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FREE December 7-13, 2023 • Vol. 49, No. 19



District 186 isn't happy about the overall report. There is progress in some areas. It's a place to start.

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Empowering the east side

City awards grants to three organizations serving youth

YOUTH | Dean Olsen

Mentoring, recreation, financial literacy and employment-readiness training for children and young adults on Springfield's east side are among activities that could be funded with \$645,000 in grants approved in November by the Springfield City Council.

The three organizations in line to receive the grants – part of \$3 million in special state funding for the Springfield Police Department – are the Springfield Park District and two local nonprofits, Better Life Better Living for Kidz and One in a Million Inc.

Each is scheduled to receive \$215,000 in 2024 if their specific plans for the money are approved by Police Chief Ken Scarlette and the granting agency, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

“Providing the right recreation, you can instill the values these kids need,” said Antwaun Readus Sr., vice president of Better Life Better Living. “Our community is 200% behind this.”

The council accepted the \$3 million overall state appropriation in June. It included money for a range of programs and services, including an increase in the number of neighborhoods covered by ShotSpotter technology, several more ShotSpotter Community Connections events, additional police body cameras and a police cadet recruitment program and police internship program.

But the original stated use for the \$645,000 – to help establish a “teen empowerment zone” on the east side – has changed somewhat. That’s why follow-up approval for use of the money must receive DCEO’s blessing, based on ordinances adopted by the council.

Many of the after-school and summertime youth services funded by the grants were intended to be offered out of a community center planned for the proposed zone, which includes Comer Cox Park, Chamberlain Park and the nearby former campus of United Cerebral Palsy



Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher (second from left) and state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, (in red vest) pose with volunteers assisting city residents in the wake of widespread property damage and power outages caused by the June derecho. Most of the people in this photo were members of a youth mentorship program operated by Better Life Better Living for Kidz, which is in line to receive a \$215,000 grant from the city. PHOTO COURTESY ANTWAUN READUS SR.

at 130 N. 16th St. and 1415 E. Jefferson St.

The city bought both UCP properties in 2022 for about \$400,000 in state grant funds, but Ward 2 Ald. Shawn Gregory said the city doesn’t have the approximately \$1 million it would take to renovate the buildings for use as a community center.

With grant money on the way for programming for the teen empowerment zone, a project talked about for several years, Gregory said he pushed for the council to disburse the \$645,000 to east side groups that have been involved in discussions about the zone.

It’s up to the organizations on where they want to serve their young clients, he said.

Even without a community center on the old UCP campus, at least for the time being, the programs will help young people set themselves up for success in adulthood and avoid getting in trouble with the law, Gregory said.

“We’ve got to keep them busy,” he said. “We want to have as many safe spaces spread out in our community as we can. We have a lot of groups doing good work, but it’s proven that we need more help.”

Approval of the three grants came after tense debate at the council’s Nov. 21 meeting. Several council members raised questions about the way the three groups were chosen – without specific written plans and without a formal bidding process, though a bidding process wasn’t required.

Ward 8 Ald. Erin Conley told *Illinois Times* she voted against ordinances awarding money to the groups, not because they were unworthy but because “it seemed like we were doing things out of order. I didn’t see what the rush was.”

Gregory, whose ward includes part of the east side, walked out of the council chamber at one point when he became upset about the number of questions being raised about what he described as a relatively small amount of money for “a poor part of town.”

Gregory told *Illinois Times* later that he believes his fellow council members “understand me and my passion to do right for the community.”

He said approving the three grants sooner rather than later would help get money into the hands of the groups quicker. Conley said she disagreed with Gregory’s argument.

Gregory said it’s likely DCEO will approve the groups’ plans so the money can be disbursed by February at the earliest.

Ward 3 Ald. Roy Williams Jr., whose ward also includes part of the east side, was blunt about his frustration with alderpersons’ questions.

He said during the meeting that he was amazed by the “gamesmanship” of some council members who “take us through pure hell to get a small amount of money.”

In the end, Conley was the only one of the 10 alderpersons to vote against the grant to Better Life Better Living.

Readus said Better Life Better Living, which has been operating on a part-time basis for more than 10 years, would like to continue and expand its mentoring, job training, art, music and audio-visual programs for youth with its grant.

The group is well-known for its Sunday Funday programs in Comer Cox Park, he said.

Conley and Ward 10 Ald. Ralph Hanauer were the only council members to vote against the One in a Million grant. Williams, whose brother, Mike Williams, is president of One in a Million, voted “present” on the grant to that organization.

Illinois Times requested an interview with Mike Williams, who instead replied with a text message that said he wouldn’t talk about One in a Million’s plans until DCEO gives final approval.

The ordinance approved by the council for One in a Million’s \$215,000 grant listed several potential uses for the money, including expanding the group’s technology center and supporting A Way Out, a program aimed at “providing educational, recreational and mentorship opportunities to the youth in the Eastside community.”

Potential focus areas for the grant include expanding the group’s computer lab, conducting coding classes, typing and technology workshops, and continuing to develop e-sports programs, according to the ordinance.

Votes against the grant to the Park District came from Conley, Hanauer, Ward 1 Ald. Chuck Redpath and Ward 4 Ald. Larry Rockford.

Derek Harms, executive director of the Park District, said the scope of the proposed summer employment, job shadowing and recreational programs to be funded by the grant haven’t been finalized yet.

“We’ve got a longstanding working relationship with the city,” Harms said. “We are in the planning stages. There are still some unknowns.” □

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

Editor’s note

This week’s cover story on the disappointing state report card for Springfield’s public schools is a study in frustration. Students, teachers and administrators trying their hardest aren’t moving the education needle much. A frustrated community may blame the schools, but these are good schools, or it may blame parents, but most parents take heroic measures to get their kids an education. Give careful attention to the frustration voiced by Illinois Superintendent of Education Tony Sanders: “We educate Black students disproportionately in underfunded schools that have more teacher vacancies, higher teacher and principal turnover, higher chronic absenteeism,” he said. “So our Black students in general have less access to supports, to the resources they need to learn at the rate to be on par with their peers.” We as a community should address disparities, so that all our children are given a chance. — Fletcher Farrar, editor



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Police pay to increase

Union officers and command staff to receive raises, bonuses

POLICE | Dean Olsen

The total 21% increase in pay that Springfield police will see by the end of a new four-year union contract – including a 13% raise in the current fiscal year – will help recruit and retain officers and put their salaries more in line with comparable Illinois cities.

That was the consensus of representatives from the police union and city leaders after the contract, which is retroactive to March 1, 2022, and expires Feb. 28, 2026, was approved Nov. 21 by the Springfield City Council. Nine alderpersons voted in favor and one council member, Ward 3 Ald. Roy Williams Jr., voted “present.”

“It’s refreshing,” David Amerson, staff attorney for the Illinois Police Benevolent & Protective Association labor committee, said in reaction to the contract, which covers about 225 unionized officers. “Everything in there is needed. The department had exceedingly low morale. There was a perception of being underpaid and mistreated.”

Mayor Misty Buscher, who took office in May after defeating two-term incumbent Jim Langfelder in the April municipal election, told *Illinois Times* the police department’s low pay in comparison to communities such as Peoria, Decatur, Champaign, Urbana, Bloomington and Normal was making it hard to attract and keep officers.

“So in order to stay competitive and be able to not lose our officers once we train them, we needed to do something,” Buscher said.

Police have been working under an expired contract since March 2022. The contract provides for retroactive across-the-board pay increases of 3% from March 1, 2022, through Feb. 28, 2023, a 13% increase for March 1, 2023, through Feb. 28, 2024, and 2.5% raises in the city government fiscal years that begin March 1 of 2024 and 2025.

The 13% increase includes a 10% increase that

the City Council approved in February 2023 but wasn’t implemented at that time. Council members said the 10% increase was intended to make Springfield more competitive with other midsize Illinois cities.

At the same Nov. 21 meeting, and with the same vote, the council took action to pave the way for Buscher to give Police Chief Kenneth Scarlette and the 16 other members of his non-union command staff raises of more than 5% for the next 12 months.

Those raises will range from 11% for Scarlette, whose annual pay will rise to about \$175,000 from about \$157,000, to 17% raises for lieutenants. The command staff raises, which also will be given to officers with the rank of commander, deputy chief and assistant chief, were needed to avoid situations in which the base pay for the most experienced unionized police officers were higher than their supervisors’ salaries, Buscher said.

Police lieutenants will make 10% more than the most experienced unionized sergeants. Compared with those top sergeants, commanders will make 15% more, the three deputy chiefs will make 20% more, the assistant chief will make 25% more and the chief will make 30% more.

“Let me be clear,” Scarlette said. “I don’t do this job strictly for the money. It’s for the love and the desire to lead a professional and stellar agency.”

But he said the Springfield police chief’s pay previously ranked 13th out of 14 municipal departments. The other departments were in Bloomington, Normal, Champaign, Urbana, Decatur, Peoria, Kankakee, Aurora, Elgin, Joliet, Rockford, Naperville and Waukegan.

The highest-paid police chief of those cities is in Urbana, where the chief earns \$205,000 per year, Scarlette said.

The raise will increase the pay ranking for the Springfield chief to 10th among the 14 communities, he said.

Williams said he voted present because of a lack of details provided by the Buscher administration about the fiscal impact of the police raises. Buscher, however, said council members were emailed the cost details prior to the meeting.

Buscher told *Illinois Times* the city’s total cost of the retroactive, current and future raises for both unionized and non-union police officers will be at least \$14 million when compared with salaries paid in 2021 and early 2022.

The starting salary for a Springfield police officer, previously \$51,769 per year, will rise to \$78,793 in the current fiscal year, or a 52% increase. Starting pay will be \$82,782 per year in the last year of the contract, or a 59% increase compared with the level in effect since March 2021.

All Springfield officers also will receive one-time \$5,000 bonuses for either joining the department or remaining on the department for the next three years.

The council approved those bonuses, which include the three-year employment commitment for all officers except those at or beyond the 25-year experience level. The signing bonuses for new officers will be available through 2024, Scarlette said.

The bonuses will be funded with a \$1.39 million state grant the city received from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board.

“This is a grant we aggressively pursued,” Scarlette said.

The chief said police officers in Springfield and elsewhere in the country are leaving big-city police departments because of factors related to

the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing skepticism surrounding police after the 2020 death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and police reforms in the Illinois Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today (SAFE-T) Act.

The bonuses and the pay increases will not be “the end-all, be-all fix,” he said, “because law enforcement struggles to recruit quality officers, but this certainly helps us.”

Former Ward 7 Ald. Joe McMenamin received criticism when he complained to the council about the levels of the raises and suggested the 13% raise in the current fiscal year would be an incentive for police officers to retire early because of the resulting spike in their pensions.

He told *IT* that when he voted for the 10% pay increase in February, he didn’t expect the amount to be tacked on top of a cost-of-living raise.

And he told council members the city should ask the state for permission to use the \$1.39 million grant for bonuses to help pay for the overall pay increases. Council members didn’t take his advice.

Scarlette said at the November meeting that it’s disgraceful to suggest police officers are in law enforcement “only for the money.”

“It’s about their love of service,” he said.

The bonuses and the new contract’s pay raises are “about showing them the respect they deserve,” Scarlette said.

Ward 1 Ald. Chuck Redpath added: “These people put their lives on the line every day. ... We have to do this.”

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

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Healing racial divisions

United Way to award state-funded anti-racism grants to local nonprofits

RACIAL HEALING | Scott Reeder

The speaker stood before the group of central Illinois nonprofit executives and posed the question: How would you define racism?

The attendees shifted uncomfortably trying to define one of the most intractable problems facing the nation. Finally, someone said, “Bias without evidence.”

The attendees, who were Black, white, Hispanic and Asian, nodded their heads appreciably upon hearing the definition at the Healing Illinois gathering hosted Dec. 5 by the United Way of Central Illinois at Lincoln Land Community College.

The program called Healing Illinois is a statewide initiative that gives anti-racism grants to nonprofits.

“If you look at Springfield’s demographic, you’ll find it’s predominantly white. It’s also extremely segregated. And white supremacy has a toehold,” said Bob Blackwell, a project coordinator for the Springfield Coalition on Dismantling Racism. “I’m encouraged by this infusion of information and activation around this issue of race and race equity. ... That fits very comfortably with our mission and purpose.”

The state program will give out grants as large as \$30,000 to fund racial healing and equity work by various nonprofits. The program is funded by the Field Foundation of Illinois and the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Amanda Elliott, chief of staff for DHS, said, “We are hoping to have grants throughout the entire state where organizations that are in the community can make decisions and recommendations based on what they know their community needs. So, it’s really locally



The United Way of Central Illinois and Healing Illinois held a Dec. 5 event at Lincoln Land Community College for area nonprofits that are interested in applying for grants to fund racial healing and equity work, part of a statewide initiative.

PHOTO BY SIMON COTTON AT RUDD RESOURCES

driven, locally based grants to help with racial healing throughout the state.”

Recipients for the next round of grants will be announced within the next several weeks. The grants can fund endeavors ranging from racial education programs to murals.

The murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in 2020 sparked the creation of this program, said Maritza

Bandera, manager of Healing Illinois. The first round of grants were awarded in 2021 to 179 organizations statewide.

“Ultimately, it is an effort to create the conditions to create healing in Illinois, to make Illinois the most anti-racist state in the country,” she said. “One of our intended outcomes is to enhance knowledge and understanding about racism. Or in the most basic way: How do

we see each other as humans, as neighbors, as Illinoisans?”

Veronica Espina, president of the Springfield Immigrant Advocacy Network, said she has felt the sting of bigotry and misunderstanding.

“One of the things that is important for me is to create training programs in which we teach about immigrant stories – refugee and immigrants’ lives – their contributions and also their challenges and obstacles. Let’s remember that we have 17,000 Venezuelans that were bused to Chicago in the last year-and-a-half. Springfield, little by little, is getting Venezuelans that (originally) arrived in Chicago. We have been receiving Ukrainian families, too. So, we need to create networks of support for people.”

Marne Fauser, president and CEO of the United Way of Central Illinois, said there is about \$4.5 million in grants available statewide. Five organizations, including her group, are administering the grants for different parts of Illinois.

“Some people may do a (Martin Luther King Day) breakfast or have a someone come in and speak. I think there are (funding) opportunities for even a library or a school to come in and have a speaker and pick out some books about MLK or Harriet Tubman,” she said as examples of the types of projects that could be funded through the grant.

Applications are being accepted through Dec. 20 and award notifications will be made in mid-January. Grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2024. □

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



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Friday, December 8 ~ Lindsay Elementary School 7:15 PM

Saturday, December 9 ~ DSI ALPLM/Skating Rink 4:30-5:30 PM

Saturday, December 9 ~ Henson Robinson Zoo 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 13 ~ DSI ALPLM/Skating Rink 4:30-5:30 PM

Wednesday, December 13 ~ Santa House Lincoln Park 6:00-7:00 PM

Friday, December 15 ~ Santa House Robin Roberts 5:00-6:00 PM

Friday, December 15 ~ Route 66 Ill State Fairgrounds 6:15-7:15 PM

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OPINION

LETTERS

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YOUR FAULT

So sorry you were too negligent to check the distance from your soon-to-be home to that of children similar to ones you have a past history of drugging and molesting, but moms are more than happy that our state requires you to find somewhere else to prowl (“State Supreme Court weighs constitutionality of lifetime restrictions on child sex offenders,” Nov. 23). There’s plenty of land out of town. Yes, it may give your life more turbulence, but that is the very least you can do.

Hold yourself accountable for your actions. You helped kids get drunk and then touched them in inappropriate ways. The ability to ever think that is OK is inconceivable to any human worth living anywhere near an institution children attend.

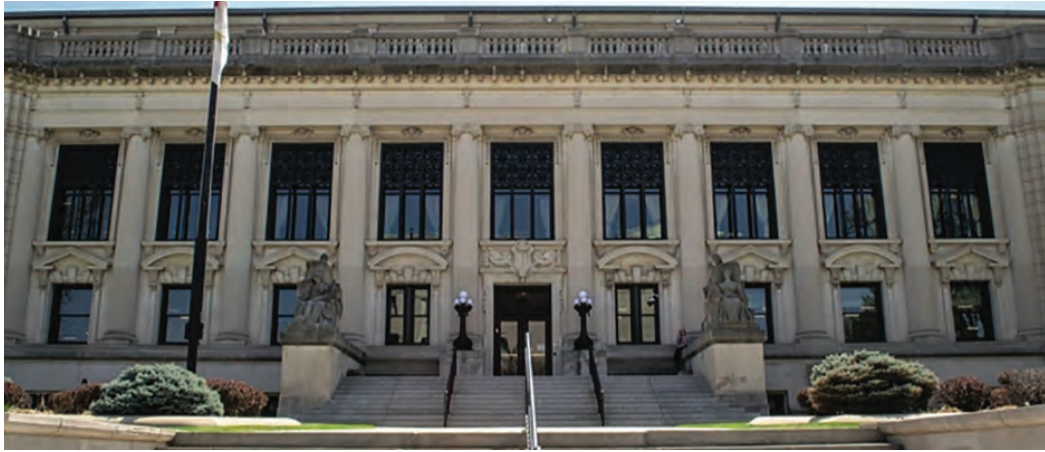
Jamey Borden
Springfield

CHANGE STIGMA

Unless you are someone on the sex offender registry or have a loved one on the registry, you likely agree that there should be lifetime living restrictions for offenders. I was of the same belief until I found myself on the registry.

Now, I have only been on the registry for a few years compared to Martin Kopf’s 21 years. But after being turned down by virtually every employer in town despite having a bachelor’s degree and job experience in nonprofit, state and federal government work, paying \$2,000 a year in sex offender counseling and nearly being forced from my home a week before Christmas because of the vagueness surrounding the 500-foot-proximity law, I am in agreement with Mr. Kopf that a lifetime of residency restrictions and a lifetime of supervision is not only unconstitutional, but it is also a punitive punishment.

There are currently 33,000 people on the sex offender registry in Illinois. Here in Sangamon County, there are 145 registrants with at least 35 being homeless. In Chicago, one



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

in five people listed on the Illinois Sex Offender Registry is homeless. Because they don’t have a fixed address, homeless registrants are forced to report to a police station every week to document where they are living. However, many are turned away because of the lack of staff and resources, putting the homeless registrant at risk of being marked as non-compliant, which is a felony offense. And as temperatures drop below freezing, registrants are barred from most overnight warming shelters.

Equally frustrating is the situation for those incarcerated. As of 2021, there are more than 1,400 offenders who are being held past their prison release date solely because they cannot find housing that meets the 500-foot rule.

And despite being crime-free for decades and having completed sex offender counseling, which every offender must complete in prison and while on supervision, the general public, judges, law enforcement and politicians still believe that Mr. Kopf and others are the same people they were when they first committed their offense.

The consensus does not take into account a person’s capacity to change, to grow and to be rehabilitated. If that’s the case – if the work we put in treatment doesn’t mean anything after the fact – why are we ordered to go in the first place? If someone has been crime-free for decades and statistically shown to be on the same level of committing a crime as someone who never has, why are we treated like a ticking time bomb waiting to happen, more so than someone who has

multiple DUIs, for example?

The stigma surrounding registrants must change. Facts matter. Second chances matter. I hope the Illinois Supreme Court gets this one right. *Name withheld by request
Springfield*

REAL HYPOCRISY

I want to take issue with the most stunning comment by state Sen. Steve McClure in Scott Reeder’s piece, “General Assembly takes no action on Invest in Kids program” (Nov. 16). He says: “A lot of these legislators send their kids to private schools. A lot of those in the Chicago Teachers Union send their kids to private schools. And yet all of them didn’t support this bill to let other kids who are in poor neighborhoods send their kids to private schools – despite the fact that the schools that they’re attending are failing. The hypocrisy is incredible.”

How is that hypocrisy? You want the government to pay for something that other people have to pay for out of their own pocket.

That’s like saying it’s hypocrisy for members of the General Assembly to not hand out vouchers for free T-bone steak, even though they may pay for and eat it occasionally themselves.

Does Senator McClure also think it is hypocrisy to oppose single-payer universal health insurance, since he has a government-sponsored health insurance plan himself? That seems to actually meet the definition of “hypocrisy.”

It’s amazing how conservatives like McClure see fault in every other area of government social spending, but when it is about subsidizing private and religious schools, then their principles fly out the window. *Mary Harris
Springfield*

Family Story #4

Ron and Trever, 10 and 8, are naked playing in the back pasture making a mud dam in the crick to create a pool; their cousin Carl has arrived from afar dressed in fancy pantaloons befitting a special visit; he’s sent down to the crick where his cousins promptly pelt the stranger with mud he imminently strips naked, joins the fight, surely glad to be rid of his party clothes. That cousin grows up to be an honored director at the Library of Congress. his mud-pelting cousins live okay lives, too.

2023 Jacqueline Jackson



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Nathan Grieme's Enos Elementary School class won a recent scavenger hunt-type activity that saw students using concepts they learned in the classroom. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

District 186 report card was a “gut punch”

District isn't happy about the overall report. There is progress in some areas. It's a place to start.

EDUCATION | David Blanchette

The COVID-19 pandemic may be officially over, but its effects linger throughout the state's education system. That's one takeaway from the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) 2023 Illinois Report Card, a detailed annual summary that shows how the state, and each school and district, are progressing on a wide range of educational goals, based on data from the 2022-23 academic year.

The educational symptoms of the COVID disruptions are still noticeable in Springfield School District 186, where the district generally did not perform as well as the state average in several categories on the ISBE Report Card. But District 186 officials note that progress is being made in key areas, and that upward trajectory is a better measure of what is occurring in Springfield's schools.

According to the report card, the chronic absenteeism rate for District 186 was 43 percent, versus 28.7 percent for Illinois. The district's four-year high school graduation rate was 62.5 percent, compared to 87.6 percent for Illinois, and only 69.3 percent of the district's ninth-graders were on track to graduate on time, as opposed to 87.4 percent of ninth-graders in Illinois.

The largest district-state disparity was in the

student mobility rate, a measurement of students who moved into or out of any District 186 school during the school year. That rate was 15.7 percent for District 186 and 7.4 percent for Illinois.

The Report Card's Illinois Assessment of Readiness rating showed that 23 percent of District 186 third through eighth grade students who took the assessment were considered proficient in English Language Arts, versus 35 percent for the state's students as a whole. In math, 16 percent of District 186 students in those same grades were considered proficient, versus 27 percent for Illinois.

The ISBE also reports on growth toward proficiency, and the District 186 rate of growth in English Language Arts was at the 44th percentile, with the mean state average being 50th percentile. The district's math growth rate was at the 46th percentile. In 2022 those growth rates were at the 49th and 48th percentiles, respectively. These ratings show that District 186 students' proficiency rates are growing, but the overall rate of growth has slowed from the previous academic year.

Can the pandemic and its remote-learning disruption of the state's education system be blamed for all these numbers in District 186?

“Kids can't learn if they're not in school.”

“We aren't happy with the overall outcome of some of our test scores and our attendance records,” said District 186 Superintendent Jennifer Gill. “But it gives us a place to start anew.”

One source of this unhappiness was chronic absenteeism, which the ISBE defines as those students who have missed 10 percent or more of the school year, regardless of whether it's an excused or unexcused absence. In an average District 186 classroom of 20 students, more than eight were chronically absent last year.

Gill pointed to COVID as the main culprit. “After they returned to the classroom, if anybody had a symptom, we asked them to stay home. Many students got COVID and had to stay home between 10 and 23 days,” Gill said. “These things were devastating to those students. They were on a road that nobody else had traveled.”

Gill said many students were able to make up for lost classroom time through summer education programs, but the federal COVID recovery funds that paid for those summer schools will be expiring.

“You have to have four years of English to graduate and if you missed a whole year of English,

you've got to make that up,” Gill said.

Aaron Graves, president of the Springfield Education Association, the union representing District 186 educators, said COVID isn't the only place to lay blame for the report card scores.

“Allowing the effects of COVID to excuse our lack of achievement is something that we cannot support,” Graves said. “Our union, teachers, parents, administrators, community and kids are all responsible for our data and, either we get the accolades, or criticism deserving of such.”

Robin Steans is the president of Advance Illinois, a bipartisan education policy and advocacy organization. She is concerned about the chronic absenteeism rate in both District 186 and throughout Illinois.

“When you do poorly with attendance and absenteeism you can expect to see academics decline. Kids can't learn if they're not in school,” Steans said. “When you dig into that, the rates for low-income, Latin and Black students are much higher, and disturbingly so. That is an alarm bell we all should be paying attention to.”

The chronic absenteeism rate in District 186 for Black students was 51.5 percent, for Hispanic



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students it was 41.2 percent, and 34.3 percent for white students.

“People are working like crazy on this, it’s getting a lot of attention and effort, but it’s certainly a concern in Springfield, because their numbers are significantly higher than the state’s, as are many urban areas,” Steans said. “When you see absenteeism numbers improve, that’s usually an indicator that academic numbers will improve.”

Gill said that District 186 has hired staff at its schools whose primary job is to reduce absenteeism by removing barriers to student attendance and making students want to come to school.

“Making up lost academic ground is hard work.”

District 186 students who graduated from high school in 2023 were freshmen when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. About one-third of their fellow students who were with them in March 2020 didn’t receive diplomas last spring.

“Some students got so off track with their graduation credits that they would not be able to make them up,” Gill said. “And there are going to be kids coming up who are struggling as well, so we can’t let up our pace of trying to provide external supports to help students get through.”

Gill pointed to ongoing efforts at Lanphier High School as evidence that the district is attacking the graduation rate problem. A seasoned administrator was hired to focus on 90 students who were not on track for graduation after ninth grade. That administrator was able to move 45 of those students back on track by the end of their sophomore year. Similar administrative positions have since been added at Springfield High School and Southeast High School.

Gill also said an important thing to examine is whether students graduate from high school, not how long it takes them to do it.

“We have students who graduate after five years that we are keeping in our high schools and providing with the right supports so they can get their degree,” Gill said. “If you go to college and you take five years because you change your major, nobody thinks anything about that. But in high school if you don’t get it done in four years, it’s billed as something’s wrong.”

“There are 75 students right now at Lanphier who are finishing up their degrees but didn’t graduate in four years,” Gill said. “I congratulate those 75 who are sticking with it. Our school district didn’t forget about them and we are providing the support they need to graduate.”

The Springfield Education Association’s Graves cautioned against trying to push students through, just to satisfy graduation rate figures.

“In the past, we continued to move students onto the next grade level, year after year, without mandatory academic interventions,” Graves said. “There must be concrete academic cut points for

all students and honest discussions with parents about their child’s progression. Making up lost academic ground is hard work, and only tough discussions and decisions will lead us elsewhere.”

Steans of Advance Illinois said she’s encouraged that the District 186 administration is “owning” their report card numbers and is doing something to improve their graduation rates.

“The report card shows you where you are making progress and where you have trouble spots,” Steans said. “That is exactly the response that parents should hope for from their school leaders.”

Steans said that data collected by Advance Illinois shows a bright spot for District 186 in the years to come.

“We have a kindergarten readiness assessment that tells us how kids are looking going into kindergarten, and the kindergarten readiness numbers for Springfield went up significantly,” Steans said. “If kids are coming into school in a stronger place, that’s a really good sign.”

“Can’t be successful if the mobility rate stays that high.”

Springfield’s public schools had twice as many students enter or leave schools in the district last year than the average Illinois school district.

The mobility rate is particularly high at Southeast High School, where one-fourth of the students have come from another school at some point in their educational journeys.

“We have about 200 kids who have moved more than three times in their high school careers. They can’t be successful if the mobility rate stays that high,” Southeast Principal Cody Trigg said. “A good portion of our kids who struggle have hopped schools, and that is often something the families cannot control because it may be driven by job or other external situations.”

Superintendent Gill said the mobility rate is something the district can’t control, but it’s a unique challenge that still must be faced.

“District 186 has a pretty high percentage of mobility and we have new kids coming to us all the time, so it’s a struggle for sure,” Gill said. “All of us would like to be measured by our successes rather than our failures, but this is one variable we can’t control.”

By contrast, Springfield’s teachers are less mobile than their counterparts throughout the state, with 92 percent of them staying put last year. But the Springfield Education Association’s Graves questions whether those teachers are being placed where they are most needed.

“District 186 has five percent more short-term or provisional teachers at our high poverty schools than the state average,” Graves said. “We could remedy this by incentivizing experienced teachers to work at our neediest schools instead of at the most affluent schools, where most experienced teachers eventually gravitate.”

Steans of Advance Illinois agreed that teachers often aren’t placed where they are most needed.

“Schools with high teacher vacancy rates disproportionately serve low-income and Black students,” Steans said. “That can impact how programs play out in the building, like you keep canceling gym or art or library because those teachers are covering other classes. That makes it harder to engage students and get them back into the habits and norms of coming to school every day.”

Gill said it’s not that simple, because teachers choose where they want to work.

“When teachers are hired, they are hired at a particular school, and they have an opportunity through a voluntary transfer program to move to another school and be interviewed for a position there,” Gill said. “I have trust in every teacher in this district. But I also know they have different needs too and they need different kinds of professional development at different times during their careers.”

Illinois Superintendent of Education Tony Sanders said the state’s evidence-based funding formula has helped to place more teachers where they are needed in the state’s public schools. But he said there is still a disparity in some districts, like Springfield, where not enough teachers are available for schools in economically disadvantaged areas.

“We educate Black students disproportionately in underfunded schools that have more teacher vacancies, higher teacher and principal turnover, higher chronic absenteeism,” Sanders said. “So our Black students in general have less access to supports, to the resources they need to learn at the rate to be on par with their peers.”

Despite that disparity, Sanders noted that Black students saw the biggest gains in proficiency rates on the most recent state report card, a 33 percent increase over the previous year. According to Gill, Black students in District 186 had a three percentile increase in baseline academic growth in literacy from 2022 to 2023 and those in high school showed a five percent growth on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

“Our definition of equity is giving all students what they need when they need it,” Gill said.

Gill and all four of the school principals interviewed for the accompanying story unhesitatingly said they “own” the ISBE Report Card numbers and are committed to improving those metrics in the future.

“This report card is a gut punch, it makes you feel bad, but wait, look at all of the successes we had this year,” Gill said. “The report card provides us with a sense of urgency, with data that we can utilize to help plan our school improvement efforts.” □

The report card ratings

The Illinois State Board of Education ratings of Springfield School District 186 schools for the 2022-2023 academic year are listed below.

The ranking criteria listed on the State Board website includes: **Exemplary** – Schools performing in the top 10 percent of schools statewide with no underperforming student groups. No District 186 schools were listed as Exemplary. **Commendable** – A school that has no underperforming student groups, a graduation rate greater than 67 percent, and whose performance is not in the top 10 percent of schools statewide. A total of 17 District 186 schools were listed as Commendable. **Targeted** – A school in which one or more student groups is performing at or below the level of the “all students” group in the lowest performing five percent of schools. Three District 186 schools were listed as Targeted. **Intensive** – A school that has completed a full Comprehensive Support school improvement cycle, but whose performance remains in the lowest-performing five percent of Title I eligible schools in Illinois or is a high school that has a graduation rate of less than 67 percent or less at the end of the four-year improvement cycle. Four District 186 schools were listed as Intensive. **Comprehensive** – A school that is in the lowest-performing five percent of schools in Illinois and any high school with a graduation rate of 67 percent or less. Six District 186 schools were listed as Comprehensive.

Commendable

Black Hawk Elementary School, Butler Elementary School, Edwin A. Lee Elementary School, Elizabeth Graham Elementary School, Enos Elementary School, Iles Elementary School, Laketown Elementary School, Lincoln Magnet School, Lindsay Elementary School, McClemand Elementary School, Owen Marsh Elementary School, Ridgely Elementary School, Sandburg Elementary School, Southern View Elementary School, Springfield Ball Charter School, Springfield High School, Wilcox Elementary School

Targeted

Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Hazel Dell Elementary School, Jane Addams Elementary School

Intensive

Feitshans Elementary School, Harvard Park Elementary School, Jefferson Middle School, Washington Middle School

Comprehensive

DuBois Elementary School, Fairview Elementary School, Lanphier High School, Matheny-Withrow Elementary School, Southeast High School, U.S. Grant Middle School

More stats from the District 186 report card include:

- Average class size 20.
- A total of 12,911 students in the district, of which 4,762 were white, 5,676 Black, 463 Hispanic, and 347 Asian.
- Teacher retention rate 92.9 percent versus 90.2 for Illinois.
- Student-administrator ratio 129 versus 141 for Illinois.

- David Blanchette

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What do top-scoring and bottom-scoring schools look like?

Profiles of progress at Owen Marsh, Enos, Jefferson and Southeast

EDUCATION | David Blanchette

Here is an in-depth look at four Springfield School District 186 schools based on their ISBE Report Card ratings. Two of them were highly rated “commendable” schools, Owen Marsh and Enos Elementary, while two, Jefferson Middle and Southeast High, were rated among the lowest-performing five percent of schools in Illinois.



Stefanie Midiri interacts with her students in an Owen Marsh Elementary School classroom.

PHOTOS BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

Owen Marsh Elementary School, Commendable “We’ve taken on the motto ‘attendance matters.’”

“We were just one-tenth of a point from making Exemplary, which would have put us in the top 10 percent of all schools in Illinois,” said Owen Marsh Elementary School Principal Wendy Conaway. “I credit our ranking to wonderful teachers who are willing to put in the extra time and really get to know their students as academic learners.”

Conaway is in her seventh year as principal of Owen Marsh, which is located near Washington Park on Springfield’s west side. She proudly points visitors to the frogs, the school’s mascot, that can be seen all over the building.

“I do virtual morning announcements every day and we give shout-outs to those classrooms with perfect attendance, and they are rewarded with having their teacher’s face featured on a turkey that dances across the screen,” Conaway said. “Those types of fun things drive students to want to be at school.”

“We’ve taken on the motto, ‘Attendance matters.’ When a student is absent, tardy or leaving early it really takes away from their learning,” Conaway said. “We make parents and students understand the importance of attending, and that is what works here.”

Conaway is most proud of closing the English Language Arts achievement gap at the school. She has used federal COVID-19 education relief funding to target students in kindergarten and first grade with tutoring as necessary. So by the time they become third-, fourth- or fifth-graders they are reading at a level that is proficient.

Discipline problems are on the decline at Owen Marsh, Conaway said, and students live by the “three bes”: Be respectful, be responsible and be safe.

“It takes tenacity and grit to continue that educational progress and it doesn’t matter what school you’re from, they all can do it,” Conaway said. “It is probably one of the most exciting times of my career, because I’m not only a principal of District 186, I’m a product of District 186.”



Enos Elementary School teacher Melinda Holler and Principal Claudia Johnson talk to students in a classroom.

Enos Elementary School, Commendable “You’re more likely to tell your parents ‘I can’t miss today.’”

When you visit Enos Elementary School you’d better have plenty of time, because Principal Claudia Johnson will want to show you what the students and teachers are doing in every classroom. That’s exactly what happened during a recent visit to the ISBE-rated Commendable school, which is located near the medical district on Springfield’s north side.

“I come every day ready to learn and to celebrate with my students,” said Johnson, who has been the Enos School principal for 13 years. “I know if they can do one thing they can do more, so we keep on pushing them because we want them to be successful.”

Enos has seen its ISBE Report Card numbers

increase. Although it wasn’t quite enough to earn the school an Exceptional rating, Johnson has her sights set on that elite designation.

“I’m happy about where we are but I don’t want to stop there because I always set my expectations high,” Johnson said. “We are reaching toward the very top and I can’t wait to get there.”

Enos established a special attendance team this year to make sure that families have all the resources they need to get their students to school on time every day. Once at the school, students take part in enjoyable learning activities and competitions that give an incentive to keep up their daily attendance.

“If you miss even 15 minutes of school, you’ve missed something very valuable and important that you need,” Johnson said. “We know if you are being engaged and are excited about being at school, you’re more likely to tell your parents ‘I can’t miss today.’”

Enos uses co-teaching, a practice where a group of teachers work together in the same classroom to assist individual students who may need help with one or more subjects. The school’s mantra – “Don’t wait, communicate. Get involved and problem solve.” – has helped students to better express themselves and has resulted in a decrease in disciplinary action.

“We let the students know that we believe in them, and we show them that they can be successful if we support and encourage them,” Johnson said. “I know that they will give their all and in turn we will see that performance and growth in them.”

Johnson is quick to credit all the other District 186 schools for what they are doing, regardless of what the ISBE Report Card scores may show.

“Our students and our schools are not just the scores they see on the report card, there’s so much more,” Johnson said. “Before anyone passes a judgment based off of numbers, they should definitely come through the doors and see what teachers do every day to effect change within our youth.”

Jefferson Middle School, Intensive “We get kids out of bed every morning.”

An Intensive rating on the ISBE Report Card was not welcome news for Jefferson Middle School Principal Chelsey Ziebler.

“It’s not what we want to see,” said Ziebler, who has been the Jefferson principal for two years. “It’s frustrating because the data does not show what it’s like to be in this building every day. We are really on a great trajectory.”

Ziebler said that Jefferson has raised its

attendance rate to 89 percent, the highest it has ever been at the school, but the threshold to move to a higher state report card designation is 90 percent. The school just missed it, and it wasn’t for lack of trying.

“We get kids out of bed every morning. We have a student where we call his mom at 7:30 every morning to wake her up,” Ziebler said. “We try to take away every barrier that we can. You say you’re out of gas? Well, not only are we going to come and get your child, but here’s some money for gas so you can get here tomorrow.”

On a recent school day, Ziebler went from



Jefferson Middle School Principal Chelsey Ziebler poses with student Jordan by one of the inspirational signs in the building.

classroom to classroom, something she does with 50 percent or more of her time each day, to observe how the students and teachers are doing. Several students greeted her by name and asked Ziebler to look at the class assignments they were doing.

Ziebler said a lot has changed at Jefferson since her arrival two years ago, when all schools faced post-pandemic challenges. But Jefferson’s issues seemed to be more acute, with a lack of engagement between students and teachers. Things have improved since then with the adoption of a revamped instructional focus on the four Ps – proximity, planning, preparation and procedures.

“Are the teachers up in front of the kids, are they moving around the classroom?” Ziebler said. “Are they planning and preparing for what needs to be accomplished? Do they have procedures where the kids know when they must turn things in? Do they know what to do if they miss a day?”

Jefferson hired a former district administrator

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as a school improvement coach who identifies students who need help, whether with academics or other issues. Discipline incidents have declined because students are continually reminded of the consequences of certain actions.

“We make them proud to be a Jaguar. We say, ‘We don’t treat people like that here.’ We constantly remind them of our expectations,” Ziebler said. “We scheduled fun things like a pajama day, but we said, ‘Here is the expectation for that day.’ And we literally had zero problems on pajama day.”

Jefferson students who go above and beyond what is expected of them are rewarded with Jaguar Pride Cards that can be redeemed for items every other week at the school’s Pride Store. Ziebler had T-shirts made that said “relationships change lives” to remind students and teachers that relationships are the key to success at school and out in the world.

Learning objectives for students are posted in each classroom so the students know exactly what is expected of them. Based on input from Jefferson teachers, those objectives have replaced the traditional lesson plans that teachers had been required to turn in, a switch that Ziebler said has helped to improve teacher morale.

Despite the progress, however, there’s still a long way to go at Jefferson, which is located on Springfield’s southeast side, and the path to success won’t be easy.

“We take excuses off the table because it’s easy to fall back on excuses in hard schools. We actually take the time to work on things that matter,” Ziebler said. “But I think it’s still going to be a couple of more years before we are OK with the scores.”



Teacher Karmen Goodrich answers a student question in her Southeast High School classroom.

Southeast High School, Comprehensive
“Some of our kids go through a lot of trauma but they are still coming to school.”

The principal walked down the crowded but bright and clean hallways, fist-bumping with students and asking many of them about individual plans and concerns. This is what an ISBE-rated Comprehensive school looks like.

“We missed our target (to go up in the report card ratings) by point-five-six percent. It’s like losing a football game by a last-second field goal,” said Southeast High School Principal Cody Trigg. “That number is going to come out of our mouths every day from now until the end of

our four-year improvement cycle. Once we get past the disappointment and kind of taking it personally, it’s time to get to work.”

Southeast’s ISBE Report Card rating of Comprehensive is partially based on the school’s four-year graduation rate below 67 percent, which places the school among the five percent of lowest-scoring schools in Illinois. But Trigg said the rating doesn’t tell the whole story about what is going on at the east side campus.

“We want kids to walk across that stage and graduate within that four-year time frame, but we have some students where that takes five or six years,” Trigg said. “So that’s what success looks like for those students.”

Trigg, who is on his fifth year as Southeast principal, is also proud of the progress that has been made with Southeast’s chronic truancy rate, which was at 67 percent two years ago and now stands at 48 percent.

“We introduced the position of attendance support coach and have greatly reduced our chronic truancy rate. Our kids are coming to school,” Trigg said. “We need to keep going, to be around 25 percent. I want it to be zero, but we are realistic about our setting.”

Trigg feels that Southeast’s teacher retention rate of 92 percent shows the dedication of the school’s educators, whom he said are committed to making the students feel loved, supported and respected. Those teachers, plus the student-led Peace Room initiative and free on-campus mental health support services, help to keep students from bringing pernicious outside influences onto

campus.

“We have to deal with the fact that life happens for high school kids. Some of our kids go through a lot of trauma but they are still coming to school,” Trigg said. “We fight the story, the perception that Southeast is unsafe. Of our 1,200 students, 93 percent of them had no behavioral referrals whatsoever.”

Trigg thinks it is unfair to compare a school like Southeast, whose report card numbers are improving but are still below the state average, with schools from the Chicago suburbs and elsewhere that don’t have the same challenges.

“The state tells us we are a Title One school, with more than 40 percent of our students from low-income families, but then they hold us to the same standard for schools that don’t have our challenges,” Trigg said. “They are our challenges and we met them head-on, but fair isn’t always equal.”

“The numbers don’t tell the full story of what it means to be a Southeast Spartan, and that is disheartening,” Trigg said. “I challenge people to get to know a Southeast Spartan. Truly get to know our kids, see what they do on a daily basis to try and meet challenges.”

District 186 Superintendent Jennifer Gill agrees.

“Being on the comprehensive list is hard for a school that has a positive trajectory with positive things that they do for kids,” Gill said. “It hurts to get a designation that says they’re not doing good things. What’s happening inside the school is what matters.” □

How safe are District 186 schools?

There are more anti-violence and safety programs and procedures in place throughout School District 186 than ever before. But the instances of troubling behaviors by students are also on the rise.

“Outbursts by students at all age levels and schools have been on the rise and situations that spill over into our halls from community disagreements have affected our schools at a higher rate now than prior to the pandemic,” said District 186 Superintendent Jennifer Gill. “We have utilized our positive relationship with our local law enforcement officers and the state’s attorney’s office to address any act of violence in a swift and appropriate manner that meets the letter of the law.”

Springfield Education Association President Aaron Graves said he and fellow union members have also noticed this trend, but said the district should do more to address it.

“We have allowed an unacceptable degree of chaos and violence within particular school settings for the last many years,” Graves said. “The failure to address students’ unsafe and aggressive behavior has eroded the educational fabric of many classrooms, schools and portions of our district.”

According to the ISBE Report Card, the total number of incidents requiring disciplinary action last academic year in District 186 numbered 4,748. These included 273 incidents of violence without physical injury and 25 drug-related offenses. No data was supplied to ISBE to show how many violent incidents occurred with physical injury.

The response to these disciplinary incidents included 4,699 out-of-school suspensions with educational services being provided, 39 expulsions with educational services, and 10 expulsions with no educational services.

Graves feels that the district is using Senate Bill 100, a recently passed Illinois law that sets disciplinary guidelines for schools, as an excuse for the increasing disruption in Springfield’s schools. The law requires that schools minimize disciplinary practices such as suspension and expulsion and use more alternatives to suspension.

Gill said that District 186 has no choice but to follow the new law. “If not followed there could be severe consequences to the district,” Gill said. “The Exclusionary Discipline Law sets parameters that limit the number of days students can be excluded from school through discipline and outlines or restricts administrators on the numbers of days a suspension

can last.”

But that doesn’t mean that violent behavior will be tolerated.

“My office, with the support of the Board of Education, has taken a strong stance that fighting among students and hands-on-behavior toward staff constitutes a severe disruption in the learning environment,” Gill said. Such behavior “shall be a reason for suspension and possible expulsion.”

Gill pointed to a number of initiatives that are intended to create and maintain a safe school environment in District 186. A Social Emotional Learning curriculum and mental health support systems are available for students. Security systems and protocols at schools have increased greatly in recent years. Help hotlines are in place to head off potentially dangerous situations, and videos have been created to encourage respectful behavior in schools.

Peace Rooms have been created at each high school where students can seek time to regroup and ask for additional services. The number of “School Within a School” classrooms has been increased – these are small settings for students who may need additional support for a short time.

Alternative education programs are available for students who have trouble functioning in regular District

186 classrooms, including Douglas Prep, Springfield Learning Academy and Lawrence Adult Education. The district partners with the Springfield NAACP and other organizations to provide tutors and mentors for students. The Back to School Stay in School Program ensures that students have an opportunity to grow even while expelled from District 186.

Graves admitted that he has seen a stronger response from the district recently regarding classroom safety.

“District administration and the school board are taking a much harder stance on this now, and we appreciate this move to prioritize safe schools and classrooms,” Graves said. “If we want to turn these trends and scores around, schools must be orderly and safe.”

Gill said that safe schools are a priority for everyone.

“This work starts in the home and our partnership with families. Together we must all become united, stop pointing fingers and come together to support our students and educators,” Gill said. “When this happens we see programs emerge that do not include law enforcement or negative consequences, but proactive programming.” - David Blanchette



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Delicious gifts

Bourbon sauce and biscotti for boxing

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

I finally got my act together this year and got a head start on holiday baking preparations. Last weekend's blustery weather practically begged me to bust out the stand mixer, put on some jaunty carols and get to work. I've been making holiday treat boxes for friends and family for years and always find myself in a rush to get the boxes finished in time to ship them off. The contents of the boxes vary a little from year to year, but so many of the items have become special requests that the boxes have developed some continuity.

More than any other morsel, the taste of my grandma's snack mix tells me that the holidays are here. The original recipe was from a spiral-bound community cookbook from Springfield Ceramics and Crafts Club that was published in the 1960s. I've amended the recipe over the years, boosting the umami factor with Asian fish sauce and fresh rosemary, but the delectable buttery crunch is still the same. Biscotti are beautiful and fun to make, with practically endless flavor combinations. Crunchy pistachios and dried cranberries are an especially festive combination, especially when draped with a snowy drizzle of white chocolate. The newest addition to this year's selection is little jars of salted bourbon caramel sauce, perfect for drizzling over ice cream, cake or as a fruit dip. For this recipe, leave the small-batch, single-barrel stuff on the shelf. Use something tasty but affordable, such as Old Grand Dad Bonded Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey.

Salted bourbon caramel sauce

2 cups cane sugar
 ½ cup water
 ⅛ teaspoon cream of tartar, optional (helps prevent caramel from crystallizing)
 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
 1 cup heavy cream
 ¼-½ cup bourbon (or substitute 1 tablespoon vanilla)
 ½ teaspoon sea salt

Preparation

Combine the sugar, water, cream of tartar and corn syrup in a heavy-bottomed saucepan. Place on the stove over medium-high heat and stir briefly to dissolve the sugar, then stop stirring. Allow the mixture to come to a boil and continue to cook without stirring, until the caramel is amber-colored (be careful not to let it burn). Remove from the heat and carefully stir in the cream (the mixture will



bubble up). Let the mixture cool for a few minutes, then stir in the bourbon and salt. Pour into small jars and let come to room temperature, then refrigerate until ready to use. Makes 2 cups.

Biscotti

½ cup unsalted butter, softened
 ¾ cup sugar
 3 eggs, at room temperature
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 3 cups all-purpose flour
 1 tablespoon baking powder
 1 teaspoon salt
 Up to 2 cups toasted nuts and/or dried fruit
 White, dark, or milk chocolate chips for drizzling (optional), plus 1 tablespoon coconut oil

Other delicious flavor add-ins: 1 tablespoon grated citrus zest, 1 tablespoon instant espresso powder, 1 teaspoon cinnamon or pie spice

Preparation

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

If you are using dried fruit, combine it with 2 tablespoons water or vodka in a microwaveable bowl and microwave for 30 seconds. Cover and set aside to macerate and cool. Cream together the butter and sugar until fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, scraping the bowl after each addition. Mix the dry ingredients together in a separate bowl, then add to the butter mixture. Mix gently to combine, then add nuts and macerated dried fruit, if using.

Divide the dough into equal thirds and shape each into a 2-inch-diameter log. Place the logs on a lined baking sheet and press down lightly with floured hands to flatten slightly.

Bake in a preheated oven for 20 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the middle of the logs comes out clean. Let rest 5 minutes, then lightly brush the logs with a pastry brush dipped in water (this helps them slice cleanly). Slice the logs crosswise into even ½-inch-thick slices. Place the slices on their sides on a baking sheet – you can arrange them close but not touching. Return to the preheated oven and bake 15 minutes more, until the biscotti are dry and lightly browned. Cool completely.

To drizzle with melted chocolate, combine one cup chocolate chips with one tablespoon coconut oil and microwave for 30 seconds. Stir and repeat, microwaving in 15-second bursts, stirring each time, until the chocolate is melted and smooth, taking care not to burn the chocolate. Drizzle the melted chocolate over cooled biscotti. Let cool at room temperature until chocolate is completely set, then store in an airtight container.

Nuts and Bolts Snack Mix

12 ounces Crispix cereal (preferred), or corn/rice cereal squares, 11 cups total
 4 cups unsalted mixed nuts or peanuts
 4 cups mini pretzels
 2 cups mini saltine crackers or bagel chips
 ½ cup each butter and bacon fat (or use all butter)
 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
 1-2 tablespoons fish sauce (available at most Asian groceries) or soy sauce
 Tabasco sauce, to taste
 1 teaspoon each garlic and onion powder

Preparation

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees. Combine the cereal, nuts, pretzels and crackers in a large mixing bowl. Melt the butter and bacon fat, then mix in the chopped rosemary, Worcestershire sauce, fish sauce, tabasco sauce, garlic and onion powder. Drizzle the melted butter mixture over the dry ingredients and mix well. Divide the mixture between two rimmed baking sheets and bake in the oven for 45 minutes, stirring and rotating the pan every 15 minutes until the mixture is dry and crisp. Let cool completely then package in an airtight container. □



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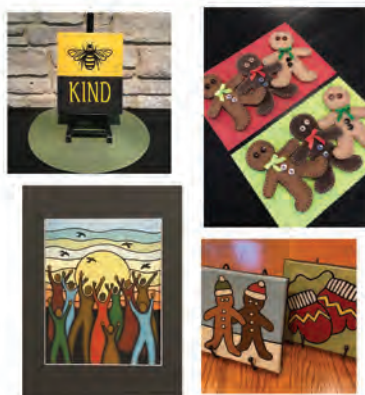
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Friday, Dec. 8

5:00pm-8:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 9

9:00am-3:00pm



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

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December 6	Wild Columbine
December 13	Johnnie Owens, <i>vocalist</i>
December 20	Nichol DelGiorno, <i>organist</i>



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MUSIC



Rumpke Mountain Boys play this Saturday during Rumble'n the Holidays music fest at the Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center.

December-land music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Here we come a-wassailing and there we go, too, as the holiday-tinged experiences of December music fill the air with lots of jolly stuff and plenty of holly-ish things as well. We see blowup Santas and plastic nativity scenes decorating lawns, outdoor trees inside the house decorated to the max and lights outside the house illuminating the indoors all over the neighborhood. With all that comes the ubiquitous, holiday-happening music blaring from every street corner and everywhere else too, including many of our favorite local venues.

And that means to you, dear reader, more seasonal music done at more hometown shows and we're here to report that for you. One place you might not think of, but is very likely, quite merrily, a hotbed of holiday songs, could be your local karaoke night. Oh yes, karaoke turns with the seasons as much — if not more (considering the music and the words are supplied for you) — than any other type of recurring gig. So if you're in the mood, make your way to one of the many karaoke nights happening 'round town each week to sing your favorite Christmasy songs.

Thursdays feature the ever-popular Jackpot Karaoke Night with Debbie Cakes at the Curve, plus J.C.B. Entertainment does the duty at La Fiesta in Chatham. While we're here, there appears to be an upswing in open mics on Thursdays, where, armed with an instrument, you're free to come sing any song your heart desires, including a yuletide ditty. I spy John Drake hosting a new one at Ad Astra, while Kortney and friends continue along at the Blue Grouch.

Out-of-town open mics (which, when you think about it, are good for in-town folks to debut at) include Silas Tockey in charge at Spirited Republic/Limerick Brewing Co. in Lincoln and Bob Besser doing Door 4 Brewing in Decatur. Amy Battles and I, joined by Elvis Himself in special

appearances, will regale the masses at It's All About Wine on Thursdays in December doing non-karaoke holiday sing-a-longs and other songs, too.

Friday at 7:30 p.m. the Pharmacy Gallery presents a special night of music with Emmanuel di Villarosa, a world-renowned tenor singing "popular arias, Christmas favorites and other selections." The venue is requesting formal attire along with a suggested donation of \$25 for an individual or \$40 per couple. At the Dana-Thomas House (Friday, 5:30-7:30 p.m.), the inimitable Johnnie Owens, accompanied by Marty Nagel, entertains at a Holiday Reception with appetizers and a cash bar included for \$50.

In one more ticketed holiday event (\$30-55), Another Family Affair presents Rumble'n the Holidays music fest at the Route 66 Hotel this weekend featuring music by Sunshine Daydream, Clusterpluck and Dead Man's Dog (Friday) and Rumpke Mountain Boys and Still Shine (Saturday) with both nights including artist-at-large Gia Welch and those famous late-night hoedown jams. Find more info on these shows in our listings or online at the event pages.

If you need holiday relief, Saturday features many of our most popular local groups, plus a couple of interesting traveling tribute acts, too. Look for The Cocktails at Weebles, Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas at VFW Post #755 and Astrofix with Positively 4th Street at Mowie's Cue, while George Rank's gives us Lincoln's Dead. In the battle of the tribute acts, Danenberger's features The Boy Band Night with a full, live band doing, well, those popular boy band groups, as the Main Gate brings the Decade of Decadence, an 80s hair-metal revue, to town.

So long from December-land. Stay safe and stay tuned for more. □

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

Sunday, Dec. 31, 10 am - "Burning Bowl" Releasing Ceremony
Release all that no longer serves us as we start the New Year.

Monday, Jan. 1, 6 pm - Crystallize Your Intentions for 2024
An immersive crystal bowls sound and vibration meditation as we
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MUSIC

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

Thursday Dec 7

Open mic with John Drake
Ad Astra Wine Bar and Market, First Thursday of every month, 7-9:30pm.

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

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

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

Amy Battles and Tom Irwin
It's All About Wine, 6-9pm

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

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

Friday Dec 8

Erin Enderlin and Tim O'Grady Jr.
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

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

Last Call Blues Band
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7-10:30pm

Friday Night Jazz - Glenn Wilson
Boone's, 7:30pm

The Collective
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Johnnie Owens and Marty Nagel
Dana-Thomas House, 5:30-7:30pm

The Tangents
East Side Inc., Virginia, 8-11pm

Billy Galt
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7-10pm

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

Rumble'n the Holidays music fest
Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center,

Saturday Dec 9

Chris Camp/John Drake Electric Blues Quartet
Amber's Place, 7-10pm

Johnnie Owens
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 2-4pm.

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

Stereo Typical
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

The Boy Band Night
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

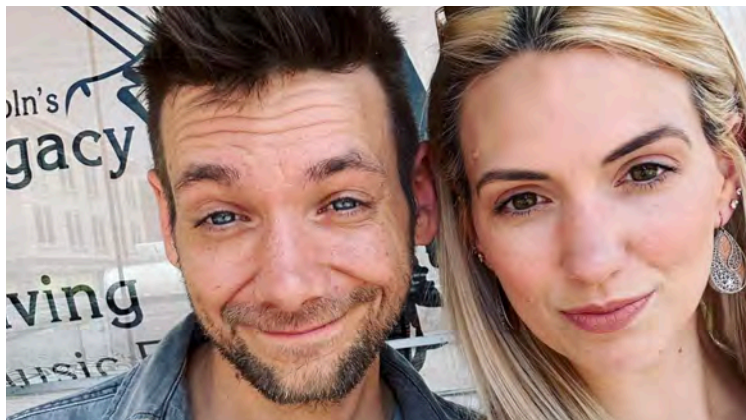
Summer of George
Don's Place, Jacksonville, 8-11pm

Lincoln's Dead
George Rank's, 7:45-11pm

Dysfunctional Family with Chris Sorenson Project
Goodfellas, 8pm

Decade of Decadence
The Hangout Bar & Grill, Jacksonville, 8-11pm

Isaiah Christian
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm



The Tangents play in Mechanicsburg on Saturday from 7-10 p.m., at The Bean.

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

JackAsh
Maddy's Tavern, Divernon, 6-9pm

Devil's Daughter & The Blackwater Band
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-12am

Astrofix with Positively 4th Street
Mowie's Cue, 7:30-10:30pm

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

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

Rumble'n the Holidays music fest
Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center, Dec. 8-9

The Longmeyer Band
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 8-11pm

Springfield Uketopians
Stella Coffee & Tea, Second Saturday of every month, 12-2pm

The Tangents
The Bean, Mechanicsburg, 7-10pm

Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

The Cocktails
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

Sunday Dec 10

Austin Sprouse
Ad Astra Wine Bar and Market, 2pm

Mid-October
Door 4 Brewing Co., Decatur, Second Sunday of every month, 11am-2pm.

John Drake
Harvest Market Coffee Bar, 10am-1pm

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

Ocean State Quartet
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

Dave Weld & The Imperial Flames
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3pm

Keith Dunlap
Slaughterhouse Brewing Co., Auburn, 1-4pm

Open mic
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3pm

Jason McKenzie
Whiskey Ridge Saloon, Breckenridge, 1pm

Monday Dec 11

David Lumsden/Reggie Britton Happy Blues Band
The Alamo,

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

Tuesday Dec 12

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

Open jam
George Rank's, 8-11pm

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

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

Wednesday Dec 13

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

Karaoke
Clique, 9pm-1am

After School Special
Coz's Pizza and Pub, 7pm.

Karaoke
Crows Mill Pub, 8-11pm

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

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



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"HAPPY BLUES" BAND
Blue Monday
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THE CALENDAR



Building with Brick – The Art of LEGO

Wednesdays and Saturdays,
10am-4pm,
and Sundays, 1-4pm,
through Feb. 28
Jacksonville Area Museum
301 E. State St., Jacksonville
217-408-1197
jacksonvilleareamuseum.org

CHILDREN'S CORNER | LEGO masterpieces go on display in Jacksonville

it Since their creation in the 1930s in a Denmark workshop, the plastic building-block toys known as LEGO have grown popular with children (and adults) around the world. Now, for the second time, an exhibit of LEGO masterpieces has returned to Jacksonville and includes contributions from area LEGO enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels. On display are a 3-foot replica of the ill-fated Titanic cruise ship, the Concord airliner, a working typewriter made of LEGOs and more. Returning this year is a favorite – a 3-by-5-foot Hogwarts School from the *Harry Potter* films. According to the museum, the LEGO structure “is a combination of available kits and customized additions, making the final layout many times larger than the original LEGO kit.” Besides the traveling exhibits, museumgoers can vote on the local creations. Based on the voting, prizes will be awarded in five categories: Best Build from a Kit (all ages); Best Original Build - Adult (ages 13+); Best Kids' Original Build (children ages 8-12); Best Kids' Original Build (children ages 0-7); and Best Build Highlighting Jacksonville Area History (all ages). Admission is free but a donation of \$5 is suggested. Fun fact: According to lego.com, the name LEGO is an abbreviation of the two Danish words “leg godt,” meaning “play well.” Inventor Ole Kirk Christiansen named his company after the Danish phrase.

New Berlin, 12341 Irish Road,
217-488-6321.

■ Art & Architecture

“Portraits”

Wednesdays, 5-8pm, Fridays,
12-6pm and Sat., Dec. 9,
12-8pm. Through Dec. 29. See
a display of the exceptional
portrait photography by Zach
Adams. Also find artist-made
gift items for the holidays.
pharmacygallery.com. Free.
The Pharmacy Gallery and
Art Space, 623 E. Adams St.,
217-622-7903.

■ Film & Television

All Creatures Great and Small

Mon., Dec. 11, 7pm. A sneak
peek at season four of
Masterpiece Theater's new
adaptation of James Herriot's
book about his poignant
days as a veterinarian in the
tranquil countryside of the
Yorkshire Dales during the
1930s. Advance registration
is required. presidentlincoln.
illinois.gov. Free. Abraham
Lincoln Presidential Museum,
212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-
8844.

■ Food & Drink

Mark Twain Holiday Tea

Sat., Dec. 9, 1pm. Learn about
popular tea customs while
participating in a special
program focused on Mark
Twain. Includes tea, tea foods,
gifts and original programming.
edwardsplace.org. \$50.
Edwards Place, Springfield Art
Association, 700 N. Fourth St.,
217-523-2631.

■ History

Christmas Candlelight Tours

Dec. 8-9, 4-7pm. Experience
the historic house in all its
candle-lit splendor. Step back
to a Christmas of the past in
the restored 1837 home which
has been decorated for the
season. Light refreshments will
be available. ileshouse.com. By
donation. Elijah Iles House, 628
S. Seventh St., 217-714-6469.

Christmas at the Front

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

State Military Museum, 1301
N. MacArthur Blvd., 217-761-
3910.

■ Faith & Philosophy

Christmas at Calvary

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

Christmas Cantata

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

Comedy concert with Greg Tamblyn

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

■ Holiday Happenings

APL Tree of Lights

Sat., Dec. 9, 5:15pm. Honor
and remember loved ones,
animal or human, who have
left a lasting impact. Lighting
ceremony at 5:30pm followed
by poetry reading, music and
more. Accepting \$5 donations
for lights on the tree. The event
will be streamed on the APL's
Facebook page. apl-shelter.
org. Animal Protective League,
1001 Taintor Road, 217-544-
7387.

Breakfast with Santa

Sat., Dec. 9, 8:30-11am.
Children can meet and
take pictures with Santa
Claus. Event includes meal,
face paintings and balloon
animals for children, parents
and families. Open to the
public, all ages welcome. No
reservations needed. Free.
Springfield Masonic Center,
1020 Rickard Road, 217-793-
7728.

Candlelight Christmas

Fri., Dec. 8, 5-9pm and Sat.,
Dec. 9, 3:30-9pm. Experience
the sights and scents of
Christmases long ago in the
candlelit historical buildings.

If you catch a chill from the
nippy weather, warm up by
the crackling fire in the stone
fireplace. Clayville Historic Site,
Pleasant Plains, Route 125,
217-481-4430.

Caroling at the Carillon and Jingle Bells Spectacular

Sun., Dec. 10, 3-5:30pm.
Gather around a roaring
bonfire and sing Christmas
carols accompanied by the
Carillon. The Trinity Wind
Ensemble, under the direction
of Jan Zepp, will provide
musical interludes. Free.
Thomas Rees Memorial
Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave.,
217-546-3853.

Crafts and Storytime

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

Grand Hanukkah Menorah Lighting

Thu., Dec. 7, 5:30pm. This
exciting tradition is hosted by
Chabad of Springfield and is
open to the public. Enjoy a
Chanukah buffet of fresh jelly
doughnuts and hot latkes, and
a fun program for all ages.
On the lower level near the
Dick's Sporting Goods area.
chabadspringfield.com. Free.
White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash
Ave., 217-787-0110.

Happy HoliGays

Sat., Dec. 9, 9am-3pm. The
Phoenix Center invites the
public to celebrate with it
at OUT on Second. Includes
LGBTQ+ artisan craft fair,
freshly baked goodies, make-
in-take crafts, caroling, hot
cocoa, fairy hair and more.
phoenixcenterspringfield.org.
Free. Phoenix Center: Out On
Second, 120 E. Scarritt St.,
217-503-4104.

Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

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

Holiday Fest: Japanese New Year

Sat., Dec. 9, 10am. Prepare to
ring in the Year of the Dragon.
Write your own nengajo or
New Year's postcard that the
museum will mail at the end
of December. Craft dragon
puppets and decorate spinning
tops to take home. Activities

THE CALENDAR

Send us your events! Deadline: 5pm Fri.
Submit online at:
www.illinoistimes.com.
Email: calendar@illinoistimes.com
Dates, times and locations are subject
to last-minute changes, so we suggest
calling before attending events.

■ Special Music Events

An evening with Emmanuel di Villarosa

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

623 E. Adams St., 801-810-9278.

Brown Bag Concert

Wed., Dec. 13, 12:15-12:45pm.
Featuring vocalist Johnnie Owens.
Brown bag lunch available for \$5,
or bring your own to enjoy. Free.
First Presbyterian Church, 321 S.
Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

Unto Us a Child is Born

Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30pm. A
performance by the Springfield
Choral Society including Handel's
Messiah, Part One, Bach's
Magnificat and other selections.
A percentage of the proceeds
benefit The Matthew Project.
\$20. Cathedral of the Immaculate
Conception, 524 E. Lawrence
Ave., 217-522-3342.

■ Books & Authors

Holidays are Booked Sale

Sat., Dec. 9, 10am-3pm.
Featuring high-quality, donated

adult and children's books, audio
books, DVDs, CDs and more. \$5
bag sale begins at 1pm. Credit
cards accepted. Presented by
the Lincoln Library Alliance.
lincolnlibraryalliance.org. Lincoln
Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-
753-4900.

■ Theater & Comedy

Cirque Dreams Holiday

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

Greg Hahn

Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30, 9:30pm. Greg
Hahn brings his unique comedy
to Donnie B's. donniebs.com.
\$22.50-\$27.50. Casey's Pub,
2200 S. Meadowbrook Road,
217-891-4858.

Holiday Inn

Through Dec. 9, 7:30pm and
Sun., Dec. 10, 2pm. A favorite
from Irving Berlin. This joyous
musical features thrilling dance
numbers, laugh-out-loud comedy
and a parade of Berlin hit songs.
hcfta.org. \$18-\$20. Hoogland
Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1,
420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

The Lalas, Burlesque

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

artisans. aluuc.org. Free admission. Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 745 Woodside Road, 217-585-9550.

Holiday Fest: Japanese New Year
Sat., Dec. 9, 10am. Prepare to ring in the Year of the Dragon. Write your own nengajo or New Year's postcard that the museum will mail at the end of December. Craft dragon puppets and decorate spinning tops to take home. Activities are free and available while supplies last. illinoisstatemuseum.org. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-7386.

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

Old Capitol Holiday Walks
Every Wednesday and Saturday through Dec. 23. See Holly, the Lighted Bus, join activities at the Abraham Lincoln President Museum, go ice skating at Union Station, visit Abe and Mary at the Visitors Center and more. Visit DSI, Inc.'s website for all the info. downtownspringfield.org. Downtown Springfield, Downtown.

Pictures with Santa
Sat., Dec. 9, 12-3pm. Bring your own camera a snap a selfie with Santa. Free. Camping World, 2371 Chuckwagon Dr., 217-726-8219.

Southeast High School Holiday Bazaar
Sat., Dec. 9, 10am-3pm. Shop for the holidays and support local crafters and home-based businesses at Southeast Commons. Includes performances by various local school groups. Free. Southeast High School, 2350 E. Ash St., 217-525-3130.

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

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

■ Fundraisers and Galas

Dana-Thomas House Foundation Holiday Reception
Fri., Dec. 8, 5:30-7:30pm. Celebrate the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed building in the style of Susan Lawrence Dana's first holiday reception in 1904. Includes food, music and cash bar. Bring a book to be gifted to a local child this holiday season. dana-thomas.org. Members \$50, nonmembers \$60. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-788-9452.

■ Children's Corner

it Breakfast with Santa and Puppet Show
Sat., Dec. 9, 9:30am. Holiday fun happening all day. Have breakfast with Santa from 9-10am, then watch a bi-lingual show by the Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Co. at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm. Museum admission, breakfast and puppet show \$25. Puppet show only \$9 in addition to admission. kidzeum.org. Kidzeum of Health and Science Children's Museum, 412 E. Adams St., 217-971-4435.

Children's Holiday Store
Thur. and Fri., 4-7pm. Sat., 9am-6pm, Sun., 12-6pm., through December 17. A wonderful shopping experience that teaches children about the joy of giving to others. Participation helps the Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery to continue to offer free emergency crisis care, miniobeirne.org. Fairhills Mall, 1919 W. Monroe St.

Getting Crafty at the Holiday Walks
Sat., Dec. 9, 12-8pm. Crafts suitable for toddlers and up. Children will use non-messy, individually packed craft kits with fun foam/sticker-making activities. No glue or paints. Children must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian. Free. Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 406 E. Adams St.

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

■ Nature, Science & Environment

Winter Holiday Floral Show
Through Dec. 20. Monday-Friday 12-4pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-5pm. Enjoy over 500 poinsettias nestled among the decorated fresh evergreens and lush tropical foliage.

Free. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

■ Lectures & Meetings

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

Refiner's Recovery
Thursdays, 6:30-8pm. A safe place to heal from addictions and life-controlling issues with a journey through nine biblically based pillars to healing, freedom and growth. Free. Destiny Church, 1425 N. Fifth St., 217-685-4124.

Rise Up and Recover
Tuesdays, 7am. Enter through the northeast door. Call for more information or find other meetings at spi-alanon.weebly.com. St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Chatham, 700 E. Spruce St., 217-280-0220.

Step Into Recovery Group
Thursdays, 5:30-6:30pm. A 12-step recovery group for LGBTQ+ and allies. This group is for anyone struggling with alcohol, chemical, or process addictions. phoenixcenterspringfield.org. Free. Phoenix Center: Out On Second, 120 E. Scarritt St., 217-414-8953.

■ Bulletin Board

Lake Springfield and Illinois Stories
Thu., Dec. 7, 12pm. Hosted by UIS Alumni SAGE Society and Illinois State Historical Society. Curtis Mann will present "The History of Lake Springfield." Mark McDonald will present "Outtakes from Illinois Stories," about his experiences as the host of the Emmy award-winning series. Lunch begins at 11:30am. Free Zoom option is available. \$40 for lunch. Illini Country Club, 1601 S. Illini Road, 217-206-6058.

Light up the Park
Thursdays-Sundays, 6-9pm. Through Dec. 25. Be wowed by the nearly 1-mile drive through hundreds of thousands of lights and beautiful displays. A \$5 per-vehicle donation is requested. Vans and busses are welcome. Donations accepted for Toys for Tots, Ball Chatham Food Pantry and Titan Fuel. See the Chatham Friends of the Park Facebook page. Chatham Community Park, Chatham, 731 S. Main St.



The Illinois Times office will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 25 through Jan. 1.

We will reopen again on Jan. 2.

Illinois Times Holiday Issue Deadlines

Issue Date: Thursday, December 21, 2023
Ad Space: Friday, December 15, 2023

Issue Date: Thursday, December 28, 2023
Ad Space: Friday, December 15, 2023

Issue Date: Thursday, January 4, 2024
Ad Space: Thursday, December 21, 2023

Little Lincoln's toy shop

3450 Liberty Drive * Spfld * 217-670-1326

FEATURED BOOK

Written By Local Author
Cinda Kilckna



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Happy HoliGAYS Event



OUT on Second

pride store
fairy hair by USCA
lgbtq artist vendors
make & take ornaments
cookie decorating

December 9th
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



120 E. Scarritt St. (2nd & Scarritt)
phoenixcenterspringfield.org

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home near Capital Airport.
Must be clean, non-smoking and
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Stop in and celebrate
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for a birthday gathering
8 envelope party

Friday, December 15th
5pm - 7pm @ DH Brown's
231 E Monroe St, Springfield, IL 62701

All donations are greatly appreciated
Can't Attend? Send Contributions here:

Friends of Lakeisha Purchase
917 North 6th St.
Springfield, IL 62702
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/friends-of-lakeisha-purchase-1>

**Donate \$15
on the 15th!**

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Legal Deadline, Thursdays at 4pm

Call Daron at 217-679-7801
or email legals@illinoistimes.com



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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK TRUST ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST; Plaintiff,

vs. BETTY L. THOMPSON; MURRAY L. THOMPSON; RUTLEDGE JOINT VENTURES, L.L.C.; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 23 FC 98 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., Harvatin Law Office, 1100 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 22-03-428-023, Tax ID: 22-03.0-428-023. Commonly known as 2103 SOUTH 17TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Chad Lewis at Plaintiff's Attorney, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 205 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13233769

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT –SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. MELISSA J. MCGLOTHLIN; Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2023FC000076 Property Address: 224 South 8th Street Riverton, IL 62561 NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 27, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on January 9, 2024, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: Commonly known as: 224 South 8th Street, Riverton, IL 62561

P.I.N.: 15-15.0-105-034 First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$143,801.85 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff(s), vs. JOSHUA L. WITKOWSKI, MARINE BANK SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MARINE BANK, SPRINGFIELD, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, Defendant(s). Case No. 22 FC 58 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on January 9, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit: Common Address: 2537 S. 10TH ST., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703 P.I.N. 22-10-129-025 Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information. The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings

and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808 Timothy R. Yueill - ARDC #6192172 Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847 Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724 Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924 175 North Franklin St. Suite 201 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 357-1125 Pleadings@nevellaw.com SL # 22-00652

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS HOF I GRANTOR TRUST 5, Plaintiff(s), vs. 249 BROADWAY NJ, LLC, MARC ANTHONY CECIL COX, THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS, BROOKSTONE MANAGEMENT, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s). Case No. 23 FC 138 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on January 9, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit: Common Address: 527 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE WEST, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 P.I.N. 14-33.0-455-025 Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information. The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure

sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808 Timothy R. Yueill - ARDC #6192172 Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847 Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724 Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924 175 North Franklin St. Suite 201 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 357-1125 Pleadings@nevellaw.com SL # 22-03720

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS U.S. Bank National Association PLAINTIFF Vs. Pamela J. Irwin; et. al. DEFENDANTS No. 2023FC000118 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 09/13/2023, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois will on January 9, 2024 at the hour of 9:00 AM at 300 S. 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 22-14.0-251-020 Improved with Residential COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 255 W. Lake Shore Drive Springfield, IL 62703 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 14-23-03731.
I3233335

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Plaintiff, -v.- LITTITA ROBINSON Defendant 2023 FC 000091 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 30, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on January 9, 2024, at the Do Realty Services, 600 S 6th Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL, 62701, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 215 N CLEVELAND, THAYER, IL 62689 Property Index No. 34-27-353-002, 34-27-353-003 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$43,506.85. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, 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. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. 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 this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). 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. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES Plaintiff's Attorneys, 120 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 1140, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 239-3432. Please refer to file number 23IL00097-1. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES 120 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 1140 Chicago IL, 60602 312-239-3432 E-Mail: ilpleadings@rsmalaw.com Attorney File No. 23IL00097-1 Case Number: 2023 FC 000091 TJSC#: 43-4283 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 FC 000091

Legal Deadline, Thursdays at 4pm



Call Daron at 217-679-7801
or email legals@illinoistimes.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of: RONALD HANDLIN, Deceased. NO. 2023-PR-436 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Ronald Handlin of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 30, 2023, to Noll Shawn Handlin, 3005 Springwood Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62712, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before June 6, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 30th day of November, 2023. Randall W. Segatto - 06193211 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-4868 rsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of JAMES STEVEN BRADFORD, Deceased. IN PROBATE Case # 2023-PR-000426 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of James Steven Bradford, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 22, 2023, to Charles E. Horn, 277 Circle Drive, Springfield, IL, 62703, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Daniel E. Kepner, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL, 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 7th day of May, 2024, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 7th day of December, 2023. Charles E. Horn, Independent Executor By: /s/Daniel E. Kepner Daniel E. Kepner, his attorney BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Daniel E. Kepner Registration No. 6182842 205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000 Springfield, IL 62705-2459 Telephone: (217) 544-8491 Facsimile: (217) 241-3111 dkepner@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: WILLIAM JAMES PIPER, Deceased. IN PROBATE No. 2023-PR-000418 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of William James Piper, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 21, 2023, to Terry Rae Jordon, 1413 South Park Avenue, Springfield, IL, 62704, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Daniel E. Kepner, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL, 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 7th day of May, 2024, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 7th day of December, 2023. Terry Rae Jordon, Independent Executor By: /s/Daniel E. Kepner Daniel E. Kepner, her attorney BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Daniel E. Kepner Registration No. 6182842 205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000 Springfield, IL 62705-2459 Telephone: (217) 544-8491 Facsimile: (217) 241-3111 dkepner@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VIRGINIA L. MCGILLIVRAY, DECEASED Case #2023-PR-424 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of VIRGINIA L. MCGILLIVRAY. Letters of Office have been issued to JAMES J. MEREDITH, 27 Glenwood, Chatham, IL 62629, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before May 31, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 22nd day of November, 2023. William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT C. SAMPSON, DECEASED Case #2023-PR-422 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE/ NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS Notice is given of the death of ROBERT C. SAMPSON. Letters of office have been issued to JAMES C. BENSON, 2016 S. State, 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 May 31, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Notice is also given to the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ROBERT C. SAMPSON, Deceased, including any unknown heir who may be a minor or a disabled person, that an Order was entered in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois, on November 20, 2023, admitting Decedent's Will to Probate. You are named as an heir of Decedent in the Petition for Probate of said Will. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of Admission, any heir may file a Petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court or by other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 6-21), or successor provision. Heirs also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 755, Act 5, Section 8-1), or successor provision, to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within 6 months after November 20, 2023. 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 20th day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VERONICA M. BROWN, DECEASED Case #2023-PR-421 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of VERONICA M. BROWN. Letters of Office have been issued to NEIL M. BROWN, P. O. Box 192, Rochester, IL 62563 and BRENDAN J. BROWN, 3221 West Point Dr., Springfield, IL 62704, as Independent Co-Executors, 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 Co-Executors, or both, on or before May 31, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Co-Executors and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 20th day of November, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan, III SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street

Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SUSAN G. GREGOIRE, Deceased NO. 2023-PR-415 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of SUSAN G. GREGOIRE, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 20, 2023, to Amanda Hauer, 2125 E. Grandview Ave., Springfield, IL 62712, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before May 21, 2024 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 20th day of November, 2023. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JENNIFER C. HUNT, DECEASED Case #2023-PR-420 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of JENNIFER C. HUNT. Letters of Office have been issued to MARCUS ROTHENBERG, 622 W. Canedy, 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 May 31, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 20th day of November, 2023. William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KATHLEEN HELEN CAMPBELL, Deceased. No. 2023-PR-353 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of KATHLEEN HELEN CAMPBELL. Letters of office were issued on October 16, 2023 to SHARON L. CAMPBELL, 5 Allison Court, Springfield, Illinois 62703, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is James S. Dunn, 212 South Second Street, Spring-

field, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Room 405, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, being Nov. 22, 2023. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. SHARON L. CAMPBELL, Independent Executor By JAMES S. DUNN, Attorney for Independent Executor Date: Nov. 16, 2023 JAMES S. DUNN Attorney at Law 212 South Second Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 217-528-2873 office dunnandmclaw@aol.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of MOHAMMED AMEEN DADA, Deceased. NO. 2023-PR-412 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Mohammed Ameen Dada of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 16, 2023, to Mahnaz Dada, c/o Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Bernard G. Segatto, III, Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative or both, on or before May 23, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 16th day of November, 2023. Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705-0079 (217) 544-4868 bsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In Re the Estate of: CHARLES EDWARD WALLNER, Deceased. Case No.: 2023PR000404 CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Charles Edward Wallner, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 13, 2023, to Trevor S. Wallner, as Independent Executor, whose address is c/o his attorney of record, Barry O. Hines, 1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A, Springfield, Illinois 62704. The Estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration, at any time, by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or

with the representative, or both, on or May, 23, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Dated this 13th day of November, 2023. Trevor S. Wallner Independent Executor Barry O. Hines - 01220918 Attorney at Law 1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A Springfield, IL 62704 Telephone: (217) 698-8444 Email: Barry@HinesLaw.net

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of: Minak Baldwin, Deceased. No. 2023-PR-392 NOTICE TO HEIRS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE Notice is given of the death of Minak Baldwin, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on November 7, 2023, to Sonja Blazetic, 100 Mesa Trail, DeLand, Florida, 32734, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Minak Baldwin of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Sonja Blazetic, Aaron Baldwin, Vanessa Tackett, Steven Knapp and Jeffrey Cameron as the only heirs of Minak Baldwin. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this

Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Joseph B. Roesch Clerk of the Circuit Court Sarah Delano Pavlik – 6269250 DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC Attorney for Administrator One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: 217-544-2703 Fax: 217-544-4664 sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of A. EUGENE GERBER, Deceased. IN PROBATE No. 2023-PR-000361 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of A. Eugene Gerber, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 7, 2023, to Alfred E. (Chip) Gerber, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Harvey M. Stephens, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 15th day of May, 2024, or three months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 10th day of November, 2023. BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Harvey M. Stephens Registration No. 6198845 205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000 P.O. Box 2459 Springfield, IL 62705-2459 (217) 544-8491

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY Re: the marriage of Jerome D. Webb, Petitioner And Cynthia Magee, Respondent Case No. 23DN297 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Cynthia Magee, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 7th day of January, 2024, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joseph B. Roesch Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY Re: the marriage of Amal Ai Okam, Petitioner And Mohamad Aldafri, Respondent

Case No. 2023 DC 000035 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Mohamad Aldafri, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 21st day of December, 2023, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joseph B. Roesch Circuit Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the Petition of Dakota Seth Loyd For change of name to Dakota Seth Loyd-Samson Case No. 2023-MR-000386 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on Jan. 30, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Dakota Seth Loyd to Dakota Seth Loyd-Samson pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Dec. 7, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. PLAINTIFF Vs. Dexter Christiano; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Steven Christiano; Dan Way, as Special Representative for Steven Christiano (deceased) DEFENDANTS No. 2023FC000094 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU: Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Steven Christiano That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 333 S State St Springfield, IL 62704 and which said Mortgage was made by: Steven Christiano the Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans, Inc., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois, as Document No. 2017R06289; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending. NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Joseph B. Roesch Clerk of the Circuit Court Sangamon County Courthouse 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405 Springfield, IL 62701 on or before January 8, 2024, 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 COMPLAINT. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-23-02864 NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. I3233962

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK TRUST ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST; Plaintiff, vs. BETTY L. THOMPSON; MURRAY L. THOMPSON; RUTLEDGE JOINT VENTURES, L.L.C.; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 23 FC 98 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., Harvatin Law Office, 1100 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: LOT ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE (129), IN SPAULDING'S SECOND CAPITAL CITY ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. EXCEPT ALL COAL AND MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID LOT ALL SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF IL. P.I.N. 22-03-428-023, Tax ID: 22-03.0-428-023. Commonly known as 2103 SOUTH 17TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Chad Lewis at Plaintiff's Attorney, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 205 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3233769

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT –SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. MELISSA J. MCGLOTHLIN; Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2023FC000076 Property Address: 224 South 8th Street Riverton, IL 62561 NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE Public notice is hereby given that in

pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 27, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on January 9, 2024, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: THE SOUTH 120 FEET OF THE NORTH 402 FEET OF THE WEST 200 FEET OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE NORTH HALF OF THE EAST HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND MINERALS. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Commonly known as: 224 South 8th Street , Riverton, IL 62561 P.I.N.: 15-15.0-105-034 First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$143,801.85 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com 8051-937787

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff(s), vs. JOSHUA L. WITKOWSKI, MARINE BANK SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MARINE BANK, SPRINGFIELD, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, Defendant(s). Case No. 22 FC 58 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on January 9, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the

highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:
LOT 702 OF HARVARD PARK SECOND PLAT, A SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 3 AND THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. EXCEPT ALL COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID LANDS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE SAME. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Common Address: 2537 S. 10TH ST., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
P.I.N. 22-10-129-025
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808
Timothy R. Yuell - ARDC #6192172
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125
Pleadings@nevellaw.com
SL
22-00652
8051-937770

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS
HOF I GRANTOR TRUST 5,
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
249 BROADWAY NJ, LLC, MARC ANTHONY CECIL COX, THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS, BROOKSTONE MANAGEMENT, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendant(s).
Case No. 23 FC 138
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will

on January 9, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:
LOT TWENTY-FOUR (24) BLOCK THREE (3) OF MENDENHALL, MATHENY AND TURNEY'S ADDITION. EXCEPT ALL COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID LANDS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE SAME. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Common Address: 527 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE WEST, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704
P.I.N. 14-33.0-455-025
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808
Timothy R. Yuell - ARDC #6192172
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724
Andrew Chu - ARDC #6285924
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125
Pleadings@nevellaw.com
SL
22-03720
8051-937769

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
~SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JASON WOODBURY; KIMBERLY WOODBURY; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendant(s).
CASE NO. 2023FC000070
Property Address: 1610 South Pasfield Street Springfield, IL 62704
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 13, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois,

will hold a sale on December 19, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit:
LOT TWENTY-FOUR (24) IN BLOCK FOUR (4) OF PAYNE'S GRAND AVENUE SUBDIVISION NO. 2.
EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY.
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Commonly known as: 1610 South Pasfield Street , Springfield, IL 62704
P.I.N.: 22-04.0-209-013
First Lien Position; Single-Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$82,623.53
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.
Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County.

The person to contact for information regarding this property is:
Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563
(630) 453-6960
midwestpleadings@dallegal.com
8051-937690

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
U.S. Bank National Association
PLAINTIFF
Vs.
Pamela J. Irwin; et. al.
DEFENDANTS
No. 2023FC000118
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 09/13/2023, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois will on January 9, 2024 at the hour of 9:00 AM at 300 S. 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 1 IN WEST LAKE DRIVE ADDITION. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND

EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY.
ALL SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS.
PIN 22-14.0-251-020
Improved with Residential COMMONLY KNOWN AS:
255 W. Lake Shore Drive
Springfield, IL 62703
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 14-23-03731.
I3233335

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS
Plaintiff,
vs.
2005 GMC ENVOY
VIN# 1GKDT13S152358543
Jeffrey Kittell
No. 23-MX-767
23-AF-063
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. John C. Mihiser, State's Attorney for Sangamon

County, filed the above-captioned matter on June 5th , 2023. UNLESS YOU file a verified answer with the State's Attorney of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 402, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, within 45 days of this publication, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT OR DECREE MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR FORFEITURE OF THE ABOVE ASSETS PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS FORFEITURE LAW.
Joe Roesch
Clerk of Court
J.W. Pierceall
Assistant State's Attorney
200 S. 9th Street, Room 402
Springfield, Illinois 62701
(217) 753-6690
Sangamoncounty.SAO.civil@sangamonil.gov

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF Robert Hiler
No. 2023-GR-129
To: Jennifer Gaither at address unknown:
Please be notified that Margarette Sisti has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Robert Hiler, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By January 8, 2024 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE
Wishing to avail themselves of the provisions under the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, the below storage facilities give notice of the sale under said act; Friday the 22nd day of December, 2023 at 11:00 AM, on that day will conduct a sale to the highest bidder, with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com, and payment to seller via credit/debit card, the contents of spaces 10 Federal Self Storage, 2225 J David Jones Pkwy, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 600-2778 Jordan Buchanan 764. Alaya Jefferson 87. Jeremy Cunningham 819/820. Nicole Thompson P16. Joseph Smith 392. Teresa Houston 14. Stephen Bynum 211. sarah lester 6. Sherika Knox 209. kristopher vincent 121. Frederick Epting 358/427. Brad Langley 236. Kala Ellis 208. Phantayesia King 842. Tara Jordan 232. Tara Jordan 215. Joslyn Ellis 224. Nate Clemmer P76. Bradley Schroeder 772. Tracy Wells 48. Crystal White 752. Robert Sauter 151. Joshua Myers 169. Bradley Schroeder 276. David Bargiel 203. Bradley Schroeder 773. Danielle Wright 721. Mark Hale 485; 10 Federal Self Storage, 3500 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 387-3951 Troy Moews B172. Christopher Schafer B198. KLINE AMANDA B192/ B193. MacKenzie Stone P15. Kiana Goldson A8. Katie Jackson B156; 10 Federal Self Storage, 900 E Straight St, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 286-1550 Justin Smith F407/F420. Belinda Le 69. Mathew Lofland 256. Mary Jo Polette E287. Lea Beach 189. Justin Smith 202/254. Elijah Kennedy 243. Stephen Souther E277. Shaundrina Williams 137. Dave Lott 15. Sue Beach 122. Sue Beach 124. Amber Rose Hawkins 87; 10 Federal Self Storage, 500 W Browning Rd, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 339-3865 David Hadden 224D/225D. David Hadden 223D. Veronica Ray 73B. Stacy Ring 189D. Stacy Ring 237E. Kaylee Mcguire 249E. Stephen Pfeiffer 244E. Jordan Roberts 159C. Troy Pygott 248E. Austin Ludwig 284e. TATIVANA Rambo 3A. Michael Watkins 119C. Alexis Lay 107B. Aaron Grover 115B

Capitol Storage LLC
818 S Dirksen Parkway

Springfield, IL 62703
217-522-0300
Sale 12/16/23
Winchester
#1 Greg Leonhardt
#8 Penny Leverich
#41 Christina Sitton
Dirksen
#160 Megan Peddycoart
#97 Ivry Cunningham
Taintor Rd
HH16 Lasanya Shivers
I8 John Marx
I120 Zachary Moad
To pay past due rent and fees call 1-217-522-0300. Private Sale will be December 16, 2023 at 9AM. The sale will begin at Dirksen Location. Please call to verify start location day before sale.

To enforce Self Storage Lien in default of payment of rent a private auction will be held on Saturday December 16, 2023 at 9:00a.m.
Northend Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL. 62702
This is a private auction. In order to attend you must call 217-544-4521 a week prior to the auction date.
Please leave your name, telephone number and an email address.
Cash is the only form of payment accepted for the auction.
Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance on or before December 15, 2023.
No personal checks will be accepted for storage units that are in lien.
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
William Richard Unit#10-2
Donald Brunner Unit#3-25
Kyanna Logan Unit#4-26
Katrina Abner Unit#5-14
Osborne Jackson Unit#7-11
Carla Trader Unit#9-23
Ashley Southwick Unit#11-44
Bertha Bostic Unit#G-3
Trear Reese Unit#H-3
Vernon Raglin Unit#I-2
Derek Rompot Unit#J-6
Barbara Curtis Unit#J-21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF GEORGE W. LEET, III, Deceased.
No. 2023PR367
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of George W. Leet, III, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on August 30, 2023. Janet L. Forker, whose address is 3040 East Trinity Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62702, was appointed independent administrator of his estate on November 15, 2023. The attorneys for the independent administrator are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, Suite 501 One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the independent administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 15th day of November, 2023.
Mike Southworth (ARDC #6186085)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501

Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
msouthworth@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-937566

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC
Plaintiff,
-v.-
LITITIA ROBINSON
Defendant
2023 FC 000091
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 30, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on January 9, 2024, at the Do Realty Services, 600 S 6th Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL, 62701, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
LOT 1 AND 2 IN BLOCK 5 IN THE TOWN OF THAYER, EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD, SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as 215 N CLEVELAND, THAYER, IL 62689
Property Index No. 34-27-353-002, 34-27-353-003
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$43,506.85. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, 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.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
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 this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
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.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other

county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES Plaintiff's Attorneys, 120 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 1140, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 239-3432. Please refer to file number 23IL00097-1.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES
120 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 1140
Chicago IL, 60602
312-239-3432
E-Mail: ilpleadings@rsmalaw.com
Attorney File No. 23IL00097-1
Case Number: 2023 FC 000091
TJSC#: 43-4283
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2023 FC 000091
8051-937922

Casey Rentals
And/or
Casey Development Group
Storages
2700 Old Rochester Rd.
Springfield, Ill. 62703
Hereby gives Public Notice
That the contents of the following units Will be disposed of on:
December 15, 2023
Springfield Ballet Company, Unit G4
Rose Sanders, Unit G1

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF JULIE GOSSAGE,
Deceased.
No. 2023PR292
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Julie Gossage, a resident of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on July 25, 2023. Michael Boehm, whose post office address is 2350 Ramsey Road, Springfield, Illinois 62702, was appointed administrator of her estate on November 27, 2023. The attorneys for the administrator 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 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the administrator, 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 4th day of December, 2023.
Mike Southworth (ARDC #6186085)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
msouthworth@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-937957

House components

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 819

Across

1. "Planet of the _____"

5. _____ decent living

10. High-five, e.g.

14. Mardi Gras follower

15. De Mille of dance

16. Mrs. Dithers in "Blondie"

17. ** The easy life

19. Aid and

20. For all to hear

21. Bring down

23. Familia members

26. Warner _____

27. Bud

30. Storage places

32. Ryan of "Top Gun"

35. Bullfight cheers

37. The Buckeyes, briefly

38. Sling mud at

40. ** Acting riskily

44. "West Side Story" role

45. "The Matrix" hero

46. _____ knot

47. Hi-_____ monitor

48. Pipsqueaks

52. It may be framed

53. Suit to _____

54. Lowly laborer

56. Some saints

59. Puts into piles

63. Cousin of a bassoon

64. ** Soapy leftovers

68. "Return of the Jedi" dancing girl

69. Accused's need

70. Pour

71. Word that could follow the start of the starred answers

72. Sprite flavor

73. Omar of "Scream 2"

Down

1. Jessica of "Dark Angel"

2. Drink garnish

3. Opposite of ecto-

4. Hearty pint

5. Listening device

6. Before now

7. "ER" extras

8. Required

9. Declare with confidence

10. Lasting impressions

11. Par of 5-down

12. Greek war god

13. Taps

18. Money guarantor, for short

22. Sheriff's group

24. "...bump on _____"

25. "Eh"

27. Arctic or Antarctic

28. Skirt style

29. Some casual wear

31. Certain Muslim

32. News outlets

33. Avid

34. Terrific

36. Dog command

39. Assembled

41. Foul

42. Office fill-in

43. Bill Clinton's birthplace

49. Kind of tea

50. Flea market deal

51. McGwire's friendly home-run rival

53. Mr. T's group

55. _____ Dame

56. Drop anchor

57. Peek-_____

58. Caramel candy brand

60. Cut the crop

61. Make a misstep

62. Identity theft targets: Abbr.

65. Comic Conway

66. "Oz" network

67. Take the gold

Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week

H	E	A	T	C	A	R	S	S	T	E	P	S
A	L	B	A	O	B	E	Y	P	A	D	R	E
G	L	U	M	D	E	A	D	R	I	N	G	E
S	I	S	A	L	L	U	N	A	R	E	E	
S	I	E	L	L	S	E	E	E	D			
E	A	T	E	R	Y			R	A	C	K	
C	O	P		M	I	N	I		A	N	E	M
O	V	E	R	A	N	D	D	O	N	E	W	I
R	E	S	I	S	T			G	A	N	G	
P	R	O	F		S	E	R	I	A	L		
				F	I	S	H		E	T	U	D
A	D	S		C	O	E	D	S		E	M	I
M	I	A	M	I	B	E	A	C	H		B	A
M	O	R	O	N		S	T	A	R		E	N
O	R	I	N	G		H	E	R	S		R	A

Crossword answers from #818

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

Sudoku answers from #818

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

JoshJosh answers from #818

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 819

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.

12x	7+		2-	10x	3÷
	5+	10+			
				2-	3-
2-	30x	5-			
			10x	1-	
2-		3		5-	

Difficulty hard

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

Difficulty medium

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