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FREE December 18-24, 2025 • Vol. 51, No. 21

# Kids with many needs have few options

But some parents question care of children at Hope's residential facilities

GROUP HOMES | Dilpreet Raju





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# The cost of free speech

Federal employee forced into early retirement after social media post criticizing the government

**FREE SPEECH | Adrian Dater**

Larry Criscione has it pretty good by most people's standards. He's a nuclear engineer who paid off his house many years ago. The Springfield resident owns 17 rental properties in the area and, at the age of 57, recently took an early retirement pension package from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission at \$3,350 a month. That will allow him to spend a lot more time with a family that includes nine grandchildren, after a career that often required him to be away from home months at a time.

Criscione, though, is angry. Angry at essentially being forced out of his job as an operations engineer at the NRC, which has a regional office in Naperville. Angry that a social media post, in which he referred to a top NRC official as "spineless," was used as justification to begin a termination process. Angry that, included in his initial notice of potential termination, other incidents from his long career in nuclear power were dragged into the picture.

"Most humans cannot stand hypocrisy," said Criscione, always twisting a napkin into a skinny rope as he talked. "But they also have this self-preservation instinct where they're not going to yell at the king if he has no clothes. Whereas, I've always been willing to point it out."

As many federal government employees in the second administration of President Donald Trump have learned, critics can be subject to harsh reprisal despite what the law says are First Amendment rights. On Sept. 30, while on furlough due to the government shutdown that officially began the next day, Criscione opened this email from the NRC:

"President Trump opposes a government shutdown and strongly supports enactment of a House-passed continuing resolution that would keep agencies funded through Nov. 21.

Unfortunately, Democrats are blocking this continuing resolution in the U.S. Senate due to unrelated policy demands," the email said. "If Congressional Democrats maintain their current posture and refuse to pass a clean continuing resolution to keep the government funded before midnight on September 30, 2025, federal appropriated funding will lapse."

The NRC's email to its roughly 8,800 employees had the name of associate director Jody Martin attached, and Criscione took to his personal LinkedIn account later that day.

"What kind of a man looks the other way as laws are disregarded? What kind of a man does what they know to be wrong?" Criscione wrote. "What kind of a system allows such a man to rise to the upper levels of 'leadership' at a vital federal regulatory agency? The framers of the Constitution predicted Trump. And they predicted Jody Martin and the rest of the spineless bureaucrats who do his bidding."

On Nov. 3, Martin's colleague at the NRC, deputy executive director of operations Sabrina Attack, had a conference call with Criscione. She would be recommending that he be terminated for his comments and cited other incidents in his employee file that, despite being cleared of any wrongdoing, she nonetheless thought were germane to the situation.

"Your comments regarding NRC senior leadership were unbecoming and disruptive because they subjected Mr. Martin to public ridicule and targeted him for public harassment," Attack wrote in a memorandum to Criscione. "Moreover, your unauthorized postings fostered a disruptive working environment within the NRC, with the potential for inciting fear and violence towards NRC leadership, thereby undermining NRC supervisory authority."

Criscione, through a Freedom of Information Act request, showed that nothing in his LinkedIn post, nor anything else in his HR file, had broken any First Amendment rights of federal employees. There was no public disclosure of any information that shouldn't have been made public. When confronted with the FOIA findings, the NRC quickly offered an enhanced early retirement package instead of a firing. In agreeing to the deal, Criscione gave up his right to sue the NRC, but not the right to talk about it.

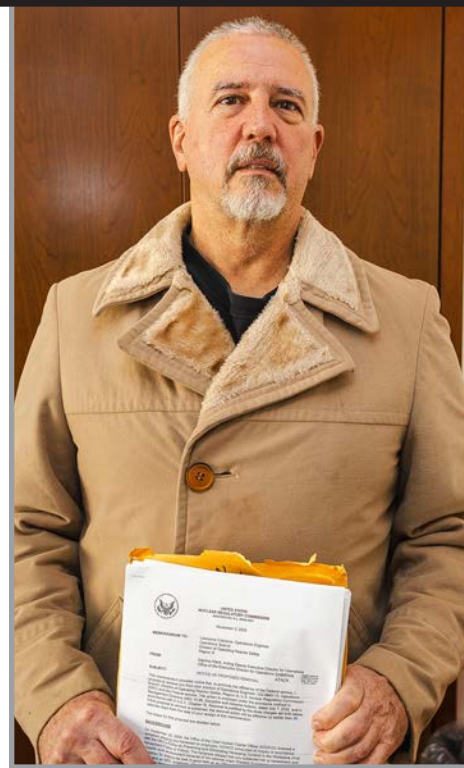
"When you're a person like me, the cards are stacked against you. They've got the whole treasury of the U.S. government to pay attorneys and fight me. And I've got NGOs or I've got to fund this out of my own pocket," Criscione, a U.S. Navy veteran, said. "In terms of calling the guy spineless on LinkedIn, I used to do that all the time on agency-wide emails. But I was a union steward. It was my job to point out when they were being hypocrites. With this LinkedIn post, I was a citizen expressing my disgust in a public forum on the partisan email that I got. They're making all these agencies partisan. They are not supposed to be."

Criscione said he was threatened with prison time by the federal government over a situation when, while working at the Callaway nuclear plant in Kansas in the early 2000s, he alerted members of Congress to potential flooding and safety issues there – the kind that happened at the Fukushima nuclear plant disaster in 2011. Criscione said someone in Congress then leaked his concerns to *The Huffington Post*.

That caused a firestorm, with Criscione being threatened with charges of computer fraud. It was a weak case, which is why the office of the Inspector General declined to press charges. But, Criscione said, he was left to twist in the wind for more than a year, unsure if he'd be indicted any day. He eventually won a \$550,000 settlement from Callaway, but moved on to more of an office job at the NRC in Maryland.

"I had a target on my back, not because my boss didn't like me, but because upper management hated me. I would call them out as liars all the time for violating the union contract. I don't call people out like on the playground. I give the facts," Criscione said. "I talked to 30 scientists who had real concerns with the flooding. They envisioned the Fukushima accident before it even happened at Fukushima. There was no reason why this had to be kept from the public. It was just me transparently sharing with the public what's going on."

In response to an interview request from *IT*, an NRC spokesperson wrote, "It would be inappropriate for the agency to discuss personnel issues."



**Larry Criscione, an engineer with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, took early retirement in lieu of termination after he made a social media post criticizing his employer, a federal agency. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS**

Attorney Tom Pavlik of Delano Law Offices in Springfield, which has expertise in employment law, said his firm is seeing more employers implement strict social media policies. Social media can be dangerous, he said, for anyone employed in private industry, noting that many people nationwide were fired for their social media comments about the recent murder of political activist Charlie Kirk.

"Frankly, the biggest misconception is that far too many people incorrectly think the First Amendment applies to private citizens," Pavlik said. "It restricts the government from disciplining workers, not private employers – and even then, those protections are still not absolute."

While not working for Criscione in any capacity, Pavlik offered some analysis of his situation.

"(It) centers on whether he was speaking as a private citizen, if it was a legitimate issue of public concern, and did it disrupt the workplace or interfere with his workplace duties?" Pavlik said.

Criscione said, "I got in trouble because the No. 2 person in the agency didn't like me sharing an email with a coworker's name on it on a LinkedIn post. I don't think that's any way to be stewards of the public trust."

What will Criscione do moving forward? Other than being a husband, father, granddad and landlord, he's not sure. But one thing already seems assured: Larry Criscione won't go quietly into the night. □

*Adrian Dater, a longtime former sportswriter in Denver and author of seven books, moved to Springfield in 2023 to get his first taste of life in the Midwest.*

## Editor's note

In Springfield Monday Gov. JB Pritzker set the right tone for this season when he and other Jewish leaders assembled to light the state menorah. He first expressed his grief about the mass shooting in Australia which killed 15 at a Hanukkah celebration. Pritzker said he is angry "at those who stoke the embers of a fire that seems to continue to burn in the hearts of bigots everywhere," and "Antisemitism and hatred across the board have been on the rise for the last several years." Earlier that day, Pritzker had demonstrated one reaction to grief and darkness by announcing a \$2 million grant to Springfield's program to combat homelessness (page 4). "Throughout history," Pritzker said at the menorah ceremony, "when we have needed light the most, when it seemed the darkest, we found it. We found it in our faith, we found it in one another. Now is not the time to hide our light, but to continue to proudly show to the world who we are, in acts of defiance and solidarity and joy. If we work together, the light brings hope and healing and better days ahead." — *Fletcher Farrar, editor*



# More state funds to help Springfield's unhoused

Three local agencies will share \$2 million in additional funding that could offset federal cuts

HOUSING | Dean Olsen

Gov. JB Pritzker's decision to more than double state funding for programs designed to reduce homelessness in Sangamon County will help the community make meaningful progress and blunt a potential reduction in federal funding from the Trump administration, Springfield officials say.

"We're just not used to this type of investment," Josh Sabo, executive director of nonprofit Heartland Housed, said after a Dec. 15 announcement by the governor at Helping Hands of Springfield. "But all of the work that has gone into strategic planning has created a foundation where we know what to do — our organizations are growing and scaling up, and they're already housing people with this money."

Christine Haley, the Democratic governor's chief homelessness officer, said the Pritzker administration reallocated money within this fiscal year's \$263 million Home Illinois program to give Springfield service providers \$2 million more on top of the \$1.2 million that the local system receives from the program annually.

"Today we are recognizing the lifesaving work of the Springfield community to protect its poorest residents," Haley said at the news conference at Helping Hands, 2200 Shale St. "The state of Illinois is proud to partner with Springfield to end homelessness."

Haley noted that people experiencing homelessness are 38 times more likely to die from cold weather-related health problems, and their average age of death is 56, almost 20 years younger than people who have stable housing.

Sabo said state officials approached Heartland Housed earlier this year to discuss ways of supplementing local efforts to serve people experiencing homelessness after learning about the community's strategic plan to address the issue and how constraints in funding were creating challenges.

The goal with the \$2 million in additional funds is to demonstrate success so the supplemental money can be added to the \$1.2 million in future years, he said.

Heartland Housed wants to reach



Gov. JB Pritzker announces \$2 million in additional funding for Sangamon County nonprofit agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness. Other officials at the Dec. 15 news conference at Helping Hands of Springfield included, from left, state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, and Josh Sabo, executive director of Heartland Housed. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN

"functional zero," which would mean the number of people experiencing homelessness and entering social-service programs each year roughly equals the number exiting the system and finding or being placed in permanent housing.

The new funding, Sabo said, is designed "to see if a community our size can really make a significant impact in the direction of functional zero, so it's a bit of a pilot project from that standpoint."

Sabo said the additional money already has begun to flow to the community's three nonprofit groups administering permanent supportive housing programs — Helping Hands, Fifth Street Renaissance and Mercy Communities.

Those organizations, he said, are using the money to pay rent and provide counseling and other supportive services to people who previously were unhoused.

Sabo estimated that the \$2 million would help create 200 more permanent housing slots.

Pritzker said state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher and Sangamon County Board Chairperson Andy Van Meter are working

together "to make historic investments in our state's beautiful capital city to ensure it has a vibrant, thriving future."

Pointing to the Springfield and Sangamon County 2022-2028 Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness, Van Meter, a Springfield Republican, said, "If we had not done that preparation, we would not have been eligible for the funding that Gov. Pritzker has made available. We were very carefully vetted to make sure that we had a system that could appropriately deploy the funds."

Buscher commended the governor and local officials for caring about "our most vulnerable citizens." She said she talks with mayors across the country, and homelessness, along with mental health and drug addiction, are the biggest problems their cities face.

"Our governor in Illinois is committed to making Illinois a state that is a leader in these issues," Buscher said. "Not all states have this. We have to remember how lucky we are for this leadership."

Pritzker and Haley said the Home Illinois program, funded with state general revenue fund dollars and formed three years ago, has seen progress in reducing homelessness in

many parts of the state, including Springfield.

But Pritzker, widely discussed as a potential candidate for president in 2028, said, "The MAGA Republican administration in Washington is attempting to turn back the clock."

Trump issued an executive order in July directing federal agencies to make changes to policies in response to what Trump called billions of dollars in federal funding "on failed programs that address homelessness but not its root causes, leaving other citizens vulnerable to public safety threats."

At Trump's direction, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development signaled that it would reduce future funding for permanent supportive housing by 60% to 70% in favor of other priorities such as transitional housing.

Facing lawsuits, HUD has temporarily paused the new funding priorities. Those new priorities would, among other things, reward communities that crack down on "illicit drug use" and enact local laws

to fine and jail homeless people when they sleep on public property.

If not changed, the new funding rules would reduce the current \$600,000 in annual funding for Springfield-area homeless agencies to \$180,000 and reduce the number of formerly homeless people receiving housing support from the current 79 to 23.

The federal government's mandated one-day count of homeless people in Sangamon County totaled 374 in 2025, a slight decrease from 388 in 2024. But the one-day count was 284 in 2019, so the one-day count has risen by 32% over that five-year period.

The number of people needing homeless services locally has risen while the number of homeless people finding permanent housing in Sangamon County has jumped by more than 300% in the past six years, Sabo said. In 2019, 94 found housing, compared with 380 in 2025 as of Nov. 1, he said. □

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



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# Town & Country Shopping Center staying the course

After center fails to sell at auction, current owner says he still plans to redevelop it

DEVELOPMENT | Scott Reeder

The future of the Town & Country Shopping Center on MacArthur Boulevard is unclear after the aging strip mall failed to sell at auction this month, but the owner of the property says he remains hopeful it will be redeveloped.

"I'm always optimistic because as a real estate developer, you have to be optimistic," David Bernstein, president of Miami-based Larkspur Properties, told *Illinois Times*.

Larkspur purchased the 260,000-square-foot shopping center in 2022. The investment firm, which specializes in distressed residential and commercial projects, was the top bidder at \$5.77 million.

The retail area, built in 1961, was Springfield's first outlying shopping center. At the time of the sale, it was 65% vacant.

Following the sale, then-Ward 7 Ald. Joe McMenamin told *Illinois Times* he had walked the site with Bernstein and was "very impressed" with his company's plans for the property. Bernstein's concept has called for building 40 to 50 apartments in a three-story complex that would be perpendicular to MacArthur Boulevard, creating more green space by leveling some storefronts and transforming the former Burlington Coat Factory store into climate-controlled units for indoor storage.

In November 2024, the Springfield Planning and Zoning Commission approved a conditional permitted use, which would allow apartments to be built on the site along with retail space.

But Michael Higgins, president of the MacArthur Boulevard Association, said little



Town & Country Shopping Center, built in 1961, was Springfield's first outlying shopping center. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

has been heard from the developer since then. When the property went up for auction again recently, local officials expressed dismay.

Higgins cited the recent opening of Scheels Sports Park at Legacy Pointe and planned widening and extension of MacArthur Boulevard by the Illinois Department of Transportation as key parts of the revitalization of the business corridor.

"Town & Country (redevelopment) would be a major piece of a lot of pieces going together," he said.

When he spoke with *IT* this month, Bernstein was mum about potential business partners or the strategy behind putting the shopping center on the auction block.

But McMenamin, who no longer serves on the city council but remains active in the MacArthur Boulevard Association, told *IT* in October when he spoke with Bernstein earlier this year the developer told him he was concerned inflation was raising the cost of the building supplies needed for redeveloping the site.

McMenamin and another MBA member spoke with Bernstein and was told a planned business partner dropped out, leaving him in the lurch.

Sometimes auctions are used by developers to identify potential co-investors in projects by setting the minimum selling price high and then contacting bidders in the

wake of the unsuccessful sale.

"I can't comment on that because there may be negotiations ongoing," Bernstein said. "The answer is to be determined. It obviously just happened, so we don't know the answer."

The property previously was owned by an investor group that included Springfield developer Corky Joyner and former city attorney Jim Zerkle. Ownership later transferred from Joyner and Zerkle's limited liability company to JPMorgan Chase before being sold to Larkspur Properties. □

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



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# Illinois' George Washington

Nathaniel Pope, the man who gave Chicago to Illinois

KROHE | James Krohe Jr.

Every December, Illinoisans celebrate the commonwealth's admission to the Union as the 21st state in 1818. Well, some do. Actually, hardly any do. Most Illinoisans seem reconciled to their membership in the commonwealth but seldom proud of it; a not insignificant number of downstaters hereabouts daydream about secession that might free them of that yoke and allow them to be reborn as Hoosiers. They must feel about Nathaniel Pope the way white Georgians feel about Lincoln.

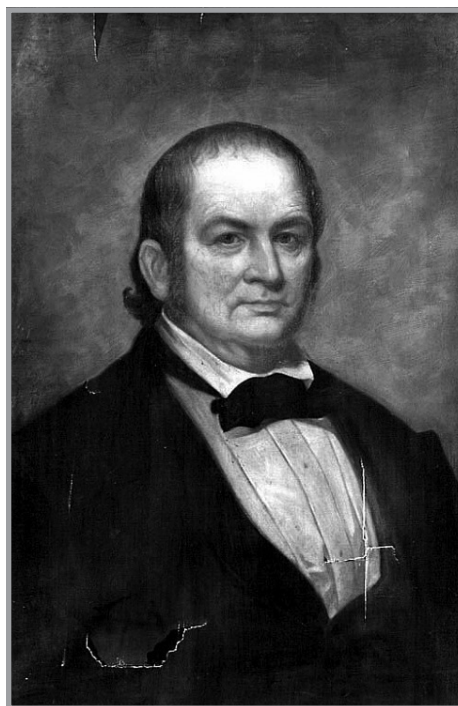
If they've heard the name of Nathaniel Pope at all. He was the portly Kentuckian who more than anyone was responsible for creating the modern, cosmopolitan, industrial Illinois the rest of us know and some of us love. Illinois was carved from the old Northwest Territory; Pope was the legislative delegate to Congress who negotiated the terms of admission, including, crucially, the borders of the new state.

Congress had suggested that the northern border of the new state extend west from the southern tip of Lake Michigan. Pope hadn't forgotten that French explorers as early as the 1670s had realized that a canal could easily link Lake Michigan at Chicago with the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers and ultimately the Mississippi and the world. Pope thus amended the statehood legislation in part to shift that border north to the 42° 30' parallel. That gave Illinois 43 miles of shoreline, including the spot where the Chicago River dribbled into the lake. As a result, most of what we know as northern Illinois was spared becoming southern Wisconsin.

When that canal was eventually built it made Chicago and Chicago made Illinois. But just as important to Pope as making Illinois an important state was keeping it free. Even in 1818 the smell of rebellion was in the air. As Gov. Thomas Ford would later explain, "If a large portion of [Illinois] could be made dependent upon the commerce and navigation of the great northern lakes connected as they are with the eastern States a rival interest would be created to check the wish for a western and southern [pro-slavery] confederacy. To accomplish this object effectually, it was not only necessary to give to Illinois . . . a considerable coast on Lake Michigan, with a country back of it sufficiently extensive to contain a population capable of exercising a decided influence upon the councils of the State."

It probably doesn't need to be pointed out that among those who wished for a pro-slavery western and southern confederacy were the many downstaters who hailed from the South, or that the people capable of exercising a decided influence upon Illinois' new government were the pro-Union emigrants likely to pour into the enlarged Illinois from the east. By giving Illinois Chicago and its hinterland, Pope gave Illinois to the North – and Lincoln to the nation.

Often dismissed as a sleazy bit of Illinois-style politics, Pope's triumph in Washington was in fact well-earned; Illinois College historian James E. Davis judged delegate Pope as "politically astute, focused and tireless." No one in Congress was bought off or bullied to pass Pope's amended statehood law, nor did



Nathaniel Pope. IMAGE COURTESY OF SI.EDU

Pope's actions pervert the aims of Congress regarding the development of the Northwest Territory. Yes, he persuaded the relevant congressional powers to shift the boundary; so did Indiana when it petitioned for statehood and for the same reason.

Pope's performance came closer to statecraft than mere politics. Might he be thought of as Illinois' George Washington perhaps? (Historian Robert Howard thought he even looked like Washington.) Like

Washington, Pope's ambition was for Illinois, not himself. Pope was satisfied to spend the rest of a quiet life on the federal bench and never entered politics save for an unsuccessful run for the U.S. Senate in 1824.

Perhaps for that reason Pope remains little known. The bookshelves groan under the weight of books about has-beens and never-shoulda-beens in Illinois politics and government, but we have no full-length scholarly biography of Pope. In spite of the fact that, as Howard put it, "few men have achieved as much for Illinois as Pope did," his memory is honored by being attached to one of the state's poorest and remotest counties.

A statue of Judge Pope in the Statehouse seems not enough of a tribute as it would put him in company of so many smaller men. Considering that Chicago wouldn't be in Illinois had it not been for Pope, the state's wise men might have named the State of Illinois' new main office building in downtown Chicago after Pope rather than for a careerist pol whose achievement was to shorten lines to get a driver's license by 10 minutes. Alas, Illinois often hasn't been able to distinguish its great citizens from its merely successful ones. □

*Mr. Krohe is the author of the award-winning Corn Kings & One-Horse Thieves: A Plain-spoken History of Mid-Illinois, a perfect holiday gift for people sick of the present.*

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Julie Benson and Casey Prather meet with an *Illinois Times* reporter to explain plans for a new sober living home that will focus on the LGBTQ+ community Credit: PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

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#### THANKS FOR HELPING

Julie Benson has been a voice for those in Springfield down on their luck for many years (“Sober living house for LGBTQ+ in the works,” Dec. 4). She has gone above and beyond her call of duty as a person caring for others without asking anything in return. She could have given up years ago, but that wasn’t in her heart to do.

Congratulations to Casey Prather for coming up from the bottom and trusting a person you didn’t know to help. May this next adventure be successful.

Monica Penman

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

#### A WIN FOR SPRINGFIELD

Hosting the opening of the Women’s Professional Baseball League will be amazing for Springfield (“Women’s Professional Baseball coming to Springfield,” Nov. 20). I hope the city does some amazing promoting in return. This event has to grab national attention if the League is to succeed. It is also a national spotlight for the city. So, get going on this, Springfield, and show the nation the importance of a professional women’s baseball league and make Springfield shine.

Colleen Lavin  
Springfield

#### A WIN FOR DOWNTOWN

This shop is remarkable – so many great, fresh options (“Food hub hits the spot,” Dec. 4). Salt Fork Food Works’ break and cheese selection is amazing. So happy to have them in our downtown!

Beth Ley

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

#### THINK LONG-TERM

I am a union member. I would have an opportunity to build this project (“Data center debates,” Dec. 11). I am against it.

Of course, union bosses want this project. It is a short-term employment opportunity. Time and again, we see short-term interest over long-term issues. The bosses aren’t concerned about the effects projects like these have. They don’t care about the loss of agricultural land. They do not care about the actual cost as long as there is a short-term work increase, which means dues paid to the union. It means they can say they’ve helped bring jobs in.

Bosses from all trades say, “Vote your paycheck.” That is a slave’s mentality. Vote your conscience, vote your morals, vote your values and vote with your children’s children’s

interests in mind.

Are these jobs at the data center really at a level for the local citizens? Are they low-level maintenance, or are they specialized high-level jobs, and can the local population supply the workers?

I love my union. I worked in a right-to-work state and there was no chance to move up to do better. I would have to say, though, the union leaders look at short-term gains and not a sustainable future.

Sean Brown

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

#### CREATE JOBS

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Ralph Billings

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

#### THANKS FOR INFO

Thank you to *IT* for this coverage. I appreciate being able to read all of the perspectives offered in the article and in the comments.

Sheryl Klein

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

## Grandma’s Thoughts on a Poem

It was a beautiful afternoon the day before Christmas. The house was colorfully decorated, the cafeteria dinner ready for the family of children, grandchildren and friends. The tall stately tree was glimmering with silver and colored light. The air was full of mystery and joy. All day little feet as well as larger ones were slipping in a side door, depositing mysterious packages around the tree. About three o’clock everything was in readiness I closed my eyes for a little rest. But opened them to take one last glance at the tree and surroundings. I was struck by the beauty of the packages done up in such lovely colorful paper and tied with gay ribbons. I thought, what beautiful paper is created and brought out just for one month of the year, just before Christmas, and disappears soon after. It is artistic, gay and colorful. I did not close my eyes again but instead took paper and pen and put down my thoughts about “The Beautiful Christmas Paper” and read to the children that night and they loved it. I submit the words to you.

Eunice Medley Trever Dougan  
(Jackie’s grandmother)

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# From planning to implementation

How the town of Normal revitalized its downtown and is building on success

GUESTWORK | Leah Wilson

Imagine a vibrant town center that serves as a hub of cultural and social activity. There's a beautiful, tree-lined roundabout and plaza in the middle of it all, with a water feature that serves as a splash pad for children on a summer day, and a nice spot to read a book or to catch up with friends. All the while, it dutifully purifies the town's stormwater. A multimodal transportation hub makes getting to the heart of downtown convenient and safe. Attractive storefronts with a variety of retail options invite eager shoppers. Wide sidewalks fringed with unique plantings invite pedestrians to explore. A full-service convention center is only steps away.

In 2000, the town of Normal dreamed it. Then they did it.

## A downtown going downhill

In 1999, downtown Normal was like a lot of other downtowns across the country. It had lost its shine. Historic buildings were showing their years. Many were in a state of disrepair, having lacked investment for a decade or more. Some suffered in the hands of absentee owners.

Marginal retail uses predominated. Smoke shops, tattoo parlors, piercing salons and a few restaurants primarily served the student population at Illinois State University, which is embedded in downtown.

There was a lot of turnover. Long-established retailers were leaving for the east side, where new commercial development was enlarging Normal's footprint with a combination of big box retailers and strip malls. Most non-student residents weren't venturing downtown.

"It was generally shabby," said Mark Peterson, who served as Normal's city manager for 30 years.

## The turnaround plan

The city council identified that the downtown needed an intervention and hired Farr Associates Architecture & Urban Design to codesign the downtown with the community. There were more than 60 public meetings — a herculean task in itself, but key to community buy-in, which was, at times, hard-fought. Farr Associates provided several options, ranging from modest in scope to ambitious.

The council aligned on the need to be bold, approving an ambitious project, said Peterson, knowing that "the clean-up, paint-up, patch-up, fix-up was a short-term solution that would just delay the decline."

The Downtown Renewal Plan was adopted in July 2000. The town had no debt, which put it in a great financial position for a major undertaking.



Following the revitalization of Normal's downtown, the town center includes a tree-lined roundabout and plaza, with a water feature that serves as a splash pad. PHOTO COURTESY FARR ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTURE & URBAN DESIGN

The town implemented a tax increment financing (TIF) district in 2003 to spur reinvestment, ultimately acquiring \$297 million in funding from a mix of federal, state and local sources. The financing included nearly \$85 million in bonded debt.

Peterson recalls a conversation with Mayor Gary Funk, who said he'd staked his political career on a pay-as-you-go philosophy. The planning consultant in the room said, "No developer is going to come in with a hope and a prayer that this kind of development is going to take place. You've got to do that up front." So, they did.

## Getting it done

Prioritizing projects was key, Peterson noted. "We completely removed almost all the streets and replaced all the underground utilities. Most of them were 50 to 100 years old. You know, it doesn't make sense to build new stuff on top of a public infrastructure that's falling apart. So, we bit that bullet, because we knew it would have to be done at some point."

Things got worse before they got better. "You couldn't use the front door of a business," Peterson said.

He described an intensive effort for the city's public relations director to visit businesses daily to check in and share updates. It was a strain, and a few businesses closed.

The Children's Discovery Museum, which Normal owns and the museum operates in

partnership with the town, was an early win that set the bar for development. The Marriott Convention Center was another milestone.

Engineer Wayne Aldrich was the downtown development director. He said that a plan is only as good as its implementation. "You have to have the vision, the leadership, and the fortitude to get things done," he said.

Aldrich emphasized the role of city staff and professional consultants in the implementation process. "Politicians can come and go, but staff stick it out," he said.

Virtually every significant project involved a public-private partnership. There were inducements for developers including TIF, façade grants, discounted parking and cash for operating.

"The numbers have to work," Peterson said. "That's the bottom line. The cost of construction is much more in an urban area than in a cornfield."

## The impact

Mercy Davison was the city planner hired to undertake the project. She is currently Normal's director of planning and zoning.

"There are more people in Uptown than there have been in many, many decades. Property values are way up. Tax revenue is way up. It's where people take visitors. Uptown is basically 'the place to be' — just as we had hoped," she said.

Mayor Chris Koos, now serving his sixth

term, said: "The initial plan led to many businesses locating in Uptown Normal and the construction of two hotels and a multimodal transportation center. The Amtrak station in Uptown Normal is one of the busiest stations in Illinois, second only to the station in Chicago. In 2025, Uptown Normal is the most visited area of the community, and the central business district continues to grow."

## Building on success

A quote on Normal's website reads: "At the Town, we have long held to the tenet of 'planning our work and working our plan.' It's the foundation of all we do."

It is clear that is true, and that Normal continues to take action. Mayor Koos highlighted the construction of an underpass, which will provide a safer connection to both sides of the railroad tracks for pedestrians, bicyclists and Amtrak passengers. Connecting the north and south plazas is expected to further enhance economic development, giving residents and visitors alike more reasons to head Uptown. □

*Leah Wilson is the executive director of Kidzeum in downtown Springfield. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in geography, with undergrad emphasis on Geographic Information Systems (GIS). She became interested in Normal's revitalization after a visit to the Children's Discovery Museum in Uptown.*



# Congressional remap unlikely

POLITICS | Rich Miller

The two most intense state legislative pressure campaigns I've witnessed both ended in failure.

Back in 2017, Gov. Bruce Rauner tried everything he could think of to stop legislative Republicans from voting to increase the income tax to about where it was right before he took office for his one and only term.

Both political and personal threats were made against a large number of Republicans. They'd be primaried out of office if they crossed Rauner, they were warned. At least one was told that some details about their after-hours behavior might somehow find its way back to their district.

The political atmosphere was ginned up against the Republicans to the point where one Republican House member revealed that someone had come to his home's front door to leave a threatening written message.

They mostly stuck to their guns and Rauner lost. But quite a few of those "traitors" decided not to run again. Rauner ended up losing his reelection in a landslide.

A few years later, Rauner's former nemesis House Speaker Michael Madigan turned his allies loose on a group of 19 Democratic House members who refused to vote for his reelection.

Members were threatened in all sorts of ways. Some felt physically intimidated. Many were promised nasty and well-funded primary races if they didn't reverse course.

That didn't work either and Madigan had to step aside after 50 years in the House, 36 years as House speaker and 23 years as the state Democratic Party chair. He's now in prison.

But as crazy as those two fights were, they didn't come close to what just happened in the Indiana state Senate.

As you likely know by now, a majority of the Senate's Republican super-majority sided with Democrats and overwhelmingly voted down a bill that would have redrawn the state's congressional maps to give the Republicans every U.S. House seat in the state.

The bill had been pushed hard by President Donald Trump and the White House. The idea is their way of protecting against what's expected to be a very good electoral year for Democrats in 2026.

President Trump threatened to field primary opponents against any Republican who dared cross him. Several members received anonymous threats of violence. And the remap bill's sponsor and the state's Republican lieutenant governor both said that

the president had threatened to pull all federal funding from Indiana if he didn't get his way.

An elderly senator claimed her grandson and his basketball team each received negative text messages about her.

Yeah, things got weirdly creepy. Illinois has nothing on that.

Gov. JB Pritzker had vowed that if Indiana passed a redistricting bill, Illinois would follow suit and redraw its own maps to give the Democrats at least one more seat. It was unclear whether he could gather the votes for such a ploy, but it was pretty good political rhetoric. And, who knows, it might've worked. But the point is now moot.

But I've been saying for a long time that I didn't think a mid-decade congressional remap bill could pass here. The Black Caucus didn't want it, and their members have enough votes to stop it.

And even though Pritzker refused to take the idea off the table after the Indiana vote, I still don't see it happening here.

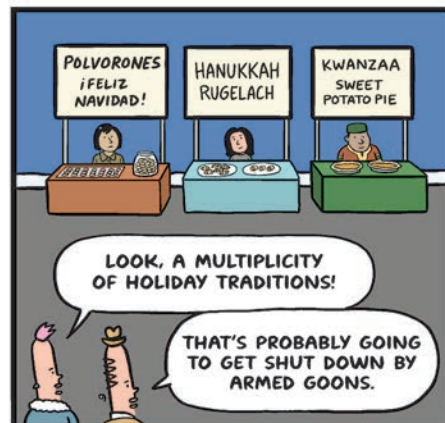
The Indiana Republicans' arguments against the bill were sound, not only because they were under so much pressure from DC, but because it just wasn't the right thing to do.

Indiana's map is already quite gerrymandered, and some complained a new map would've expanded the influence of wealthy Indianapolis over rural counties.

Illinois' current congressional map is even more heavily gerrymandered than Indiana's, and a new map would further expand the influence of urban and suburban areas over rural areas. Plus, there's also that fairness thing. When is enough enough?

I seriously doubt Pritzker will be calling a reluctant legislature into special session if another "red" state steps up because he has bigger fish to fry in the coming spring. And no way will he ever risk alienating legislative Democrats anywhere close to the way Indiana Gov. Mike Braun has declared open war on his own Republican senators.

Maybe Pritzker should just use some of his vast wealth to contribute heavily to the underfunded grassroots Missouri campaign to place a measure on their ballot that would reverse its Republican remap, which could, under Missouri law, pause the new map until the public votes. More than enough petitions were already submitted, but they'll need help with legal fees to counter the coming pushback. □



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Springfield will hold a Joint Review Board meeting on December 22, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. in the Carnegie North Room at Lincoln Library at 326 South 7th Street.

The purpose of this meeting is to give an overview of the Tax Increment Financing Annual Report for the fiscal year ending in February 28, 2025.

If you have any questions, feel free to call our office at (217) 789-2377.





# Kids with many needs have few options

But some parents question care of children at Hope's residential facilities

**GROUP HOMES | Dilpreet Raju**

The family of a nonverbal 11-year-old boy with autism who lives at a Hope Learning Academy residential home called *Illinois Times* in late August, detailing how the child, Noah, was admitted to HSHS St. John's Hospital in Springfield with a blood infection and bruises all over his body. He stayed at the hospital for multiple days.

Jeff Otte, Noah's father, told *Illinois Times* that a caseworker instructed him to contact

the newspaper and the governor's office about potential neglect at Hope's residential units. Noah has a tendency to injure himself, and his father said he was unsure if residential staff were properly protecting Noah from himself.

He told *IT* dozens of reports filed about his son in the past three years or so – by staff mandated to report any signs of physical harm – allege various problems, injuries and neglect by Hope residential staff. Otte did not provide

copies of the reports to *IT*, citing legal and privacy concerns.

"This just keeps getting worse and worse, and then they try and fix it and it just keeps getting worse. We're going around in circles now," he said of his attempts to get Noah relocated to a different residential facility. "We've even tried to take it through the (Department of Human Services) in the state and we keep hitting roadblocks."

Otte said it's not feasible for him to care for Noah himself, although the ultimate "goal is to get him home."

Otte, a retired firefighter who lives near Joliet, said he now works as a transportation specialist for organ transplant teams in Illinois, a job which requires him to be on-call for 24 hours at a time. In addition to Noah, he has six other children.

While Otte expressed concern with the care



his son is receiving, Hope Learning Academy is an option he said is rare in Illinois: residential living for children with autism who require extra care. There are only eight residential facilities in the entire state that accept these children, and Otte said they all have waiting lists.

Hope was founded in 1957 after Dr. Charles Jordan and his wife couldn't find a school anywhere in the U.S. to serve their daughter, Judith Ann, who had multiple disabilities. By 1963, Hope had moved from a modest house to its present 26-acre campus near Lake Springfield. The nonprofit opened its first group home in 1999. In addition to the family-style homes it operates throughout the community, Hope provides a variety of outpatient services to children with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities. Other programs include The Autism Clinic at Hope, Therapy Relief at Hope, The Illinois Crisis Prevention Network and The Autism Program of Illinois.

A Freedom of Information Act request from *IT* for the corresponding police report associated with Noah's August hospitalization was rejected by the Springfield Police Department on the basis that redacting involved names "would not properly protect his/her identity."

Otte's lawyers did provide *IT* with the police report, which did not indicate an investigation would be opened. The report outlines how a DCFS caseworker reached out to police after seeing bruises on areas of Noah's body that the caseworker did not believe Noah easily could reach.

The police report states that Springfield officer Brady Parrish visited Hope's main campus the same day Noah was hospitalized. There, according to the redacted police report, staff told Parrish about Noah's behaviors and tendency to injure himself and gave explanations for the unusual bruising.

CEO Clint Paul also informed Parrish that Hope manages 15 residential homes in Sangamon County and "each home is manned by two or more workers at any given time with no more than six kids in one (REDACTED)," the report reads. The officer noted, "I did not have to make a DCFS report due to (REDACTED) contacting me and already having an open case for (REDACTED). I have nothing further at this time."

When reached by phone Aug. 27 and asked about the hospitalization of Noah one day prior, a Hope Learning Academy employee told a reporter, "We don't have a comment at this time."

Since then, *IT* has spoken to parents of four other children who currently reside, or used to stay, at Hope residential homes and reviewed hundreds of pages of DCFS investigations and hospital records provided by parents of children currently living at Hope facilities. Some of the records had portions redacted.

An anonymous complainant filed a DCFS



Noah, a nonverbal 11-year-old boy with autism, has lived in a Hope residential home for the past three years. His family is now searching for a new placement, citing what they believe are various examples of neglect or abuse by the staff. Hope said it is not able to provide the level of care that Noah needs, given his history of self-harm. PHOTO COURTESY OTTE FAMILY

report on May 8, 2021, alleging "multiple sanitary concerns" and understaffing at one of Hope's group homes. The complainant said "the bedrooms are covered in feces and urine on the walls, floor and beds," "the bathroom is also covered in feces and urine," and that the staff would leave it there for days rather than cleaning it up. "This has been a continuous problem for months now," the complaint alleges.

The report was determined to be unfounded, but the resulting investigation depicts the challenges of staffing and caring for children with significant needs around the clock. The same day the complaint was filed, a DCFS investigator visited the Hope home named in the allegation and reported that "while some issues were observed, it was not to the degree that it is unsafe for the children to be there," according to records obtained by *IT*.

DCFS visited the residence again in the days and weeks after the complaint was filed. During a visit three days later, a caseworker wrote: "the home smelled strongly of human urine and human feces." One month later, DCFS investigators following up on the same case spoke to a Hope nurse who said residential staff were not properly administering medications, according to the report.

Some parents agreed to speak to an *IT* reporter on background but requested anonymity because their children still live in group homes operated by Hope. The parents provided *IT* with copies of five DCFS reports filed between 2020-2024, each two to three dozen pages long. Two reports were found to be "indicated," meaning DCFS concluded an instance of abuse had occurred. One resulted in the employee responsible for the abuse being fired. *IT* is not making these reports public in order to protect the identities of the victims.

Hope's guidelines on how staff should intervene when a child is exhibiting erratic behavior is outlined in one of the DCFS reports and specifically forbids corporal punishment. The guidelines also state that an employee can be discharged for child abuse or neglect, mistreatment of a client or conduct which endangers the safety or welfare of the clients.

Otte said he's worried about the well-being of other children living in Hope's residential facilities.

"We need to expose the problem because I don't think we're the only family," he said. "Someone's life is on the line, and I don't want it to be Noah. I don't want it to be anyone; I want it to be stopped before that."

Limited options for care

Missouri resident Tess Cook-Gurcio said her son, Luke, needed to attend a residential program, as in-home care became unaffordable and inadequate for his needs. While she faced the same challenges in trying to care for her son as Otte, Cook-Gurcio said she was very pleased with the residential environment at Hope.

"He was a big guy, so by the time he was 9, it was really tough for our in-home staff – that we were paying out of pocket for anywhere from 25 to 40 hours a week – to keep him safe," Cook-Gurcio said. "There were a couple times where he took me down. I managed to break a tailbone one time, managed to pull my shoulder out of (its) joint and he didn't intend to be aggressive, he just was so impulsive."

She and her husband ended up paying \$200,000 out of pocket for Luke's behavioral therapy services before he entered Hope at the age of 9. She said they lived with her parents and saved rigorously to afford Luke's care.

"We were exceptionally blessed. There are people who have a lot fewer resources, who are in much more dire straits when it comes to trying to get help," she said. "We have so much support, and it was still hard to survive even with great supports."

Cook-Gurcio said the decision to send Luke to a residential home hundreds of miles away was far from an easy one, but a choice that many parents across the country face.

"It's really hard for a lot of people to imagine... (you're) living with someone who your entire household revolves around, and how mentally exhausting it is to do 24/7, year-round," she said. "It's an exceptionally difficult decision for parents, even when you do it as thoughtfully as you possibly can... I did about six months of therapy before Luke entered Hope school and then for a while after," she said. "That was a very tough time in life for us to have to make that decision, but he's done amazing. He is Mr. Happy-go-lucky, as long as he has Wi-Fi and orange Gatorade and some chips, life is awesome. I think Luke is probably happier than most of the people I know."

During his time at Hope, Luke would spend most weekends at home, with his grandparents around as additional help. He aged out of the program when he turned 22, like all other residents.

Luke, now 24 years old and over 6 feet tall, attends a day program in Jacksonville and is in a good spot, his mother said. She praised Hope for instilling good social skills.

"Overwhelmingly, he learned so many good skills there," Cook-Gurcio said. "Now he transitioned into an adult program, a day program where they do different kinds of odd jobs and he seems to really enjoy that. He can't be a guy who doesn't have something to do. He needs a lot of structure and he needs any kind of task to engage him."

Diane Hudson, a fellow parent of a child with special needs, said her experience with





**Diane Hudson with her daughter, Brionna, who lived in various Hope residential homes from the age of 9 to 22. While Hudson said she had many concerns about the quality of care in the residential homes, Brionna now attends Hope's adult day program, which her mother describes as excellent. PHOTO COURTESY DIANE HUDSON**

Hope was far different from Cook-Guercio's. She shared Otte's concerns around staffing and housing conditions. Hudson's daughter, Brionna, lived in various Hope residential homes from age 9 until the day she turned 22 last year.

"Us together don't have enough fingers and toes to keep count of all the DCFS cases and allegations," Hudson told an *IT* reporter, referring to the treatment of her daughter during that time.

At first, Hope seemed like a godsend, with no residential programs upstate near where she lived in Kankakee County able to provide care for her daughter. Central Illinois Service Access, an advocacy network for people with disabilities, told *IT* there are only eight providers in the state that offer residential programming for children with disabilities.

Hope is the sole provider in Sangamon and surrounding counties. Other counties that have childhood residential programming include DuPage, McHenry, Perry, Will and Winnebago, while there are just two such providers in Cook County.

"The things that were up there, there were long waiting lists. I was in a situation where I had to go back to work, and I couldn't go back to work because I didn't have anybody to take care of her... initially it was the only option," Hudson said. "Who wants to move their 9-year-old into a group home, right? But when you don't have a choice, you just don't have a choice."

It was an immensely difficult decision that

hundreds of other parents of children at Hope also had to make. But Hudson said she was impressed with the home Brionna originally lived in, which was located on Hope's main campus at 15 Hazel Dell Lane.

"It was a brand-new house that was just built, beautiful. You'd want to live there, it was so beautiful," she said.

Eventually, Hudson grew tired of driving hours across the state to check on her daughter, so six years ago she moved to central Illinois.

"I moved down here to be closer," she said. "I felt like I couldn't supervise the things that were going on. There were always incidents happening and so we packed up and moved down here."

Hudson said the quality of care that Brionna received depended almost entirely on which residential house she was placed at. At first, she said, it was alright.

"It wasn't too bad; I became good friends with a lot of the girls that worked in

the house and formed a good relationship with them. I feel like for the most part, they cared for her fairly well," she said. "Not like I would care for her, but considering the situation."

When the second house Brionna lived at closed and she was subsequently moved, "things began to get worse. The house was constantly filthy and unkept, she would have dirt caked on the bottom of her feet that you could scrape off with a butter knife. It was so bad – stains in her underwear, not being bathed."

She said sometimes when she made calls to her daughter, she would hear staffers swearing and yelling at other children in the background. Her mother said Brionna had multiple injuries during her time at Hope, including burns on her fingers from touching a hot stove while unsupervised and cuts after she reached for loose razors. She was hospitalized once for a separate incident where she needed stitches on her head after staffers informed her that Brionna fell onto a chair, Hudson said.

"There's worse places than Hope," Hudson said. "Just because there's worse places to go doesn't mean you shouldn't raise your standards and be better... They get a lot of money from the state to take care of these children and they don't."

### **Hope's leadership and finances**

Hope receives millions in state grants each year and reported almost 550 employees in its most recent tax filing.

The structure of Hope, at least for tax

purposes, is spread among four nonprofits that file separately with the IRS. According to the most recent tax filings, the four arms of Hope reported nearly \$60 million in assets, though it's unclear if any assets are shared. Hope School Foundation, the nonprofit's fundraising arm, reported almost \$15 million in liquid assets.

Kathy Carmody is the CEO of The Institute on Public Policy for People with Disabilities and leader of the first Illinois project to conduct community-based support services in 1988. She told *IT* that building up a cash reserve has become the focus of most nonprofits.

"The turbulence of the [impending cuts to] Medicaid funding and the turbulence generated through COVID – there's a lot of instability. This is just industry-wide, it's not even specific to Illinois, and I think organizations are realizing the importance of managing their businesses," she said. "Now, that's going to require some assets that they have in liquidity."

Carmody, who advises multiple social service organizations that support individuals with developmental disabilities through The Institute on Public Policy, said she has not worked with Hope but said its reputation is positive among social service circles.

"What I will say in defense of any agency that has a strong asset base is that they're a strong organization," she said. "The general perception is we want agencies to have bake sales to pay their staff and you can't run a business on a bake sale; we are past those days."

Hope's website notes that the organization created its first 10-year strategic plan in 2015 and grew from serving fewer than 1,000 individuals in 2014 to more than 5,000 by 2021. In addition to its residential facilities, Hope operates a vocational academy which provides job training and in-house employment programs. Some participants in Springfield work with a job coach to find placement in community-based employment.

Brionna aged out of Hope's residential program last year and now attends a day program run by Hope for adults with disabilities, which Hudson praised.

"They have an adult day program that just opened in May – completely night and day from the residential program. Things are going well," she said. "She's got a one-on-one (worker) there. They do different activities and provide services, stuff like that, and then she goes home, so I don't have any complaints from the day program."

Hudson said the day program doesn't excuse the residential home settings she witnessed and that Hope's leadership ought to be overhauled if they're knowingly allowing filthy living conditions.

"They need new management, they need new administration, they need people in there that actually care about their jobs and not line their pockets with whatever they're getting because it's not fair to those kids," she said.

Paul, the current CEO, made almost \$400,000 in 2024, according to the nonprofit's tax filings. He assumed the position after the prior CEO, Karen Foley, was placed on administrative leave in 2014 following an abuse incident that prompted Hope to adopt new trainings for its employees.

*Illinois Times* reached out to Hope multiple times over several weeks before receiving a response from a public relations firm. *IT* requested information regarding current enrollment and staffing for the residential program, protocols for intervening when children are engaged in self-injurious behavior, protocols for responding to DCFS investigations and clarification on fundraising, among other things. None were directly addressed by Hope's statement:

"For nearly seven decades, Hope has proudly served individuals with developmental disabilities and behavioral disorders, providing compassionate, person-centered care that consistently exceeds all regulatory standards," the statement reads. "We take any concerns about our residential programs very seriously and act swiftly to ensure a thorough and transparent resolution. Hope's programs continually surpass rigorous standards in staff training, environment of care, crisis intervention and quality assurance."

"Hope remains open to dialogue with the media, families and the broader community. We welcome opportunities to share our ongoing quality improvements, success stories and the dedication of our staff. Our doors are always open to constructive engagement grounded in fairness and shared concern for those we serve."

Otte spoke with Hope Learning Academy staff soon after his son's hospitalization in August. He said the nonprofit's representatives outlined a plan for one-on-one care at all times Otte had believed was already in place.

Hope petitioned the Illinois Department of Human Service's Division of Developmental Disabilities to allow the Springfield nonprofit to release Noah from its residential placement in September and then again in October, according to letters provided to *IT*.

"Noah exhibits extreme self-injurious behaviors of such intensity and frequency that Hope cannot ensure his safety," the Oct. 29 letter reads. "Additionally, the relationship between our clinical team and Noah's guardian has become untenable. Hope has received multiple letters from Mr. Otte's attorneys threatening legal action and issuing litigation holds. More recently, Mr. Otte has contacted local media alleging mistreatment, despite our transparent communication that Hope cannot meet Noah's acute medical and behavioral needs."

Otte said he's unsure of where his son will end up, but worries that he will be transferred to a facility out of state.

"He has to go somewhere," Otte said. □





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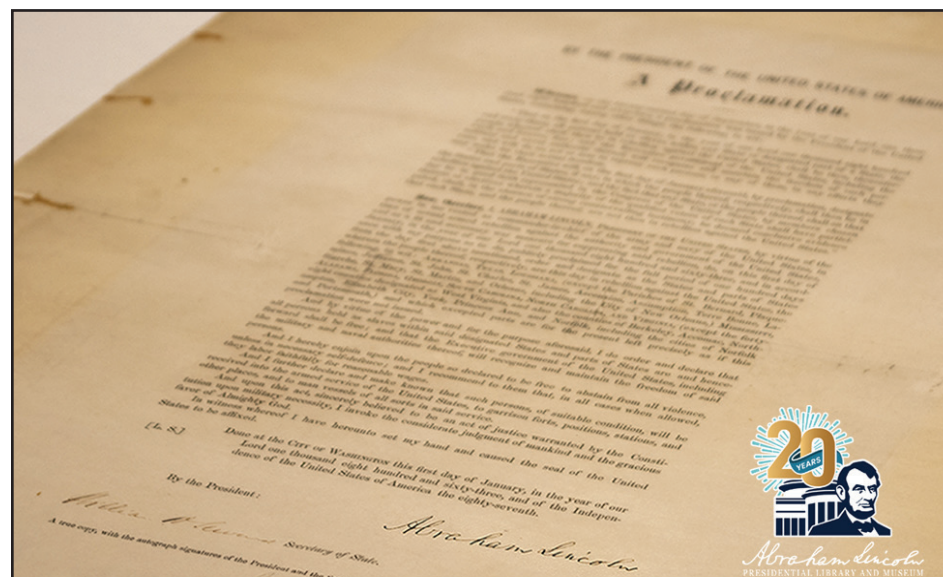
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**CHRISTMAS EVE AT WESTMINSTER**

5:00 p.m. Children's Service and Pageant  
7:30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols with Candle Lighting

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
533 South Walnut Street  
Springfield, Illinois



# A culinary pilgrimage

Discovering the art of pintxos (appetizers) in the Basque Country of Spain

FOOD | Peter Glatz

As I emerged from my late adolescence into early adulthood, I harbored dreams of traveling the world. But like the derailed plans of George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*, my hippie-inspired dream of backpacking through Europe had to be put on hold. Marriage, children and the practical demands of paying off student loan debt rerouted my life down a more responsible path. My passion for global cuisine and exploring distant lands was, for a long time, an appetite I could only satisfy vicariously through books and television, especially Anthony Bourdain's culinary travelogues. Inspired by Bourdain's shows, which for so long fueled my deep desire to travel and eat fine food, I finally fulfilled my dream after nearly half a century of waiting.

This fall, I embarked on my long-anticipated culinary pilgrimage, beginning in the Spanish coastal city of San Sebastián. This small city is famous, in part, because it was the only place Anthony Bourdain visited three times during the 16-year run of his travel shows. With lush green cliffs that descend into surf-friendly, turquoise waters, San Sebastián is a small city in the Basque Country, a region stretching across the northern coast of Spain and into the southwest of France. The Basque people are known for their unique language, Euskara, which predates the Roman Empire and is unrelated to any other language in Europe. San Sebastián is renowned worldwide for its gastronomy, boasting the highest concentration of Michelin-starred restaurants per square meter in Europe.

Although we splurged on an incredible (and budget-breaking) meal at three-Michelin-starred Arzak, our most unforgettable food experience was going on a Basque bar crawl, known as a txikiteo (chi-kee-tay-o). A txikiteo involves bar hopping from one establishment to the next, having one small drink and a little snack known as a pintxo. Pintxos (pronounced PEEN-choss) are sophisticated, elaborate appetizers often regarded as the elevated relatives of Spanish tapas. These small, artful snacks are characterized by the toothpick that typically skewers the ingredients onto a piece of bread, setting them apart from traditional, larger and more shareable tapas. They are generally eaten while standing at the bar.

On this memorable evening, we were accompanied by Gabriella Ranelli, who was Anthony Bourdain's local guide during his three San Sebastián episodes. Gabriella, an American expat (and very fortuitously, a friend of a friend), is an expert on Basque culinary culture and the author of the cookbook *Arzak + Arzak*. We were to meet up with Gabriella at Federiko Taberna, a pintxos bar located on a



Friday night txikiteo (A wine bar crawl with appetizers) in San Sebastián, Spain. PHOTO BY ANN SHAFFER GLATZ

crowded, narrow cobblestone pedestrian street in San Sebastián's historic Old Town. Though it was drizzling, its outdoor stand-up table was fully occupied, and the bar inside was packed. While waiting for Gabriella, I ducked into a hat shop across the street and bought a Basque beret to keep my head dry. Through the crowd, we spotted Gabriella, whom we recognized from the Bourdain episodes.

After sharing introductions, Gabriella explained that these bars are always crowded and standing-room-only. She worked her way up to the bar and returned with small glasses of txakoli, a local, slightly effervescent white wine, and mini spider crab tartlets. She explained the tradition: "You meet up with your friends, enjoy a drink and a pintxo, and then move on to the next bar. It's a culinary journey and social event rolled into one."

Following this, we moved on to the next bar. The rain had stopped, and the bar was crowded, so Gabriella instructed us to wait outside while she brought out more txakoli and small bowls of risotto con Idiazábal, a creamy orzo dish with Basque sheep's milk cheese.

The lively street teemed with pintxo bars, their counters showcasing a spectacular array of cold pintxos – everything from tortilla de patatas to elaborate seafood and meat creations. Hot pintxos, meanwhile, were ordered from a chalkboard menu and cooked fresh. Prices ranged from \$3 to \$6 a piece. This engaging ritual – a single glass of wine, one pintxo, then moving on to the next bar – lasted for three hours. A txikiteo is much more than just a bar crawl; it is a cultural immersion, a communal dining experience, and a vibrant celebration of authentic Basque regional cuisine.

## The Gilda

The Gilda, perhaps the most iconic pintxo, is a simple skewer of olive, anchovy and pickled guindilla pepper. It is named after Rita Hayworth's "salty, green and spicy" character in the 1946 film *Gilda*.

Makes 4

Ingredients:

8 pickled guindilla peppers  
8 green pitted manzanilla olives

4 oil-packed anchovy fillets  
Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling  
4 4-inch wooden skewers

Preparation:

Cut the stems off the peppers. Cut each pepper in half cross-wise.

With the skewer, pierce one olive through the center, followed by two pieces of the pepper. Add an anchovy, threading it into an "S" shape. Add two more pieces of pepper and finish with another olive.

## Tortilla de patatas

A Spanish tapas bar classic, this omelette is frequently served in mini portions as a pintxo offering.

Ingredients:

6 large waxy boiling potatoes  
1 large onion, thinly sliced  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
6 eggs  
Kosher salt, black pepper, and smoked paprika to taste

Preparation:

Preheat the broiler.

Boil or steam the potatoes until tender enough to be easily pierced with a knife. Once cool enough, peel the potatoes and slice them into 1/4-inch-thick pieces. Spread the slices out to cool completely.

Heat the oil in a 9- or 10-inch non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the onions and a pinch of salt, then sauté. Cook until the onions are tender and translucent, taking care not to let them brown. Finally, remove the skillet from the heat and allow the contents to cool completely.

Crack the eggs into a bowl and add 1/2 teaspoon of salt. Beat the mixture vigorously with a whisk until frothy, with no visible streaks of white.

Gently stir the potatoes into the egg mixture with a rubber spatula. Let the mixture rest for five to 10 minutes.

Pour the egg and potato mixture into the skillet. Stir it briefly to ensure the potatoes are evenly distributed among the onions. Reduce the heat to medium and cook for two minutes without stirring.

Once the underside of the tortilla is a solid mass, move it to the broiler and check it often. After a solid "crust" forms on top, mix the cooked surface into the liquid egg mixture underneath, then return to the broiler. Repeat this process until the tortilla is fully cooked.

Garnish with a sprinkle of smoked paprika, slice into wedges and serve warm or at room temperature. □





Paiger plays at Buzz Bomb Brewing Company this Friday night.

# Wrapping up holiday music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

As we slide on through our last weekend before the big holiday, the happenings keep coming, including make-up gigs from last weekend's arctic blast performance destabilization situation. With a nearly 50-degree difference in temps and no snow, let's go with a ho, ho, ho to see what we have to know in order to go enjoy a show or so.

Our Thursdays are slowing down (next one is actually Christmas with New Year's Day the week after), but we have a few gifts left upcoming. I spy Mike Metz and Around the Bend doing the customer appreciation party at The Bird Tavern, Mother Road Diner featuring the fun and friendly Afternoon Delight duo of Mandy Rose and Tricia Giacomini and It's All About Wine hosting an encore performance of Elvis Himself, Amy Battles and yours truly doing a bunch of songs of the season, along with the usual assortment of open mics and karaoke nights scattered about the town.

Friday never disappoints us for live entertainment and we have an overload with the nice weather and holiday excitement ahead. First off, let's head back to Danenberger Family Vineyard for the rescheduled Happy Hollowdays show by The Deep Hollow with all the trimmings intact to rock and roll the season, TDH style.

We have a good variety of solo/duo acoustic performers including Joel Honey at Boone's, Tom & Geoff at Butternut Hut, Avery Kern at The Shed (Pawnee) and Ella Gibson at Bar Bella. Bands on the run around town Friday include Rezzin8 riding high at Weebles, Hollow Creek streaming into Locals (Pawnee) and Chris Camp & His Blues Ambassadors negotiating fun times at Lime Street.

Let's take a pause in the cause to bring the sad news of Buzz Bomb Brewing Company shutting down after a wonderful run of fun,

house brews and lots of live music over the last eight years. According to reporting in our *Springfield Business Journal*, the sagging economy, slow recovery from the pandemic and the Adams Street fire just took a toll on the business side of things. Doors will close on Jan. 1, so we've got less than two weeks left to go enjoy one of the best spaces anywhere. This Friday, check out Paiger doing a sweet solo show and Smokestacks blues-ing down on Saturday, plus a few more events ahead before the final New Year's Eve send-off party. So long, Buzz Bomb, and we all thank you for all the good stuff you've done for downtown and the Springfield scene.

In happier bar news, the Curve Inn takes this weekend to celebrate the birthday of Ric "Skippy" Major, sound man extraordinaire and keeper of the Curve's incredible sound stage. Skip's story of a life in live music spans some 50 years (what?), from helping out Len Trumper in the 70s, to touring with regional bands in the 80s, all the way through owning a recording studio and running house sound systems at several of the top venues around. Mr. Major picked some fav groups for his birthday bash with Soul Experience movin' 'n' groovin' on Friday and a double bill of Broken Stone and Brandy Kristin Band bringing it all back home on Saturday during the 217 Boozers Bash. Happy birthday, my friend. See you soon behind the board for a while longer.

Saturday and Sunday are, believe it or not, chockful of all kinds of locally sourced entertainment in Springfield and surrounding towns. Please take the time to peruse our accurate, extensive and informative listings, then choose to enjoy the winter holidays while soaking up the pleasures of plentiful live music. □



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Saturday, Dec. 20	Sunday, Dec. 21
12:00 - 1:00: Kids arts & crafts	12:00 - 1:00: Country Brunch \$20 RSVP
1:00 - 2:00: Music by Curt Smith	1:00 - 2:30: Christmas Performance by Amy Benton
2:00 - 4:00: Santa & The Grinch	2:30 - 4:00: Photos w/ Santa & Sleigh

**Festival of Christmas Trees continues both days (Thanks Sponsors!)**

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## MUSIC

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

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

## Thursday Dec 18

**Karaoke Night with DJ Nattie Beats**  
Benderz, Auburn, 8pm

**Karaoke Night with DJ McLovin**  
Bunkers Bar, Illiopolis, 7-10:30pm

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

**Open mic with Bob the Brewer**  
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur, 6:30-10pm

**Karaoke**  
Goodfellas Pub, 8pm.

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

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

**Karaoke**  
Lock, Stock and Barrel, Decatur, 9pm.

**Afternoon Delight**  
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 6-9pm

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

**Around the Bend with Mike Metz**  
The Bird Tavern, 8pm-12am

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

**Karaoke**  
The Topsy Toad, 8pm-12am

## Friday Dec 19

**Ella Gibson**  
Bar Bella, 7-9pm

**Joel Honey**  
Boone's, 5:30-8:30pm

**Tom & Geoff**  
Butternut Hut, 6-8:30pm

**Paiger**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

**Soul Experience**  
Curve Inn, 6:30-9:30pm

**Ben Bedford**  
Dana-Thomas House, 5-6:30pm

**The Deep Hollow**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 7pm

**Branded**  
Duke & Joannie's Saloon, Chandlerville, 7pm

**Zashed, Blistered Spirit, Porcupine, Black Glove, Severance**  
Dumb Records, 7pm

**Karaoke**  
Foxhole Pub N Grub, Lincoln, 8pm-12am

**it Harlem Hayfield with Bob Besser, Ashley Riley and Marble Teeth**  
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7pm

**Karaoke with Jeremy from Starlight Jams Karaoke**  
The Grainery, Pleasant Plains, Third Friday of every month, 7-11pm.

**Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors**  
Lime Street Cafe, 7-10:30pm

**Hollow Creek**  
Locals Bar, Pawnee, 8-11pm

**Karaoke**  
The Lumpia House, 5-11pm

**Karaoke**  
Pickles Package and Pub, Pawnee, 9pm-2am

**Avery Kern**  
The Shed, Pawnee, 8-11pm

**Rezzin8**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7pm

## Saturday Dec 20

**Double H Karaoke**  
American Legion Post 32, 7-11pm

**The 4 County Band**  
AMVETS Post 100, Jacksonville, 8pm

**Chicago Farmer**  
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm and Dec. 21, 6pm

**Seager Shymansky**  
Boone's, 6-9pm

**Avery Kern**  
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 8-11pm

**99 Proof**  
Bunkers Bar, Illiopolis, 7-10pm

**Smokestacks**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

**OAT**  
Cafe Amulet, Petersburg, 3-6pm

**Robbie Mitchell Band**  
Camouflage Bar, VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30-10:30pm

**Jet Trio and friends**  
Casey's Pub, 6:30-9:30pm

**Broken Stone and Brandy Kristin Band**  
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

**Rich Hogan**  
Da Burg Bar & Grill, Warrensburg, 3-6pm

**2nd Street Harmony**  
DH Brown's, 9pm-12am

**Joel Honey**  
Golden Hour Bake House, Springfield, 2-4pm

**Dan Wilson with Larry Watson**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

**Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors**  
Lime Street Cafe, 7-10:30pm

**Kortney Leatherwood**  
Legendary Small Town Trading Co., Taylorville, 5-8pm

**Pizzazz**  
Lock, Stock and Barrel, Decatur, 7-10pm

**Avery Kern**  
Lucky's on the Square, Petersburg, 2pm

**Ace Estranged**  
Maddy's Tavern, Divernon, 8-11pm

**it Hippies of the Heartland**  
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 6-9pm

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

**Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas**  
Oogie and JJ's Bar, Glenarm, 5pm

**Jaxon Dion**  
Patriots Pub, Waverly, 8pm



Avery Kern will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday at Lucky's on the Square in Petersburg.

**Ruf Edgz**  
Pier 55 Lounge, 8pm

**NIL8, Crash Planet, Master Bastard, Short Notice**  
Pizza Records, Jacksonville, 6:30pm

**Karaoke by JCB Entertainment**  
The Range Bourbon & Brew, Chatham, 8pm-12am

**Lick Creek**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 8pm

**Karaoke**  
Silver Sevens Gaming Pub & Parlor, 8pm-12am

**Lady Luck**  
Sliderz Bar & Grill, Decatur, 8pm

**Kevin Aldrich**  
Stella Coffee & Tea, 10am-12pm

**Broken Stone**  
The Blue Grouch, 7pm

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

**Midwest Revival**  
The Shed, Pawnee, 9pm-12am

**Karaoke by Future Entertainment**  
The Thirsty Rooster, Middletown, 8pm

**Karaoke**  
The Topp Hat, Girard, 8pm

**George Caton**  
West of Wise Winery, Petersburg, 1-4pm

**Open mic hosted by Kobey Workman**  
Y-Zoe's Bar, Taylorville, 6-9pm

## Sunday Dec 21

**Chicago Farmer**  
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 6pm

**Gary Williams**  
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 3-6pm

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

**Ace Estranged**  
Door 4 Brewing Co., Decatur, 12-2pm

**Antone DeRocchi**  
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

**Ethan Taylor Stephenson**  
It's All About Wine, 5-6pm

**Dan Wilson and friends**  
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 5-8pm

**David Lumsden**  
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

**Blues Jam**  
Sky Lounge, 5-8pm

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

**Open mic with Kortney Leatherwood**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

**Keith Dunlap**  
Whiskey Ridge Saloon, Breckenridge, 2-5pm

## Monday Dec 22

**David Lumsden and Reggie Britton**  
The Alamo, 7pm

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

## Tuesday Dec 23

**Allan Harris**  
Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6-9pm.

**Open jam with Smokestacks**  
George Rank's, 8-11pm

**Open mic with Bob Besser**  
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 6-9pm

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

**Karaoke**  
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 6-9pm

**Karaoke**  
Oogie and JJ's Bar, Glenarm, 7-10pm

**Karaoke with Suzi**  
The Rusty Rail Pub, Lincoln, 8pm-12am

## Wednesday Dec 24

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

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

**Robert Sampson**  
Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6-9pm.



## THE CALENDAR



***It's A Wonderful Life*** | Fri., Dec. 19, 7 p.m. ***White Christmas*** | Sat., Dec. 20, 7 p.m. The Legacy Theatre | 101 E. Lawrence St. | 217-528-9760.

### FILM | Two holiday classics return to big screen

**it** There's just something magical about seeing movies on the big screen. It's even better when the movie is a classic movie from the past. This weekend, Legacy Theatre is screening two timeless holiday classics – *It's A Wonderful Life* and *White Christmas*. So here's your chance to see one or both on the big screen while helping prevent hunger this holiday season. Cost is \$10 at door or just \$5 with a donation of non-perishable food. Doors and the bar open at 6 p.m.

### ■ Special Music Events Dual Piano Christmas

Fri., Dec. 19, 7pm, Sat., Dec. 20, 7pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 2pm. The duo that the *Illinois Times* called "Improvitational and strategically comedic" is back for more mischief and music. Comedy runs amuck throughout their programs and no one knows what is going to happen next – including Mark Gifford and Damien Kaplan. hcfta.org. \$20-\$22. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

### Free Fall Concerts at the Carillon

Sat., Dec. 20, 2-2:30pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 2-2:30, 4-4:30pm. Enjoy beautiful music at the Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon. Relax in the park and soak in the sounds of music echoing through Washington Park. carillon-rees.org. Free. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-3853.

### Scott Wattles & the Blue Suede Crew

Sun., Dec. 21, 2pm. "Christmas with Elvis." Enjoy this gospel show just in time for Christmas. \$14.85-\$18.50. Lincoln Square Theater, Decatur, 141 N. Main St., 217-454-4583.

### ■ Theater & Comedy Brew Ha Ha - Comedy Open Mic

Thu., Dec. 18, 8-10pm. Hosted by Ryne Thorson. No pre-signup. Five-minute sets. Signup starts at 7:30pm. Mic starts at 8pm. Free. Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 406 E. Adams St., 217-679-9005.

### A Message at Midnight

Sat., Dec. 20, 3 p.m. This play by Ken Bradbury takes place on Christmas Eve 1864 in the White House. President and Mrs. Lincoln (Randy Duncan and Pam Brown) are visited by Gen. U.S. Grant (Dennis Rendleman) as they await news from Gen. William T. Sherman's campaign from Atlanta to the sea. No message has been received in over six weeks. Run time is approximately 50 minutes. Lincoln Home National National Home Site Visitor Center, 426 S. Seventh St., 217-492-4241.

### ■ Dance

#### Copper Coin Ballet Company

Sat., Dec. 20, 5:30, 6:30pm. The Copper Coin Ballet Company will perform 30-minute selections from *The Nutcracker*. Enjoy Pyotr Tchaikovsky's beloved story of Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, and their journey through the Land of Sweets. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

### Old-Time Community Barn Dance - Capital City Contra

Sat., Dec. 20, 8-10pm. Enjoy various folk dances to live music on the fiddle and banjo performed by some of Springfield's finest old-time musicians in this family-friendly event. No experience necessary. All dances will be taught and called. No partner needed. Dress casually and comfortably. Donations of \$5-10 accepted. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

### ■ Art & Architecture "Kid Works"

Mondays-Fridays, 9am-5pm and Saturdays, 10am-3pm. Through Dec. 20. All works in this show were made by talented students at SAA throughout the year. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

### "Unwrap the Collective"

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through Dec. 20. The biggest art exhibit of the year at the SAA. Gift-worthy items by our local artists is for sale that are sure to surprise everyone on the shopping list. All holiday merchandise is handmade, unique and budget-friendly. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

### Governor's Mansion Holiday Tours

Sat., Dec. 20, 1-4pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 1-4pm. Enjoy the stunning holiday decorations at the Illinois Governor's Mansion this season during a 20-minute guided tour. governorsmansion.illinois.gov. Free. Illinois Governor's Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-782-6450.

### Third Thursday Critique

Third Thursday of every month, 7-8pm. Friendly discussion of works in progress. Give and/or receive ideas and advice. All visual artists at any level are invited to bring work to talk about. Free. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 801-810-9278.

### ■ Food & Drink

#### Tour of Downtown Food and Drink Crawl

Sat., Dec. 20, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Grab some friends and family and experience the downtown food and drink scene. With a ticket purchase, participants receive a T-shirt that guarantees them discounts and specials at several locations. Tickets available on Eventbrite.com. \$23.18. Various downtown Springfield locations, 217-544-1723.

### ■ History

#### Governor Duncan Mansion by Candlelight

Fri., Dec. 19, 6-8pm. See the mansion after dark, glowing with the warmth and charm of the season. No advance sales. \$5 at door. Governor Duncan Mansion, Jacksonville, 4 Duncan Place, 217-553-7023.

### ■ Faith & Philosophy 1850s Community Carol Sing

Sat., Dec. 20, 6-7pm. Travel back in time to the 1850s this Christmas season and join Abraham and Mary Lincoln for special music, worship and a carol sing. Everyone invited to attend in period costumes along with the musical guests. lincolnschurch.org. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

### Candle Lighting Service

Sun., Dec. 21, 6:30-7:30pm. Take part in this annual service to reawaken the Christ light within. Enjoy music, singing and fellowship. unityofspringfieldil.org. Donations accepted. Unity of Springfield, 417 Cordelia, 217-523-5897.

### Candles & Carols on Christmas Eve

Wed., Dec. 24, 6-7:30pm. Celebrate the traditions that make the season bright with music, readings and candlelight in this wonderful annual tradition.

aluuc.org. Free. Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 745 Woodside Rd, Springfield, IL 62711, 217-585-9550.

### Christmas Masses

Wed., Dec. 24, 5:30, 11pm. On Christmas Eve, music begins 30 minutes before service times. Communion open to all baptized Christians. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 815 S. Second St., 217-544-5135.

### ■ Holiday Happenings "Christmas Under the Stars" Candlelight Tour

Fri., Dec. 19, 5-8pm. Special Friday night candlelight tours. Guests are asked to enter the house at the front door. Tours are self-guided so visitors may arrive anytime between the hours of 5 and 7:30pm. Additional museum parking available in the lot across the street from museum. Museum Gift Shop will be open during tours. \$10 for adults, ages 6-18 \$5, ages 5 and younger free. C.H. Moore Homestead DeWitt County Museum, Clinton, 219 E. Woodlawn St., 217-935-6066.

### Christmas at the Farm

Sat., Dec. 20, 12-4pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 12-4pm. Festival of Christmas Trees. Includes photos with Santa (Dec. 20-21, 2:30-4:30pm), storytelling, children's crafts and cookie decorating, sing-along with Amy Benton, food and cider and more. Also has a church service Dec. 21, brunch and gospel music. See Facebook page for more details. Indian Creek Farmstead and Pumpkin Patch, Petersburg, 19468 Curtis Black Top Road, 217-717-4401.

### Cookies With Santa

Thu., Dec. 18, 5:30-7pm. Join us and Santa for a fun evening of games, prizes and a cooking decorating station. The event will be in the lobby. HSHS Medical Group Multispecialty Care, 2901 Old Jacksonville Road, 217-321-9292.

### Dana-Thomas Holiday Open House

Sat., Dec. 20, 1-4pm. The Dana-Thomas House is a featured site on Visit Springfield's Holiday Historic Homes Tour. Reservations not required for either event. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

### Dana-Thomas House Festive Fridays

Fri., Dec. 19, 4-7pm. Step into the spirit of the holidays with decor arranged by the Springfield Civic Garden Club. Enjoy the sparkle of art glass throughout the house. Tours every 15 minutes. Enjoy cocoa and s'mores in the

courtyard. Live music with Ben Bedford from 5 to 6:30pm. in December. Registration available through Eventbrite but not required. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

### Downtown Springfield Old Capitol Holiday Walks

Wednesdays, Saturdays, 10am-3pm and Sat., Dec. 20, 10am-3pm. Through Dec. 20. Experience a full month of holiday cheer as downtown shops, museum, and businesses pull out all of the stops for the most magical time of the year and the Old Capitol Holiday Walks. downtownspringfield.org. Free. Downtown Springfield, Downtown, 217-544-1723.

### Drive-thru Nativity Lane

Sun., Dec. 21, 5:30-7:30pm and Mon., Dec. 22, 5:30-7:30pm. Experience this lane highlighting the major moments of the Christmas story. Family-friendly event put on by live actors. Wesley Chapel UMC, Jacksonville, 1447 Merritt Road, 217-245-7312.

### Holiday Zoo Lights

Fri., Dec. 19, 5-9pm, Sat., Dec. 20, 5-9pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 5-9pm. Stroll through the zoo and enjoy thousands of lights and themed lighted display. Enjoy a hot chocolate or hang out under the tent to enjoy a s'more after roasting a marshmallow over the fire pit. \$7.50 adults, \$5.50 children 3-12, free for children 2 and younger. Henson Robinson Zoo, 1100 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-585-1821.

### Ice Skating

Saturdays, 1-4pm and Sundays, 1-4pm. Through Feb. 15. An age-old holiday tradition. Skating and skate rental are free, though donations are welcome to help maintain equipment. A full schedule can be found on ALPLM website. Free, donations accepted. Union Square Park, 212 N. Sixth St.

### Jacksonville Festival of Lights

Thursdays, 5-8pm, Fridays, 5-9pm, Saturdays, 5-9pm and Sundays, 5-8pm. Through Dec. 28. This dazzling drive-thru light display for the whole family is a sparkling holiday tradition. Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 110 N. Westgate, 217-245-5119.

### Light Up The Park

Thursdays-Sundays, 6-9pm. Through Dec. 25. Through Dec. 25. A local holiday tradition. Get ready to be wowed by the nearly 1-mile drive through hundreds of thousands of lights and beautiful displays. A \$5 per-vehicle



donation is requested. Donation benefits Chatham Friends of the Park. Vans and buses are welcome. \$5 per vehicle donation requested. Chatham Community Park, Chatham, 731 S. Main St., 217-415-8513.

#### Pictures with Santa

Sat., Dec. 20, 10am-12pm. Santa will be at the Restore for photos. No photographer will be on site so parents and guardians should bring their own cameras. Free. Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 2744 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2710.

#### Pop-Up Shop

Sat., Dec. 20, 12-3pm. "Sleigh" that holiday shopping at this special shop featuring new merchandise including clothing, limited-edition carillon gear and stocking stuffers. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-3853.

#### Santa House

Sat., Dec. 20, 9am-12pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 12-3pm. Experience the magic of the season at Santa's House, a tradition for more than 40 years. Share Christmas wishes, take photos with Santa and enjoy the holiday cheer. Free. Washington Park Pavilion, 1400 Williams Blvd., 217-546-4103 ext. 1012.

#### Santa Saturdays at the Old State Capitol

Sat., Dec. 20, 1-4pm. Santa will be at the Old State Capitol to hear holiday wishes. There will also be opportunities to write letters to Santa, make fun holiday crafts, and take some memorable photos. Plus, the popular hot cocoa bar returns courtesy of the Old State Capitol Foundation. Free. Old State Capitol, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, 217-785-9363.

#### Vachel Lindsay Home Holiday Open House

Sat., Dec. 20, 1-4pm. The Vachel Lindsay Home is a featured site on Visit Springfield's Holiday Historic Homes Tour. No reservation required. Free. Vachel Lindsay Home State Historic Site, 603 S. Fifth St., 217-524-0901.

#### Winter Holiday Floral Show

Thu., Dec. 18, 12-4pm, Fri., Dec. 19, 12-4pm, Sat., Dec. 20, 12-5pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 12-5pm. Step into a world of enchantment and immerse yourself in the beauty of over 500 radiant poinsettias carefully nestled among lush fresh evergreens and vibrant tropical foliage. Free. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

#### Wintree Wonderland

Through Dec. 31. Wintree Wonderland, a new mall tradition, will include the beloved elements found each Christmas at the mall and incorporate a festive forest of trees decorated by the public. Includes Santa's Workshop Make It/Take It, a selfie station, Gingerbread Playhouse, window murals, photos with Santa, train rides and more. Free admission. White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash Ave., 217-787-0110.

#### Fundraisers & Galas

##### The Great Inflate

Fri., Dec. 19, 5-9pm, Sat., Dec. 20, 9am-9pm and Sun., Dec. 21, 9am-9pm. Experience central Illinois' most magical inflatable Christmas village as the campground transforms into a glowing winter wonderland filled with hundreds of holiday inflatables - day and night. Includes brunch with Santa on Saturday and Sunday. (9am-1pm). Admission benefits the Illinois Make A Wish Foundation. \$10 per vehicle. Crazy Horse Campground, Ashland, 2113 Crazy Horse Road, 217-886-2089.

#### Children's Corner

##### Holiday Literacy Event

Sat., Dec. 20, 11am-2pm. Features storytime from the fire station's crew, station tours, refreshments, free books and fun. Hosted by Fire Station 6 and iMagicNation. Springfield Fire Department Station #6, 2101 S. 11th St., 217-220-6272.

#### Mini Explorer's Club – Winter Critters

Tue., Dec. 23, 9:30-10:15am. In three cozy lessons, learn about animals that thrive during wintertime. Fall in love with this interactive, grown-up/child class where the littlest explorers learn all about the wonders of Illinois. Recommended ages 18 months to 5 years but all ages welcome. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-6623.

#### Nature's Nibbles

Sat., Dec. 20, 9:30-11am. Kids ages 5-10 can help wildlife during the cold winter months by making them a few tasty snacks. Bring nature indoors by creating beautiful pomanders that smell delightful. Families welcome to join in the fun. Register by Dec. 12 at bit.ly/SPD\_naturesnibbles. Activity #361126-02. Residents \$35, non-residents \$40. Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

#### Santa's Workshop at Wintree Wonderland

Sat., Dec. 20, 12-4pm, Sun., Dec. 21, 12-4pm and Mon., Dec. 22, 12-4pm. Children can create a crafted holiday treasure each week while supporting local charitable organizations. Santa's Workshop is hosted by a different charitable organizations each weekend and Dec. 22 from noon as part of Wintree Wonderland. It provides children the opportunity to create a make-it, take-it item. All profits go to the local organization. \$5 or \$6. White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash Ave., 217-787-0110.

#### Lectures & Meetings

##### Preparing Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport for the Future

Fri., Dec. 19, 8-9am. Join the Citizens Club of Springfield for a look at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport's Smart Airport and Regional Logistics Plan, a new initiative that explores how SPI will accommodate the next generation of aviation technologies. Doors open at 7:30pm for coffee and networking. Free and open to the public. Hoogland Center for the Arts Club Room, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

#### Bulletin Board

##### New Year essential basket giveaway

Sat., Jan. 3, 10-11 a.m. Freedom in Holiness Mission's essential baskets are filled with Charmin toilet paper and Bounty paper towels. Recipients must show proof of need I.D. Fifty baskets will be given away. Freedom in Holiness Mission, 1430 Loveland Ave. (Springfield Metro Area: Springfield Area). 217-522-2527.

#### Health & Fitness

##### World Meditation Day Celebration

Sun., Dec. 21, 8:30-10:30am. Celebrate World Meditation Day during a live telecast by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, a globally renowned meditation teacher, humanitarian and ambassador of peace as he leads a global meditation for people all across the world. Event will include music, community and an inspiring celebration of life. Free. The Hindu Temple of Greater Springfield, Chatham, 1001 W. Walnut St., 217-720-5020.

#### Sports

##### Springfield Jr. Blues vs. Anchorage Wolverines

Thu., Dec. 18, 11am, Fri., Dec. 19, 7:05pm and Sat., Dec. 20, 6:05pm. The Jr. Blues take on the Wolverines in a three-game home stand. \$10, \$6 children 12 and younger. Nelson Center, 1601 N. Fifth St., 217-525-2589.

# MARKETPLACE

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#### Ron & Paula's BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES

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Located at  
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**Basic Ballroom**  
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**Basic Salsa**  
7:15 – 8:15 pm

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#### ONLINE CALENDAR SUBMISSION

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Go to [www.illinoistimes.com](http://www.illinoistimes.com)  
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#### Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
ALEXANDRIA MILNER A/K/A ALEXANDRIA D MILNER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
DEFENDANTS.  
NO. 2025FC000042  
1035 NORTH 6TH STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702  
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE  
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on December 3, 2025, will on January 27, 2026, in Sangamon County Building, 200 S. 9th St., Second floor,

Room 223, Springfield, IL 62701, at 9:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:  
TAX NO. 14-27.0-130-025  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1035 North 6th Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Description of Improvements: White aluminum siding, 1.5 story single family home, detached 2 car garage  
The Judgment amount was \$160,033.85.  
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.  
The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for

sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.  
Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.  
The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.  
The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.  
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.  
For Information: Visit our website at <http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.  
Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 333 W Wacker Drive, Suite 1820, Chicago, IL 60606-1220. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 25-204661L  
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.



Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. 13277894

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC, Plaintiff(s), vs. JOHN A. C. PETERSON, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s). Case No. 25 FC 121 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 13, 2026, 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: 1733 SOUTH SPRING STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 P.I.N. 22-04.0-253-040 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 # 25-00569 8051-960068

# PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN PROBATE ESTATE OF RACHEL LEE OLSON, Deceased. Case No. 2025 PR 489 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Rachel Lee Olson of Cantrall, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on December 11, 2025 to Attorney Frederick J. Schlosser as Executor, GATES WISE SCHLOSSER & GOEBEL, 1231 South Eighth Street, Springfield, IL, 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. DATED December 11, 2025. Frederick J. Schlosser (#6209954) GATES WISE SCHLOSSER & GOEBEL Attorneys at Law 1231 South Eighth Street Springfield, IL 62703 Telephone: (217) 522.9010 Facsimile: (217) 522.9020 Email: fred@gwspc.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF PAULINE J. MURRAY, Deceased. Case No. 2025 PR 483 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of PAULINE J. MURRAY. Letters of Office were issued on December 11, 2025, to KELLY J. MURRAY 108 N. 1st Street Sherman, Illinois 62684 as Executor and whose attorney is JAMES R. ENLOW of GATES WISE SCHLOSSER & GOEBEL, 1231 South Eighth Street, Springfield, IL, 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, IL, 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. DATED this 11th day of December 2025. James R. Enlow (#6199891) GATES WISE SCHLOSSER & GOEBEL 1231 South Eighth Street Springfield, IL 62703 Telephone: (217) 522-9010 Facsimile: (217) 522-9020 Email: jim@gwspc.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLES E. BURRUS, Deceased. IN PROBATE No. 2025-PR-477 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate

of Charles E. Burrus, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on December 8, 2025, to KEVIN SCHAFER, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Brandon R. Clark, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 2nd day of July, 2026, 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 December, 2025. BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Brandon R. Clark Registration No. 6329553 205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000 P.O. Box 2459 Springfield, IL 62705-2459 (217) 544-8491 bclark@bhslaw.com

In The Circuit Court For The Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois Daniel Schumacher, plaintiff/petitioner, In the matter of the estate of Carrie Michelle Eichen, for letters of administration. 2025-PR-000479 NOTICE OF HEARING TO: Terry Nelson Watson, Rebecca Cole, Lori Dillon and Jolene Mansfield. Concerning the matter of Carrie Michelle Eichen. On Jan. 6, 2026, at 8:30am or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, I shall appear before the Honorable Judge Robin Schmidt, or any Judge sitting in his/her stead, in the courtroom usually occupied by his/her at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Daniel Schumacher 209 Wisteria Drive Springfield, IL 62711 217-210-2316

ADOPTION NOTICE – STATE OF ILLINOIS, County of Sangamon, Seventh Judicial Circuit Court of Sangamon County. In the matter of the Petition for the Adoption of Novalee Annora Vogel, a female child and Wylan Arlo Vogel, a male child. Adoption No. 2025-AD-141. To Unknown Fathers and All Whom It May Concern: Take notice that a petition was filed in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, for the adoption of children named Novalee Annora Vogel and Wylan Arlo Vogel. Now, therefore, unless you Unknown Fathers and All Whom It May Concern, file your answer to the Petition in the action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in the said Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Room 405, in the City of Springfield, Illinois, on or before the 15th day of January, 2026, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account

with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp/s/Joseph Roesch, Sangamon County Circuit Clerk](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp/s/Joseph%20Roesch,Sangamon%20County%20Circuit%20Clerk) Dan E. Way, Attorney for Petitioner 1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: SUZANNE M. MEYER, Deceased. Case No 2025-PR-478 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of SUZANNE M. MEYER, of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on November 6, 2025. Letters of Testamentary were issued on the 4th day of December, A.D., 2025, to RICHARD DEWILDE, 908 Sunset Drive, Perryville, Missouri 63775, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C., 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Sangamon County Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney at the above addresses within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed. DATED this 4th day of December, A.D., 2025. ESTATE OF SUZANNE M. MEYER, Deceased, BY: /s/Pamela E. Hart Pamela E. Hart, one of his Attorneys. PREPARED BY: Pamela E. Hart (6299974) SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C. Attorneys at Law 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200 Springfield, IL 62701 Telephone: (217)753-8200 peh@scottscottlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LORI LYNN CUNDIFF, DECEASED Case #2025-PR-475 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of LORI LYNN CUNDIFF. Letters of Office have been issued to JAMES E. CUNDIFF, 363 S. Durkin Drive, Springfield, IL 62704, and BRADLEY J. CUNDIFF, 1914 Jeanette Lane, Unit 8, Springfield, IL 62702, as Independent Co-Administrators, 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-Administrators, or both, on or before June 18, 2026, 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-Administrators and to

the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 4th day of December, 2025. Patrick J. Sheehan, III SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF DONNA L. SCHUCHARDT, Deceased. 2025-PR-476 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to creditors of the estate of the death of Donna L. Schuchardt. Letters of Office were issued to Brenda K. Rogers as Independent Executor, whose address is 160 E. Camp Sangamo Rd., Springfield, IL 62707. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 11, 2026, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered such notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Dated December 11, 2025. Attorneys for Independent Executor: Sorling Northrup Michelle L. Blackburn, Attorney (6273760) Jeremy E. McAfee, Attorney (6349611) 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200 P.O. Box 5131 Springfield, IL 62705 Telephone: 217-544-1144 E-Mail: mlblackburn@sorlinglaw.com jemcafee@sorlinglaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF JILL MARIE REYNOLDS, Deceased. No. 2025PR463 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Jill Marie Reynolds, a resident of Chatham, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Chatham, Illinois, on October 26, 2025. Adam Joseph Reynolds, whose post office address is 1102 S. Locust Street, Apt. C, Carlinville, Illinois 62626, was appointed independent administrator of her estate on November 26, 2025. The attorneys for the independent 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 Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the independent 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 independent administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 26th day of November, 2025. Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930) Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535) Hart, Southworth & Witsman Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-00550 switsman@hswsnet.com aprillaman@hswsnet.com 8051-960089

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PAMELA A. SUTHERLAND, DECEASED Case #2025-PR-471 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of PAMELA A. SUTHERLAND. Letters of Office have been issued to MELANIE TURNER, 65 Axline, 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 June 10, 2026, 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 26th day of November, 2025. 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 PAUL EUGENE BURCHETT, Deceased NO. 2025PR000470 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Paul Eugene Burchett, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on November 26, 2025, to Mary Susan Burchett, 2717 S. State Street, Springfield, IL 62704, and Lori Ann Badgley, 200 S. Carter Steet, P.O. Box 21, Buffalo, IL 62515, as Co-Executors, whose attorney is Gregory P. Sgro, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 4th day of June, 2026, 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 26th day of November, 2025.  
Gregory P. Sgro  
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 OF  
ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
LEOLA GARRETT-PALCO  
Deceased.  
No. 2025-PR-423  
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Leola Garrett-Palko, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Administration were issued on November 17, 2025, to CODI DURBIN, as Administrator of the Estate, whose attorneys are FRAZIER & SABIN, LLP, Attorneys at Law, 1 W. Old State Capitol Plaza, Ste 800, Springfield, IL 62701.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before May 18, 2026, 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 25th day of November, 2025.  
Richard D. Frazier (6193113)  
FRAZIER & SABIN, LLP  
Attorneys at Law  
1 W. Old State Capitol Plaza, Ste 800  
Springfield, I 62701  
Telephone: (217)753-4242  
Email: frazier@springfieldlawfirm.com

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
[Job C. Conger IV]  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is hereby given of the death of Job C. Conger IV. Letters of Office were issued on 25 November 2025 to the independent Executor, George W. Tinkham, 423 W. Vine Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704. The docket number for this estate is 2025 P 453.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the Executor of the estate or both. Any claim not filed on or before June 4, 2026 is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk must also be mailed or delivered to the Executor within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 25th day of November, 2025.  
George W. Tinkham  
Independent Executor  
423 W. Vine Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704  
(217) 753-2737

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEV-  
ENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN RE THE ESTATE OF:  
LYNDA K. KOVARIK,  
Deceased.  
No. 2025-PR-465  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Lynda K. Kovarik. Letters Testamentary were

issued on November 25, 2025, to Christy Thompson of 13535 N. 92nd Place, Scottsdale, AZ, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Dan E. Way, WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC, 1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 4, 2026, which is not less than six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, 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.

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 contact your local Circuit Clerk's office.

Dated this 25th day of November 2025  
Dan E. Way, #6204735  
WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC  
1100 S. Fifth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 525-7003

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEV-  
ENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
In Re the Estate of:  
DONALD G. SCHNAPP,  
Deceased.  
No. 2025-PR-461  
CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of DONALD G. SCHNAPP, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 20, 2025, to HALEY D. SCHNAPP, as Independent Executrix, whose address is 1209 Michele Drive, Pawnee, Illinois 62558, and whose attorney of record is William D. Reid, Elmore & Reid, 808 South Second Street, Springfield, IL 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 Sangamon County, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of issuance of Letters, and any claim not filed within that period is barred.  
HALEY D. SCHNAPP  
Independent Executrix  
ELMORE & REID  
Attorneys At Law  
808 South 2nd Street  
Springfield, IL 62704  
217/523-2340

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
CRISTINA MILLIKEN, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
No. 2025-PR-455  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Cristina Milliken, deceased.

Letters of Office were issued on November 19, 2025, to Richard Lewis Riecks, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Brandon R. Clark, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 18th day of June, 2026, 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 21st day of November, 2025.  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Brandon R. Clark  
Registration No. 6329553  
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705-2459  
(217) 544-8491  
bclark@bhsllaw.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY  
Re: the marriage of  
Brandon J. Cannon-Thomas, Petitioner  
And  
Keyaira Cannon-Thomas, Respondent  
Case No. 2024-DC-000220  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Keyaira Cannon-Thomas, 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 11th day of January, 2026, 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  
Floyd Stapleton, Petitioner  
And  
Gemayne Thorpe, Respondent  
Case No. 2025-DN-000301  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION  
Notice is given you, Gemayne Thorpe, 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 11th day of January, 2026, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition.  
Joseph B. Roesch  
Circuit Clerk

## Adoption

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEV-  
ENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF  
STEPHANIE MAUPIN and

KIEARA CHANTE LOCKHART PETZ,  
TO ADOPT  
LINKIN JAMES PETZ and  
LEIGHTON INEZLYN PETZ, related minors,  
v.

CORY JAMES PETZ, Respondent.  
Case No.: 2025-AD-135  
ADOPTION NOTICE- STATE OF ILLINOIS  
County of Sangamon, ss.- Seventh  
Circuit Court of Sangamon County  
In the matter of the Petition for the Adoption of Linkin James Petz, a related male child, and Leighton Inezlyn Petz, a related female child. Adoption Case No. 2025-AD-135. Corey James Petz and To All To Whom it May Concern take notice that a Petition was filed in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois for the adoption of children named Linkin James Petz and Leighton Inezlyn Petz. Now, therefore, unless you and all of whom it may concern, file your Answer to the Petition in the action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in said Circuit Court of Sangamon County in the City of Springfield, Illinois, on or before the 28th day of January, 2026, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition. Dated: 2nd day of December, 2025  
Springfield, Illinois, Sangamon County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of  
Chase William Christopher Ferree  
For change of name to  
Chase Wiliam Christopher Watts  
Case No. 2025-MR-000571  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on Jan. 27, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Chase William Christopher Ferree to Chase Wiliam Christopher Watts pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Dec. 11, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the Petition of  
Ashley Nicole Russell  
For change of name to  
Diamond Nicole Womack  
Case No. 2025-MR-000510  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Public Notice is hereby given that on Jan. 23, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Ashley Nicole Russell to Diamond Nicole Womack pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.  
Dated: Dec. 4, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF  
ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
ANGELA GOOCH, UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND  
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendant(s).  
Case No. 25 FC 209  
PUBLICATION NOTICE  
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you: ANGELA GOOCH, NONRECORD CLAIMANTS and UNKNOWN OWNERS, Defendants in the above entitled suit, that said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Chancery Division, by the said Plaintiff,

against you and other Defendants, praying for foreclosure of a certain Real Estate Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:  
LOTS THREE (3) AND FOUR (4) IN BLOCK SIX (6) IN SAUNDER'S SUBDIVISION OF PART OF SECTION TWENTY-THREE (23) TOWNSHIP SIXTEEN (16) NORTH RANGE FIVE (5) WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SAME WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE THE SAME. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Tax Number: 14-23.0-108-003 AND 14-23.0-108-004  
commonly known as 2037 N 19TH ST  
SPRINGFIELD IL 62702; and which said Real Estate Mortgage was made by ANGELA GOOCH and recorded in the Office of the Sangamon County Recorder as Document Number 2022R11788; that Summons was duly issued out of the said Court against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is now pending.  
Now, therefore, unless you, the said named Defendant, file your answer to the Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the office of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, located at 200 SOUTH NINTH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, on or before January 17, 2026, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.  
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  
KP  
# 25-02490  
I3278123

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,  
PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
ALEXANDRIA MILNER A/K/A ALEXANDRIA D MILNER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND  
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
DEFENDANTS.  
NO. 2025FC000042  
1035 NORTH 6TH STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702  
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDG-  
MENT OF FORECLOSURE  
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLO-  
SURE ACT  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on December 3, 2025, will on January 27, 2026, in Sangamon County Building, 200 S. 9th St., Second floor, Room 223, Springfield, IL 62701, at 9:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment:  
THE NORTH HALF OF LOT 4 IN BLOCK 4 OF ROBERT ALLEN'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD.  
EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING

THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETO-  
FORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR  
CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND  
EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE  
OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER  
MINERALS, IF ANY.  
SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.

TAX NO. 14-27.0-130-025  
COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 1035 North  
6th Street  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Description of Improvements: White  
aluminum siding, 1.5 story single family  
home, detached 2 car garage  
The Judgment amount was  
\$160,033.85.

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

The subject property is subject to general  
real estate taxes, special assessments  
or special taxes levied against said real  
estate, water bills, etc., and is offered  
for sale without any representation as  
to quality or quantity of title and without  
recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further  
subject to confirmation by the court.  
Upon payment in full of the bid amount,  
the purchaser shall receive a Certificate  
of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser  
to a Deed to the real estate after confir-  
mation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for  
inspection. Prospective bidders are  
admonished to check the court file to  
verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole  
responsibility/expense of evicting any  
tenants or other individuals presently in  
possession of the subject premises.  
If this property is a condominium unit,  
the purchaser of the unit at the foreclo-  
sure sale, other than a mortgagee shall  
pay the assessments and the legal fees  
required by The Condominium Property  
Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).  
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-  
OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS  
AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSES-  
SION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE  
FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Information: Visit our website at  
<http://ilforeclosuresales.mrpllc.com>.  
Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only -  
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP,  
Plaintiff's Attorneys, 333 W Wacker Drive,  
Suite 1820, Chicago, IL 60606-1220. Tel.  
No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file#  
25-20466IL

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLEC-  
TION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S  
ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT  
COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT  
A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE  
USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
Plaintiff's attorney is not required to  
provide additional information other than  
that set forth in this notice of sale.  
I3277894

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF  
ILLINOIS  
CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC,  
Plaintiff(s),  
vs.  
JOHNA C. PETERSON, UNKNOWN OWN-  
ERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,  
Defendant(s).  
Case No. 25 FC 121  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORE-  
CLOSURE  
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 13, 2026, 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 8 OF FREDERICK SAXER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Common Address: 1733 SOUTH SPRING STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 P.I.N. 22-04.0-253-040 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 # 25-00569 8051-960068

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, PLAINTIFF, VS. LINN PERKINS, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF CAROLYN S MCCUBBIN, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; MELINDA

MCCUBBIN; MELISSA PUCKETT; DAVID MCCUBBIN; MATTHEW MCCUBBIN; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CAROLYN S MCCUBBIN, DEFENDANTS. NO. 2025FC000162 2421 STOKEBRIDGE ROAD SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Carolyn S McCubbin defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS: LOT 426 OF CHARLES S. WANLESS' NORTHGATE ADDITION, 7TH PLAT. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD. Commonly known as: 2421 Stokebridge Road Springfield, IL 62702 and which said Mortgage was made by, Carolyn S McCubbin Mortgagor(s), to PNC Mortgage, a division of PNC Bank National Association Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois, as Document No. 2018R03251; and for other relief. UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before January 5, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. You have been sued. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Notice called an "Appearance" and a document called an "Answer/Response". The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk's office or visit the Court's website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Notice can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk's office or website. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411-1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener información sobre los casos de

la corte y cómo completar y presentar formularios. PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP Attorney for Plaintiff 333 W Wacker Drive, Suite 1820 Chicago, IL 60606-1220 Ph. (312) 346-9088 File No. 25-22554IL-1298680 I3277389

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS Plaintiff, Vs. 2015 Chevrolet Camaro Vin #2G1FB1E34F9281966 Devin Willis No. 25-MX-860 25-AF-82 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. John C. Milhiser, State's Attorney for Sangamon County, filed the above-captioned matter on August 27, 2025. UNLESS YOU file a verified Claim 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 Almatai Cooper No. 2025-GR-198 To: Johnathan Hart at address unknown: Please be notified that Yaismin Cooper has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Almatai Cooper, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By January 26, 2026 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 facility gives notice of the sale under said act; Monday the 29th day of December, 2025 at 10:00 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 Storage, 2225 J David Jones Pkwy, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 600-2778 Austin McEntire 55. Angel Sullivan 810. Breona Gaiter 226. Stephanie Jennings P61. Kimberly Cluney 714. Tim Sutherd 815/816. Cecelia Jenkins 750. Jeff Ryan 138. Andy Hale 197/186. Joleen White 613/600. Jennifer Lovitt 303. Jennifer Lovitt 300. Dayton Paproth 618/595. Corina White 476. Charisma Jimison 284. Kaylee Young 389. Jimmy Hoover 719. Don Scroggins P5. Bryan

Schleyhahn 440. Olivia Evans 253. Brittney Hernandez 67. Eric Wagner 773. Samantha Clardy 776. Nia Watkins 763. Jagala Grant 301. Emily Lewis 691. Timothy Lewis 407/408. Perrion Bolden 564. Isabella Schmidt 616/597. Abby Bitner 230. Paula Nelson P3. Tracy Wells 48. Less Boucher 16. Janice Rutledge 532. Danielle Wright 721; 10 Federal Storage, 3500 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 387-3951 Dianca Miller P40. Daniel Gregg A97. Ashley Smith A22; 10 Federal Storage, 500 W Browning Rd, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 339-3865 Dale Abeln 22A. Adam Young 109B. Dennis Lowe 6A/7A. Roger Simons 269e. Allie Holmes 216D/217D; 10 Federal Storage, 900 E Straight St, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 286-1550 Dayton Paproth F385. Cassandra Smith E325. Shireen Price 110. Penny Benton 21. Rachel Rowden 212. Jessie Garrett 136/137/138. Jason Blissett E359/260. Ralston Robertson E272. Van Converse 157. Van Converse 159. Nancy Simpson 33

PUBLIC NOTICE The regular monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority will convene at 12:00 noon on the following dates for the year 2026 in the Administrative Office Boardroom at the Bank of Springfield Center, unless prior approval by the Board and public notice has been made. Listed below are the scheduled meeting dates. SMEAA 2026 Board Meeting Schedule January 12, 2026 (1 week early) February 9, 2026 (1 week early) March 16, 2026 April 20, 2026 May 18, 2026 June 15, 2026 July 20, 2026 August 17, 2026 September 21, 2026 October 19, 2026 November 16, 2026 December 21, 2026 \* Additional meetings, cancellations, or rescheduling which may be necessary will be announced in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF Corbin Hutzler-Hughes No. 2025-GR-258 To: Chad Hutzler at address unknown: Please be notified that Debbie Kelly has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Corbin Hutzler-Hughes, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By February 9, 2026 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF Karlylle Cason No. 2025-GR-255 To: Unknown fathers and Alexandria Cason at address unknown: Please be notified that Mary Ushman has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Karlylle Cason, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By February 9, 2026 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

TO: Tamera Parker a/k/a Tamera A. Parker; Tamera Parker a/k/a Tamera A. Parker;

Occupant; Gregory Lee Nisewander; Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois; Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"; "Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots". TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000210 FILED: 11/24/2025 TAKE NOTICE County of Sangamon Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023 Certificate No.: 143-42-1 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property Located at: W 100' PT SW NW 3-16-4, IN CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, Part of the Real Estate Commonly known as 227 E. Raylots Street, Spaulding, IL 62561 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 15-03.0-153-002 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK 200 South Ninth Street Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 753-6701 TLC-2023, LLC Purchaser or Assignee November 25, 2025 I3277354

TO: Luke A Cole, c/o US Bank NA; Carolyn K Cole, c/o US Bank NA; Luke Cole; Carolyn K Cole; Carolyn K Cole; Luke Cole; Carolyn K. Cole Inc.; Occupant; Climate Corp; Cole A Gronomy Inc.; LC GC Properties, LLC; U.S. Bank N.A., not in its individual Capacity But Solely as Trustee for The NRZ Pass-Through Trust XVI;

U.S. Bank National Association; Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois; Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"; "Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots". TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000209 FILED: 11/24/2025 TAKE NOTICE County of Sangamon Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023 Certificate No.: 143-41-8 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property Located at: 421 South Wake Road, New Berlin, IL 62670 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 12-33.0-400-023 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK 200 South Ninth Street Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 753-6701 TLC-2023, LLC Purchaser or Assignee November 25, 2025 I3277353

TO: Robert Grundler; Connie Grundler; Robert Grundler; Connie Grundler; Occupant; Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois; Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"; "Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots". TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000208 FILED: 11/24/2025 TAKE NOTICE County of Sangamon Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023



TO:  
Michael M. Meyer;  
Debra Meyer;  
Michael M Meyer;  
Michael M Meyer;  
Michael M. Meyer;  
Debra Meyer;  
Debra Meyer;  
Debra Meyer;  
Occupant;  
Village of Riverton c/o Village Clerk;  
Village of Riverton c/o Village Attorney;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon  
County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and  
Decree Creditors, if any of the above  
described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested  
in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED No.: 2025TX000211 FILED:  
11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-42-4  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of  
(Municipality) and Special Assessment  
Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR  
DELINQUENT TAXES

TO:  
 KP4 LLC Lincoln;  
 KP4 LLC Lincoln;  
 Michael M Durr, as R/A for KP4 LLC  
 Lincoln;  
 Paul H. Stout, Jr., as Member for KP4  
 LLC Lincoln;  
 Paul H. Stout, Jr., as Member for KP4  
 LLC Lincoln;  
 Paul H. Stout, Jr., as Member for KP4  
 LLC Lincoln;  
 Ida M Miller;  
 Robert Henry Collins;  
 Alisa Ann Lomelino;  
 Stacey L Moore;  
 Karen S Bunch;  
 April R Chipol-Bustamante;  
 Terry Lynn S Szerletich;  
 Charles H Samson Sr;  
 Muriel P Cook;  
 Angela D Gregory;  
 Vincent J Cacciatori;  
 Randi M Smith;  
 Matilda M Samson;  
 Charles H Samson Jr;  
 Charles H Samson Jr;  
 William D Smith;  
 William D Smith;  
 Robert L Etter;  
 William Daniel Richards Sr;  
 Susan E Judd;  
 Barbara Jean Stufflebeam;  
 Teresa Diane Brown;  
 Lana L Young;  
 KPAM LLC-S Management KP Asset  
 Manag;  
 Sharps Mobile Home Park;  
 Bank & Trust Company;  
 Bank & Trust Company;  
 Bank & Trust Company;  
 Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon

TO:  
Kevin M. Fishel;  
Kevin M. Fishel;  
Occupant;  
Beth Galvin;  
Tamis L Holtkamp;  
Riley N Galvin;  
Shelby M Cantrall;  
Beth Cantrall;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon  
County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and  
Decree Creditors, if any of the above  
described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested  
in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000213  
FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE

TO:  
Lincoln Enterprises Transportation  
System, Inc;  
Michael Antonacci as R/A for Lincoln  
Enterprises Transportation System, Inc;  
Illinois Secretary of State for Lincoln  
Enterprises Transportation System, Inc;  
Lincoln Enterprises Transportation  
System, Inc;  
Lincoln Enterprises Transportation  
System, Inc;  
Occupant;  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency;  
Attorney General for Illinois Environmental  
Protection Agency;  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon  
County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and  
Decree Creditors, if any of the above  
described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested  
in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000203  
FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2024  
Certificate No.: 143-3-3  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year) 2023

TO:  
Steve Sheppard Sr;  
Traci R Sheppard;  
Steve Sheppard Sr;  
Steve Sheppard Sr;  
Steve Sheppard Sr;  
Traci R Sheppard;  
Traci R Sheppard;  
Traci R Sheppard;  
Occupant;  
Kyle J Vandorn;  
Sydney Jo Fisher;  
Amy D Vandorn;  
Joyce M Stevens;  
Kenneth J Vandorn;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon  
County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and  
Decree Creditors, if any of the above  
described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested  
in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000215 FILED:  
11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-67-1  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of  
(Municipality) and Special Assessment  
Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A

TO:  
James W. Riba;  
Sandra L. Riba;  
James W. Riba;  
Sandra L. Riba;  
City of Springfield c/o City Clerk;  
City of Springfield c/o Corporation  
Counsel;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon  
County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and  
Decree Creditors, if any of the above  
described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested  
in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000204  
FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-12-1  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of  
(Municipality) and Special Assessment  
Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR  
DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: PT W PT N PT W  
1/2 SE 1/4 10/15/2005, IN WOODSIDE  
TOWNSHIP IN SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS  
Legal Description or Property Index No.:  
22-10.0-409-003  
This notice is to advise you that the  
above property has been sold for  
delinquent taxes and that the period of  
redemption from the sale will expire on



May 6, 2026.  
The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeem-ing.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277350

TO:  
REV2214, LLC, C/O Cheryl Mattsson Hebro;  
Jared Mattsson as R/A for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Jared Mattsson as R/A for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Christa Goodrich as Manager for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Michael Hebron as Manager for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Michael Hebron as Manager for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Michael Hebron as Manager for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Alexandria Hernandez as Manager for The Estates Senior Living, LLC;  
Occupant;  
Michael Joseph Hebron;  
Jason M Hebron;  
Jared William Mattsson;  
Cheryl's Mattsson-Hebron Estate;  
Estates Senior Living & Spa;  
SRGO Development SG Development;  
Attorney General for the U.S.A., Department of Justice for the IRS;  
U.S. Attorney General for the IRS;  
U.S. Attorney General for the IRS;  
U.S.A., I.R.S.;  
U.S.A., I.R.S.;  
Illinois Department of Employment Security Revenue Collection Enforcement Unit;  
Attorney General for the Illinois Department of Employment Security;  
Collingwood Estates Condominium Association;  
Illinois Secretary of State for Collingwood Estates Condominium Association;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".

TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000217 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-351-2  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 3305 Collingwood Drive, Springfield, IL 62711  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 13-25.0-403-043  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277361

TO:  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Barry Taft;  
Occupant;  
Donald E Metzger;  
Camron M Clark;  
Lucas J Clark;  
Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement Collection and Asset Recovery Unit;  
Attorney for Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement Collection and Asset Recovery Unit;  
Unifund CCR, LLC;  
Illinois Corporation Service Company as R/A for Unifund CCR, LLC;  
Heartland Bank and Trust Company as Successor to Town And Country Bank;  
Heartland Bank and Trust Company as Successor to Town And Country Bank;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above

described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000206 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-16-3  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 6611 Canadian Cross Dr, Springfield, IL 62711  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 22-34.0-303-006  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.  
The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeem-ing.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277349

TO:  
Cathy J Bettis;  
Occupant;  
Robert T Bettis;  
Gavin C Bettis;  
Rylie J Bettis;  
Ashlee N Hagan;  
Elizabeth Grace Brewer;  
Robert Brady Bettis;  
Joette Kennel;  
Kaye L Barrett, as R/A for Joette Kennel, Inc.;  
Illinois Department of Revenue, Lien Unit;  
Illinois Attorney General for the Illinois Department of Revenue;  
Illinois Department of Employment Security Revenue Collection Enforcement Unit;  
Attorney General for the Illinois Department of Employment Security;  
Robert P. Johnson;  
Robert P. Johnson;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon

County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000216 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-73-1  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 12001 Ackerman Road, Virden, IL 62690  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 33-21.0-200-013  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277362

TO:  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Tyler Lufkin;  
Occupant;  
Jeffery Mitchell;  
Ray's Plumbing & Sewer Service;  
City of Springfield c/o City Clerk;  
City of Springfield c/o Corporation Counsel;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".

TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000205 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-15-6  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 3309 Carman Avenue Southern View a/k/a Springfield , IL 62703  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 22-16.0-127-003  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.  
The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeem-ing.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277348

TO:  
Robert T Cheney Jr;  
Connie I Cheney;  
Occupant;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000220 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-433-5  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 1810 South Cog Mill

Court, Springfield, IL 62704  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 21-01.0-427-038  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.  
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.  
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY  
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignnee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277365

TO:  
Brian P Duffy c/o PNC;  
Joseph J Paris, c/o PNC;  
Joseph J. Paris;  
Brian P. Duffy;  
Joseph J. Paris;  
Joseph J. Paris;  
Joseph J. Paris;  
Occupant;  
Brian P Duffy Jr;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000218 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-351-4  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 2 Forest Green Drive , Springfield, IL 62707  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 13-25.0-451-009  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may



be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277363

TO:  
William Dean Woods;  
William Dean Woods;  
Tamara A Woods;  
Tamara A Woods;  
Tamara A Woods;  
William Dean Woods;  
Tamara A. Woods;  
William Dean Woods;  
Occupant;  
Christopher Woods Dry Wall;  
Christopher W Woods;  
Carson K Reese;  
AMOS Financial, LLC;  
Illinois Corporation Service Company as R/A for AMOS Financial, LLC;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000214 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-62-3  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 305 Cross Street, Loami, IL 62661  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 27-11.0-251-010  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes

or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277360

TO:  
Steven Rosa Trust;  
Steven Rosa Trust;  
Occupant;  
Kaitlyn Miller;  
Angel J Vargas;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000212 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-46-3  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 1501 Prairie Vista Drive, Chatham, IL 62629  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 28-01.0-254-018  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom

#5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277357

TO:  
Mark A Lehmann;  
Mark A Lehmann;  
Occupant;  
Harvey, Inc;  
Arminda Lee Kovalichuk;  
Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement Collection and Asset Recovery Unit;  
Attorney General for Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement Collection and Asset Recovery Unit;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000222 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-59-1  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 1447 South Spring Creek Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 20-05.0-100-010  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277367

TO:  
William D Close, C/o Heritage Dev Co;  
Peggy S Close, C/o Heritage Dev Co;  
Peggy S. Close;  
Peggy S. Close;  
Peggy S Close;  
William D Close;  
David P. Ridenour as R/A for Heritage Development Co. of Illinois, Inc.;  
David P. Ridenour as R/A for Heritage Development Co. of Illinois, Inc.;  
Todd Gedaminski for Heritage Development Co. of Illinois, Inc.;  
Justin P Dennis;  
Gordon Dixon;  
Illinois Secretary of State for Heritage Development Co. of Illinois, Inc.;  
Heritage Development Co. of Illinois, Inc.;  
Occupant;  
Brandie T Victory;  
Bradley Mark Young;  
David P Ridenour;  
Amiri M Ward;  
Melody T Victory;  
Kimberly J Young;  
John Patrick Hayes;  
Deborah Kay Allgood;  
Ladaryl C Arrington;  
Justin P Dennis;  
Occupant;  
Occupant;  
Occupant;  
City of Springfield c/o City Clerk;  
City of Springfield c/o Corporation Counsel;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000219 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-362-2  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 1405 North 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62702  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 14-22.0-307-032  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before

redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277369

TO:  
Steven Schuckmann;  
Steven Schuckmann, C/o Inland Bank & Trust;  
Byline Bank as Successor to Inland Bank & Trust;  
Steven Schuckmann;  
Occupant;  
Barbara L Weatherford;  
Don Gray, County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois;  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as  
"Unknown Owners";  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots".  
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX000221 FILED: 11/24/2025  
TAKE NOTICE  
County of Sangamon  
Date Premises Sold: November 3, 2023  
Certificate No.: 143-434-1  
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A  
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 1617 Briarcreek Lane, Springfield, IL 62711  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 21-02.0-402-026  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County in 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62701, Via Zoom #5D, on June 16, 2026 at 11:00 AM. You

may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Springfield, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK  
200 South Ninth Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 753-6701  
TLC-2023, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 25, 2025  
I3277366

Publication notice  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
GREGORY GILMER, JR., CITIZENS EQUITY FIRST CREDIT UNION, A/K/A CEFUCU, IVY JACK INC., SANGAMON COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, UNKNOWN OWNERS & NON-RECORDED CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s)  
No. 25-MR-539  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO GREGORY GILMER, JR., CITIZENS EQUITY FIRST CREDIT UNION A/K/A CEFUCU, IVY JACK INC., SANGAMON COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, UNKNOWN OWNERS & NON-RECORDED CLAIMANTS, that a complaint has been filed in the above named court on November 13, 2025 for demolition of the structure or structures located on the real estate commonly known as 1509 S 8th St., Springfield, IL 62703, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as: Lot 3 in Block 5 of Elijah Iles' Subdivision of lands number 3.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 22-03.0-106-011);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS GREGORY GILMER, JR., CITIZENS EQUITY FIRST CREDIT UNION A/K/A CEFUCU, IVY JACK INC., SANGAMON COUNTY AS TRUSTEE, UNKNOWN OWNERS & NON-RECORDED CLAIMANTS FILE an answer or otherwise file an appearance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before January 5, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Joe Roesch  
Clerk of Court  
Gregory E. Moredock  
Corporation Counsel  
Emily Rosenberger  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

Publication notice  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff,  
vs.



FRONTLINE PROPERTIES LLC, JICTB INC, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s).  
No. 24-MR-538  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, FRONTLINE PROP-ERTIES LLC, JICTB Inc, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that a com-plaint has been filed in the above named court on November 13, 2025 for demoli-tion of the structure or structures located on the real estate commonly known as 1908 Renfro Street, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as:  
Lot 4 in Block 2 of Spauldings Third South Park Addition to the City of Springfield. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 22-03.0-281-004);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS FRONTLINE PROPERTIES LLC, JICTB Inc, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer or otherwise file an appearance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before January 5, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Joe Roesch  
Clerk of Court  
Gregory E. Moredock  
Corporation Counsel  
Emily Rosenberger ARDC #6336667  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375  
Emily.Rosenberger@springfield.il.us

Publication notice  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEV-ENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
HOLBAR GROUP INC, UNKNOWN OWN-ERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s)  
No. 25-MR-541  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO, HOLBAR GROUP INC, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that a complaint has been filed in the above named court on November 13, 2025 for demolition of the structure or structures located on the real estate commonly known as 1703 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as:  
Lot 9 in Block 2 of L.B. Adams Addition to the City of Springfield. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-35.0-108-065);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS HOLBAR GROUP INC, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer or otherwise file an appear-ance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before Janu-ary 5, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Joe Roesch  
Clerk of Court

Gregory E. Moredock  
Corporation Counsel  
Charles Kenney  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

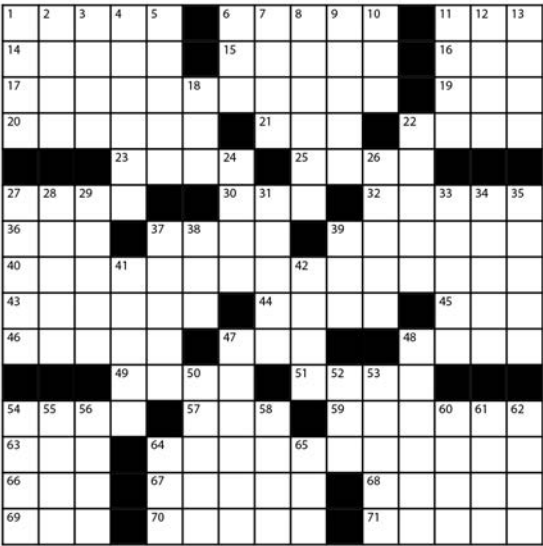
Publication notice  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEV-ENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
SPRINGFIELD GOLF, INC., UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s)  
No. 25-MR-540  
NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO SPRINGFIELD GOLF, INC., Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that a complaint has been filed in the above named court on November 13, 2025 for demolition of the structure or structures located on the real estate commonly known as 2400 Hilton Head Drive, Springfield, Illinois, and legally described as:  
Lot 19 of Northfield Plaza, Second Addi-tion to the City of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois.  
(Permanent Parcel No. 14-13.0-481-001);  
and for other relief.  
UNLESS SPRINGFIELD GOLF, INC., Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants FILE an answer or otherwise file an appearance in this case in the office of the clerk of this court, Room 405 Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before January 5, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.  
/s/ Joe Roesch  
Clerk of Court  
Gregory E. Moredock  
Corporation Counsel  
Kateah McMasters  
Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
800 E. Monroe, Room 327  
Springfield, IL 62701-1653  
(217) 789-2375

## Sounds the same

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 924

### Across

1. Whip marks  
6. Independent candidate Ralph  
11. Smartphone buy  
14. Electronic game pioneer  
15. Snapshot  
16. "\_\_\_ sport"  
17. Reassuring words  
19. Dust remover  
20. Pointless  
21. Spanish uncle  
22. Fill beyond full  
23. Strong cleaners  
25. Canadian gas brand  
27. Mama \_\_\_ of the Mamas and the Papas  
30. Radio settings  
32. 747, e.g.  
36. Bush spokesman  
Fleischer  
37. "Othello" villain  
39. Add spice to  
40. Parting words  
43. Most October babies  
44. Gives a hand  
45. "\_\_\_ Rosenkavalier"  
46. Tangle  
47. Building add-on  
48. Dynamic beginning  
49. Airline to Israel  
51. Cabinet dept.  
54. The \_\_\_ of Avon  
57. Tie the knot  
59. What's left behind  
63. "I'll take that as \_\_\_"  
64. Third baseman for the Mets  
66. Mil. titles



67. 2000 comedy  
"My, Myself & \_\_\_"  
68. Doubleday, \_\_\_  
(old publishing house)  
69. Mayo, e.g.  
70. Wilder and Hackman  
71. "West Side Story" girl

### Down

1. Homeless child  
2. "\_\_\_, Brute!"  
3. Endure  
4. Hiker's paths  
5. Nonsensical  
6. "Morning Edition" aier  
7. Take \_\_\_ (suffer loss)  
8. Plains orphans

9. Cultural values  
10. Decompose  
11. Start of a magician's cry  
12. \_\_\_ moss  
13. Newspaper unit  
18. Filmmaker Spike  
22. Kind of panel  
24. Herb in stuffing  
26. Gushes  
27. Olympic track gold medalist Lewis et al.  
28. "The results \_\_\_!"  
29. "The Lion King" lion  
31. Fable's end  
33. "All kidding \_\_\_..."  
34. Observant one  
35. Another 69-across  
37. "\_\_\_ ears!"  
38. Tummy muscles  
39. Landscaper's need

41. Guessed wrong  
42. Mosaic piece  
47. Nearing midnight  
48. Director's cry  
50. Cognizant  
52. Drops on blades  
53. F.D.A. guideline  
54. It's soothing  
55. Get the pot going  
56. One of the friends on "Friends"  
58. Eat  
60. Prefix with culture  
61. "Take \_\_\_!"  
62. European erupter  
64. Archaeological site  
65. \_\_\_ Plaines, Ill.

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



Crossword answers from #923

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

Sudoku answers from #923

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

JoshJosh answers from #923

## JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 924

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.

1-		12x			2+
2+	7+		1-		
		4-	13+		
3-			10+		
2+		10+	9+		2-
1-					

Difficulty hard

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

Difficulty medium





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This year, Illinois Times was selected as a Report for America newsroom, allowing us to expand our reporting capacity and deepen our coverage of the issues shaping central Illinois.

Thanks to this opportunity — and to your generosity — we welcomed Dilpreet Raju as a full-time reporter in July. His reporting has already strengthened our newsroom, with coverage ranging from children's mental health resources and rising health care premiums to how local governments are responding to opioid-related deaths.

Report for America provided \$25,000 toward Dilpreet's first-year salary, and with your support, we raised the \$35,000 needed to fund our portion. Now we need your help to keep that momentum going.

In 2026, our support from Report for America decreases to \$15,000. That means we must raise \$45,000 to fund our share of Dilpreet's second-year salary.

Since 1975, Illinois Times has been committed to high-quality, fact-based journalism — uncovering corruption, amplifying community voices, and celebrating the culture that makes our region thrive. We're a free publication supported by readers and local businesses, and despite challenges from social media disruption to the pandemic, our mission has never wavered: to keep our community informed, engaged, and empowered.

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