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In Memoriam

Judith L. Adams

After a wonderful, fulfilling life, Judith Lee Adams (Rollet, Bressan), passed away at the age of 84 on August 21, 2026.

She was born to Gladys May Brandenburg-Bressan and Olindo Anthony Bressan in Springfield, Illinois on December 18th, 1941.

She married George J. Rollet on June 10th, 1961, and he predeceased her on September 8th, 1977. A son, James J. Rollet, also predeceased her on February 28th, 2024.

She is survived by her husband, Louie L. Adams, whom she married on January 11th, 1980. She is also survived by her children, Jeanine M. Schlecht (Dale), Elisabeth Adams, Aletha Jerome (Robert), Ronald C. Rollet (Kimberly), and Jonathan L. Adams, all of Springfield, Illinois. She has 12 grandchildren, and numerous great grandchildren. She is also survived by her brothers, Lee Bressan (Charlene), of Pleasant Plains, Illinois, and Ray Bressan, of Tucson, Arizona, and one niece and two nephews. Last, but not least, she is survived by her best friend, Carol Ann Kirby, of Springfield.

Judy, as she is known to all that loved her, worked as an Illinois Bell Telephone Co. operator prior to being married and then becoming a housewife. She worked tirelessly at raising her children, blending two families into one, and providing advice to all of her children that ensured they were able to raise their own children the way she had raised hers. Judy served as an Elder in the Farmingdale

Presbyterian Church and had been a long-time Sunday School Teacher and Youth Group Leader for Farmingdale Presbyterian Church. She will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your own choosing.

Visitation will be held at Farmingdale Presbyterian Church on September 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. followed by services at 11:00 a.m.

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 **Ghosts of Glasnost: A Veteran Journalist Revisits the Collapse of the USSR for clues to the Rise of Putin's Russia**
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Reception: 5:30pm • Dinner 6:15pm • **FREE** Program 7:00pm

We will look back to see what we might learn from "The Ghosts of Glasnost." The setting: It was a young journalist's dream assignment: Moscow, 1986-1991, the turbulent final five years of the Soviet Union, as the largest country in the world collapsed. As bureau chief for U.S. News & World Report magazine, Jeff documented the rise and fall of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his ambitious but ultimately failed attempts to reform and modernize the USSR. In his talk, Trimble will revisit those tumultuous years and his reporting from that time for clues – missed or not fully appreciated in the rush of fast-paced developments and pressing deadlines – about the future Russia that would emerge from the ashes of the Soviet Union and the chaotic tenure of Boris Yelstin: a revanchist, tightly controlled authoritarian state, now more than two decades under the iron rule of ex-KGB agent Vladimir Putin.

Dinner cost: \$45 members of WACCI/ \$55 non-members. Reservations are due by September 8 by sending to WACCI, Box 2233, Springfield, Illinois 62705 or online (preferred) at www.mywacci.org

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\$60 million BOS Center expansion backed

Proposed new downtown hotel on back burner until Illinois General Assembly weighs in

DOWNTOWN | Dean Olsen

Unwilling to wait on the Illinois General Assembly, the Sangamon County Board plans to vote as soon as Sept. 1 to impose a new 3% hotel tax to fund a \$60 million expansion of the BOS Center.

County officials say they want to act now because state legislation that would create an oversight board – the Capital Area Tourism Authority – and help finance a \$200 million expansion of Springfield’s publicly owned convention center failed to progress in the 2026 spring session.

The larger expansion project would have included construction of a new \$140 million, state-of-the-art hotel with 200 to 300 rooms connected to the proposed new BOS Center space.

All of the expansion, including the new hotel if that option becomes a reality through state legislation and future votes by county and city officials, is intended for county-owned land immediately south of the current convention center that is currently used as a parking lot. The lot is south of East Adams Street, east of South Eighth Street and west of South Ninth Street.

County Board Chair Andy Van Meter said at a news conference Aug. 25 that a bipartisan group of Sangamon County and Springfield governmental leaders, as well as business and labor officials, support proceeding with the BOS Center expansion as soon as possible while state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, keeps working to pass legislation to get the rest of the project done.

The bipartisan group includes state Rep. Mike Coffey, R-Springfield, who said at the news conference that the new direction for the effort is being called “Operation Save Downtown Springfield.”

Springfield has lost several conventions to larger venues in other cities because current spaces at the BOS Center aren’t large enough, according to Coffey. The most recent example, he said, is the Illinois FFA State Convention, which will leave Springfield for Peoria after 2027.

“Springfield is the capital of Illinois, but our downtown convention capacity no longer allows us to compete at a level a state capital should,” Coffey said. “The choice is clear: We can invest in Springfield’s future, or we can keep watching the future check into hotels and convention centers somewhere else.”

In addition to serving in the Illinois



From left, State Rep. Mike Coffey, Sangamon County Board Chair Andy Van Meter, Mayor Misty Buscher and state Rep. Doris Turner at an Aug. 25 press conference to announce plans to fund the expansion of the BOS Center through a 3% hotel-motel tax. CREDIT: PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

House, Coffey, whose family owns Saputo’s restaurant, is chairman of the publicly elected panel – the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority Board – that governs the BOS Center.

Van Meter said local leaders want to avoid the \$700,000-per-month and \$10 million-per-year in inflation-related increases in construction costs that would be associated with the wait for state legislation in the General Assembly to help pay for the more comprehensive project.

“Our community stands at a crossroads,” Van Meter said. “A small tax on visitors staying in our hotels can produce a significant benefit for the people who live in Sangamon County.”

The Sangamon County Board’s finance committee on Aug. 27 plans to discuss imposing a 3% countywide hotel tax that was first authorized by state legislation in 2024. If the County Board makes a final decision on the new tax Sept. 1, it would start to be added to hotel bills 30 days after that.

County officials said they hope to begin construction in the fall on what would be a

doubling in size of the 65,000-square-foot BOS Center. If that happens, an expanded BOS Center would open in about three years, Van Meter said.

The BOS Center first opened in 1979 and underwent an \$18 million renovation in 2013.

Van Meter and Coffey brushed aside concerns from the Springfield Hotel & Lodging Association, the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association and that the increase in hotel taxes would make it harder for all hotels in Sangamon County to attract guests.

The lodging associations said that if approved, the new countywide hotel tax would bring Springfield’s total hotel tax – which includes the state hotel tax – to 17%, the second highest in the state behind Chicago, which has a 17.39% hotel rate.

Van Meter said two different feasibility studies conducted for the county indicate the new countywide hotel tax would be worth the expense to help pay off long-term borrowing financing the proposed project and would improve local tourism, hotel occupancy rates and the community’s ability

to attract conventions.

Van Meter said he hopes the General Assembly will act on the proposed Capital Area Tourism Authority soon. “But we cannot ignore the millions of dollars that delaying this project could cost taxpayers,” he said.

“Moving ahead now saves money, and if the financial financing package shows we do not need the full 3%, we are committed to lowering the rate,” Van Meter said.

Bonds – a form of low-interest borrowing issued by the county – would fund the convention center expansion and be paid off over a 30-year period with \$2.4 million a year in proceeds from the new countywide hotel tax, Van Meter said.

Funds to repay the bonds also would come from \$500,000 a year in lease revenue the county would receive from the SMEAA board for the expanded convention space, he said. In addition, he said the County Board may decide to chip in the county’s share of incremental sales tax revenue associated with the BOS Center expansion in the 62701 ZIP code.

Turner and Coffey said they support the new strategy for the overall project, as does Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher, a Republican.

Buscher said an expanded BOS Center would benefit hotels and businesses throughout Springfield and would create good-paying temporary construction jobs and full-time jobs at the BOS Center.

“The county is making the right decision by keeping this project moving,” Buscher said. “An expanded BOS Center gives Springfield the opportunity to attract larger events, and that means new visitors staying throughout our city.”

If the General Assembly passes legislation to help fund a new hotel, that piece of the project would divert part of the state’s share of hotel and sales taxes in the 62701 ZIP code to repay bonds. Funds for repayment also would come from lease payments from the new hotel.

Van Meter said the Springfield City Council would be asked to help repay bonds for the new hotel from the city’s share of hotel taxes generated by the new hotel, and possibly from the city’s incremental increase in 62701 sales taxes attributed to economic activity spurred by the project. □

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Workers lay on coating as part of the construction of the new roof at Nelson Center on Aug. 25. CREDIT: PHOTO BY MARIA GARDNER LARA

Springfield Park District going solar

PARKS | Maria Gardner Lara

The Springfield Park District Board has approved issuing bonds to help pay for a major solar energy upgrade that's already begun at two of its facilities.

Bonds totaling \$1.8 million, along with state and federal funding, will cover the costs of replacing the roofs on the Nelson Center and the Fun Shop building and the installation of solar panels. In addition, the Fun Shop will receive a new HVAC system.

The Nelson Center, one of the most popular facilities in the Park District, is located in Lincoln Park and holds two professional-sized indoor ice rinks, indoor meeting space and an outdoor pool beside it. The Fun Shop, a standalone building near the center of the park, hosts programs for young children.

Derek Harms, Springfield Park District executive director, said the bond sale won't result in an increase in taxes. He said it's an "alternative revenue bond," and the energy savings due to the solar panels will offset the costs of the bonds.

"So, the alternate revenue that we're pledging to pay debt service will come from the energy savings that we'll realize from having the solar on top of the roof, coupled with rebates and incentives that the federal government offers for energy-efficient

projects like that," Harms said.

Debt service entails the selling price of the bonds and the interest they accrue over 10 years.

Rebates were available for the installation of solar panels as part of President Joe Biden's "green agenda." His administration made heavy investments in alternative forms of energy such as solar, wind and battery manufacturing to curb the dependency on fossil fuels.

Under the Trump Administration, some of the funding has been canceled or cut short. Harms said the Park District purchased solar panels before the rebates were phased out July 1.

"We were able to get in right at the tail end of these rebates," Harms said.

In addition to receiving federal rebates, the project benefits from state funding through *Illinois Shines*, a program created to support the transition to 100% clean energy sources by 2050 as laid out in the 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act.

"The stars kind of aligned for us," he said. "We were able to really take advantage of all three of them to make this project work."

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2027 with 728 panels allotted

for the Nelson Center and 88 panels for the Fun Shop.

The Park District has solar panels in place at Southwind Park, but "this will be the first really sizable, notable solar project that we're doing."

The solar panels installed at the Nelson Center and the Fun Shop combined will produce a total of 517,990 kWh its first year. The estimated total cost savings for both buildings in the first year will be \$48,300, Harms said.

Harms said the need to replace the roofs was the incentive for the project.

"The roof on both the Fun Shop and the Nelson Center have passed their useful life," he said.

"It's a great way to make a local improvement at no cost to local taxpayers," he said. "We're all about green, and putting solar panels up there will certainly help reduce our footprint and our energy consumption, and help save dollars." □

Maria Gardner Lara is a staff writer for Illinois Times. She has a master's degree in journalism from the Public Affairs Reporting program at University of Illinois Springfield and served as a corps member with Report for America at the NPR station in DeKalb.

The Super Bowl of motorcycle racing

Springfield Mile returns Sept. 5-6 along with a Harley-Davidson Route 66 ride

MOTORSPORTS | Adrian Dater

As it is to the fifth-generation farmer on the homestead, the dirt at the oval track of the Springfield Mile is sacred ground to 40-year-old Jared Mees.

He's won the annual motorcycle race in the capital city 10 times, and with it a lot of prize money. He also was married on the soil of the track in 2013. So, it was no surprise to find Mees on a recent weekday tending the dirt with the caring hands of a masseur or a potter, getting the track ready for a race for which he is now its official promoter.

And, boy, does Mees have a race to sell you.

"Springfield is the most legendary flat track race in the world," Mees told *Illinois Times*. "Fifty, 60 years ago, the Springfield Mile was so iconic that just winning that race alone gave you the No. 1 plate, the championship. Now, it's part of a 16-race series, and this year's Springfield Mile will mark the final two rounds of the 16-race championships. The champions will be crowned, so for us this is our Daytona 500, our Super Bowl. This is it."

The first Springfield Mile American Motorcycle Association race took place in 1937 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, with Lester Hilbish winning on his Indian motorcycle. The one-mile oval track quickly became known as the "world's fastest dirt mile," partially because of its clay-based soil compound.

In fact, Springfield remains home to the world record for the fastest one-mile, two-wheeled dirt track time, a time of 34.548 seconds set by Ricky Graham in 1984 at an average speed of 104.203 mph. Mees' fastest time in Springfield was 37.018, and he probably would have gone on to win many more Springfield Mile competitions had he not chosen to retire from racing in 2024.

Broken bones and numerous surgeries – not to mention a growing young family – convinced Mees to get off the bike and into the C-suites of the management side of the business full time. He is now the promoter and de facto CEO of American Flat Track racing. He runs Mees Promotions along with his wife, Nichole, a former racer herself.

They first met as competitors at the Springfield Mile, and in 2012 he proposed to her on stage after winning the race. A year later, they were married at the starting point on the oval track.

"With Springfield being what it is to this sport, and to us both personally as racers, this just became an obvious place for us to want to get married," Mees said. "I could have kept racing myself, but any time you get on a bike, it's a bit of a gamble. With a family now, I just felt like that's a gamble I didn't want to take."

Mees said motorcycle racing's popularity has dipped some in recent years, a trend he attributes to perhaps fewer younger people being as interested in outdoor motorsports as older generations. In 1937, not many people had ever even seen men going fast on motorcycles or even motorcycles themselves. Their ubiquity today, not to mention a million other things competing for their eyeballs, makes it a tougher sell. But the energetic Mees is set on changing that.

"Our demographic has always tended to be a bit older, and today's generation. ... believe me, if I knew, I'd have already fixed the problem," he said. "But you just have to keep investing and stay after it, and give people good entertainment and good racing."

Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau director Scott Dahl said a separate Harley-Davidson group ride from a Chicago suburb to the State Fairgrounds will precede this year's Springfield Mile, which he says usually attracts visitors from as many as 20 states. Riders will depart from Conrad's Harley-Davidson in Shorewood, about 40 miles southwest of downtown Chicago, and travel down Route 66 to the fairgrounds for the Route 66 Centennial Harley-Davidson Ride.

An amateur race, held at the Multi-Purpose Arena at the fairgrounds, takes place on Friday, with the main event on Saturday, Sept. 6.

"This race is iconic to this city," Dahl said. "With this being the 100th birthday this year of Route 66, too, I think you're going to find that even more people will come out to visit and take in the race this year. A lot of people make it a weekend trip, and it's always good for the city's economy."

The only thing Mees doesn't want to visit this year's race: rain.

"With races, the weather pretty much dictates everything," he said. "If we have good weather, we're gonna have a great crowd. If we don't, we gotta dodge bullets, you know?" □



Jared Mees won the Springfield Mile 10 times before retiring from motorcycle racing in 2024 and becoming the promoter of the annual event at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

Doris Turner joins Mid-Illinois Medical District

Bill introduced by Turner would replace MIMD with new commission, expand boundaries

MEDICAL DISTRICT | Dilpreet Raju

The Mid-Illinois Medical District has a new, but familiar, member in state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield. She was nominated to serve on the commission by Mayor Misty Buscher and approved unanimously at the Aug. 5 Springfield City Council meeting.

Turner tried and failed, through a total of five separate bills in the current General Assembly, to pass legislation that she and Springfield business leaders say would help revitalize downtown. One of the bills would ultimately substitute the Capital City Downtown Medical District for the Mid-Illinois Medical District, along with its commission.

The new commission would consist of five gubernatorial appointees along with three appointees each from the mayor of Springfield and the Sangamon County Board chair. The current commission allows up to six mayoral appointees, including two advisory council spots, and only one county board appointee to go along with up to six gubernatorial nominees.

The current MIMD, established in 2003, covers a one-square mile area just north of downtown. Turner's bill would expand its southernmost boundary from Madison Street to South Grand Avenue to take in Springfield Clinic's headquarters, although it carves out the area designated as part of the master planning area for the Capitol complex.

"We have some of the most fabulous healthcare in the world. People come here for healthcare, and putting all of our healthcare opportunities under that one umbrella in the medical district will provide so many opportunities for growth," Turner told *Illinois Times* Aug. 25.

"We will see more opportunities for



State Sen. Doris Turner speaks Aug. 25 at a press conference in Springfield.

expansion in the services that we provide, but I'm looking at how we can move even beyond the traditional healthcare aspect of the medical district and start talking about things like housing, those kinds of things that are critical to continue to have those people come here."

The Capital City Medical District Commission would be responsible for increasing commercial development, "including mixed-use housing development, workforce housing, student housing and middle-income housing within walking distance of government, healthcare, commercial and educational facilities in and near the district."

"With the expansion of the medical district," Turner told the Springfield City Council in early August, "there's a real opportunity for economic gain to expand what we're doing in healthcare

and really looking at what we can do around housing. Everybody talks about the need for housing."

In February, *Illinois Times* reported on the first iteration of the medical district expansion, which was eventually combined with her other measures into House Bill 910. That legislation passed the House but was dead on arrival in the Senate as the main mechanism – public financing to assist the Chicago Bears with a move to suburban Arlington Heights – turned out to be a nonstarter for Chicago-area senators.

Turner, who held city and county office before her current position, then turned her efforts to another bill by packaging the Springfield measures into House Bill 4496, which just needed a House concurrence to be sent to Gov. JB Pritzker's desk. It was never

called for a vote, though there was little time for state politicians to consider all the bills that were progressing through the General Assembly in the final hours leading into adjournment.

Turner's original three-pronged approach for downtown Springfield includes creating construction job tax credits and new government boards: the Capital Area Tourism Authority and the reconfigured Medical District Commission.

Pritzker, for his part, has expressed support for investing in downtown Springfield.

"The administration also supports a new, coordinated investment in the capital city centered on the Mid-Illinois Medical District and adjacent areas surrounding the state Capitol," reads page 51 of the governor's initial February budget proposal.

Despite pushing for legislation to alter Springfield's medical district, Turner said there's no conflict of interest with her being appointed to that government board.

"Not at all. One of the things that I love about Springfield is the opportunity for all of us to work collaboratively," she said. "It's also important to note that my work with the medical district is just not starting with me joining the medical district. I have been a part of working with (that board) since its inception, so I'm not new to the work of the medical district and actually have worked very closely with people like Ryan Croke, who is now chairing (the commission)." □

Dilpreet Raju is a staff writer for Illinois Times and a Report for America corps member. He has a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from American University. Reach him at draju@illinoistimes.com.

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Sean Grayson dies in custody

Former Sangamon County sheriff's deputy, killer of Sonya Massey, was denied medical release in July

COURTS | Dean Olsen

Sean Grayson, the white former sheriff's deputy whose shots at Sonya Massey inside the Black single mother's Woodside Township home two years ago set in motion his second-degree murder conviction and an ongoing racial reckoning in Sangamon County, died about noon Aug. 23.

Daniel Fultz, one of the Riverton resident's attorneys, confirmed Grayson's death to *Illinois Times*. But Fultz wouldn't comment on circumstances surrounding the passing of his client, who had advanced colon cancer that spread to his liver and lungs and began to serve a 20-year prison sentence almost seven months ago.

Illinois Department of Corrections spokesperson Naomi Puzzello would only confirm that Grayson died "at a facility outside of Illinois."

Puzzello wouldn't comment on where Grayson was being held and the cause of death. "The department does not discuss details concerning the placement of individuals who have been transferred under the terms of the Interstate Corrections Compact Agreement," she said.

Nationally known civil rights lawyer Ben Crump and Chicago-based lawyer Antonio Romanucci, attorneys for the family of Sonya Massey, 36, who was killed on July 4, 2024, said in a news release: "Sonya Massey's death was unjustifiable, and she should be alive today. Sean Grayson's death in custody from cancer does not bring Sonya back. We wish his family prayers of peace, as we do for all who grieve a loved one. Sonya's family knows that pain all too well and will grieve her loss for the rest of their days."

Massey, who was dealing with mental illness, was killed after calling 911 late at night when suspecting a prowler in her neighborhood.

Grayson and another deputy who wasn't charged showed up, and a tense exchange between Grayson and Massey inside Massey's home ended with Grayson firing his gun at her three times. One bullet hit Massey in the face and caused the bleeding that killed her.

Grayson contended that he was acting in self-defense after Massey picked up a pot of water that had been boiling on her stove and eventually raised the pot above her head and tried to throw the water at him.

Prosecutors said the exchange of words and Grayson's behavior, captured on police-worn camera video that went viral, showed how he was unnecessarily aggressive and failed to follow his training to deescalate the situation.

During a trial that was moved to Peoria



Sean Grayson, 32, is shown in this jail mugshot from November 2025. He had dealt with a cancer diagnosis for several years, even before he was hired by the Sangamon County Sheriff's Office in May 2023. CREDIT: SANGAMON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

County because of extensive pretrial publicity, prosecutors said Massey held up the pot in an apparent effort to protect herself. Prosecutors also said Grayson overreacted when Massey told Grayson, "I rebuke you in the name of Jesus." Massey's death carried racial overtones because of the way Grayson treated Massey — who was much smaller in stature — as well as the profanity Grayson used before shooting Massey and disparaging remarks the former deputy made about Massey in the minutes following the shooting.

The case attracted nationwide media attention. Activists in the Black Lives Matter movement now mention Massey's death and Springfield in the same breath as the deaths of George Floyd, Michael Brown, Breonna Taylor, Trayvon Martin and Laquan McDonald.

The case also led to numerous demonstrations in Springfield, the creation of the Massey Commission and numerous recommendations from the commission to improve police relations with the community and oversight, reform public-safety practices, reduce economic and racial disparities and improve access to mental health treatment.

A highlight of the commission's work was the successful passage of a Sangamon County referendum in March to create a mental health board that will distribute an estimated \$14.7 million annually collected through a new 0.5% local sales tax.

The Republican county sheriff who hired Grayson, Jack Campbell, retired unexpectedly amid calls for his resignation. He was

replaced by appointed Sheriff Paula Crouch, a Republican who is seeking a full four-year term and will face Democrat Marc Bell in the Nov. 3 election.

Campbell, as well as other police agencies where Grayson worked and the state's law-enforcement community in general, faced criticism for either being unaware of, or overlooking, conduct in Grayson's past that critics identified as red flags.

The Illinois General Assembly in 2025 passed a bill named after Massey, signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker, that requires police departments to make thorough reviews of job applicants' past employment. The new law requires former employers to make available the applicants' personnel and disciplinary records for inspection by the hiring agency before an offer of employment can be made.

Teresa Haley, a community activist, friend of the Massey family and former president of the NAACP's Springfield branch, said in a Facebook post after the news of Grayson's death was spreading, "Justice has been served! Today is a great day! ... Now the Springfield community can breathe a little better. But stay woke!"

Sonya Massey's father, James Wilburn of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, said in a written statement, "Today doesn't bring me joy, and it doesn't bring me the peace of having my daughter back. Sean Grayson's death closes one chapter, but it doesn't erase the pain our family has carried since Sonya was taken away from us."

Wilburn added, "My prayers have always

been for accountability, truth and justice, not revenge. I hope the world continues to remember Sonya for who she was, and I hope her name continues to inspire meaningful change so that no other family has to endure this kind of loss."

Grayson, 32, opted not to appear in person in front of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board on July 31 when the board voted unanimously to deny his request for release on medical grounds.

Grayson was sentenced to 20 years in prison by Circuit Judge Ryan Cadagin on Jan. 29 after a jury of Peoria County residents disagreed with Sangamon County State's Attorney John Milhiser's original first-degree murder charges and instead decided to find Grayson guilty of the lesser charge of second-degree murder on Oct. 29, 2025.

Grayson's lawyers had begun an appeal of his sentence to the 4th District of the Illinois Appellate Court.

Haley said Massey's mother and father told him they were relieved they won't have to go through the stress that Grayson's court appeal would cause.

"Hopefully, the family will be able to get some rest now that he's gone," Haley said.

The family wants to see continued improvements locally and nationally so people with mental illness get the help they need and Black people are treated fairly by police and the criminal-justice system, she said.

The PURPLE Coalition, a Springfield-based group that advocates for disadvantaged people and is named after Massey's favorite color, said in a statement that the pain Grayson inflicted on the Massey family and the community "will remain as a scar on all of our hearts. But with his passing, we hope the journey towards healing can truly begin now that the specter of his release has, much like Sean, been put to rest."

The coalition added, "One shouldn't take joy in the passing of anyone, but evil leaving this world should always be noted, celebrated, and the hope of moving forward should begin with the joy of being released from the endless cycle of harm he perpetuated even after his conviction."

The Massey Commission Action Network, a group pushing for implementation of the commission's 26 "calls to action," said in a statement that Grayson's death "does not resolve the conditions that made Sonya Massey's death possible. Those conditions remain our responsibility. So do the commitments made in Sonya's name." □

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LETTERS

We welcome letters. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. We edit all letters. Send them to editor@illinoistimes.com.

LIVED TO SEE IT

Professional women's baseball has been a long time coming ("Another league of their own," July 30). I'm glad I can see it in my lifetime. It was a dream since I was 5 years old. Now I am a senior. I can't play, but I can watch and cheer you all on!

Margo Wilcox

Via [Facebook/illinoistimes.com](#)

NEED EDUCATION

This is a good and needed article ("Immigrants benefit Illinois STEM fields and healthcare industry every day," July 30). However, there needs to be more education about the current immigration system for the public to understand what is actually happening – it is not a straight pipeline to citizenship.

Something needs to be said to clarify how easy it is for an immigrant who is legally in

this country to become "illegal" because of a missed deadline or a paperwork problem. And that there are many different designations of how an immigrant is in this country – it is not a clear-cut situation of "legal" versus "illegal."

ICE is not making any distinctions about status. It is pulling in people who have all of the correct paperwork and are hardworking, tax-paying individuals. There is a great deal of documentation about ICE making sure that detainees can't get to their court appointments, or even their lawyers or families.

I am not an immigrant, but have been studying the situation with ICE since it began as a human rights activist.

Cathy Mosley

Springfield

FALSE ARGUMENT

Instead of selectively featuring immigrants who made positive contributions, as if activist propaganda was an argument, why not delve into the actual conflict, which is not about immigration as a stand-alone concept? It is about the results of legal versus illegal immigration.

With legal immigration, we can select immigrants that portray reasonable expectations of positive contributions to our society. Results should be – and for decades were – vastly positive. Illegal immigration floods our society with a mix of negative results that overrun our healthcare, schools and social services; blow up public expenses; crowd jails and court dockets; skew elections; and threaten national security. All of these can be avoided or reduced to minor incidents.

The great distraction: "Our immigration system is broken," cannot be successfully answered by erasing our border and delivering everyone who crosses it uninvited to unprepared communities around the country.

Why not instead ask what is broken (if anything is) and then proceed to explore suggestions that enhance our society



Left to right: Denae Benites (New York), Lexi Hastings (Boston), Ashton Lansdell (L.A.), Mo'ne Davis (L.A.) and Kelsie Whitmore (San Francisco). CREDIT: PHOTO COURTESY WOMEN'S PRO BASEBALL LEAGUE

without amplifying the harmful negatives that unfettered waves of illegal immigrants guarantee.

John Levalley

Springfield

for so many years.

Terri Pitton Dickey

Via [Facebook/illinoistimes.com](#)

BROKEN SYSTEM

The online comments on this article are revealing how much people don't understand. The U.S. has built an entire economy driven by undocumented peoples' labor for decades. The problem isn't the immigrants; it's the broken immigration system the U.S. has had

FINE LINE

Nearly half the individuals in the U.S. illegally entered the country legally with a visa: student, work, travel, etc. They became 'illegal' when their visa expired. Per the State Department, more than 33,000 people enter the U.S. on a visa each day.

Joe Coffey

Via [Facebook/illinoistimes.com](#)

Turtle Creek

Ron Dougan writes of a trip down Turtle Creek; "Perhaps the high point of my grandkids' visit was a canoe trip down Turtle Creek from the Shopiere Dam to Colley Road. The banks enclosed us, we were in another world. Turtles, Carp, Little Green Heron, Great Blue Heron, Kingfishers, Cedar Wax Wings, and Ducks galore – a wilderness area at our door!"

2026 Jacqueline Jackson

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OPINION

Another harassment allegation

POLITICS | Rich Miller

Yet another sexual harassment allegation has been made against an Illinois House Democrat. But this time, the House Speaker's operation is fully supporting its incumbent.

Rep. Murri Briel's former deputy chief of staff Laura Jackson claims that, among other things, Briel (D-Ottawa) sexually harassed her, supplied "unlimited" amounts of Adderall to her and the campaign staff and gave "bonuses in marijuana." Jackson said she ultimately had a three-hour meeting with the legislative inspector general.

Before we go any further, you should know that Jackson made her claims in a 44-minute video released by Linc Strategy, a Republican consulting group that has worked for Briel's Republican general election opponent Liz Bishop. The interview was conducted by Marjorie Kline of Wilson Grand Communications, a national Republican advertising agency.

A district office employee in former Rep. Harry Benton's office claimed she resigned after repeated sexual harassment by Benton in the spring of 2023. His ultimate resignation this summer set off a firestorm of criticism against House Speaker Chris Welch for waiting so long to do anything, which has metastasized into criticism of Welch's service as House speaker.

Ironically, a Benton staffer reached out to Benton's Republican opponent around the time of her fellow staffer's resignation, saying via text that Benton "needs to go." A meeting never took place, however, and that staffer, Jessica Dixon Heitman, eventually replaced Benton in the House.

According to Jackson, "Rep. Briel almost daily told me that I needed to take an older woman lover," telling the Republican consultant Kline it was "difficult to focus on tasks while knowing that my boss has these feelings that she's openly sharing."

"It was probably every day that I talked to her there was something about me that was sexualized, to the point that on the night of inauguration, I stood in front of her with tears in my eyes and said that I wish that she would see me as something more than just my looks, than just physically," Jackson said during the GOP interview.

"During the campaign, there was a lot of extreme Adderall use," Jackson claimed in the Republican video. "I take accountability on my part for taking it, but there was also a supply of unlimited Adderall to keep us going through that campaign," she told Kline, referencing Briel's first Illinois House campaign in 2024.

Briel won by a slim margin of just 595

votes in 2024. Jackson told Kline that the Adderall kept coming while votes were being counted. "After that, Rep. Briel never gave me another Adderall at all, which made it very difficult for me because, yes, I was partaking."

Jackson also claimed that Briel "would give bonuses in marijuana, up to two ounces that she would drive back from Michigan."

Briel released a statement a day later claiming these were all disproven allegations. "The statements in the video produced by her MAGA political operatives were previously taken to the legislative inspector general in 2025 and were found to be without merit. I am calling for the immediate release of the legislative inspector general's report on this matter," Briel said.

Legislative Inspector General Michael McCuskey told the Sun-Times last week that he deemed Jackson's complaint unfounded a month after she filed it in April of last year.

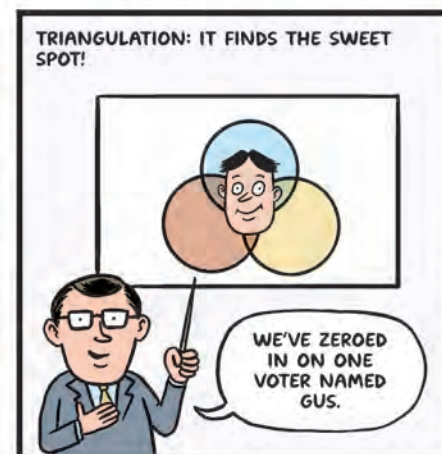
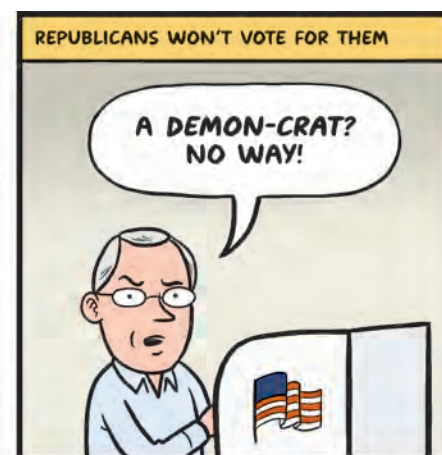
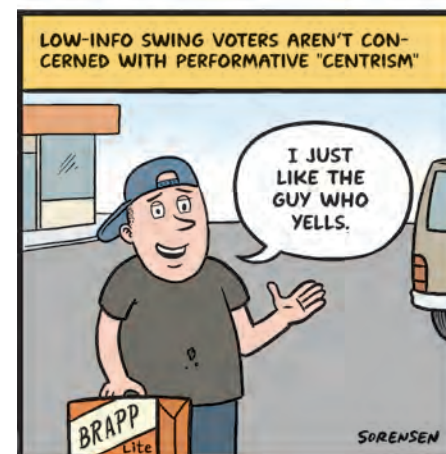
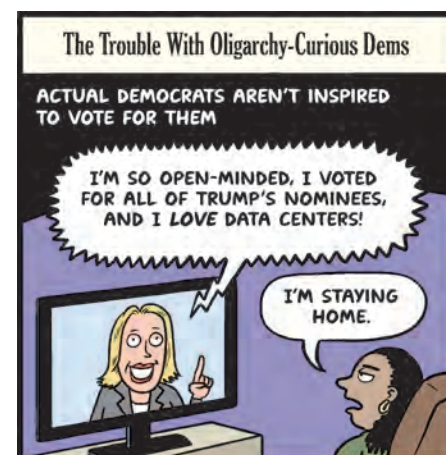
Jackson has a different version of events. "(The LIG office) just told me that I was an at-will employee and that there wasn't really anything that they could do for me," she

told my colleague Isabel Miller last week, adding, "I was never told that anything was unfounded or anything like that. I was just told the at-will employee part."

The "unfounded" declaration gives the House Democrats license to move full speed ahead. The Sun-Times quoted the executive director of the House Democrats' political operation as saying, "We will not allow a misleading political attack to distort Briel's record or diminish our commitment to the values she has consistently fought for."

However, the Republican Bishop's campaign spokesperson Steven Shearer made it clear that the LIG's decision will not be accepted as the final say. "It should not be up to one man to be the cross-examiner, the judge, the jury," Shearer said of the inspector general. "We're going to let the voters be the jury on this, and they can decide how credible it is that Rep. Briel hired her twice, hired her on her campaign and then hired her as the chief of staff in her legislative office."

If the House Republicans can raise the money, this could be one of the hottest legislative races of the fall campaign. □



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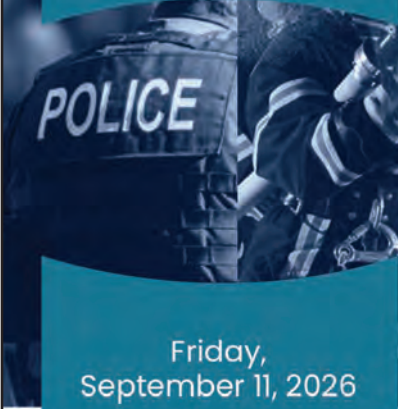
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Fighting for the innocent

Illinois Innocence Project at UIS celebrates 25 years with new legislation, expanded work

COURTS | Karen Ackerman Witter

The Illinois Innocence Project at University of Illinois Springfield has freed 34 innocent people who were convicted and imprisoned in Illinois for crimes they did not commit. Collectively, they lost 797 years of freedom. There are innocence organizations in 10 other countries and more than 60 in the U.S., but IIP is the only one based at an undergraduate institution. Most are located in large metropolitan areas and associated with law schools. IIP is also the only one that conducts statewide wrongful conviction training for police training academies.

IIP was founded in 2001 at Sangamon State University as the Downstate Innocence Project. What began as a fledgling group has grown into a prominent statewide organization with 20 staff, student interns and a cadre of volunteers, including attorneys. Stephanie Kamel has served as IIP director since 2021. Her 30-year career as an attorney has focused on criminal appeals, human rights advocacy and representing wrongfully incarcerated individuals.

IIP receives around 200 new applications for assistance annually and pursues less than 1%, with approximately 60 active cases. There are stringent criteria, and it is an arduous process to determine which warrant investigation. The alleged crime must have occurred in Illinois and involve a violent felony conviction. Individuals must have eight or more years left on their sentence, not be represented by other counsel, have no prior violent felony conviction, have an actual innocence claim and have exhausted all appeal options.

"IIP only opens cases where a person has a strong, credible case of innocence," said Lauren Kaeseberg, IIP legal director.

She has been with IIP since 2013 and has extensive expertise in DNA and forensic science cases. She says it is a "huge mountain to climb" to prove innocence, and most cases take five to 10 years.

The legal team's work involves knocking on doors, looking for new witnesses, evaluating forensics and physical evidence, doing DNA testing and uncovering new evidence.

"There may be all the evidence in the world that someone is innocent, but it has to fit into a complex framework in post-conviction litigation," said Kaeseberg. "Clear-cut evidence is not enough. It has to be newly discovered evidence."

In some cases, evidence reveals there was no actual crime but rather an accident



Brian Beals was a senior at Southern Illinois University in 1988 when he was wrongfully accused of shooting and killing a child. Decades later, newly discovered evidence, including testimony from five witnesses and enhancement of police photographs of bullet holes in Beals' car, helped prove his innocence. Beals was exonerated and freed in 2023 after 35 years imprisoned as an innocent man. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE



Angel Gonzalez endured 21 years in prison after being wrongfully convicted for a sexual assault he did not commit. No physical evidence ever linked him to the crime and he had four alibi witnesses who attested to his innocence. Gonzalez was exonerated and freed in 2015 after DNA testing conclusively proved his innocence. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE

or natural cause of death. In other cases, the wrong person was convicted of a crime. Ultimately, a judge has to vacate the conviction and then grant a certificate of innocence.

An asset for UIS

"As the Illinois Innocence Project celebrates its 25th anniversary, we recognize not only its remarkable record of helping to exonerate the innocent, but also the extraordinary educational opportunities it provides our students," UIS Chancellor Janet Gooch told *Illinois Times*. "Through internships with the project, our students become part of cases that change lives, often witnessing an innocent

person walk free and seeing firsthand the impact of their work."

UIS has offered a wrongful conviction class since 2001. The Conviction of the Innocent course taught by IIP faculty is open to juniors, seniors and graduate students in any major.

UIS students have the opportunity to participate in an immersive internship program. Student interns conduct legal research, review police reports, send FOIA requests, analyze hundreds of pages of documents and search for evidence that might be DNA tested. Students attend court hearings, prison visits with IIP clients, police training classes and small-group presentations by exonerated individuals. They learn

firsthand the type of perseverance and drive it takes to free and exonerate innocent people.

"Our UIS internship opportunity puts undergraduates at the heart of innocence work, immersing them in meaningful, hands-on experiences," Kamel said.

IIP also has a year-round legal externship program which engages law students at other universities in the real work of innocence cases under the direction of IIP attorneys.

"Being an intern with IIP helped me find my life's purpose," said Elizabeth Boateng, who is now IIP program director for interns and education. Boateng studied law in Ghana, the United Kingdom and the U.S. She came to UIS for a master's in public administration and earned a second master's in legal studies. The Conviction of the Innocence class led to her becoming an IIP intern.

"My time as an intern showed me that my passion lies not only in the law itself, but in

To learn more about IIP clients who have been freed and read some of their stories, go to <https://www.illinoisinnocenceproject.org/stories>.

using the law to touch lives, seek justice and inspire others,” Boateng said.

She now oversees the internship program and works to create meaningful educational and professional experiences for students.

Preventing wrongful convictions

For five of the last six years, Illinois has led the nation in wrongful convictions as measured by exonerations. Chicago and Illinois are known as the wrongful conviction and false confession capitals of the world. For many years a number of bad actor police officers, such as the now-infamous Jon Burge, were empowered by the system to elicit false confessions and manufacture evidence to convict innocent people. The pattern and practice of police misconduct remain a common cause of wrongful convictions.

IIP began providing wrongful conviction awareness and avoidance training in 2023 for Illinois’ eight police training academies, the only program of its kind. This came about after Mike Schlosser, director of the Police Training Institute at University of Illinois, took a UIS wrongful conviction class in 2016 while working toward a master’s degree in legal studies. That class inspired Schlosser to invite IIP to present programs at the Police Training Institute in Champaign so that all his officers could hear the messages. In 2022, members of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board also attended one of the classes. This led to the board mandating a training program for new police recruits and cadets at all the police academies statewide.

Marcus Beach, who was a police officer in Rantoul for 23 years and has served as an adjunct instructor at the Police Training Institute for 19 years, leads the course. In 2022, his mentor, Mike Schlosser, invited him to a class taught by IIP attorneys Kamel and John Hanlon.

Beach said he was blown away and troubled by the statistics, along with exoneree



Marilyn Mulero was sentenced to death after being framed by Chicago detective Reynaldo Guevara for a murder she did not commit. After fighting for almost three decades to bring light to the widespread misconduct of this detective, Mulero was exonerated in 2022 after 28 years in prison, including five years on death row. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE



At just 16, Jerry Herrington was convicted of a murder he did not commit. Chicago police physically and psychologically abused him and lied that he confessed. Herrington spent 29 years wrongfully imprisoned before he was released in 2020 at age 45, after serving his full sentence. Five years later, a Cook County judge fully exonerated him. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE

Kristine Bunch’s personal story. She was incarcerated for 17 years, accused of setting a fire that claimed the life of her 3-year-old son. “It opened my heart to the issue,” said Beach. Instead of retiring, he joined IIP in March 2023 to lead the newly mandated police training program.

The four-hour course is presented by Beach, representatives from law enforcement, an IIP attorney and two exonerees who tell their stories. More than 20 exonerees from across the country are part of the speaker’s bureau.

Training addresses the five major factors

that lead to wrongful convictions – the use of incentivized testimony, official misconduct, false confession, eyewitness misidentification and faulty forensics.

It also looks at the statistics. For example, 202 people have been exonerated from death row in the U.S. since 1973. The National Academy of Sciences estimates that 4% of the nation’s death row population could actually be innocent.

The training program is a learning opportunity for police officers and also a healing process for exonerees. Their involvement gives purpose to their lives,

knowing they are helping to prevent wrongful convictions in the future. IIP teaches 30-35 classes annually and to date has trained 8,892 recruits.

Hearing directly from people who were wrongfully convicted is highly impactful. The majority of trainees report feeling a combination of surprise and shock upon hearing examples of the consequences of wrongful convictions.

Training also dispels the notion that wrongful convictions “don’t apply to me.” Throughout his career, Beach said he didn’t give a lot of thought to wrongful convictions



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FEATURE



Illinois Innocence Project staff, clients and friends joined more than 1,000 other innocence organization staff, advocates and members of the freed/exonerated community nationwide at the 2026 Innocence Network Conference in Chicago. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE

and couldn't envision ever being part of one. However, four of the five leading factors come about when officers are doing what they are trained to do.

One participant in the program said, "It shed light on how, as initial officers on the scene, asking the right questions can change how someone is seen as the suspect or maybe a victim." Another said, "lineups are not as effective as I had previously thought."

IIP's impact extends beyond Illinois. Staff have been invited to other states and cities to share information about this unique program, and they also present at national conferences.

Involvement in criminal justice reform

In 2021, IIP successfully advocated for legislation to ban the use of deceptive tactics during interrogation of juveniles, protecting young people from confessing to crimes they did not commit. This was the nation's first law preventing law enforcement from lying to youth during interrogations.

Most recently IIP celebrated the enactment of state legislation to increase compensation by the state for people wrongfully convicted. After years of advocacy, the legislation passed the Illinois General Assembly unanimously and was signed by Gov. JB Pritzker in July.

The new law enables the Illinois Court of Claims to award exonerees up to \$50,000 for each year wrongfully incarcerated and up to \$25,000 per calendar year that a person was wrongfully on parole or probation or wrongfully required to be registered as a sex offender. Previously there was a cap on the amount any individual could receive, and Illinois was among the states paying exonerees the least. Forty states provide some form of compensation to exonerees, and Illinois now ranks in the middle.

Following enactment of the new law, Brian Beals filed a wrongful conviction compensation claim. Beals served 35 years after being wrongfully convicted of murdering a 6-year-old. The Aug. 6 order by

Judge Peter J. Birnbaum, Chief Justice of the Court of Claims, and signed by three other judges, is powerful.

"In all of our years of hearing innocence cases, the injustice visited upon Mr. Beals is among the most tragic... The story of Brian's conviction is as infuriating as it is tragic... Brian devoted himself for 35 years to bringing light to the darkest of places in the Illinois prison system... On behalf of the State of Illinois, we publicly apologize to Brian and his family for his needless suffering. We can only hope that Brian's case will be the impetus for further reforms in both our policing and sometimes-imperfect court system."

Many wrongfully convicted people spend decades in prison, deprived from what most people take for granted – the ability to work, have a family, celebrate birthdays and holidays, attend funerals for family members and loved ones and build a future. Family members and friends also suffer the consequences. The increase in compensation through the Illinois Court of Claims "acknowledges the state's moral obligation to atone for these profound miscarriages of justice," Kamel said at a ceremony celebrating enactment of the legislation.

Although some exonerees have received multimillion-dollar awards through lawsuits, this is a small percentage of individuals wrongfully convicted, as civil rights lawsuits must prove misconduct. In many situations, there is no one to sue for misconduct, such as when a witness gets it wrong or a jury believes a witness who was wrong.

After Innocence

Exonerees walk out of prison on their own with no transportation or support from the system. Some are fortunate to have family, while others don't. For Kaeseberg, it's both a moral obligation and an honor to be there to help.

"It's the most incredible feeling to walk someone out of prison," he said.

Exonerees face a daunting challenge to reenter society and rebuild their lives, as

they don't receive services available to people who are released after serving their sentences. The world has often changed dramatically while they were in prison. IIP staff do what they can to help them transition.

"Exonerees see IIP as their family," said Kamel. IIP also connects exonerees with others who can help.

IIP has partnered with After Innocence for more than a decade, a California-based organization founded by Jon Eldan in 2004 that provides direct service support to exonerees after they are released. After Innocence helps exonerees throughout the country access healthcare and dental services, legal services and assistance with financial planning. Highly trained staff develop long-term relationships with exonerees.

After Innocence also works on policy reform and assists with state legislation. Eldan was intimately involved with the Illinois exoneree compensation legislation, having worked with many other states on similar measures.

"IIP is noteworthy and unique in its openness to collaboration," said Eldan. "Its expertise in police training is also unique."

Kaeseberg, the IIP legal director, says there is an epidemic of wrongful convictions.

"I long for the day when the entire system is open and honest about how pervasive wrongful convictions are," Kaeseberg told *Illinois Times*. "It is frustrating to operate in a system that is reluctant to acknowledge the true scope of the problem."

Kaeseberg is currently working with a client who has been in prison since 1979, his entire adult life.

"I'm going with him when he sees the horizon," said Kaeseberg. "We won't stop until it's done." □

Karen Ackerman Witter has met numerous exonerees attending events with her husband, Randy Witter, who is a volunteer lobbyist for IIP. She is amazed and impressed by their humbleness, especially after hearing their tragic stories.

Founding of the Illinois Innocence Project

Dr. Larry Golden, the founding director of IIP, was the youngest faculty member when he came to Sangamon State University when it opened in 1970. He became involved in social justice issues in the 1960s while in graduate school at the University of Minnesota and said he was attracted to SSU because of its focus on public affairs and educational innovation. Most of his work and teaching at SSU focused on the law and issues of racial, economic and gender inequality and bringing experiential learning into the classroom.

Golden said a conference he attended in 1998 at Northwestern University was a seminal experience. Barry Scheck, considered the father of the innocence movement, was present along with 60 exonerees who had previously been on death row. Each said if not for the work of the innocence program they would have been executed.

The advent of DNA research prompted the beginning of a movement in the late 1990s to investigate cases of people convicted and sentenced to death who might be innocent. With the overwhelming number of requests for assistance, there was a clear need for more innocence organizations.

In 2001, Golden partnered with Nancy Ford, director of the SSU Institute for Public Affairs, and Bill Clutter, a skilled local investigator, to form the Downstate Innocence Project. Golden and his colleagues began teaching a class on wrongful convictions for senior students in the legal studies program and having them work with lawyers on downstate cases that might result in a finding of innocence. They also taught classes at Southern Illinois University and other universities.

John Hanlon from the Office of the



Illinois Innocence Project staff, clients and friends at the 2026 Innocence Network Conference in Chicago. Fourth from right is Indiana exoneree Kristine Bunch, who coordinates the Wrongful Conviction Awareness and Avoidance Exoneree Speakers Bureau. PHOTO BY RAYMOND ABERCROMBIE

State Appellate Defenders began working with Golden as a pro-bono attorney. During the 1990s and early 2000s, Hanlon was responsible for the exoneration of four individuals on death row.

For Hanlon, being assigned the Rolando Cruz case as a young lawyer in 1985 was a career-defining experience, leading him to discover there were innocent people on death row. The potential for innocent people being put to death led to Illinois abolishing the death penalty in 2011.

In 2011, IIP obtained a federal DNA grant and for the first time could hire a lawyer. Hanlon was so committed to the cause that he left the appellate defenders office to work for this fledgling organization. At the time Hanlon was "the only lawyer and 400 cases screaming for help," he said. Hanlon served as IIP director and legal director until 2021.

Golden continued teaching a class on wrongful convictions until 2022. He is still a tireless advocate for IIP and exonerees.

"It's a blessing to be involved in helping

people get part of their life back," Golden said. "I continue to learn from the strength these individuals have."

Hanlon says innocence work is distinct from being a defense attorney. If evidence does not support the claim of innocence, they drop the case. IIP doesn't take cases of guilt by accountability and only takes cases of actual innocence where there was no involvement in planning or carrying out a crime or there was no crime.

Hanlon said DNA now provides a high level of confidence of convicting the right people. A revolutionary 2009 report by the National Academy of Sciences documented the reliability of DNA analysis in contrast to forensics analyses such as shoeprints, hair analysis and blood spatter, which are subjective and lack a rigorous scientific foundation.

Despite what we've learned about forensics in the past 30 years, Hanlon said, "It still takes good lawyers and judges and honest prosecutors."

—Karen Ackerman Witter

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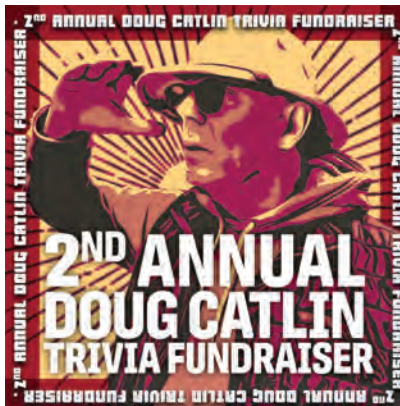
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Craig Williams II as Edna (center) with the cast of *Hairspray*. CREDIT: PHOTO BY CHRIS WITHERS FINE ARTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Hairspray sticks with you

Musical is both nostalgic and timely

THEATER | Mary Young

One of the most vibrant and well-executed productions I've seen done locally is currently playing at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Co-directors and choreographers Morgan Kaplan and Andrew Maynerich and their creative, hard-working team have staged a non-stop, upbeat show that's guaranteed to take audience members to their much-needed happy place. Not unlike walking through a fog of Aqua Net, the experience will stick with you long after you leave the theater.

The musical *Hairspray* has a long-standing reputation for pleasing audiences and receiving praise. Based on the 1988 John Waters film of the same name, the musical won eight Tony Awards in 2008, including best musical. Locally, productions have won the Best Theater Performance accolade from *Illinois Times* voters and repeatedly attracts performers who have a real affinity for it. Kaplan and Maynerich themselves were in a 2011 production together. Interestingly, that production was directed by Craig Williams II, who currently plays the iconic role of Edna Turnblad.

"We actually were dance partners in a few of the dances," Kaplan said. "Something that is extra special is that the 2011 production was directed by Craig Williams II, and now we are directing him as our Edna. It feels kind of full

circle!"

Colia Cole, who shines as the platinum blond Motormouth Maybelle, credits that 2011 version as what first inspired her to get involved in theater.

For Williams, who again directed the show in 2016, he feels like *Hairspray* and its message keeps finding him.

"Love, courage and seeing people for who they really are is the root of the entire story, and it's brought to life in a big way," he said.

For Matt Woodson, who previously played TV show host Corny Collins and is now in the role of love interest Link Larken, the musical is a favorite.

"*Hairspray* is one of those shows where I never get tired of the music. All of the songs are very catchy, and the dancing in the show is always so much fun!" He added, "The most exciting part about being in (this) show is being involved with a cast that is fully committed to always giving their best effort at every rehearsal."

That commitment definitely shows.

If you know or have seen *Hairspray*, you're already familiar with its merits. There are several lovable and quirky characters, a fantastic score with multiple memorable tunes, and a story of acceptance and belonging which drives

the dance-fueled action.

Set in 1960s Baltimore, the show follows Tracy Turnblad, a plucky, plus-sized teenager who dreams of dancing on the local Corny Collins TV show. When she wins a spot on the program, she becomes an overnight star. Risking, as Motormouth Maybelle puts it, "a whole lot of ugly coming at you from a whole lot of stupid," Tracy is empowered by newfound friendships within the Black community and uses her platform to campaign for racial integration on the show.

As our determined heroine, Tracy Turnblad, Sophie Carpenter exudes pure joy. The character is written to embody optimism and hopeful determination, and Carpenter rises to this calling and beyond. She's clearly having the time of her life, and it's contagious.

As her mother, Edna, Craig Williams II sweetly evolves from frumpy housewife to confident fashionista. John O'Connor is a gleeful and supportive Wilbur Turnblad, owner of the Hardy Har Shop. During Edna and Wilburn's number, "You're Timeless to Me," it was hard not to notice the smiles on the faces of the people around me. That pretty much sums up the effect this show can have on you.

I could praise every production quality in detail because there are no weak spots to

be found. All of the actors are spot on — each bringing the right amount of charm, soul, loveliness or mean-girl vibe. The sets pop with vibrant colors and shapes; the orchestra led by Meredith Crifasi is remarkably good; finely turned vocal/musical direction by Damien Kaplan and impeccable costumes by Rene Blank are also high-points. Era-specific hair design, make up, props, lights and sound all coalesce to form the perfect up-do of a heartfelt musical.

Both nostalgic and timely, Kaplan stresses the important message behind the high-energy musical.

"*Hairspray* is a story about belonging. I think that's a pretty universal desire and experience; the longing to be a part of something and feel like you have found your place and your people, and being accepted for who you are and for your individual lived experience."

For Maynerich, "I couldn't have said it better myself." □

Hairspray continues its run Aug. 28-30 at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in the LRS Theatre. Friday and Saturday performances will start at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees will start at 2 p.m. Get tickets at hctfa.org/tickets.

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Budget dinners

Try these two meals that are \$5 or less per serving

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

August is undoubtedly our household's most expensive month of the year, and the busiest. In addition to both of my kiddos having August birthdays, there's back to school supplies, clothes and registration, the Illinois State Fair and if we're lucky, maybe a little road trip. Add in the impulse to squeeze as much sunshine and fun as possible into the remaining days of summer, and the result is a month that flies by in a blur all while stretching our budget to the max. It feels tighter than ever this year thanks to higher gas and grocery prices and like a lot of families, we've been looking to economize everywhere we can. Reigning in the grocery spending has become a top priority while still coming up with meals that are varied, nutritious and satisfying.

These are two of my family's go-to budget dinners that at \$5 or less per serving, maximize not only value, but flavor. These meals both focus on simple, minimally processed ingredients, lean protein and fresh veggies. I used Meijer's non-sale pricing to calculate cost, but many of these dishes could be made cheaper by sourcing ingredients on sale or in bulk.

Crockpot pulled chicken fajita bowls

Serves four with leftovers, along with a crockpot full of bone broth for another meal.

Ingredients:

For the chicken:

- 1 whole bone in chicken
- 1 teaspoon each garlic, onion powder, and paprika
- 2 teaspoons salt

For the fajita veg

- 1 onion, sliced
- 2 green bell peppers, sliced
- 1 zucchini, sliced into half moons
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon each cumin & garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon salt

2 cups brown rice

1 tomato, diced

Cilantro, chopped

Sour cream, salsa and shredded cheese to serve

Season the chicken with the garlic and onion powders, paprika and salt. Place it in a crockpot and turn the heat to high for 60 minutes, then reduce the heat to low and cook for 6-8 hours until the chicken is fully cooked.



When it's time to eat, cook the rice using your preferred method. I prefer to combine the two cups of brown rice with three quarts of water and a tablespoon of salt in a large pot and bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer the rice for 25 minutes (10 minutes for white rice), or until the rice is tender, and then drain it like pasta.

While the rice is cooking, preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Toss the vegetables with the olive oil and seasonings on a baking sheet and place them in the preheated oven. Roast for 15 minutes until lightly charred and crisp tender.

While the veggies are in the oven, remove the cooked chicken from the crock pot and place it on a rimmed baking sheet to catch any juices that accumulate. Let it cool just enough to handle, then use tongs and/or forks to pull off the skin and remove the bones. Shred the cooked chicken with a fork and ladle about ½ cup of the juices from the crockpot onto the shredded chicken. (To make broth, return the skin and bones to the crockpot and add three

quarts of water. Cook the broth on low for 12-20 hours, then strain and freeze for later use.) Scoop some brown rice into serving bowls and top with the shredded chicken, fajita veggies, diced tomatoes, cilantro and sour cream.

Salmon patties with mac and cheese and steamed veggies

Serves four with leftovers

These protein and vitamin D-packed salmon patties were a staple in my grandmother's house, always served with mac and cheese and canned peas. This time of year, I swap out the peas for fresh summer veggies, but in the winter months we have it with frozen peas. The macaroni and cheese recipe makes about 8-10 servings and reheats well so I always make a full batch to eat for the rest of the week, however it can easily be halved. This recipe for the patties is exactly the way gran made them, but they can be jazzed up with minced scallion, lemon zest, dill or whatever else strikes your fancy.

Ingredients:

For the mac and cheese:

- 1 pound short pasta such as elbow macaroni or shells
- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup flour
- 2 cloves garlic, minced, or 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon dried mustard
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 3 cups milk, hot
- ½ teaspoon salt
- A pinch of cayenne, optional
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 8 ounces cheddar cheese, grated

For the salmon patties:

- 1 14.5 ounce can red sockeye salmon
- 1 egg
- ½ sleeve saltine crackers, crushed
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Oil for frying the patties
- Steamed veggies or peas, to serve

Butter a 9-inch by 13-inch baking dish and set aside. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Add the pasta and cook until al dente, or still slightly firm, then drain.

While the pasta cooks, make the sauce. Heat the butter in a saucepan over medium heat until it foams, then add the flour and minced garlic or garlic powder. Cook for two minutes, stirring continuously. Add the cream cheese and stir until it melts completely, then add the hot milk, ½ teaspoon of salt and a pinch of cayenne if desired. Cook, stirring continuously until the sauce begins to bubble. Remove from the heat and add the cheese, stirring until melted. Pour the cheese sauce over the cooked pasta and mix well, then transfer to the prepared baking dish. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 30 minutes until brown and bubbly.

While the mac and cheese bakes, make the salmon patties. Combine the salmon, egg, cracker crumbs and garlic powder in a medium sized mixing bowl. Divide the mixture into eight patties, patting them out into rounds. Heat a tablespoon of oil in a large skillet over medium high heat until it shimmers, then fry the patties until golden brown, about 2-3 minutes per side. Place on a paper towel lined platter and serve. □

Ashley Meyer is a chef and freelance writer based in Springfield.



ROUTE 66 MONARCH FESTIVAL

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MUSIC



Tim Crosby plays Dockside Grill at Lake Springfield Marina this Sunday evening.

August ending music rambles

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

As we roll on through the end of August, next weekend brings Labor Day and the unofficial finish to summer along for the ride. We will be falling into autumn soon enough, so let's take a gander at what's out there now as we wander through the aftermath of the State Fair looking for things to do.

With the 2026 ISF behind us, for the most part I've heard nothing but good things about attendance and live music shows. It seems the fair continues to evolve and improve each year and that's a good thing to be a part of and be proud of as fellow citizens of the great state of Illinois.

Right now, it's certainly hard to not miss the Old Capitol Blues & BBQ festival, held the last weekend in August for many years. And while we're lamenting, let's have a big boo-hoo for LoG Fest and Downhome as well. When looking at the choices for Best of Springfield nominations in the festival category, it's obvious our once robust summer party season has dwindled drastically. Perhaps some intrepid and enterprising folks will find a way to fill the void and bring back or create anew those fun-filled fests of yore to the streets of Springfield soon.

Before we get to our regularly scheduled programming, let's take a moment to mention a couple of upcoming benefits. Many of us know Kip Nelson by his various hats worn through the years, especially in this space as founder and co-lead singer of Off the Wall and his dedicated work as organizer and supporter of numerous fundraisers for others over the last few decades. Now after Kip's recent accident and necessary surgeries, he's in recovery mode and needs some return love. Your chance to help comes this Sunday at Weebles from noon to 6 p.m. as 2nd Street Harmony, Hat Trick, Mississippi

Leghound and Brandy Kristin Band provide the requisite live music, while silent auction items, plus food and drinks are available to peruse and purchase. Please attend to help someone who has helped so many, so much and pass the good stuff forward. Kip says thank you, thank you very much, in advance and as always.

Another fundraiser happens this Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. at Route 66 Motorheads for the family of the late Jeff Conn as the community gathers in a celebration of life for the "beloved father, son, brother, uncle and friend" who passed away on Aug. 8 in a motorcycle accident. Brandy Kristin Band and Broken Stone perform music for their lost friend and several ways of supporting Jeff's family are available at the event and through a GoFundMe account.

Six months after the devastating fire at The Curve Inn last February, owners Ami and Ray Merchant are in the midst of a rebuild from the inside out. The best way to see the progress is on their Facebook page and to drive by the place. Nothing is certain in this world, but plans and odds are the extremely popular and locally supportive bar, restaurant and live music venue will be open later this fall.

Now for live music, let's jump to Sunday, the original Funday where Griffin Fenoglio plays Golden Fox Brewing's 10th anniversary celebration in Decatur while Joel Honey wanders to Oogie & JJ's and Roger Whitsell hits at Brookhills Golf Club. Tracy Gibbs lands at It's All About Wine as the 66 Ramblers go sock hoppin' at Trails End while Tim Crosby floats into Dockside and the Tangents glide into Elks Lodge 158 on the shores of Lake Springfield.

Please check our extensive listings for all the other good stuff goin' on. □

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 or by email calendar@illinoistimes.com.

Thursday Aug 27

Randy Erwin
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum,
10am-4pm

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

**Open mic with Bob the
Brewer**
Decatur Brew Works,
Decatur, 7:30-10pm

**Winger with Johnny
Vodka**
The Devon Lakeshore
Amphitheater, Decatur, 7pm

Karaoke
Goodfellas Pub, 8pm and
8pm.

Thursday Night Karaoke
Harry's Adult Day Care,
10pm-1am.

**JCB Entertainment
Karaoke**
La Fiesta Chatham,
Chatham, 6-10pm

Molly Seaton
Mother Road Diner, Route
66 Hotel & Conference
Center, 6-9pm

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

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

Karaoke
The Topsy Toad, 8pm-12am

Good Times Karaoke
VFW Lafore Lock Post 755,
7-11pm

Friday Aug 28

Hippies of the Heartland
48 Inn Sports Bar & Grill,
Decatur, 7:30-10:30pm

Randy Erwin
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum,
10am-4pm

Not Petty
The Backyard, Taylorville,
7-10pm

**Mandy Rose with Mark
Scassiferro**
Bar Bella, 5-8pm

The Collective
The Blue Grouch Pub,
7-10pm

Downstate
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester,
8-11pm

The Whiskey Killers
Casey's Pub, 7-10pm

DreamCatchers
Curveside Bar & Grill,
Athens, 6-9pm

Thunderstruck
Danenberger Family
Vineyards, New Berlin,
8pm

**Tennessee Whiskey, The
Ultimate Eric Church
Experience, Bell Bottom
Revival**
The Devon Lakeshore
Amphitheater, Decatur, 7pm

**Karaoke with Hi-Tek
Redneck Entertainment**
Dockers Tavern, Spaulding,
8:30pm-12:30am.

Fairweather Friends
Dockside Grill at Lake
Springfield Marina, 6-9pm

The Lockharts
Don's Place, Jacksonville,
7-10pm

Lick Creek
Downtown Lincoln, Lincoln,
8pm

OAT
George Rank's, 8pm

Frank Powell Duo
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 7pm

Midwest Revival
Harry's Adult Day Care,
7pm

Jet Trio
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

Storm Front
Locals Bar, Pawnee,
7-10pm

Sunshine Daydream
Long Bridge Golf Course,
6:30-10:30pm

Karaoke
The Lumpia House, 5-11pm

Joel Honey
Obed and Isaac's
Microbrewery, 6-9pm

Blue Note Quintet
Pease's at BUNN Gourmet,
6-8pm

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

Karaoke
Pier 55 Lounge, 8pm

Mike Anderson
Postville Courthouse State
Historic Site, Lincoln, 10am-
4pm

Black Velvet
The Railyard, 6-9pm

Mississippi Leghound
Sky Lounge, 7-10pm

Brandy Kristin Band
The Topsy Toad, 7-10pm

The Get Down
Weebles Bar & Grill,
6:30pm

Saturday Aug 29

Acoustic Avenue
48 Inn Sports Bar & Grill,
Decatur, 8-10pm

Randy Erwin
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum,
10am-4pm

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

White Lightnin'
AMVETS Post 100,
Jacksonville, 7-10pm

**Matt Woods with Jeff
Shepherd**
The Backroom Lounge,
Riverton, 7pm

Hat Trick
BB's BFE, Latham,
7-10pm

Johnnie Owens and Butter
Boone's, 5:30-8:30pm

Silas Tockey
Brentford Distillers, Decatur,
7-10pm

Afternoon Delight
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester,
3-6pm

The Greg Glick Band
Bunkers Bar, Illiopolis, 7pm

**Blackout Betty: Armed &
Dangerous**
Camouflage Bar, VFW Post
99, Decatur, 7:30-10:30pm

J & Mtv Unplugged
Copper and Oak, Lincoln,
5-7:30pm

**Devil's Daughter & The
Black Water Band**
Crazy Dog Saloon, Cantrall,
7-10pm

2nd Street Harmony
Curveside Bar & Grill,
Athens, 2-5pm

You Should Be Dancing
Danenberger Family
Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

One Night In Memphis
The Devon Lakeshore
Amphitheater, Decatur,
7pm

The Tangents
Dockside Grill at Lake
Springfield Marina,
1-4pm

Trio De Groove
Don's Place, Jacksonville,
8-11pm

**Captain Geech and the
Shrimp Shack Shooters**
Downtown Lincoln, Lincoln,
8pm

Andre Wilke
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 1pm

Billy Strums
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 4pm

Jim Hollis
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 7pm

Karaoke
Goodfellas Pub, 8pm.

Satellite
Harry's Adult Day Care,
7-10pm

Square of the Roots
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

Spiker
LargeCar Lounge, Lincoln,
6-9pm

Al'Maculate Conception
The Library Pizza and Sports
Bar, 7-10pm

Angel Country
Mother Road Diner, Route
66 Hotel & Conference
Center, 6-9pm

BuK
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

Renegade Karaoke
Northern Lights Lounge,
8:30pm-1am

Grand Theft Audio
Palmer Park, Palmer,
7pm

**Inner Outlines,
Sweetmelk, Modern
Drugs, The Lovelorn**
Pizza Records, Jacksonville,
7pm

Okaw Valley Ramblers
Pop's Place, Decatur,
8-11pm

Mike Anderson
Postville Courthouse State
Historic Site, Lincoln, 10am-
4pm

Silas Tockey
Postville Courthouse State
Historic Site, Lincoln,
2-4pm

Pluck
The Railyard, 6-9pm

Cherry Bomb
Rocco's, Decatur,
7-10pm

**Brandy Kristin Band,
Broken Stone**
Route 66 MotorHeads
Bar & Grill, Museum &
Entertainment Complex,
1-6pm

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

Around The Bend
The Bird Tavern, 8-11pm

Blue Sky Revival
The Blue Grouch,
7-10:30pm

Broken Stone
The Topsy Toad, 8pm

Brandy Kristin Band
Twisted Tree Music & Event
Hall, Jacksonville, 5-8pm

Rezzin8
Weebles Bar & Grill,
7-10pm

Sunday Aug 30

The Lockharts
American Legion Post 279,
Jacksonville, 3-6pm

**Wolf Crick Boys with
Mike Davis**
The Backroom Lounge,
Riverton, 3-6pm

Roger Whitsell
Brookhills Golf Club,
3-6pm

Tim Crosby
Dockside Grill at Lake
Springfield Marina,
6-9pm

The Tangents
Elks Lodge #158, 4-7pm

Griffin Fenoglio
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 1pm

Say Uncle!
Golden Fox Brewing,
Decatur, 4pm

Robert Sampson
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford,
2-5pm

Tracy Gibbs
It's All About Wine,
3-6pm

**Jaigh Lowder and
Antone DeRocchi**
Lucky's on the Square,
Petersburg, 2-5pm

Al and Kathy Kitchen
Mother Road Diner, Route
66 Hotel & Conference
Center, 5-8pm

Joel Honey
Oogie and JJ's Bar,
Glenarm, 1-4pm

**Luca Giordano and
Crystal Thomas**
Pop's Place, Decatur,
3-6pm

Silas Tockey
Postville Courthouse State
Historic Site, Lincoln,
1-3pm

Chris Vallillo
Postville Courthouse State
Historic Site, Lincoln, 11am,
12:30, 2:30pm

The 66 Ramblers
Trails End Saloon, Curran,
4pm

Triple Threat
VFW Post 10302,
2-5pm

**2nd Street Harmony,
Hat Trick, Mississippi
Leghound, Brandy Kristin
Band**
Weebles Bar & Grill,
12-6pm

Monday Aug 31

Crystal Thomas
The Alamo, 7pm

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

**The Acoustic Lounge
Open Mic**
Northern Lights Lounge,
6:30-9:30pm

**Music Mondays
Open Mic Night**
The Bird Tavern,
6:30-9pm.

Tuesday Sep 1

Randy Erwin
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum,
10am-4pm

**Karaoke Night hosted by
Alan Livengood**
Fluid Lounge, 7pm

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

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

Karaoke
Main Gate Bar & Grill,
6pm.

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

**Open Mic with
Thomas J Beverly**
Trading Post Saloon,
6-9pm

Wednesday Sep 2

Randy Erwin
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum,
10am-4pm

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

Karaoke
Clique, 9pm-1am

**Wasted Wednesday
Karaoke**
Door 4 Brewing Co.,
Decatur, 9pm

Robert Sampson
Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta,
6pm

**Midweek Music Meetup
open mic with Tom Irwin**
Harvest Market Farmhouse
Brews, 6-9pm

Me, Myself & Schy
Obed and Isaac's
Microbrewery, 6-8pm

**Roger & Mandy's
Open Mic**
Trails End Saloon, Curran,
First Wednesday of every
month, 7-10pm

Little Hopes
Twisted Tree Music & Event
Hall, Jacksonville,
7-10pm

THE CALENDAR



Balloons Over 66 Weekend

Fri., Aug. 28 and
Sat., Aug. 29
Downtown Lincoln

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS | Balloons return to light up Lincoln sky

it Nineteen balloons will return to Lincoln this weekend for the popular two-day Balloons Over 66 Weekend. The balloons will be a welcome sight, especially after event organizers canceled the event earlier this year. Never fear, though, the event is back with all the events participants love, especially the balloon launches and “glows.” Friday’s events include the two-day art fair, the dock dogs, launches from 12:30 pm to 5:30 p.m. and a balloon glow at Open Arms Lincoln. Lick Creek will perform at 8 p.m. at the Downtown Stage. Saturday is crowded with events including a 6:30 a.m. balloon launch, 5K race, dock dogs, bags tournament and children’s activities and 5:30 p.m. balloon launches and 7:30-8:30 p.m. glows at Open Arms. A concert by Captain Geech & The Shrimp Shack Shooters will end the day at 8 p.m.

■ Special Music Events

Around the Town Concert: Moonlight Meander

Fri., Aug. 28, 6:30-8:30pm. Experience music and nature at this concert featuring an ensemble from the Illinois Symphony Orchestra combined with this Lincoln Memorial Garden event. Stroll the trails, enjoy s’mores, and discover live music. Guests can bring their own beverages, with non-alcoholic drinks provided. Limited seating available. Lawn chairs encouraged. \$5 suggested donation. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-522-2838.

Ice Cream Social Music Series
Sun., Aug. 30, 5pm. An ice cream social like no other! Listen to the sounds of the Land of Lincoln Chorus while enjoying free ice cream. Presented by the Villas of Sherman. Free. Sherman Village Park Amphitheater, Sherman, 1200 Rail Fence Dr., 217-496-2621.

Rob Brogdon

Sun., Aug. 30, 6pm. Part of the Concerts in the Park series hosted by the Pilot Club of Jacksonville.

Bring lawn chairs and blankets to the Big Bandstand. Free. Jacksonville Community Park, Jacksonville, 1201 S. Main, 217-243-5678.

■ Books & Authors

Society of Midwestern Authors
First Tuesday of every month, 6-7:45pm. Love to write? Check out this skilled, supportive group of local writers for critiques of your work, discussion and networking. chathamlib.org. Free. Chatham Area Public Library, Chatham, 600 E. Spruce St., 2174832713.

■ Theater & Comedy

Hairspray!

Fri., Aug. 28, 7:30pm, Sat., Aug. 29, 7:30pm and Sun., Aug. 30, 2pm. It’s 1962 in Baltimore, and the lovable plus-size teen, Tracy Turnblad, has only one desire – to dance on the popular “Corny Collins Show.” When her dream comes true, Tracy is transformed from social outcast to sudden star. She must use her newfound power to dethrone the reigning Teen Queen, win the affections

of heartthrob, Link Larkin, and integrate a TV network... all without denting her ‘do! Winner of eight Tony Awards including best musical. hcfta.org. \$21-\$23. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Pop-up Comedy Show

Sat., Aug. 29, 7:30-9pm. This pop-up comedy show on the mobile Rolling Laughs stage on the Adams Street side of the square will feature comedians Cassandra Simpson, Mark Anthony and Joe “the Animal!” Adult material. Limited seating. Bring lawn chairs. Free. Old State Capitol Plaza, between Fifth and Sixth streets at Adams.

■ Dance

Backyard Bash - Tropical Luau

Sat., Aug. 29, 2-4pm. Current, new and potential students invited to this tropical luau-themed “Back to the Studio” event. Get ready for fall classes, shop for necessities, tour the studio, meet the staff. There will be apacial performance from the Springfield Dance Theatre Company. Includes treats, a limbo

and hula hoop contest, games, crafts, photo ops and dance party. Tropical attire encouraged. Free. Springfield Dance, 5531 International Pkwy., 217-483-3623.

La Esquina del Movimiento

Saturdays, 5-8pm. Through Aug. 29. La Esquina del Movimiento is a free pop-up Latin dance party featuring salsa, merengue, bachata and free beginner-friendly lessons. Wild Rose/ Abe’s Old Hat, 115 N. Sixth St., 217-572-1884.

■ Art & Architecture

“Interludes and Transitions”

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through Sep. 23. The exhibit highlights a journey for ceramicist Scott Day and pastelist Tracey Maras. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

“noir 6: The Truth”

Tuesdays-Saturdays.. Through Oct. 16. Black art contributes to a deeper and more inclusive understanding of the American narrative. “noir 6: The Truth” invites audiences to engage, thoughtfully, with the histories and perspectives that shape our shared cultural truths. Old State Capitol State Historic Site, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, 217-785-9363.

“Statewide: Illinois Artist Showcase”

Mondays-Fridays, 9am-5pm and Saturdays, 10am-3pm. Through Aug. 29. Open to artists age 21 and older, this showcase celebrates the diversity and creative talent throughout the state. From painting and sculpture to ceramics and mixed media, the work on view reflects the dynamic spirit of Illinois’ art scene. Free. M.G. Nelson Family Gallery, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

“Stars, Stripes & Strawn” Lawn party

Sat., Aug. 29, 5-7pm. Celebrate and salute “Stars, Stripes & Strawn” at this annual lawn party. Includes auction to support the the Art Association of Jacksonville. \$40. David Strawn Art Gallery, Jacksonville, 331 W. College Ave., 217-248-0003.

Button Making with Mehr

Sat., Aug. 29, 10am-12:30pm. Artist Mehr Eldritch Tumulty is bringing his button maker to Stella’s. Bring what you want as a button and Tumulty will help you make it. Photos, copies, original work, fun sayings or memes - the options are endless. The buttons are around 1 inch (3\$) and 2 inch (5\$). \$3-5. Stella Coffee & Tea,

1135 W. Governor St., 262-622-3151.

Evening Tours of the Dana-Thomas House

Fri., Aug. 28, 5:30-6:30, 6:30-7:30pm. Tour this historic house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

Make & Mingle

First Wednesday of every month, 5:30-8:30pm. An open studio experience in the Condell Studio. Bring a project and make new friends, discuss ideas, tackle project challenges and mingle with other art-minded individuals. No instruction or materials provided. No reservations needed. Free. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

Downtown Pop-Up Art Series, Part 3.

Sat., Aug. 29, 5-7 p.m. This event, titled “Mixed Mediums,” spotlights the works of local artists Diane DeLeonardo, Lisa Kelly Lane and Jason Labonte. Free. Next door to Whimsy Tea Company, 314 E. Adams St., 217-544-1723

■ Food & Drink

The LMH Market

Saturdays, 8am-12pm. Through Sep. 19. This farmers market in the Expo Building features fruits, vegetables, eggs, poultry, baked goods and more vendor grown or produced by local operations. Includes children’s activities and free health screenings on second and fourth Saturdays of month. Free parking and admission. Logan County Fairgrounds, Lincoln, 1408 Short 11th St., 447-784-3211.

Old Capitol Farmers Market

Wednesdays and Saturdays.. Through Oct. 31. Springfield’s longest-running and most popular Farmers Market in downtown Springfield. Largest producer-only market in Illinois outside of Chicago. Old Capitol Farmers Market, Fourth and Adams streets, 217-544-1723.

■ History

Edwards Place Historic Home Guided Tours

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 1-2, 2-3pm. Take this guided tour of the first and second floors. The home, interpreted to 1857, is furnished with examples of Victorian furniture including many pieces that belonged to the Edwards family. edwardsplace.org. \$12 adults/ \$10 SAA members, military and seniors.; children younger than 10 free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N.

Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

Elijah Iles House Tours

Saturdays, 12-4pm. Through Nov. 14. Tour the oldest house in Springfield. Groups wishing to tour Springfield’s oldest home at other times can call for an appointment. The house was built in 1837 by Iles, one of the city’s earliest settlers. Free. Elijah Iles House, 628 S. Seventh St., 217-494-0640.

Exploring Neolithic Cultural Landscapes in Southern Germany

Wed., Sep. 2, 12-1pm. Insights from Excavations and Private Collections. Dr. Lynn Fisher, professor of anthropology in sociology/anthropology at UIS, will present the results from research she conducted on social change and technology in early Stone Age farming societies in Southern Germany. Free. Illinois State Museum Research and Collections Center, 1011 E. Ash St., 618-792-6572.

■ Fairs & Festivals

DAUMC’s Annual Neighborhood Block Party

Sun., Aug. 30, 4-6pm. Gather on the Back Patio for food, games, art projects, bounce house, music, face-painting, free haircuts and the “School Supply and Children’s Book Swap.” Free. Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church, 501 S. Douglas Ave., 217-546-4631.

NBA Annual Community Block Party

Sat., Aug. 29, 1-4pm. This annual party includes a free lunch, petting zoo (featuring goats, a mini cow and emus), horse rides, carnival games and more. Free. New Beginnings Apostolic Church, 3121 E. Elm St., 217-717-4959.

Abraham Lincoln National Railsplitting Festival

Sat., Aug. 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. It was once a chore, but now is a competition. We’re talking about railsplitting, what Lincoln was an expert at. This festival celebrates railsplitting and more featuring working crafts, pioneer village, live music, food. Lots of kids’ activities. National railsplitting competition on Sunday afternoon. Postville Courthouse State Historic Site, 914 Fifth St., Lincoln.

■ Fundraisers and Galas

WQNA Fundraiser with OAT

Fri., Aug. 28, 8pm-1am. Celebrate with WQNA 95.7 FM and Springfield Community Broadcasters as they complete the

final steps to bring community radio back to the Springfield airwaves. Hear some amazing tunes by Tom Irwin and OAT, enjoy the space and talk about the massive things planned for the launch. Free. George Rank's, 1800 S. Sixth St., 217-670-2859.

■ **Community Organizing**

Food Not Bombs Meeting
Every fourth Monday, 6:30-7:30pm. Through Aug. 31. Meets in the Bicentennial Room on the third floor. Group will plan events and community involvement centering on food waste reduction and building mutual aid structures. Email foodnotbombs.spi@proton.me for more info. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

■ **Local Government**

Springfield City Council
Tue., Sep. 1, 5:30-9pm. Regular meeting in City Council chamber. Municipal Center West, 300 S. Seventh St., 217-789-2151.

■ **Children's Corner**

"The Road to Adventure: Exploring Route 66"
Wednesdays-Sundays, 9am-4pm. Through Dec. 31. This vibrant, hands-on exhibit brings the magic of the historic Mother Road to life - and it's fun for the whole family. kidzeum.org. \$5-\$12. Kidzeum of Health and Science, 412 E. Adams St., 217-679-2123.

■ **Nature, Science & Environment**

Ask a Library Techie
Thu., Aug. 27, 10:30-11:30am. Bring questions (and your device) and let Lincoln Library's staff help. Nancy Huntley Computer Room, 326 S. 7th St., 217-753-4900.

Sanctuary Explorations with Artist in Residence Kevin Veara
Tuesdays, 8-9am. Through Sep. 29. Join acclaimed artist and naturalist Kevin Veara as he explores the sanctuary in search of species and inspiration for his next art piece. Free. Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, 2315 E. Clear Lake Ave., 217-303-1996.

Solar Power Hour
Tue., Sep. 1, 12pm. Discover the financial incentives for solar. Participants will learn what they need to know about solar savings and what to ask installers about about costs, installations and payback periods for panels. Hosted by WindSolarUSA.

williamsvillelibrary.org. Free. Williamsville Public Library and Museum, Williamsville, 217 N. Elm St., 217-566-3520.

■ **Lectures & Meetings**

Citizens Club of Springfield: "It's Not Magic—It's Economic Development ..."
Fri., Aug. 28, 8-9am. "The Real Story Behind Site Selection, Growth, and Economic Development." Join Ryan McCrady and Abby Powell from the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance for a behind-the-scenes look at how Springfield and Sangamon County compete for jobs, investment and long-term economic growth. Free coffee and networking at 7:30 am. Program begins at 8am. Free and open to the public. Hoogland Center for the Arts Club Room, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

MomCo
Fourth Thursday of every month, 6:30-8:30pm and First Wednesday of every month, 9-11am. MomCo is a place where mothers can meet to receive support, make meaningful connections and grow a community. Child care is provided. trinity-lutheran.com. Free. Trinity Lutheran Church Parish Hall, 515 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-787-2323.

Pride on the Eastside
Fourth Thursday of every month, 5:30-6:30pm. A social group and support meeting for LGBT and people of color. Phoenix Center OUT East, 704 S. Dirksen Pkwy., 217-528-5253.

■ **Bulletin Board**

Free Produce
Sat., Aug. 29, 4-6pm. Food Not Bombs Springfield, IL is sharing free produce with the community. Bring reusable bags or use the bags provided. No documentation required. Meet at northeast picnic tables. Union Square Park, 500 E. Madison St., 217-753-3519.

Illinois Product Farmers Market
Thursdays, 3:30-7:30pm. Through Sep. 24. Local meats, produce, dairy products, baked goods, honey and jams, craft beers, woodworking, jewelry and more. Note: There are no farmers markets on Aug. 13, 20 or 27. Illinois State Fairgrounds, The Shed, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-524-9129.

Jacksonville Farmer's Market
Sat., Aug. 29, 7am-12pm and Wed., Sep. 2, 4-6pm. Shop the offerings of Jacksonville

area farmers, bakers and vendors all in one place at the Jacksonville Farmers Market. Pathway Services Unlimited Inc., Jacksonville, 1905 W. Morton Ave., 217-479-2300.

Zoo Booth
Sat., Aug. 29, 10am-1pm. Henson-Robinson Zoo will bring animals, activities and conservation information to Springfield historic sites on selected dates through the fall. There will be two locations: the Dana-Thomas House and the Old State Capitol. If weather is inclement, Dana-Thomas activities will be moved inside the Old State Capitol. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 2177826776.

■ **Health & Fitness**

Warm Meal Wednesday
Wednesdays, 12pm. Through Dec. 31. Free meal every Wednesday at noon. Provided by community members. Intricate Minds, 619 North Grand Ave. East, 217-670-3520.

■ **Sports**

Boston Hunters vs. San Francisco Firebells
Fri., Aug. 28, 6:30pm. Women's Pro Baseball League action. \$20-\$37. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

Los Angeles Queens vs. New York Heights
Thu., Aug. 27, 6:30pm. Women's Pro Baseball League action. \$20-\$37. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

Mark Coleman
Fri., Aug. 28, 7-10pm. Meet UFC Hall Of Famer Mark "The Hammer" Coleman. Riverton Party Store, Riverton, 717 N. Seventh St., 217-629-9493.

New York Heights vs. Los Angeles Queens
Sat., Aug. 29, 6:30pm. Women's Pro Baseball League action. \$20-\$37. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

New York Heights vs. San Francisco Firebells
Sun., Aug. 30, 6:30pm. \$20-\$37. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

San Francisco Firebells vs. Boston
Wed., Sep. 2, 6:30pm. \$20-\$37. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

MARKETPLACE

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Legal Deadline, Thursdays at 4pm

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF Sangamon - Springfield, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff vs. BEAUFORD T. MOORE; ROSE A. MOORE; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; CAPITAL ONE, N.A.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant
26 FC 4
CALENDAR
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on September 30, 2026, at the hour 9:00 a.m., Harvatin & Goebel, P.C., 1100 South Fifth Street, Springfield, IL 62703, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-33.0-405-008.
Commonly known as 548 W. CANEDY ST., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704.
The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection(g-1) of Section 189.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% (or 25% if so ordered in the Judgement of Foreclosure) down by certified funds. No refunds. The property is sold AS IS subject to all liens or encumbrances. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the circuit court case record, property tax record and the title record to verify all information before bidding. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Georgia 30004, (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 25-378959
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13292800

25-103522
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
MIDFIRST BANK PLAINTIFF, -vs- UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF ARTHUR E. WILSON A/K/A ARTHUR EUGENE WILSON; ADAIR WILSON, AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR E. WILSON, DECEASED; ADAIR WILSON; AMBER WILSON; JOSHUA WILSON; ARZELLUS WILSON; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS DEFENDANTS
NO. 25 FC 122
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Public Notice is hereby given that pursu-

ant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on May 6, 2026; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on September 15, 2026 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street 2nd Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.
Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.
Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Commonly known as 2316 Eastview Drive, Springfield, IL 62702
Permanent Index No.: 14-23.0-203-005
Improvements: Single Family Residential
The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.
The judgment amount was \$147,357.78. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For Bid Amount contact:
Sale Clerk
LOGS Legal Group LLP
2801 Lakeside Drive, Suite 207
Bannockburn, IL 60015
ILNOTICES@logs.com
(847) 291-1717
MidFirst Bank
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2801 Lakeside Drive, Suite 207
Bannockburn, IL 60015
(847) 291-1717
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119)
Michael N. Burke (6291435)
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)
Thomas Belczak (6193705)
Debra Miller (6205477)
Amy Aronson (6206512)
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.
8051-967956

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of August, 2026 a Certificate of Ownership of Business was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Sangamon County, stating that: Yanqiu Wu intend to transact, or are transacting business in Sangamon County, State of Illinois, under the fictitious name to wit: Everlasting Spa and that they are the sole owner(s) and proprietor(s) of said business, and the principal place of said business is located at: 509 Dawson Street; Springfield, IL 62702

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY B. CONN, Deceased NO. 2026-PR-313 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of JEFFREY B. CONN, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on August 20, 2026, to Stewart M. Conn, 407 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg, IL 62545 as Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 2nd day of March 2027 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 20th day of August 2026. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD DEAN SERVIS, Deceased NO. 2026-PR-270 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of DONALD DEAN SERVIS, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on August 20, 2026, to Monell Servis and Jaqueline Denise Mini-Reyman, 2 Providence Lane, Springfield, IL 62711 and 86 Downing Drive, Chatham, IL 62629 as Co-Administrators, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 2nd day of March 2027 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 20th day of August 2026. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the estate of: Virginia N. Pitchford, Deceased Case No. 2026PRO00301 Claim Notice Notice is given of the death of Virginia N. Pitchford. Letters of Administration were issued on Aug. 19, 2026 to Amanda R. Cooley as Executor, 14 Island View Lane, Springfield, IL 62712. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Executor, on or before Feb. 27, 2027. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Administrator within 10 days after it has been filed. Joseph B. Roesch Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER T. MANION, DECEASED Case #2026-PR-309 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of CHRISTOPHER T. MANION. Letters of Office have been issued to LAUREN ELIZABETH CHAPMAN, 15 Hyde Park Place, Springfield, IL 62703, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, on or before March 3, 2027, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 17th day of August, 2026. Patrick J. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BRENDA KAY DALBY, DECEASED Case #2026-PR-307 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of BRENDA KAY DALBY. Letters of Office have been issued to RYAN EDWARD BIETSCH, 2320 Stokebridge Road, Springfield, IL 62702, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C.,

1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before March 2, 2027, 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 14th day of August, 2026. Patrick J. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC, Plaintiff, Vs. STEPHEN WILLISIE, et. al., Defendants. Re: Estate of KELLY L. McKEAN, Deceased. 2026-FC-133 NOTICE TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF KELLY L. McKEAN: Notice is given of the death of Kelly L. McKean. The Court has appointed Dan E. Way as Special Representative for Kelly L. McKean, deceased, in the above-entitled cause seeking a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale on property located at 6 West Grand Court, Springfield, IL 62704 a/k/a 6 West Grand Court, Jerome, IL 62704. The address of the Special Representative is Way Law Offices, LLC, 1100 S. Fifth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. You may direct any questions you have to him, or you may retain counsel of your own choosing, or represent yourself, or do nothing. 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 e-file.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. /s/ Dan E. Way Special Representative for Kelly L. McKean, deceased. Dan E. Way #6204735 WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC 1100 S. Fifth Street Springfield, IL 62703 Tel. 217-525-7003 dan@danwaylaw.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN M. BRANDT, DECEASED. NO. 2026PRO00288 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS Notice is given of the death of JOHN M. BRANDT, of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on August 12, 2026, to SCOTT J. BRANDT, 503 Ridgeview Drive, Sherman, IL 62684; TODD F. BRANDT, 1018 Bankfield Court, Naperville, IL 60540; and MARK W. BRANDT, 1270 Monmouth Drive, Lemont, IL 60439, whose attorney is Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C., 232 West State Street, P.O. Box 550, Jacksonville, Illinois 62651. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 20th day August 2026, being the date of first publication

of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk of the court. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Dated this 12th day of August 2026. SCOTT J. BRANDT, TODD F. BRANDT, and MARK W. BRANDT, Executors of the Estate of JOHN M. BRANDT, Deceased BY: RAMMELKAMP BRADNEY, P.C. Attorneys for Estate: Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. Richard R. Freeman #6198969 232 West State Street Jacksonville, Illinois 62650 Telephone: (217) 245-6177 Fax: (217) 243-7322 Email: rrfreeman@rblawyers.net

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: GERALD L. KUHN, SR., Deceased. Case No. 2026-PR-304 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of GERALD L. KUHN, SR., of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on May 24, 2026. Letters of Office were issued on the 12th day of August, A.D., 2026, to KATHLEEN J. KUHN, of 4101 West Iles Avenue, Apt. 2321, Springfield, Illinois, 62711, as Executor, whose attorney of record is R. Stephen Scott, Scott & Scott, P.C., 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the Executor, 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 Co-Executors and to the Attorney at the above addresses within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed. DATED this 12th day of August, A.D., 2026. Estate of GERALD L. KUHN, SR., Deceased, By: KATHLEEN J. KUHN, Executor, PREPARED BY: R. Stephen Scott (02533391) SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C. By: /s/ R. Stephen Scott Attorneys at Law SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C. 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200 Springfield, IL 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-8200 Facsimile: (217) 753-8206 rss@scottscottlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN RE THE ESTATE OF: WALTER FRANKLIN GOODMAN JR., No. 2026-PR-302 Deceased. CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Walter Franklin Goodman Jr. Letters Testametary were issued on August 11, 2026, to Jane H. Hayden of 108 Cedar Dr., Clinton, IL 61727, 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 St., Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before February 22, 2027, 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 11th day of August 2026 Dan E. Way #6204735 WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC 1100 S. Fifth St. Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 525-7003

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the estate of: Shari Dipasquale, Deceased Case No. 2026PR000297 Claim Notice Notice is given of the death of Shari Dipasquale. Letters of Administration were issued on Aug. 10, 2026 to Kathryn Gillum as Administrator, 3152 Elmhurst Dr, Springfield IL 62704. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Executor, on or before Feb. 20, 2027. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Administrator within 10 days after it has been filed.

Joseph B. Roesch Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY ANN NEWSAM, DECEASED Case #2026-PR-294 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of MARY ANN NEWSAM. Letters of Office have been issued to ELIZABETH BRUNK, 2413 E. Oaks Road, Urbana, IL 61802, 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 February 23, 2027, 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 6th day of August, 2026. William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLENE L. WILKIN, DECEASED Case #2026-PR-295 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of CHARLENE L. WILKIN. Letters of Office have been issued to SANDRA BETTIS, 2207 Berrywood Lane, Bloomington, IL 61704, 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 February 23, 2027, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be

Sangamon County, IL Request for Proposal Annual Financial Audit Services

Sangamon County, Illinois is accepting proposals for professional financial audit services for fiscal years 2026 - 2028. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for annual financial audit services will be available beginning July 27th, 2026. Copies of the RFP may be picked up at the address listed below or may be requested by calling the Sangamon County Auditor's Office at 217-753-6630.

Sangamon County Auditor's Office
200 South Ninth Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62701

Proposals for this RFP must be received by the County Auditor's Office by September 11th, 2026, at 4:00 P.M. local time at the above address. Proposals must be sealed, in writing, and in compliance with the specifications detailed in the RFP. Questions can be directed to the County Auditor's Office, 217-753-6630 or eric.black@sangamonil.gov.

mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 6th day of August, 2026.
Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE THE ESTATE OF
DONALD GENE JONES
DECEASED
Case No. 2026-PR-282
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is hereby given of the death of DONALD GENE JONES. Letters of Administration were issued on July 30, 2026, appointing KIM L. VOGEL, 1012 Fountainwood Drive, Georgetown, TX 78633, as Administrator, whose attorney is Matthew R. Trapp of Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C., 900 Community Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, Phone: (217) 525-1571.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated: August 5, 2026
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Sangamon County Complex
200 S. Ninth Street
Springfield, IL 62701
8051-967989

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the Matter of the Estate of
LINDA M. MERCER, Deceased.
IN PROBATE
No. 2026-PR-292
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Linda M. Mercer, deceased.
Letters of Office were issued on August 5, 2026, to Jeff A. Corder, 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 27th day of February, 2027, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 6th day of August, 2026.
Prepared By:
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Brandon R. Clark
Registration No. 6329553
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
Telephone: (217) 544-8491
Facsimile: (217) 241-3111
bclark@bhslaw.com

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

FRED J. ECKHARDT, JR., DECEASED.
NO. 2026-PR-284
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS
Notice is given of the death of FRED J. ECKHARDT, JR., of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on to CHRISTOPHER J. ECKHARDT of 1601 Brenda Ct, Springfield, IL 62702 whose attorney is DelGiorno Law Office, LLC; 2160 South Sixth Street, Suite D-1, Springfield, IL 62703.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th St., Room 405, Springfield, IL 62701 or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 13th day of August, 2026, being the date of first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.html> 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 this 5th day of August, 2026.
CHRISTOPHER J. ECKHARDT, Executor of the Estate of FRED J. ECKHARDT, JR., Deceased
BY: DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
By: /s/ Anthony J DelGiorno, Attorney Attorneys for Estate:
Anthony J DelGiorno (ARDC 6277358)
DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
2160 South Sixth Street, Suite D-1
Springfield, IL 62703
Tel: (217) 773-5337
Service: service@delgiornolawoffice.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
TERRY NYDEGGER, DECEASED
Case #2026-PR-290
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of TERRY NYDEGGER. Letters of Office have been issued to JACQUELINE MARIE RUSSELL, 454 Firehouse Court, Longboat Key, FL 34228, 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 February 18, 2027, 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 4th day of August, 2026.
Patrick J. Sheehan, Ill
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ROBERT L. BURKE, DECEASED
Case #2026-PR-289
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of ROBERT L. BURKE. Letters of Office have been issued

to BARBARA A. BURKE, 6423 Camino De Burlon, Rochester, IL 62563 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 February 17, 2027, 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 3rd day of August, 2026.
Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
HOWARD E. WELLING, DECEASED
Case #2026-PR-286
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of HOWARD E. WELLING. Letters of Office have been issued to JODI RAE McBRIDE, 3405 S. 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before February 17, 2027, 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 3rd day of August, 2026.
Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of
Timothy L. Scranton, Petitioner
And
Ashley R. Martin, Respondent
Case No. 2026-DN-000163
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Ashley R. Martin, 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 27th day of October, 2025, 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
Brigette Drake, Petitioner
And
Melvin Hayes, Respondent
Case No. 2026-DC-000058

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Melvin Hayes, 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 20th day of September, 2025, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition.
Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of
Ivy Josiah Burchett
For change of name to
Ivy Josiah Lawson
Case No. 2026-MR-000251
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Oct. 6, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Ivy Josiah Burchett to Ivy Josiah Lawson pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.
Dated: Aug. 20, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING,
PLAINTIFF
VS.
MICHAEL J. DIAZ AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR STEPHEN A WOODWARD, DECEASED, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF STEPHEN A WOODWARD, CHRISTINA M WOODWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS & LEGATEES OF SUSAN L. WOODWARD A/K/A SUSAN LYNN WOODWARD, UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS.
DEFENDANTS
Case No.: 2026FC000108
Property Address:
15 Goodwin Ct
Springfield, IL 62704
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to: Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Stephen A Woodward, Unknown Heirs & Legatees of Susan L. Woodward A/K/A Susan Lynn Woodward and Unknown Owners, and Non Record Claimants, Defendants in the above-entitled action, that a Complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, by said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of certain mortgages conveying the premises legally described as follows:
LOT 15 OF GOODWIN COURT, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF LOTS 27, 28 AND PART OF LOT 29 PIERIK PLACE. EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD.
P.I.N.: 22-08.0-478-037
COMMON ADDRESS: 15 Goodwin Ct, Springfield, IL 62704
And which mortgages were made by Stephen A Woodward , Susan L Woodward a/k/a Susan Lynn Woodward, as Mortgagor(s); and given to (“MERS”) Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as Nominee for AFS Financial, Inc. as Mortgagee; to wit: that certain “Mortgage” dated (a) 04/07/2008, and recorded as Document No.2008R16406, that Summons was duly issued out of said court against you as provided by law, and that the said Complaint is now pending for foreclosure of said mortgages and for

other relief.
Now, therefore, unless you Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Stephen A Woodward, Unknown Heirs & Legatees of Susan L. Woodward A/K/A Susan Lynn Woodward and Unknown Owners, and Non Record Claimants, file your Appearance and Answer to the Complaint in said action in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Chancery Division, on or before SEPTEMBER 28, 2026, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer for relief in said Complaint.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Kluever Law Group, LLC
200 N. LaSalle St. Suite 1880
Chicago, IL 60601
312-236-0077
courtresults@klueverlawgroup.com
Atty. No. 6275308
Firm Case#: SMS001874-26FC1
8051-968485

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF Sangamon - Springfield, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff
vs.
BEAUFORD T. MOORE; ROSE A. MOORE; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; CAPITAL ONE, N.A.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant
26 FC 4
CALENDAR
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on September 30, 2026, at the hour 9:00 a.m., Harvatin & Goebel, P.C., 1100 South Fifth Street, Springfield, IL 62703, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
THE NORTH 135 FEET OF THE EAST 40 FEET OF THE WEST 1/2 OF LOT 5 IN BLOCK 3 IN MRS. ULRICH'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.
P.I.N. 14-33.0-405-008.
Commonly known as 548 W. CANEDY ST., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704.
The real estate is: single family residence.
If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection(g-1) of Section 189.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% (or 25% if so ordered in the Judgement of Foreclosure) down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property is sold AS IS subject to all liens or encumbrances. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the circuit court case record, property tax record and the title record to verify all information before bidding. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, Geor-

gia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109.
25-378959
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3292800

25-103522
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
MIDFIRST BANK
PLAINTIFF,
-vs-
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR LEGATEES OF ARTHUR E. WILSON A/K/A ARTHUR EUGENE WILSON; ADAIR WILSON, AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR E. WILSON, DECEASED; ADAIR WILSON; AMBER WILSON; JOSHUA WILSON; ARZELLUS WILSON; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
DEFENDANTS
NO. 25 FC 122
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on May 6, 2026; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on September 15, 2026 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street 2nd Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.
Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.
Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/ or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Said property is legally described as follows:
A PART OF LOTS 103 AND 104 IN FRED W WANLESS' EAST VIEW ADDITION, THIRD PLAT, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE EASTERLY LINE OF LOT 103 A DISTANCE OF 79.40 FEET NORTHEAST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 103, THENCE NORTHEAST 69.62 FEET ON THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOTS 103 AND 104, THENCE NORTHWESTERLY RADially TO THE CURVE OF EAST VIEW DRIVE 123.23 FEET, THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ON THE SOUTHEAST STREET LINE OF EAST VIEW DRIVE A CHORD DISTANCE OF 49.15 FEET, THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY 118.55 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. 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.
Commonly known as 2316 Eastview Drive, Springfield, IL 62702
Permanent Index No.: 14-23.0-203-005
Improvements: Single Family Residential
The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.
The judgment amount was \$147,357.78. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE

THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For Bid Amount contact:
Sole Clerk
LOGS Legal Group LLP
2801 Lakeside Drive, Suite 207
Bannockburn, IL 60015
ILNOTICES@logs.com
(847) 291-1717
MidFirst Bank
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2801 Lakeside Drive, Suite 207
Bannockburn, IL 60015
(847) 291-1717
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119)
Michael N. Burke (6291435)
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)
Thomas Belczak (6193705)
Debra Miller (6205477)
Amy Aronson (6206512)
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.
8051-967956

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
WILLIAM DANIEL RICHARDS, SR.,
Deceased.
No. 2026PR310
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of William Daniel Richards, Sr., a resident of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Quincy, Illinois, on August 7, 2026. Wilma June Heineman, whose post office address is 5260 Golf Drive, Auburn, Illinois 62615, was appointed executor of his estate on August 20, 2026. The attorneys for the executor are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 20th day of August, 2026.
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC # 6225930)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC # 6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-968502

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, September 17th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., in the County Board Chambers, Room 222,

200 S. 9th St., Springfield, Illinois, to hear the testimony for the petition of Rebecca Weller, fee owner of property commonly known as 9622 Ginder Road, Rochester, IL 62563 and:
PIN#: 30-14.0-400-010
Petitioner requests for Proposed Parcel 1: pursuant to Chapters 17.68 and 17.12, a rezoning from "A" Agricultural District to "R-1" Single-Family Residence District; pursuant to Chapter 17.66, a variance of Section 17.36.010(B) to allow an accessory structure to be approximately twenty-four (24) feet instead of the maximum height of eighteen (18) feet allowed in the "R-1" Single-Family Residence District; and, a variance of Chapter 17.04 (Lot depth) to allow the lot depth to be greater than two and one-half (2.5) times the lot width. Also in attendance to hear the testimony will be the members of the Zoning & Land Use Committee of the Sangamon County Board.
Dated this 20th day of August, 2026
Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals
CHARLES W. CHIMENTO, CHAIRMAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, September 17th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., in the County Board Chambers, Room 222 of the Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, Illinois, to hear the testimony for the petition of the Zoning & Land Use Committee of the Sangamon County Board, regarding text amendments to Chapter 17.35 – Energy Storage Systems of the Sangamon County Zoning Ordinance.
Also in attendance to hear the testimony will be the members of the Zoning & Land Use Committee of the Sangamon County Board.
Dated this 20th day of August, 2026
Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals
CHARLES W. CHIMENTO, CHAIRMAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CASS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
DANA KIM LOGSDON,
Deceased.
No. 2026PR15
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Dana Kim Logsdon, a resident of Beardstown, Cass County, Illinois, who died in Beardstown, Illinois, on June 18, 2026. Tari Gail Logsdon, whose post office address is 400 W. Main Street, Beardstown, Illinois 62618, Kimberly Gail Logsdon, whose post office address is 406 W. Main Street, Beardstown, Illinois 62618, and Ryan Dale Logsdon, whose post office address is 710 W. 2nd Street, Beardstown, Illinois 62618, were appointed independent co-executors of his estate on August 18, 2026. The attorneys for the independent co-executors 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 co-executors, 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 co-executors and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 19th day of August, 2026.
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)

Hart, Southworth & Witsman
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-968481

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation,
Plaintiff,
v.
HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF
MICHAEL CAVE; UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
IN CHANCERY
Case 2025-FC-159
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.
(A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Suzanna Scherf
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD
3400 Wabash Avenue
Springfield, IL 62711
Telephone: (217) 529-5555
(B) The common address and other common descriptions, if any, of the real estate is: 865 S. Oaklane Rd., Springfield IL 62712
(C) The legal description of the real estate is as follows:
The East Three Hundred Ninety-Six feet (396') of the South two Hundred Forty Feet (240') of the following described tract:
That part of the Southeast Quarter of Section Thirty-Two (32) bounded as follows: Beginning at a point in the North line of said Quarter Section Eight (8) Chains West of the Northeast corner thereof, and running thence West Twelve Hundred Eighty-Four feet (1284'), thence South Two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-eight and One-Half feet (2198 1/2'), thence East Eighteen Hundred Twelve Feet (1812') to the East line of said Quarter Section, thence North Sixteen Hundred Seventy and One-Half feet (1670 ½'), thence West Five Hundred Twenty-eight feet (528'), thence North Five Hundred Twenty-eight feet (528') to the place of beginning, all being in Township Sixteen (16) North, Range Four (4) West of the Third Principal Meridian.
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.
Situating in Sangamon County, Illinois
PIN#: 15-32.0-400-008
(D) Description of the improvement on the real estate is as follows:
Residential real property (vacant)
(E) The real estate will not be open for inspection prior to sale.
(F) The time and place of the sale is: 9:00 AM on September 15, 2026, at the Sangamon County Sheriff's Office, 1 Copley Plaza, Springfield, IL 62703.
(G) The terms of the sale are cash or certified funds at time of sale.
(H) The subject property is sold subject to all general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, all general real estate taxes which have not yet become due and payable, with special assessments, if any, and easements and restrictions of record, and existing leases, if any,

applicable zoning laws; property is sold "AS IS, WHERE IS, and with no warranties", and without any representation as to quality or quantity of the title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.
BANK OF SPRINGFIELD, an Illinois banking corporation, Plaintiff
By: /s/ Brian D. Jones
One of Its Attorneys
SORLING NORTHRUP
Brian D. Jones, of Counsel – ARDC
#6286510
1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200
P. O. Box 5131
Springfield, IL 62705
Telephone: 217-544-1144
Fax: 217-522-3173
E-Mail: bdjones@sorlinglaw.com

WESTERN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for fire protection purposes of the Western Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, has been and will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at the Law Office of Brown, Hay & Stephens, 205 S. Fifth, Suite 1000, Springfield, Illinois 62701, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, from and after 9:00 a.m. on August 14, 2026.
NOTICE is further hereby given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 10:00 a.m., September 14, 2026 at the Law Office of Brown, Hay & Stephens, 205 South Fifth, Suite 1000, Springfield, Illinois 62701, County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, and that final action on this Ordinance will be taken by the Trustees of the Western Fire Protection District at a meeting to be held at the Law Office of Brown, Hay & Stephens, 205 South Fifth, Suite 1000, Springfield, Illinois 62701, County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, at 10:05 a.m., September 14, 2026.
Board of Trustees of the Western Fire Protection District

LEGAL NOTICE
The Land Subdivision Committee of the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the following subdivision at 1:30 PM in the Carnegie Room North of the Lincoln Library, Thursday, September 3, 2026: Commerce Park - Location and Sketch Map - Pt. of the SE ¼ of Sec. 17, Pt. of the SW ¼ of Sec. 16, and Pt. of the NE ¼ of Sec. 20, T16N, R5W – Located north of Veterans Parkway and west of J. David Jones Parkway.

To enforce Self Storage Lien in default of payment of rent a private auction will be held on Saturday September 19, 2026, at 9:00a.m.
Northend Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL. 62702
This is a private auction. In order to attend you must call 217-544-4521 a week prior to the auction date.
Please leave your name, telephone number and an email address.
Cash is the only form of payment accepted for the auction.
Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance on or before Friday September 11, 2026.
No personal checks will be accepted for storage units that are in lien.
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
Thomas Yarrington Unit#1-6
Maniza Holt Unit#4-8
Zaire Hughes Unit#7-3
Toni Hunt Unit#8-2

Leonard Swope Unit#10-8
Bonnie Sutton Unit#1-28
Kelly & Bertha Richard Unit#1-35
Charles Jones Unit#1-41
Ricky Spencer Unit#3-34
Debra Phelps Unit#4-26
Tramelle Furdge Unit#5-14
Vernice Bailey Unit#5-22
Lawrence Cleeton Unit#6-14
Chuck Harshaw Unit#6-19
Terry Broida Unit#9-37
Susan Grant Unit#10-12
Linda Byrd Unit#10-34
Lakaisa Tucker Unit#10-41
Brady Tyhurst Unit#10-44
Thomas Yarrington Unit#11-17
Linda Byrd Unit#11-43
Todd Pulliam Unit#H-9

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF
Kemani Leon Vasey, Minor Child
No. 2026-GR-000145
To: Desi Woods Jr. and All Persons Having A Right To Notice:
Please be notified that Melissa Hendrickser has filed a Petition for the Guardianship of the Estate and Person of Kemani Leon Vasey a minor child.
You are required to answer said Petition before Sept. 13, 2026 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.
Dated: Aug. 13, 2026

Notice of Solicitation of Proposals for Sale of Certain Real Property
Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-2
Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-2 of the Illinois Municipal Code, the Village of Grandview Board of Trustees duly enacted Ordinance 26-10 at a regular board meeting of the Village Board on September 1, 2026. The Ordinance authorizes the sale of a vacant and unimproved parcel owned by the Village, commonly known as 2515 E Keys Avenue, Grandview, IL 62702 (the "Property"). As such, the Village hereby gives public notice that it is soliciting proposals relating to said Property.
The brief legal description of said Property is: Wanless 2nd N Grand PL, W 70' E 190' L 49. The Parcel Number is 14-24.0-302-014. The property is located in the Village's residential zoning district and must conform to the residential zoning district standards of the Village.
The Property is being sold "as-is" for a sum determined to be appropriate by open bid, with a starting minimum bid of \$8,000. The Village makes no representation as to the condition of the Property.
The winning bid will be responsible for all costs associated with closing, any costs from a title company associated with securing the conveyance of good, marketable title, any costs of survey, and any and all other usual and customary costs associated with the sale of real property.
Any person may submit a written sealed bid for the purchase of the Property. The Village will consider all bids to purchase the Property received no later than 5:00 PM CST on September 1, 2026. There is a starting minimum bid of \$8,000. The Village reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any technicalities in the bidding if it should be deemed in the public interest. These decisions will be final and not subject to recourse. This request for proposals does not obligate the Village to pay any costs incurred by any bidder in the submittal of a bid or in making necessary studies or designs for the preparation of that bid.
Bids for the Property shall be submitted in hard copy, in a sealed envelope marked "SEALED PROPERTY BID" and must be received by the Village Clerk no later than 5 PM CST on September 1, 2026. Any bids received after 5 PM CST on September 1, 2026 shall not be considered. Sealed

bids should be delivered to the Village Clerk Heather Becker, Grandview Village Offices, 2377 E. Reservoir, Springfield, IL 62702. Submission of a sealed bid shall be considered indication of the bidder's commitment to maintain the property in accordance with the Village Ordinances. Sealed bids shall be opened at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 1, 2026 at 5:30 PM CST at 2377 E. Reservoir, Springfield, IL 62702. The Board may accept the high bid or any other bid determined to be in the best interest of the Village by a vote of 3/4 of the Board, or may reject any and all bids by a majority vote.

SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY
2027 PHA PLAN SUBMISSION
2027 MTW Supplement
Close out of 2022, 2023 & 2024 Capital Fund Programs
IL06P004501-22
IL06P004501-23
IL06P004501-24
Revisions to Admissions & Continued Occupancy Plan & Public Housing Lease, Administrative Action and Family Self-Sufficiency Action Plan
PUBLIC NOTICE
As required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, there will be a 45-day public comment period starting Monday, August 3, 2026, through Friday, September 18, 2026. Copies of the plan for public review can be obtained at the following locations:
SHA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
200 North Eleventh Street
Springfield, IL 62703
Public Hearings will be held during the 45-day public comment period to gather public input at the following times and locations:
Tuesday, September 1, 2026, @ 11:00 AM
Hildebrandt Hi-Rise
Tuesday, September 1, 2026, @ 3:00 PM
Villas at Vinegar Hill
Tuesday, September 1, 2026, @ 5:00 PM
Brandon Office
Wednesday, September 2, 2026, @ 5:00 PM
PM - 200 North Eleventh Street
Thursday, September 3, 2026, @ 11:00 AM
Bonansinga Hi-Rise
Thursday, September 3, 2026, @5:00PM
Johnson Park Office
Comments may be mailed or e-mailed to: SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY
ATTN: Chief Executive Officer's Office
200 North Eleventh Street
Springfield, IL 62703
melissah@sha1.org
Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act (QHWRA) of 1998 created the public housing agency five (5) year and annual plan requirement. The five-year plan describes the mission of the agency and the agency's long-range goals and objectives for achieving its mission over a five-year period, and their approach to managing programs and providing services for the upcoming year. THE PHA Plan also serves as the annual application for grants to support improvements to public housing buildings (Capital Fund Program) and safety in public housing (Public Housing Drug Elimination Program).

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Jensen Nelson, Petitioner
and
Sela Cronin, Respondent
Case No. 2025-FA-000049
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you Sela Cronin, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced and you are summoned to a child custody case and for other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the

office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois on or before the 13th day of September, 2026, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint. Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LOGAN COUNTY
Leannette Black/Kamilah Webb (POA),
Petitioner
vs.
Adrienne Dodge, Respondent
Case No: 2026 OP 51
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Adrienne Dodge, this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for an Order of Protection. Unless you file your Answer or otherwise file your Appearance in this cause in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court in the Logan County Courthouse, 601 Broadway St., Lincoln, Illinois, on or before Sept. 4, 2026 a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
Kelly Elias
Clerk of the Court
Date: Aug. 27, 2026

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF Alivia Pettit
No. 2026-GR-147
To: Ryan C. Pettit at address unknown.
Please be notified that Julie McClure and Chase Vannier have filed a Petition for Guardianship of Alivia Pettit, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By October 5, 2026 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, September 17th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., in the County Board Chambers, Room 222, 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, Illinois, to hear the testimony for the petition of Andrew & Hillary Whalen, fee owners of property commonly known as 5575 Cardinal Hill Road, Rochester, IL 62563 and: Parcel Identification Number #: 23-27.0-300-033
Petitioners request pursuant to Chapter 17.66, a Use Variance to allow a farm stand/grocery store; a variance of Chapter 17.04 (lot) to allow two (2) principal uses on one (1) parcel: (1) a single-family residence and (2) a farm stand/grocery store; and, a variance of Section 17.50.060(A) to allow the parking to remain unpaved (rock/grass) instead of the required bituminous seal coat. Also in attendance to hear the testimony will be the members of the Zoning & Land Use Committee of the Sangamon County Board.
Dated this 20th day of August, 2026
Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals
CHARLES W. CHIMENTO, CHAIRMAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association,
Plaintiff,
v.
RICHARD LUFT, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
No.: 2026-FC-156
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
Notice is given to defendants, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following described real estate, that

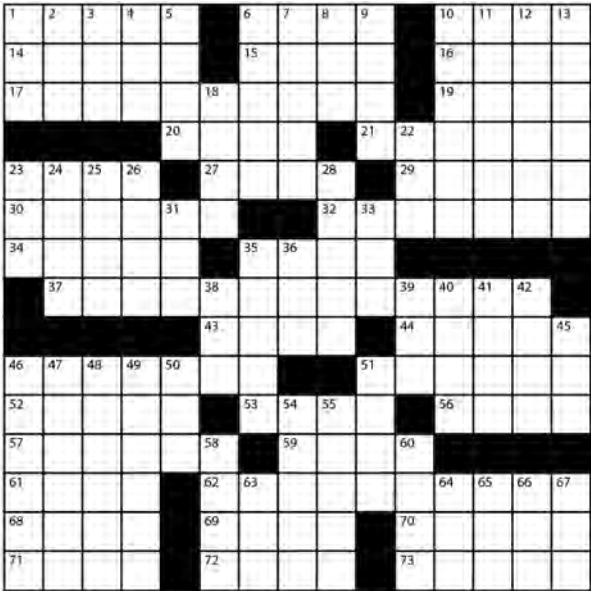
the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now pending, and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said defendants is SEPTEMBER 28, 2026.
The Plaintiff has certified that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on July 28, 2026, and is now pending.
(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.
(ii) The court in which said action was brought is identified above.
(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:
Richard Luft.
(iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:
Lot 29 in Charles S. Wanless' South First Street Subdivision, as platted by Plat recorded April 14, 1947 as Document Number 221411, Plat Book 14, Page 27 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in Sangamon County, Illinois.
All 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.
Situating in Sangamon County, Illinois.
Tax ID Number: 22-04.0-408-001
(v) A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows:
2200 South Spring Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704
(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:
(A) Nature of instrument: Mortgage.
(B) Date of mortgage: March 14, 2025.
(C) Name of mortgagor: Richard Luft.
(D) Name of mortgagee: INB, National Association.
(E) Date and place of recording: March 18, 2025 in the Recorder's Office of Sangamon County, Sangamon County, Illinois.
(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2025R04174.
INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, Plaintiff
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-968653

A store

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 960

Across

1. Reef material
6. Attempt
10. Literally, "king"
14. + end
15. Basalt source
16. Legal prefix
17. The easy life
19. Mass number
20. Barfly's binge
21. Plant swellings
23. "Now!"
27. Crude group?
29. Chip away at
30. Clothing line
32. Magazine success
34. Archaeological site
35. Buzzing pest
37. Lowbrow sitcom staple
43. Absolute worst
44. Navigational aid
46. Denounce
51. Covet
52. Mr. T's group
53. Madly in love
56. Increase, with "up"
57. Lady Liberty, for example
59. City on the Tiber
61. Tortoise racer
62. Irredeemable
68. It has a big mouth
69. Actor Pitt
70. Hawkeye
71. "Star ____"
72. Without: Fr.
73. Not relaxed



Down

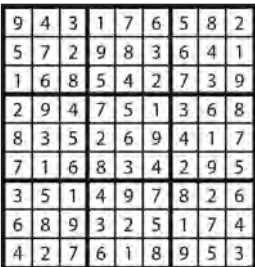
1. Subway alternative
2. A wee hour
3. Curtain holder
4. Hoopla
5. Hit the road
6. Fore-and-aft-rigged vessel
7. Spoonful, say
8. "____ Maria"
9. Bottom
10. Globe
11. Upper part of a barn
12. Loser of 1588
13. Grimm youngster
18. Part of a Clue accusation
22. Hibernation site
23. Balloon filler
24. Give the cold shoulder
25. Largest of seven
26. Confined, with "up"
28. Pulls an all-nighter
31. ____ Wednesday
33. Afr. nation
35. Auctioneer's word
36. "____ a chance"
38. Engine speed, for short
39. Bring into play
40. Forest growth
41. "Don't bet ____!"
42. Pink, as a steak

45. Sales pro
46. Kind of nut
47. Senators' home
48. More intimate
49. Singles, often
50. Australian runner
51. "____ Yankees"
54. Kind of race
55. Merchandise
58. Declines
60. Cut, maybe
63. Victorian, for one
64. Ground breaker
65. Control
66. Faux ____
67. Compass dir.

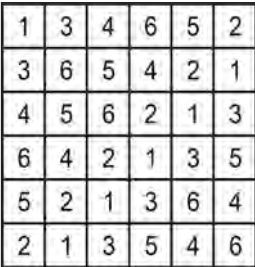
Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #959



Sudoku answers from #959

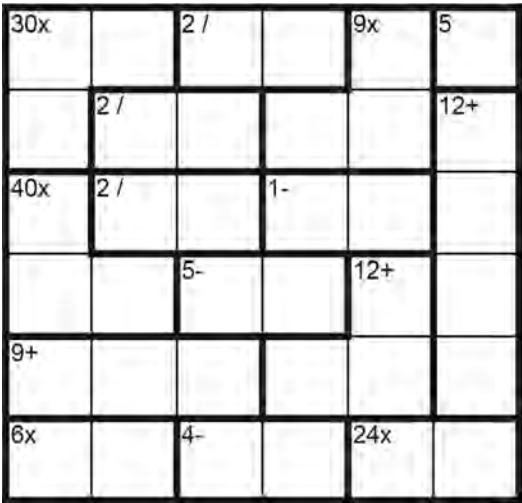


JoshJosh answers from #959

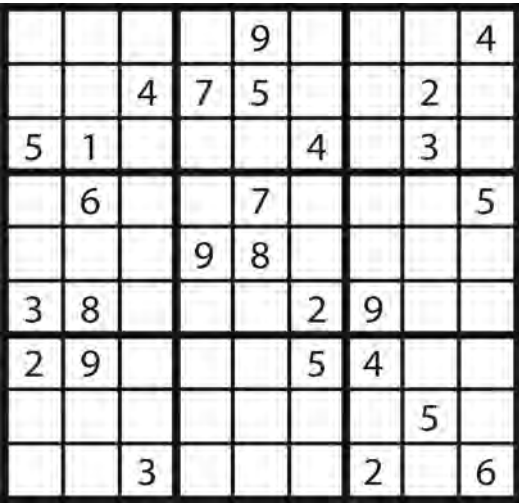
JoshJosh

by J. Reynolds - No. 960

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



Difficulty medium



Difficulty hard



SCAN FOR TIX

SAT., SEPT. 5, 2026



12:00 PM - 5:00 PM



630 S. 6TH ST.