would be enacted. Undaunted, these trailblazers began educating adults and youngsters alike about the pressures birds were facing through the limited means available to them – by publishing articles and conducting meetings and school programs.

At the same time, these earliest IAS members helped sponsor and defend some of the first state and federal wildlife protection laws. Scott Weidensaul writes in *Of a Feather: A Brief History of American Birding* that



Habitat protected and restored by IAS across the state benefits a variety of wildlife, such as the Common Yellowthroat.

although the state-level Audubon societies were not alone in pressuring state and federal lawmakers on behalf of birds, “they were crucial, especially on the state level, battling hundreds of bills that would have rolled back or watered down newly enacted safeguards.” Decades later, the organization would move from blazing figurative trails, through influencing attitudes about wildlife held by legislators and Illinoisans, to creating physical trails at habitat under its protection.

It is hard to imagine there are 40 acres of woodland, wetland and prairie lying just beyond the Illinois Audubon Society state headquarters,

which is situated not far from the tumult of traffic careening down Clear Lake Avenue in Springfield. The staff offices are located at the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary property within the historic Margery Adams house. It is here I meet up with Joanne (Jo) Fessett, who took the helm as IAS's executive director in August, and Matt Hayes, the new assistant to the executive director. Fessett started her work with IAS in 2006, and she is indeed a passionate birder. She is, in fact, depicted in a bio photo with binoculars glued to her face. Yet throughout her time with Illinois Audubon Society and during a tenure with the Nature Conservancy,



which coincided with the monumental Emiquon wetland restoration near Havana, Illinois, she has sought to blur the boundaries between the various fields intersecting and sometimes uniting in the pursuit of conservation knowledge – science, ecology and even the arts.

In the 1970s, the organization broadened its vision to include the acquisition of land and acceptance of donated parcels on behalf of wildlife, and the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary is but one of Illinois Audubon's 24 properties. Fessett is quick to clarify that the land protection accomplished by the organization extends beyond the 3,061 acres of land within their preserves. "Our goal is not to amass the most property we can. Our goal is to protect habitat," she states. She explains how IAS is often able to act with greater agility than other organizations when important habitat, such as land adjacent to an existing reserve, becomes available. When notified of another group's interest in a significant parcel, they can often move more quickly, attending auctions and working with landowners to complete a transaction, then holding the land while the interested group awaits the necessary funding – whether it be the Illinois Department of Natural Resources or smaller park and conservation districts. Finally, with no financial profit, IAS transfers the land.

Fessett hands me a list of tracts acquired from 1973 to 2022 that includes not only the organization's designated sanctuaries and preserves but also land acquired and passed to other groups. The Illinois Audubon Society has protected 5,862 Illinois acres that its land committee determined to be of conservation value. "The habitat is the big thing," she states, "but sometimes something stands out." The necessity for protection may be obvious, as with the Plum Island Eagle Sanctuary, a 45-acre island near Starved Rock State Park acquired by the group with the assistance of the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation in March 2004, saving it from threatened development and preserving not only a wintering site for eagles but Native American archaeological sites as well.

She further notes, however, that land acquisition decisions are not based solely on the potential benefit to bird species. More recently the "something" that stood out to spur recent purchases of three sites included bat caves, spotted dusky salamanders, and Blanding's turtles, with both the salamanders and turtles designated as state-endangered species. Also coming into the decision-making process, she adds, is whether there is a group nearby the parcel in question that would help steward it.

A group nearby that would help steward it... While reading about the handful of people who acted to form the organization in 1897, I saw the power of volunteers and grassroots movements, the ability of individuals working locally to achieve big wins for conservation. The IAS founders were people who had watched in real time as passenger pigeons were hunted to extinction and as the feathered-hat craze led to



**Matt Hayes, assistant to the executive director, has educated college students on the trails of Adams Wildlife Sanctuary on East Clear Lake Avenue in Springfield, a remarkable urban sanctuary and home of Illinois Audubon Society's state headquarters.**

the slaughter of millions of birds. They were people who stood up to say, "No more."

Today, members of the 17 local chapters scattered across the state continue to commit their time on behalf of Illinois Audubon Society's mission to protect and educate. It is no small commitment. Whether it be the physically demanding work of habitat restoration performed under the guidance of the land management staff, or the challenges of educating local communities about the necessity for protections and inspiring them to act, the presence of volunteer stewards remains crucial.

Matt Hayes pauses and lifts his face skyward as he listens. We have moved from the head-

quarters onto the trails of the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary. Tall and soft-spoken, he is silent for a bit before determining that it is indeed a red-shouldered hawk he is hearing and not a blue jay. "Jays can mimic both red-tailed and red-shouldered hawks," he explains. The selection of Hayes as assistant to the executive director speaks to Illinois Audubon Society's continued commitment to the birds. He is a population biologist with advanced degrees earned from his study of sandhill cranes in Wisconsin and the Midwest with the International Crane Foundation. His most recent work is as an educator, teaching ornithology at University of Illinois Springfield.

The winding trails we follow through the woodland surrounding the Springfield state headquarters as we make our way toward the restored prairie habitat are a physical reminder of how the organization has tried, since its inception, to promote knowledge and involvement. Yes, these sanctuaries are established for wildlife – and recent studies show that urban tracts such as the Adams property are even more valuable than initially understood. It is now known that migrating birds may be drawn toward the lights of cities along their pathway, making even small urban stopover areas of greater importance. Yet the hours and hours of volunteer work involved in the ongoing trail maintenance, the invasive species removal, and the restoration of native habitat make this property an accessible sanctuary for people as well.

It is often said that before someone can care about a species, they must first know it. And the ways people are coming to know and care about species at this sanctuary and at others under the Illinois Audubon Society umbrella are numerous – through programs, events and studies. Examples include the Bird Migration and Aquatic Adventures programs developed by the Hickory Hills Chapter at the Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary near Hillsboro and the Bird Detectives program created for third-grade

through fifth-grade Springfield students by members of the Springfield Audubon Society, the stewarding chapter of the Adams property.

Advanced education is also underway at Adams with a study being conducted by a University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign student to determine a framework for establishing understory herbaceous plants in restored floodplain forests. At three other IAS sites, there were studies to determine the effects of habitat restoration methods on wildlife populations over time. The reports these studies produced provide not only invaluable scientific information but also a deeper story about the diversity and history of Illinois' habitats, from the northerly Amboy Marsh and Gremel Nature Preserves that once were part of a more than 100,000-acre complex of wetlands in Lee County to the Round Pond Nature Preserve in the southern part of the state, lying within an ancient channel of the Ohio River with swamps, old-growth bald cypress and tupelo gum trees.

Fessett has called their properties "learning labs," but she clearly understands that these habitats have the potential to fulfill a much larger societal role – as places to breathe, to seek refuge from life's pressures, to search for artistic inspiration. "Different people seek out nature for different reasons, from analysis and crunching numbers to reproducing the experiences through brush and language," she states. Yes, we can study reports for critical facts about the promising number of red-headed woodpeckers at Amboy Marsh, about the endangered rusty-patch bumblebee at Gremel, and about the three bird species at Round Pond – the yellow-billed cuckoos, Acadian flycatchers, and blue-gray gnatcatchers – that have an unfortunate presence on the state's "Species in Greatest Conservation Need" list. We can also visit these sites and many of the others to walk, listen, contemplate and create.

Hayes and I circle a portion of the restored prairie, a riot of plants that support such species as grassland birds, bees and butterflies, before heading back into the woodland toward the headquarters. He mentions the fact that many Springfield residents still know little about the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary despite its remarkable urban location, and it is almost as if he is describing the often-unheralded accomplishments of the untold number of volunteers in Illinois Audubon Society's 125-year history and the role the organization has played in habitat protection in Illinois. "It's this little piece that a lot of people don't really have a clue about," he says. "But once you get on the ground, you're like, *this is fantastic*." □

*Jeanne Townsend Handy of Springfield holds a master's degree in environmental studies and is a member of the Society of Environmental Journalists. As a freelance writer, she enjoys exploring the science and dedication underlying habitat restoration and protection efforts. Contact her at [jthandy.com](mailto:jthandy.com).*



**Jo Fessett, recently named IAS executive director, believes their preserves not only protect crucial wildlife habitat but also fulfill a larger societal role as places for education, refuge and artistic inspiration.**



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# Why braising is my favorite

Cooking beef short ribs in red wine for flavor, tenderness and heat for the bus

FOOD | Peter Glatz

My fourth year of working in restaurants and living in a school bus is coming to a close. For the last few Decembers, I've relocated my bus to Florida because I swore I'd never suffer through another Midwest winter. This year, however, my position in the R & D and Fermentation Lab at Audrey Restaurant in Nashville is keeping me considerably further north. Though Nashville is considered a "Southern" state, the temperatures there average only about 10 degrees warmer than here in Illinois. My wife and I have a cozy little house in a quiet little neighborhood in Springfield, where I could be snuggled up under a blanket with our dog eating popcorn and watching a movie, but instead, I've chosen to freeze my arse off this winter in my uninsulated converted school bus. The opportunity to work for Chef Sean Brock was just too good to pass up.

During the warm months, I usually cook outside on the grill to keep the heat out of the bus, but in cold weather, I cook indoors to put heat into the bus. To this end, I often rely on slow braises. Braising is a cooking technique that begins with browning meat and aromatic vegetables on the stovetop, then adding a braising liquid (usually stock and often wine), and cooking gently in the oven until the meat is tender. An advantage of the braising process is that it can transform flavorful, but tough, cuts of meat into something tender and delicious. Braising is my favorite way to cook beef short ribs.

Short ribs are a cut of beef that consist of a short portion of the rib bone and the surrounding meat. They are full of flavor since they have alternating layers of meat and fat. Because they come from a muscle that is well-worked, short ribs can be a very tough cut. But cooked correctly, they can be very tender and easy to chew. Short ribs can be butchered in two ways. "English-style" short ribs are cut parallel to the bone, such that one rib bone runs along the length of each portion. They are usually sold in 4-inch to 6-inch lengths, and are about 2 inches thick. This is my preferred cut for braises. "Flanken-style" short ribs are cut across the rib bones so that each piece has cross-sections of several rib bones in it. They are thinner, usually ¼-inch to ½-inch thick. This is the cut used in Korean barbecue for kalbi or LA-style galbi. Flanken-style short ribs are my preferred cut for grilling.

When buying English-style short ribs, look for "bone-in." The bone provides structure and insulation to the meat, slowing the transfer of heat, making it easier to get even cooking, and



Red Wine Braised Short Ribs PHOTO: PETER GLATZ

allowing it to retain its moisture and juiciness. "Boneless" short ribs are cut from the chuck or plate, consisting of rib meat separated from the bone.

## Red Wine-Braised Short Ribs

This dish tastes even better if prepared a day ahead and reheated before serving.  
Serves 4-6

### Ingredients

4 bone-in 2-inch-thick short ribs  
Kosher salt and fresh ground black pepper  
Flour for dusting  
2 tablespoons grapeseed oil  
4 medium carrots  
1 rib celery  
1 medium onion  
2 leeks  
4 cloves of garlic  
1 1/2 tablespoons tomato paste  
1 bottle dry red wine, such as cabernet

sauvignon  
2 cups of beef or chicken stock, preferably homemade  
1 packet of unflavored gelatin (optional – only if using store-bought stock. See Note #2 below.)  
4 thyme sprigs  
1 cup ruby port wine (optional)

### Preparation

Preheat the oven to 300 degrees F.

Prepare the vegetables: Peel the carrots and onion and cut them into 1-inch chunks. Cut the celery into 1-inch pieces. Trim off the root end and green tops of the leeks. (See Note #1 below.) Slice the leeks in half lengthwise, then cut widthwise into 1-inch segments. Submerge the leeks in a bowl of cold water and stir to remove the dirt. Rinse and drain. Peel the garlic cloves and smash them with the flat side of the knife.

Dry the short ribs with paper toweling, season generously on all sides with salt and pepper, then lightly dust with flour. Heat the grapeseed oil in a Dutch oven with a tight-fitting lid over medium-high heat until shimmering. Working in batches, sear the short ribs on all four sides until golden brown, about 4-6 minutes per side. Refrain from overcrowding the pan, or they will end up steaming and developing a greyish color. Transfer the ribs from the Dutch oven onto a plate. Pour off all but 2 tablespoons of the fat.

Turn down the heat to medium, and add the carrots, celery, onion, leeks and garlic. Sauté the vegetables, stirring occasionally, until browned, about 6-10 minutes. Stir in the tomato paste and continue to cook for another 2 to 3 minutes. You may need to lower the heat if the vegetables start to burn.

Add the red wine to the Dutch oven and turn the heat to medium-high, scraping up any browned bits, until reduced by half.

Add the stock (if using store-bought stock, see Note #2 below) and return the short ribs back to the Dutch oven. Add the thyme sprigs and bring up to a simmer. Turn the burner off, cover the pot, and put it into the oven. After 1 hour, remove the lid and cook for another 2 hours or until the short ribs are fork-tender. If not yet tender, continue to braise, checking them every 20 minutes.

Remove the pot from the oven and transfer the ribs and vegetables to a bowl. Return the Dutch oven to the stovetop, add the port (if using), bring the liquid to a boil, and reduce to a consistency thick enough to coat the back of a spoon, about 10 minutes. Taste for seasoning, adding more salt if needed.

Pour the sauce over the short ribs and vegetables and serve with mashed potatoes, polenta, rice, egg noodles, or some good crusty bread.

If preparing a day ahead, refrigerate overnight. The next day, remove any fat that has risen to the surface of the sauce. When ready to serve, place the covered dish in a preheated 325-degree F oven until heated through, about 30 minutes.

### Notes:

1. Don't discard the green tops. They are delicious thinly sliced and sautéed in olive oils or butter. Or save for making stock.
2. If using store-bought stock, place it in a bowl first and sprinkle with the gelatin and allow it to "bloom" for about a half hour to avoid incorporating any lumps. □



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## MUSIC



Lil Higgy & the House Reckers play KooKoo's Nest this Saturday.

## December-time music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Don't look now, but 2022 is nearly in the rearview mirror as the old calendar on the wall (remember those?) says it is now the twelfth month of the year. Sometimes time crawls, sometimes it marches on and sometimes seems to be sprinting toward the goal line. I'm going to leave that feeling up to you, since we all know it doesn't really do anything but continue in a relentless, constant movement, peeling off the moments one at a time, every time, and right in time. So before we lose any more time, let's see what music is in store for us this time.

From the looks of our listings, we've run out the clock on Thursday night music, but with the Downtown Holiday Walks on Wednesdays for four weeks (counting this past one already done) we have our entertainment replacement time locked in. Be sure to look up what's happening in the center of the city on those early mid-week evenings, or just pack up for a visit downtown and wander around to see what you can see and enjoy. I do believe you'll be pleasantly surprised and wonderfully entertained. It is the most wonderful time of year, as the song goes.

That seems like a perfect segue (we try!) into a delightful musical experience going on at the Hoogland Center for the Arts on Friday and Saturday, when the Land of Lincoln Barbershop Chorus presents a performance "full of holiday cheer," as described in the event calendar. Named "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," the big show features seasonal songs sung in the undeniable, indubitable and inimitable style of barbershop singing by local quartets, as well as a full men's chorus.

In other non-bar-related holiday music on Friday, you better watch out for a special performance by musicians from the Illinois Symphony Orchestra called Magically

Mozart at the First Presbyterian Church, and you'd better not pout when the LLCC Choir performs "REVOLUTION," a concert about "the revolutionary power of love," in the Lincoln Land Community College commons.

For Friday fun in the nightclubs, those truly Fabulous HoeDads hit it at the VFW Northenders, Tom Beverly's Blue Country Revue heads into Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews and Wowie Zowie wows (and zows, too) them at the Blue Grouch. We're gifted this week with jazz stylings on Friday as Jose Gobbo's The Jazz Trio rounds out the corners at George Ranks and the Frank Parker Project blows into Friday Night Jazz at Boone's (thanks, Springfield Area Arts Council) along with The Ocean State Quarter riding the waves at Anchors Away and Angel Brown's Smooth 'n' Blue Band being smooth and blue with added holiday songs at Lime Street.

Saturday night gives us a few groups who don't play around here enough that certainly deserve attention, including Lil' Higgy and the House Reckers causing a ruckus at KooKoo's Nest, Prairie State of Mind feeling fine at Buzz Bomb and Kathy Kitchen and Rick Meyers singing up a storm at Pier 55.

Sunday Funday looks to be back in style this week, with some 12 gigs on the books for your listening pleasure. From holiday music played on the carillon in Washington Park by master carillonneur Carlo van Ulft (plus assistant carillonneurs) to Josie Lowder and Nate Cozadd doing the duo at Hill Prairie Winery in Oakford, we offer quite an assortment of performances.

That's my take on the first weekend of December. I hope you had a good time reading and will have an even better time checking out the music mentioned above and in our calendar. □



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

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

### Thursday Dec 1

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

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

### Friday Dec 2

**Ocean State Quartet**  
Anchors Away, 8-10pm

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

**Wowie Zowie**  
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7-10pm

**Friday Night Jazz - The Frank Parker Project**  
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

**AI Kitchen with Nino and Trish**  
Brewski's Pub, 7-10pm

**The Collective**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**The Jazz Trio**  
George Rank's, 7pm

**Tom Beverly's Blue Country Revue**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

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

**JJ Bradley Band**  
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

**it Fabulous HoeDads**  
VFW 10302 Northenders, 7-10pm

### Saturday Dec 3

**Randy Erwin**  
Abe's Old Hat, 10am-4pm

**Prairie State of Mind**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm



Wannabe - Spice Girls Tribute play at Danenberger Family Vineyards on Saturday night.

**No Backup Plans**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**Wannabe - Spice Girls Tribute**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

**Johnnie Owens**  
JP Kellys Pub and Package Liquor, 6-7pm

**Lil Higgy and the House Reckers**  
Koo Koo's Nest, 4-7pm

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

**Kathy Kitchen and Rick Meyers**  
Pier 55 Lounge, 8-11pm

**Thomas J Beverly**  
The Range Bourbon & Brew, Chatham, 3-6pm

**Brushville**  
Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill & Museum, 8pm

**Positively 4th Street**  
Starship Billiards, 9pm-12am

### Sunday Dec 4

**Fantastical Folk Jam**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 4-7pm

**Open mic with Sam and Kortney**  
Curve Inn, 5-8pm

**Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 2-5pm

**Julie Jules, José Gobbo and Frank Parker**  
Harvest Market, 10am-1pm

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

**The Tangents**  
It's All About Wine, 3pm

**Not Petty**  
Mama Lee's Sandbar, 2-5pm

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

**Thomas J Beverly**  
Slaughterhouse Brewing Co., Auburn, 1-4pm

**AI Kitchen**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 4-7pm

### Monday Dec 5

**it Blues Deacons**  
The Alamo, 7pm

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

### Tuesday Dec 6

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

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

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

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

**Open mic with Jim Ackerman**  
Silver Sevens Bar and Grill, 6:30-9:30pm

### Wednesday Dec 7

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

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

**Karaoke**  
Crows Mill Pub, 8pm

**it Joel Gragg**  
Recycled Records, 6-8pm

**Roger & Mandy open mic**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 7-11pm

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

**Karaoke with DJ Jeff**  
Whiskey Jack's Sports Bar, 7pm

**Coors LIGHT**

### WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT



### X-KRUSH

Saturday, December 3 • 8pm  
Sky Saloon (Willow Hill)



### FUN DMC

Friday, December 2 • 8pm  
Locals Bar (Pawnee)

**Springfield Theatre Centre**  
at The Hoogland Center for the Arts

Proudly Presents  
based on the 1947 holiday classic:


*Meredith Willson's*  
**MIRACLE ON 34<sup>TH</sup> STREET**  
*The Musical*

**December 2-4 & 9-11**  
Friday and Saturdays 7:30 pm | Sundays 2 pm

For tickets: call (217)523-ARTS  
or scan the QR code ([hcfta.org/tickets](http://hcfta.org/tickets))








**The World Affairs Council**  
of Central Illinois  
<https://mywacci.org/>

December 6, 2022 at  
Illini Country Club  
Reception: 5:30pm | Dinner: 6:15pm  
Program: 7:15pm



Speaker: Dr. Amanda Poole,  
Indiana University of  
Pennsylvania

**FREE Education Alert!**

This presentation will discuss findings from a long-term ethnographic study of education among Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia, one of the largest refugee hosting states in Africa. Anthropology sheds light on the dilemmas of refugee education, the mismatch between global migration policies and the realities and aspirations of refugee youth, and the possibilities of designing policies and programs that might enable refugees to work towards desired futures.

Reservations are required by December 1. Cost for dinner is \$40 per person.  
Contact Lynn McMenamin 217-502-6956 or [icm1300@aol.com](mailto:icm1300@aol.com)  
Attendance to the Speaker's Presentation is FREE & Open to The Public.

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**St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church**

**HOLIDAY FAIR  
& BAKE SALE**

Saturday, December 3rd  
10am-3pm

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THE CALENDAR



**Santa sightings**  
Saturday, Dec. 3, all day  
Various locations

**HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS | I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick**

**It** Santa Claus is going to be one busy ol’ elf on Saturday, Dec. 3. If you head out to Clayville Historic Site near Pleasant Plains, you can join him in a cup of hot chocolate from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Stop by the Edwards Place from 1-4 p.m. and you may find him decked out in his Civil War-era Christmas finery, singing carols and enjoying treats, while period-costumed interpreters tell you about Christmastimes past. Santa will also be receiving visitors on the lawn of the Old State Capitol during the Old Capitol Walks throughout the day. While there you can also catch a carriage ride and see some live entertainment. As the day wraps up, Santa will be riding a float in the annual Springfield Jaycees’ Holiday Lights Parade that begins at 5:30 p.m. Whatever holiday plans you have for the day, you will be sure to have a chance see that plump and jolly guy around just about every corner.

■ **Special Music Events**

**It’s the Most Wonderful time of the Year**  
Dec. 2-3, 7pm. A performance by the Land of Lincoln Barbershop Chorus that’s filled with holiday cheer. \$10-\$18. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

**LLCC Band Concert**  
Mon., Dec. 5, 7-8pm. A performance in the A. Lincoln Commons. Selections will range from standards to modern arrangements, directed by Jason Waddell, professor of music. Free. Lincoln Land Community College, 5250 Shepherd Road, 217-786-2200.

**Magically Mozart**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30pm. Rei Hotoda, conductor and Brian Goodwin, horn. Coda Conversations will follow the performance. \$21. Age 11 and under \$5, students with ID \$10,. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

**Winter Orchestra Festival**  
Sun., Dec. 4, 4pm. A free concert by the UIS Orchestra and the Illinois Symphony Youth Orchestra and with maestro Jacobsen Woollen directing. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

■ **Books & Authors**

**Book signing and discussion**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 12-2pm. A meet and greet with investigative reporter Ray Long and Charlie Wheeler who will discuss Long’s 2022 bestseller, *The House That Madigan Built: The Record Run of Illinois’ Velvet Hammer*. Call for details. Books on the Square, 427 Washington St., 217-965-5443.

■ **Theater & Comedy**

**Bert Kreischer**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 7pm. The Berty Boy Relapse tour. Bert, “The Machine,” is an American stand-up comedian, podcaster, reality television host and actor. theboscenter.com. \$39.75-\$99.75. BOS Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 800-745-3000.

**Miracle on 34th Street**  
Dec. 2-4. Based on the classic holiday film, this joyous and heartwarming musical is pure joy meant for the whole family. Directed by Andrew Rains,. \$20. Springfield Theatre Centre, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

■ **Dance**

**The Nutcracker**  
Wednesdays, Saturdays, 5:30pm.

The Copper Coin Ballet Company and area dancers will bring Pyotr Tchaikovsky’s classic music to life during Downtown Springfield, Inc.’s Old Capitol Holiday Walks. Performances are free, but a ticket is required for admittance. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

■ **Art & Architecture**

**“Four Rooms”**  
Dec. 2-3. A collaborative interactive art exhibition. Guest performances, sensory experiences and interactive art making. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 801-810-9278.

**Holidays at the SAA Collective**  
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. The juried artists of the SAA Collective present their ever-popular annual holiday art show. In addition to fine art, patrons can shop for holiday décor, jewelry, one-of-a-kind gifts, greeting cards and more. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

**A Mother and Daughter Reunion**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 5-9pm and Sat., Dec. 3, 12-4pm. Wendy Allen and Mari Crook have teamed up to offer a transmission of the beauty and aliveness of the natural world. Both

create from the silent Presence of their hearts, Mari through her spontaneous, vibrant paintings of organic forms, and Wendy through her luminous beaded creatures. DIM Art House, 319 Chatham Road.

**Sangamon Watercolor Society Reception**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 5:30-8pm. An exhibit comprised of a variety of works including watercolor and other mediums. The exhibit will be open through May 2023. Free. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-546-5301.

■ **History**

**History of Washington Park**  
Tue., Dec. 6, 11:30am-1pm. Learn the storied history of Springfield and Washington Park, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and its founding families. A free virtual viewing is available. Part of the UIS Lunch and Learn series. Call for registration information. \$38. Illini Country Club, 1601 S. Illini Road, 217-206-6058.

■ **Holiday Happenings**

**It 27th Annual Pre-Kwanzaa Expo**  
Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-4pm. A variety of African American vendors will

offer unique and specialty items including jewelry, accessories, Greek paraphernalia, clothing, arts and crafts and baked goods. Entertainment will be provided by local schools and organizations. Hosted by the Springfield-Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Free. Springfield Ball Charter, 2530 East Ash, 217-787-3405.

**Alternative Holiday Fair**  
Fri., Dec. 2, 4-8pm and Sat., Dec. 3, 9am-2pm. Shop for unique items, including fair-trade, and improve the lives of artisans. Visit with representatives of community groups. Find international foods and bake sale items. Friday dinner served 5-7:30pm and Saturday lunch served 11am-1:30pm. First Church of the Brethren, 2115 Yale Blvd., 217-685-1610.

**Candlelight Tours**  
Sat., Dec. 10, 4:30-7pm. Step back to a Christmas of the past in the restored 1837 home which has been decorated for the season. Live music by Wild Columbine and cookie decorating for kids. By donation. Elijah Iles House, 628 S. Seventh St., 217-714-6469.

**Christmas with Santa**  
Sat., Dec. 3. Clayville Historic Site, Pleasant Plains, Route 125, 217-481-4430.

**Dana-Thomas House Festivities**  
Sat., Dec. 3, 5-7pm. Bring the whole family to enjoy crafts in the carriage house and cocoa in the courtyard. Luminary Nights House Tours are led every half hour beginning at 5pm. The last tour leaves at 6:30pm. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

**Fabulous Floral Designs for Festive Occasions**  
Mon., Dec. 5, 9:30am. Presented by Jennifer Friday. The seasonal designs will be raffled following the presentation. Open to the public. Hosted by the Springfield Civic Garden Club. Call or visit the club’s website for more information. scgc-il.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-546-7709.

**Holiday Craft and Bake Fair**  
Mondays-Fridays, 10am-12pm and Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-3pm. Enjoy a wide array of unique and beautiful handcrafted pottery, Christmas décor, plus beaded, woven, knitted, crocheted and quilted gifts, all at reasonable prices. Baked goods sold on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Saturday, Dec. 10. Free Admission. Jubilee Farm, 6760 Old Jacksonville

Road, 217-787-6927.

**Holiday Fest: Hanukkah**  
Wed., Dec. 7, 12-7pm. Celebrate Hanukkah by making a Hanukkah sign or paper menorah. Help deck the halls and trim the tree by making ornaments from around the world. Explore the Memorial Holiday Fest student tree display throughout the museum. Activities available while supplies last. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-6044.

**Holiday Open House**  
Sat., Dec. 3, 1-4pm. Enjoy cookies and cider, and visit with a Civil War-era Santa Claus. Take a self-guided tour through home and see it decked out in 19th century-holiday style. Free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

**Holiday Tours**  
Saturdays, 1-1:45, 2-2:45, 3-3:45, 4-4:45pm. Tour the Illinois Governor’s Mansion and see the beautiful interior dressed for the holiday season. Tours are free, but registration is required. Call for more information. Free. Illinois Governor’s Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-782-6450.

**Holly Fair and Bake Sale**  
Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-3pm. Gyros, Italian beef, vegetable soup, baklava and pastries. Eat in or take out. St. Anthony’s Hellenic Orthodox Church, 1600 S. Glenwood Ave., 217-522-7010.

**Light up the Park**  
Thursdays-Sundays, 6-9pm. Through December 25. A local holiday tradition. Get ready to be wowed by the nearly 1-mile drive through hundreds of thousands of lights and beautiful displays. A \$5 per-vehicle donation is requested. Sponsored by the Chatham Friends of the Parks. Enter on Park Ave. Chatham Community Park, Chatham, 731 S. Main St.

**Old Capitol Holiday Walks**  
Wednesdays, Saturdays, 4-7pm. Saturdays 10am-7pm and Wednesdays 4-7pm. Revel in the holiday spirit with visits with Santa Claus, Midwest sleigh rides, ice skating, shopping at locally owned businesses, kid’s crafts, live entertainment and even a hot cocoa bar. Free. Downtown Springfield, Downtown, 217-544-1723.

**Songs of Home**  
Dec. 3-4, 11am, 2pm. Folk songs and holiday tunes of Lincoln’s America. Sing along with park rangers and staff as they sign the music and provide the historical background of several holiday tunes from the Civil War Era.



Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 S. Eighth St., 217-391-3221.

#### Springfield Jaycees' Holiday Lights Parade

Sat., Dec. 3, 5:30pm. A dazzling and festive parade with all the spectacle to usher in the holiday season. Starts at Jefferson to Fifth to Monroe to Sixth to Washington streets. Free. Downtown Springfield, Downtown.

#### Winter Holiday Floral Show

Dec. 3-21. Mon.-Fri. 12-4pm. Sat.-Sun. 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.

#### Fundraisers and Galas

##### Food drive

Sat., Dec. 3, 8am-12pm. Accepting nonperishable food and household necessities for local pantries. Volunteers will be on hand to unload your donated goods or accept your check made payable to Central Illinois Food Bank, so there's no need to get out of your vehicle. Sponsored by local women's organizations. Prevention First, Inc., 2800 Montvale Dr., 217-299-4747.

#### Touchdowns for Down Syndrome

Sun., Dec. 4, 9am-3pm. Meet football Hall-of-Famers Jim Covert and Leroy Butler and watch the Packers vs. the Bears game with them. All proceeds from the admission to benefit the Lincoln Land Down Syndrome Society. \$20 or \$10 ages 12 and under. Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill & Museum, 600 Toronto Road, 217-679-7323.

#### Children's Corner

##### Caring Santa

Sun., Dec. 4, 8:30-10:30am. A quiet, sensory-friendly space for a Santa visit. Free train rides. Cookies and special gifts are provided. Reservations are suggested at WhereIsSanta.com. White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash Ave., 217-787-0110.

#### Children's Holiday Store

Through Dec. 18. A wonderful shopping experience for children, teaching them the joy of giving. Gifts from \$1-\$15, wrapped and tagged by the children and volunteers.

Benefits the Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery. Fairhills Mall, 1919 W. Monroe St., 2147-525-6800.

#### Fall Zooper Adventure Class

Sat., Dec. 3, 11am-12:30pm. Kids ages 6-9 can take a walk on the wild side and have a Zooper Adventure. This drop-off class is filled with fun. Registration and payment is due at least 24 hours before the class begins. Henson Robinson Zoo, 1100 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-585-1821.

#### Holiday Fest: Japanese New Year

Sat., Dec. 3, 10am-7pm. Write your own nengajo or New Year's postcard and create your own kite to fly. Help deck the halls and trim the tree by making origami ornaments and explore the Memorial Holiday Fest student tree display. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-6044.

#### Junior and Senior Naturalists

Sat., Dec. 3. Explore the ever-changing landscape of the garden with hands-on activities, games and outdoor investigation. Ages 5-8 meet from 10am-12pm and ages 8-12 meet 1-3pm. \$12-\$15. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

#### Kid's Holiday Craft Workshop

Sun., Dec. 4, 1-3pm. Kids ages 5-12 can make a tabletop snowman and wood cookie ornament from natural items found in the garden which would make great gifts for a grandparent or teacher. Fee includes all materials. Space is limited, so register soon. \$15-\$20. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

#### Meet Saint Nicholas, The Real Santa!

Sat., Dec. 3, 2:30-5:30pm. Meet the real Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas. Have your picture taken with him, get a coloring book and enjoy some hot chocolate. stpaulspringfield.com. free. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 815 S. Second St., 217-953-2286.

#### Mission Day

Sat., Dec. 3, 11am-2:30pm. Board games for kids ages 3-16. All kids receive a gift. Winners of game tournaments receive a special prize. Adult volunteers to supervise games are welcome. Sponsored by the Freedom in Holiness Mission. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

#### Winter Wonderland Wednesdays

Wed., Dec. 7, 4-7pm. Keep having fun learning after a good day at school. As part of the Old Capitol Holiday Walks, admission will be half price. \$5.00. Kidzeum of Health and Science Children's Museum, 412 E. Adams St., 217-679-2123.

#### Nature, Science & Environment

##### Tree-Planting Workshop

Sat., Dec. 3, 9-10:30am. The Springfield Urban Forestry Commission is hosting a workshop in anticipation of next year's volunteer tree planting events. The importance of planting native trees, proper tree selection for different sites and how to correctly trees will be discussed. Includes a hands-on demonstration. Free. Southwind Park, 4965 S. Second St., 217-544-6084.

#### Bulletin Board

##### First Sunday Midwest Bazaar

Sun., Dec. 4, 8am-4pm. Mimosas on the wine patio, samples of delicious dips, sausages and sweet treats, and music. Holiday finds that run the gamut from crocheted items to collectible art. \$5.00. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-725-8047.

#### Forever Home Feline Ranch cat adoptions

Sat., Dec. 3, 2-6pm. Adoptable cats and kittens and merchandise. Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 406 E. Adams St.

#### There is No Future Here

Tue., Dec. 6, 7:15-8:30pm. "Refugee Education and Forced Migration in Northern Ethiopia." World Affairs Council Central IL is hosting speaker Dr. Amanda Poole, professor of Anthropology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Speaker presentation is free and open to the public. Dinner is optional and requires a reservation. mywacci.org/future-programs. Free. Illini Country Club, 1601 S. Illini Road, 546-4614.

#### Sports

##### Frostbite Festival

Sun., Dec. 4, 9am. A 2-mile and 10-mile race with inn-person and virtual options. Registration is open through 12pm, Friday, Dec. 2. Hosted by the Springfield Road Runners Club. FitClub West, 2811 W. Lawrence Ave., 787-1111.

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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
PNC Bank, National Association  
PLAINTIFF  
Vs.  
Kelly Shinnick; et. al.  
DEFENDANTS  
No. 2022FC000060  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 08/17/2022, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois will on January 3, 2023 at the hour of 9:00 AM at in the Second Floor Boardroom of the Sangamon County Courthouse 200 South 9th Street Springfield, IL 62701, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:  
PIN 14-23.0-176-031  
Improved with Residential  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS:  
1937 N. 20th St  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general 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.  
If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).  
If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).  
If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.  
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.  
For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-22-01162.  
I3207295

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
CHRYSTAL DEVINE; JOHN M MILLER  
A/K/A JOHN MICHAEL MILLER A/K/A JOHN NULL MILLER A/K/A JOHN MILLER A/K/A JOHN MILLER DESCAILLEAUX; VILLAGE OF CHATHAM; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.  
19 CH 000405  
421 WOODLAND DRIVE CHATHAM, IL 62629  
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on September 28, 2022, Sheriff of Sangamon County will on 01/03/2023, in the boardroom of the Sangamon County Bldg., 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, at 09:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:  
TAX NO. 29-07.0-176-051  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 421 Woodland Drive  
Chatham, IL 62629  
Description of Improvements: Tan and white mixed brick and blue wood siding, one story single family home, attached two car garage  
The Judgment amount was \$191,418.22.  
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.  
The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real

estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.  
Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.  
The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.  
The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.  
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.  
For Information: Visit our website at http://iforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com.  
Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 20-04470IL  
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.  
I3204661

PUBLIC NOTICES

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
Terry A. Streeter, Deceased  
2022 PR 440  
CLAIMS NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Terry A. Streeter. Letters of Administration were issued on November 23, 2022, to Kevin N. McDermott, Attorney, 109 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, 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 representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 23 day of November, 2022.  
Kevin N. McDermott, Attorney  
109 South Seventh Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
(217) 753-4070  
www.KevinNMcDermott.com  
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497

COUNTY OF SANGAMON  
SS  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF  
JOHN C. BURDZILASKAS, DECEASED  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO SUBMIT CLAIMS  
Notice is hereby given of the death of JOHN C. BURDZILASKAS. The undersigned, MIDWEST TRUST COMPANY, with an address of 5901 College Blvd., Suite 100, Overland Park, KS 66211, is acting as Successor Trustee of the John C. Burdzilaskas Trust. The terms of said trust provide that the debts of the decedent may be paid by the Trustee upon receipt of proper proof thereof.  
All creditors of the decedent are notified to file their claims in the office of the Sangamon County, Illinois' Circuit Clerk, 900 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or provide same to the Trustee within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Any claim not timely filed with said Successor Trustee shall be barred as permitted under the Probate Act of 1975, 755 ILCS 5/1-1, et. seq.  
Dated: November 9, 2022.  
The John C. Burdzilaskas Trust  
By: Scott Webb  
Midwest Trust Company, as Successor Trustee  
8051-928334

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:  
WAYNE E. VAN HEMERT,  
Deceased.  
Case No. 2022-PR-435  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of WAYNE E. VAN HEMERT, of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, died on the 19th day of March, 2022. Letters of Office were issued on the 17th day of November, A.D., 2022, to JENNIFER MOYER, Administrator, 21294 E Cr. 700 N., Kilbourne, Mason City, Illinois, 62655, whose attorney of record

is Pamela E. Hart of 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 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, 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 representative and to the Attorney at the above addresses within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed.  
DATED this 17th day of November, A.D., 2022.  
WAYNE E. VAN HEMERT, Deceased,  
BY: /s/Pamela E. Hart  
Pamela E. Hart, one of its Attorneys.  
PREPARED BY:  
Pamela E. Hart (6299974)  
SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C.  
Attorneys at Law  
611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200  
Springfield, IL 62701  
Telephone: (217)753-8200 peh@scottncscottlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of:  
Jacob William Tucker,  
Deceased.  
No.: 2022-PR-441  
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE  
Notice is given of the death of Jacob William Tucker, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on November 22, 2022, to Elisabeth A. Tucker, 3732 Tozer Road, Springfield, Illinois 62707, as Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701.  
Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Jacob William Tucker of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Elisabeth A. Tucker, Kathryn A. Tucker-Edmands and Susan I. Tucker-Heath as the only heirs of Jacob William Tucker.  
The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Alan J. Jedlicka - 6291659  
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC  
Attorneys for Administrator  
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: 217-544-2703  
Fax: 217-544-4664  
ajedlicka@delanolaw.com

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the estate of:  
Thomas V. Broadhacker, Deceased  
Case No. 22-PR-429  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Thomas V. Broadhacker. Letters of Office were issued on Nov. 10, 2022 to Connie S. Hewitt, 2505 Austin Drive, Springfield, Ill. 62704 as Executor. 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, with the Executor, on or before, May 17, 2023. 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.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
IN THE ESTATE OF:  
GLADYS M. BAGGERLY,  
Decease  
Case No.: 2022-PR-428  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF WILL AND CLAIMS  
Notice is hereby given of the death of Gladys M. Baggerly , Letters of Office were issued. The name and address of the Executor is Stephen F. Baggerly. James Ackerman is counsel for the Executor. His address is Ackerman Law Office, P.C., 2601 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62702, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 7, 2023. Any claim not filed on or before June 7, 2023, is barred. Copies of the 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 7th day of November 2022.  
Stephen F. Baggerly, Executor,  
By:/s/ James W. Ackerman  
James W. Ackerman, Executor's Attorney  
PREPARED BY:  
James W. Ackerman (06192795  
ACKERMAN LAW OFFICE  
2601 South Fifth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 789-1977  
jim@ackermanlawoffices.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
GEORGE CULLOM DAVIS,  
Deceased.  
No. 2022PR000418  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of George Cullom Davis, a resident of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on September 9, 2022. Charles Cullom Davis, whose post office address is 822 Midglen Way, Woodside, California 94062, was appointed executor of his estate on November 16, 2022. The attorneys for the executor are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702,

or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this November 16, 2022.  
Mike Southworth (ARDC #06186085)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #06339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
msouthworth@hswnet.com  
8051-928344

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of  
ERIKA DRESCH,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2022-PR-413  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Erika Dresch of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 3, 2022, to Pia A. Yoswig, 5109 Smith Rd., Pleasant Plains, Illinois 62677, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Matthew J. Cate, 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 10, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 4th day of November, 2022.  
Matthew J. Cate - 06272040  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705-0079  
(217) 544-4868  
matthewcate@barberlaw.com  
335026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
THOMAS R. BRIGHT,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2022-PR-422  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Thomas R. Bright of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 3, 2022, to Alyson B. Mack, 708 Cherokee Dr., Springfield, Illinois 62711, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before May 10, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 4th day of November, 2022.  
Matthew J. Cate - 06272040  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79

Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
matthewcate@barberlaw.com  
335129

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:  
PATRICIA A. DOWNEY,  
Deceased.  
Case No. 2022-PR-000423  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of PATRICIA A. DOWNEY, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 03, 2022 to GEORGE C. BASTIN as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before May 08, 2023 or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 07th day of November, 2022.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:  
BUELAH E. HUNT,  
Deceased.  
Case No. 22-PR-000436  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of BUELAH E. HUNT, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on September 22, 2022, to VERA BROWN, 4161 Kruse Road, Decatur, IL 62561, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before March 23, 2023 or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 22nd day of November, 2022.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
DONALD L. WILLIAMS, Deceased  
NO. 2022-PR-421

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of DONALD L. WILLIAMS, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 10, 2022 to Gerry Williams, 2118 Elizabeth Street, Springfield, IL 62702 as Executor under Independent Administration, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 9th day of May, 2022 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, 2022.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
EDWARD R. CURRY, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
NO. 2022PR000337  
AMENDED DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of EDWARD R. CURRY, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on August 29, 2022, to ANGELA DAVIS, Executor, 1252 North 3rd St., PO Box 982, Riverton, IL 62561, whose attorney is Robert A. Stuart, Jr., Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 S. 5th 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 Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before March 9, 2023 or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred.  
Dated this 18th day of November, 2022.  
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.,  
Registration No. 2761122  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
205 S. 5th Street, Suite 1000  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 544-8491  
rstuart@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
JANET MARY HARDWICK, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
NO. 2022-PR-386  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of JANET MARY HARDWICK, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 9, 2022, to WALTER "SAM" HARDWICK, Executor, 25899 Illinois Route 125, Ashland, Cass County, Illinois, 62612, whose attorney is Robert A. Stuart, Jr., Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 S. 5th Street, Suite 1000, P.O. Box 2459, Springfield, IL 62705.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the

representative, or both, on or before May 19, 2022, 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.  
Dated this 21st day of November, 2022.  
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.  
Registration No. 2761122  
Brown, Hay & Stephens  
205 S. 5th Street, Suite 1000  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-8491  
rstuart@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
MARY I. BILDERBACK, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-432  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of MARY I. BILDERBACK. Letters of Office have been issued to TODD J. WOOD, 4113 Clearwater Lane, Springfield, IL 62703, 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, or both, on or before May 22, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 10th day of November, 2022.  
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  
T. JUNIOR BILDERBACK, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-433  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of T. JUNIOR BILDERBACK. Letters of Office have been issued to TODD J. WOOD, 4113 Clearwater Lane, Springfield, IL 62703, 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, or both, on or before May 22, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 10th day of November, 2022.  
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 LEE FLESSNER, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-437  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE/NOTICE TO LEGATEE  
Notice is given of the death of LARRY LEE FLESSNER. Letters of office have been issued to TRICIA E. WAGNER, 5321 Turnstone Road, Springfield, IL 62711, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before June 1, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Notice is also given to LORI ANN BLYTHE, that an Order was entered in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois, on November 17, 2022, admitting Decedent's Will to Probate. You are named as a legatee of Decedent in the Petition for Probate of said Will.  
Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of Admission, any interested person may file a Petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court or by other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 6-21), or successor provision. Interested persons also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 8-1), or successor provision, to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within 6 months after November 17, 2022. Filings are to be made with the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers>. htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk to your local Circuit Clerk's office. Dated this 17th day of November, 2022.  
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  
GLORIA CISNA, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-444  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of GLORIA CISNA. Letters of Office have been issued to STEPHANIE ANN CISNA PENNINGTON, 1806 Augusta Trail, Edwardsville, IL 62025, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Spring-



field, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before June 1, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 22nd day of November, 2022. Patrick J. Sheehan, III  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALICE POST, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-448  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of ALICE POST. Letters of Office have been issued to JULIE RUSKEY, 1905 Interlacken Road, Springfield, IL 62704, 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 June 1, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 2022. 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 K. RAY, DECEASED  
Case #2022-PR-450  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of CHARLES K. RAY. Letters of Office have been issued to DENNIS A. RAY, 203 E. Steward Street, Plano, IL 60545, 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 June 1, 2023, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 2022. Patrick J. Sheehan, III  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

ADOPTION NOTICE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON

CIRCUIT COURT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN RE THE ADOPTION OF:  
CASTIEL WINFIELD ANTUNEZ, a minor,  
Case #2022-AD-66  
TO:ALL UNKNOWN FATHERS AND ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, Respondent:  
TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, for the adoption of Castiel Winfield Antunez, a minor. Now, therefore, unless you, ALL UNKNOWN FATHERS and ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, file your Answer to the Petition in this action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in the said Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, Family Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before December 20, 2022, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment may be entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition, including a judgment terminating your residual parental rights.  
E- filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.  
Dated: November 7, 2022  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo, Sangamon County Circuit Clerk  
William P. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
Attorneys for Petitioners  
1215 South 4th Street, Suite A  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Larry Frances Smith III  
For change of name to  
Chanel Batiste Divine Smith  
Case No.: 2022-MR-487  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Larry Frances Smith III to Chanel Batiste Divine Smith, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Nov. 24, 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Matthew Alan Lang  
For change of name to  
Mattie Anne Lang  
Case No.: 2022-MR-443  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Matthew Alan Land to Mattie Anne Lang, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Nov. 24, 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Aliyah Marie Bridgeford  
For change of name to  
Aliyah Marie Lyes  
Case No.: 2022-MR-457  
PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Aliyah Marie Bridgeford to Aliyah Marie Lyes, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Nov. 24, 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of Carter Kayon Smith  
For change of name to  
Carter Kayon Tribbet  
Case No.: 2022-MR-366  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Carter Kayon Smith to Carter Kayon Tribbet, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Dec. 1, 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
PNC Bank, National Association  
PLAINTIFF  
Vs.  
Kelly Shinnick; et. al.  
DEFENDANTS  
No. 2022FC000060  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 08/17/2022, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois will on January 3, 2023 at the hour of 9:00 AM at in the Second Floor Boardroom of the Sangamon County Courthouse 200 South 9th Street Springfield, IL 62701, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:  
LOT SIXTY-ONE (61) IN FRED W WANLESS' VICTORY ADDITION. EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND MINERALS. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN 14-23.0-176-031  
Improved with Residential  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS:  
1937 N. 20th St  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general 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.  
If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).  
If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.  
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.  
For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codlilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-22-01162.  
I3207295

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
CHRYSTAL DEVINE; JOHN M MILLER A/K/A JOHN MICHAEL MILLER A/K/A JOHN NULL MILLER A/K/A JOHN MILLER A/K/A JOHN MILLER DESCAILLEAUX; VILLAGE OF CHATHAM; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.  
19 CH 000405  
421 WOODLAND DRIVE CHATHAM, IL 62629  
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE  
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on September 28, 2022, Sheriff of Sangamon County will on 01/03/2023, in the boardroom of the Sangamon County Bldg., 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, at 09:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois; or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:  
LOT ONE HUNDRED THIRTY (130) IN WALNUT PARK ESTATES PLAT IV. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
TAX NO. 29-07.0-176-051  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 421 Woodland Drive  
Chatham, IL 62629

Description of Improvements: Tan and white mixed brick and blue wood siding, one story single family home, attached two car garage

The Judgment amount was \$191,418.22.  
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.  
The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.  
Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.  
The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.  
The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.  
For Information: Visit our website at <http://iforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.  
Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 20-0447OIL  
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.  
I3204661

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
WILLIAM R. LEACH,  
Deceased.  
No. 2022PR000368  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of William R. Leach, a resident of Chatham, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on August 30, 2022. Angela L. McDowell, whose post office address is 4707 Village Drive, Godfrey, Illinois 62035, was appointed executor of his estate on September 27, 2022. The attorneys for the executor are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the executor and to the attorney within 10

days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 9th day of November, 2022. Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
[trigby@hswnet.com](mailto:trigby@hswnet.com)  
[aprilaman@hswnet.com](mailto:aprilaman@hswnet.com)  
8051-928229

Capitol Storage LLC  
818 S Dirksen Parkway  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-522-0300  
Great Northern Drive :  
#231 Somer Baylark  
#327 Christopher Wyler  
Winchester IL  
#82 Tiffany Reich  
#15 Nichole Busch  
Taintor Rd  
#JJ5 David Brown  
HH18 Jason Newman  
HH16 Lasanya Shivers  
Dirksen  
#176 Rae Ann Martin  
#94& #140 Rachel Smith  
#83 Christine Lopez  
#196 & #179 Rick Lascody  
#164 Stephanie Cole  
#13 Marla Jimerson  
Peoria Rd  
#32 Paul Scribner  
To pay past due rent and fees call 1-217-522-0300. Private Sale will be December 17, 2022 at 9AM. The sale will begin at Dirksen Parkway Location. Please call to verify start location day before sale.

In the Circuit Court  
For the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois  
Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois  
Jamiesha L. Jones, Petitioner  
vs.  
Jodeci Roby, Defendant  
Case 2022-FA-355  
Notice is given you, Jodeci Roby for Petition to Establish Parentage of Journi Jones and for other relief. Unless you file your Answer or otherwise file your Appearance in this case in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South Ninth St., Room 405, Springfield, Illinois 62701 on or before December 12, 2022, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.  
Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of the Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Chandler Alexander Norris Properties LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-475  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Chandler Alexander Norris Properties LLC, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that a complaint has been filed in the above named court on November 4, 2022 for demolition of the structure or structures located on the real estate commonly known as 529 W. Reynolds Street, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as:  
Lot 13 of Adam Kessler's Estate Addition to the City of Springfield. Situated in



Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-28.0-403-020);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS Chandler Alexander Norris  
Properties LLC, Unknown Owners and  
Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer  
or otherwise file an appearance in this  
case in the office of the clerk of this court,  
Room 405 Sangamon County Building,  
200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL  
62701, on or before December 19, 2022 A  
JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY  
BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT  
DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE  
COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Richard A. Dubose, Jessica Hope Dubose,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-474  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Richard A. Dubose,  
Jessica Hope Dubose, Unknown Owners  
and Non-Record Claimants, that a com-  
plaint has been filed in the above named  
court on November 4, 2022 for demolition  
of the structure or structures located on  
the real estate commonly known as 1053  
Indiana Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, and  
legally described as:  
Lot 257 in Hay and Tracy's Melrose  
Subdivision. Situated in Sangamon  
County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-26.0-129-019);

and for other relief.  
UNLESS Richard A. Dubose, Jessica  
Hope Dubose, Unknown Owners and  
Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer  
or otherwise file an appearance in this  
case in the office of the clerk of this court,  
Room 405 Sangamon County Building,  
200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL  
62701, on or before December 19, 2022,  
A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT  
MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER  
THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN  
THE COMPLAINT.  
/s Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Unknown Heirs at Law and Legatees of  
Shirley A. Barbee, UNKNOWN OWNERS  
and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-473  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Unknown Heirs at  
Law and Legatees of Shirley A. Barbee,  
Unknown Owners and Non-record Claim-  
ants, that a complaint has been filed in the  
above named court on November 4, 2022  
for demolition of the structure or struc-  
tures located on the real estate commonly  
known as 2134 S. 15th St., Springfield,  
Illinois, and legally described as:  
LOT 10 IN SPAULDING'S SECOND CAPITAL  
CITY ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRING-  
FIELD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 22-03.0-426-010).  
and for other relief.

UNLESS Unknown Heirs at Law and Lega-  
tees of Shirley A. Barbee, Unknown Own-  
ers and Non-Record Claimants FILE an  
answer or otherwise file an appearance in  
this case in the office of the clerk of this  
court, Room 405 Sangamon County Build-  
ing, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL  
62701, on or before December 19, 2022,  
A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT  
MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER  
THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN  
THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
North Illinois Investment LLC, UNKNOWN  
OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-472  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, North Illinois  
Investment LLC, Unknown Owners and  
Non-Record Claimants, that a complaint  
has been filed in the above named court  
on November 4, 2022 for demolition of  
the structure or structures located on the  
real estate commonly known as 2015 E.  
Spruce Street, Springfield, Illinois, and  
legally described as:  
Lot 20 in Block 12 in Edwin A. Wilson's  
Grand Avenue Subdivision. Situated in  
Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 22-02.0-130-020);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS North Illinois Investment LLC,  
Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claim-  
ants FILE an answer or otherwise file an

appearance in this case in the office of the  
clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon  
County Building, 200 South Ninth Street,  
Springfield, IL 62701, on or before  
December 19, 2022, A JUDGMENT OR  
DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED  
AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE  
RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s /Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Lusana Borge-Jeanpierre, Wilner Jean-  
pierre, Joseph Burger, UNKNOWN OWN-  
ERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.

No. 22-MR-481  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Lusana Borge-  
Jeanpierre, Wilner Jeanpierre, Joseph  
Burger, Unknown Owners and Non-Record  
Claimants, that a complaint has been filed  
in the above named court on November  
10, 2022 for demolition of the structure  
located on the real estate commonly  
known as 1108 N. 12th Street, Springfield,  
Illinois, and legally described as:  
LOT 7 IN BLOCK 2 OF ADAMS' COLLEGE  
ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS. SITUATED IN SANGAMON  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-27.0-233-004);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS Lusana Borge-Jeanpierre, Wilner  
Jeanpierre, Joseph Burger, Unknown  
Owners and Non-Record Claimants FILE  
an answer or otherwise file an appear-  
ance in this case in the office of the clerk  
of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County  
Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Spring-  
field, IL 62701, on or before December  
19, 2022, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE  
BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY  
TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF  
REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Jason M. Norris, PNC Bank, National  
Association, Illinois Housing Development  
Authority, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-  
RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-482  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Jason M. Norris,  
Unknown Owners and Non-record Claim-  
ants, that a complaint has been filed in  
the above named court on November 10,

2022 for demolition of the structure or  
structures located on the real estate com-  
monly known as 331 N. Amos Ave, Spring-  
field, Illinois, and legally described as:  
LOT 3 IN HENRY SELINGER ESTATE  
SUBDIVISION, EXCEPT THE EAST 3 FEET  
THEREOF. SITUATED IN SANGAMON  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-29.0-404-030);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS Jason M. Norris, Unknown Own-  
ers and Non-Record Claimants FILE an  
answer or otherwise file an appearance in  
this case in the office of the clerk of this  
court, Room 405 Sangamon County Build-  
ing, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL  
62701, on or before December 19, 2022,  
A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT  
MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER  
THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN  
THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Linda A. Medlock, Illinois Department of  
Revenue, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-  
RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-483  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Linda A. Medlock,  
Illinois Department of Revenue and  
Unknown Owners and Non-record Claim-  
ants, that a complaint has been filed in  
the above named court on November  
10, 2022 for demolition of the structure  
or structures located on the real estate  
commonly known as 1937 & 1941 E. Keys  
Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, and legally  
described as:  
Parcel 1:  
Lot 72 of Spaulding's Second Illinois  
Watch Factory Addition to the City of  
Springfield.  
Parcel 2:  
Lot 73 of Spaulding's Second Illinois  
Watch Factory Addition to the City of  
Springfield.  
Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-23.0-332-042  
and 14-23.0-332-043);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS Linda A. Medlock, Illinois Depart-  
ment of Revenue, Unknown Owners and  
Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer  
or otherwise file an appearance in this  
case in the office of the clerk of this court,  
Room 405 Sangamon County Building,  
200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL  
62701, on or before December 19, 2022,  
A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT  
MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER  
THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN  
THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Chicago Title Land Trust Company, trust  
number 8002369485 dated october 13,  
2015, ZHY Investments, LLC, Justine  
Petersen Housing and Reinvestment  
Corporation, UNKNOWN OWNERS and  
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
Case No. 22-MR-484  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
The requisite Affidavit for Service by Pub-  
lication having been filed, notice is hereby  
given to ZHY Investments, LLC, Unknown  
Owners and Non-Record Claimants that  
a Complaint for Demolition was filed in  
the above-named Court on November 10,  
2022, and is now pending.  
The common address of the structure  
which is subject to demolition is 2405 S.  
11th St., Springfield, Illinois, and said real  
estate is legally described as:  
LOT 569 OF HARVARD PARK SECOND  
PLAT. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.  
PIN: 22-03.0-382-008  
The name of the title holder of record  
of said real estate is: Chicago Title Land  
Trust Company.  
NOW THEREFORE, unless ZHY Invest-  
ments, LLC, Unknown Owners and  
Non-Record Claimants file an answer to  
the Complaint for Demolition in this cause  
or otherwise file an appearance therein in  
the office of the Sangamon County Circuit  
Clerk, Room 405 Sangamon County Build-  
ing, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield,  
IL 62701, on or before December 19,  
2022, a default judgment may be entered  
at any time after that day and an Order for  
Demolition may be entered in accordance  
with the relief requested in the Complaint  
for Demolition.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of the Seventh  
Judicial Circuit of Illinois, Sangamon  
County  
Prepared by:  
James K. Zerkle  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters, ARDC #6309668  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375  
kateah.mcmasters@springfield.il.us

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS,  
a Municipal Corporation,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Darlene Coyle as Heir of Wilburn  
Dale Rapp, G. Ann Becker as Heir of  
Wilburn Dale Rapp, Unknown Heirs and  
Legatees of Wilburn Dale Rapp, Menard  
Convalescent Center, Illinois Depart-  
ment of Healthcare and Family Services,  
UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS,  
Defendants.  
No. 22-MR-486  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, Darlene Coyle as  
Heir of Wilburn Dale Rapp, G. Ann Becker  
as Heir of Wilburn Dale Rapp, Unknown  
Heirs and Legatees of Wilburn Dale Rapp,  
Menard Convalescent Center, Unknown

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Owners and Non-record Claimants, that a complaint has been filed in the above named court on November 10, 2022 for demolition of the structures located on the real estate commonly known as 1940 Black Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as:  
The East 26 feet of Lot 64, all of Lot 65 and the West 8 feet of Lot 100 of Fred W. Wanless' Northwood Addition to the City of Springfield, a subdivision of part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 23, Township 16 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-23.0-329-011); and for other relief.  
UNLESS Darlene Coyle as Heir of Wilburn Dale Rapp, G. Ann Becker as Heir of Wilburn Dale Rapp, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Wilburn Dale Rapp, Menard Convalescent Center, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer or otherwise file an appearance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before December 19, 2022, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Paul Palazzolo  
Clerk of Court  
James K. Zerkle, Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

LEGAL NOTICE  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 2022-08  
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment  
The Springfield Mass Transit District (DISTRICT) dba as Sangamon Mass TransitDistrict is requesting proposals from qualified individuals, firms, or teams to equip the District's facilities located in the Springfield Sangamon County Transportation Center, as well as offices in the SMTD Administration Office, and SMTD Maintenance Shop in Springfield, Illinois, with furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The scope of work is outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP).  
Proposals and all required attachments will be received in the District office at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703-2497 in SEALED envelopes marked " RFP 2022-08 Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment, Attn. Ms. Michelle Alexander," NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM CENTRAL TIME, January 24, 2023. The RFP documents may be obtained from the District on or after December 1, 2022 by downloading the RFP from the District website (www.smttd.org). Interested firms may contact purchasing@smttd.org for an electronic copy of the RFP.  
Any contract resulting from these proposals is subject to financial assistance contracts between and/or among the District, the United States Department of Transportation, and the Illinois Department of Transportation. This project is funded, in full or in part, by the Illinois Department of Transportation, the United States Department of Transportation, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).  
The District reserves the right to accept any proposal or any part or parts of any and all proposals. Acceptance of any proposal may be subject to concurrence by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation. Furthermore, the District, the United States Department of

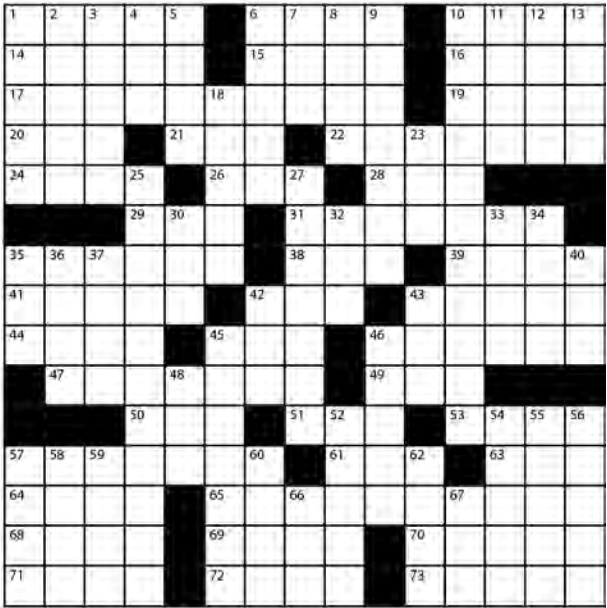
Transportation and the Illinois Department of Transportation reserve the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive irregularities therein, and all submitting Proposers must agree that such rejection shall be without liability on the part of the District, the Illinois Department of Transportation or the Federal Transit Administration for any penalty brought by a Proposer because of such rejections, nor shall the submitting Proposer seek any recourse of any kind against the District, the Illinois Department of Transportation or the Federal Transit Administration because of such rejections, and the filing of any proposal in response to this solicitation shall constitute an agreement of the submitting Proposal to these conditions.

STATE OF INDIANA  
IN THE ALLEN SUPERIOR COURT  
COUNTY OF ALLEN CAUSE NUMBER:  
02D08-2209-JT-000207  
SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION &  
NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING  
IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP:  
TDN - DOB 3/19/2012  
AND  
ANGELO AMISON (ALLEGED FATHER)  
TO: Angelo Amison  
Whereabouts unknown  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.  
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Allen Superior Court, 715 S. Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802, for a(n) Termination of Parental Rights on 3/27/2023 at 1:30 PM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child.  
You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.  
You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.  
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.  
/s/ Christopher M. Nancarrow  
Christopher M. Nancarrow  
Clerk of Allen Circuit and Superior Courts (Seal)  
Mitchell J. Gerber, 24603-53  
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services  
Document: 12707840 Page 1 of 2  
201 E. Rudisill Blvd., Suite 200  
Fort Wayne, IN 46806  
Fax: 317-232-1249  
Work Phone: 260-403-9792

**Pairs** Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 766

**Across**

- 1. Winter hazard
- 6. Air force heroes
- 10. Bee's cousin
- 14. Part of an old voting machine
- 15. Extinct bird
- 16. Brief confession
- 17. Radioer's words
- 19. Toy ball material
- 20. Perfect rating
- 21. A Stooge
- 22. American and Swiss
- 24. Genesis son
- 26. Places for R.N.'s
- 28. Señora Perón
- 29. Annoy
- 31. Folks
- 35. Homes
- 38. A pint, maybe
- 39. Icicle former
- 41. Casts a ballot
- 42. Capt.'s guess
- 43. Writer Wharton
- 44. "Cómo \_\_\_?"
- 45. \_\_\_-ray Discs
- 46. Attacked sneakily
- 47. Keep secret
- 49. Egg maker
- 50. 24 horas
- 51. Actor Vigoda
- 53. Ballpark figs.
- 57. Experiencing mal de mer
- 61. Blakey of CNN
- 63. "Hath \_\_\_ sister?": Shak.
- 64. Hamburg's river
- 65. Not reliable
- 68. Capri, e.g.



- 69. Baseball's Slaughter
- 70. Supports, in a way
- 71. Hunt for
- 72. "The \_\_\_ the limit!"
- 73. Having some weight

**Down**

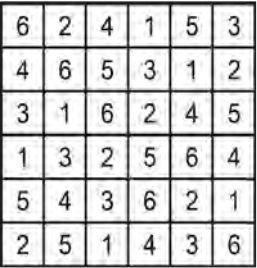
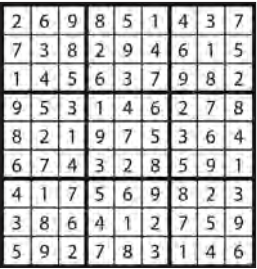
- 1. Casino section
- 2. Flood embankment
- 3. Happening
- 4. Always, to a poet
- 5. Coal carrier
- 6. Venomous snake
- 7. Dove's sound

- 8. Cabinet dept.
- 9. "Take that!"
- 10. Take to a fancy restaurant
- 11. Cool drinks
- 12. "Your majesty"
- 13. Some Adobe files
- 18. Recesses
- 23. Party time, maybe
- 25. Kids' game
- 27. Flipper?
- 30. Hi-\_\_\_ mode
- 32. \_\_\_ mode
- 33. Excursion
- 34. Locale
- 35. "\_\_\_ Maria"
- 36. Pear type
- 37. "Beetle Bailey" dog

- 40. High degree
- 42. She, in Lisbon
- 43. Opposite WSW
- 45. Swimming areas
- 46. Polish
- 48. Second-century date
- 52. Military bigwigs
- 54. Spooks
- 55. Exams
- 56. Fresh
- 57. Tres y tres
- 58. "Anything \_\_\_?"
- 59. \_\_\_-bodied
- 60. Hose problem
- 62. Eve's man
- 66. Delivery from Santa
- 67. C.E.O.'s degree

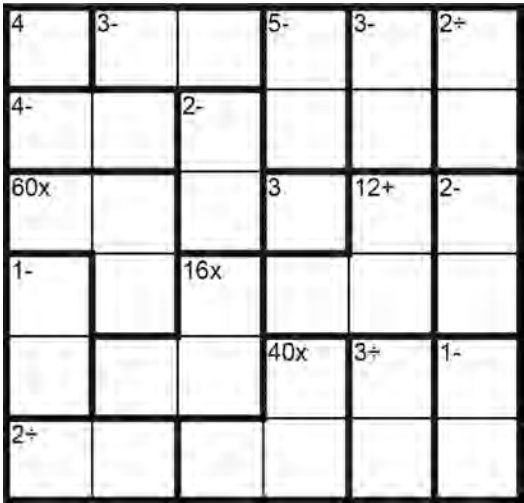
**Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week**

Last week's puzzle answers



**JoshJosh** by J. Reynolds - No. 766

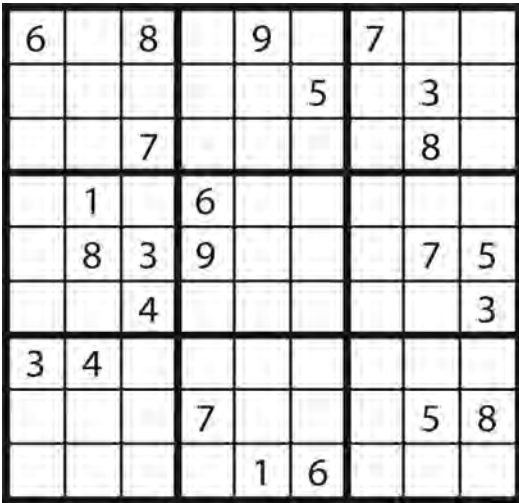
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty medium

**Sudoku** No. 766

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



Difficulty medium



# IT'S A FUN DECEMBER AT THE Y!



## VISIT SANTA AT THE Y

Bring the kids & their lists to see Santa.  
No cost. Open to the public.

DOWNTOWN Y: Monday, Dec 5, 5-6:00pm

KERASOTES Y: Thursday, Dec 8, 5-6:00pm



## NORTH POLE PARTY

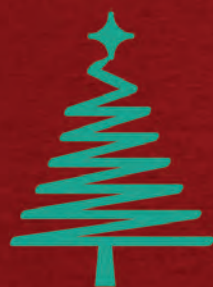
All aboard for the North Pole!  
Crafts, games, treats, movie, prizes,  
Santa, and even a mini train ride.  
Wear your holiday PJ's!

Members: \$5

Non-Members \$10

Kerasotes Y: Sunday, Dec 11

2:00-5:00pm 4550 W. Iles, Springfield



## ANGEL TREES

Stop by the Y to get a gift wish from our  
Angel Trees to help someone in need  
this season. Starts Dec 1.

DOWNTOWN Y: Angel Gifts for Mercy Homes

KERASOTES Y: Angel Gifts for Sojourn Shelter



We wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a healthy, happy,  
holiday season