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New ambulance for mental health crises

CITY | Dean Olsen

A Springfield Fire Department ambulance that specializes in helping Sangamon County residents during substance-abuse and mental health crises went into service Sept. 8.

The Rescue 1 ambulance, part of the city's BEACON Project – which stands for Bridging Emergency And Community Outreach Network – represents an increased communitywide focus on mental health in the wake of escalating calls for service and the tragic deaths of Earl Moore Jr. in 2022 and Sonya Massey in 2024, officials said.

“At its core, BEACON is about connecting people with the help they need beyond the immediate emergency ... so that we can look at what brought someone to the point of crisis and what we can do beyond the call,” Springfield Fire Department Chief Nick Zummo said at a news conference.

The new BEACON ambulance will be operated by SFD and with professional support from Memorial Behavioral Health mental health specialists. It represents a new approach for the city and a new service officials said will be available 24 hours a day to Springfield and the rest of Sangamon County for emergencies involving drug overdoses and behavioral health, Zummo said.

“As firefighters, we have all been on calls where we provided emergency care as needed but walked away knowing there was more going on and wishing there was more we could do,” Zummo said. “BEACON gives us that opportunity. Instead of the emergency room being the only option, we can take the time to determine what a person needs, connect them with the available services, and when appropriate, help them get to the right place for that care.”

The closest Illinois communities with a similar model are Rockford and Naperville, both of which have municipally operated ambulance services, Zummo said.

Supported by Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher and all 10 of the Springfield City Council's ward representatives, BEACON could be expanded to a second unit in the next year if U.S. Rep. Nikki Budzinski, D-Springfield, is able to secure enough federal funding, Buscher said.

Local officials said the unit, staffed with SFD firefighters who have intermediate and advanced emergency medical technician training and additional training on mental health, will be able to provide more than the 20 or 30 minutes typically available when firefighters are dispatched.

Firefighters and Memorial Health workers



Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher speaks during a Sept. 8 news conference unveiling a new Rescue 1 ambulance that will respond to drug-overdose and mental health emergency calls as part of the city's BEACON Project. BEACON stands for Bridging Emergency And Community Outreach Network. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

will be able to spend up to several hours with patients to better understand their issues, help them connect with treatment, shelter and coping services, and avoid emergency rooms, though Fire Capt. Kainan Rinaberger said Rescue 1 will be able to transport patients to area hospitals.

“Our goal is to not transport,” he said.

BEACON likely will save and improve lives, he said. “It's obviously serving a need that hasn't been met,” he said.

Rinaberger, president of Springfield Fire Fighters Local 37, is one of the first 12 firefighters who will help staff BEACON. He said firefighters who staff the ambulance will receive a 5% boost in pay during those shifts.

Rescue 1 was purchased by the city with about \$260,000 previously set aside for a city-operated ambulance service that would supplement what is provided by two private ambulance providers, Medics First and America Ambulance.

A full-service, city-operated ambulance

service hasn't gained traction on the City Council, but the city's experience with BEACON could generate more interest, Rinaberger said.

The city's annual contract with Memorial Health for professional services will cost \$160,200. Funding from the city's share of the national opioid settlement will help pay for costs of the program, Zummo said.

Rescue 1 will be based at SFD Fire Station 6 at 2121 S. 11th St., on the city's east side. If a second unit is put into service, it likely would be based at a west side fire station, Buscher said.

The mayor said Rescue 1 “will assist our community when our mental health is not shining our best, or when our addiction takes hold of us. It will be the beacon of light this community needs.”

Springfield police and firefighters, as well as Memorial officials, said requests for emergency mental health services are rising as the stigma surrounding mental illness slowly recedes.

Zummo said Rescue 1 could respond to about 3,000 calls per year.

Springfield Police Chief Joseph Behl said the BEACON ambulance will complement services provided through the police department's “co-responder” program in which Memorial Behavioral Health counselors ride along with police to assist in responding to mental health crises.

That program is funded with a \$2.5 million annual grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

People going through mental health crises sometimes react negatively or become more agitated when they see an armed police officer, so Rescue 1 could satisfy a specific need, Behl and Rinaberger said.

A 911 call from Sonya Massey, 36, a woman with mental illness who suspected a prowler in the Cabbage Patch neighborhood in unincorporated Woodside Township, ended in tragedy in July 2024.

A tense verbal exchange with former Sangamon County Sheriff's Deputy Sean Grayson culminated with Grayson shooting Massey in the face inside her home. Grayson, 31, was convicted of second-degree murder in October 2025.

Grayson, previously diagnosed with cancer, died in prison on Aug. 23 almost seven months after starting a 20-year prison term that could have been reduced to 10 years with good behavior.

In another Sangamon County case, Earl Moore Jr., 35, suffocated after being placed face-down on a LifeStar Ambulance gurney while under the care of an EMT and a paramedic who were summoned to his Springfield home by police who said Moore was hallucinating and reportedly going through alcohol withdrawal.

Rinaberger said Moore would have been treated better if Springfield firefighters had been handling his care at the scene.

Former LifeStar EMT Peter Cadigan, 53, initially charged with first-degree murder, pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter as part of a plea deal that ended the case. He was sentenced to probation and no prison time in June.

Former LifeStar paramedic Peggy Finley, 47, also charged with first-degree murder, is free while awaiting trial. Her next court hearing is scheduled for Sept. 22. □

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

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NEWS



Troy Minton, left, and Vinal Luciano are pictured in front of 430 E. Monroe St. in June, shortly after they announced plans to open The Bus Stop in the former Whiskey Jack's space. A water main break the day before their grand opening has derailed plans. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

Derailed but not deterred

Business affected by downtown water line break seeks to recover damages

CITY | Maria Gardner Lara

The repercussions from the Aug. 27 water main break along Monroe Street in downtown Springfield continue to be felt as businesses seek to recoup losses and move past the day's events.

The building at the corner of Fifth and Monroe streets received the brunt of the flow of water when a 12-foot section of the underground cast iron pipe burst, causing the street to flood.

The water main broke on the eve of the grand opening for The Bus Stop, a bar and entertainment venue.

"I've had some pretty bad things happen throughout my course of living, and I don't know that I've ever been this blindsided," said Zac Lowman — also known as Vinal Luciano — who is the co-owner of the business.

Lowman, a Springfield native, said he and co-owner Troy Minton began working on remodeling the interior in April when they signed the lease for the space. Following the water damage, they are out the money spent on renovating the interior, plus about \$15,000 worth of appliances and inventory.

The basement was flooded with at least five feet of water. Images posted on the business' Facebook page show water nearly reaching the top of the stairs leading to the basement. The building remains without power since the electrical panels, located in the basement, were ruined.

The Bus Stop has created a GoFundMe to help cover some of its losses, and a Sept. 4 fundraiser was held at 5th Street GEM, 221 S. Fifth St.

Ward 5 Ald. Lakeisha Purchase, who represents part of downtown and owns 5th Street GEM, provided the space for The Bus Stop's fundraiser.

Purchase said she's giving the city "grace" as she waits for the city's plan for recovery, "but I'm also doing my due diligence of things that I would like to bring forward that could help."

She said she's helping The Bus Stop, among other businesses, scout out spaces to relocate downtown.

"So, I'm not looking to have another business have to leave for something that was out of their control," Purchase said, recalling Café Moxo, the popular downtown restaurant that left the city's center to relocate to the west side following a fire on Adams Street in June 2024.

Commenters on social media have inquired as to why the business can't rely on its insurance to cover the damage.

Lowman said while the business had liquor liability insurance and business owners' insurance, it won't cover the damage "because it came from an outside source," i.e., water rushing from the city's water main into the business.

Lowman said the building owner told him that his insurance isn't covering the building damage for the same reason and that there is around \$120,000 in repairs needed, including electrical work.

He said The Bus Stop is the only business near the water main break that remains closed. Joe Gallina's and Dumb Records are open

for business despite the significant road work that is underway in the 400 block of East Monroe Street.

Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher met with several of the business owners most impacted by the water main break last week.

Buscher told *IT* there may be funds available to help through the city's Office of Planning and Economic Development but was waiting to receive damage estimates from the business owners.

"So, it's really difficult to put a finger on money until we know what kind of costs are incurred," she said.

Lowman said city officials were empathetic during the meeting and that he received some forms to fill out, but nothing was promised as far as financial assistance. While he's hopeful the city will step in with financial support, he's not counting on it.

What he grapples with is figuring who is being held responsible for the damage.

"I don't know how it could be nobody's fault," he said. "I don't see how insurance could not cover it, and it would be something that would just be for us to figure out. All we wanted to do was bring another business to downtown Springfield," Lowman said.

Lowman said the fundraiser will primarily help with covering the cost of replacing the equipment and inventory, but leaves the question of what next.

"Chances are, we're going to have to relocate, because we don't really have a place to go back to," he said. □

Becoming a billet

Jr. Blues hockey players are hosted by local families

HOCKEY | Adrian Dater

Ask a veteran hockey player about their parents, and they'll often answer: Which ones?

For players that had enough talent to play for a junior hockey team, such as the Springfield Jr. Blues of the North American Hockey League, there were their regular parents and their billet parents.

New Jr. Blues defenseman Brady Anundsen, 17, is always in touch with his birth parents back in Green Bay, Wisconsin. But for the next seven months, at least, Anundsen now is under the legal guardianship of his billet family – the Pipers, led by Zach and Carli – of Rochester.

The French word “billet” historically dates to the “private quarters” soldiers in the field could hope to get during wartime from a generous host. In hockey, it is a longtime tradition, whereby players too young to live on their own but possessing enough talent to play on a team far from home, are hosted by a family in the area.

Families get a stipend for their service, \$400 a month, for players in the Tier II NAHL. In their decision to open their home to Anundsen, the Pipers say, money was far down on the list.

“One of our friends, who had done it for four years, said how amazing it is and asked if we wanted to do it? We prayed over it and came to a quick decision to do it,” Carli Piper said.

Anundsen, a defenseman, moved in with the Pipers in late August and already has become something of a big brother to 7-year-old Caden Piper, one of two children of the Pipers (4-month-old Jett is the other). With a big yard and long driveway, Anundsen and Caden have plenty of room for games of mini-stick hockey or most anything else.

“It’s a change, but it’s been fun so far,” Anundsen said. “I’ve gotten to know the area a little bit. I have a car, so I can explore a little bit.”

There are rules of the house: Anundsen has a 10:30 p.m. curfew on non-game nights, and no girls allowed overnight. There are rules for the Pipers, too. They must be able to provide three meals a day; a furnished, private bedroom; laundry facilities and be able to help with transportation if needed. They must always be able to communicate freely with team coaches and other management and lend any emotional support a player might need.

A rigorous interview process between the



Left to right: 17-year-old Brady Anundsen, who is living with a billet family while he plays for the Jr. Blues this season, Caden, Carli, Jeff and Zach Piper.

PHOTO COURTESY PIPER FAMILY

team and a prospective billet family must happen before the family is granted the job. In addition to the monthly stipend, billet families get free season tickets to all Jr. Blues games and other team functions.

For Zach Piper, 34, who played goalie for Springfield club teams as a teen, the chance to gain a new experience outweighed all. He already knows how to be a parent, but taking in a complete stranger and sharing a new experience together piqued his curiosity.

“I’d had a few guys I played with live with billet families, so I knew what it was about. It just seemed like a good thing to try. We were big fans of the Jr. Blues already, and got to know a couple of the other families who did it, and so why not?” Piper said. “So far, it’s been great. Brady has blended right in.”

This isn’t the first time Anundsen has lived away from home, however. He spent most of last year living in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, playing for a team in the Atlantic Youth Hockey League 16U, the Knights. But that was in a team-supplied dormitory, where he lived with other teammates.

The goal of most junior hockey players is to make the jump to a Major Junior team, or get a scholarship to play college hockey, preferably in Division 1. Anundsen’s hopes are no different. At 5-foot-10, he hopes to grow taller and stronger and establish a niche as a puck-moving, offensive defenseman.

“I’ve been playing since I was 3. I just loved hockey very early, and it’s exciting to be in this new league,” Anundsen said.

His new coach is Todd Pococke, who also serves as the Jr. Blues’ general manager.

“Billet families really are the backbone of junior hockey,” Pococke said. “Junior hockey doesn’t exist without them. They also create lifelong memories and relationships. I’m still in touch with mine.”

So is Dave Reid, who played 18 seasons in the NHL and won Stanley Cups with Dallas and Colorado. Reid, 62, took the Stanley Cup to the home of Babe Gillen, a widow who was a billet parent to Reid when he played for the Peterborough (Ontario) Petes of Major Junior in the early 1980s.

“I played four years in Peterborough and

had four different billet families, but Babe Gillen was the last one, and she was such a nice lady. She worked concessions at Petes games, so she was one of the first people I visited when I had my day with the Cup in 2001 after we won with Colorado,” Reid told *Illinois Times*.

Reid later became a GM of the Petes and was partially responsible for finding new billet families.

“They always say hockey players are the nicest of the pro athletes, and I think some of that – whether it’s true or not – has to do with many having come from billet families,” Reid said. “I was expected to do chores when I was under the roofs of those families. It teaches respect for others. It’s a great tradition of our sport.” □

Adrian Dater, a longtime former sportswriter in Denver and author of seven books, moved to Springfield in 2023 to get his first taste of life in the Midwest. He spent two decades as the beat writer for the Colorado Avalanche and National Hockey League.

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This position is partially funded by a grant of \$20,000 for the second year. We are expected to raise \$40,000 from community support to cover our share of this position.



Before joining *Illinois Times*, Dilpreet Raju reported on disparity through public health, wrongful convictions and the state's burgeoning marijuana industry for Capitol News Illinois, a nonprofit news service, as a reporting fellow.

Raju, a Schaumburg native, has a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. He pursued the Report for America program because of the nonprofit's dedication toward preparing journalists for a life of reporting news that matters.

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Mental Health Board faces forks in the road

Nearly \$15 million expected in first-year funding

MENTAL HEALTH | Dilpreet Raju

Some community members, including the former Massey Commission's managing director, say the inaugural Sangamon County Mental Health Board has to better address the communities it is attempting to support if the board wants to be successful.

Since the Mental Health Board began meeting monthly at the end of May, some of the specific asks have included streaming meetings, having meetings take place somewhere other than the county complex and changing the monthly meeting time.

The Mental Health Board is responsible for disbursing tax revenue to mental health programs in the county through a limited 0.5% sales tax levy (groceries, medication and services are excluded) which the county estimates will bring in roughly \$14.7 million in its first year.

The county-funded Massey Commission – born out of then-sheriff's deputy Sean Grayson shooting and killing Sonya Massey in her home on July 6, 2024 – met from September 2024 through the end of 2025.

Kelly Hurst, who served as managing director of the commission, addressed the Mental Health Board at its Aug. 26 meeting and expressed her concerns with how things were starting off. One example she gave was its 3 p.m. meeting time, which she said is at “a highly inconvenient time of day and that you actually could do a whole lot more with the community.”

Hurst also expressed concerns to *Illinois Times* over the board's early decision-making, contending “this Mental Health Board shouldn't have to discover from scratch that compliance is not community or that procedure isn't trust.”

“My concern is that they are busy, very busy, and they are building the room, putting up the walls, choosing the tables and chairs, deciding where everything goes and then they want to invite community in to tell us whether or not we like the decorations,” she said. “If community enters after all of that architecture is settled, then they're not helping to build the house.”

Specifically, she said the board might not be able to actually engage with community members due to its monthly meeting time and location.

“We ask people to come to the county building – which I understand – that's a natural place to have it. It is also a place where people who struggle with mental health have a problem coming in. They don't want to necessarily walk through a metal detector and



The Sangamon County Mental Health Board met for the fourth time Aug. 26. Some community members have expressed concerns that the newly formed group has chosen a meeting time and location that does not encourage participation by the public. PHOTO BY DILPREET RAJU

be surrounded by policing when policing them for their mental health issues was a part of the problem in the first place. We're asking people to enter into spaces of trauma in order to talk about how we actually mitigate trauma. That doesn't make any sense,” Hurst said.

She also cited past reports by the Massey Commission and Mental Health Commission as part of a foundation for the board to develop priorities.

“Ultimately, Sangamon County does have a great opportunity that very few communities get. We've got a significant public investment; we have extraordinary primary community knowledge; we have existing research; we have relationships built over a long time, not just the last two years but in that work we do; and we have people across this community who genuinely want this to work. We just don't have to begin from scarcity. We can begin from abundance here,” Hurst said.

Chair Steve Nardulli, a former judge, told *Illinois Times* he expects the board to change the meeting time, but likely only by an hour or so.

“It appears to several of our board members that a lot of the people who attend the meetings are mental health professionals who are attending during their work day. You make a meeting more convenient for one set of people, (then) you're making it

more inconvenient for another set of people,” he said. “My guess is – and this is a board decision, not a Steve decision – that we might move the meetings back to 4 or 4:30. I doubt that we will move into the evenings.”

Hurst said she noticed multiple employees of Memorial Health, the largest healthcare provider in Springfield by virtually every metric, attending meetings.

Nardulli told the board Aug. 26 he had recently met with Sheriff Paula Crouch, jail superintendent Larry Beck, Josh Sabo of Heartland Housed and the UIS Child Advocacy Studies program. In addition to praising Heartland's approach to homelessness, Nardulli told the board he expects the sheriff's office and some UIS researchers to apply for Mental Health Board funding.

The board also plans to help smaller organizations who have less grant application experience by providing seminars that walk through the steps of incorporating a nonprofit, how to apply for grants, and so on.

“We're pretty much restricted to issuing grants to 501(c)(3) organizations,” Nardulli told *IT*, of public health organizations, though who those organizations will be is still to be determined.

“We're still in the learning phases of figuring out where these (services) are going to be directed... if we're going to be using

taxpayer dollars to provide services, we need to be able to make sure, through the collection of data, that the services we fund are being effective.

“It took a terrible tragedy to get Sangamon County moving forward to passing the referendum for the 708 Board – and that tragedy is really much of the basis for where we are going as a 708 board,” he said.

Two-thirds of counties in Illinois have mental health boards – often called 708 boards after the decades-old Illinois bill-turned-law that granted the formation of such boards through a public vote – which approve funding for local social service organizations through some form of tax revenue.

Primary voters approved the sales tax increase and board in March, though it wasn't a short road to getting on the ballot. After the Mid-Illinois Medical District and Massey Commission formally recommended the idea to the county, the Sangamon County Board sought an additional commission that studied the topic during 2025.

During the Aug. 26 meeting, the board announced that it has received 11 applications for CEO and three for legal counsel. The board deliberated finalists in a closed session.

The board is scheduled to meet again Sept. 23 at 3 p.m. in the Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth St. □

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Butch Elzea, a prior recipient of the First Citizen Award who now serves on the board of directors, addresses the crowd during the 2025 awards program at Southwind Park. PHOTO COURTESY FIRST CITIZEN AWARD

Nominations open for 64th First Citizen Award

Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln to provide long-term organizational support

NEWS | Karen Ackerman Witter

Nominations are open through Oct. 1 for the 64th Springfield Area First Citizen Award, and the recipient will be honored on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Erin's Pavilion at Southwind Park.

The award recognizes individuals whose extraordinary volunteer service and commitment have made a significant and lasting impact on Springfield and surrounding communities. The Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln recently announced that it will assist in administering the program. The Community Foundation's involvement provides the organizational support to ensure the First Citizen program will continue to recognize outstanding community leaders for many years to come.

The award was established in 1963 by Springfield's Copley-owned newspapers and was associated with *The State Journal-Register* until 2024. For the last two years, a group of past recipients led by Butch Elzea and John Eck Sr. took the initiative to manage the process.

The First Citizen Award "celebrates the spirit of service that makes the Springfield area a strong community and hopefully inspires others to find their own ways to get involved," said Elzea, Springfield's 2008 First

Citizen. Dr. Diane Rutledge was the 2025 recipient in recognition of her 50 years of service to children, families and community organizations. Harriet Knudson, the driving force to create Lincoln Memorial Garden, was Springfield's inaugural First Citizen in 1963.

"Butch Elzea, John Eck, Sr. and others were looking for a way to ensure the First Citizen program would continue longterm," said John Stremsterfer, CFLL president and CEO. That led to the CFLL agreeing to manage the process through its subsidiary, New Community Improvement, Inc. This subsidiary is a mechanism for the CFLL to engage in a variety of community partnerships separate from its core philanthropic and grant-making responsibilities.

As in past years, a citizen selection committee will review all of the nominations to select this year's recipient who exemplifies a sustained commitment to community service.

"Every year, the nominations submitted remind us just how many people quietly and consistently give their time, talent and energy to making our communities a better place,"

First Citizen selection committee chair Jane Denes said in a written announcement. "The First Citizen Award gives us an opportunity to recognize those people whose impact may span many years, organizations and causes. We encourage people to think about someone who has made that kind of difference and nominate them."

The First Citizen Award recognizes volunteerism and civic contributions beyond an individual's professional responsibilities. Nominees may have served through nonprofit organizations, civic groups, charitable causes, educational initiatives, faith-based organizations or other community efforts. To nominate an individual and see a list of all the previous First Citizens, go to <https://www.firstcitizenaward.org/>. Nominations will be considered for five years from the date of submission.

"It is so important to continue the long-standing tradition of recognizing the amazing people who have left an indelible mark on Springfield," Stremsterfer told *Illinois Times*. "We are proud to be associated with the First Citizen program and reassure the community this will be an ongoing initiative" □

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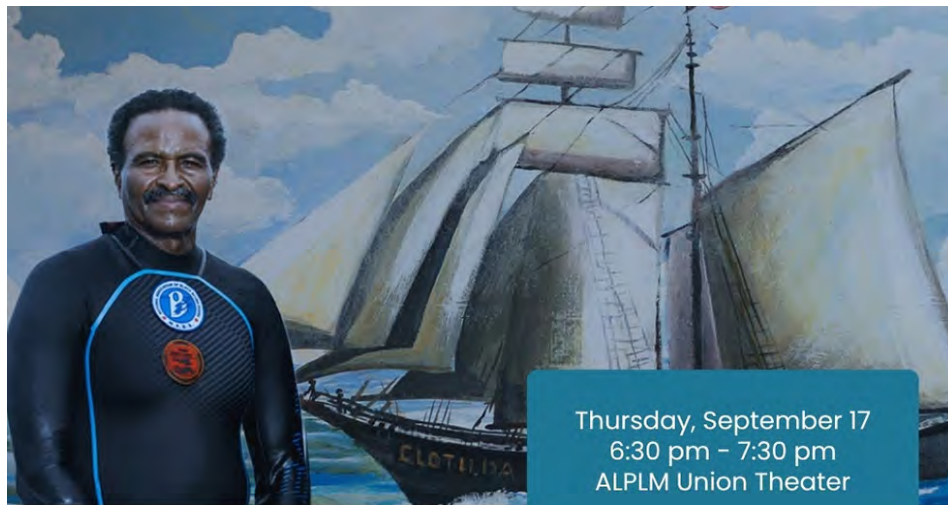
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OPINION

LETTERS

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

NEED A PLAN

Nine days. That's how long it's been since a city-owned water main put five feet of water in the basements on Monroe Street — and the businesses hit hardest still don't have answers ("Derailed but not deterred, Sept. 4). Not a claims process. Not a timeline. Not a plan.

The crews who fixed the pipe did their jobs, around the clock, and they deserve the credit. But fixing the pipe was half the job. The Bus Stop poured five months and their savings into a grand opening that never happened, and today their recovery plan is a GoFundMe and a fundraiser their alderwoman, Lakeisha Purchase, had to host herself — while she says she's still waiting on the city's recovery plan. Read that again: the alderwoman is waiting, too.

After the Adams Street fire, Café Moxo left downtown. That's the pattern when recovery is slow: the pipe gets fixed, the business leaves. Which one is the city planning to repeat?

If you want downtown Springfield to be more than a construction zone with

memories, share this until somebody at city hall answers the question: what's the plan for the businesses?

Charles Buckley

Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank you for featuring one of central Illinois' most generous and dedicated blood donors in David Blanchette's piece "Saving lives one pint at a time" (Aug. 6). ImpactLife is fortunate to have the support of David Butt as a "Donor For Life." During his years as an emergency management director for Springfield and Sangamon County, Butt dedicated his career to ensuring the local community was prepared for any disaster or emergency scenario. And he continued that mission outside of working hours and in retirement as a dedicated blood donor who has made more than 400 whole blood and platelet donations.

Donors who give blood with ImpactLife support patient needs for more than 130 hospitals and emergency medical services teams in our four-state service region, including the Memorial Health and HSHS Illinois health systems. Butt has impacted thousands of lives across our region as a donor and advocate for our mission. It will be fitting to see his outstanding record as a blood donor recognized through his induction to the Fresenius Kabi Blood Donation Hall of Fame later this year.

Blood providers rely on consistent, reliable patterns of blood donation to ensure our ability to provide a strong and stable blood supply, especially during the challenging summer months. We appreciate your focus on blood donation and on David's noteworthy achievement as a blood donor, and we hope others will be inspired to follow his example by visiting bloodcenter.org to find opportunities give blood and help save lives in their own community.

*Katie Marchik, Impact Life COO
Davenport, Iowa*



A 12-foot section of underground cast iron pipe burst Aug. 27 near the corner of Fifth and Monroe streets, flooding the street and causing damage to several nearby businesses. The Bus Stop, which was scheduled to have its grand opening the next day, suffered the majority of the damage, which isn't covered by insurance since the water came from an outside source. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

NEED ACCOUNTABILITY

I was a prosecutor for many years and a trial judge for probably 150 felony trials. The problems noted in this article are not only in "special prosecutor" offices ("The wrong side of justice," Aug. 13). In Illinois have we already forgotten that there was a time when more people in our state were wrongly convicted by prosecutorial misconduct than were awaiting execution?

Even with all of the documented examples of attorney misconduct, I don't believe one attorney has ever been charged with misconduct. Illinois is not alone in failing to address this problem. Most states across the nation turn a blind eye to this behavior.

*Stuart Shiffman
Springfield*

FALSE ALARM

If some people would stop pushing the

"elections are rigged" and "illegals are voting" bullshit, the need wouldn't be there ("Keeping the peace," Aug. 13).

Lisita Jimenez Bandy

Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

INTIMIDATION

According to every Democrat state, having the police or Department of Justice monitors at polling places is intimidation. If having the police at a polling place is intimidation, then having police at the State Board of Elections to monitor any of the processes is also intimidation.

Ken Zitko

Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL

When dealing with money or votes, better to have more eyes on it, rather than fewer.

Liz Sod

Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

Intervention

I was at the Ben & Jerry's ice cream factory in Vermont. I saw a small boy about to lose the scoop atop his cone; he was holding it tipped. I caught the scoop as it fell, pressed it hard into his cone, straightened the cone, and sent him on his way. His parents never saw how a major catastrophe was averted!

2026 Jacqueline Jackson

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A man on a mission in Athens

How a Lincoln enthusiast from Pennsylvania is reinvigorating a small town

COMMUNITY | David Blanchette

Who is Sameer Somal, and what has he been doing in Athens?

The 43-year-old Pennsylvania resident, entrepreneur and Abraham Lincoln historian has been a frequent presence in the Menard County community in recent months. Somal is on the board of the town's Abraham Lincoln Long Nine Museum, and he envisions transforming vacant and available property into real estate that celebrates Lincoln's legacy. He recently brought a group of investors to Athens to meet with city leaders and experience what the community has to offer.

But why Athens?

"This region is where Abraham Lincoln spent more of his time than anywhere else in his life," Somal said. "Athens is special to me because of Mr. Lincoln, who is endearing to all Americans."

Somal has immersed himself in all things Lincoln over the past several years and sees an opportunity to engage younger generations through institutions and edifices dedicated to the 16th president's life and legacy. With Lincoln's hometown of Springfield just 14 miles away, and with Athens already interpreting an important part of the Lincoln story, Somal thinks Athens has some serious growth and tourism potential.

"I went to see Athens on one of my first visits here, and I also saw what it was like in photos 100-plus years ago," Somal said. "It was once a place where Mr. Lincoln spent a lot of time, and we should strive to put it on the map a little bit more and transform it into a place that celebrates his legacy. But I also want to make it a place that people are proud of, even more than they already are."

The Abraham Lincoln Long Nine Museum in Athens has already benefited from Somal's involvement. The museum, located in the Col. Matthew Rogers Building on Main Street, is the site of the Aug. 3, 1837, dinner meeting during which Lincoln and other state legislators, nicknamed the "Long Nine" because they were all tall men, succeeded in a plan to get the state capital moved from Vandalia to Springfield. The museum, which commemorates the evening banquet where seven of the Long Nine celebrated their victory, is open Tuesday through Saturday afternoons during the summer.

"I received a call in 2025 from a Lincoln scholar in Philadelphia, Sameer Somal. Fellow board member Guy Fraker and I brainstormed and thought, 'We need to bring younger energy like this on our board,'" said Long Nine



Matthew Chancey, an investor from Florida, left, and Sameer Somal at the Long Nine Museum in Athens on Aug. 1. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

Museum Board president Joe McMenamin, an attorney and former Springfield City Council member. "Since Sameer has been on our board, there's been a huge surge of enthusiasm, action and revitalization."

That momentum included a standing-room-only event at the museum on Feb. 13 and reached a new high when Somal brought more than 25 out-of-state friends and colleagues into Athens to enjoy the Aug. 1 "History and Hog Roast" event staged by the Long Nine Museum.

"We're making great progress. We've got a strategy and plans, and we've paid \$90,000 toward the \$140,000 cost to complete the contract for deed on this property," McMenamin said. "Now we are going toward a private, not-for-profit corporate ownership."

But Somal's vision includes more than just the Long Nine Museum.

"I hope to be a unifier and rebuild Main Street in a movement that generations of Athens residents will be proud to join," Somal said. "I need the people of Athens to help me take the lead. Together, we can do something beautiful that attracts Mr. Lincoln's admirers now and in the future."

"Instilled in me a love of history."

Somal's parents are of Indian descent. His father grew up in England, served in the Royal Navy and then settled his family in Rochester, New York, where Somal was born in 1983. The family later moved to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where Somal's father was an aeronautical engineer with Boeing and Lockheed Martin.

"I grew up in the company of books, and my father instilled in me a love of history,"

Somal said. "I also grew up as part of the family business. My mother owned a gas station and convenience store and that taught me so much about self-reliance, the fundamentals of accounting and finance and what it takes to put a roof over your head."

Somal was ambitious from a young age. At 10 years old he mowed lawns, shoveled driveways, and sold and delivered newspapers door to door. Somal studied finance at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and founded two startups while there. One was called Smarter Campus, which offered "comprehensive student services solutions," and the other was Offish Aquariums, which installed aquariums in professional offices.

Next up for Somal was a career as a private banker and middle-market investment banker at Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch and



Abraham Lincoln impersonator Randy Duncan in front of the Lincoln Home during a tour organized by Samer Somal, center. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

Scotiabank. He then launched Blue Ocean Global Technology, which provides digital transformation, business consulting and technology development services.

Somal also has other business interests, including Capital Expert Services and Girl Power Talk, a venture that employs talent in 40 countries to celebrate the emerging influence and affluence of women globally.

When Somal first started Blue Ocean Global Technology, he cold-called acclaimed attorney and public relations executive Richard Levick. Their initial meeting led to the two men becoming friends and business partners. This relationship introduced Somal to the field of expert witness testimony. Ten years later, Somal has consulted on more than 500 legal cases where he is called to quantify the monetary value of personal and business reputation, as well as intellectual property, especially in the context of internet defamation.

Involvement in the legal profession accelerated Somal's admiration for perhaps the most famous lawyer in American history, Abraham Lincoln. He began by twice reading Carl Sandburg's six-volume Lincoln biography.

"Over the next 15 years, I read a lot about Mr. Lincoln, and I applied the things I had learned. He said, 'Whatever you're going to be, be a good one.' Mr. Lincoln has this power that the more you study him, the better person you become," Somal said. "I've always tried to build relationships in the business world like Mr. Lincoln. He gave without remembering and received without forgetting."

In 2024, Somal attended his first Abraham Lincoln Association Banquet in Springfield. Two years later he was elected to the organization's board of directors. Somal is also on the board of the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia, which bills itself as the most active and largest continuously serving Lincoln study organization, and is the founder of a Lincoln-focused nonprofit, Abraham

Lincoln Scholars.

On his next visit to Springfield, Somal was introduced to McMenemy, the Long Nine Museum's board president, by Mike and Trudy Naylor of the Abe's Old Hat antique store. McMenemy introduced Somal to the Long Nine Museum and the Athens community, and it was love at first sight.

"I think Athens should have that cute little thriving Main Street where people don't necessarily have to drive 15 miles to get to a grocery store or a pizza place they want," Somal said. "A thriving Main Street where families can bring their children, where there is a recognition and celebration of Abraham Lincoln."

"It's got to be authentic."

Somal has already invested in the Athens community. He purchased an abandoned church building at 301 S. Main St. under his nonprofit, Abraham Lincoln Scholars.

The location may become the headquarters of that organization, which is dedicated to the education and inspiration of younger generations to preserve history. The building itself is not historic, but it is contiguous to other historic properties Somal hopes to highlight and celebrate.

"I'm also very committed to establishing another museum in Athens that would be focused on Mr. Lincoln's law career, probably a museum sponsored by Abraham Lincoln Scholars," Somal said. "I think the town would benefit from a museum in addition to the Long Nine that has original Lincoln writings. With two museums, more people are going to have to visit Athens."

That new museum could feature a collection that Somal recently purchased along with history enthusiast Anthony Cichetti, the Alfred Orendorff Archive of treasures from Lincoln's legal career. The collection includes Lincoln's original deed for his first land purchase in New Salem, signed by a secretary in the President Martin Van Buren administration; an original fee book that Lincoln signed multiple times when he was practicing law with John T. Stuart; affidavits from the McLean County vs. the Illinois Central Railroad case, where Lincoln was pitted against the mighty railroad; and eight pages of notes from Lincoln's 1858 Senate campaign against Stephen A. Douglas. The collection also features the desk from the Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices on which Lincoln wrote his "House Divided" speech.

Somal is also the co-founder of Legal Experts AI, a company dedicated to connecting expert witnesses to lawyers and their clients. The new company bears Lincoln's image in the logo and currently has offices in Springfield, though Somal plans to open an Athens office in 2027.

"When you use Mr. Lincoln's image to depict a company, it's got to be authentic," Somal said. "When I started talking to



Athens Mayor Chris Reichert speaks during the Aug. 1 History and Hog Roast event in Athens. Standing next to him are Sameer Somal and Long Nine Museum Board Chair Joe McMenemy. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

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FEATURE

people in Athens locally about it, including Joe McMenamin and Athens Mayor Chris Reichert, they encouraged me to establish offices here, which I plan to do.”

“In an endeavor like this, you have to take Lincoln’s philosophy and walk slowly, but never walk backwards. I’ve let folks know that I want to do good in their community,” Somal added. “I don’t really have a master plan for it. It’s more about being able to lay some bricks and build a foundation, and I think we’ve started that.”

Part of that foundation-building was a three-day event that Somal organized for a number of out-of-state friends and clients, many of whom had never been to the Lincoln sites in central Illinois. The group toured the Lincoln Home and Lincoln Tomb, and spent an afternoon and evening at the Long Nine Museum’s History and Hog Roast.

“It wasn’t really hard to convince people to come. Many of them told me they’ve always wanted to come to the Springfield area,” Somal said. “I didn’t bring investors just to say, ‘Here’s a pitch or an investment idea.’ I brought them to the region to show how I think investing in small towns and partnering with locals and helping to revitalize – specifically Athens – can be a noble cause. But it can also be one that makes business sense.”

“Just a little spark waiting to be ignited.”

The investors who toured the Lincoln sites and enjoyed the Aug. 1 event in Athens were impressed by what they saw, but all of them credited Somal for bringing the opportunities in Athens to their attention.

“I knew about as much as the casual person about Abraham Lincoln until Sameer got it on my radar. And he knows me, that if you give me a thread, I’m going to pull it,” said Matthew Chancey from Orlando, Florida, the founder of Tax Alpha Companies. “People can choose to live in a small town like Athens if they want to. You can work remotely and you don’t have to be in a major city anymore. You can still participate in the economy in a meaningful way and don’t have to move to a big city.”

Dr. Richard Williamson from Lincoln, Nebraska, is a professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry and worked with Somal on some expert witness cases.

“I think that this Long Nine Museum and developing another museum centered around Lincoln are going to bring people in,” Williamson said. “They will see the value of that history and they will want to live in a nice, quiet environment, and there are businesses that can thrive in areas like this.”

Williamson wouldn’t have even known about Athens if it weren’t for Somal.

“I love being with Sameer because he gets an idea and then he makes it happen. He’s so excited about whatever he does that it’s



Sameer Somal, left, listens as Long Nine Museum Board Chair Joe McMenamin tells a room of investors about the institution. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

inspiring,” Williamson said. “Whatever fire that you’ve got, maybe that’s just a little spark waiting to be ignited. Sameer does that for you.”

Louisville, Kentucky, business owner and U.S. Special Forces veteran Jair Matis said Somal’s enthusiasm is infectious.

“He can really rally the troops. He has good intuition, can read people and make them feel special,” Matis said. “He knew I was an Abraham Lincoln fan, and Sameer called me randomly and invited me here. It was only four hours away so I said, ‘Hey, I’m down.’”

“Athens has a beautiful small-town feel, good people and good community, very proud of Abe,” Matis added. “Like this Long Nine Museum, I mean, they definitely respect and honor that man. It’s very humbling, and good to see.”

Another admirer of Athens is Alexandra Reed Lajoux, co-founder of the expert witness search company Capital Expert Services, which is now part of the network of enterprises and nonprofits affiliated with Legal Experts AI. Lajoux is a direct descendant of signers of the Mayflower Compact and fighters in the Revolutionary War.

“Central Illinois in general, and Athens in particular, is an ideal place to reset personal and professional goals,” Lajoux said. “Athens is not just any small town. It is a carrier of a history that defines the truest American values.”

Jon Dudas, who also attended the gathering, is a consultant who was formerly the undersecretary for intellectual property and director of the Patent and Trademark Office

during the George W. Bush administration. He now lives in Oak Island, North Carolina, but was born and raised in Springfield.

“I’ve always loved Lincoln. Some of it was infused in me, I consciously understood where Lincoln stood, your sense of duty and how to follow that,” Dudas said. “Sameer talks about Abraham Lincoln and the values that Lincoln had and the things he did, and he’s got amazing magnetism. He’s a combination of goodwill, good cheer and good ideas.”

Dudas sees the value in developing Athens into a combination of tourist destination and living space.

“Athens has a wholesomeness, a place where people want to raise their family,” Dudas said. “I’ve lived in a bunch of different places and I’ve found very few places that replicate what it was like when I was growing up in and near Springfield, Illinois. I had a real chill when I came back and saw what small-town America looks like.”

New Orleans resident Tom Leggett is a writer and Abraham Lincoln researcher working directly with Somal. Leggett accompanied the group on the Aug. 1 visit to Athens.

“I was here in February for the grand reopening of the Long Nine Museum and that really inspired me to learn more about Lincoln and for the project to be exposed to this kind of scholarship,” Leggett said. “Some of the foremost Lincoln scholars in the world are right here, and just to see the history in Springfield and Athens really brought it to life and made it more real for me.”

“The future looks bright for Athens.”

Somal's interest and investment in the Athens area have created a lot of buzz among residents, officials and historians.

Doug Kirby is a direct descendant of Jack Armstrong, Abraham Lincoln's opponent in the legendary New Salem wrestling match, and Jack's son, Duff, whom Lincoln later successfully defended pro bono in the famous Almanac Murder Trial in Beardstown. During that trial, Lincoln used the *Farmer's Almanac* to prove that the supposed eye witness to the murder could not have seen Duff, given the moon's phase that night.

Duff Armstrong is his third great-grandfather, so as Kirby observed, “You could say that I wouldn't be here if it weren't for Lincoln.”

“I don't like seeing any of these old buildings go down, so if we can help these buildings out, that's fantastic,” said Kirby, a Mason City resident who attended the History and Hog Roast event at the Long Nine Museum. “I'm an avid history buff, and these investments are for the future. The kids need to learn about what's happened around here.”

Athens Mayor Chris Reichert is thrilled with the renewed interest in the community.

“The current Long Nine Museum board of directors has done an incredible job of gathering the right individuals to bring life back into this museum,” Reichert said. “Revitalizing the museum will increase tourism, which will create more retail activity on Main Street. I'm very optimistic; the future looks bright for Athens.”

Lincoln historian and author Bob Lenz from McLean County attended the History and Hog Roast and was pleased with what he saw.

“This event is full of young people, and

that's an anomaly at the majority of Lincoln events,” Lenz said. “I've always tried to expand the Lincoln message and recruit young people to join organizations and attend events. With gentleman like Sameer joining, with his connections and commitments, he's bringing a lot to the table. We need a lot more of that.”

Somal hasn't established residency in Athens or central Illinois yet but said, “It's inevitable.” He feels his mission is to listen to the community and deliver results.

“I've heard from residents of Athens about what they want and what should be there, and I think the way I looked at it six months ago is very different from today,” Somal said. “I have to balance everything with pragmatism. I want to do something to revitalize a small town and balance that with monetary realities. I'm just trying to find good folks who I can work with who care about the same things I do and figure it out together.”

“A great mentor of mine, Matthew Chancey, who joined us for the History and Hog Roast event, told me that sometimes you need to do things in life that are going to make you happy, and when you look back on your life you are going to value those accomplishments above all others,” Somal added. “That made me realize I don't have to do this for the money, although I need to do it so that it's financially sustainable.”

The one certain thing in Somal's mind is that the legacy of Abraham Lincoln must run through everything that's being planned in Athens.

“Mr. Lincoln has the power where you can mention his name and it's a mic drop,” Somal said. “People want to hear about Abraham Lincoln. There's a respect, people want to know more.” □



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Sameer Somal, left, talks with local citizens during the Aug. 1 History and Hog Roast in Athens.

PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

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Charity event

- ☐ Boo Crew Haunted House
- ☐ Chatham Jaycees Sweet Corn Festival
- ☐ Fat Ass 5K & Street Party for Charity
- ☐ A Night of Stars Prom
- ☐ Rock & Run for Mental Health
- ☐ Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade

Director of local theater

- ☐ Gus Gordon (1776)
- ☐ Hayden Thongsithavong (ACTT)
- ☐ Morgan Kaplan and Andrew Maynerich
- ☐ Reggie Guyton
- ☐ Scott Richardson

Drive-time radio show name and station

- ☐ All Things Considered, NPR 91.9 WUIS
- ☐ Jim Leach, 99.7 CVS Classic Hits
- ☐ Josh Roberts, The Ride Home, 104.5 WFMB
- ☐ Rocki & Lacey, The Morning Routine WNNs
- ☐ Sam Madonia, Morning Show, 97.7FM/970AM WMAY

Festival

- ☐ Chatham Jaycees Sweet Corn Festival
- ☐ Lincoln Memorial Garden's Fall Festival
- ☐ Old Capitol Art Fair
- ☐ Springfield PrideFest
- ☐ Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade

Free entertainment

- ☐ Annual Artisan Market
- ☐ Fae Folk Art Festival
- ☐ Levitt Amp Music Series
- ☐ Old Capitol Farmers Market
- ☐ Penny Lane Jerry Garcia Tribute

Fun activity for grown ups

- ☐ Annual Artisan Market
- ☐ Brunch at Vondra Social House
- ☐ Old Capitol Farmers Market
- ☐ Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade
- ☐ Vine & Rind

Holiday Event

- ☐ Christmas in Chatham
- ☐ Dana Thomas Holiday Tours
- ☐ Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular at the Carillon
- ☐ Old Capitol Holiday Walks
- ☐ Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade

Local comedian group

- ☐ Capitol City Improv
- ☐ The Portuguese Rodeo Clown Company
- ☐ Rolling Laughs
- ☐ Southern Fryed Radio

Local individual comedian

- ☐ Cassandra Simpson
- ☐ Chili Bowl Mullet Man
- ☐ Jeremy Nunes
- ☐ Kathy Brennan
- ☐ Tim Laffey

Local living author

- ☐ Courtney Wick
- ☐ David M. Briggs
- ☐ Ian Winterbauer
- ☐ Jeremy Nunes
- ☐ Marla Harms Judge
- ☐ Shatriya Smith

Local podcast

- ☐ Community Voices, NPR Illinois 91.9 WUIS
- ☐ Derailed Podcast
- ☐ Elevate Springfield, Robert Ferriell
- ☐ The Mosaic Project SPI
- ☐ Ope A Ghost
- ☐ Ray Lytle's Morning Disaster

Local sports team & sport

- ☐ Glenwood Titans
- ☐ Rochester Rockets Football
- ☐ Sacred Heart-Griffin Cyclones
- ☐ SHS Springfield Solons/ Senators
- ☐ Springfield Lucky Horseshoes Baseball

Museum

- ☐ Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
- ☐ Illinois State Military Museum
- ☐ Illinois State Museum
- ☐ Kidzeum of Health and Science
- ☐ Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum

Place to buy local art

- ☐ Annual Artisan Market
- ☐ Fae Folk Art Festival
- ☐ Old Capitol Art Fair
- ☐ Studio on 6th
- ☐ Wild Rose Artisans Gallery & Boutique

Place to go downtown

- ☐ Anvil & Forge Brewing and Distilling Company
- ☐ The Cats' Pyjamas Cat Cafe
- ☐ Dumb Records
- ☐ Hoogland Center for the Arts
- ☐ Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery Beer Garden
- ☐ Whimsy Tea Company

Place to see a play or musical indoor

- ☐ Hoogland Center For The Arts
- ☐ Lanphier Auditorium
- ☐ The Legacy Theatre
- ☐ Theater in the Park - New Salem, Indoor Auditorium
- ☐ UIS Performing Arts Center

Place to see a play or musical outdoor

- ☐ Kelso-Hollow Amphitheater at Lincoln's New Salem (TIP)
- ☐ The Muni
- ☐ Sherman Village Park Amphitheater "The Amp"
- ☐ Union Square Park

Place To Take A Selfie

- ☐ Downtown Springfield
- ☐ Dumb Records Elephant
- ☐ Illinois State Fair
- ☐ My Heart's Downtown Heart
- ☐ The Spot 90's Bar & Grill

Play or musical

- ☐ Alice by Heart, ACTT
- ☐ Beetlejuice Jr., STC
- ☐ Come From Away, The Legacy
- ☐ Frozen, The Muni
- ☐ Mamma Mia, The Muni
- ☐ Phantom of the Opera, HCFTA

Portrayal of a female lead in a theatrical production

- ☐ Elena Dean (Anne, SIX: Teen Ed - MainStageBound)
- ☐ Evelyn Barnard (Christine Daae, Phantom of the Opera - Hoogland)
- ☐ Klerie Pickett (Alice, ACTT's Alice by Heart)
- ☐ Olivia Garren (Lydia, Beetlejuice Jr. - Hoogland)
- ☐ Zoe Chase (Grace, The Hello Girls - STC)

Portrayal of a male lead in a theatrical production

- ☐ Devin Michael Leming (Seymour, Little Shop of Horrors - Hoogland)
- ☐ Everest Kording (Ponyboy, ACTT's The Outsiders)
- ☐ Jackson Thornton (Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice Jr., STC)
- ☐ Layne Kretzinger (Phantom, Phantom of the Opera - Hoogland)
- ☐ Payne Osborn (Alfred, ACTT's Alice by Heart)

Public art/mural (intersections)

- ☐ Art Alley
- ☐ Lincoln on The Alamo
- ☐ My Heart's Downtown Heart
- ☐ Penny Lane
- ☐ Pharmacy Art Gallery Route 66 Mural by Lyndsay & Spencer Stokes

Radio personality or team & station

- ☐ Dina and DJ Blake, 101.9 The Wolf WFLZ
- ☐ Jeff Williams, Community Voices, NPR Illinois, 91.9 WUIS
- ☐ Jim Leach, 99.7 CVS Classic Hits
- ☐ Josh Roberts, 104.5 WFMB
- ☐ Rocki & Lacey, The Morning Routine WNNs

Tourist spot in Springfield not related to Abraham Lincoln

- ☐ Dana Thomas House
- ☐ Illinois Route 66 Experience at Illinois State Fairground
- ☐ Lake Springfield
- ☐ Lincoln Memorial Garden and Nature Center
- ☐ Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex

Visual artist

- ☐ Donald Landry
- ☐ Felicia Olin
- ☐ Jeff C. Williams
- ☐ Lyndsay Stokes
- ☐ Thom Whalen

CANNABIS

Biggest cannabis selection

- ☐ Ascend - Springfield
- ☐ High Profile
- ☐ Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Shangri-La Springfield
- ☐ Share Springfield

Biggest CBD selection

- ☐ CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Prairie State Hemp
- ☐ Simply CBD
- ☐ Tribble Vapors

Budtender and location

- ☐ Allyson, Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Audrey, Maribis of Springfield Lindbergh
- ☐ Christina Yoc, CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Eli Shaw, Shangri-La
- ☐ Larry, Share

Cannabis dispensary

- ☐ Ascend of Springfield
- ☐ High Profile
- ☐ Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Prairie State Hemp
- ☐ Shangri-La of Springfield
- ☐ Share Springfield

Cannabis strain

- ☐ 8 Mile from CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Bedford Grow I-95
- ☐ Blue Dream (not dispensary exclusive)
- ☐ Fugazi Funk - Nomad
- ☐ Kush

CBD store

- ☐ CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Prairie State Hemp
- ☐ Simply CBD
- ☐ Tribble Vapors

Edible

- ☐ Bedford Grow Chocolate Bar - Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Daze Off Moondrop
- ☐ Effin Deep Sleep Dark Cherry - Ascend
- ☐ Grön
- ☐ Jelly Brand from CBD Botanicals

Health and beauty cannabis-infused product

- ☐ Avenia Balm or Lotion
- ☐ CBD Botanicals Topical Cream - 1500mg
- ☐ EyeIdentify at Simply CBD
- ☐ Nature's Grace Cloud 9 Lotion
- ☐ Pain Stick - Phetora

Place to buy accessories for cannabis use

- ☐ Happy Daze Gift Shop
- ☐ Maribis of Springfield
- ☐ Penny Lane
- ☐ Shangri-La Springfield
- ☐ Upper Limits, Inc.

CIVIC & COMMUNITY

Apartment community

- ☐ Cardinal Ridge Apartments
- ☐ Cobblestone Place
- ☐ Lake Pointe Apartments
- ☐ Lincoln Square Apartments
- ☐ Prairie Vista Apartments

Business giving back to the community

- ☐ Cafe Moxo
- ☐ Lulu's Diner
- ☐ Scheels
- ☐ Scoop Du Jour
- ☐ United Community Bank

City official

- ☐ Brad Carlson, Alderman Ward 7
- ☐ Erin Conley, Alderwoman Ward 8
- ☐ Jennifer Notariano, Alderwoman Ward 6
- ☐ Misty Buscher, Mayor of Springfield
- ☐ Shawn Gregory, Alderman Ward 2

Clergyperson

- ☐ Msgr. John Ossola (Posthumously) Church of the Little Flower
- ☐ Pastor Brooks Wilson, South Side Christian Church
- ☐ Pastor Eddie Lowen, West Side Christian Church
- ☐ Rev. Martin Wouffe, Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist
- ☐ Rev. Susan Phillips, First Presbyterian

County official

- ☐ County Coroner Jim Allmon
- ☐ Don Gray - County Clerk
- ☐ Reggie Guyton - Dist 21
- ☐ Tom Rader - Dist 8

Facebook page

- ☐ 217 Foodies
- ☐ 217 Problems
- ☐ NPR Illinois 91.9 UIS
- ☐ Sangamon County Crime Watch
- ☐ Springfield Families Helping Families

Nonprofit

- ☐ Animal Protective League
- ☐ Compass for Kids
- ☐ Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault
- ☐ Springfield Urban League
- ☐ WILD Canine Rescue

Place to volunteer

- ☐ Animal Protective League
- ☐ Food Not Bombs
- ☐ Friends of Sangamon County Animal Control
- ☐ PBJ Springfield
- ☐ WILD Canine Rescue

Unsung hero

- ☐ Brian Skeeters, Sangamon County Crime Watch
- ☐ Charlene Powers Walsh - WILD Canine Rescue
- ☐ Gordon Davis, Whimsy Tea
- ☐ Shawn Gregory, Alderman Ward 2
- ☐ Tiara Standage, Intricate Minds

Up-and-coming leader

- ☐ Brian Skeeters, Sangamon County Crime Watch
- ☐ Jay Shanle - Downtown Springfield, Inc.
- ☐ Nicole Shomidle - 217 Foodies/Boozers
- ☐ Shawn Gregory, Alderman Ward 2
- ☐ Tiara Standage, Intricate Minds

DRINK

Bartender & location name

- ☐ Eric Ferrell, Vondra Social House
- ☐ Jessica Cloyd, Curve Inn
- ☐ Justin, Clique
- ☐ Maddy, Goodfellas Pub
- ☐ Tiffany Matthews, Mama Lee's Sandbar

Beer garden

- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ Curveside Bar & Grill - Athens
- ☐ Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery and Eatery
- ☐ Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex
- ☐ The Shed

RUNOFF VOTING SEPTEMBER 10-17

The readers' nomination votes are in and here are their top picks that made it to the runoof round. Vote online at illinoistimes.com or by paper ballot. Best of Springfield Resluts will be published in the October 29, 2026 issue.

First name _____ Last name _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zio _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Birth date* _____

If you vote by paper ballot, be sure to complete the contact info and send all ballot pages to:
1240 S. Sixth St, Springfield, IL 62703. Paper ballots must be received by 5pm, September 23.

Beer selection (on tap)

- ☐ Anvil & Forge Brewing and Distilling Company
- ☐ Bald Buddha Brewing
- ☐ Engrained Brewing Company
- ☐ Obed and Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery
- ☐ Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex

Coffee house

- ☐ Arrowroot Coffee Co - Roastery and Coffee Lounge
- ☐ Brezie's Roasted Beans
- ☐ Custom Cup Coffee
- ☐ Grab-a-Java
- ☐ Hae's Bakery & Coffee Shoppe

Craft brewery

- ☐ Anvil & Forge Brewing and Distilling Company
- ☐ Engrained Brewing Company
- ☐ Hand of Fate Brewery
- ☐ Obed & Isaac's Microbrewery and Eatery
- ☐ Springfield Beer Company

Happy hour

- ☐ Brewski's Pub
- ☐ Clique
- ☐ Curate
- ☐ Jamie's Route 66
- ☐ Vondra Social House

Juice or smoothie bar

- ☐ Genius Mango Smoothie
- ☐ Smoothie King
- ☐ Soleil Cafe
- ☐ Tropical Smoothie Cafe
- ☐ Wellthly Juice Co.

Margaritas

- ☐ AZ-T-CA
- ☐ Los Altos Cocina y Cantina
- ☐ Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- ☐ Taqueria El Dorado
- ☐ Xochimilco

NA cocktail

- ☐ Britney-tini - The Spot 90s Bar & Grill
- ☐ The Camille - Vondra Social House
- ☐ Love Letters to Harry - Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Purple Dreams - Ramonas Tacos + Mezcal
- ☐ The Tippy Toad

New bar (opened after 8/1/25)

- ☐ The Library Pizza and Sports Bar
- ☐ Martinis Lounge
- ☐ Scoop after Dark at Scoop Du Jour
- ☐ The Spot 90's Bar & Grill
- ☐ Vondra Social House

Overall bar

- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ Curveside Bar & Grill
- ☐ Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex
- ☐ Vondra Social House

Place for darts

- ☐ The Bird Tavern
- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ George Rank's
- ☐ Jamie's Route 66
- ☐ Mama Lee's Sandbar

Place for pool

- ☐ The Bean - Mechanicsburg
- ☐ Docker's Tavern
- ☐ Floyd's Thirst Parlor
- ☐ Mama Lee's Sandbar
- ☐ Mowie's Cue

Specialty cocktail & location name

- ☐ Bacardi Party - Curve inn
- ☐ French Fig Old Fashioned - Vonda Social House
- ☐ Line Cook's Old Fashioned - Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Saturday Morning Cartoons - The Spot 90s Bar & Grill
- ☐ The Tippy Toad - Tippy Margarita

Trivia night

- ☐ Anvil & Forge Brewing and Distilling Company
- ☐ Brewski's Pub
- ☐ Clique
- ☐ The Creek
- ☐ Scoop after Dark at Scoop Du Jour

Wine bar

- ☐ Bloom Wine Bar & Florals
- ☐ The Corkscrew
- ☐ Curate
- ☐ It's All About Wine
- ☐ Schlee's Gourmet Bakery & Bottle Shop
- ☐ Vine & Rind

Winery

- ☐ Arpeggio Winery
- ☐ Danenberger Family Vineyards
- ☐ Hill Prairie Winery
- ☐ West of Wise Winery

FOOD

Asian

- ☐ Little Saigon Restaurant
- ☐ Magic Kitchen
- ☐ Mekong Cafe
- ☐ Mimosa
- ☐ Sunny China
- ☐ Yummy Bowl

Bakery

- ☐ Apple Barn - Chatham, IL
- ☐ Cafe Amulet
- ☐ Cafe Moxo
- ☐ Incredibly Delicious
- ☐ Scoop Du Jour

BBQ

- ☐ Clay's Popeye's Barbecue
- ☐ Hickory River Smokehouse
- ☐ Mission BBQ
- ☐ PT's BBQ
- ☐ Twyford BBQ & Catering

Biscuits and Gravy

- ☐ Cafe Moxo
- ☐ Clock Tower Cafe
- ☐ Lulu's Diner
- ☐ Ritz's Lil Fryer
- ☐ Star 66 Cafe
- ☐ Vondra Social House

Breakfast

- ☐ Charlie Parker's Diner
- ☐ Clock Tower Cafe
- ☐ Le Peep
- ☐ Lulu's Diner
- ☐ Star 66 Cafe

Brunch

- ☐ Boone's
- ☐ Clock Tower Cafe
- ☐ Le Peep
- ☐ Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Vondra Social House

Build your own bowl

- ☐ Curveside Bar & Grill
- ☐ Nami Poke
- ☐ Pita or Bowl
- ☐ Yummy Bowl

Burger

- ☐ Anvil & Forge Brewing and Distilling Company
- ☐ Burger Bar and Back Door Lounge
- ☐ Clock Tower Cafe
- ☐ Krekel's Custard & Hamburgers
- ☐ The Shed

Cajun seafood

- ☐ Fairlane Diner - Sherman
- ☐ The Library Pizza and Sports Bar
- ☐ Ths Grainery
- ☐ Yummy Crab

Caterer

- ☐ Cured Catering
- ☐ Hamilton's Catering Service Inc.
- ☐ Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Nelson's Catering of Central Illinois
- ☐ Taco Joint

Chef and restaurant name

- ☐ Aurora & Jordan Coffey, Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- ☐ Dustin Coons, Legacy Pointe Eatery
- ☐ Kelsi Slowe, VELE
-

Jacksonville Rotary Club

**SATURDAY
SEPT 19, 2026
12 NOON - 7 PM**
Morgan County Fairgrounds,
Jacksonville

**15th annual
OKTOBERFEST**

**MUSIC! BEER!
FOOD! WINE! GAMES!**

Benefiting Jacksonville Area Charities

**\$4 in Advance
\$5 at the Gate**

Full schedule at
JacksonvilleRotary.org

Thursday, October 15, 2026

**THE CHAMBER'S
Annual**

'SHOES, BREWS & BIZ

LRS Hangar
820 S. Airport Drive
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.
(Food served from 5:00 - 8:00 pm)

PRESENTING SPONSOR
Bank & Trust Company
bank different. bank better.

The Chamber

Tickets: \$25
-Sample unique horseshoes
-Craft Beer Tastings
(4 tastings included - more can be purchased)
-Browse products & services offered by Chamber members
-Bid on Silent Auction Items
-Tour Dick Levi's Auto Collection!!
-Purchase a chance to WIN \$1,000!!!
(Raffle Tickets: \$5 each or 3 for \$10)

For more information contact Melissa Horn at 217-525-1173 x 216 | mhorn@gsc.org

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kayaking the Fox River, and sampling Elgin's culture and cuisine.

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Fine dining

- Chesapeake Seafood House
- Joseph's Fine Cuisine
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- Maldaner's Restaurant & Catering
- Old Luxemburg Inn
- VELE

Food truck

- AZ-T-CA Mexican Grill
- Edinburgers
- The Lumpia House and Truck
- Taco Joint
- Twyford BBQ & Catering

French Fries

- Clock Tower Cafe
- Cozy Dog Drive In
- Culler's French Fries, Illinois State Fair
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- Yanni's Gyros

Fried chicken

- County Market, Fairhills Plaza
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- MJ's Fish & Chicken Express
- Old Luxemburg Inn
- The Shed
- Track Shack

Fried fish

- Carter's Fish Market
- Clock Tower Cafe
- MJ's Fish & Chicken Express
- The Shed
- Springfield Motor Boat Club

Gluten-free menu

- Bella Milano
- Clock Tower Cafe
- Legacy Pointe Eatery
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- Vine & Rind

Gyro

- Clock Tower Cafe
- Gyro Stop
- Joey G's Chicago Dog & Gyros
- Pita or Bowl
- Yanni's Gyros

Horseshoe

- Clock Tower Cafe
- D'Arcy's Pint
- The Dublin Pub
- Obed and Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery
- Ritz's Lil Fryer

Hot Dog

- Cozy Dog Drive In
- Portillo's
- Sam's Club
- Springfield Motor Boat Club
- Vose Corn Dogs Stand

Ice cream or froyo

- Baskin-Robbins
- Culver's
- Dolce Anna Gelateria Italiana
- Pease's at Bunn Gourmet
- Scoop Du Jour

Indian

- Flavor of India
- Gateway to India
- Pita or Bowl

Italian

- Bella Milano
- Di Carlo's Pizza
- La Piazza Cucina Italiana
- Sapori Pizzeria & Italian Market
- Saputo's

Lake club

- Aqua Sports Club
- Elks Lodge 158
- Firefighters-Postal Lake Club
- Island Bay Yacht Club
- Prop Club
- Springfield Motor Boat Club

Late-night eats location

- 3rd Shift Kitchen
- Bill's Toasty - Taylorville
- California Kitchen
- IHOP
- Star 66 Cafe

Mexican restaurant

- AZ-T-CA Mexican Grill
- Los Altos Cocina y Cantina
- Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- Rancho Chico
- Taqueria El Dorado
- Xochimilco

New restaurant (opened after 8/1/25)

- Bespoke Cafe + Kitchen
- Curveside Bar & Grill, Athens
- The Library Pizza and Sports Bar
- Los Altos Cocina y Cantina
- The Spot 90s Bar & Grill
- Vondra Social House

Outdoor dining

- Curate
- Dockside Grill at Lake Springfield Marina
- The Railyard on Route 66
- Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- Vondra Social House

Overall restaurant

- Chesapeake Seafood House
- D'Arcy's Pint
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- VELE
- Vondra Social House

Pizza

- Antonio's Pizza
- Bernie & Betty's
- Di Carlo's Pizza
- Gabatoni's Italian Restaurant
- Sapori Pizzeria & Italian Market

Place for date night

- Bella Milano
- Old Luxemburg Inn
- Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- VELE
- Vine & Rind
- Vondra Social House

Place for Steak

- Longhorn Steakhouse
- Old Luxemburg Inn
- Saputo's
- Texas Roadhouse
- VELE

Restaurant for dessert

- Incredibly Delicious
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- Pease's at Bunn Gourmet
- Star 66 Cafe
- Village Tea Room & Gift Shop

Seafood

- Chesapeake Seafood House
- Clock Tower Cafe
- Cooper's Hawk
- The Old Luxemburg Inn
- VELE

Server & location

- Adi, Star 66 Cafe
- Ashley McMasters, Vine & Rind
- Biridiana Reza, Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- Classity, Clock Tower Cafe
- Kristen, The Dublin Pub

Soul food

- 710 Rippy G's
- Aunt Lou's Soul Food
- Boyd's New Generation
- Luminary Kitchens & Provisions
- MJ's Fish & Chicken Express

Soup

- Cafe Moxo
- Head West Sub Shop
- Panera Bread
- Star 66 Cafe
- Whimsey Tea Company

Sports bar and grill

- Brickhouse Grill & Pub
- The Corner Pub & Grill
- Home Plate Bar & Grill
- J.T. Costelloe's Pizza Pub and Grill
- Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex

Sub/Sandwich

- Head West Sub Shop
- Jersey Mike's Subs
- Jimmy John's
- Monty's Submarines
- Potbelly Sandwich Shop

Sushi

- Happy Sushi
- Izumi Rotary and Bar
- Japan House
- Mimosa
- Osaka
- Yummy Bowl

Tacos

- AZ-T-CA Mexican Grill
- Ramona Tacos + Mezcal
- Taco Gringo
- Taco Joint
- Xochimilco

Take out Only (No indoor dining)

- Abelardo's Mexican Fresh
- Grab-a-Java
- Joe's Italian Pizza
- Matto Pizza Pies
- Taco Joint
- Wing Stop

Thai

- Hawaiian BBQ
- Hello Thailand
- Little Saigon
- Magic Kitchen
- Mekong Cafe
- Thai Kitchen 2

Vegetarian-friendly

- Curate
- Luminary Kitchen & Provisions
- Magic Kitchen
- Pita Or Bowl
- Whimsy Tea Company

Wedding cakes

- Bake My day
- Cafe Amulet
- Holly Cakes Bakery
- Incredibly Delicious
- Wildflower Bakery

Wings

- The Curveside Bar & Grill, Athens
- The Stadium Smokehouse Bar and Grill
- Westwoods Lodge Pub & Grill
- Wing Stop
- Wings Etc.

GOODS & SERVICES

Accountant

- Brett Hage, Humke & Hage, PC
- Danielle Alstott, Toelle, Alstott & Associates, P.C.
- Kyle McGinnis, CPA
- Maggie Haugh, Peterman Financial Group
- Troy A. Washko, CPA

Auto service

- Floyd's Imports
- Lauterbach Tire & Auto Service
- Law Automotive
- Monkee Wrench Auto
- Vern's Auto Repair
- Wilkerson's Service Center

Bank

- Alliance Community Bank
- Bank of Springfield
- Heartland Bank and Trust
- INB
- United Community Bank

Barber & location

- Brent Fish, The Crafted Stag Supply
- Dave, Beggs Barbershop
- Kraig Devore, The Men's Room
- Logan Baptiste, Hair of the Dog
- Sameth Hun, Sammy's Barbershop

Barber shop

- Beggs Barbershop
- The Crafted Stag Supply
- Dukett's Barber Shop
- Hair of the Dog
- The Men's Room

Car wash - automatic

- Car Wash City
- Club Car Wash
- OnTrack Car Wash
- Rainstorm Car Wash
- Super Wash

Collision center

- Bill Mathew's Auto Body
- Chatham Collision Repair, Inc.
- JC's Collision & Suspension Repair
- Kim's Auto Body
- Springfield Collision Center

Credit union

- CEFCU
- Credit Union 1
- Heartland Credit Union
- Illinois Educators Credit Union
- Navy Federal Credit Union

Dry cleaner

- Davis Cleaners
- Lucky Lady Coin Operated Laundry and Drop Off
- Peerless Cleaning & Restoration Services
- Starcrest Cleaners & Laundry Center

Event planner

- Bloom Wine Bar & Florals
- The Pasfield House
- Paul's Paradise at Paul Tree Farms
- Pole Barn Chic Events, LLC
- Stephanie Endsley, Having A Ball Productions Inc

Event rental company

- Lakeside True Value
- Noonan Equipment & Event Rental
- Paul's Paradise at Paul Tree Farms
- Rustic Love Rentals
- Signature Event Rentals

Event venue

- Bloom Wine Bar & Florals
- Long Bridge Golf Course & Restaurant
- The Pasfield House
- Paul's Paradise at Paul Tree Farms
- Pole Barn Chic Events, LLC

Event wedding venue

- The Homestead Reception Center
- Long Bridge Golf Course & Restaurant
- The Pasfield House
- Paul's Paradise at Paul Tree Farms
- Pole Barn Chic Events, LLC

Financial advisor & name of institution

- Andrew Maynerich, Maynerich Financial
- Corey Kates, INB
- David Gundy, ATIA Wealth
- Maggie Haugh, Peterman Financial Group
- Tate Jones, United Financial Services

Flower shop

- Floral Expressions
- The Flower Factor
- Flowers By Kathy
- Flowers by Mary Lou
- True Colors Floral

Funeral home

- Bisch Funeral Home
- Bramley Funeral Home
- Butler Funeral Homes and Cremation Tribute Center
- Mott and Henning Funeral Home
- Staab Funeral Homes

Hair salon

- Appearances Salon & Retreat
- BJ Grand Salon & Spa
- KM Hair Works & Spa
- Meraki Salon & Soa
- Unique Enchantments Salon & Gift Shoppe
- Willow & Birch Salon

Hair stylist (name of location)

- Brandy Kristin, Unique Enchantments Salon & Gift Shoppe
- Maggie Veach, KM Hairworks and Spa
- Natalie Grider, Appearances Salon & Retreat
- Tara Mason, BJ Grand Salon
- Tristyn Underwood, Foiled & Feathered Hair Studio

Insurance agency & agent national

- Damon Priddy, State Farm Insurance
- Jake Surratt, Country Financial
- Julie Hale, Country Financial
- Mark Cortesi, State Farm Insurance
- Trae Covington, State Farm Insurance

Insurance independent agent & agency

- Mark & Christine Bailey, Bailey Family Insurance
- Missy Haley, United Financial Services
- Nicholas Koch, Troxell
- Ryan Augustine, Troxell
- Todd Sowle, Troxell
- Tracy Formea, Formea Insurance Chatham

Junk removal

- Affordable Junk Removal
- Anything Goes Hauling
- Springfield Junk Away
- That One Guy Junk Removal & Dumpster Rentals
- Two Men and a Truck

Lawyer & firm name

- Greg Sgro - Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP
- Pat Sheehan (Sr.) - Sheehan & Sheehan
- Sara Vig, Vig Law
- Scott Hanken, Attorney at Law
- Tony DelGiorno, DelGiorno Law Office

Mortgage lender

- Bank of Springfield
- CEFCU
- Heartland Credit Union
- INB
- United Community Bank

Moving company

- Hillier Storage and Moving
- The Moving Company, LLC
- Prime Moovers
- Two Men and a Truck
- Underfanger Moving & Storage

Nail salon

- BJ Grand Salon & Spa
- City Nail Salon
- Galaxy Nail Bar
- Polish Nails N Spa
- Soak Nail Massage & Spa

Photographer

- Haley Stewart Photography
- Kari Bedford Photography
- Kristi Mitchell Phototgapy
- Tabitha Bock Photography
- Tara Long Photography

Real estate agency

- Keller Williams Capital
- RE/MAX Professionals
- The Real Estate Group
- River Birch Realty
- Springfield Real Estate LLC

Real estate team

- The Deb Sarsany Team, The Real Estate Group
- The Jane Hay Sales & Staging Team
- The Killebrew Team, The Real Estate Group
- The Pedigo Team, The Real Estate Group
- Winchester Sales Team, The Real Estate Group

Realtor & name of agency

- Adam Bugos, The Real Estate Group
- Eric Pedigo, The Real Estate Group
- Erica Brittin, Jane Hay Sales and Staging Team at The Real Estate Group, Inc.
- Heather Camille, The Winchester Sales Team - The Real Group Insurance
- Kyle Killebrew, The Real Estate Group

Tattoo artist and name of shop

- Jason Lee, Newage Tattoos & Body Piercings
- Jesse Flock, Newage Tattoos
- Jordan Haley, The Skin Studio
- Kevin Yeara, Black Moon
- Lottie Verdell, Redbird Tattoos

Tattoo shop

- Electric Quill Tattoos
- Newage Tattoos & Body Piercings
- Redbird Electric Tattoo
- The Skin Studio
- Springfield Classic Tattoo

Tire shop

- Brahler Tire & Auto Service Center
- Car-X Tire & Auto
- Discount Tire
- Lauterbach Tire & Auto Service
- Pomp's Tire Service

Towing service

- Capital City Towing
- R & S Towing
- Shaner's Towing
- Tom's 24 Hour Towing
- Tuxhorn Towing

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Assisted-living community

- Cedarhurst of Springfield
- EverTrue Concordia Village
- Illinois Presbyterian Home Communities
- Rochester Estates Senior Living
- Springfield Supportive Living
- Villas of Holly Brook

Chiropractor

- Dr. Cody Needham, Needham Chiropractic
- Dr. Samantha Waggener, Waggener Chiropractic & Wellness Center
- Dr. Sean McCaffrey, McCaffrey Health Center
- Dr. Tana Frisina, Frisina Family Welness
- Dr. Wendi McKay, Springfield Clinic Chiropractic

Cosmetic surgeon

- Dr. Jose Munoz, Prairie Aesthetic Surgery
- Dr. Matthew Johnson, SIU ENT
- Dr. Nada Berry, SIU
- Dr. Nicole Sommer, SIU
- Dr. Tim Daugherty, SIU
- Joel Wietfeldt, MD

Dental office

- Dental Care at Prairie Crossing
- Dr. Albert Capati
- Dr. Sean Crawford, Crawford Family Dental
- Milner Dentistry
- Prairie Dental Group

Vote For Us!

Staff Carpet

HOME & GARDEN: BEST CARPET & FLOORING

BEST OF SPRINGFIELD 2026

TEXT STAFF TO 217-281-4998 TO VOTE FOR US IN BEST CARPET & FLOORING

ONLINE CALENDAR SUBMISSION

Friday by 5pm for the following Thursday issue

Event organizers are welcome to post events via our online calendar entry system.

It's fast and easy.
Go to **www.illinoistimes.com**
Click on "Submit an event"



Alicia Depew, LMT

BEST OF SPRINGFIELD 2024 WINNER

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PAINTING & WOODFINISHING

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ART SPECTACULAR

Juried Fine Art Fair

21st annual Art Spectacular!

FREE Admittance

Art Spectacular has ranked in the top 100 of Fine Art Shows in the U.S. for 6 consecutive years! (Sunshine Artist Magazine)

September 12th & 13th

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10-5 • Sunday, Sept. 13, 10-4

Washington Park • Chatham Road and Fayette Ave • Springfield IL



Kids' Place - free

Basket Raffle

Silent Auction

Don't forget on Saturday Only:

Patron Buck Drawings

Kids Art Sale 10am-3pm

MUSIC: Talented Local Musicians & Rees Carillon Bells

Benefits: Rees Memorial Carillon



BALLOT CONTINUED...

Dermatology Practice

- ☐ Dr. Taylor Tennill, Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Dr. Brittany Sweet, Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Dr. Elle Davis, Springfield Clinic
- ☐ SIU Medicine Dermatology
- ☐ Springfield Clinic

Dietitian (person's name and company name)

- ☐ Amanda Figge - Memorial Wellness Center
- ☐ Donna Chesnut - HSHS St. John's Hospital
- ☐ Gayle Jennings - SIU
- ☐ Rebecca Antonacci - HSHS St. John's Hospital
- ☐ Sibyl Cox - Siu

Esthetician

- ☐ Andrea Bradley, BJ Grand Salon
- ☐ Emma Jacobs, Sweet Caroline Aesthetics
- ☐ Rosa Reim, BJ Salon West
- ☐ Casey Urban, The Skin Studio
- ☐ Stevie Hills, Willow & Birch

Golf course

- ☐ Edgewood Golf course
- ☐ Long Bridge Golf Course & Restaurant
- ☐ Panther Creek Country Club
- ☐ Piper Glen Golf & Social Club
- ☐ The Rail Golf Course

Gym or fitness center

- ☐ American Jujitsu
- ☐ Armor Fitness
- ☐ FitClub
- ☐ Pure Performance Fitness Center
- ☐ YMCA

Gym under 100 members

- ☐ American Jujitsu
- ☐ Bungee x Dené Fitness
- ☐ Pilates Studio of Springfield
- ☐ Pure Performance Fitness Center
- ☐ Unapologetically Fit

Hair Removal

- ☐ Casey Urban, The Skin Studio
- ☐ Emma Jacobs, Sweet Caroline Aesthetics
- ☐ Jerica Nichols, Blink
- ☐ Kristen Sloan, BJ Grand Salon & Spa
- ☐ Stevie Lievens, Willow & Birch

Health food grocery store

- ☐ Food Fantasies
- ☐ Harvest Market
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ Just Right Eating
- ☐ Roaring Lion Ranch & Retreat's Botanical Market & Apothecary

Holistic-health center

- ☐ Frisina Family Wellness
- ☐ Peace, Love and Sweat
- ☐ Pure Synergy Massage
- ☐ Salt & Light Wellness Spa, Springfield
- ☐ WholeSelf Healing Resilience Center

Homecare

- ☐ BrightStar Care
- ☐ Hands of God Hospice
- ☐ Home Instead
- ☐ SYNERGY HomeCare

Hospice

- ☐ Elara Caring
- ☐ Hands of God Hospice
- ☐ Hospice at Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS)
- ☐ Moments Hospice

Hospice Care

- ☐ Elara Caring
- ☐ Gentiva Hospice
- ☐ Hands of God Hospice
- ☐ Hospice at Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS)
- ☐ Moments Hospice

Independent-living community

- ☐ EverTrue Concordia Village
- ☐ Illinois Presbyterian Home Communities
- ☐ Montvale Senior Living
- ☐ Seasons Senior Living
- ☐ Villas of Holly Brook

Lasik

- ☐ Gailey Eye Clinic
- ☐ Prairie Eye Center

Martial arts studio (adult)

- ☐ American Jujitsu
- ☐ Gracie Barra Springfield
- ☐ Gracie Humaita Springfield
- ☐ John Geyston's Empowered Martial Arts Academy
- ☐ YMCA

Massage therapist & spa name

- ☐ Alicia Depew
- ☐ Bethany Shackelford, Recovery Shack
- ☐ BJ Grand Salon & Spa
- ☐ Janet Icenogle, Advanced Bodywork
- ☐ Makayla C. Bertrand, LMT
- ☐ Springfield Stretching and Massage

Medical doctor & practice name

- ☐ Dr. Amelia Frank, SIU Medicine
- ☐ Dr. Aziz Khan, SIU
- ☐ Dr. Jennifer Richards, Real Family Medicine
- ☐ Dr. Joshua Ellison, Memorial
- ☐ Dr. Veronica Savage, Springfield Clinic

Medical equipment

- ☐ American Medical Supply & Service Co
- ☐ Apria Medical
- ☐ Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP)
- ☐ Memorial Home Services
- ☐ Vono Medical Supplies

Medical facility

- ☐ HSHS St. John's Hospital
- ☐ Memorial Care Koke Mill
- ☐ SIU
- ☐ Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Springfield Memorial Hospital

Medical spa (Botox, filler, etc.)

- ☐ Absolut Aesthetics & Wellness Medspa
- ☐ Dr. Jose Munoz, Prairie Aesthetic Surgery
- ☐ Rose Aesthetics & Wellness Clinic
- ☐ SpaMed at SIU Medicine
- ☐ Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Dermatology

Mental health therapist

- ☐ Amanda Armstrong - SIU
- ☐ Dr. Rebecca Loschen - SIU
- ☐ Jessica Viola, Luminary Counseling and Solutions LLC
- ☐ Lauren Henton, Luminary Counseling and Solutions LLC
- ☐ William Acton at Mental Health Savage

Minor emergency clinic

- ☐ Memorial Urgent Care - Koke Mill
- ☐ Priority Care MacArthur - HSHS Medical Group
- ☐ SIU Medicine Express Care
- ☐ Springfield Clinic Urgent Care Plus

Nurse & practice name

- ☐ Amanda Clouser - SIU
- ☐ Ashlie Long, Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Melanie Reynolds, APRN
- ☐ Memorial Koke Mill
- ☐ Michelle Hazen - Springfield Memorial Hospital
- ☐ Shelby Kern - HSHS
- ☐ Multispecialty Care

Orthopedic care

- ☐ Dave Purves
- ☐ Magelitz Clinic
- ☐ Conservative Medicine
- ☐ Orthopedic Center of Illinois
- ☐ SIU Medicine Orthopedics
- ☐ Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Orthopedics

Personal trainer certified

- ☐ Bradley Emmett, American Jujitsu
- ☐ Dayton Burnett, YMCA
- ☐ Dustin Bateman, New Hope Fitness Training
- ☐ Jeremy Ferry, Pure Performance
- ☐ Molly Hahn, Instinct Fitness & Wellness

Pharmacy

- ☐ Curry's Family Pharmacy, Riverton
- ☐ Harry's Pharmacy, Auburn
- ☐ Hy-Vee Pharmacy
- ☐ Meijer Pharmacy
- ☐ Potter Drug, Springfield/Rochester/Riverton

Physical therapy

- ☐ Magelitz Clinic
- ☐ Conservative Medicine
- ☐ Orthopedic Center of Illinois
- ☐ Physiotherapy Professionals
- ☐ Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Rehabilitation
- ☐ Trent Wiseman, Springfield Clinic Dome

Pilates studio

- ☐ Happy Hour Pilates
- ☐ The Pilates Collective
- ☐ The Pilates Studio of Springfield
- ☐ Pulse Pilates Studio
- ☐ YMCA

Spa (no injections used)

- ☐ BJ Grand Salon & Spa
- ☐ The ColorBar Salon and Spa Lounge
- ☐ Peace, Love & Sweat
- ☐ The Skin Studio
- ☐ Willow & Birch Salon

Weight-loss clinic

- ☐ Absolut Aesthetics & Wellness Medspa
- ☐ Frisina Family Wellness
- ☐ Memorial Wellness Center
- ☐ New Beginnings Wellness
- ☐ Rose Aesthetics & Wellness Clinic

Women's healthcare center

- ☐ Center for Women's Health at Springfield Clinic
- ☐ Frisina Possibilities
- ☐ Jade Rainbolt, Pelvic Floor Physical Therapist
- ☐ Luminary Counseling, Women's Mental Health

Yoga instructor, certified

- ☐ Amanda Armstrong, Ahh Yoga
- ☐ Angie Ryan, Balance Yoga
- ☐ Ashley Krstulovich, WholeSelf Healing Resilience Center
- ☐ Sally Stephens, Treehouse Yoga
- ☐ Steve S Ahh Yoga

Yoga studio

- ☐ Ahh Yoga
- ☐ Balance Yoga
- ☐ FitClub
- ☐ Treehouse Yoga
- ☐ YMCA

HOME & GARDEN

AC/Heating company "HVAC"

- ☐ Allied Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
- ☐ Black Tie Home Services
- ☐ Darrin Wood Heating and Cooling
- ☐ Gatschenberger Rich Heating & Cooling
- ☐ Henson Robinson Company

Air duct cleaning

- ☐ Duct Dusters LLC
- ☐ Filter Free Services
- ☐ Peerless Cleaning & Restoration Services

Carpet & flooring

- ☐ Arizona Tile
- ☐ Calhoun's
- ☐ Champ's Floor Covering
- ☐ Flooring of Springfield Inc.
- ☐ Staff Carpet

Cleaning service (residential)

- ☐ Cardinal Cleaning, Inc.
- ☐ Chelsea Strode
- ☐ Crunchy Cleaning Co.
- ☐ Lasagna Lady Cleaning Co.
- ☐ Maids R Us, Inc.

Electrical company

- ☐ B and B Electric Inc
- ☐ Moughan Electric
- ☐ R. Watts Electric
- ☐ Ruby Electric
- ☐ Ryan Electrical Solutions

Foundation repair

- ☐ Bryant Masonry and Chimney Repair LLC
- ☐ Foundation Recovery Systems
- ☐ Moman Construction
- ☐ Woods Basement Systems, Inc.

Furniture store

- ☐ Furniture Row
- ☐ Hendricks Home Furnishing
- ☐ Virden
- ☐ Magnolia Lane Home Decor & More
- ☐ Marx Fireplaces & Lighting, Inc.
- ☐ Slumberland

Garden center

- ☐ Farmer's Market by Bohn's Farm & Greenhouses, Inc.
- ☐ Lowe's
- ☐ Menards
- ☐ New City Greenhouse
- ☐ Pleasant Nursery Inc

Gutter company

- ☐ Central Illinois Gutters
- ☐ KML Seamless Gutters
- ☐ Springfield Gutter Services
- ☐ Suttons

Handyman

- ☐ Clean Cut Painting & Handyman Springfield
- ☐ Gabe's Home Improvement LLC
- ☐ Hayden Services
- ☐ Lucas McDowell's All Around The Home LLC
- ☐ Reliable Handyman Services, Inc.

Home builder

- ☐ Adam Coady Construction
- ☐ Andrew Cochran Construction
- ☐ Buraski Builders, Inc.
- ☐ Pasley Builders Inc.
- ☐ Zinn Construction

Home furnishings

- ☐ Lakeside True Value
- ☐ Lowe's Home Improvement
- ☐ Marx Fireplaces & Lighting
- ☐ Menards
- ☐ Paige Henderson Designs

Home improvement store

- ☐ Lakeside True Value
- ☐ Lowe's Home Improvement
- ☐ Marx Fireplaces & Lighting
- ☐ Menards

Home Inspector

- ☐ Peter Denby, Denby Home Inspections
- ☐ Ryan Scott, Scott Home Inspections LLC
- ☐ Zach Clements, ZC Home Inspections

Home remodeling company

- ☐ Buraski Builders, Inc.
- ☐ DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen of Springfield
- ☐ Paige Henderson Designs
- ☐ Reliable Handyman Services Inc.
- ☐ Zinn Construction

Kitchen design

- ☐ Bailey's Hardwood
- ☐ Big Dog Construction
- ☐ DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen of Springfield
- ☐ Duggins Design Center, Inc.
- ☐ Paige Henderson Designs

Landscape company

- ☐ Green View Landscaping
- ☐ KLC Turf Pro & Tree Service
- ☐ Knob Hill Landscape Company
- ☐ Paul Tree Farms, LLC
- ☐ Scooter's Lawn Care Inc.

Landscape designer

- ☐ Artisan Stone Products
- ☐ CopperTree Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Green View Landscaping
- ☐ June Bug Lawncare, LLC
- ☐ Scooter's Lawn Care, Inc.
- ☐ Tripp Landscaping

Landscape supply

- ☐ Artisan Stone Products
- ☐ Bedrock Materials
- ☐ Paul Tree Farms LLC
- ☐ Tripp Landscaping
- ☐ Woare's Inc

Lawn care

- ☐ JP's Lawn Care, Inc.
- ☐ KLC Turf Pro & Tree Service
- ☐ Scooter's Lawn Care, Inc.
- ☐ Sprinklawn Irrigation Inc
- ☐ Stolleis Lawncare

Nursery

- ☐ Farmers Market Garden Center
- ☐ Hilltop Nursery
- ☐ Paul Tree Farms, LLC
- ☐ Pleasant Nursery Inc.
- ☐ Tripp Landscaping

Paint store

- ☐ Dellert's Paint Company
- ☐ Don Smith Paint & Wallpaper
- ☐ Sherwin-Williams Paint Store

Painter

- ☐ Dan Deweese Painting and Wood Finishing
- ☐ Lockwood Finishes
- ☐ Nick Shutt
- ☐ Peaceful Painter
- ☐ Reliable Handyman Services, Inc.

Paving

- ☐ Brahlter Paving & Concrete Services
- ☐ Illinois Paving
- ☐ P.H. Broughton & Sons Inc.
- ☐ Ron Furman & Sons Paving
- ☐ Smith Concrete, Inc.

Pest control company

- ☐ Bacon's Termite & Pest Control
- ☐ Newberry's Termite & Pest Control
- ☐ Orkin
- ☐ Sentinel Pest Control
- ☐ Sonny Adams Pest Control

Place to buy a mattress

- ☐ Hendricks Home Furnishings
- ☐ Just Beds
- ☐ Verlo

Plumbing company

- ☐ Black Tie Home Services
- ☐ Easterday Plumbing
- ☐ Flentje's Plumbing
- ☐ Jesse Wilkin Plumbing, LLC
- ☐ Rick Ray and Sons Plumbing

Pool & spa supplies

- ☐ Bollmans Pool & Spa Co.
- ☐ M & M Pools/Spas
- ☐ Platinum Pools
- ☐ Southern Ledge Pools and Patios

Pool builder

- ☐ Illini Pools
- ☐ Lambert Custom Pools
- ☐ M & M Pools/Spas
- ☐ Platinum Pools
- ☐ Southern Ledge Pools and Patios

Power washing

- ☐ Capitol City Redi-Wash
- ☐ Clean Sweep Exteriors LLC
- ☐ Full Blast Pressure Washing
- ☐ Petersburg Power Washing
- ☐ Zellers Pro Wash LLC

Roofing company

- ☐ Acosta-Angeli Roofing
- ☐ Blackhawk Roofing
- ☐ Central Roofing LLC
- ☐ Coady Roofing
- ☐ Sunley Roofing
- ☐ Suttons Siding and Remodling

Tree farm

- ☐ Honey Bear Tree Farm
- ☐ Parkside Tree Farm
- ☐ Paul Tree Farms, LLC
- ☐ Pleasant Nursery Inc.
- ☐ Seaney Farms

Tree trimming/removal

- ☐ Jeremiah's Tree Service
- ☐ Kresse Tree Wurx, Inc
- ☐ Sangamon Tree Service
- ☐ Staab Tree Service
- ☐ To the Top Tree Service

Window & siding company

- ☐ Bacon & Van Buskirk Glass Co.
- ☐ Gabe's Home Improvement, LLC
- ☐ JC Siding
- ☐ Suttons

KIDS STUFF**Children's clothing store**

- ☐ Gypsy Soul
- ☐ Just Kids
- ☐ Once Upon an Child
- ☐ Studio on 6th
- ☐ Sweet Pea Consignment

Children's support organization

- ☐ Children's Miracle Network
- ☐ Community Child Care Connection
- ☐ Family Service Center
- ☐ The James Project
- ☐ Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery
- ☐ YMCA

Dance studio

- ☐ Above & Beyond Dance Company
- ☐ Dance Arts Studio
- ☐ Dayna's Dance Revolution
- ☐ Springfield Dance
- ☐ Tracey & Heather's Dance Synergy

Daycare center

- ☐ Calvary Day Care
- ☐ Head Start I Springfield Urban League
- ☐ Kimmy Kares Day Care
- ☐ Silverleaf Children's Academy, Springfield
- ☐ Springfield Christian Preschool

Family fun spot

- ☐ B's Creative Studio
- ☐ Ergadoozy
- ☐ Kidzeum of Health & Science
- ☐ Knight's Action Park
- ☐ Lincoln Memorial Garden and Nature Center

Gymnastics

- ☐ Capital Elite Athletics
- ☐ Outlaw Athletics
- ☐ Springfield Gymnastics Center
- ☐ Teeter Tots 'n Tumblers
- ☐ YMCA

Kid-friendly place

- ☐ Bounce tag
- ☐ Hello Sunshine Makery and Marketplace
- ☐ Kidzeum of Health and Science
- ☐ Scheels
- ☐ YMCA

Kid-friendly restaurant

- ☐ Chick-fil-A
- ☐ The Creek Pub & Grill
- ☐ Culver's
- ☐ IHOP
- ☐ Lulu's Diner

Kids Birthday Party Place

- ☐ BounceTag
- ☐ Hello Sunshine Makery and Marketplace
- ☐ Kidzeum of Health & Science
- ☐ Skateland South
- ☐ Wild Times Exotics

Kids' art classes

- ☐ B's Creative Studio
- ☐ Hello Sunshine Makery and Marketplace
- ☐ Springfield Art Association

Kids' events/day camps

- ☐ Hello Sunshine Makery and Marketplace
- ☐ Hoogland Performing Arts Education
- ☐ Lake Springfield Christian Assembly
- ☐ Trinity Lutheran Summer Camp
- ☐ Y Ninja, YMCA

Martial arts studio (kids)

- ☐ American Jujitsu
- ☐ Gracie Barra Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
- ☐ John Geyston's Empowered Martial Arts Academy
- ☐ Shudo Kan Karate Club
- ☐ Springfield Karate & Fitness
- ☐ YMCA

Orthodontics

- ☐ Access Dental & Orthodontics
- ☐ Longos Middleton, Neely Orthodontics
- ☐ Maurer Family Dental
- ☐ TuthMvr Orthodontics

Pediatrics center

- ☐ Frisina Family Wellness
- ☐ HSHS St. John's Children's Hospital
- ☐ SIU Medicine Pediatrics
- ☐ Springfield Clinic

Playground

- ☐ Jerome Park
- ☐ Sherman Village Park
- ☐ Southwind Park
- ☐ Washington Park

Private school

- ☐ Calvary Academy
- ☐ Little Flower School
- ☐ Sacred Heart-Griffin
- ☐ Springfield Christian School
- ☐ St. Agnes Catholic School

Public school (9-12)

- ☐ Glenwood High School
- ☐ Lanphier High School
- ☐ Pleasant Plains High School
- ☐ Rochester High School
- ☐ Springfield High School

Public school (K-8)

- ☐ Ball-Chatham Elementary School
- ☐ Farmingdale Elementary School
- ☐ Franklin Middle School
- ☐ Glenwood Elementary School
- ☐ Rochester

Summer camp

- ☐ Camp CILCA
- ☐ CDF Freedom School, Springfield Urban League
- ☐ Ecology Camp, Lincoln Memorial Garden
- ☐ Lake Springfield Christian Assembly
- ☐ YMCA Camp Wa-Kon-Tah

Swim lessons

- ☐ Island Bay Yacht Club
- ☐ Just Because.
- ☐ Nelson Center
- ☐ PORTA Pool
- ☐ YMCA

Tutoring or learning center

- ☐ Kumon Math and Reading Center of Springfield
- ☐ Novel Tea Publishing
- ☐ Sylvan Learning

MUSIC**Bass player**

- ☐ Bruce Williams
- ☐ Jeff Cunningham
- ☐ Tony Tarro, Brandy Kristin Band
- ☐ Trey Tholen
- ☐ Tyler O'Brien

Choral group

- ☐ The Capitol City Men's Chorus
- ☐ Glenwood High School Titan Fever
- ☐ The Lincoln Troubadours
- ☐ Rochester High School Madrigals
- ☐ Springfield Choral Society

Cover music band

- ☐ The G6 Ramblers
- ☐ Brandy Kristin Band
- ☐ Deja Voodoo
- ☐ The Phantom Lordz
- ☐ Sunshine Daydream

DJ - their name and club name

- ☐ Butternut Hut First Fridays
- ☐ David Hale III (DJ DH3)
- ☐ DJ Mikee, Curve Inn
- ☐ Troy Armstrong DJ Company
- ☐ Yuri K. - DJ RIQ

DJ Wedding

- ☐ BCA Weddings + Events - Brandon Austin
- ☐ David Hale III (DJ DH3)
- ☐ DJ DSC
- ☐ Justin Ford
- ☐ Shawn Balint, Top Dog Productions

Drummer

- ☐ Brandon Drew, Brandy Kristin Band
- ☐ Damien Kaplan
- ☐ Greg Harvey
- ☐ Robert Bryant, Lick Creek
- ☐ Sean Tobin

Guitarist

- ☐ Andrew Sorenson
- ☐ Bryan Ealy, Brandy Kristin Band
- ☐ Jeff Wheaton
- ☐ Matt Smegal, Brandy Kristin Band
- ☐ Micah Walk

Horn player

- ☐ Colin Deford
- ☐ Dave Littrell
- ☐ Frank Parker
- ☐ Frank Trompeter
- ☐ Kerri Donovan

Keyboardist

- ☐ Damien Kaplan
- ☐ David Coonrod, Collective/Deja Voodoo
- ☐ Greg Owens
- ☐ Roger Wainwright, Deja Voodoo
- ☐ Tony Tarro, Brandy Kristin Band

Live music venue - large

- ☐ Danenbergers Family Vineyard
- ☐ Hoogland Center for the Arts
- ☐ Levitt AMP Springfield
- ☐ Sherman Village Park Amphitheater

Live music venue - small

- ☐ The Blue Grouch
- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ Dumb Records
- ☐ The Library Pizza and Sports Bar
- ☐ Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill
- ☐ Weebles Bar & Grill

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Vote Heartland for

Best Credit Union Best Mortgage Lender

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Wiley Thomas Mays

95, of Springfield, passed away on Wednesday, August 26, 2026.

He was born on April 29, 1931, in Mt. Vernon, IL, the son of Mildred Mays and Wiley Brown. Wiley married Wilma Jean "Jeannie" Miller on July 30, 1994, in Springfield IL.

Wiley graduated from Mt. Vernon High School where he was a starting member of the 1949 State Basketball Champions. He attended Langston College in Langston, OK where he played collegiate basketball. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1952-1956 and served 9 months in Korea. Wiley worked as an accounting unit manager with the comptroller's office. He was a member of the Springfield Baha'i Community, where he served with distinction in various leadership roles. Wiley enjoyed blues and jazz and hosted the Jazz Patio on WSSR radio for 17 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son Chris Webber; sister, Ruby Mays; and brothers, Lloyd and Clarence Mays.

Wiley is survived by his wife, Jeannie Mays of Springfield; daughter, Judy (Derry) Middlebrooks of Indianapolis, IN; sons, Monty (Becky) Webber of Springfield, and David (Zaira) DeVon of National Harbor, MD; daughter-in-law Dena Webber of Owasso, OK; and ten grandchildren.

Visitation and Funeral Ceremony: Family will receive friends from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. on Friday, September 4, 2026, at Butler Funeral Home – Springfield, 900 S. Sixth St., Springfield, followed by the ceremony at 11:30 a.m., with The Springfield Baha'i Community officiating. Burial will follow at Camp Butler National Cemetery with military honors provided.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice. Please visit www.butlerspringfield.com to offer your condolences.



BEST OF SPRINGFIELD 2026

BALLOT CONTINUED...

Music festival

- ☐ Levitt Amp Music Series
- ☐ Lincoln's New Salem Traditional Music Festival and Bluegrass Concerts
- ☐ Logan's Homegrown Cigar Music Festival
- ☐ New Soil Music Festival
- ☐ Penny Lane Annual Joe Utterback & Jerry Garcia Tribute Festival

Open mic

- ☐ Blue Grouch with Kortney Leatherwood
- ☐ George Rank's JB Open Jams
- ☐ Midweek Music Meetings at Harvest Market
- ☐ Roger & Mandy Open Mic, Trails End Saloon
- ☐ Trading Post Saloon

Original music band

- ☐ The 66 Ramblers
- ☐ Dysfunctional Family
- ☐ Lick Creek
- ☐ NIL8
- ☐ OAT (Owen, Amy & Tom)
- ☐ Unchained

Overall band & their genre

- ☐ The 66 Ramblers, Classic and 'Old -Time' Rock & Roll
- ☐ Brandy Kristin Band, Rock/Pop
- ☐ Deja Voodoo, 70s Rock
- ☐ Dysfunctional Family, Metal
- ☐ Lick Creek, Country Music Band

Place for karaoke

- ☐ Clique
- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ Dumb Records
- ☐ Fluid Lounge
- ☐ Goodfellas Pub
- ☐ Northern Lights Lounge

Place to dance

- ☐ Clique
- ☐ Curve Inn
- ☐ Fluid Lounge
- ☐ The Library Pizza & Sports Bar
- ☐ Route 66 Motorheads Bar, Grill & Entertainment Complex
- ☐ Weebles Bar & Grill

Songwriter

- ☐ Kate Schwartz
- ☐ Keagan Cross
- ☐ Micah Walk
- ☐ Roger Smith
- ☐ Tom Irwin

Vocalist female

- ☐ Amy Battles
- ☐ Brandy Kristin
- ☐ Mandy Rose
- ☐ Melanie Dennison
- ☐ Olivia Smith

Vocalist male

- ☐ Devin Williams
- ☐ Greg Owens
- ☐ Matt Smegal
- ☐ Micah Walk
- ☐ Steve Clark

PET SERVICES

Dog-friendly bar or restaurant

- ☐ The Corner Pub & Grill
- ☐ Jackson's Handlebar
- ☐ Obed and Isaac's Microbrewery & Eatery
- ☐ Scoop Du Jour
- ☐ Whimsy Tea Company

Mobile pet grooming

- ☐ Fur-Ever Friends Mobile Grooming LLC
- ☐ Howl's Pet Grooming
- ☐ Jet n Pet Grooming
- ☐ June's Grooms
- ☐ Somebody's Kitty LLC

Pet boarding

- ☐ Coble Animal Hospital
- ☐ Kinner Kennels Dog Boarding
- ☐ Laketown Animal Hospital
- ☐ PawKamp, Petersburg
- ☐ Yellow Dog Kennel and Daycare

Pet daycare

- ☐ KEEN on Petcare
- ☐ Kinner's On 97
- ☐ Suds N' Pups Pet Grooming & Doggie Daycare
- ☐ Tail Command
- ☐ Yellow Dog Kennel and Daycare

Pet grooming

- ☐ Bark Side of the Groom
- ☐ Coble Animal Hospital
- ☐ June's Grooms
- ☐ Laketown Animal Hospital
- ☐ OH MY DOG Spa
- ☐ Suds N' Pups Pet Grooming & Doggie Daycare

Pet retail store

- ☐ Happy Scalez
- ☐ Pet Supplies Plus
- ☐ Tails To Remember Pet Services
- ☐ Treasures for Tails
- ☐ Wild Birds Unlimited

Pet sitting

- ☐ Canine Athletics
- ☐ The Critter Sitter
- ☐ Cuddlin with Canines Pet Sitting - Ann Gramlich
- ☐ KEEN on Petcare
- ☐ Pet Sitting Plus Farm

Pet training

- ☐ Joe Blankenship (Dog Class Pro Dog Training)
- ☐ Judy William's Dog Training 101
- ☐ Pawsitive Training Zone
- ☐ Pup's Paradis (Carol Gruwell)
- ☐ Rediscover Your Dog

Pet waste removal (pooper scooper)

- ☐ Doctor Doo
- ☐ Happy Pet Waste Removal
- ☐ I've Got the Scoop
- ☐ Pain in the Grass LLC

Veterinarian clinic

- ☐ Brewer Animal Hospital
- ☐ Coble Animal Hospital
- ☐ Laketown Animal Hospital
- ☐ Petersburg Veterinary Clinic
- ☐ West Lake Animal Hospital

RETAIL

Antique or vintage store

- ☐ Abe's Tradin' Post
- ☐ Springfield Vintage
- ☐ Sweet Peas Antique's & More
- ☐ Tammi's Treasures Antiques & More

Appliance Store

- ☐ Best Buy
- ☐ Dick Van Dyke
- ☐ Sam's Best Brands Plus

Auto dealer new

- ☐ Freedom Chevrolet
- ☐ Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram - Virden
- ☐ Friendly Honda Springfield
- ☐ Green Hyundai
- ☐ Green Toyota
- ☐ Isringhausen Imports of Illinois
- ☐ S & K Buick GMC

Auto dealer used

- ☐ AVID Autosports
- ☐ CarMax
- ☐ Freedom Chevrolet
- ☐ Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram - Virden
- ☐ Friendly Honda Springfield
- ☐ Roberts Automotive

Auto salesperson (first and last name & dealer)

- ☐ Brandon Horner, Isringhausen
- ☐ Brian Wilbern, Roberts Automotive
- ☐ Jeremy Lookis, Landmark Automotive
- ☐ Mylas Copeland Green
- ☐ Toyota Audi Volkswagen
- ☐ Paul Walsh, Friendly Chevrolet

Bicycle shop

- ☐ Ace Bike Shop
- ☐ Scheels
- ☐ Springfield Bicycle Doctor
- ☐ Wheel Fast Bicycle Co.

Bookstore - independent

- ☐ The Book Rack
- ☐ Books On The Square
- ☐ Elderberry & Plumb Bookstore
- ☐ Prairie Archives
- ☐ Wildflower & Rose Bookstore, Petersburg

Cashier

- ☐ Bernadette Wallace, McDonald's
- ☐ Caleb Smith, Food Fantasies
- ☐ Christina Yoc, CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Joey, Whimsy Tea
- ☐ Kristin Diehl, Custom Cup coffee

Clothing store - men

- ☐ The Crafted Stag Supply
- ☐ Jim Herron, Ltd.
- ☐ Men's Wearhouse
- ☐ Scheels
- ☐ Wilson Haberdashery

Clothing store - used

- ☐ Clothes Mentor
- ☐ Hope Thrift Center
- ☐ Second Time Around
- ☐ Springfield Vintage
- ☐ Studio on 6th
- ☐ WILD Thrift & Sniff

Clothing store - women

- ☐ District 23 Boutique
- ☐ Gypsy Soul
- ☐ JCPenney
- ☐ SGK Boutique
- ☐ Willow & Birch Salon

Consignment & resale store

- ☐ Clothes Mentor
- ☐ Hope Thrift Center
- ☐ Plato's Closet
- ☐ Second Time Around
- ☐ Sweet Pea Consignment

Convenience Store

- ☐ Casey's
- ☐ Circle K
- ☐ Hilltop Convenience
- ☐ Qik-N-Ez
- ☐ Thorntons 6th street

Gift Store

- ☐ Cardologist
- ☐ Kennedy Sue Gift & Home
- ☐ Little Lincoln's Toy Shop
- ☐ Once in a Blue Moon International Gift Gallery
- ☐ Unique Enchantments

Grocery Store

- ☐ Country Market
- ☐ Harvest Market
- ☐ Humphrey's Market
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ Meijer
- ☐ Schnucks

Jewelry store

- ☐ Denney Jewelers
- ☐ Giganti & Giganti Fine Jewelry
- ☐ Jones Jewelers
- ☐ Luttrell Jewelers
- ☐ Studio on 6th

Liquor store

- ☐ Binny's Beverage Depot
- ☐ Friar Tuck
- ☐ Riverton Party Store

Meat selection

- ☐ Country Market
- ☐ Harvest market
- ☐ Humphrey's Market
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ Meijer

Natural food or supplement store

- ☐ Food Fantasies
- ☐ Roaring Lion Ranch & Retreat's Botanical Market & Apothecary
- ☐ The Vitamin Shoppe
- ☐ Whimsy Tea Company

New business downtown (opened after 8/1/25)

- ☐ Arrowroot Coffee Co - Roastery and Coffee Lounge
- ☐ Gracie Humaita Springfield
- ☐ Long Nine Junction
- ☐ Schlee's Gourmet Bakery and Bottle Shop
- ☐ Vault 66 Pinball

New business not downtown (opened after 8/1/25)

- ☐ Bespoke Cafe + Kitchen
- ☐ Elderberry & Plumb Bookstore
- ☐ The Library Pizza and Sports Bar
- ☐ Los Altos Cocina y Cantina
- ☐ The Spot 90's Bar & Grill

Optical shop

- ☐ Bergh White Opticians
- ☐ Gailey Eye Clinic
- ☐ Henderson Eye Center
- ☐ Prairie Eye Center
- ☐ Vision Care Associates

Pawn shop

- ☐ Cash America Pawn
- ☐ Monster Pawn Springfield Inc.
- ☐ Stevenson Drive Pawn Shop

Place to feed the slots

- ☐ Clique
- ☐ It's All About Wine
- ☐ Jamie's Route 66
- ☐ Route 66 Motorheads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex
- ☐ Scoop After Dark, Scoop Du Jour

Produce selection

- ☐ Aldi
- ☐ Country Market
- ☐ Harvest Market
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ Meijer
- ☐ The Old Capitol Farmers Market

Retail shop

- ☐ District 23 Boutique
- ☐ Dumb Records
- ☐ Kennedy Sue Gift & Home
- ☐ Little Lincoln's Toy Shop
- ☐ Unique Enchantments

Seafood selection

- ☐ Harvest Market
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ Meijer
- ☐ Robert's Seafood Market

Thrift store

- ☐ Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County ReStore
- ☐ Hope Thrift Center
- ☐ Land of Lincoln Goodwill
- ☐ Springfield Vintage
- ☐ WILD Thrift and Sniff

Vape shop

- ☐ CBD Botanicals
- ☐ Tribble Vapors
- ☐ Upper Limits Midwest, Inc.
- ☐ Vaporium

Wine store

- ☐ Binny's Beverage Depot
- ☐ Corkscrew Wine Emporium
- ☐ Friar Tuck
- ☐ Hy-Vee
- ☐ It's All About Wine

Slow cooker apple butter

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

Subtle hints of fall have begun to appear in spite of this month's sweltering start. There's a tinge of gold layered into the trees and although the afternoons have been unbearably hot, there's a crisp, freshness to the morning air. Our local apple harvest is just beginning, with early season gala and Sweet Maia apples commingling on market tables with the late harvest tomatoes and melons.

This apple butter is one of my favorite recipes of the season, not only eaten as is on a warm biscuit or slice of toast but also used in other recipes to inject a dose of autumnal warmth in a host of recipes. Mix in ¼ cup of apple butter to sliced apples and a hint of sugar before topping with buttery streusel for deeply flavored apple crisp. Dollop spoonfuls of apple butter into cheesecake or blondie batter and use a table knife to swirl it though the batter before baking. Apple butter can even play on the savory side as the basis of a spicy-sweet barbecue sauce or vinaigrette for a harvest salad.

Slow cooker apple butter

Ingredients:
4 pounds apple (about 12 medium)
2 cups brown sugar
1 heaping teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon ground allspice
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
Juice of one lemon
A pinch of salt

Peel and core the apples, then roughly chop them into ½-inch chunks (this is a great job for little helpers using a crinkle cutter). Lightly coat the insert of a slow cooker with butter or cooking spray, then add the chopped apples, sugar, cinnamon, allspice, cinnamon, lemon juice and salt.

Cook on high for one-two hours, until the apples are soft. Reduce the heat to low and cook, stirring occasionally until the apple butter is a rich mahogany brown, about eight to 10 hours. Purée with an immersion blender if desired. To process in a water bath canner, bring a large pot of water with a canning rack to a boil. Pack the hot apple butter into hot, freshly sterilized pint jars, leaving ¼-inch of headspace at the top of the jar. Run a knife around the inside edge of the jar to remove any air bubbles and wipe the rim clean to ensure a good seal. Lower the jars into the boiling water, leaving at least two inches of space in between the jars, adding more hot



ADOBE STOCK

water if necessary to cover the jars by at least one inch. Bring the water to a boil, then cover and process for 10 minutes. Remove the jars from the water bath and set aside on a cloth covered tray until fully cooled. Check the lids for a good seal by pressing in the center with a finger- they shouldn't flex at all. The apple butter can also be frozen if you don't want to process it in a water bath. It will keep well in the freezer for several months or for two weeks in the refrigerator.

Apple butter old fashioned

Ingredients:
2 ounces (¼ cup) bourbon
1/2 ounce (1 tablespoon) maple syrup
2 dashes orange bitters
1 heaping spoonful apple butter
Orange twist, to garnish

Combine the bourbon, maple syrup and

orange bitters with a spoonful of apple butter in a mixing glass with ice and stir until well-chilled. Strain into a rocks glass with some fresh ice and garnish with an orange twist.

Apple butter barbecue sauce

Ingredients:
1 tablespoon oil, such as olive or canola
1 onion, peeled and chopped
2-3 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
1 bell pepper, red or green, seeded and chopped
1 jalapeno, seeded and chopped (optional)
1 cup apple butter
1 cup ketchup
½ cup cider vinegar
⅓ cup brown sugar
¼ cup mustard (yellow or grainy)
Salt and black pepper to taste

Heat the oil in a heavy-bottomed, non-

reactive saucepan. When the oil is shimmering, add the onion, garlic, pepper and jalapeno (if using). Season with a pinch of salt and cook until the vegetables are softened and fragrant, about 5 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients and bring to a simmer, then reduce the heat and cook for 30-45 minutes until the sauce is thick and dark. Use an immersion blender to puree until smooth. Transfer into jars and let come to room temperature before refrigerating.

Harvest salad with apple butter vinaigrette

Loaded with protein, fiber and antioxidants – this main course salad is perfect for busy weeknights or fall cookouts.

For the apple butter vinaigrette:
½ cup apple butter
½ cup cider vinegar
1 tablespoon water
1 tablespoon minced shallot
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 teaspoon fresh thyme (or use ½ teaspoon dried thyme)
Salt and pepper to taste
¾ cup olive oil

For the salad:
1 1/2 pounds Brussels sprouts, trimmed and shaved thin on a mandoline
½ red onion, shaved thin
½ cup flat-leaf parsley leaves, roughly chopped
½ cup toasted pecans, walnuts or hazelnuts
1 apple, cored and thinly sliced
¼ cup dried cranberries or cherries
Four ounces crumbled goat cheese or blue cheese

To make the dressing, combine the apple butter, vinegar, water, shallot, mustard & thyme in a small mixing bowl and whisk to combine. Whisking continuously, slowly drizzle in the oil to emulsify. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

To assemble the salad, combine the shaved Brussels sprouts, shaved onion and roughly chopped parsley in a mixing bowl. Drizzle with about ¼ cup of the vinaigrette (there will be leftover vinaigrette to save for another use – it keeps about two weeks in the fridge) over the shaved sprouts and toss well to combine. Season with salt and pepper, then top with the toasted nuts, sliced apples, dried cranberries and cheese. Serve immediately. □

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MUSIC

September music rises

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

With Labor Day behind us, that means only four days of toil for you workers of the world, and that tells me maybe you can take the short week and make it into a big weekend of music. Let's see what's out there.

Starting on Thursday, 'cause that's what we do, Motorheads presents Thursday Night Live as the monthly showcase of local musicians continues with those crazy kids from Rochester called Live Wire (Joe Calandrino, Garrett Leach, Joe Clark, Damon Soper and Julian Calandrino), as well as Well City (David Mizeur and Matt Hoffman), plus a new group on the scene called Boogie Republic (David Shaw, Garold Fowler, Latoya Steward, Manni Boyce, Kevin Hines, Quentin Savage and Chris Anzelmo).

For weekly gigs, check out Not Petty playing Petty at the Illinois Product Farmers Market on the State Fairgrounds and Joel Honey honing in on it all at Mother Road Diner, while Dumb Records continues recovering from the water main flooding with a cool kids concert by M.O.A.B., Genestealer, Impulse Noise, All Your Damage and Black Glove.

Friday comes in on 9/11 as Hat Trick commemorates the fateful day with a gig at VFW Post 755, along with Fairweather Friends flying into The Bird Tavern, New Goat Ensemble and Spoonbenders hosting their annual Virgopalooza at George Rank's, Ruf Edgz covering classic rock at Pier 55, 2nd Street Harmony singing songs at Bar Bella and For the Love of Lennon giving peace a chance at The Blue Grouch, to name a few. To name a few more, Ocean State gets jazzy with bossa nova and blues at Pease's at BUNN Gourmet as Downstate crosses over into Long Bridge Golf Course and Angel Brown's Smooth N' Blue Duo slides into Lime Street Cafe (ABSNBD plays Saturday too).

With Saturday looming large, prime choices include The Junior Jive Kings reuniting to play a few songs at American Legion Post 809 before Rudy Boz & Friends take over with special guests Alvin Desayles and IE Foster, country star Rodney Atkins headlining The Healing Plate fundraiser presented by Jared's Keepers Foundation at Firefighters/Postal Lake Club and the annual Fall Fest at K of C Hall 364 featuring authentic German music by Die Musikmeisters Band, with all proceeds benefitting Land of Lincoln Honor Flight.



Join the Junior Jive Kings reuniting at American Legion Post #809 this Saturday followed by Rudy Boz & Friends with special guests Alvin Desayles and IE Foster.

Several towns around the area host fall fests this weekend including Williamsville, Athens, Kenney and Mount Pulaski all giving us lots of live music, which we like a whole bunch. The ever-popular New Salem Traditional Music Festival gets going in the village historic site on Friday and Saturday when various musicians play together on 19th century-style instruments during the day with bluegrass concerts featured in the evening. The Marbold Homestead Heritage Festival (near Greenview) features music by Peaches & Bacon on Saturday, plus Josie Lowder then Brandon Elliott on Sunday, along with a slew of activities celebrating 175 years of the Marbold farm, while West of Wise Winery near Petersburg presents Square of the Roots in the afternoon on Saturday.

Sunday comes in smoking with the 31st annual Penny Lane Jerry Fest featuring Mace Hathaway, Smokestacks, Captain Trip & the Space Cadets (feat. Carl Akers), Salty Bros. (Brandon Santini & Joel Gragg) and Sunshine Daydream all day at Duncan Park, while the Hoogland Center for the Arts hosts the Napier Family and Friends presenting A Good News Experience of gospel music in the LRS Theater. In Jacksonville at Twisted Tree Music Hall, come celebrate as The Longmeyer Band (with special guest Jake Clayton) releases a new album, *Boxcars and Mended Hearts* with a rockin' live performance.

Please look through our listings for all the other happenings, happening all over. □

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
Sep 10

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

M.O.A.B., Genestealer, Impulse Noise, All Your Damage, Black Glove
Dumb Records, 7pm

Karaoke
Goodfellas Pub, 8pm.

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

Not Petty
Illinois State Fairgrounds, The Shed, 5-7pm

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

Joel Honey
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 6-9pm

Thursday Night Live
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 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
Sep 11

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

2nd Street Harmony
Bar Bella, 5-8pm

Blackout Betty: Armed & Dangerous
BB's BFE, Latham, 8pm

Fairweather Friends
The Bird Tavern, 6-8:30pm

Not Petty
Boone's, 5:30-8:30pm

Devin C. Williams
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 8-11pm

Karaoke Night with Party Time DJ
Bunkers Bar, Illiopolis, 9pm-12:30am

Dave Littrell
Curveside Bar & Grill, Athens, 7-10pm

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

Modern Cowboyz
Downtown Kenney, Kenney, 7-9pm

Spoonbenders and the New Goat Ensemble
George Rank's, 7:30pm

Bare Trax
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7-10pm

Karaoke Night
JB's Hideout, Blue Mound, 8pm-12am

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

Downstate
Long Bridge Golf Course, 6:30-9:30pm

Karaoke
The Lumpia House, 5-11pm

Outland
Mount Pulaski Town Square, Mount Pulaski, 7-11pm

Ocean State Quartet
Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 6-8pm

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

Ruf Edgz
Pier 55 Lounge, 8pm

John Drake
The Railyard, 6-9pm

Branded
Rocco's, Decatur, 7-11pm

For the Love of Lennon
The Blue Grouch, 7pm

Karaoke Night
The Hangout, Palmer, 8pm

Hat Trick
VFW Lafore Lock Post 755, 6-10pm

Saturday
Sep 12

The Junior Jive Kings, Rudy Boz and Friends
American Legion Post #809, 7-10pm

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

Babyface
Bank of Springfield Center, 6pm-12am

Karaoke with FML Karaoke
BB's BFE, Latham, 8pm-12am

7 Underground
The Blue Grouch, 7pm

Living Bratz
Boone's, 6-9pm

99 Proof
Camouflage Bar, VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30pm

Die Musikmeisters Band
Columbian Grand Hall Knights of Columbus 364, 3-7pm

Karaoke
Conrad's East End Tavern, Riverton, 7pm-12am

Live and Let Die
The Devon Lakeshore Amphitheater, Decatur, 7pm

White Lightnin'
Downtown Athens, Athens, 5-8pm

Satellite
Downtown Athens, Athens, 8-11pm

Dick & Brad
Downtown Kenney, Kenney, 1:30-4pm

Hippies of the Heartland
Downtown Kenney, Kenney, 7-9pm

Prevention, Abstain, Glean, Innervision
Dumb Records, 7pm

Rodney Atkins
Firefighters-Postal Lake Club, 5pm

Robert Bogaert
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 4-7pm

Peaches & Bacon
Historic Marbold Farmstead, Greenview, 12:30-1:30pm

Radio Hits on Route 66
Hoogland Center for the Arts, 2pm

Al'Maculate Conception, Dysfunctional Family, Blue Iris
The Library Pizza and Sports Bar, 6pm

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

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

Derrick Streibig
Old Capitol Farmers Market, 10-11am

The Killer Riffs
Pop's Place, Decatur, 8-11pm

Daniel Cavanagh
The Range Bourbon & Brew, Chatham, 8-11pm

2nd Street Harmony
Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center, Southern View, 6-9pm

Captain Geech and the Shrimp Shack Shooters
Sherman Village Park Amphitheater, Sherman, 7pm

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

Rod Grant
The Stadium Bar & Grill, 6-9pm

Springfield Uketopians
Stella Coffee & Tea, 12-2pm

Scratching The Surface
The Thirsty Rooster, Middletown, 8pm

Square of the Roots
West of Wise Winery, Petersburg, 1-4pm

Pop Quiz Hot Shot
Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival, Williamsville, 7-10pm

Sunday
Sep 13

Jet Trio and Friends
Brookhills Golf Club, 3-6pm

Kortney Leatherwood
Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 3-6pm

Mace Hathaway, Smokestacks, Captain Trip & the Space Cadets featuring Carl Akers, Salty Bros., Sunshine Daydream
Duncan Park, 2-9pm

Hunter Sharp
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

Josie Lowder
Historic Marbold Farmstead, Greenview, 11:30am-1pm

Brandon Elliott
Historic Marbold Farmstead, Greenview, 2-3pm

Matt Combs
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

The Iron Maidens with special guest Rotten Rod plus Electric Longhead
The Library Pizza and Sports Bar, 6pm

Harris Family Band
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 5-8pm

Rod Grant
Rocco's, Decatur, 2-5pm

The 66 Ramblers
Rochester Community Park, Rochester, 9am-12pm

The Jonnie Concaroo Band
St. Frances Cabrini Parish, 2-5pm

Robert Sampson
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 6-9pm

The Longmeyer Band with special guest Jake Clayton
Twisted Tree Music & Event Hall, Jacksonville, 3-6pm

Monday
Sep 14

Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors
The Alamo, 7pm

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

Acoustic Open Mic hosted by Kristi White
Northern Lights Lounge, 6:30-9:30pm.

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

Tuesday
Sep 15

Poison Ruin, Discern, Phantom Pike
Dumb Records, 7pm

Karaoke Night hosted by Alan Livengood
Fluid Lounge, 7pm

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

Open jam
George Rank's, 8pm

Karaoke
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 6pm.

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

Open Jam with Positively 4th Street
Trading Post Saloon, 6-9pm

Wednesday
Sep 16

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

Al Kitchen and Tricia Giacomini
Mother Road Diner, Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center, 6-9pm

Pete Sander
Obed and Isaac's Microbrewery, 6-8pm

THE CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER 11 JOIN US FOR A MOMENT OF SILENCE



Find your nearest fire station and join Firefighters, City staff, Police officers, and fellow community members as we come together to share a moment of silence and remember those who lost their lives 25 years ago.

Sept. 11 Moment of Silence
7:46 a.m., Friday, Sept. 11
All 13 Springfield fire stations

CEREMONIES I Remember Sept. 11 this Friday

it This Friday marks the 25th anniversary of the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The Springfield Fire Department is inviting the community to join firefighters, police officers and city staff members as they remember those who perished that day. To participate, arrive at your local neighborhood station by 7:30 a.m. According to the department, there will be brief remarks at 7:45 a.m. followed by the moment of silence at 7:46 a.m. That time, 7:46 a.m., is the time the first plane hit the World Trade Center. “Twenty five years later, we remember those we lost, honor those who answered the call, and make sure a new generation understands why we will never forget. We hope you will join us on September 11,” reads a statement on the department’s Facebook page.

Special Music Events

2026 Fall Fest

Sat., Sep. 12, 2-8pm. Event benefits Land of Lincoln Honor Flight. Includes food trucks, beverages and live music by the Die Musikmeisters Band. \$5, veterans free. Columbian Grand Hall Knights of Columbus 364, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 217-652-3534.

Bluegrass Concerts/Traditional Music Festival

Fri., Sep. 11, 10am-4pm and Sat., Sep. 12, 10am-4pm. This popular annual event showcases 19th-century instruments and folk music. Bluegrass concerts, 6-10pm Sept. 11-12. Music Festival 10am-4pm and 6-10pm Sept. 12). dnrhistoric.illinois.gov. Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site, Petersburg, 15588 History Lane, 217-632-4000.

Joe Arvieu

Sat., Sep. 12, 7pm. Joe Arvieu will bring joyful sounds of gospel, worship and familiar favorites. Free, donations accepted. Springfield First Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 3168 W. Jefferson St., 217-416-3029.

The Napier Family

Sun., Sep. 13, 3pm. The Napier Family and friends will present The Good News Experience - A Journey Through Gospel Music. hcfta.org/tickets. Adults \$22, seniors and students \$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Penny Lane Jerry Fest

Sun., Sep. 13, 2-9pm. Band lineup: Mace Hathaway, 2-2:45pm; Smokestacks, 3p-4pm; Captain Trip & the Space Cadets featuring Carl Akers, 4:30-5:30pm; Salty Bros., 6-7pm; and Sunshine Daydream, 7:30-9pm. This 31st annual event honors Bob Weir and Ed Weed. Hosted by Penny Lane Gifts. Free admission. Duncan Park, 500 N. MacArthur, 217-544-1751.

Theater & Comedy

Comedy Show & Dinner

Fri., Sep. 11, 7-9pm. Part of Autumn on the Boulevard, this show will feature John McClellan with special guest Chris Speyer. Ticket includes dinner by Sam’s Too. Purchase tickets by text at 217-972-6115 or call 217-652-7957. Presented by Williamsville Community Foundation. \$25. Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival, Williamsville,

Downtown Williamsville, IL, 217-652-7957.

John McClellan with Chunky & Craig Antonio

Sat., Sep. 12, 8-9:30pm. John McClellan is a unique and brutally funny voice in the world, carving out his turf as he headlines comedy clubs and rock music venues across America. \$16.50. Mason City Limits Comedy Club, Mason City, 114 E. Chestnut St., 217-482-5233.

Pub & Grub Stand-Up Comedy Tour

Thu., Sep. 10, 7:30pm. Two professional comedians roll into Pleasant Plains for a night of laughs. For those 21 and older. Advance tickets required. \$25, \$45 for two. The Grainery, Pleasant Plains, 210 W. Route 125, 217-626-2508.

Books & Authors

Book talk with Jim Marcacci

Fri., Sep. 18, 1:30pm. Jim Marcacci will talk about the true crime book he co-authored, *Benld and the Booze Gang: Mafia, Murder and Mayhem on Route 66*. Marcacci also will sign copies. Free to attend. Books on the Square, 427

Washington St., 217-965-5443.

Dance

Latin Dance Night with Eric Nava

Sat., Sep. 12, 5:30-10pm. Salsa lessons and Latin and Swing Social Dance night with special guest instructor Eric Nava. Intermediate salsa lesson, 5:30-6:30pm, \$10. Beginner salsa lesson, 6:30-7pm, free. Latin and swing social dance, 7-10pm, \$10. Up to \$20. Springfield Social Dance Club, 501 W. Elliott Ave., 217-416-5597.

Rockballet

Sat., Sep. 12, 8pm. *Rockballet* is an electrifying fusion of classical ballet and iconic rock music, taking audiences on a thrilling journey. This innovative production showcases the dynamic versatility of Copper Coin Ballet Company dancers. The Muni, 815 E. Lake Dr., 217-793-6864.

Art & Architecture

“A Journey Into The Light” reception

Sat., Sep. 12, 6-8pm. See Donald Landry’s watercolor exhibition at this opening reception. The exhibition runs from Sept. 12 through Sept 27. Free. David Strawn Art Gallery, Jacksonville, 331 W. College Ave., 217-243-9390.

Art Spectacular

Sat., Sep. 12, 10am-5pm and Sun., Sep. 13, 10am-4pm. A popular, professionally juried fine art and craft show featuring collector and museum-quality works. Food trucks and activities for kids. Free admission. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-787-3553.

Fae Folk Art Fest 2026

Sat., Sep. 12, 11am-7pm. This renaissance-faire-inspired art festival boasts more than 30 local artists, artisans and authors, all of whom draw inspiration from fantasy, folklore, history and magic. Event includes a costume contest, music, dance troupe and more. Free. Union Square Park, 500 E. Madison St., 217-753-3519.

Film & Television

History in Film

Wed., Sep. 16, 5-7:30pm. Featured will be *Dead Poets Society*, a 1989 film about a boarding school teacher who inspires his students with poetry and unconventional teaching methods. Program will include a discussion about Springfield poet Vachel Lindsay. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217 753 4900.

Food & Drink

Free Meal and Produce

Sat., Sep. 12, 4-6pm. Food Not Bombs Springfield, IL is sharing a free meal and produce in the church’s commons area. Enter from parking lot entrance on Capitol Avenue or through Peace Garden entrance on Seventh Street. Clothing and harm reduction supplies will be shared with whomever wants them. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Amateur BBQ Cook Off

Sun., Sep. 13, 7am-4pm. Who has the best BBQ? Find out in Williamsville. There are two categories: Ribs and open grill. Includes cash prizes. Rules and registration form can be found on the Williamsville Community Foundation Facebook page. \$25 registration. Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival, Williamsville, Downtown Williamsville, IL, 217-652-7957.

History

Military Vehicle Show

Sat., Sep. 12, 10am-4pm. See old and newer military vehicles and equipment and then check out the museum. Free, donations accepted. Illinois State Military Museum, 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd., 217-761-3910.

Sangamon County Historical Society Program

Tue., Sep. 15, 5:30-7pm. Josh Pryer will discuss the history of Clayville and the restoration of the Clayville Historic Site. Free. Clayville Historic Site, Pleasant Plains, Route 125, 217-525-1961.

Fairs & Festivals

Cruise In On The Boulevard

Sun., Sep. 13, 11am-3pm. Cruise on into Autumn on the Boulevard with that classic, custom, muscle car, truck or whatever. Event includes cash prizes, dash plaques, door prizes and more. \$10 per car. Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival, Williamsville, Downtown Williamsville, IL, 217-415-7798.

Family Fun Day

Sun., Sep. 13, 11am-2pm. This afternoon of fun, food and community will include food trucks, children’s activities, opportunities to connect with neighbors and friends and more. Free. Peace Lutheran Church, 2800 W. Jefferson St., 217-546-7646.

Marbold Heritage Festival

Sat., Sep. 12, 9am-3pm and Sun.,

Sep. 13, 9am-3pm. The Marbold Farmstead is turning 175, and this year’s celebration will be bigger than ever. This festival celebrates the community’s story – German heritage, farm life then and now, and the families connected through generations. Events include the Tour de Heartland Ride, house tours, food, live music, wagon rides, vintage tractors, steam engines, blacksmith demos, Civil War re-enactors, artisan vendors and more. marboldfarm.org. Suggested donation of \$5 per person; \$10 per family with children under age 12 free. Historic Marbold Farmstead, Greenview, 21722 State Hwy 29.

Mount Pulaski Fall Festival

Sept. 10-12. Three-day, family-friendly festival features children’s activities, food, petting zoo, live music, vendors and town-wide garage sales, beer tent and more.

Opa Greek Fest

Sat., Sep. 12, 11am-7pm. Gyros, Greek chicken, lamb, moussaka, Greek fries, saganaki, spinach pies and Greek salad. Desserts include baklava, cookies and loukoumades. Live Greek band. No admission fee. St. Anthony’s Hellenic Orthodox Church, 1600 S. Glenwood Ave., 217-522-7010.

Stronger Together Recovery & Community Fest

Sat., Sep. 12, 11am-2pm. Celebrate National Recovery Month at this family-friendly event that honors the strength, resilience and hope of individuals in recovery and those who support them. Includes live music, free food, arts and crafts, games, beginner yoga, community resources and raffle prizes. sangamoncorosc.org. Free. Tom Madonia Park East, 405 E. Lakeshore Dr., 217-757-8600.

Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival

Sat., Sep. 12, 9am-10pm and Sun., Sep. 13, 7am-3pm. Saturday’s events include a fishing derby, 5K race, kids corner (10am-5pm), food vendors and craft vendors (9am-5pm). Sunday includes a barbecue cookoff (7am-4pm) and a car cruise-in (11am-3pm). Williamsville Autumn on the Boulevard Festival, Williamsville, Downtown Williamsville, IL, 217-652-7957.

Fundraisers and Galas

Cachet Club of Springfield Card Party

Sun., Sep. 13, 1-4pm. Desserts and beverages included in admission price. Hot sandwiches also available for \$10. Proceeds to benefit Springfield charities APL and Pioneer Shoe Program for Children. Includes silent

auction and \$250 raffle prize. \$5 admission. Little Flower Parish Center, 900 Stevenson Dr., 217-638-2914.

Harvest for Homes Celebration
Fri., Sep. 11, 6-8pm. This fundraiser benefits Fifth Street Renaissance. Includes appetizers, a bar, DJ, entertainment and dancing, short program and silent auction. Donations accepted. fsr-sara.org. \$50 before Aug. 15, \$60 after Aug. 15. Pole Barn Chic, 4491 Old Chatham Road, 217-544-5040.

Illinois Presbyterian Home Puzzle Contest Fundraiser
Sun., Sep. 13, 2pm. In this fall tradition, teams compete to complete a fall-themed puzzle while enjoying apple cider and doughnuts. Register and get tickets at IPH. \$60 per team maximum 4 people. Illinois Presbyterian Home Communities, 2005 W. Lawrence Ave., 217-546-5622.

Move With MADD Capitol Area Walk
Sat., Sep. 12, 8am-12pm. Move With MADD is Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)'s signature fundraising event that brings together community members to walk, roll or run to raise awareness and funds to end impaired driving. madd.org. \$25. Sherman Village Park, Sherman, 1200 Rail Fence Road, 630-541-6099 ext.7759.

Rock and Run for Mental Health
Sun., Sep. 13, 9am-12pm. Fourth annual event includes 5k and 1-mile fun run/walk, live music by The 66 Ramblers and vendors. Vendor lineup includes a food truck, coffee bar, massage therapists, chiropractors, physical therapists, counselors, community organizations and more. Partial proceeds provide counseling services to uninsured individuals and those in need. Register at rock4mentalhealth.org. 10. Rochester Community Park, Rochester, 90 Wild Rose Lane.

Rodney Atkins headlines The Healing Plate
Sat., Sep. 12, 5-10pm. Country music star Rodney Atkins will headline The Healing Plate fundraiser presented by Jared's Keepers Foundation. Includes four-course dinner by chef Sam Jett. The Healing Plate is the a fundraising event of Jared's Keepers Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded in memory of Jared Martin. \$150. Firefighters-Postal Lake Club, 940 W. Lake Shore Dr., 615-347-3104.

Springfield Urban League 100th Anniversary Celebration
Sat., Sep. 12, 6pm-12am. Celebrate 100 years of achievement by the group. Features a performance by 13-time Grammy Award-winning singer Babyface. \$107. Bank of Springfield Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, 217-789-0830.

St. Cabrini Fall Festival
Sun., Sep. 13, 12-5pm. Features music, food and beverages, children's games and more. Proceeds benefit the parish. Free. St. Frances Cabrini Parish, 1020 N. Milton Ave., 217-522-8555.

■ Children's Corner

Downtown Springfield Family FunFest
Sat., Sep. 12, 11am-3pm. Enjoy a day packed with joy, laughter and endless entertainment while supporting Prevent Child Abuse Illinois. Includes inflatable obstacle courses, tasty treats from food trucks, special character appearances, interactive games and non-stop action on the main stage. springfieldfunfest.org. \$10 per child. adults are free. Downtown Springfield, Downtown.

Route 66 Monarch Festival
Sat., Sep. 12, 2-8pm. Celebrate the state insect, the monarch butterfly, and Route 66's centennial at this family-friendly event. Includes games, activities, giveaways and more. Bring a lawn chair to watch the movie *Cars* from 6-8 pm. Free. Route 66 Experience, Gate 2, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-782-2172.

■ Nature, Science & Environment

Springfield Civic Garden Club
Mon., Sep. 14, 6pm. Meeting begins at 6pm. Landon Kirby, owner of Knob Hill Landscape Co., will present "Imagining and Landscaping the Horace Mann Education Ecosystem." For more info, visit the group's website or Facebook page or call. Horace Mann Educators, 1 Horace Mann Plaza, 217-899-3283.

■ Lectures & Meetings

Chancellor's Thinkers Series: A Call to Think with Cheri Callahan Bustos
Tue., Sep. 15, 5:30-7:15pm. Chancellor Janet Gooch and former U.S. Rep. Cheri Callahan Bustos will explore what it means to lead with authenticity, purpose and integrity. The evening includes a moderated discussion, audience

Q&A and reception. RSVP is encouraged. uis.edu. Free. UIS Student Union Ballroom, 2251 Richard Wright Dr., 217-206-4782.

■ Bulletin Board

Bird Fair
Sun., Sep. 13, 9am-3pm. Birds, bird toys, cages, bird food and more. Hosted by the Illini Bird Fanciers, Inc. \$4, children free. Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center, Southern View, 625 E. St. Joseph St., 217-971-4962.

Crafters' Treasure Sale
Sat., Sep. 12, 8am-3pm. Shop a vast array of reusable materials for arts, crafts, education and beyond at this event where all items are donated by the Springfield Ceramics and Crafts Club. Fill a bag for \$20 cash. Springfield Ceramics and Crafts Club, 2626 S. Pasfield St., 217-638-4847.

Illinois Secretary of State's Vehicle Show
Sat., Sep. 12, 10am-3:30pm. The 76th annual event hosted by the Illinois secretary of state. See some of the finest antique and classic vehicles, sports cars, motorcycles, trucks and tractors. Held rain or shine. Downtown Springfield, Second and Monroe streets, 312-793-8876.

Mother Road Birthday Celebration Cruise-In
Sat., Sep. 12, 4-7pm. See classic cars, muscle cars, hot rods and more. \$5 registration fee for cars. Event includes children's activities, cash giveaways and more. Sherman Village Park, Sherman, 1200 Rail Fence Road, 217-496-2621.

Patriot Day Luncheon
Fri., Sep. 11, 11:30am-12:30pm. At this luncheon, honor the lives lost in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, recognize the courage and sacrifice of first responders and military personnel and express gratitude to those who continue to serve and protect the nation's freedom. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-503-4643.

■ Health & Fitness

Tour de Heartland
Sat., Sep. 12, 7am-1pm. This is the Historic Marbold Farmstead Association's third annual bike ride fundraiser - a celebration of fitness, fun and community spirit in support of one of Menard County's most treasured historic sites. Historic Marbold Farmstead, Greenview, 21722 State Highway 29, 309-204-6781.



We will be open Weekends only from this date forward. Due to early school start.

**GATES OPEN AT 7:30 PM
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

Playing Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12, 2026.

SCREEN 1- 91.3 FM
Practical Magic 2, PG 13, 8:00 PM Start time End Of Oak Street, PG 13, 10:05 PM

SCREEN 2-106.3 FM
Coyote vs. Acme, PG, 8:15 PM Start time By Any Means, R, 10:15 PM

(217) 698-0066 • www.route66-drivein.com

GOLF RANGE OPEN DAILY FROM 9 AM TO 9 PM



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11th Annual Friends of the Market Street Dinner
September 17, 2026
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Old State Capitol Plaza

BEST OF SPRINGFIELD 2026
Party

Best of Springfield® Party 2026
Thursday, October 29, 2026
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT
BOS Center

MARKETPLACE

HOME AND GARDEN

Garden tilling and grass seeding, gutter cleaning, shrub and tree trimming, lawn mowing, brush removal and landscaping. Black dirt delivered. Clearing of overgrown lots. Serving Springfield and surrounding areas.

217-741-1340



Ron & Paula's Ballroom Dance classes (IN SPRINGFIELD)

Located at
1401 E. Cottonwood Street
(Corner of 14th & Cottonwood)
Tuesdays, September 22 –
October 27, 2026

Basic Samba

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Rhumba II

7:15 – 8:15 pm

All Waltz

8:30 – 9:30 pm

Ron & Paula's Ballroom Dancing

(217)553-0446
(www.RonAndPaulaDance.com).

AUCTION

**3 Rural Tracts:
Online auction
ending
Oct 15 6PM.**

13.99 ac & 19.58
ac R-1, plus 57.27
ac agricultural. 3
mi east of Sherman
or 1 mi north
of Spaulding.
Williamsville School
District. Field Level
Agriculture, Inc.,
Bob Nelson, Broker.
217-241-1102. See
fieldlevelag.com for
details and bidding.

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427 E. Washington St.
Springfield

153 E. Jackson St.
Virden

*Happy Birthday to
These ladies, Love You,
Ashley and Roslyn*



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff(s), vs. DONALD ANDERSON A/K/A DONALD W. ANDERSON, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, CHRISTINA MARIE ANDERSON, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s).

Case No. 26 FC 21
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on October 13, 2026, at the hour of 9:00 AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:
Common Address: 2002 E. KEYS AVE., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
P.I.N. 14-23.0-377-001
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and

improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808
Timothy R. Yuell - ARDC #6192172
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125
Pleadings@nevellaw.com
SL
26-00166
8051-968855

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, 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, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 25-378959
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13292800

PUBLIC NOTICES

Death Claim

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of DOUGLAS L. WOODLEY, Deceased.

IN PROBATE

No. 2026-PR-326

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Douglas L. Woodley, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on September 1, 2026 to Rochelle Coriell as 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 24th 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 2nd day of September, 2026.
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Brandon R. Clark
Registration No. 6329553
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
(217) 544-8491
bclark@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD J. STRODE, DECEASED.

Case #2026-PR-320

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of RICHARD J. STRODE. Letters of Office have been issued to CATHY GRIFFIN. 2018 N. 8th Street, 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 February 10, 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 1st day of September 2026.
William P. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF

LEE A. WOODDELL,

Deceased.

No. 2026-PR-000325

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Lee A. Wooddell, who died on July 24, 2026 in

Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on September 1, 2026 to Mary Kay Wooddell, as Independent Executor, whose attorneys are Bellatti, Barton, Cochran & White, LLC, 944 Clock Tower Drive, Suite A, Springfield, IL 62704.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Complex, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representatives, or both, on or before March 15, 2027 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 representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 2nd day of September, 2026.
Michael G. Barton (6185163)
Bellatti, Barton, Cochran & White, LLC
Attorneys for Independent Executor,
Mary Kay Wooddell
944 Clock Tower Drive, Suite A
Springfield, IL 62704
(217) 793-9300
Email: mbarton@bellatti-barton.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF

LYLE E. HUNSLEY, Deceased

CASE NO. 2026PR324

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of LYLE E. HUNSLEY, Letters of Office were issued on August 31, 2026 to Mark A. Clemens, 509 Parkview Drive, Rochester, IL as Independent Executor whose attorney is Donald M. Craven, 1005 N. 7th Street, Springfield, IL, 62702. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois 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 of the Circuit Court must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
/s/ Donald M. Craven
Donald M. Craven (#6180492)
Attorney for Independent Executor
Donald M. Craven, P.C.
1005 North Seventh Street
Springfield, IL 62702

Telephone: (217) 544-1777
Facsimile: (217) 544-0713

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of

CARRIE J. PILLISCHAFSKE, Deceased.

IN PROBATE

No. 2026-PR-322

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Carrie J. Pillischafske, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on August 27, 2026, to Jill Thornton, 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 17th 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 27th day of August, 2026.
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Brandon R. Clark
Registration No. 6329553
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
(217) 544-8491
bclark@bhslaw.com

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

ESTATE OF:

STEVEN E. WERMCRANTZ,

Deceased

No. 2026PR308

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of STEVEN E. WERMCRANTZ, Deceased. Letters Testamentary were issued on August 25, 2026 to ELIZABETH WERMCRANTZ, as Executor, whose attorney is Katherine E. Perry, Edwards Group LLC, 3223 S. Meadowbrook Road, Suite A, Springfield, IL 62711. Claims against the

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.

Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before March 8, 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 August 26, 2026.
EDWARDS GROUP LLC
David O. Edwards — 6229192
Katherine E. Perry - 6309676
3223 S. Meadowbrook Road, Suite A
Springfield, Illinois 62711
(217) 726-9200
david@edwardsgroupllc.com
katie@edwardsgroupllc.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF:
GLENN R. WERONKO, Deceased
No. 2026PR315
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of GLENN R. WERONKO, Deceased. Letters Testamentary were issued on August 25, 2026 to Mary J. Weronko, as Executor, whose attorney is Katherine E. Perry, Edwards Group LLC, 3223 S. Meadowbrook Road, Suite A, Springfield, IL 62711. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before March 8, 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 August 26, 2026.
EDWARDS GROUP LLC
David O. Edwards — 6229192
Katherine E. Perry - 6309676
3223 S. Meadowbrook Road, Suite A
Springfield, Illinois 62711
(217) 726-9200
david@edwardsgroupllc.com
katie@edwardsgroupllc.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN A. SFORZA, DECEASED.
Case #2026-PR-318
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JOHN A. SFORZA. Letters of Office have been issued to HEATHER R. MILLER, 237 Crystal Lake Road, Groton, CT 06340, 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 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 Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 25th 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 JOSEPH P. PISANI, DECEASED
Case #2026-PR-317
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JOSEPH P. PISANI. Letters of Office have been issued to MARY M. CONTRI, 2720 Meadow Pointe Drive, Springfield, IL 62702, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, on or before March 8, 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 24th 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 the Matter of the Estate of DORIS A. CLARKE, Deceased.
IN PROBATE
No. 2026-PR-314
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Doris A. Clarke, deceased. Letters of Office were issued on August 24, 2026, to Thomas J. Clarke, 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 17th 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 24th day of August, 2026.
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Brandon R. Clark
Registration No. 6329553
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
(217) 544-8491
bclark@bhslaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT 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

Divorce
STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of Kate Abitogun, Petitioner And Michael S. Abitogun, Respondent
Case No. 2026-DN-000134
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Michael S. Abitogun, 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 10th day of October, 2026, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as

prayed for in the Petition.
Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of 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

Name Change
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Daivon Lee DeMartino Jr. For change of name to Von Lee Butler
Case No. 2026-MR-000274
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Oct. 20, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Daivon Lee DeMartino Jr. to Von Lee Butler pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.
Dated: Sept. 3, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Atlas Neil Rodgers For change of name to Atlas Neil Alexander
Case No. 2026-MR-000274
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Oct. 20, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Atlas Neil Rodgers to Atlas Neil Alexander pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.
Dated: Sept. 3, 2026

Foreclosure
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON, STATE OF ILLINOIS
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff(s), vs. DONALD ANDERSON A/K/A DONALD W. ANDERSON, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, CHRISTINA MARIE ANDERSON, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s).
Case No. 26 FC 21
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment heretofore entered by the said Court in the above entitled cause, the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois, will on October 13, 2026, at the hour of 9:00

AM, at the COUNTY BOARD CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, SANGAMON COUNTY COMPLEX, 200 S. 9TH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described premises and real estate in the said Judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:
LOTS 88, 89 AND 90 IN SPAULDING'S SECOND ILLINOIS WATCH FACTORY ADDITION EXCEPT THE SOUTH 67 FEET THEREOF. EXCEPT ALL COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID LANDS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MINE AND REMOVE SAME. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Common Address: 2002 E. KEYS AVE., SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
P.I.N. 14-23.0-377-001
Contact the Law Office of IRA T. NEVEL, LLC, 175 North Franklin, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606, (312) 357-1125, for further information.
The terms of the sale are: Ten percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and balance is due within 24 hours of the sale. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.
The property is improved by a Single Family Residence, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenants thereunto belonging and will not be available for inspection prior to sale.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808
Timothy R. Yueill - ARDC #6192172
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 357-1125
Pleadings@nevellaw.com
SL
26-00166
8051-968855

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.

Situated 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

aprilaman@hswnet.com

8051-968653

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

Cluever Law Group, LLC

200 N. LaSalle St. Suite 1880

Chicago, IL 60601

312-236-0077

courtresults@clueverlawgroup.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, Georgia 30004. (708) 668-4410 ext. 52109. 25-378959

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

intercountyjudicialsales.com

l3292800

Notice by Publication

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS Plaintiff,

Vs.

2021 FORD EXPLORER

VIN # 1FMSK8HC5MGB19054

Damarion Long

No. 26-MX-615

26-AF-32

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. John C. Milhiser, State's Attorney for Sangamon County, filed the above-captioned matter on June 8, 2026. UNLESS YOU file a verified Claim with the State's Attorney of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 402, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, within 45 days of this publication, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT OR DECREE MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR FORFEITURE OF THE ABOVE ASSETS PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS FORFEITURE LAW.

Joe Roesch

Clerk of Court

J.W. Pierceall

Assistant State's Attorney

200 S. 9th Street, Room 402

Springfield, Illinois 62701

(217) 753-6690

Sangamoncounty.SAO.civil@sangamonil.gov

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS Plaintiff,

vs.

2021 FORD EXPLORER

VIN # 1FMSK8HC5MGB19054

Robert Johnson, Jr.

No. 26-MX-615

26-AF-32

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. John C. Milhiser,

er, State's Attorney for Sangamon County, filed the above-captioned matter on June 8, 2026. UNLESS YOU file a verified Claim with the State's Attorney of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 402, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, within 45 days of this publication, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT OR DECREE MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR FORFEITURE OF THE ABOVE ASSETS PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS FORFEITURE LAW.

Joe Roesch

Clerk of Court

J.W. Pierceall

Assistant State's Attorney

200 S. 9th Street, Room 402

Springfield, Illinois 62701

(217) 753-6690

Sangamoncounty.SAO.civil@sangamonil.gov

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

IN THE MATTER OF

Elijah M. Gray, Minor Child

No. 2026-GR-000167

To: Octavis A. Gray and All Persons Having A Right To Notice:

Please be notified that Sari B. Fiscus has filed a Petition for the Guardianship of the Estate and Person of Elijah M. Gray, a minor child.

You are required to answer said Petition before Oct. 3, 2026 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

Dated: Sept. 3, 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.

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

aprilaman@hswnet.com

8051-968502

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

aprilaman@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.

Situated 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

Order of Protection

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

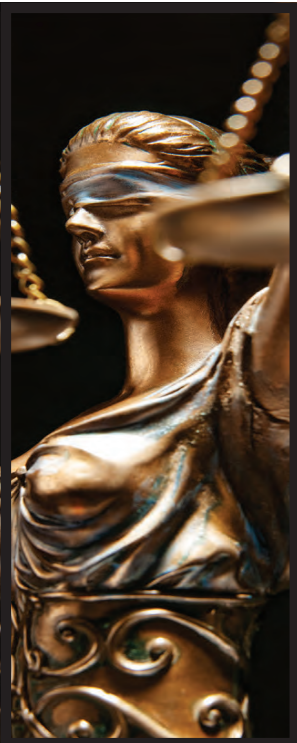
a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
Kelly Elias
Clerk of the Court
Date: Aug. 27, 2026

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of
Trang H. Nguyen, Petitioner
And
Vo Lon Ta, Respondent
Case No. 2026-DN-000123
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Vo Lon Ta, 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 10th day of October, 2026, 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 ESTATE OF BILLIE JOAN KRAMER, Deceased.
NO. 2026PR000323
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of BILLIE JOAN KRAMER, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on September 3, 2026, to Michelle Peters, 19 Craig Drive, Springfield, IL 62711, as Special Administrator, whose attorney is Gregory P. Sgro, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. 6th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Court-house, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 15th 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 3rd day of September, 2026.
Gregory P. Sgro
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP
1119 S. 6th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 789-1200

The Springfield Area Transportation Study (SATS) has prepared the Draft FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a four-year program of federally funded and/or significant road, rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and mass transit projects. The TIP document is on file for public review until October 5, 2026, at the following locations:
• SATS Website, www.sscrpc.com
In Springfield:
• Regional Planning Commission, 200 S. 9th St., Rm 252
• Springfield Mass Transit District Office, 928 S. 9th St

• Lincoln Public Library, 326 S. 7th St., Sangamon Valley Collection
In Chatham:
• Chatham Area Public Library, 600 E. Spruce St.
Comments and questions may be submitted by email at SSCRPC@sangamonil.gov, or in writing by mailing comments to Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission, 200 South 9th Street, Rm 252, Springfield, IL 62701. Written comments will be accepted through October 5, 2026.
A Public Information Meeting will be held during the SATS Technical Committee meeting on Thursday, October 1, at 8:30 AM. Information on how to access the meeting will be available on the website no later than September 24. Contact the Regional Planning Commission at (217) 535-3110 or SSCRPC@sangamonil.gov for more information.
Public notice of public involvement activities and the time established for public review and comment on the TIP will satisfy the Section 5307 Program's of Projects requirements.



**Legals
Deadline,
Thursdays
at 4pm**

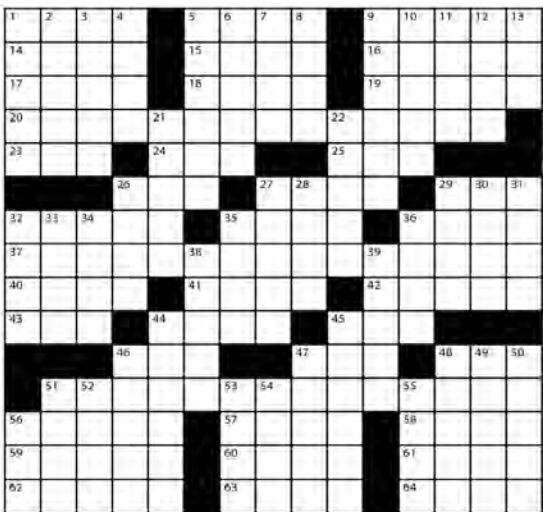
**Call Daron at
217-679-7801
or email
legals@illinoistimes.com**

Break up songs

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 962

Across

1. Allergic reaction
5. "Cast Away" setting
9. Play in the N.H.L.
14. "Beat it!"
15. Couples
16. Cell alternative
17. "___ Like It Hot"
18. Join hands?
19. Clear, as a disk
20. Toni Braxton hit
23. "I" problem
24. Arid
25. Make a scene?
26. Pitch in
27. Hamper contents
29. Farm structure
32. Sour sort
35. Digestion aid
36. Apple leftover
37. Elvis Presley hit
40. Flight data, briefly
41. Afflicts
42. Artist's stand
43. Flipper
44. Decorated, as a cake
45. Nth degree
46. A Beate bride
47. "i" lid
48. Back talk
51. Bill Withers hit
56. British Commonwealth member
57. "Guilty," e.g.
58. First word of "The Raven"
59. Nasdaq offering
60. "___ Lang Syne"
61. Warm, so to speak



62. Free-for-all
63. Amount to make do with
64. Sea eagles
Down
1. Matter of debate
2. Flip-flop
3. Small band
4. Field worker
5. Security checkpoint item
6. Peevish
7. Farm soil
8. Catch a glimpse of
9. Address
10. Gold standard
11. Biology lab supply
12. Makeup, e.g.
13. Before, in poetry
21. Proclamation
22. NHL goalie Dominik
26. Affectation
27. Exercise
28. "Ah, me!"
29. Lushes
30. Branch headquarters?
31. Cry out loud
32. One who takes orders
33. Abominable Snowman
34. Indian bread
35. Cheese on crackers
36. Gently persuade
38. Breakfast sizzler
39. Qualifying races
44. Amount eaten
45. Single-celled organisms
46. In the cooler
47. Some showdowns
48. Lid or lip application
49. From early Peru
50. Equals
51. White chip, often
52. False god
53. Birthstone after sapphire
54. Turn on a pivot
55. Better
56. Philosopher's study

Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #961

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

Sudoku answers from #961

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

JoshJosh answers from #961

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 962

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.

2-			15+			1-
4-	4-			1-		
			2-	1-	108x	
2÷						5+
3÷	3÷			3-	50x	
	3-					

Difficulty hard

Sudoku No. 962

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

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

Difficulty hard

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**WALK
WITH US
TO PREVENT SUICIDE**



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or Donate

**Out of the Darkness
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS WALK**

Saturday, September 26, 2026

12:30 p.m. | UIS - Student Union Bldg.

afsp.org/SpringfieldIL



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**

Illinois

