



IllinoisTimes



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FREE October 15-21, 2026 • Vol. 52, No. 12

Vigilante justice

Millstone the Clown targets people
on the sex offender registry and
those he believes support them

CRIME | Scott Reeder



A poster for the 'Abe's Haunted Hollow' event. The background is a dark, textured grey. On the left, there is a black silhouette of a gnarled tree. In the center, the title 'ABE'S HAUNTED HOLLOW' is written in a large, stylized font. 'ABE'S' is in a light blue, blocky font with a black outline, and a black top hat is perched on the letter 'A'. 'HAUNTED' is in a large, dark blue, serif font with a black outline. 'HOLLOW' is in a light blue, blocky font with a black outline, similar to 'ABE'S'. Above the text is a large, thin, curved line resembling a crescent moon or a comet streak. Below the text is a black silhouette of grass. At the bottom, there is a black rectangular box containing white text. To the right of the text is a small logo featuring a white silhouette of the Lincoln Memorial and a portrait of Abraham Lincoln. Below the logo, the text 'Abraham Lincoln' is written in a cursive script, followed by 'PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM' in a small, sans-serif font, and 'PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov' in a slightly larger, sans-serif font.

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A smiling woman with long brown hair, wearing a white sleeveless dress and a silver watch, is sitting at a wooden table outdoors. She is holding a smartphone in her left hand and a credit card in her right hand. The background shows a green building with large windows and some potted plants.

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UIS to demolish NPR Illinois headquarters

Move to another building on campus creates expenses, opportunities

NPR | Dean Olsen

Plans to demolish the headquarters of Springfield's public radio station and move the station elsewhere on the University of Illinois Springfield campus will create additional expenses for the financially challenged station but also opportunities.

NPR Illinois General Manager Randy Eccles told *Illinois Times* the move will be a "pretty good result" after UIS officials said in a campuswide email Oct. 12 that the university plans to permanently close the WUIS building on July 30.

The email said the demolition is needed because of "failing infrastructure" in the 53-year-old building that includes problems related to plumbing, air conditioning and heating.

The email said NPR – which began broadcasting from the 22,600-square-foot building in 1975 as WSSR, then as WSSU and finally WUIS – will relocate by May 2027 to vacant space in the lower level of the Public Affairs Center near the Sangamon Experience, a local history exhibit.

Eccles said the move to a more prominent location on campus will amount to a "big upgrade" for the station and the potential for advantages in fundraising.

Fundraising has become even more important for NPR Illinois with the federal cutoff of funding for public radio and public TV stations nationwide because of \$1.1 billion in allocations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting that President Donald Trump stopped and Congress later clawed back in the Recissions Act of 2025. The CBP dissolved in January 2026.

NPR Illinois received about \$250,000 per year in federal funding through CBP, representing between 12% to 15% of the station's annual budget. With a current annual budget of about \$1.6 million and radio transmitters in Mechanicsburg and Griggsville, the station broadcasts to a potential audience of 600,000 people in central and west-central Illinois.

UIS spokesperson Blake Wood said the university "remains committed to supporting NPR Illinois and its important role in serving



The WUIS building on the University of Illinois Springfield campus, shown here on Oct. 13, is scheduled to be torn down after the building permanently closes on July 30. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN

Springfield and the region."

The University of Illinois Board of Trustees holds the broadcasting license for NPR Illinois, and the station's staff members are university employees. The station has seen funding from the university drop in recent years.

Direct funding from UIS peaked at \$500,000 in 2015. The amount dropped to about \$351,000 in fiscal 2023, \$220,000 in fiscal 2024 and about \$150,000 in fiscal 2025.

After fiscal 2026 – the last year of a planned five-year funding rampdown, the station was to receive zero direct funding from UIS going forward.

Then, in fiscal 2027, which began July 1, Eccles said the station was surprised and grateful to receive \$174,089 from the UIS Center for State Policy and Leadership. But that's not a long-term commitment.

"The continued funding will be determined on a year-to-year basis," Wood said.

A record level of contributions from the general public almost offset the \$250,000 cut in federal funds last year, but Eccles said financial challenges remain. "We hope that they continue to give," he said.

The station has 10 full-time staff members, down from 15 before the COVID-19 pandemic.

The relocation to a "higher-traffic area of campus" will increase the station's visibility and create "new opportunities for engagement with students, faculty and the broader community," Wood said. "The move also will bring NPR Illinois closer to other UIS programs, including the Center for Lincoln Studies and Sangamon Experience, creating new opportunities for collaboration."

Eccles added, "The real challenge is going to be building this out in the right way."

The Oct. 12 announcement from the university on a closing date for the WUIS building was new information for station staff members but not a total surprise in light

of the university's long-term plans, Eccles said.

"This was going to happen at some point," he said. "This building wasn't going to last."

Wood said the WUIS building was among several original campus structures designed as temporary facilities, with an expected service life of 20 years.

The university doesn't yet have a final cost estimate for demolition, he said. Repairs to the building wouldn't be considered "financially sustainable compared with alternative uses of university resources," he said.

Wood noted that UIS is projecting a \$14 million deficit for the fiscal year that began July 1. The campus hopes to reduce its annual deficit to \$5 million by fiscal 2030 and balance its operating budget by fiscal 2031.

Since 2024, he said, UIS has been putting in place what it calls "NorthStar initiatives" that focus on increasing enrollment, improving retention of students and managing expenses.

The cost of the station's relocation, and how it will be funded, haven't been determined, Wood said. Eccles said it's unknown whether the cost might be covered by the station's regular fundraising efforts or whether additional money will need to be found to cover the move.

The WUIS building also houses the Cox Children's Center, which provides childcare and early childhood education services to UIS students, faculty, staff and the public.

Wood said the center will move those operations to its main building just south of the WUIS building. The center's main location will continue to operate, he said.

NPR Illinois' planned relocation "is an investment in NPR Illinois' future success," Wood said. "The new location will increase the station's visibility on campus, strengthen opportunities for collaboration and community engagement and help position NPR Illinois for long-term viability." □

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

Intricate Minds adds location

Sangamon County has seen a decline in overdose deaths since the harm reduction nonprofit opened

OVERDOSES | Dilpreet Raju

Last year, overdose deaths in Sangamon County decreased for the first time since 2019. So far, 2026 is on pace for another decrease – but fatal overdoses are still expected to outpace other unexpected deaths such as suicide and homicide.

Tiara Standage, founder of harm reduction nonprofit Intricate Minds, thinks her organization’s efforts over the past two-and-a-half years have something to do with the county’s declining number of overdose deaths.

“We keep people alive – we provide life-saving materials for people to stay alive,” Standage told *Illinois Times*. “We see people in active use. We see people who don’t use drugs at all that may have other barriers in their life... they know that they have a safe space to be.”

She reiterated the idea that “there will always be people who use drugs” and they don’t deserve to suffer a preventable death.

Standage, who lost her mother to an overdose, founded Intricate Minds in March 2023. It was initially located on South Grand Avenue East before relocating to a storefront at 619 North Grand Ave. the following year.

Standage recently opened a second Intricate Minds location downtown inside First Presbyterian Church for people experiencing substance use disorder to get safe supplies like Narcan, drug testing strips, hygiene kits, condoms, menstrual products and more. In September alone, her nonprofit provided service and supplies for nearly 400 individuals.

The downtown location is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. while the main location on North Grand Avenue is open from noon through 5:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday and from noon through 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The north-end location is closed on Fridays.

“There’s a common misconception that harm reduction is enabling people who use drugs, but people who use drugs – if they choose to use drugs – they’re going to use drugs anyways,” she said. “All we’re doing is making sure that they have access to safe supplies.”

Intricate Minds will also help connect people to whatever social service an individual may want to utilize, including medication and recovery clinics.



Tiara Standage stands near a pantry donation box outside of Intricate Mind's second location at First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St. PHOTO BY DILPREET RAJU

“I’ve given people clean needles, and I’ve taken people to enter into treatment. It’s just all about where they’re at in their journey, and our job is to meet them where they’re at,” Standage said.

She’s expressed a desire to reduce stigma around drug use, especially for marginalized communities, by getting more people who might shy away from the topic altogether to start carrying opioid overdose-reversing naloxone, the generic version of Narcan.

“Intricate Minds’ main location is in the ZIP code that experiences the most overdose deaths in Springfield, so we are right where we need to be and just trying to expand so that we can provide more access and more education to everyone. Even people who don’t use drugs need that education,” she said. “A lot of people go, ‘Oh, I don’t know anybody that uses drugs so I don’t need Narcan.’ Well, what if you walk into a Qik-n-Ez bathroom and you encounter somebody that’s unresponsive? You can save their life.”

Jennifer Carroll, an associate professor of anthropology at North Carolina State

University who researches substance use and various impacts of drug policy, told *Illinois Times* last year, “We have a total of five evidence-based, well-established, tried-and-true, known overdose prevention strategies.” Those strategies include:

1. Availability of “naloxone for reversing overdoses”
2. Accessibility to “medication for opioid-use disorder”
3. “Syringe service programs for access to all those things – and then it turns out just being in a destigmatizing environment enables people to make all kinds of healthier choices all around”
4. Prevalence of “drug-checking programs, which is also prevention and it helps people essentially know what’s in their supply”
5. “Overdose prevention sites, because that’s a combination of all of those things and it’s a stigma-free environment, so people can be open about what’s happening.” □

Pinball makes a comeback

Vault 66 Pinball opens downtown in response to resurgence of interest

BUSINESS | Adrian Dater

It's a Wednesday night, and most of East Adams Street is quiet. It's been that way much of the time here since the fire of June 19, 2024, that caused several businesses in the 400 block to either close or relocate.

There is one notable exception, however, at 409 E. Adams St. With doors thrust open on this warm October night, lights and sounds emanate to the sidewalk from the 16 pinball machines in one of Springfield's newest businesses, Vault 66 Pinball.

Wednesdays are tournament nights at Vault 66, and inside a digital leaderboard updates, in real time, the latest scores and rankings of the roughly 30 or so competitors. One of them, Katherine Davis, has just put more than 100,000 points on her third and final ball on a Transformers "More Than Meets The Eye" machine, which is enough to vanquish her opponent in the single-game match of the round-robin tourney.

During that third ball, which lasts for about four minutes, Davis swivels her hips as if on a dance floor and tries to seemingly perform acts of telekinesis toward the metal sphere. Her wrists snap in vain when the ball finally drains through the middle.

"That was a good one," says Davis, a native of Danville who is currently ranked seventh in central Illinois as a female player. "It feels like all is right with the world when you're in the zone like that on a good ball. That's the kind of feeling that keeps me playing pinball. I've just always played it, since I was 8 years old."

Pinball, which dates to a mid-18th century French game called *bagatelle*, first became a mechanical game in the 1930s and, soon after, Chicago became the hub of electrified, pinball machine manufacturing. From the 1950s through the early '80s, pinball was the dominant game of choice in arcades



Vault 66 Pinball, located inside the former Café Moxo space at 409 E. Adams St., has 16 machines and offers an all-you-can-play wristband in conjunction with Dumb Records, which has its own arcade in the back of its store. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

throughout the country. When other arcade games proliferated, such as Donkey Kong, Pac-Man and Super Mario Brothers, pinball machines began to be relegated to the back of the-store, often not working properly, or eliminated entirely. The home video game craze that began soon after seemed to be the death knell for pinball manufacturers.

But pinball got off the road to obsolescence and started, seemingly against all odds, to make a comeback around the early 2000s. Today, many arcades are back in business, with pinball as the main attraction, and Springfield is getting a reputation among the state's many enthusiasts as a pinball epicenter.

Such was the hope of Vault 66 Pinball's main proprietor, Chris Nickell, a downtown real estate investor and the CEO of Highland Renewables Inc., who bought a "Lord of the Rings" machine a couple years ago for his family to play in the basement. Soon, Nickell himself became hooked and started buying more machines. With his son, he participated

in a pinball tournament at the Dumb Records store at 418 E. Monroe St. — which had seven machines and other games in the back.

Nickell got to talking with Dumb Records owners Jeff Black and Brian Galecki about an idea: How about a partnership with Dumb Records and the former Café Moxo building just around the block that had been vacant since the fire and add an arcade on the ground floor? Thus, Vault 66 Pinball was born, with Black and Galecki in partnership with Nickell.

"It has overshot our expectations," said Nickell, who owns 11 business and residential properties in Springfield. "I've always had an interest in redeveloping old buildings, and once this one came up for sale, with interest rates still cheap, I bought it and also the one next door. This storefront sat empty and I said, 'You know what, how about an arcade here, with help and expertise from the guys at Dumb?'"

While pinball's demographic tilts heavily toward Baby Boomer or Gen X males, younger

people, perhaps wanting to experience more of an analog life, are playing the machines again. Even new machines are being built, primarily by Elk Grove Village-based Stern Pinball, with most branded to either a movie franchise, music artist or other video games (there is a Pac-Man pinball machine, for instance). A new AC/DC machine, from Stern, debuted on Wednesday.

"Vinyl records started coming back during the pandemic, and I think there are some similarities with pinball," Galecki said. "I think there is some nostalgia for both of them, but pinball never went away completely. During the pandemic, with everybody stuck at home, pinball became sort of a hobby for people — people with some money, obviously. But it's been increasing in popularity to a lot of people in general again, I think."

Customers at Vault 66 Pinball are charged a flat \$10 for all-you-can-play on any of the pinball machines, along with the several arcade games such as Pac-Man and Donkey Kong. The back of the store has a "Stranger Things" pinball machine, inside a room with couches and a spooky neon alphabet sign similar to one in the popular Netflix series. Vault 66 customers can also get a wristband to play as much pinball and arcade games as they want at Dumb Records' store, and vice-versa.

With lots of open space in the back of Vault 66, Nickell is thinking about getting a liquor license and converting it into a bar and lounge area, or perhaps just adding a lot more machines. At first, he was unsure how long he might operate a pinball parlor, but after the first four months or so, he sounded like a man who is in it for the long haul.

"These machines are like works of art. I think the saying is true, that once you get bit by the pinball bug, you're bit for good," Nickell said. □

City Council debates SPD vehicle purchase

POLICE | Maria Gardner Lara

An ordinance to approve the purchase of vehicles for the Springfield Police Department sparked a larger conversation about the city council's role in monitoring city departments' spending during Tuesday's Committee of the Whole meeting.

Some Springfield City Council members called for more use of their power to set policy as others argued for reliance on the mayor's discretion to introduce new programs and allot funding.

The meeting moved quickly with City Clerk Chuck Redpath reading ordinances as Ward 9 Ald. Jim Donelan called each one to a vote. Most items were unanimously approved to be moved to the consent agenda for a final vote at next week's meeting, ranging from \$30,000 for the Springfield Area Art Council to sponsor New Year's Eve festivities downtown to nearly \$3 million for a road construction project.

Then, proceedings became heated in connection to an ordinance for 10 new Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Utility vehicles for the Springfield Police Department at a cost of more than \$620,000.

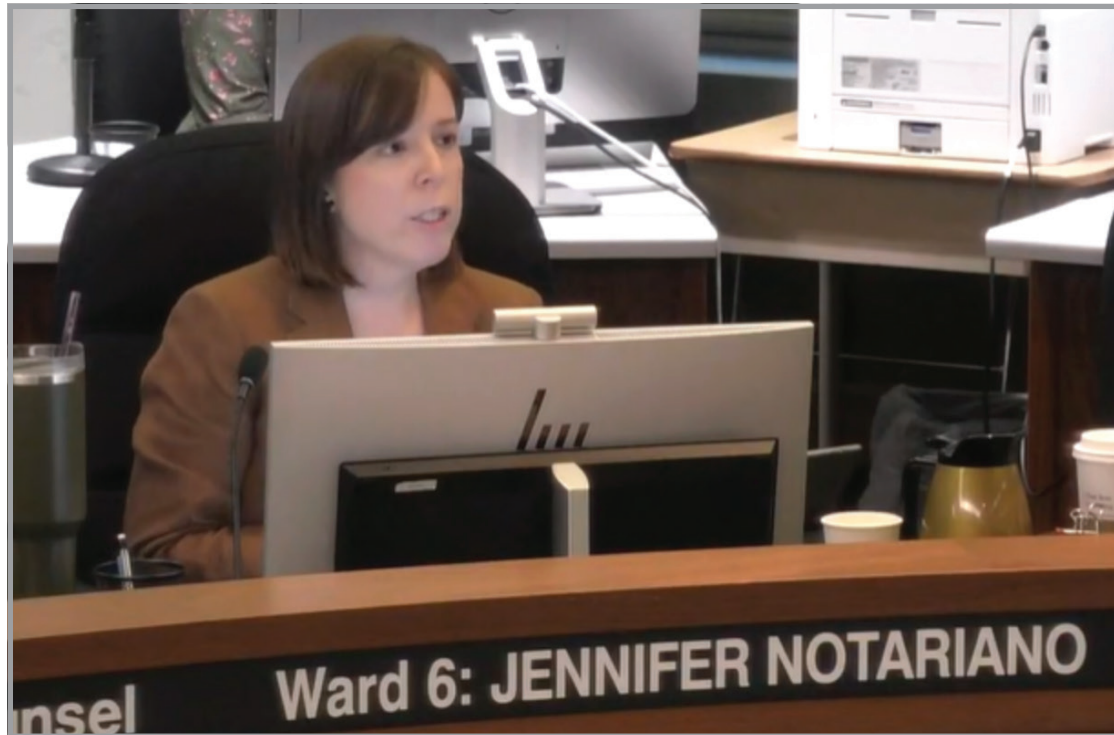
Five of the SUVs were designated for patrolling and another for a K-9 unit. The remaining four were for "admin use" at a lower cost of \$55,426 each.

SPD Chief Joseph Behl said money used to cover the cost includes a Justice Assistance Grant, which are federal dollars administered through the U.S. Department of Justice, and restricted DUI forfeiture funds. This refers to funds generated from the sale of vehicles in the possession of the police department.

The largest share of funds, \$465,000, will come from the city's corporate fund, Behl said.

Ward 6 Ald. Jennifer Notariano saw an opening in Behl's response to bring up a challenge she said she's had in conversations with Mayor Misty Buscher and her administration to find support and funding for a wellness program for the Springfield Police Department.

"It's just interesting to see us use so much money on new vehicles for the police every year, and we can't spare \$75,000 for a program



Ward 6 Ald. Jennifer Notariano spurs debate about the city council's role as it considers approving the Springfield Police Department's purchase of 10 SUVs during the city council's meeting on Oct. 13. SCREENSHOT FROM CITY OF SPRINGFIELD VIDEO

that would help the officers and help the community," Notariano said.

The program she referred to is called Benchmark Analytics, which asserts its system helps "agencies support officers, reduce risk and improve measurable outcomes."

"If we're looking at moving the department into the tech age and actually using our data to improve outcomes and make sure that the officers have the resources they need and we're able to spot problems before they come up, before someone destroys their career with a DUI, that would be wonderful, right?"

Notariano said she's been advocating for the program for several years, initially bringing it up with the former police chief.

"And the most recent excuse that I've been given is that there is no money for this year," Notariano said. "That's why I've been asking to see current expenditures from the budget so that perhaps we would reallocate some money away from something else."

Notariano asked Behl, "Can you speak to the need to replace these admin use interceptors?"

He said the four vehicles will be used by

detectives and will replace the department's Ford Fusions, the mid-size cars they currently operate.

"We're milking them along and trying to get everything we can out of them," Behl said. "But at this point, we're having as many service issues with them as we would be investing in something."

Ward 2 Ald. Shawn Gregory asked the chief on the reason for the switch from cars to SUVs.

"They don't sell them (Ford Fusion, Ford Focus) and the Interceptors on state bid," he said.

Ward 8 Ald. Erin Conley voiced her support for SPD's purchase of new vehicles and called for discussion for funding of a police department wellness program to be a separate debate.

"I want to be real careful that we not conflate that expense with these cars," Conley said. "I've been supporting us getting back into a more regular cycle of buying vehicles. A lot of the people on the horseshoe weren't here for the first term, but we had vehicles where officers were complaining of carbon monoxide issues in the car."

And while other alderpersons expressed their support for the police, questions regarding the ordinance continued.

"How many miles are usually on a car (till we) scrap it?" said Ward 10 Ald. Ralph Hanauer.

"It just depends," Behl said. "Some of them last quite a while – 115, 120, 130,000, which, of course, for a regular car, that's probably not too bad. For a squad car, it runs a lot, sometimes 24 hours a day."

Hanauer continued, "This year alone, how many vehicles have we lost or have gotten too old or had accidents?"

Behl said he wasn't sure, but estimated more than 10 over the last 12 months.

Hanauer said he thought any new initiatives, such as the wellness program, "should come from the police department and the administration."

Later in the discussion, Hanauer said the council couldn't force the administration to spend money on the program, although he thought it was a good idea.

"And, there's not a dang thing that we on this council can do about it," he said. "That's the purpose of the strong mayor form of government."

In contrast, Notariano argued "it is this council's responsibility to have oversight over the police department, believe it or not, and also to set policy for the police department, believe it or not."

Ward 3. Ald. Roy Williams commended the alderpersons for their line of questions and shared a view of the council's job as an oversight body.

"If you're going to be the chief or the department head, you've got to come with your homework," Williams said.

"And there's nothing wrong with us asking questions. We should ask questions because we're lopsided right now. Everything goes to a couple of departments. The rest are suffering."

The ordinance for new vehicles for the police department and a renewal contract for ShotSpotter, an acoustic surveillance system that detects gunfire, are scheduled to be voted on at next week's City Council meeting. □

Landlord registry would harm tenants

GUESTWORK | Lawrence Criscione

A landlord registry in Springfield will vastly increase rents for many low-income tenants.

Consider this scenario: A man buys a house in 2016 for \$45,000. It has a family living in it who were paying \$650 a month to the previous owner. The new owner keeps them on as his tenants at the same rent. His property taxes are \$1,678 a year and his casualty insurance is \$452 a year.

In 2018, the family separates, quits paying rent and are evicted. The landlord spends two years remodeling the property, completely gutting the kitchen and bathroom in order to repair structural termite damage. He spends about \$25,000 on the repairs and remodeling, which included a new furnace, central air and a new hot water heater.

Despite all that spending, the market rate for rent has only increased to \$700 a month by 2020, so he rents the house to a family at that rate. His property taxes are now \$2,008 and his casualty insurance is \$653. So he's getting virtually no return on the \$25,000 he spent to maintain the property.

By 2026, his property taxes are \$2,369 and his casualty insurance is \$1,304. The market rent should be \$1,300, but his tenants are still only paying \$700. Why? Because the landlord is not a greedy jerk. He's not comfortable raising the rent on a family who has been faithfully paying their rent every month, even though his expenses have gone up.

It's not that, on some level, the landlord isn't greedy. If the tenant moves out, the landlord will not be re-renting the house at \$700. He will be re-renting it at \$1,300 – the market rate. There's no conflict in advertising a house for rent at the market rate. It's not the same as telling a family currently living in your house that you are raising their rent from \$700 to \$1,300 just because the market will bear it.

But, as long as the family from 2020 is still there in 2027 and beyond, they will probably be paying well below market rate for the



ADOBE STOCK IMAGE

foreseeable future – unless a landlord registry is implemented. A landlord registry vastly changes things for the landlord, which results in the costs being transferred to the tenants.

First off, there is the annual registration fee to fund the inspection. The recent *Illinois Times* cover story ("Housing is a human right," Oct. 1) mentions similar ordinances have resulted in fees of around \$75 to \$200. That is not very difficult to absorb, but the fee is the tip of the iceberg. The real cost is in fixing the inspection findings.

In 2016, I was cited by the city of Springfield for chipping paint on the eaves of a two-story house. I wasn't comfortable dangling from a 30-foot ladder to strip and repaint the eaves, so I called several professional painters. The lowest bid was \$6,000. It might seem like a lot, but the nature of the house prevented the work from being done via a man-lift and thus the painters took into account the hazards of the work.

I wasn't about to pay \$6,000 to have my eaves painted, so I spent nearly \$6,000

purchasing scaffolding and did the painting myself. But, one way or another, it cost me \$6,000 to address the chipping paint.

A landlord who spends thousands of dollars fixing deficiencies that, in the past, were just lived with, is going to be passing those expenses onto the tenants – even though it's not the tenants who are forcing the items to be repaired.

That family paying \$700 a month on a house that can fetch a market rate of \$1,300 a month will soon be paying significantly more under a landlord registry. A \$6,000 expense averages out to \$500 a month. Add that to the \$700 a month rent and the tenant is paying \$1,200 a month. If they don't like it, they can move out and the landlord will find a tenant at \$1,300 a month.

I bought my first rental property in Springfield in 2003 and currently own 22 houses. So far, city inspectors have never been inside one of my properties. I can only imagine what will occur once they start inspecting houses that are more than a century old.

In the March 18, 2021, issue of *Illinois Times* there was an article highlighting the blistering porch paint on one of my rental properties and pictures of chipping ceiling paint. After five years, I still haven't repainted anything. But the tenants are paying just \$550 a month even though in 2022 I spent \$15,000 replacing their roof and the market rate for their property has climbed to \$1,300 a month.

Under a landlord registry, I will likely be required to address the paint – but I won't be bearing the cost of that. If my expenses go up dramatically, the rent will need to go up.

It's not easy looking a tenant in the eye and telling them you are raising their rent because they are below market rate and you are a greedy jerk who wants more money. But it is very easy to tell them that you need to raise their rent by \$200 a month because the annual city inspection just cost you \$2,400 in repairs, even though the tenants never asked for

the inspection or the mandated repairs.

The proposed landlord registry essentially removes a layer of choice away from both the tenant and the landlord. Currently, the tenant can choose to strip and paint themselves if they don't like the condition of their premises. Or, they can just live with the chipping paint and continue paying below market rent. Or, they can move to a better-maintained property and pay market rent. Under the registry, allowing the landlord to defer maintenance and keep the rent low will not be a choice.

Hopefully, any ballot initiative will clearly advertise what is being voted upon: an increase to municipal staffing. A landlord registry sounds like a revenue-neutral concept, but, as the article makes clear, it will require increasing the number of city inspectors. For many tenants, a landlord registry will not be a godsend – it will be a disaster. □

Lawrence Criscione is a Springfield resident and retired nuclear engineer. He has been a landlord in Springfield since 2003 and currently has 22 rental houses.

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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 LANDLORD REGISTRY

While Molly Wallace was gathering information for her article, there were many tenants and employees who work with or for landlords who were afraid to come forward (“Housing is a human right,” Oct. 1). Fear of retaliation from landlords and real estate agents here in this city is very real. This is why we need regular inspections and licensing so tenants can have their requests for decent living conditions addressed without fear of being evicted or priced out of their homes. One landlord has been reported to have pushed long-term tenants living in the downtown area out of their homes just so higher rents could be put in place. Turnover from one corporation to another has also resulted in long-term tenants losing their homes, going without utilities during the turnover or being priced out.

No one should be forced to live in substandard conditions out of fear. If a landlord can't afford \$25 a year for a license and \$2 a month for each unit, perhaps they don't have the ability to properly take care of their properties. If they are worried about license fee hikes (tenants have to live with this fear of price increases) the city can stipulate hikes can only occur if put to a city ballot.

Being a landlord is a business that directly impacts people lives. What if we stopped restaurant and nursing home inspections and licensing? It's time we stand up to these intimidation tactics and start maintaining basic standards for living conditions.

Homeowners are angry at how their neighborhoods are decaying from landlords who lack either the ability or ethics to maintain their properties. Let's shape a licensing program that rewards local landlords who are invested and dedicated to this community and prevent unengaged landlords from making a quick profit and dumping their neglect onto the city.

We must also address recent signs that claim a landlord licensing and inspection program will raise taxes. This begs the question, “Why should we believe or trust anything they say?” The Kansas City program is financed by the fees collected through its licensing program. These signs show that there are landlords in town who cannot be trusted and therefore definitely need inspections on a regular basis.

Anne Logue
Springfield



Dan Atteberry has lived on South Douglas Avenue for four decades. He says the four-unit apartment building across the street used to be a nice place to live, but the condition of the property and quality of the tenants has deteriorated under the last two owners. Now he takes it upon himself to clean up trash around the property every week. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

USE CURRENT RULES

Could somebody explain how a landlord registry will make a difference? We already have property owners or their agents listed at the county assessor office. Ownership, or agent of owner, should be sufficient enough for formal notifications.

We already have building codes and enforcement capability. Documenting violations and notifying the responsible party with a deadline to make corrections should be sufficient enough to justify further action if notices are ignored.

What value does a separate registry provide? Is it a revenue scheme, making landlords pay a fee for a listing on a registry in an office where they are compelled to register? Is it a jobs expansion of government staff to collect, monitor, update and forward communications?

If building codes are not sufficiently enforced now, what is it about a special list of information already available that will compel compliance? Every time I hear a legitimate-sounding hard luck story about an innocent tenant mistreated by an evil landlord, it sounds like something that could and should be handled under current law and enforcement processes.

I support the goal of adequate, safe housing. I just don't think making a list and checking it twice will have anywhere near the impact that active code enforcement will have. So why aren't landlords being held to the current standards for building codes?

John Levalley
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

VERY NEEDED

This is so desperately needed in this town. The poorest among us are often forced into substandard housing, and landlords abuse the fact there is no tenants' union in Springfield.

Carey Smith
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

RENTS WILL GO UP

I hope everyone on both sides understand the price of housing will go up. This is not the direction that will ultimately help tenants.

Robert Young
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

SUCCESS NOT A CRIME

The ultimate problem is, the city already has all the resources it needs to address problem properties, it just wants more power and control. How dare someone be successful and own and maintain properties to rent out at a profit.

Justin Phillips
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

Parody

Will IT publish scurrilous verses? We sang this as kids, to the well-known tune of Dvorak's Humoresque: “Passengers will please refrain/ From flushing toilets while the train/ Is standing in the station la de da; Little men with gunny sacks must pick the refuse off the tracks/ So please don't complicate their situation!”

Jacqueline Jackson

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OPINION

Comments raise eyebrows

POLITICS | Rich Miller

Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch raised some eyebrows after he attended a meeting in suburban River Forest to talk about the proposed “O’Hare Flyer” project, which would run express commuter trains back and forth from downtown Chicago to O’Hare Airport.

Welch told attendees he could prevent two state agency budgets from moving forward if he didn’t get what he wanted out of the project for towns in and around his district.

Some residents of suburban towns along the route have expressed concern about the project, particularly noise concerns, and one person asked Welch at the meeting how opponents could stop the project or at least make it more difficult to complete.

“I can make it a little difficult,” Welch replied. According to the Oak Park Wednesday Journal, Welch pointed to the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois Commerce Commission and said he could “let ’em know that your budgets can be held up at budget time, if you do things to negatively impact the communities that I represent.”

It seems kinda doubtful that the other Democratic leaders would agree to hold up IDOT’s huge budget over this, particularly since state money will play almost no role in the building of the project. The ICC’s main role in this project would be to approve railroad crossings. And railroads have an extraordinary amount of powers under federal law. If they want to build this with federal government help, it’s tough to stop them.

In other words, it was a lot like the playbook Welch used this year when he told the Chicago Teachers Union that he would take the lead on Chicago school funding during the veto session, and then later said he wanted a solution for all schools and then seemed to quietly drop the whole topic.

Welch signaled as much when he said, “I want to hear the good. I want to hear the bad,” according to the Oak Park paper. “I’m hearing from people in other communities that are in opposition. But I’m also hearing from people that are in support of this.”

So, perhaps the usual political bluster. But publicly threatening to hold up entire agency budgets over non-budget disagreements is not a common occurrence for a House speaker. That’s saying the quiet part out loud and it rarely works well.

Since I mentioned the Chicago Teachers Union earlier in this column, let’s get back to them.

As I’ve told you before, the CTU has been claiming that the state has more money for schools than it’s letting on. And as part of that argument, the union is demanding at least a billion dollars from the state during November’s veto session. That’s what Welch was responding to when he agreed to lead the charge for state funding next month.

And the CTU did so again after the release of a quarterly revenue report issued by the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability.

COGFA reported robust quarterly growth in corporate income taxes and some other revenue sources totaling about \$1 billion. But the commission’s report also warned: “While the first quarter produced strong revenue gains, several factors are expected to place downward pressure on revenues during the remainder of FY 2027 and could offset a significant portion of the gains realized thus far.”

For example, the Income Tax Refund Fund will be “\$649 million lower” than last fiscal year, with the largest reductions coming in October and November. And another \$349 million will be lost to the “annual reconciliation of business-related income tax receipt” which

are known as “true-ups.” Another \$265 million could be at least temporarily lost because of lawsuits filed against several new online-related taxes that were put into the budget.

The commission is also not convinced that the unexpected growth in corporate income taxes and sales taxes will continue, so “additional time and data are needed before the Commission updates its FY 2027 revenue outlook.”

The bottom line is that it could be quite dangerous to the budget to add a billion dollars in new spending before legislators even know how much money will actually flow into state coffers by late spring.

Welch’s upcoming reelection as House speaker is still in doubt, so numerous media outlets have claimed his nod to the CTU was an effort to bolster his position. But the O’Hare express train has support from several powerful Statehouse groups, especially trade unions, which is a big reason why it’s doubtful that those agency budgets will be stalled next spring.

So, Welch’s bluster might help him a bit back in his district, but likely not under the dome when he fights to retain the speaker’s gavel in January. □

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Ghosts

Might the Hickox house come to life – again?

KROHE | James Krohe Jr.

You know how some movie stars are when they try to make a comeback. Yeah, they're a little old now, and not all the plastic surgery worked and that last movie bombed. But with some new kinds of roles, a good script and director, a new generation might come to appreciate what she can do. All she needs is the right manager.

More than a couple of owners have tried to manage a comeback for one of downtown Springfield's faded beauties, the Virgil Hickox house on Capitol Avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets. The old place might soon get a new owner with new plans to turn the 188-year-old building into news by turning it into event space, a B&B, apartments, maybe even bringing back Norb Andy's from the dead. Why not? The White Sox came back. Even the convention center is coming back.

The Hickox house was one of the first of the houses of local swells to be built on what became known as Aristocracy Hill. Downtown in the modern sense then stood blocks to the north – not a place of department stores and diners but rail yards and factories. Not all the bad smells in Springfield in the old days came from the Statehouse so the rich built their houses south and west where the prevailing winds blew away the coal smoke and stinks.

The family left and the upstairs parts of the house were being rented as early as 1894, but even during the years when the basement was buzzing the rest of the house wasn't. The main floor attracted hopeful entrepreneurs like conch shells attract hermit crabs – a social club, a music shop, a funeral home, a dance studio, a furrier. None thrived for long.

By the time the do-gooders banned booze in 1920, the Hickox House was just a rundown old house. A speakeasy that operated out of its basement during Prohibition couldn't help but make money, standing as it did between two of the big downtown hotels full of thirsty lawmakers and conventioners. In 1937 that space became home to a legit tavern by one Norbert Anderson. He called it Norb Andy's Tabarin, after the Bal Tabarin (which can be translated into English as "fool's ballroom"), a Parisian cabaret from the Belle Epoque made famous in this country by an imitator that opened in 1931 in San Francisco. Ordinarily any merchant who asks Springfield to pronounce French is asking for trouble, and Anderson's newspaper ads spelled



The property built by Virgil Hickox in 1839 at 518 E. Capitol Ave. was boarded after being damaged by a fire in February.
PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS

it "ta bar in" to help the yokels.

The name was the only way that his place resembled the originals. His version offered no floor shows or naughty business on the side. As for the menu, Norb's in the 1960s offered "filet mignon" for \$2.50 (definitely a bargain, although whether it was a filet mignon I can't say) and the beer was no worse than everywhere else in town in those days.

Didn't matter. Food and drink were not why people went there. Basically, Norb's was the white-collar version of the neighborhood tavern where the guys from the plant – in this case legislators, lobbyists, Statehouse staff, journalists, lawyers – would drop by after their shift to gossip and plot and kvetch. It had regulars and the regulars had "their" tables; what made the place interesting was who else might be there, who once in a while was a governor.

I have very little experience as a businessman, apart from helping to put a couple of magazines out of business. Nonetheless, it seems to me that any attempt to resurrect Norb Andy's as it used to be will be, uh, difficult. A big reason for Norb's success was location – not just the location of the building but the location of its customers.

Norb's was a great place for a lunch or an after-work drink for people who lived or worked downtown because they could walk there and wobble back to the desk in just minutes. Norb's 2.0 and 3.0 did not fail because the owner changed or the bartender or the menu changed, in short. It failed because the neighborhood changed.

Plus, the property has its problems, in addition to the recent fire damage. The old pile of brick is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for historic rather than architectural reasons but its history, while interesting, is not unique among downtown's buildings. Its setting lacks charm and there's no parking. While money has been put into the place in recent years – it looks better than it has for decades – remodels have left it a bit of a Frankenstein's monster. Some say the place is haunted by the ghosts of the dead from the old funeral parlor upstairs but I'd bet they are the ghosts of Norb's and all the other dead businesses that were born and died there in so much hope. □

James Krohe was an irregular patron of Norb Andy's in the 1980s.

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Panel: Kathy Johnson (Springfield), former U.S. diplomat

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Vigilante justice

Millstone the Clown targets people on the sex offender registry and those he believes support them

CRIME | Scott Reeder



Jeff Bast, who runs a Facebook page as Millstone the Clown, outside the Scott County Courthouse in Winchester on Sept. 15. He and his supporters often hold “Protect Our Children” rallies while court cases are occurring for people accused of sexual crimes against minors. PHOTO FROM MILLSTONE THE KLOWN FACEBOOK PAGE

Jeff Bast, who goes by Millstone the Clown on social media, says he is protecting children. His online following has brought scrutiny to people on the sex offender registry – and fear and lost work to people around them.

Lucy Reid took down the signs in broad daylight.

They had been posted around Winchester for weeks, calling attention to a child sexual abuse case. Reid understood the anger behind them. But the signs seemed to be everywhere, and she had grown weary of seeing her hometown defined by the worst thing alleged to have happened there.

She expected the person who put them up to be upset. She did not expect strangers to call her a “pedophile protector” or contact Our Town Books in Jacksonville, where she worked as a bookseller. Reid said the store was deluged with calls threatening demonstrations outside the shop unless it cut ties with her. One man contacted an author scheduled to appear there and the store’s book distributor.

Reid was placed on unpaid leave. When she asked to return, she said, the answer was: “No, not yet.”

Then a video began circulating online among some of Millstone the Clown’s followers showing the entrance to the building where Reid lived. She said another video named her and referred to bringing pepper spray and a knife on a future visit. She worried about her 14-year-old son coming over.

One morning, a wood chipper was parked nearby.

In the 1996 film *Fargo*, a murderer feeds a body into a wood chipper, leaving a leg visible as a police officer approaches. The scene gave the machine a gruesome place in popular culture. Reid said commenters on the Millstone the Clown Facebook page suggested she should be thrown into one. She did not know why the machine was parked near her home. With videos showing her door circulating online, its presence frightened her.

“All I did was pull down some signs,” Reid said.

After seven weeks out of work, Reid returned to the bookstore part time the week of Oct. 5. Store owners Alex and Christina Helmich did not respond to a request for comment from *Illinois Times*.

Llaina Groves, owner of Llaina’s Dance & Gym in Jacksonville, said Bast posted a claim linking her husband and business to an alleged sex offender. Groves said he had the wrong person. Bast later posted an apology, she said, but people had already reacted to the accusation. She went to the police because she feared what strangers might do.

When Groves arrived at work Sept. 25, she found “DPDRE” spray-painted on the parking lot in front of the entrance, an abbreviation for “Dead Pedophiles Don’t Reoffend.” The identity of the person who painted them is not known.

Their experiences expose a question larger than one dispute in one small town. Public sex offender registries were created to give people information about convictions. Online, that information can also become a call to punish employers, co-workers and anyone seen as defending them. The consequences reach people who committed serious crimes, people trying to keep a business open and, as both women learned, people with no connection to the registry at all. Whether such campaigns protect children depends on what they accomplish after the crowd arrives.



Jeff Bast, who goes by Millstone the Clown online, started a Facebook page earlier this year to call out people on area sex offender registries and those he believes support them. PHOTO BY SCOTT REEDER

The man behind the mask

Jeff Bast, a 56-year-old Macoupin County man, calls himself Millstone the Clown. Wearing a creepy clown mask, he carries a sign that reads, “Dead Pedophiles Don’t Reoffend” and sells merchandise with that slogan. His Facebook page identifies people accused or convicted of sexual offenses, along with those he believes support them, and publicizes court cases.

Bast said the idea came from a California campaigner he saw on Facebook. The man wore a clown mask to draw attention to his signs, Bast said, and inspired him to bring the approach to Illinois. His Millstone the Clown Facebook page, which launched this summer, has already amassed 11,000 followers.

Bast’s clown name comes from Matthew 18:6. Jesus of Nazareth warns that anyone who causes “one of these little ones – those who believe in me – to stumble” would be better off with “a large millstone hung around their neck” and drowned in the sea.

Bast said he does not attend church. “I’m not really a religious person, but I’m very spiritual,” he said. When the interviewer suggested that the verse did not literally say what Bast’s sign says, Bast agreed. “It’s what everybody perceives it as,” he said. “And perception is reality pretty much anymore.”

Bast said he has never been sexually abused. He described his childhood as “normal” and free of that harm. He and his wife have no children, but he said accounts of children who have been abused – and his belief that the law has failed them – draw him to demonstrations across central Illinois.

He calls the people who follow his page “supporters.” He estimates that he receives around 120 messages a day, many asking him to examine a case or expose someone. He cannot pursue every request. A post, however, often prompts his followers to call a business, leave comments or demand that it stop employing someone.

Bast’s page has also asked supporters for

money to help pay for a concealed carry permit. In his interview, he said he does not carry a gun, though he carries pepper gel and a knife. He described an earlier militia group, the Illinois Sentinels, that met and trained at his home.

“I’ve got a shooting range,” he said. “We used to train there.” Bast said the group did not last long.

He says his campaign is about justice, not vengeance. Asked what his sign means, Bast called for the death penalty for people who sexually abuse children and said he wants the U.S. Supreme Court ruling barring execution for child rape when the victim was not killed overturned.

“There’s no reason they should be out in the public,” he said. “They’re suckling off the state now for the rest of their life instead of facing the death penalty.”

While some of the shirts he sells on his Facebook page simply bear the message “Protect our children,” others have a darker tone. New Halloween-themed offerings include “Save a pumpkin – smash a pedo” with an image of a boot and skull, along with an orange shirt that reads “Curbstomp your local pedophile” with an image of a boot print.

A baker’s second life

Long before Mike Edwards became a target of Bast’s campaign, he was a boy helping his mother and grandmother in the kitchen. By sixth grade, he wanted to be a cook. He trained at Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island, became a chef and eventually taught culinary arts to high school students in Ohio.

There, Edwards committed a sexual offense involving one of his students. He was 48 years old at the time. He said the record lists her as 16, but that she was 17 when the offense occurred. The distinction matters to him; it does not change the authority he held as her teacher. He served about two years in prison and says he has remorse for what he did.

Edwards described himself at the time as an alcoholic, struggling with his mental health and distant from his faith. He does not offer those circumstances as an excuse. “I made a choice that was against the law,” he said.

He said corrections officers spat on him in prison, another prisoner threatened him and he witnessed a man’s head being smashed in. He also underwent counseling and asked himself why he had committed the offense. He says he has been sober for more than 12 years.

After prison, Edwards moved back to Illinois, registered as required and found work baking at the Apple Barn near Chatham in 2016. He said he disclosed his conviction and checked with the Macoupin County Sheriff’s

Department, where he lives, before taking the job. Edwards purchased a part-ownership stake in the business in 2019 and increased his share in 2021.

“I’ve always been upfront and honest with every employer or every person that my past could produce a negative result like it has now,” he said.

On Sept. 1, Bast made multiple posts on his Millstone the Clown Facebook page about Edwards’ employment at the Apple Barn, writing: “You hire a known pedophile, we boycott your business and spread it far and wide that the communities (sic) kids are not safe anywhere around this establishment. Shut down the Apple fest NOW!!!” Another post included Edwards’ photo and information from the sex offender registry, with Bast asking his followers to “Give them a review on their page. Share it. Shut down this apple fest this fall.” More than 180 people shared that post and calls to boycott Apple Barn began to widely circulate on social media.

Bast saw the Apple Barn as a place where Edwards could encounter children. Families visited, and the business sometimes hosted school trips.

“He’s a partner,” Bast said. “He could have cameras set up.” Bast offered no evidence that Edwards had done so. He also called Edwards’ presence in public a kind of “grooming.”

Edwards said he took care to limit his interactions with minors and did not have underage employees work alone with him in the bakery. He rejects the idea that every person on the registry will offend again. Some people he encountered in prison posed grave risks, he said, but most want to comply with the law, work and move on. Edwards estimates that “95% of us” follow the law.

Edwards said the store began receiving pressure to disassociate itself from him. The Apple Barn closed in mid-September while a sale of the business was in progress.

Edwards said the online pressure accelerated the closure and left nine workers without jobs. He said an Apple Barn worker was verbally confronted in a grocery store over that business’s controversy.

“We closed for the protection of the staff,” he said. “The sooner we closed, the sooner the lynch mob stopped.”

He blames Bast for the sudden end of the business as he knew it, though the sale was also part of the decision. Edwards said the sale of the business is now final, and while he declined to identify the buyer, he said he expects the store to reopen soon.

The Apple Barn’s employees were caught in the public arguments. On the morning of her last shift, bakery worker Mary Wichmann wrote in a public Facebook post, “I am a regular person who is allowed to be upset about losing my livelihood.”

Wichmann had started at the store four years earlier, expecting to leave for college. A temporary opening in the bakery revealed a talent she had not known she had. She stayed, studied baking and pastry arts, and came to think of her co-workers as family. Now the job that had changed her life has ended.

Wichmann remembered the long hours filling Thanksgiving orders and co-workers willing to try her new recipes. She acknowledged that the workplace had its flaws.

“But it was mine,” she wrote. “And I will miss it for a very, very long time.”

A family at the courthouse

The anger behind the demonstrations Bast holds is real. Lisa says her daughter was sexually abused by a man she had trusted. The man has been accused and was being held while the case proceeded, Lisa said. Her daughter has been working through the trauma in therapy. *IT* is not using Lisa’s full name to protect her daughter’s identity.

“She is a strong little girl,” Lisa said outside the Scott County Courthouse in Winchester during a Sept. 15 rally, where she stood with Bast and several other protesters.

Lisa and her friend, Michelle Dahl, have helped organize Protect Our Children rallies. They want officials to take allegations seriously and pursue accountability. “We just wanna make sure nothing’s swept under the rug,” Dahl said.



Mike Edwards was placed on the Ohio sex offender registry in 2013 for having a sexual relationship with one of his female students. The Apple Barn in Chatham was deluged with public ire after Millstone the Clown made posts noting that Edwards was a part owner. The business closed in September and has now changed hands. PHOTO BY SCOTT REEDER

Wearing his scary clown mask and carrying a placard that reads “Dead Pedophiles Don’t Reoffend,” Bast is the most noticeable person at such protests outside various courthouses. He has led protests in county seats across central Illinois: Winchester, Carlinville, Lewistown and Taylorville.

While Bast said Facebook analytics show 30% of his followers are in the Springfield area, he has yet to lead a protest outside the Sangamon County courthouse. He said it’s partly because the county has so many sex offense cases, as well as the logistics.

“It’s hard to get up there, honestly. It’s a little bit of a drive for me,” he said. “And a lot of people from Sangamon County don’t reach out.”

But he is hosting his first Springfield event on Oct. 17, a trunk or treat at American Legion Post 32 on Sangamon Avenue. Are his courthouse protests effective?

Morgan County State’s Attorney Gray Noll says they shouldn’t be. “Look, I try cases the same way whether it gets a lot of media attention or it doesn’t. I only have one client – the people of the state of Illinois. My job is to see that justice is done – no matter whether I’m being watched or not.”

Jamie Mosser, president of the Illinois State’s Attorneys Association, agrees that public pressure should not change how a case is handled. But prosecutors and judges are elected, she noted, and “people are fallible.” She said the hope is that they do their jobs to achieve justice, rather than to keep their jobs.

Mosser sees another potential consequence at the courthouse door, which jurors use as well.

“If jurors are coming into the courthouse while this is happening, and it feels intimidating to them, a juror may be more likely to find somebody guilty,” she said.

Bast says he shows up when people ask for his support. He worries that defendants accused of harming children may be released while families live with the consequences. Asked whether someone who commits a sexual offense can change, he answered, “Not really, no.”

State Sen. Steve McClure, R-Springfield, a former prosecutor, insists that any discussion of an offender’s future must account for the person harmed.

“If someone commits a sex crime, the victim or victims have to face the consequences of that crime for the rest of their lives,” he said.

He believes parents and employers should be able to use registry information to protect children.

“There has to be a balance,” he said,

“but you always have to err on the side of public safety.”

Reid, the woman who took down the signs in Winchester, does not object to a family gathering supporters outside a courthouse. She objected to the signs filling her town – and to the conclusion that removing them meant she supported abuse.

“Most abuse victims just want to move on and not think about it every 50 feet driving down Main Street,” she said.

What a registry can tell us

David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire, said a registry entry alone tells little about a person’s likelihood of another offense. Some offenders have a persistent sexual interest in prepubescent children, a serious risk factor. Others offended under different circumstances. Prior offenses, broader criminal history, attitudes toward the harm done, relationships and impulse control also matter.

Depending on those factors, Finkelhor said, estimated rates of sexual reoffending can range from as low as 5% for some groups to more than 50% for others. Those group estimates do not predict what any single individual, such as Edwards, will do. Finkelhor said the rate across the full range of people who have committed sexual offenses against children is relatively low.

The word “pedophile” is often stretched beyond its clinical meaning, Finkelhor said. Using it for every person convicted of a sexual offense against a minor may express outrage, but it does little to distinguish one person’s risk from another’s.

Finkelhor understands the appeal of Bast’s campaign.

“Being a champion of children,” he said, “makes you seem very righteous and popular.” A person warning others about an offender can “feel like you’re a white hat.”

Finkelhor cautioned against letting that certainty replace the work of courts and the officials monitoring people after release.

Kristen Budd, a sociologist and analyst for the Sentencing Project, a criminal justice reform group, has studied sex offense policy for about two decades. She said research challenges the assumption that someone who has offended will always offend again. She cited an analysis of more than 7,000 people showing that even among those initially assessed as high risk, the likelihood of another sexual offense declined the longer they lived in the community without one.

Budd said housing and employment help people remain crime-free. Harassing someone at work can destabilize that person, the employer and coworkers.

“If you want people to come home and

you want your communities to be safe,” she said, factors that matter include employment and housing.

Wanda Bertram, who studies incarceration policy and works for the nonprofit Prison Policy Initiative, said most studies she has examined found no significant reduction in new sexual offenses after public registration requirements were adopted. Some found higher rates, she said, although that does not establish that any particular registry or online campaign caused an individual to offend. Bertram’s concern is that public exposure can make work and housing harder to keep.

None of the experts who spoke to *Illinois Times* have assessed Edwards personally. Their shared point is that a list of convictions cannot substitute for an assessment of an individual’s risk.

Life after the crime

Bast is easy to understand at a courthouse. Lisa’s account of her daughter’s suffering gives his cause urgency. He is harder to understand at a bookstore, where Reid lost her income after removing signs she was tired of seeing. She is not on a sex offender registry.

Edwards committed a serious crime against a student under his authority. He served his sentence and remains subject to the registry. He asks whether compliance, years of work and a life without another accusation can ever count for anything.

Karen Swanson, director of the Correctional Ministries Institute at Wheaton College, believes accountability and restoration must both be possible.

“What does this person have to do to receive redemption?” she asked. Bast’s view, she said, appears to leave no path.

Swanson also questions his use of a biblical name. Scripture speaks of “forgiveness, restoration, redemption for everyone, not just people without a sex offense,” she said. That does not require a survivor to forgive. It asks what society expects someone who has completed a sentence to do next.

“A lot of times too, we want justice, accountability, punishment, unless it comes to us,” Swanson said. “Then we want mercy, redemption, forgiveness.”

Lisa wants the justice system to protect her daughter. Bast wants the laws changed so that child sex offenders receive the death penalty and are not released back into society. Edwards wants the chance to keep working. Wichmann mourns the job she lost. Groves wants families to feel safe entering her business. Reid wants to go home without wondering who might be outside.

A crowd can demand an answer in an afternoon. Living safely together after a crime takes longer – and requires more care than a sign or a registry entry can provide. □

James E. Kaufmann

June 25, 1949- October 6, 2026

James E. Kaufmann, age 77, crossed his last finish line on Tuesday, October 6, 2026. He medaled in integrity, fortitude, and acerbic wit.

Born in Jacksonville, Illinois on June 25th, 1949, Jim lived in Springfield most of his adult life. He was a prominent player in numerous arenas, including the running community and the state-wide political scene.

Fortunate enough to retire early, he spent his 22 years of active retirement as a standardized patient for the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, and as a wine expert at the Corkscrew Wine Emporium. There, he shared his vast knowledge about wine, as well as some choice bottles, with customers, friends, and customers who became friends.

He and his wife, Linda Lenzini, traveled both in the US and abroad,



but Jim's happy place was the home near Washington Park where they lived for 34 years.

He died peacefully at Memorial Medical Hospital after a brief illness. His wife and one of his beloved sisters, Patty (Kaufmann) Hamburger, were present to walk

him home.

In addition to Linda, Jim is survived by nine siblings and their respective spouses: Margaret (Peg) Coon; Kathy Kording; Theresa Luber; Patty Hamburger; Frank Kaufmann; Tom Kaufmann; Ann Mullin; Joe Kaufmann; and Amy Kaufmann. He is also survived by over 90 nieces, nephews, great nieces and great-nephews; he and Linda's bonus daughter, Claire Nachtwey; and his two beloved dogs, Luna and Bella.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Morris Kaufmann and Charlene Kaufmann; his brother Charlie; his sister Karen; nephews Brian, Jordan and Philip; and great-niece Erin. Deceased dogs Pepper, Delilah, Jezebel, Ethan, Izzy, Spencer and Allen and Oliver the cat will also be greeting him at the Rainbow Bridge. Additionally, he leaves extended family members in both the Kaufmann and Lenzini camps with fond memories.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a future time.

Donations may be made to Central Illinois Food Bank, the Springfield Community Foundation, the Helping Paw Project, and W.I.L.D. Dog Rescue.

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The secret to tender meat

Believe it or not, it's hiding in the dairy aisle

FOOD | Peter Glatz



Spiced yogurt skewered lamb kebabs. PHOTO BY ANN SHAFFER GLATZ

With soaring grocery prices, I've been passing up the expensive, well-marbled T-bone steaks for more affordable proteins. Top-notch ingredients will taste great as long as you don't screw them up, but humbler ingredients often need a little help to taste delicious. Marinades can boost flavor and tenderness, helping you create delicious meals even with budget-friendly cuts. Understanding how they work and their limitations will make you feel more confident in your cooking choices.

Marinades are acidic liquids, such as vinegar, wine, citrus juice, buttermilk or yogurt, which are used to enhance moisture, tenderness and taste. Acid-based marinades work by denaturing proteins on the meat's surface. Writing for *Serious Eats*, Kenji López-Alt explained that acidity uncoils

tightly bound outer protein chains, relaxing muscle fibers enough to allow minor liquid absorption. However, penetration remains extremely shallow. Food scientist Harold McGee cites research showing that acidic solutions seep only 1 to 2 millimeters into meat over a full 24-hour period. The shallow penetration of standard acidic marinades often leaves interiors under-marinated and exteriors over-marinated. Leaving meat in strong acidic mixtures longer than four to six hours can make the surface soft and mushy.

Yogurt-based marinades are a gentler alternative to citrus, wine or vinegar marinades. Because yogurt contains lactic acid – far milder than acetic or citric acid – it tenderizes meat more gradually. The lactic acid, calcium, and natural enzymes in yogurt

unwind protein structures and break down collagen, resulting in succulent meat that browns beautifully.

Yogurt's viscosity holds ground spices, aromatics and oils directly against the meat's surface, creating a protective coating that seals in moisture during cooking, especially when grilling over an open flame. The lactic acid in yogurt is suspended in a dense fat-and-protein gel network, which slows acid penetration and makes it almost foolproof for long, overnight marinades. This coating not only tenderizes but also helps the meat caramelize and char beautifully over direct flame – crucial for dishes like tandoori chicken and grilled kebabs – and keeps the meat moist and flavorful.

Spiced yogurt skewered lamb kebabs

Lamb can be a bit gamey, but a warm-spiced yogurt marinade tames its intensity and tenderizes muscle fibers.

Serves 4

Ingredients:

1½ pounds lamb shoulder or leg of lamb, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 cup plain full-fat yogurt
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 tablespoon ground coriander
1 teaspoon ground turmeric
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
1-inch fresh ginger, finely grated
4 cloves garlic, minced
1½ teaspoons kosher salt
Skewers (soaked in water if wooden)

Preparation:

In a mixing bowl, combine the yogurt, cumin, coriander, turmeric, cayenne, ginger, garlic and salt. Stir vigorously to distribute the spices evenly.

Add the cubed lamb to the mixture, turning to coat all sides. Transfer to a resealable gallon plastic bag and refrigerate overnight.

Thread the marinated lamb cubes onto your prepared skewers, leaving a tiny bit of space between each piece so heat can circulate evenly.

Heat an outdoor grill to high heat and lightly oil the grates. Grill the skewers for eight to 10 minutes, turning every couple of minutes, until deeply charred on the outside and medium-rare to medium inside. Alternatively, set your oven broiler to HIGH and place the skewers on a wire rack set over a baking sheet. Broil four inches from the heating element for eight to 10 minutes, turning once halfway through.

Serve over basmati rice and garnish with mint leaves and/or cilantro.

After retiring from a 40-year career in dentistry at age 66, Dr. Peter Glatz embraced his lifelong dream of becoming a professional chef. For the next seven years he gained hands-on experience in highly regarded kitchens nationwide. His transition from the exacting world of dentistry to the inventive world of culinary arts is a testament to the possibility of reinvention by teaching cooking classes at Prairie Fruits Farms and Creamery in Champaign.

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The giver of Springfield

Springfield Choral Society hosts two-day event honoring Julius Rosenwald

MUSIC | Cinda Ackerman Klickna

The Springfield Choral Society will host a festival that honors a Springfield native, Julius Rosenwald, under the guidance of music director Jacobsen Woollen. Events will take place Oct. 17-18 with music, film, speakers and a walk to the original Rosenwald home across from Lincoln's home.

"Many in Springfield don't seem to know about Rosenwald; yet, he was a significant person from here. His story needs to be told," said Woollen. "We will do that in a portrait concert bringing together narration about his life with selected music by ensembles from the Choral Society."

The Saturday, Oct. 17, event will be held at Temple B'rith Sholom, 1004 S. Fourth St., at 7:30 p.m. Along with music and information about Rosenwald's life, Carolyn Blackwell, a longtime citizen of Springfield and former District 186 teacher and administrator, will share her experiences in attending a Rosenwald School. Tickets are \$25.

The Lincoln Home Visitor Center will

hold an event on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. and again at 3:30 p.m. A special guest will be Dorothy Canter, a volunteer with the National Parks Conservation Association, who is leading a campaign to establish a national historical park honoring Rosenwald. A multimedia presentation about Rosenwald Schools and a short documentary about Rosenwald will be followed by a walk to Rosenwald's home across from Lincoln's Home. The programs are free but require reservations.

Rosenwald (1862-1932) grew up on Eighth Street across from Lincoln's home. He left Springfield when he was 17 and, after a stint in New York, landed in Chicago around 1895. There he met his wife, Augusta, and a man who would change the direction of his life, Richard Sears.

The two men led the catalog merchandise business, and sales grew under their genius. By 1907 the company was making \$50 million a year. After Sears retired, Rosenwald became president of Sears Roebuck and Co.; sales rose

to \$250 million by 1920. But after World War I, Sears was almost bankrupt, and in 1921 Rosenwald contributed \$21 million of his own money to save it. Rosenwald retired as president in 1924 and became chair of the board until his death in 1932.

A true believer in social justice, Rosenwald used his accumulated wealth to fund many worthy projects. He constructed more than 5,300 African American schools throughout the South during the era of Jim Crow laws (Maya Angelou and Rep. John Lewis are among the graduates of Rosenwald Schools). He established a Rosenwald Fund to support African American efforts in the arts and sciences, which assisted James Baldwin, Langston Hughes and Marion Anderson, to name a few. Rosenwald also helped fund African American YMCAs throughout the U.S.



With his incredible wealth, he supported many projects. It is because of him that we have the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. The building, known as the Palace of Fine Arts, was built for the Chicago Columbian Exposition in 1893. It was later converted into the museum and Rosenwald contributed \$5 million to the effort.

"Rosenwald's story is timely. He believed that giving is not a gift but an obligation. Today, we can honor a man who gave so much to others, Woollen said." □

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In the mood for the macabre

Spencer Theatre Company brings *Misery* to the local stage

THEATER | Courtney R. Wick

Arriving just in time for the spooky season, Spencer Theatre Company's production of *Misery*, directed by John Sivak, delivers a taut, 105-minute psychological thriller without an intermission. It is adapted for the stage by William Goldman, who also penned the screenplay for the award-winning film based on Stephen King's novel. The play keeps much of the iconic movie dialogue intact. For longtime fans, this three-layered homage offers an entertaining, nostalgia-laced return to that horrifying little cabin in the woods.

Nostalgia aside, this isn't a show for the faint of heart or younger audiences. There are some potentially triggering themes of kidnapping, abuse, restraint and scenes of extreme physical suffering and bloodshed.

"This is a show where you don't take a breath the entire time; it's a nonstop and intense psychological cat-and-mouse game," Sivak said.

For those who somehow avoided catching *Misery* on basic cable marathons every October in the 90s, the quick *CliffsNotes* synopsis: Paul Sheldon is a best-selling author who built his fame on a popular romance heroine named Misery Chastain. After crashing his car in a Colorado blizzard, Sheldon awakens to find himself trapped in the remote home of his deranged, "No. 1 fan," Annie Wilkes.

While the stage script moves at a brisk clip and preserves the film's juiciest beats, it noticeably omits Wilkes' important backstory – the disturbing string of patient deaths

from her former career as a nurse. Without this serial murder past, Wilke's character and Sheldon's predicament feels like far more of a euphemism for a writer's personal demons. The show becomes a claustrophobic portrait of a narcissistic writer pushed to mental instability by emotional and physical pain, pills, solitude and the collision between his artistic hubris and the expectations of his reading audience.

Staged almost entirely within the confines of a single room, the production hinges on the volatile, escalating and emotionally fractured interactions between Wilkes and Sheldon. There are only three people in the cast, and one barely clocks five minutes of stage time: Buster, the ill-fated local sheriff, played deftly by Jim Dahlquist.

Dahlquist cheekily refers to his role as the show's "commercial breaks," and he certainly embraces the old adage that there are no small parts – even sarcastically hollering across the theater during cast interviews, "I want this whole article to be about me!" Apologies, but this is where the spotlight ends.

Wilkes is played shrewdly by Justine Moser, who brings an intimidating presence to the stage, portraying Annie like a stern, smirking schoolmarm prone to explosive unraveling.

"There was a lot in the book that stood out to me – how she's a solid, immovable idol with hollow eyes. I used that description to help ground the character," Moser explained.

There is no saccharine sweetness in her

portrayal; instead, her delivery lands like an evil-minded Dr. Amy Farrah Fowler from *The Big Bang Theory* – stilted, detached and utterly dominating. It is a grueling, relentless role with virtually zero downtime and Moser encapsulates both the physical menace and allegorical hold over the captive author.

Hankins is thoroughly convincing as an unraveling, out-of-his-mind Paul Sheldon. Hankins commits fully to the visceral horror of the role; his agonizing cries, labored breathing and whimpers become the show's soundtrack of torment. They're often heard alongside or over Wilkes's spoken lines to keep the room perpetually on edge. The audience never doubts that this man is trapped in his own private hell.

Hankins nimbly navigates Stockholm syndrome, an uneasy, begrudging respect for his captor and a simmering loathing directed equally at Wilkes and his own weaknesses. His performance accurately captures a broken man.

Hankins astutely observes, "Paul Sheldon is a great character if you want to learn why ego is the literal and figurative death of art."

Misery is a great show to jump-start your Halloween with dark thrills. It turns a classic hostage story into an uncomfortably close look at pride, desperation and creative compromise. In the end, this one leaves you feeling like sometimes the scariest thing in the room isn't the sledgehammer, but the mirror. □



Justine Moser portrays Annie Wilkes, the No. 1 fan of author Paul Sheldon who ends up holding him hostage. PHOTO BY ANDRIA CRAWFORD-WHITEHEAD

Misery continues its run at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in the Peggy Ryder Theatre Oct. 16-18. Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 3p.m. Tickets are available by calling 217-523-2787 or visiting HCFTA.org <https://www.bcfta.org/tickets>

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Thursday Oct 15

Randy Erwin

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 10am-4pm and Oct. 16, 10am-4pm

Karaoke Night with DJ Nattie Beats

Benderz, Auburn, 8pm

Open mic with Bob the Brewer

Decatur Brew Works, Decatur, 7:30-10pm

Devin Clemons

East Side Inc., Virginia, 7-10pm

Karaoke

Goodfellas Pub, 8pm.

JCB Entertainment Karaoke

La Fiesta Chatham, Chatham, 6-10pm

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 Oct 16

Randy Erwin

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 10am-4pm

Chicago Farmer with special guests Mace Hathaway and Stumpy Joe

Arlington's Catering & Historic Venue, 7-11pm

Kelsey Lamb

The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

Tom and Geoff

The Backyard, Taylorville, 6-9pm

Bree Roberts

Bloom Wine Bar & Florals, 6-9pm

Devin C. Williams

Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 8-11pm

Memory is Subjective, Antifascist Freedom Music

Dumb Records, 7pm

Joe Wood

Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7-10pm

Summer of George

Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Crazy Train with Son-Of-A-Gun

Lincoln Square Theater, Decatur, 7pm

Karaoke

The Lumpia House, 5-11pm

Karaoke

Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm.

Blue Note Quintet

Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 6-8pm

Karaoke

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

The Get Down

Rocco's, Decatur, 7-10pm

Square of the Roots, Gold Maps, The Lovelorn, Tom Irwin and Amy Battles

The Blue Grouch, 7-10:30pm

Twilight Tunes Dueling Pianos

The Topsy Toad, 7-10pm

Triple Threat

VFW Post 10302, 7pm

Grounded

Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

Hippies of the Heartland

The Winery, Decatur, 8pm

Saturday Oct 17

Double H Karaoke

American Legion Post 32, 7-11pm

John Drake

The Backyard, Taylorville, 6-9pm

Molly Seaton

Blue Ridge Club, 1-4pm

Midwest Revival

Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 8-11pm

Jonny Vodka

Camouflage Bar, VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30-10:30pm

Micro Spice

Copper and Oak, Lincoln, 2-5pm

Grant Barnett, Tom Thady and Tom Irwin and Amy Battles

Curveside Bar & Grill, Athens, 6-9pm



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Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

Peaches and Bacon

First Presbyterian Church, 7-9pm

Pimpin' Henry

George Rank's, 8-11pm

Rudy Boz and Friends

Goodfellas Pub, 7-10pm

Sequoia Drive

The Grainery, Pleasant Plains, 8pm

Cody Lee Moomey

Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

David McEathron Trio

It's All About Wine, 5-8pm

Rooster

Kuhl Tyme Korner, Jacksonville, 8pm-12am

Hippies of the Heartland

Lake Press Club, 3pm

Solid Gold

Lincoln Square Theater, Decatur, 7pm

Lucky's Fall Mini Music Fest

Lucky's on the Square, Petersburg, 2-7pm

The Jonnie Concaroo Band

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

Astrofix

Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

Renegade Karaoke

Northern Lights Lounge, 8:30pm-1am

Wowie Zowie

Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

Chrissy Sparks & Eric Hagen

Rocco's, 7-10pm

The Guilty Boys

The Railyard, 6-9pm

Karaoke by JCB Entertainment

The Range Bourbon & Brew, Chatham, 8pm-12am

Karaoke

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

Peaches & Bacon

Stella Coffee & Tea, 10am-12:30pm

Hippies of the Heartland

The Bean, Mechanicsburg, 8pm

Broken Stone

The Topsy Toad, 7-10pm

Matthew Allen Bullard Band

Twisted Tree Music & Event Hall, Jacksonville, 7pm

Rezzin8

Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

OAT with Ethan Taylor Stephenson

West of Wise Winery, Petersburg, 1-4pm

Sunday Oct 18

Meanstreak

American Legion Post 279, Jacksonville, 3-6pm

OAT

Brookhills Golf Club, 3-6pm

Afternoon Delight

Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 3-6pm

Colt Ball

Curveside Bar & Grill, Athens, 2-5pm

Antone DeRocchi

Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

Tom Beverly and Geoff Ryan

It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

Carl Bopp and Ed Smith - Sound Decision

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

Susan Williams

Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

Lady Luck

Rocco's, 2-5pm

Lick Creek, Greg Bickers Band

Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 1-6pm

AI and Kathy Kitchen

Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-6pm

Monday Oct 19

Johnny Burgin

The Alamo, 7pm

AI and Kathy Kitchen

Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6-9pm

Music Mondays Open Mic Night

The Bird Tavern, 6:30-9pm.

Tuesday Oct 20

Karaoke

Fluid Lounge, 7-11pm

Allan Harris

Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6-9pm

Open jam

George Rank's, 8pm

Karaoke with Suzi

The Rusty Rail Pub, Lincoln, 8pm-12am

Wednesday Oct 21

Open mic with Joel Honey and Silas Tockey

Boone's, 7-10pm

Karaoke

Clique, 9pm-1am

AI Kitchen

Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6pm

Midweek Music Meetup open mic with Tom Irwin

Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Me, Myself & Schy

Obed and Isaac's Microbrewery, 6-8pm

JCB Entertainment Karaoke

Puerto Vallarta, 12pm

3rd Wednesday Open Mic

Trails End Saloon, Curran, 7-10pm

MUSIC

Mid-October music making

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

As we move away from a warm October and head into more seasonal weather, some cool events are still happening outside along with plenty of sweet shows going on behind closed doors. And it's all up to you to go find the fun.

This week starts with some sad news on the passing of Brian Moore. Brian, an accomplished saxophone player, musician and singer, brought a terrific energy, musical knowledge and professional attitude plus that inexplicable thing that special musicians do to the stage in every performance. He played with and inspired many people, including family, friends and fans, but is probably best known for his time with Cats on Holiday and Groove Daddies. Play on, Brian.

Speaking of Cats on Holiday, there's a new release of live material by the group, called *9 Live*, recorded by Ric Major at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds back during the late 1980s in a phase of the band featuring founders Andon Davis and Perry Zubeck plus the rhythm section of Joe T. Phegley and Rick Snow. Andon found the tapes, had them mastered and now the songs are available on most streaming platforms. Brian was no longer in the band at that point, if you're

wondering, but I sure hope this encourages other musicians to get past recordings digitized and out there for the world to listen to now and forever more. Thanks to the Cats for doing this and leading the way in keeping our local legacy alive.

Now let's head downtown on a Friday night where things are a-buzzing. First, there's a big concert upstairs at Arlington's (old On Broadway venue) with Chicago Farmer going solo on his songs and stories show, plus the added treat of Mace Hathaway and Stumpy Joe kicking off the evening at 7 p.m. This ticketed event brought to you by ElderBeard MusicWerx and Half Hazard Press Studio (tix at Eventbrite.com or the door) has Chicago Farmer fresh off his headlining appearance at the Todd Snider tribute show last weekend in Nashville.

Next, Bloom Wine Bar & Florals, in conjunction with DSI, continues its Live Music on the Plaza series (6-9 p.m.), featuring Bree Roberts this week with Micah Walk on Oct. 23 and Lisa Lowe on Oct. 30. Then, Dumb Records gives it up with another UIS Get Free Music Series show presenting Memory Is Subjective (Nathan Hanson,

saxophone and Steve Hirsh, drums) and Antifascist Freedom Music (Richard Gilman-Opalsky, drums and Frank Trompeter, saxophones) for a festive night of freeing music.

Saturday shows a few more outdoor music activities when The Guilty Boys roll into The Railyard and Broken Stone rocks The Topsy Toad in the evening, while West of Wise Winery near Petersburg hosts a Hard Cider Fest with OAT and Ethan Taylor Stephenson (12-5:30 p.m.).

Then the small towns go wild, as out west in Pleasant Plains The Grainery celebrates its one-year anniversary with a costume Halloween party and Sequoia Drive. Out east, Buckhart Tavern has Midwest Revival rising to the occasion and Lucky's on the Square in Petersburg hosts a Fall Mini Music Fest with five hometown acts going all day long while



Chicago Farmer plays this Friday at Arlington's with Mace Hathaway & Stumpy Joe.
PHOTO BY JERRY BURCK, PLAN B IMAGES.

the Curveside Bar & Grill near Athens sends up Grant Barnett and Tom Thady, plus Tom & Amy.

Sunday Funday has nearly 15 events that you need to look up in our listings in order to make your tough choices. Monday delivers our friend Johnny Burgin to rock The Alamo as the Illinois Central Blues Club keeps up the good work of booking the blues in Springfield.

There's plenty more out there so take a look at our listings and get going, going, gone. □

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OCTOBER 17 - 9-4 PM

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A QUEER GAYLA HOSTED BY MAHOGANY KNIGHT

OCTOBER 16, 2026

TICKETS: PHXCTR.ORG/GAYLA

THE CALENDAR



Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular | Fri., Oct. 16, 6:30-9:30 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 17, 6:30-9:30 p.m. | Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon | Washington Park | 217-546-3853

FESTIVALS | Fall favorite will draw thousands to carillon

it Once again, hundreds of hand-carved, glowing jack-o-lanterns will light up the night this weekend at the Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon. In addition, the carillon will be playing with special lighting and sound effects, adding to the experience. The event includes food vendors, too. The Spectacular attracts between 5,000 and 8,000 people each year. Proceeds benefit the Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon. Advance tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children ages 4-11. Children 3 and younger are free. At the gate, tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 4-11. Free remote parking and shuttle buses will be available at the former Ashley furniture store (Wabash Avenue and Chatham Road) both nights. On the Sunday after event, participants are invited back for a pumpkin giveaway.

■ Special Music Events Date Night With Dreams: Vocal Music

Fri., Oct. 16, 6:30pm. Explore dreams in musical pieces from Schubert's "Nacht und Traume" to Merrill and Stynes' "Don't Rain on My Parade" from *Funny Girl* and many more. This performance features vocalists Justin Johnson and Kinsey Peotter and pianist Mark Gifford. \$18-\$22. UIS Studio Theatre, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

Julius Rosenwald Portrait Concert

Sat., Oct. 17, 7:30-9pm. Springfield Choral Society Small Ensembles will present this multimedia concert tracing Julius Rosenwald's Springfield roots, business success and transformative philanthropy supporting Black education. \$25. Temple B'rith Sholom, 1004 S. Fourth St., 330-472-3671.

Mother Road Bones - "Autumn Equinox"

Sun., Oct. 18, 2-3pm. The Mother Road Bones trombone quartet presents "Autumn Equinox," a musical program guaranteed to put you in a spooky mood. Free, donations accepted. Our Savior's Lutheran

Church, 2645 Old Jacksonville Road, 217-546-4531.

Thy Boundless Love

Sat., Oct. 17, 7-9pm. The Kapelle Choir, Wind Symphony, and Chamber Orchestra from Concordia University in Chicago will perform. Free, donations accepted. Trinity Lutheran School, 515 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-787-2323.

■ Theater & Comedy

Misery
Fri., Oct. 16, 7:30pm, Sat., Oct. 17, 7:30pm and Sun., Oct. 18, 3pm. *Misery* is psychological thriller written by William Goldman and based on the popular Stephen King novel. Directed by John Sivak. Presented by the Spencer Theatre Company. \$23/\$21 (60+ and student). Hoogland Center for the Arts Peggy Ryder Theatre, 420 S. Sixth St., 217- 523-2787.

The UNusual Suspects Murder Mystery

Sat., Oct. 17, 6:30pm and Sun., Oct. 18, 4:30pm. At Edwards Place Murder Mystery dinner theatre, guests will help to solve a dastardly murder. They will interact with a motley crew of suspects to discover which of them committed the crime all while enjoying a themed, catered

meal. Ticket includes meal, program and beer/wine. Must be 21 or older. Members \$60, non-members \$65. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

■ Dance Old-time Community Barn Dance - Capital City Contra

Third Saturday of every month, 7pm. Enjoy various folk dances to live music performed by Peaches & Bacon. No experience necessary. All dances taught and called. No partner needed. Dress casual and comfortable. Free and family-friendly. Parking and entrance on west side of church. Free, donations of \$5-\$10 accepted. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

■ Art & Architecture "Post Wet" exhibit reception

Thu., Oct. 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Opening reception for the art exhibit of Mike Rea. His art draws from science fiction, horror, mythology, music, sports and popular culture. Rea transforms familiar objects and visual references into meticulously constructed forms. Exhibit runs through Nov. 19. UIS Visual Arts Gallery, HSB 201, One University Plaza, 217-206-6506.

"Living Waters"

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through Nov. 11. Exhibit explores the beauty and mystery of aquatic life through vitreous glass paintings by Rosalinda Post-Lucas and watercolor paintings by Debbie Megginson. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

"Wicked"

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through Nov. 11. "Wicked" presents a hauntingly unique collection of 2D and 3D artwork from the artist community in central Illinois. at the Underground Gallery. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

Art Night: Mixed Media Mark-Making

Thu., Oct. 15, 5:30-7pm. Instructor Carolyn Owen Sommer will lead participants in a mixed media mark-making class. Participants will use watercolor on paper with different tools to create interesting textures. Reservations required. eventbrite.com. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

Date Night and Evening Tour

Fridays, 5:30-7pm. Through Oct. 30. Spend an enjoyable evening in the Dana-Thomas House. Itinerary includes 5:30pm relaxation time followed by a 6pm guided house tour. Snacks and nonalcoholic drinks allowed. Only interested in a house tour? Just arrive at 6pm. Reservations recommended. eventbrite.com. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-785-9363.

HalloThanksMas Artisans Market

Sat., Oct. 17, 9am-4pm. Discover a variety of local artisans, crafters and businesses offering handmade goods, unique gifts and more. The Grinch will make an appearance. Adults \$3, seniors \$1. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-725-8047.

Paint-a-Pot

Sun., Oct. 18, 2-4pm and Wed., Oct. 21, 5:30-7:30pm. Enjoy the Dana-Thomas House as you create something special. Reservations required. With Ceramics Made by Rosie. \$40. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

Unboxed: A Study in Black and Primary

Mondays-Fridays, 8am-4pm. Through Oct. 23. This exhibit, which runs from Sept. 28 through Oct. 23, features works

by Illinois native Austin Wells who uses cardboard, primary colors, mixed media and layered imagery — transforming cardboard into a metaphor for rebuilding, remembering and redefining. The Trutter Museum & Murray Gallery is on the upper level of Menard Hall. Free. Lincoln Land Community College, 5250 Shepherd Road, 217-786-2200.

■ Film & Television

America 250 Movie Series: All the President's Men

Fri., Oct. 16, 6:30-8:30pm. Academy Award winners Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman star in this true story as Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, whose investigation of a seemingly minor hotel room break-in uncovers the greatest political scandal in U.S. history. Rated PG-13. Advance registration required. presidentlincoln.illinois.gov. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

The Wizard of Oz

Sat., Oct. 17. Here's a chance to see the original movie on a big screen. Movie starts at dusk. Sponsored by village of Rochester. Bring lawn chairs. Free. Rochester Community Park, Rochester, 90 Wild Rose Lane.

■ History

The Rosenwald Schools - Preserving the History of a Springfield Philanthropist

Sun., Oct. 18, 2-3:15, 3:30-4:45pm. In two interactive programs, the Springfield Choral Society will illuminate the legacy of Julius Rosenwald, an often-overlooked Springfield-born philanthropist whose generosity transformed educational opportunities for Black children. Rosenwald historian Dorothy Canter will explore his Springfield family, life and far-reaching support of Black education, historically Black colleges and universities, and Jewish charitable organizations. The presentation will include the Rosenwald family home, which still stands on Eighth Street within the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. Limited seating. Free, requires reservation/ticket for admission. Lincoln Home National National Home Site Visitor Center, 426 S. 7th St., 330-472-3671.

■ Holiday Happenings

Boo Crew Haunted House

Fridays, Saturdays, 6:30pm. Through Oct. 30. One of the Top 10 haunted houses in Illinois. Owned and operated by the Rochester Lions Club. All proceeds go to local charities.

Closed on Halloween, Oct. 31. Haunted Matinee (\$15) is 3-5pm Oct. 17. Children's Matinee (\$7) is 3-5pm Oct. 24. \$30-\$55. Boo Crew Haunted House, Mechanicsburg, 11083 Buckhart Road, 217-551-6969.

Haunted Heritage Tours

Fri., Oct. 16, 7-9pm. Take a tour steeped in Springfield's haunted history. Explore the inn, Obed & Isaac's and Springfield's most storied paranormal sites. Come meet the spirits that linger. Tour includes free drink at Obed & Isaac's. \$22. The Inn at 835 Boutique Hotel, 835 S. Second St., 217-523-4466.

Jack-O-Lantern Spooktacular

Sat., Oct. 17, 6:30pm. The events will begin with the Halloween Parade at 6:30 pm. The Spooktacular will follow. Varies. Cass County Fairgrounds, Virginia, 649 S. Job St.

Kimmy Kares Trunk or Treat

Sun., Oct. 18, 12pm. Show up in that favorite costume for fun and spooky treats. Kimmy Kares Daycare, 2141 N. 16th St., 217-638-3965.

Terror on the Square

Fridays, Saturdays, 7-11pm. Through Oct. 31. Begins Oct. 2 and runs every Friday and Saturday night in October. Terror on the Square is a unique, professional haunted house with Disney-style illusions set in an actual 1930s funeral home. \$28. Petersburg Square, Petersburg, N. Seventh St. at W. Douglas Ave.

Trunk or Treat

Sat., Oct. 17, 3-6pm. An evening of Halloween fun for children and adults. Wear a costume. Includes music by Double H Karaoke, free hot dog and chips and more. American Legion Post 32, 1120 Sangamon Ave., 217-523-3415.

Widji Haunted Trails

Sat., Oct. 17, 5:30-9pm. Get into the spooky spirit-Girl Scout camp style. Bring friends and family members for this not-so-scary evening at Camp Widjiwagan. \$11.25 per child/\$10 per adult. Camp Widjiwagan, 71 Wienold Lane, 217-523-8159.

YMCA Spooky Trails: Wicked Woods

Sat., Oct. 17, 4-10pm. A day of thrills and a night of chills. There are two sessions: Not Too Scary (4-6pm): Perfect for younger children. Enjoy trick-or-treat stations, games and family activities.; and Scary (8-10pm): For ages 12 and older or brave souls with an adult. Sign up online in advance or at event. \$8 per person. YMCA Camp Wa-

Kon-Tah, Chatham, 6602 Iron Bridge Road, 217-679-1625.

■ **Fairs & Festivals**
5th Annual Trunk or Treat Bash
Fri., Oct. 16, 5-7:30pm. This annual event features trunks of treats, a bounce house, two food trucks and more. Hosted by Damon Priddy State Farm. Filming and photography will occur during the event. Damon Priddy State Farm, 2951 Montvale Dr., 217 787-5400.

Highland Games & Celtic Festival
Sat., Oct. 17, 10am-7pm. A day of bagpiping, dancing, athletics, Gaelic lessons, vendors, live entertainment and more. centralillinoiscelts.com. \$15 for adults, \$8 for seniors, children free. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, 316 W. Birch St., 219-899-3359.

Williamsville 27th Annual Christmas in the Village Craft & Vendor Event
Sat., Oct. 17, 8am-3pm. Find gifts you won't find anywhere else. Discover something special at this event. Shop at the Community Center, the Old Depot and the Old Post Office. Free admission. Williamsville 27th Annual Christmas in the Village Craft & Vendor Event, Williamsville, Downtown Williamsville, IL, 217-652-7957.

■ **Fundraisers & Galas**
'Shoes, Brews & Biz
Thu., Oct. 15, 5-8:30pm. Craft beer and unique horseshoes, Dick Levi's cool cars and motorcycles and a business expo all wrapped into one event. Presented by The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. gssc.org. \$25 in advance, \$30 at door. LRS Hangar, 820 S. Capital Airport Dr., 217-525-1173.

Celebrate Sound
Sat., Oct. 17, 9-11:30am. This walk will help support a hearing clinic with Illinois State University. Check-in at 9am followed by walk. Presented by Sertoma Club of Springfield with sponsorship from SIU-Medicine Otolaryngology Department. \$25. Washington Park Picnic Shelter, 1501 S. Grand Ave. W., 217-494-2099.

Fall Gayla 2026: Midnight in the Garden of Good & Evil
Fri., Oct. 16. Come as you are or dressed to impress at this event to help raise funds for The Phoenix Center. Hosted by Mahogany Knight. Event includes 5pm cocktail hour, dinner, entertainment community awards and auction. Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, 4965 S. Second St., 217-528-5253.

Mary Bryant Home 40th Annual Chili & Soup Fundraiser
Through Oct. 15, 10am-6:30pm and Fri., Oct. 16, 10am-4pm. The fundraiser is pickup only. This community tradition features Zillion's Famous Chili Bowl Chili, homemade beef vegetable soup, homemade vegetable soup and hot dogs. The chili, soup and hot dogs are cold, ready to heat and serve. marybryanthome.org. \$15 per quart; hot dogs \$2 or six for \$10. Mary Bryant Home for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 2960 Stanton St., 217-529-1614.

Souper Sunday Chili & Soup Cook-off Supper
Sun., Oct. 18, 4-6pm. Entry includes a tasting of each chili/soup and voting, one bowl of chili/soup along with chili/soup fixings, dessert and drink. Grilled cheese sandwiches and hot dogs also will be available. Prizes/bragging rights will be awarded at 5:30pm. Proceeds benefit 2027 DAUMC Youth Mission Trip. \$10 adults, \$6 children 5-12, free children 4 and younger. Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church, 501 S. Douglas Ave., 217-546-4631.

Sunday Funday (A Drain for the Cure Event)
Sun., Oct. 18, 1-6pm. Enjoy live music from two of the area's hottest acts - Lick Creek and the Greg Bickers Band - while supporting Springfield Plastics' Drain for the Cure fundraiser. Event raises money for cancer research, prevention, patient care and essential services at Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU School of Medicine and HSHS St. John's Children's Hospital Pediatric Cancer Center Unit. Includes silent auction. \$20. Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 600 Toronto Road, 217-438-6167.

■ **Community Organizing**
No Kings: Vote Early Rally
Sat., Oct. 17, 12-2pm. No Kings: Vote Early is day of voter participation to vote early and ensure a free and fair election. Meet at the Lincoln statue to get out the early vote with speakers, songs, music and mutual aid. Illinois State Capitol, Capitol and Second St, 217-741-8453.

■ **Children's Corner**
Elliot's Purple Pumpkin Patch & Purple Paws
Sat., Oct. 17, 10am-2pm. Paint the patch purple in this event to spread awareness of Dravet Syndrome and epilepsy in honor of Elliot. Event includes free pumpkins to decorate, Purple Paws Dog Costume Contest, photo prop opportunity, Elliot Fights Dravet Syndrome

Awareness Booth and more. 217-820-0188. Bomke's Patch, 605 Country Lake Road, 626-1806.

Oakford Children's Halloween Party
Sat., Oct. 17, 6-9pm. This family-friendly community event gives children a safe and memorable Halloween experience. Includes many children's activities, silent auction, bake sale, costumes for purchase, prizes, free library book and more. \$5 donation. Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 23753 Lounsbury Road, 217-670-3070.

■ **Lectures & Meetings**
Central Illinois Mobile Home Residents Alliance
Mon., Oct. 19, 6-7:30pm. Monthly meeting. Mobile home park residents can attend to get informed and find out how they can stand up. Meeting will include info on actions alliance has taken and what is next such as a tenant union. Free. Lincoln Library, Carnegie Room, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

"Confronting the Environmental Impacts of Artificial Intelligence and Data Center Development"
Wed., Oct. 21, 6pm. Mary D. Willis will talk about the local effects of data centers built in the U.S. and propose policy solutions to help mitigate environmental impacts and protect local communities. uis.edu/speaker-series. UIS Brookens Auditorium, One University Plaza, 217-206-6600.

■ **Bulletin Board**
Annual Great Giveaway
Sat., Oct. 17, 8-11am. Clothing and household goods to be given away free of charge. Free. Lakeside Church of Christ, 65 Rita Road, 217-585-1803.

Blanket and Coat Fair
Sat., Oct. 17, 10am-1pm. Providing warm blankets and coats to families and individuals in need. Must show proof of need. Donations of items still being taken. Free. Freedom in Holiness Mission, 1430 Loveland Ave., 217-522-2527.

For a complete listing of local events visit us online at illinoistimes.com



Springfield needs Mark Mahoney
on the City Council

Join us to kick off his campaign for Ward 6 Alderman.

Wednesday, October 21st
5 PM to 7 PM
Bernie & Bettys
1101 S Spring Street, Springfield, IL

\$30 person • \$50 Couple • \$75 family • \$150 Sponsor

Contributions to Mahoney for Springfield, can be mailed to 1520 S. Lowell, Springfield IL 62704.

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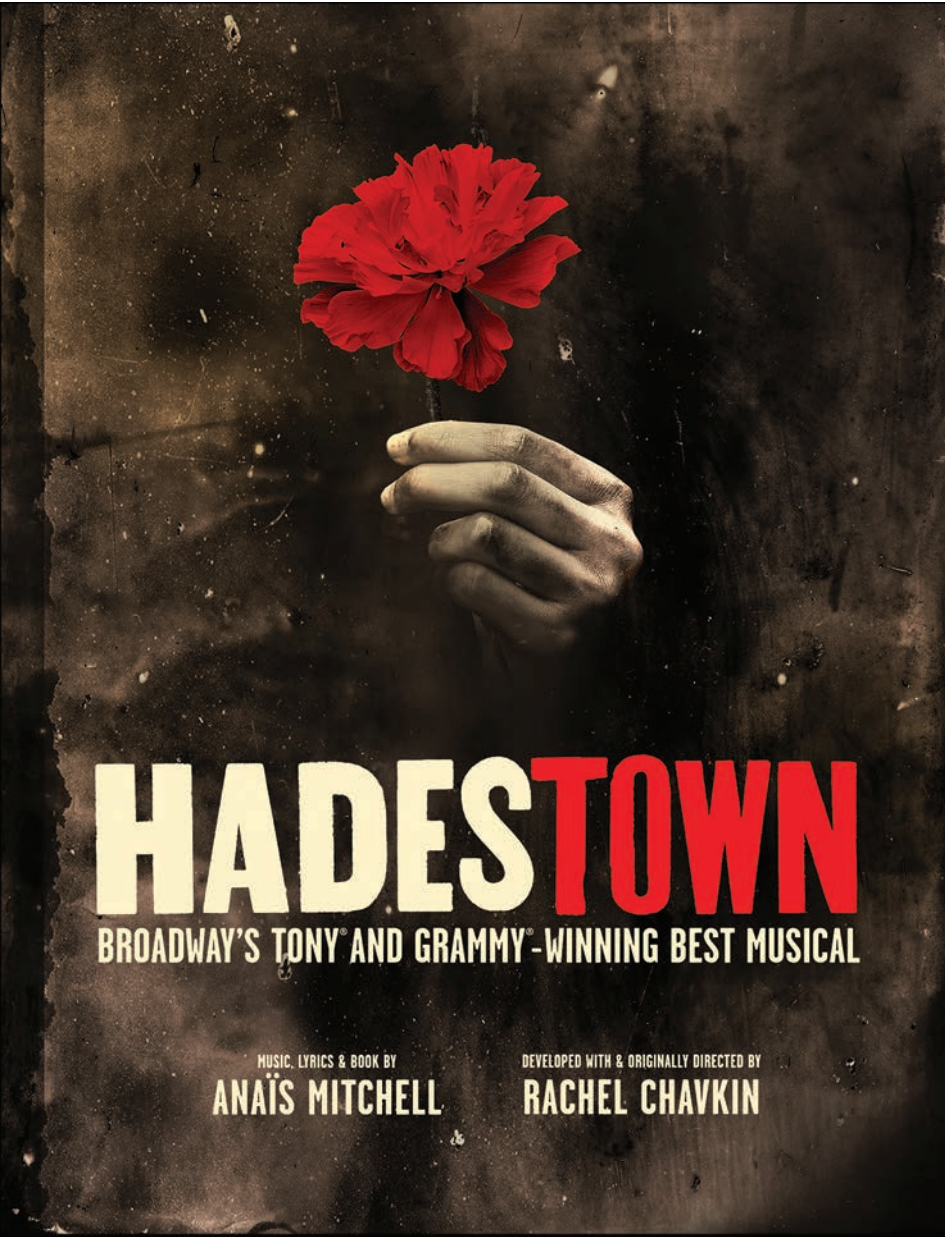
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Fall Mini Music Fest

Saturday, Oct. 17 • 2pm-7pm

Larry Dirks & Wendy Beckerman
Matthew Combs
Jaigh Lowder & Antone DeRocchi
Ethan Taylor Stephenson
Mk Smith & Damian Zimmerman
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Springfield Flea Market

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Illinois State Fairgrounds
Illinois Building
8:00-3:00
\$2.00 Admission
www.springfieldfleamarket.net

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Heartland Bank and Trust Company
Plaintiff,
-v.-
Dana A. Smith; et. al.
Defendants.
2026FC000055
5409 Biltmore Drive, Springfield, IL 62711
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 8/5/2026, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the Online Only auction at www.auction.com, with the bidding window opening on 11/16/2026 at 10:00 AM CDT and closing on November 18, 2026 at 10:00 AM subject to extension, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.
Commonly known as 5409 Biltmore Drive, Springfield, IL 62711
Property Index No. 21-03.0-472-040
The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence. The judgment amount was \$123,418.84 Sale Terms: Full Sale Terms are available on the property page at www.auction.com by entering 5409 Biltmore Drive into the search bar. If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, the winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within twenty-four (24) hours of the auction's end. All payments must be certified funds. No third-party checks will be accepted. All bidders will need to register at www.auction.com prior to placing a bid. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation

as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-25-08252. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 14-25-08252 Case Number: 2026FC000055 NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
I3295348

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY
BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS OWNER TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF BREAN ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2024-RM9
Plaintiff,
-v.-
LARRY BRIGGITY et al
Defendant
2026FC000051
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 20, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on October 29, 2026, at the Do Realty Services, 600 S 6th Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL, 62701, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 316 EAST SCARRITT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
Property Index No. 14-34.0-352-003
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-26-00828
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Case Number: 2026FC000051
TJSC#: 46-1301
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2026FC000051
I3294763

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the matter of the estate of:

Donn C. Miller, Deceased
Case No. 2026PR000345

Claim Notice

Notice is given of the death of Donn C. Miller. Letters of Office were issued on Sept. 16, 2026 to Kay A. Bedolli as Executor, 757 Stanton Airport Road, Riverton IL 62561. 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 April 15, 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 Executor 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

In the matter of the estate of:

David H. Lowery, Deceased
Case No. 2026PR000311

Claim Notice

Notice is given of the death of David H. Lowery. Letters of Office were issued on Oct. 6, 2026 to Karen Martin as Executor, 2357 E. Reservoir St., Springfield, IL 62702. 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 April 15, 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 Executor within 10 days after it has been filed.
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF SANGAMON

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

OF

PATRICIA SUE GIBSON, DECEASED.

NO. 2026-PR-368

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS

NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES

Notice is given of the death of PATRICIA SUE GIBSON, of Springfield, Illinois.

Letters of Office were issued on October 10 2026 to CONNIE S. COX of 782 South Spring Creek Rd., Pleasant Plains, IL 62705.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th, Springfield, Illinois or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from October 15, 2026 being the date of first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select

a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1) and pursuant to Section 6-11 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-11) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the Court within 6 months after admission of the Will to probate.

Dated this 5th day of October 2026
CONNIE S. COX, Administrator of the Estate of PATRICIA SUE GIBSON, Deceased
BY: DelGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
By: /s/ Anthony J. DelGiorno, Attorney
Attorneys for Estate:
Anthony J. DelGiorno, Attorney
IARDC No. 6277358
DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
P.O. Box 52
Springfield, IL 62705
Tel. 217-773-5337
Fax. 855-461-3250
Email: tony@delgiornolawoffice.com
Service: service@delgiornolawoffice.com

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF MELVIN THOMAS, DECEASED

No. 2026 PR 374

CLAIMS NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Melvin Thomas on January 12, 2026. Letters Testamentary were issued on October 5, 2026 to Linda S. Risley, 12819 Sherman Road, Buffalo, Illinois 62515, as Executor of the Estate of Melvin Thomas, Deceased.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 5th day of October, 2026.

Kevin N. McDermott, Attorney
109 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

(217) 753-4070

Ill. Reg. No. 6196497

www.KevinNMcDermott.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of:

Barbara A. Braner,
Deceased.

No. 2026-PR-363

NOTICE TO HEIRS AND

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE

Notice is given of the death of Barbara A. Braner, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on September 28, 2026, to Derek L. Guernsey, 20 S. Farmingdale Road, Pleasant Plains, Illinois, 62677, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, PO Box 1948, Springfield, Illinois, 62705.

Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Barbara A. Braner of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Derek L.

Guernsey and James R. Braner as the only heirs of Barbara A. Braner. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or contact your local Circuit Clerk's office.

Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Sarah Delano Pavlik - 6269250
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC

Attorneys for Executor
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: 217-544-2703
Fax: 217-544-4664
sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the Matter of the Estate of:

Cleaotha L. Bailey,
Deceased.

No. 2026-PR-364

NOTICE TO HEIRS AND

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE

Notice is given of the death of Cleaotha L. Bailey, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on September 28, 2026, to Doris J. Bailey, 1506 East Miller Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62702, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, PO Box 1948, Springfield, Illinois, 62705.

Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Cleaotha L. Bailey, of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Doris J. Bailey and Devon Bailey as the only heirs of Cleaotha L. Bailey.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional

help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or contact your local Circuit Clerk's office.

Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Andrew J. Ricci — 6297506
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC
Attorneys for Administrator
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: 217-544-2703
Fax: 217-544-4664
aricci@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

JAMES SAMUEL CRAIN, DECEASED

Case #2026-PR-361

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of JAMES SAMUEL CRAIN. Letters of Office have been issued to ROBERT S. JACOBS, 412 W. Vine Street, Springfield, IL 62704, 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 April 12, 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 28th day of September, 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

RAYMOND G. LONG, DECEASED

Case #2026-PR-360

DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of RAYMOND G. LONG. Letters of Office have been issued to CHERYL E. LONG, 11055 W. Colburn St., Loami, IL 62661, and DARRYL R. LONG, 7752 Basse Rd., Loami, IL 62661, as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Co-Executors, or both, on or before April 12, 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 Co-Executors and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2026.

Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF:

LISA ANN TRUAX,

Deceased

No. 2026PR350

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of LISA ANN TRUAX, Deceased. Letters of Administration were issued on September 22, 2026 to KAREN CUNDIFF, as Independent Administrator, 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 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before March 30, 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 9/28/26.

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:

JULIO COPELLO,

Deceased

No. 2026PR356

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Julio Copello, Deceased.

Letters of Administration were issued on September 22, 2026 to Valeria Copello, as Independent Administrator, 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 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before March 30, 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 9/25/26.

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

SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,

ILLINOIS

IN THE ESTATE OF:

CATHERINE L. KRAUS,

Deceased.

Case No.: 2026 PR 359

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF WILL AND CLAIMS

Notice is hereby given of the death of Catherine L. Kraus. Letters of Office were issued. The name and address of the Legal Representative is Mark Plesh, 1182 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota, 55105.

James Ackerman is counsel for the Legal Representative. His address is Ackerman Law Office, P.C., 2601 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before April 24, 2027. Any claim not filed on or before April 24, 2027, is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Dated this 24th day of September 24, 2026.

By: /s/ James W. Ackerman

James W. Ackerman,

Attorney for Legal Representative

PREPARED BY:

James W. Ackerman (06192795)

ACKERMAN LAW OFFICE

2601 South Fifth Street

Springfield, IL 62703

(217) 789-1977

jim@ackermanlawoffices.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In the matter of the estate of:

Eric D. Rees, Deceased

Case No. 2026PR000358

Claim Notice

Notice is given of the death of Eric D. Rees. Letters of Office were issued on Sept. 24, 2026 to Barbara M. Rees as Administrator, 2601 Montvale Drive, Apt. 229, Springfield, IL 62704. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the Administrator, on or before March 24, 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 FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF

NORMAN C. KOEFOED,

Deceased.

Case No. 2026 PR 000347

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the estate of the death of Norman C. Koefoed. Letters of Office were issued to Ivy L. Koefoed, as Independent Executor, whose address is 8111 Donna Lane, Cantrall, IL 62625. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before April 1, 2027, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered such notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To efile, you must first create an account

with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Dated: September 23, 2026
Attorneys for Independent Executor:
Sorling Northrup
John R. Simpson, Attorney (2616947)
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: jrsimpson@sorlinglaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY,
ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
CYNTHIA L. MANN,
Deceased.
Case No. 2026-PR-344
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of CYNTHIA L. MANN, of Rochester, Sangamon County, Illinois, died on August 6, 2026. Letters of Office were issued on the 16th day of September, A.D., 2026, to JACOB CISCO, of 5176 West Washington, Springfield, Illinois, 62711, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C., 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney at the above addresses within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed.
DATED this 18th day of September, A.D., 2026.
Estate of CYNTHIA L. MANN, Deceased,
BY: /s/ Pamela E. Hart
Pamela E. Hart, one of its Attorneys.
PREPARED BY:
Pamela E. Hart (6299974)
SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-8200
Email: peh@scottscottlaw.com

Divorce
STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of
Arabella Bellucci, Petitioner
And
Khalil Al Hamdani, Respondent
Case No. 2026-DN-000049
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Khalil Al Hamdani, 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 8th day of November, 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 8th day of November, 2026, 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
Kylar Nicole McCoy-Clouse
For change of name to
Kylar Nicole Bosie
Case No. 2026-MR-000352
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Dec. 1, 2026 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Kylar Nicole McCoy-Clouse to Kylar Nicole Bosie pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.
Dated: Oct. 15, 2026

Foreclosure
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
ROSETTA E DAY, Defendant.
CASE NO. 26-FC-77
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
1801 SCARBROUGH RD
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Rosetta E Day, Defendant, this case has been commenced in this Court against you and others, asking for foreclosure of the Mortgage held by the Plaintiff on the property located at 1801 Scarbrough Rd, Springfield, IL 62702, more particularly described as: All of Lot 1131 in Northgate Addition, 16th Plat, Springfield, Illinois, Except the North 30.20 feet thereof according to the Plat thereof recorded June 18, 1993 as Document Number 93-24746. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.
Permanent Index Number: 14-24.0-180-006
Commonly known as: 1801 Scarbrough Rd, Springfield, IL 62702
UNLESS YOU FILE your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Room 405, Springfield, IL 62701-1299 on or before November 16, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE.

CLERK OF THE COURT
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Julie Beyers (#6217185)
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC
Attorneys at Law
601 East William Street
Decatur, IL 62523
Email: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com
Telephone: (217) 422-1719
Facsimile: (217) 422-1754
8051-970224

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Heartland Bank and Trust Company
Plaintiff,
-v.-
Dana A. Smith; et. al.
Defendants.
2026FC000055
5409 Biltmore Drive, Springfield, IL 62711
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 8/5/2026, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the Online Only auction at www.auction.com, with the bidding window opening on 11/16/2026 at 10:00 AM CDT and closing on November 18, 2026 at 10:00 AM subject to extension, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.
LOT 380 DEERFIELD SIXTEENTH ADDITION, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, EXCEPT THAT PART OF SAID LOT 380 DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 380; THENCE NORTH 77 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 23 SECONDS WEST ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 380, A DISTANCE OF 127.86 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 380; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 380, A DISTANCE OF 127.90 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 43 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, 99.63 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 51 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 01 SECONDS EAST ON THE CENTERLINE OF THE COMMON WALL OF THE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE, 56.21 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST, 34.24 FEET TO A SET IRON PIN, BEING A POINT ON THE RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF BILTMORE DRIVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 55.00 FEET, WHOSE CENTER BEARS SOUTH 53 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST FROM SAID POINT; THENCE SOUTHERLY ON SAID CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A CHORD OF 23.00 FEET AND CHORD BEARING SOUTH 24 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 53 SECONDS WEST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as 5409 Biltmore Drive, Springfield, IL 62711
Property Index No. 21-03.0-472-040
The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence. The judgment amount was \$123,418.84
Sale Terms: Full Sale
Terms are available on the property page at www.auction.com by entering 5409 Biltmore Drive into the search bar.
If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, the winning bidder must pay the full bid

amount within twenty-four (24) hours of the auction's end. All payments must be certified funds. No third-party checks will be accepted. All bidders will need to register at www.auction.com prior to placing a bid. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g) (l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-25-08252. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 14-25-08252 Case Number: 2026FC000055
NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
I3295348

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS OWNER TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF BREAN ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2024-RM9 Plaintiff,
-v.-
LARRY BRIGGITY et al
Defendant
2026FC000051
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 20, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on October 29, 2026, at the Do Realty Services, 600 S 6th Street, SPRINGFIELD, IL, 62701, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
LOTS ONE (1) AND TWO (2) IN BLOCK FOURTEEN (14) IN W. H. ALLEN'S ADDITION, EXCEPTING THE WEST 76 FEET OF SAID LOTS AND EXCEPTING THE SOUTH 15 FEET OF SAID LOT TWO (2). EXCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OF RECORD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON

COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Commonly known as 316 EAST SCARRITT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
Property Index No. 14-34.0-352-003
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-26-00828
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Case Number: 2026FC000051
TJSC#: 46-1301
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2026FC000051
I3294763

Notice by Publication
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
ALVIN N. HYSLER, JR.
Plaintiff,
v.
BRYAN COPP A/K/A BRIAN COPP, JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Case No. 2026FC000119
PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite Affidavits for Service by Publication having been filed in the above-captioned cause NOTICE is hereby given to JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action is now pending in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois, Sangamon County, against you and other defendants praying for the foreclosure of the mortgage (Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate) hereinafter described conveying the real estate legally described as follows:
Lot 120 in Wanless' Springfield Heights Addition to the City of Springfield [Grandview], Except the West 80 feet thereof. Situated in Sangamon Co., Illinois.
Permanent Index #14-23.0-453-032 together with the improvements thereon including the following personal property: Shades, rods, blinds, Venetian blinds, permanently attached floor covering, storm sash, screens, TV antenna, heating unit, domestic hot water heater, light fixtures, and other fixtures and equipment attached to and property belonging to said premises.
Commonly known as 2136 E. Converse, Springfield [Grandview], IL 62702.
The name of the title holder of record and an identification of the mortgage to be foreclosed is as follows:
(A) Name or names of present owner or owners of the premises: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate), Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(B) Date of Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate: September 23, 2020;
(C) Names of Mortgagor: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(D) Name of Mortgagee: Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(E) Date and place of recording: May 7, 2024, Sangamon County, Illinois, Office of Recorder of Deeds;
(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2024R07084.
And you are further notified that unless on or before November 19, 2026, you shall answer and defend in said suit, default judgment may be entered against you on said date or thereafter.
Dated: October 7, 2026
Lucas G. Guard
Attorney of Record
ARDC No. 6317243
Guard Law
910 S. Kirkwood Rd Suite 100
Saint Louis, MO 63122
Email: Lucas@Guard.Law
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court Sangamon County
10-15-2026, 10-22-2026, 10-29-2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

ALVIN N. HYSLER, JR.
Plaintiff,
v.
BRYAN COPP A/K/A BRIAN COPP,
JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2,
JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4,
UNKNOWN OWNERS, and
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No. 2026FC000119
PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite Affidavits for Service by Publication having been filed in the above-captioned cause NOTICE is hereby given to JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action is now pending in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois, Sangamon County, against you and other defendants praying for the foreclosure of the mortgage (Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate) hereinafter described conveying the real estate legally described as follows:
Lot 20 in Block 1 of E.S. Hodgson's Subdivision of the Northwest Quarter of the of Section 28, Township 16 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meriden. Situated in Sangamon Co., Illinois. Permanent Index #14-28-102-029 together with the improvements thereon including the following personal property: Shades, rods, blinds, Venetian blinds, permanently attached floor covering, storm sash, screens, TV antenna, heating unit, domestic hot water heater, light fixtures, and other fixtures and equipment attached to and property belonging to said premises.
Commonly known as 1101 Kingshighway, Springfield, Illinois 62702.
The name of the title holder of record and an identification of the mortgage to be foreclosed is as follows:
(A) Name or names of present owner or owners of the premises: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate), Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(B) Date of Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate: September 24, 2018;
(C) Names of Mortgagor: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(D) Name of Mortgagee: Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(E) Date and place of recording: May 7, 2024, Sangamon County, Illinois, Office of Recorder of Deeds;
(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2024R07082.
And you are further notified that unless on or before November 19, 2026, you shall answer and defend in said suit, default judgment may be entered against you on said date or thereafter.
Dated: October 7, 2026.
Lucas G. Guard
Attorney of Record
ARDC No. 6317243
Guard Law
910 S. Kirkwood Rd Suite 100
Saint Louis, MO 63122
Email: Lucas@Guard.Law
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court Sangamon County
10-15-2026, 10-22-2026, 10-29-2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
ALVIN N. HYSLER, JR.
Plaintiff,
v.

BRYAN COPP A/K/A BRIAN COPP,
JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2,
JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4,
UNKNOWN OWNERS, and
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No. 2026FC000119
PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite Affidavits for Service by Publication having been filed in the above-captioned cause NOTICE is hereby given to JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action is now pending in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois, Sangamon County, against you and other defendants praying for the foreclosure of the mortgage (Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate) hereinafter described conveying the real estate legally described as follows:
Lot Fourteen (14) in Block Two (2) of E.S. Dodson's Subdivision of the North West Quarter of section 28, Township 16 North, Range 5 of the Third Principal Meridian, in the City of Springfield. Except the coal and other minerals underlying the surface of said land and all rights and casements in favor of the estate of said coal and minerals. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Permanent Index #14-28-101-041 together with the improvements thereon including the following personal property: Shades, rods, blinds, Venetian blinds, permanently attached floor covering, storm sash, screens, TV antenna, heating unit, domestic hot water heater, light fixtures, and other fixtures and equipment attached to and property belonging to said premises.
Commonly known as 1122 N. Lincoln, Springfield, IL 62702.
The name of the title holder of record and an identification of the mortgage to be foreclosed is as follows:
(A) Name or names of present owner or owners of the premises: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate), Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(B) Date of Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate: March 25, 2025;
(C) Names of Mortgagor: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(D) Name of Mortgagee: Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(E) Date and place of recording: NONE, Sangamon County, Illinois, Office of Recorder of Deeds;
(F) Identification of recording: Document No. NONE.
And you are further notified that unless on or before November 19, 2026, you shall answer and defend in said suit, default judgment may be entered against you on said date or thereafter.
Dated: October 7, 2026.
Lucas G. Guard
Attorney of Record
ARDC No. 6317243
Guard Law
910 S. Kirkwood Rd Suite 100
Saint Louis, MO 63122
Email: Lucas@Guard.Law
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court Sangamon County
10-15-2026, 10-22-2026, 10-29-2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
ALVIN N. HYSLER, JR.
Plaintiff,

v.
BRYAN COPP A/K/A BRIAN COPP,
JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2,
JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4,
UNKNOWN OWNERS, and
NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.
Case No. 2026FC000119
PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite Affidavits for Service by Publication having been filed in the above-captioned cause NOTICE is hereby given to JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, JOHN DOE 4, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above-captioned cause, that the above-captioned foreclosure action is now pending in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois, Sangamon County, against you and other defendants praying for the foreclosure of the mortgage (Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate) hereinafter described conveying the real estate legally described as follows:
West 87 feet and 11 in. of lot 23 of Harvard Park subdivision in Southwest Quarter of Section 3, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian. Permanent Index #22-03.0-334-001 together with the improvements thereon including the following personal property: Shades, rods, blinds, Venetian blinds, permanently attached floor covering, storm sash, screens, TV antenna, heating unit, domestic hot water heater, light fixtures, and other fixtures and equipment attached to and property belonging to said premises.
Commonly known as 2200 S. 11th, Springfield, IL 62703.
The name of the title holder of record and an identification of the mortgage to be foreclosed is as follows:
(A) Name or names of present owner or owners of the premises: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate), Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(B) Date of Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate: September 25, 2018;
(C) Names of Mortgagor: Brian Copp (buyer named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(D) Name of Mortgagee: Alvin N. Hysler, Jr. (seller named in Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate);
(E) Date and place of recording: May 7, 2024, Sangamon County, Illinois, Office of Recorder of Deeds;
(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2024R07083.
And you are further notified that unless on or before November 19, 2026, you shall answer and defend in said suit, default judgment may be entered against you on said date or thereafter.
Dated: October 7, 2026.
Lucas G. Guard
Attorney of Record
ARDC No. 6317243
Guard Law
910 S. Kirkwood Rd Suite 100
Saint Louis, MO 63122
Email: Lucas@Guard.Law
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court Sangamon County
10-15-2026, 10-22-2026, 10-29-2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, third floor, Municipal Center West, 300 S. Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois, a public hearing will be held to consider an annexation and annexation agreement for the property located at 16.5ft Strip North of

Mill Creek Estates Phase 2, Plats 4 & 8, Springfield, IL. The annexation consists of territory legally described as follows: Part of the South Part of the Southwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ in Section 1, Township 15 North, Range 6 West, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Southwest corner of said section, thence East along the North line of Mill Creek Estates Phase 2, Plat 4, as recorded in 2004R27295 in the Sangamon County Recorder's Office, a distance of 245 feet, to the true point of beginning, thence continuing along said section line. A distance of 595.98 feet to a point, thence North 00 degrees 12 minutes 34 seconds West, a distance of 16.5 feet; thence West and parallel with the North line of Mill Creek Estates Phase 2, Plat 4, a distance of 595.98 feet; thence Southerly to the true point of beginning, situated in the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois.

NOTICE
To all parties of interest:
Please be advised that Keyrock Energy LLC has applied for a Vacuum Permit to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Vacuum will be applied to the mined-out Springfield Coal Seam, at approximately 260' to 300', at our Jayson #2 well, located at 0099S 1258W SWc NE, Section 25, Township 17N, Range 04W, Sangamon County, Illinois. Please be advised that the public has 15 days, from the date the application is filed with the Department, when the application is filed after notice has been published. Please make comments in writing to: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Oil and Gas One Natural Resources Way Springfield, IL 62702 Phone: (217) 782-7756 8051-970177

NOTICE
To all parties of interest:
Please be advised that Keyrock Energy LLC has applied for a Vacuum Permit to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Vacuum will be applied to the mined-out Springfield Coal Seam, at approximately 260' to 300', at our Jayson #1 well, located at 0078S 0058W SWc SE, Section 10, Township 17N, Range 04W, Sangamon County, Illinois. Please be advised that the public has 15 days, from the date the application is filed with the Department, when the application is filed after notice has been published. Please make comments in writing to: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Oil and Gas One Natural Resources Way Springfield, IL 62702 Phone: (217) 782-7756

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
WILLIE CHARLES JOHNSON,
Deceased.
No. 2026PR339
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Willie Charles Johnson, a resident of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Illinois, on July 9, 2026. Danny Johnson, whose post office address is 49 Olive Street, Lexington, Mississippi 39095, was appointed independent administrator of the estate of Willie Charles Johnson on September 29, 2026. The attorneys for the independent administrator are Hart, Southworth &

Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the independent administrator, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the independent administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this September 29, 2026.
Mike Southworth (ARDC #6186085)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
msouthworth@hswnet.com
aprillaman@hswnet.com
8051-969934

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS
Plaintiff,
vs.
2015 LINCOLN MKZ
VIN # 3LN6L2GK3FR609253)
Donmanick Alexander
No. 26-MX-617
26-AF-34
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.
2004 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
VIN # 1GCEC19T14E396044
Austin Dyer
No. 26-MX-594
26-AF-30
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 2, 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.
2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
VIN # 1GCRKSE03DZ276115
Connie Sullivan
No. 26-MX-738
26-AF-40
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 July 9, 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.
2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
VIN # 1GCRKSE03DZ276115
Shane Sullivan
No. 26-MX-738
26-AF-40
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 July 9, 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

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE Wishing to avail themselves of the provisions under the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, the below storage facility gives notice of the sale under said act; Monday the 26th day of October, 2026 at 10:00 AM, on that day will conduct a sale to the highest bidder, with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com, and payment to seller via credit/debit card, the contents of spaces 10 Federal Storage, 2225 J David Jones Pkwy, Springfield, IL., 62703 (217) 600-2778 Adrienne Dodge 6. Julie Orrick 547. Mark Mason 18. Gregory Gordon P43. Bryan Bateman P11. Cheyenne Chrisman 253. Manuel Flores 492. Ashlie Robinson 66. Thaddieous Sutton 610/603. Ray Loftan P73. Julie Ann Richards 447/448. Johnny Spain 323. Angelinda Cortes 244. Louis Day 625/588. A'yona Holyfield 635. Brandon Mccaddon 556. Mia Allen 332. Alexandra Wiley 537. Brendan Buscher 557. Reginald Thomas 649/694. Briann Miller 746. Linda Ruebling 90. Robert Shaw 792. Kimberly Balestri 853. Leda White 615/598. Lottie Mudd 95. BRANDON REICHERT 37. Tracy Wells 48. Crystal White 752. Eric Kinsella 854 10 Federal Storage, 3500 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL. 62703 (217) 387-3951 Justin Smith P46 10 Federal Storage, 900 E Straight St, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 286-1550 Clayton Hamilton E338/E339. Jermain Tyler E297. Angel Sullivan 15. Ray ray Williams 66. James Anders 119. Joni Walls E304. Quinetta Lawrence F458/F459/F460/F461. Brenton Bollinger 121. Todd Jackson 103. nathaniel Byrd 202/254. Lashondra davis 197. Rachel Rowden 212. Danita Wright 142. Van Converse 160 Monday the 26th day of October, 2026 at 11:00 AM, 10 Federal Storage, 500 W Browning Rd, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 339-3865 Heather Petrakis 224D. Kenny Black 235E. Aahley Williams 233E. alexis delgado 47A/48A. Heather Petrakis 63B. Steve Manson 220D/221D/222D. Steve Manson 226D/227D. Allie Holmes 216D/217D. Emily Wheeler 145C

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Sale to enforce Self-Storage lien in default of payment of rent will be held at 10:00 AM. Saturday October 24, 2026, at Safe-T-Storage, 3825 N. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL. Tenants must pay in full by this date.
Unit 81 Rick Hale Petersburg IL
Unit 126 Laura Waite Springfield IL
Unit 132 Erik Hill Springfield IL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS - CHANCERY DIVISION CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. SCOTT ROBERTS; KAREN ROBERTS; SEC-RETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- SANGAMON COUNTY; CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Property Address: 1803 N 8TH ST, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
Case No.: 2026FC000204
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOL-LOWING, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and

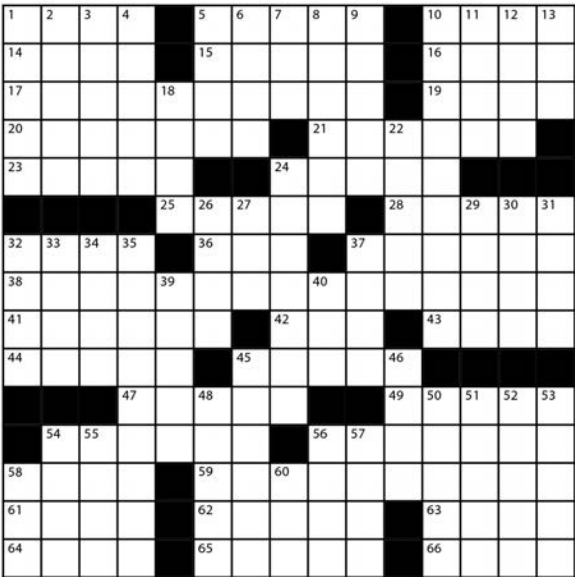
other defendants, asking for the foreclo-sure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 2 IN BLOCK 2 IN SAMUEL CAR-PENTER'S SUBDIVISION. ESCEPT ALL COAL, MINERALS AND MINING RIGHTS HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED OF RECORD. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 1803 N 8TH ST, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702
Names of the titleholders of record: SCOTT ROBERTS and KAREN ROBERTS.
Date of the Mortgage: July 24, 2008.
Name or names of the mortgagors: SCOTT ROBERTS and KAREN ROBERTS.
Name of the mortgagee: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A..
Date and place of recording: August 1, 2008; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of Sangamon County, Illinois.
Identification of recording: Document No. 2008R29618.
NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before November 14, 2026, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DE-FULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.
E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service pro-vider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org. For information about defending yourself in a court case (includ-ing filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to www.illinoislegalaid.org. You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLEC-TION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Lender Legal PLLC
1800 Pembrook Drive, Suite 360
Orlando, Florida 32810
Tel: (407) 730-4644
Service Emails: mjdiaz@lenderlegal.com EService@LenderLegal.com
LLS17787-IL- ROBERTS ___s/ Meaghan J. Diaz de Villegas, Esq. ___
Meaghan J. Diaz de Villegas, Esq.
Counsel of Record for Plaintiff
ARDC # 38990

Hits

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 967

Across

- Litter box users
- Hindu master
- Snake's warning
- Mine: Fr.
- Like forks
- Archipelago part
- Like some lines
- Prefix with -algia
- Create a flip book, say
- Big name in cosmetics
- "A pity"
- Med. centers
- Scarecrow stuffing
- Strainer
- Gymnast Korbut
- Mr. Rogers
- Extent
- Risk-it-all bet
- Block houses
- Suffix with pant or aunt
- Change for a twenty
- Stringed instruments
- Threw in
- Peace goddess
- Actor Milo
- Meet, as expectations
- Irish dogs
- Meat
- Let up
- Artist's stand
- Der ____: Adenauer
- Happy
- Twists
- Honk



Down

- Spanish houses
- ___ acid
- Author Morrison and singer Braxton
- Fraternity letter
- Leave in, as text
- Ring bearer
- Singer DiFranco
- Easygoing
- Think tank nuggets
- It may be 20/20
- "Amazing Grace" ending
- Bit of slander
- To be, in Barcelona
- Boys
- Unexpected sports outcome
- Rural outing
- ___ bien
- Aussie hopper
- Canal of song
- ___ diagram
- Brain tests, for short
- Lyrical
- Opera house box
- Shorebird
- Like child labor
- Two tablets, maybe
- France's longest river
- Actor Beatty
- Hooded jacket
- Lavish affection (on)

- Kitchen extensions?
- March parade VIP
- Conversation starter
- Muse of love poetry
- To this point
- Mideast money
- "___ girl!"
- Gush forth
- Building additions
- One of Captain Ahab's legs
- Expert finish?

JoshJosh

by J. Reynolds - No. 967

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.

24x		1-		13+	
	10+		11+		5
12+		3-		2÷	3-
3-	4x		36x		
		1-		1-	

Difficulty hard

Sudoku

No. 967

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

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

Difficulty medium

Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week

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

Crossword answers from #966

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

Sudoku answers from #966

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

JoshJosh answers from #966

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