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Lakeisha Purchase violated IDOT policy, report says

Ward 5 alderperson cited for ‘abusing’ state time through personal phone calls, political work

STATE | Dean Olsen

Lakeisha Purchase took part in phone calls unrelated to her job at the Illinois Department of Transportation for almost half of the time she was supposed to be working during an 18-month period in 2021 and 2022, a state report concluded.

Purchase, 35, the Springfield Ward 5 alderperson since September 2021, quit her job as an IDOT supportive services specialist on July 5, 2023, after about 14 years with the department.

She was interviewed by state investigators in September 2022 and resigned her \$72,000-a-year state job six months before IDOT received a report from the executive inspector general for the agencies of the Illinois governor.

The 20-page report, made public in late May, recommended that Purchase be disciplined “up to and including discharge.”

IDOT spokesperson Paul Wappel wouldn’t comment on whether the agency would seek reimbursement from Purchase or pursue criminal charges.

Wappel emailed a statement that said: “Through policy and repeated trainings, the Illinois Department of Transportation reinforces for employees that they will be held to the highest standards to ensure they are performing their state responsibilities on state time. The department takes appropriate action to address violations. We appreciate the recommendations in the report and the opportunity to remind our employees of the rules and responsibilities while working at IDOT.”

The OIG report said there is “reasonable cause to believe that Ms. Purchase violated IDOT policy by performing outside employment, including, at minimum, attending meetings and participating in phone calls related to her alderwoman and Capital Township trustee duties, during state time.”

The report also said Purchase was mostly working for IDOT remotely when OIG received its first complaint in late October 2021 that she

may be performing her aldermanic duties on state time.

In addition to “abusing state time,” the report said Purchase conducted “prohibited political activity, at a minimum by making and receiving phone calls and sending texts” when she was volunteering as an uncompensated central Illinois coordinator for Democrat Anna Valencia’s unsuccessful 2022 campaign for Illinois secretary of state.

Purchase declined an interview request from *Illinois Times* on May 31 and referred a reporter to a May 30 Facebook post on her aldermanic page in which she didn’t admit to any ethical lapses.

“While working for IDOT, I came up with multiple strategies to ensure that I could be present for and responsive to my constituents, like scheduling social media posts before working hours to happen later in the day, and clocking out multiple times per day or using personal time to take meetings related to city business and respond to constituent needs,” she wrote.

She continued in the post, which later was deleted: “I chose to leave state employment when it became clear that these strategies were not sufficient to provide the immediate responsiveness that my constituents expect and deserve.”

Though Purchase said she used “benefit time” to cover any meetings that occurred during her reported state work hours, there was no record of her submitting benefit time for any of the four Capital Township trustee meetings cited, as well as for a Sept. 28, 2021, lunch with then-Mayor Jim Langfelder, according to the OIG report.

Purchase “acknowledged that it was inappropriate for her to be on personal cellphone calls during her reported state work hours,” the report said. The report said the amount of personal cellphone usage on state time was “excessive.”

During the 18-month period studied, from March 2021 through August 2022, there were



279 days out of 301 workdays in which Purchase was on non-state calls exceeding one hour – the total time allotted for her lunch and breaks.

The report said there were 100 days in which non-state calls beyond the allowed lunch and break time totaled one to three hours; 132 days on which the calls totaled three to five hours; 44 days in which the calls totaled five to seven hours; and three days in which the calls totaled seven to eight hours.

Purchase told investigators that some of those calls “were personal calls that she made to, or received from, friends and family and were unrelated to her state employment,” according to the report.

“Ms. Purchase added that during the time of some of these calls, she was going through a difficult time personally, and these calls may have involved people checking in on her,” the report said. “Ms. Purchase acknowledged that it was inappropriate to be on personal calls during her reported state work hours.”

The OIG report said Purchase also violated IDOT policy by failing to properly report all of her outside employment to IDOT, including her work as a Capital Township trustee, her work as owner of Kashmir DST LLC, a residential real estate development and management company, and her activities when she was owner, sales director and had assets or earned income from properties – all associated with a company called

Precision 1-on-1 Properties.

She served as an elected Capital Township trustee from 2017 to September 2021. Trustees meet once a month and are paid \$100 per meeting.

Former mayor Langfelder nominated Purchase for City Council approval to fill the Ward 5 vacancy created when incumbent Andrew Proctor resigned to move to the Chicago area for work. Proctor defeated Purchase and former Ward 5 Ald. Sam Cahnman to gain a second four-year term in 2019.

Purchase’s nomination was approved by the council, and she was elected to a four-year term in April 2023, defeating Cahnman and write-in candidate Calvin Pitts.

Purchase has been on contract with Capstone Consulting, a lobbying firm owned by Springfield businessman Christopher Stone, since July 1, 2023, Stone said. The firm provides lobbying services to clients on state cannabis policy and state appropriations issues, Stone said.

Purchase has “done a pretty good job for us,” Stone said, adding that Purchase has been careful to avoid conflicts between her lobbying work and job as an alderperson.

The OIG report’s findings don’t affect Purchase’s ability to remain on the City Council.

When asked to comment, Haley Wilson, spokesperson for Mayor Misty Buscher, said the OIG report involves “a personal issue related to the alderwoman and not related to the city.”

Purchase supported Buscher when Buscher defeated Langfelder, the incumbent, in April 2023.

Purchase said in the Facebook post that representing residents of Ward 5, which includes parts of Springfield’s north side, downtown, near south and near west sides, is “my greatest honor and joy.” Like the other nine alderpersons, Purchase is paid \$16,667 per year.

Purchase wrote, “Being an alderwoman is a full-time job, and constituents rightly expect that I will participate in city-related meetings and events, so having other employment is necessary.”

Purchase grew up in the Chicago area, attended Proviso East High School in Maywood and graduated from Southern Illinois University Carbondale with a bachelor’s degree in political science. □

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

Editor’s note

In a blue state like Illinois some think “our” Republicans aren’t as trumpish as those we hear about on national news. I thought Illinois GOP leaders are just trying to hold the party together long enough for it to return to its respectable conservative roots, rather than embrace the politics of personal grievance fostered by Mr. Trump. It was surprising for me to hear Springfield attorney Don Tracy, the community leader who chairs the Illinois Republican Party, join the national chorus of Republicans calling Trump’s criminal conviction unfair. Tracy said the trial was “a political prosecution the likes of which occurs in banana republics but not previously in these United States,” and he blamed the “weaponization of the judicial system,” not the person convicted by a jury. Maybe blue state Republican leaders aren’t different. — Fletcher Farrar, editor

Legislation passes to help BOS Center expansion

County would have the ability to impose a 3% tax on hotel rooms

TOURISM | Dean Olsen

A bill recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly increases the likelihood a proposed \$93 million expansion of Springfield's convention center will become reality, a state lawmaker says.

"I do think this project is something that will really benefit and save the downtown," state Rep. Mike Coffey, R-Springfield, told *Illinois Times* on June 3.

House Bill 3144, which passed the Illinois House and Senate in late May, would give the Sangamon County Board the ability to impose up to a 3% tax on gross rental receipts from hotels in the county to help finance the proposed expansion of the Bank of Springfield Center, Coffey said.

The provision would create the option for an additional long-term funding mechanism for the project, which Coffey said financial institutions have told county leaders they want before they would consider lending money to finance a BOS Center expansion.

The provision was inserted as one paragraph in a 181-page bill that would eliminate the state's 1% grocery tax and give local governments the ability to impose their own grocery taxes to make up for any resulting lost revenue.

When it comes to the section concerning the Sangamon County Board, the legislation says money from a new hotel room tax would have to be spent on "sports, arts or other entertainment or tourism facilities or programs" to promote tourism and job growth, as well as any other programs "for the general health and well-being of the citizens of the county."

The bill will soon head to Gov. JB Pritzker's desk for his signature.

The Sangamon County Board voted in December 2023 to form what is known as a "tourism improvement district" covering the entire county. A 2023 tweak in state law dealing with the districts that was pushed by state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, gave the Sangamon County Board the unique

opportunity to form a district with a lifespan of 20 years rather than the five-year limit elsewhere in the state.

Current state law allows hotel representatives who will sit on a board that governs the Sangamon County Convention Center Tourism District to impose, and potentially suspend, a room tax. The tax would be paid by mostly out-of-town guests and would help fund convention center expansion.

Under HB 3144, the County Board would have the same authority. Coffey said representatives of financial institutions that issue bonds believe a funding mechanism to repay bonds would be more stable if the County Board, rather than hotel owners, were in control of the flow of tax revenue.

Owners of Springfield hotels were surprised that the legislation dealing with Sangamon County was introduced and passed, according to Darin Dame, president of the Springfield Hotel and Lodging Association.

"We are quite concerned and very confused," he said, adding that the association wasn't told why the Sangamon County paragraph was inserted in HB 3144. "We were kept in the dark the entire time," he said.

Dame declined to give the association's view of the legislation and said the group was awaiting a formal meeting with county officials.

Coffey referred *Illinois Times* to County Board Chairman Andy Van Meter for more information about Sangamon County government's support for the legislation.

Van Meter, a Springfield Republican, was unavailable for comment. But county spokesperson Jeff Wilhite emailed the newspaper a statement from Van Meter that said: "There are many components to this project, and we are still in the early stages of figuring out which components work best to get this project done. We sincerely appreciate the state's help providing as many tools

as possible."

Coffey said he voted for HB 3144, along with about half of the House's 40 Republicans, because the main part of the bill would reduce the amount of taxes paid by his constituents.

He said he also supported the section creating more options for funding the proposed BOS Center expansion to bring more convention business to Springfield.

In addition to serving in the legislature, Coffey is a downtown restaurant owner and chairperson of the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority Board. The board governs operations at the BOS Center.

Coffey, who said he has spearheaded the idea of a convention center expansion, said the section about the Sangamon County Board likely was inserted at the request of Turner because Democrats control the Senate.

Illinois Times tried to reach Turner for this story, but she didn't return a phone call, and an aide said Turner didn't have time to speak to the newspaper this week.

It's unclear when or whether the expansion will happen. Construction would take place on a county-owned parking lot on the west side of Ninth Street and immediately south of the BOS Center.

County Administrator Brian McFadden has said the project – the expansion and a potential new hotel – would have an estimated \$77 million economic impact. The project would add 232 permanent jobs to the BOS Center's current 175 part-time and full-time jobs.

The cost estimate for expansion, essentially doubling the convention center's size, came from a consulting firm called Conventions, Sports & Leisure International. CSL recommended any room rate surcharge be limited to 2% rather than the state-authorized limit of 5%.

CSL also recommended a new 300-bed hotel –

which Coffey said would cost about \$100 million – be constructed next to the expanded center to maximize the expansion's potential.

If a new room tax were limited to 2%, state assistance would be needed to help pay for BOS Center Expansion, McFadden said. Economic incentives for investors would be needed for any future public-private partnership to build a new hotel next to the BOS Center expansion, he said.

CSL said local leaders should consider instituting an additional tax on restaurant food to help pay for the project.

With the county's only home-rule form of government, the Springfield City Council could vote to put such a tax in place, but Mayor Misty Buscher said June 4 there's "no appetite" on the council to impose additional taxes on residents after the council recently increased water and sewer rates.

"It wasn't that they don't like the project," said Buscher, who polled individual alderpersons to gauge their reactions.

The mayor said she wouldn't be in favor of a new tax on restaurant food, either, and wants to see more precise estimates and designs before the project proceeds.

"I would love to see the BOS Center expand, but I think we need to be mindful, not only of how we pay for it but how big it is and what the improvements are and what they would look like. We are never going to be an LA or a Chicago or a Dallas, Texas, so we don't want to overbuild."

Buscher said she also wants to see an additional hotel downtown. Otherwise, she said, Springfield wouldn't have enough hotel rooms to accommodate visitors once the Scheels Sports Park at Legacy Pointe opens in spring 2025.

"I am in favor of the project," she said. "I think it would be a great thing for our downtown." □



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Rebuilding the Catholic church

Former Chiara Center to become trade school focused on traditional Catholic education

EDUCATION | Scott Reeder

Imagine a place where pupils study Aristotle and also learn how to plane boards.

San Damiano College for the Trades will do just that.

The future central Illinois school just hired its first president, Kent Lasnoski, who is moving to Springfield from Wyoming, where he led another Catholic college. He hopes to open the doors for San Damiano in the fall of 2025 on the campus of the former Chiara Center, located on the grounds of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis in Springfield. The Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross operated the St. James Trade School there from 1928 to 1972.

The purpose of the school is to prepare young people to work in trades such as carpentry, plumbing and electrical contracting. But the philosophy of the school is to teach students to think critically using the “Great Books” curriculum.

“We ought to teach people things that everybody everywhere ought to know,” Lasnoski said. “And the best way to do that is to learn from the greatest teachers of all time, and those are the ones who have expressed and thought the greatest things and said them in the most beautiful and thoughtful and profound ways.”

He foresees the college, which will award associate degrees, will draw students from a national pool of applicants but it will focus on what the needs are for the building trades in central Illinois.

Greg Fleck, who has worked in the building trades for more than 50 years, says the local need for skilled tradesmen and women is great.

“Every vendor that I deal with is having employment shortages. ... They are, in fact, way behind because they don’t have enough people for the demand that they have for their services.”

Fleck is the director for property, buildings and cemeteries for the Diocese of Springfield and serves on the board overseeing the new college. He previously



San Damiano College for the Trades is currently accepting applications for its inaugural class in the fall of 2025. The three-year trade school, geared toward young men, will be located on the former Springfield campus of the Chiara Center.

PHOTO COURTESY DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

worked in the private sector.

The school is the brainchild of Bishop Thomas Paprocki, one of the most high-profile conservative Catholic prelates in the U.S.

“The San Damiano College for the Trades offers a truly unique opportunity for full formation of the human person – morally, spiritually, intellectually and practically – in trades that are facing a demographic crisis,” Paprocki said in a prepared statement. “Praise God that young people are expressing renewed interest in these essential and dignified lines of work, and San Damiano ensures that, in addition to technical and skills training, students will also be well-formed to serve customers and the community while also leading families and businesses.”

Paprocki has expressed his desire for a Catholic associate’s degree option in Springfield since the Ursuline Springfield College and Benedictine

University closed. San Damiano College is applying for operating authority from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Unlike many associate-degree programs, San Damiano’s will require three years of schooling. In the final year, students would apprentice 40 hours per week in their chosen trade. The annual cost including tuition and room and board will be \$25,000, Lasnoski said.

Lasnoski said the inaugural class will likely be 26 men. He said the school anticipates admitting women after it has been open five years or so.

While women will be free to join any program offered by the college, Lasnoski said potential curriculums that may have broader appeal among female students would include programs training individuals to become nursing assistants, art restorers and ecclesial seamstresses.

While there are existing trades training programs offered by community colleges and labor unions, what will set this program apart is the academics, Lasnoski said.

“Industrialization and the assembly line endeavored to alienate thought from work,” Lasnoski said. “And so, when you hear people talking about the trades, we usually think of it as something you do with your hands, but your brain is not really involved. The fact of the matter is that if you’re really engaged in something like auto mechanic work or carpentry, it’s cognitively rich. It’s thoughtful. It’s problem-solving. It’s the kind of thing that if you don’t have an active mind, you won’t be good at and you won’t enjoy for that matter. (The trades are) perfectly matched for thinkers and philosophers.”

Preserving tradition within Catholicism is a reason for the college.

“It is absolutely tradition-focused, as is any real trade program – or any kind of real education program – should be. Because to learn a trade is to undergo the profoundly challenging activity of receiving wisdom and skill from those who have possessed it before you,” Lasnoski said.

The motto of the school is “Rebuild My Church.”

Lasnoski said the purpose of the school is to rebuild the Catholic Church culturally, spiritually, liturgically and manually.

“It is absolutely a pushback against liberalism within the Catholic Church. But not in a sort of reactionary way. It’s not like we’re just reacting against bad. We’re trying to do a good thing. We’re trying to build ... restore and rebuild the goodness and beauty of the church in every sense,” he said. □

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

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OPINION

LETTERS

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WORK ON THE BIGGER PICTURE

The lack of affordable housing, the deplorable condition of properties, racial disparities in educational outcomes and the labor market are issues that need immediate attention from the city and community leaders ("City launches program to rehab east-side homes," May 16).

The city determines areas such as downtown Springfield, Aristocracy Hill, the Historic West Side and Lincoln Park to be of value and the residents of those neighborhoods a priority. When people look at the east side, they see problems, and they fail to see the people.

The east side of Springfield deserves more than an experimental pilot program. The problems on the east side require a solution that can only come from serious and determined effort. This project will have no effect without cooperation and sincere partnership between the city and the east-side community. Planning and implementing the project has to be a collaboration. This inclusive approach ensures that the needs and voices of those directly impacted are heard and addressed. It builds trust and a sense of ownership among all stakeholders involved.

Spending \$120,000 to remodel a single-story, two-bedroom, 910-square-foot house is not economical, nor does it reflect the concept of affordable housing. Not many people are willing to purchase a \$120,000 house in a neighborhood where other houses are boarded up. With focused planning, that money could be enough to remodel the entire block.

Education and training have to be met with opportunity to have any effect. The construction company to head this project needs to be a company formed from the east side or other low-income communities. The funding allocated to serve low-income people pays



A bank donated the house at 1933 E. Cedar St. to the city, which now plans to renovate it and offer it for sale as part of a pilot program geared toward helping first-time homebuyers by rehabilitating dilapidated properties on the city's east side.

outside service providers, and none of that money ever circulates within the community.

Kendra Barlow-Johnson
Via illinoistimes.com

FIX IT UP

I used to live at Lincoln Tower Apartments in 2017-2018 ("Lawsuits for Lincoln Tower Apartments," May 23). It's a shame it's gone downhill so much – it could be such a great building. I loved being close to my downtown job, shops, festivals, etc. It had beautiful sunrises facing east, cheap utilities, trash chutes, a small gym and was convenient to all the downtown businesses.

I left in part because the management didn't seem to know what they were doing. Luckily, at the time I lived there, the elevators still usually all worked and the underground parking was still usable. I can't imagine living there now.

It could be such a great place for downtown workers who want to live in a walkable area. For everyone's sake, I hope they're able to fix it up again.

Caroline Kionka
Via illinoistimes.com

CONSIDER THE COSTS

On the drive to Chicago up Interstate 55, you pass a long section

near Bolingbrook of nothing but these massive logistics warehouses ("Frito-Lay distribution center slated to be built in Springfield," May 30). The communities around them thought this would be a boon, but it hasn't been as big a success as imagined and comes with a downside.

The warehouses are highly automated, so the number of workers is less than you think. The work is very hard on the body and churns through people relatively quickly. The heavy truck traffic in and out tears up the local roads something fierce, and it's noisy day and night. It can make commutes to work and school more difficult.

As the warehouses age out, they are not repaired, but abandoned for other tenants or sometimes just left empty. This can happen in a shorter time frame than you might imagine.

I'm not saying don't do it, but really examine the costs and benefits and know what you are getting. This is what has happened to other communities who didn't check all the angles first.

Mark Suszko
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

A LIFESAVER

I moved from the Springfield area to Indiana, not far from Frankfort, where there is another Frito-Lay plant. Work like this pays well and supports whole families, especially families who have otherwise been down on their luck or haven't been able to complete an education.

When I lost my job in 2020, factory work was a life-saving fallback for me. I could walk in and get a job right away with benefits, a regular schedule and enough money to keep my house. You may see it as a tin box, but people who drive development like this away from their communities truly do not understand what they're giving up. Have you thought about how many kids are in 200 families? Those jobs are clothes on their backs and food in their mouths. I don't say this lightly, but truly if I had been in Springfield in 2020 instead of factory-rich Indiana, I would probably have gone on welfare and lost my house.

Jessie Plowman
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes

FAMILY STORY NEVER FORGOT

My little brother spoke with a pre-school lisp. Our Mother said to him once, after he'd committed some small misdemeanor, "Craig, why can't you be a good little boy?" He replied solemnly, "Mommy, little boys have to be good some of the time and little boys have to be bad some of the time. I should think you'd know this by THITH time!"

2024 *Jacqueline Jackson*

Budget deal gets ugly

POLITICS | Rich Miller

Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch gave added meaning to the phrase “winning ugly” during the early morning hours of May 29.

I’ve never seen anything like it, so let’s take a look.

House members were told to be in their seats by noon on May 28 after the Senate had easily passed the entire budget package two days prior.

But the House session was delayed for endless hours as rumors swirled about a “mini revolt” against the budget deal struck by Gov. JB Pritzker, Senate President Don Harmon and Speaker Welch. Some of the more fiscally moderate Democrats objected to the budget’s level of spending and particularly the revenue proposals, much of which they did not support as stand-alone proposals.

The House Speaker has an unwritten rule that no bill can move forward without 60 House Democratic votes. But many of the revenue-enhancing proposals that Speaker Welch agreed to with Gov. JB Pritzker and Senate President Don Harmon did not have that level of support. So some of the “mods” were quite grumpy.

The appropriations bill passed with 65 House Democratic votes, with seven Democrats voting against it. The budget implementation bill passed with a more narrow 62-vote margin with eight Democrats voting against it and two progressives taking a walk.

After a bill eliminating the grocery tax passed with 86 votes and three Democrats voting “No,” the time came for what turned out to be the main attraction: The revenue omnibus bill.

Democratic Rep. Fred Crespo, who had earlier voted for the spending bill, warned his colleagues about massive spending pressures next year. “We have a moral obligation to look after taxpayers,” Crespo said, telling members to “vote your conscience.” He voted against it.

At one point during the debate, the Republicans requested a verification of the roll call, meaning that all members who voted for the bill had to be in the chamber. That request clearly caught the super-majority by surprise. Several Democrats were against this bill, and the HDems were missing five people, two of whom were members of Welch’s leadership team and one of those (Rep. Aaron Ortiz) had skipped town without telling anyone. Plus, they had some political targets to protect from a potentially controversial tax hike vote.

“Well, it is 3:36 in the morning in the last week of May,” sponsoring Rep. Kelly Burke, D-Evergreen Park, who is retiring at the end of her term, said during her closing remarks after a grueling hour of debate. “And I gotta tell ya, I’m

not gonna miss this.”

Little did she know.

Rep. Burke’s concurrence motion received 60 votes, with 12 House Democrats voting against it (including Crespo). That’s when everyone realized that Rep. Ortiz had left town, so he was verified off the roll call and the bill didn’t have enough votes to pass.

Over strenuous Republican objections, Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz, who had voted “No,” moved to reconsider the vote. That motion carried with 67 votes (these parliamentary votes generally rely heavily on party unity). The second try at a concurrence motion received 60 votes, but the Republicans played the old fake-out game and had one of their own (Rep. Randy Frese) vote “Yes.”

Numerous sources said Democratic Rep. Larry Walsh was supposed to vote for the bill, but he apparently saw the total hit 60 on the big board and stayed at “No.”

Oops.

After much delay, Rep. Frese was verified off the roll call and the motion failed again. House

rules barred any more motions. Two concurrence motions is the limit. The bill should’ve been dead. But the Democrats then decided to just go ahead and suspend their own rule. Republicans were incensed, but Rep. Gong Gershowitz again moved to reconsider the vote, which passed 62-42. And then Rep. Walsh finally voted for the third concurrence motion and it passed 60-47, more than two hours after debate began at 4:30 in the morning.

House Republican Floor Leader Patrick Windhorst is probably the most even-keeled person in the House, but he let loose. “I think it should be clear to everyone in this state what this super majority is willing to do to ram a tax increase down the throats of the citizens of Illinois at 4:30 in the morning,” Windhorst said, his voice eventually rising to a shout. “Three votes! Three votes!”

Give Speaker Welch credit for persistence. He was duty-bound to pass this package. Failure could’ve been catastrophic for him. But you really gotta wonder if he could’ve possibly mollified a few more of his members before he locked in that budget deal. □



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Democrats pass \$53.1 billion budget

Includes \$1.1 billion in revenue increases

STATEHOUSE | Jerry Nowicki, Capitol News Illinois

After a near-derailment and an all-nighter to wrap up the General Assembly's spring session, supermajority Democrats in the Illinois House gave final legislative approval to the state budget as the sun rose the morning of May 29.

Despite holding 78 seats in the chamber, it took Democrats three tries to reach the 60 votes needed to approve more than \$1.1 billion in revenue increases, including a tax hike on sportsbooks and businesses, to balance the \$53.1 billion spending plan for fiscal year 2025.

The spending plan passed 65-45, with seven Democrats joining Republicans in opposition.

The revenue plan that capped the voting on the budget-related bills was more of a challenge. House Bill 4951 fell one vote short of passage twice after 4 a.m. due to attendance issues. On the third try – after about an hour of procedural maneuvering by Republicans that left Democrats reeling – the bill passed at 4:43 a.m. with the minimum 60 votes necessary.

“You – you passed these rules,” Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, scolded Democrats after the majority party voted to suspend the House rules in order to bring the revenue plan up for a vote a third and final time. “I think it should be clear to everyone in the state what this supermajority is willing to do to ram a tax increase down the throats of the citizens of Illinois at 4:30 in the morning,” he added.

Democrats had earlier highlighted that despite a tight fiscal year, the budget would send \$198 million to the state's “rainy day” fund and make the full payment into the state's pension systems that is required by law.

Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth, a Peoria Democrat and the lead budget negotiator in the House, pointed to the state's nine credit upgrades of the past four years. And she noted a backlog of unpaid bills that reached nearly \$17 billion seven years ago under Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner has shrunk to a bill payment cycle that lasts “mere days.”

“Democrats have set this state on a fiscally responsible course, one that will continue with today's state budget,” she said.

Gov. JB Pritzker says he'll sign the plan for the fiscal year that begins July 1, which spends about \$400 million more than what he requested in his February budget address. In a statement after its passage, the governor claimed investments made in the budget will grow Illinois' economy and continue a “track record of fiscal responsibility” while prioritizing working families.



State Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth, D-Peoria, introduces the state's operating budget in the early hours of May 29 at the Capitol. The budget passed after 1 a.m., with Gordon-Booth calling it “balanced, responsible and fair.”

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
PHOTO BY ANDREW ADAMS

“From expectant mothers and their newborn babies to people with disabilities to veterans to seniors who need our care, we're keeping our promises to all Illinoisans and the most vulnerable among us,” Pritzker said.

The budget cleared the General Assembly five days after lawmakers had scheduled their spring session's adjournment, although the May 24 deadline was a largely arbitrary date that left a week on the calendar as a contingency plan. Negotiations were complicated by inflation and other spending pressures driving up the expected cost of government, while economists predict the state's economy will slow in the upcoming fiscal year.

Still, Democrats approved the spending plan with several votes to spare but no Republican support – as they've done every year in Pritzker's tenure except the first in 2019.

Republicans argued the pace of spending growth – and the fact that some of the revenues raised to pay for it are temporary – set the state on pace for an even tighter fiscal year 2026.

Overall, state spending grew by about 5% from last year's enacted plan, or about 1.6% above expected end-of-year expenditures following a supplemental spending plan's inclusion in the budget package this week.

Democrats highlighted a \$50 million appropriation for a child tax credit for children

under 12 if their household qualifies for the state's Earned Income Tax Credit. The plan contains \$200 million for after-school and summer youth programs and \$45 million for grants through the Reimagine Public Safety Act aimed at violence reduction.

But Republicans accused Democrats of having misplaced priorities, pointing to hundreds of millions of dollars for programs serving noncitizens.

The budget includes \$182 million to provide shelter, health care and other services for recently arrived migrants, many of whom have been bused to the state from Texas. And it includes \$440 million from the GRF for two programs providing state-funded Medicaid-like benefits to noncitizens, with \$189 million from other state funds as well.

New revenues

More than \$1.1 billion in added revenue was needed to balance the books, so lawmakers extended an expiring cap on corporate net operating losses to ensure that \$526 million in tax dollars wouldn't disappear in FY25. Another \$25 million will be raised by subjecting “re-renters” of hotel rooms to an existing state hotel tax.

Sportsbooks will see their current 15% tax rate on profits increase via a new graduated structure that will tax between 20% and 40%, based on profits. The change is projected to bring in about \$200 million to the state's General Revenue Fund. A 1%

increase to the tax on the state's video gambling industry would generate an additional \$35 million for infrastructure projects next year.

The revenue plan also caps a tax discount claimed by retailers at \$1,000 monthly, generating \$101 million for state coffers and about \$85 million for municipalities.

To appease retailers, lawmakers included a prohibition on financial institutions and credit card companies charging fees on the sales tax and gratuity portion of electronic transactions beginning July 1, 2025.

The Illinois Retail Merchants Association was also given a \$5 million line item for workforce grants.

Rep. Fred Crespo, D-Hoffman Estates, voted for the budget, but during debate over the revenue proposal, he said he was disappointed that leadership didn't consider hiring freezes, changes to weight loss drugs covered by state insurance or other spending controls he suggested.

“There's really only one place you can look at getting these revenues, and that's taxpayers,” he said before voting against the bill. “And at this rate, ladies and gentlemen, we're gonna run out of taxpayer dollars to spend.”

The budget package also freed up about \$200 million in revenue by redirecting \$150 million from the Road Fund and \$50 million from the Leaking Underground Storage Fund to public transit. The move was opposed by organized labor because it diverts Road Fund money to the state's discretionary spending fund, but Democrats promised it would only happen in the upcoming fiscal year.

“I can go through this list of tax increases that you're using to say that you're being good fiscal stewards of the state's money,” Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer, R-Jacksonville, said in a committee hearing the evening before the early morning vote. “Meanwhile, I'm hearing about making sure that there's Democrat pork projects, to make sure that you can get the votes for your budget.”

Davidsmeyer contended Democratic senators were each given the authority to request \$3 million in district-specific infrastructure projects in the budget, while Democratic members of the House got about \$1.5 million each. Republicans were shut out of requesting their own member initiatives.

District-specific projects have been used time and again to incentivize members to vote for the budget, with the *Chicago Tribune* tracking at least \$150 million in infrastructure spending for lawmaker-led initiatives in the current-year budget.

No spokespeople would confirm or deny the amount allocated for lawmaker initiatives.

The final roughly 80 pages of the budget bill contain a long list of projects, most of them ranging from \$50,000 to \$1 million sums to various specifically named businesses, local governments and other entities.

Infrastructure and more

Despite the diversion of money from the Road Fund, the budget includes \$3.5 billion for infrastructure – about \$500 million more than what Pritzker had outlined in his February budget proposal.

That includes \$500 million to support the development of a regional quantum information science and technology campus, allocated from a specific economic-development focused bond fund known as Build Illinois.

Another bill allowing the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to designate “quantum campuses” also lays out infrastructure and business incentives to lure developers of new-age higher-speed computing technology to the state. That measure also expands and extends several other popular tax credit programs, such as the Reimagining Energy and Vehicles Act and the Economic Development for a Growing Economy, or EDGE, program.

The state’s municipalities, meanwhile, will get another \$400 million for local road projects, a measure that helped neutralize their opposition to a part of the budget plan that eliminates one of their sources of revenue – the statewide 1% grocery tax.

But the grocery tax repeal won’t happen until 2026, and local governments will be given authority to enact their own grocery tax up to 1% without a referendum. Home rule jurisdictions will be able to increase their sales tax by up to 1% without a referendum as well.

Other spending items include:

- Funding for a 5% pay hike for lawmakers’ base salary to \$93,712. State law sets lawmakers’ pay to increase annually with inflation, and lawmakers took no action to stop it from occurring in FY25.

- The annual \$350 million increase in K-12 education funding, called for by a 2017 law that overhauled Illinois’ school funding formula.

- A 2% – or \$30 million – increase for community colleges and public universities.

- A \$10 million increase to Monetary Award Program grants for lower-income college students.

- Full funding for Pritzker’s “Smart Start” plan aimed at adding 5,000 preschool seats across the state and providing workforce grants.

- \$14 million to launch the newly created Department of Early Childhood, which Pritzker



has promised would streamline services currently provided by three different state agencies.

- \$45 million for a teacher vacancy pilot program to help underserved districts with teacher retention.

- A \$1 hourly increase for direct service professionals who serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in community-based settings.

- An increase totaling \$70 million for Community Care Program workers serving older adults who can’t live independently.

- \$5 million for a tax credit program for news outlets beginning in 2025 and claimable the following year.

- \$10 million for the governor’s plan to erase \$100 million in total medical debt for Illinoisans through a partnership with the nonprofit Undue Medical Debt. Applicants must earn 400% of the federal poverty level or less.

- \$900 million for renovation at state prisons, including a possible tear down and rebuild of Stateville and Logan Correctional Centers.

- \$4 million to create a statewide maternal health plan and distribute grants to community-based reproductive health care providers.

- \$155 million for safety net hospitals.

- A \$90 million increase for Home Illinois, a program created last year to address homelessness, bringing total funding to \$290 million.

Hannah Meisel contributed to this reporting.

General Assembly passes 466 bills this season

Bans 'captive audience' meetings, allows digital driver's licenses and passes AI regulations

STATEHOUSE | Alex Abbeduto, Cole Longcor and Dilpreet Raju, Capitol News Illinois

A bill banning what unions refer to as employer-sponsored "captive audience" meetings about religion and politics has cleared both chambers of the General Assembly.

It was one of 466 measures to do so during the Illinois legislature's recently concluded spring session, including measures targeting artificial intelligence and allowing for digital driver's licenses. A Capitol News Illinois analysis shows 287 of the bills passed in the session's final two weeks.

If the "captive audience" bill is signed by the governor, employers would still be allowed to discuss religion and politics with employees, but workers would have the right to skip the meeting, whether on or off the clock, without retaliation.

The Illinois AFL-CIO labor organization brought the legislation to state Sen. Robert Peters, D-Chicago, and celebrated its passage as a win for workers. In a news release, Illinois AFL-CIO President Tim Drea said the meetings "are a direct violation of workers' rights."

The meetings were made legal in 1947 under what's known as the Taft-Hartley Act. But labor advocates across the country, including other state chapters of the AFL-CIO and the current National Labor Review Board General Counsel, Jennifer Abruzzo, are working to definitively outlaw mandatory attendance at meetings where anti-union rhetoric is shared.

Citing the Colorado governor's recent veto of similar legislation in which he said he would sign a narrower and more neutral bill, Sen. Jason Plummer, R-Edwardsville, said during debate that the pending legislation, particularly who it would impact and how, is not well-defined.

"Let's not play politics with unconstitutional legislation that's going to get thrown out in the court of law," Plummer said.

Of the six states that have introduced similar legislation, only two have ongoing lawsuits. One is in Minnesota, filed by business groups including the National Federation of Independent Business Inc., and another is in Colorado, which was partially dismissed in 2023.

Senate Bill 3649 advanced out of the Senate on partisan lines, 39-18, after clearing the House 79-30 with some Republican support. The final version was amended to specifically exclude certain groups – including 501(c)(4, 5 and 6) organizations – that participate in lobbying activities and generally exist for the purpose of advocacy. The bill still needs to be signed by the governor to become law.

Artificial intelligence protections

A bill that would outlaw the creation and sharing of



child pornography made using artificial intelligence was one of several AI-focused measures to clear the General Assembly in its final days.

House Bill 4623, which was backed by Attorney General Kwame Raoul, would expand current child pornography laws to also cover AI-generated child pornography.

Backers of the bill said if AI-generated child pornography rapidly increases, law enforcement's ability to identify real cases would be more difficult.

The bill, which passed both chambers unanimously, would also ban the distribution of various AI-generated sexual images without consent.

House Bill 4875 would protect individuals from having their voice, image or likeness duplicated by AI for commercial purposes without their consent. The bill would allow recording artists and those they contract with to seek damages for nonconsensual use of their likeness.

The measure, as amended, cleared both chambers unanimously.

House Bill 4762, also passed by both chambers unanimously, would protect performers and other individuals from wrongful use of AI replicas. The bill would make contracts unenforceable if the performer would have performed in person, the use of the digital replica was not defined or detailed in the agreement, and if they were not represented by a lawyer or labor union during the agreement.

Digital IDs

The secretary of state's office would be able to issue digital identification such as driver's licenses, learner's permits or state IDs to Illinois residents under House Bill 4592, which passed both chambers

unanimously.

The cards would be issued "in addition to, and not instead of" a physical ID, under the bill.

The measure has an effective date of Jan. 1, 2025, giving the secretary of state's office time to implement and test a new digital ID platform before it goes live.

Under the bill, agencies and private entities may choose if they want to accept electronic IDs in place of physical ones, but "upon request by law enforcement, a credential holder must provide the credential holder's physical credential."

A digital phone application that registers identification cards with the secretary of state's office would cost a maximum of \$6 under the bill heading to the governor's desk.

In 2021, the American Civil Liberties Union published a report warning of potential privacy risks that could come with digitizing government IDs. The bill addresses some concerns by barring law enforcement from requesting or searching through an individual's phone.

It also requires the secretary of state's office to "use an electronic credential system that is designed to maximize the privacy of the credential holder ... and shall not track or compile information without the credential holder's consent."

Family obligation discrimination

House Bill 2161 bans workplace discrimination based on family responsibilities.

Senate sponsor Sen. Natalie Toro, D-Chicago, said the bill's goal is to "prohibit discrimination on an assumption that your family responsibility will impede your work performance."

For example, Toro said, a woman cannot currently be passed over for a promotion because of her family status if the promotion goes to a man with a similar status. But she could lose out on the promotion to another woman with no children.

Sen. Jil Tracy, R-Quincy, called the bill unnecessary, as the U.S. Supreme Court has interpreted federal Title VII – which prohibits gender and sex-based discrimination – to apply to cases regarding family obligations.

The bill passed the Senate 37-19 and the House 74-29. It will become law if signed by the governor.

Exoneree higher education benefits

Senate Bill 3771 allows exonerated individuals to pass a state benefit covering higher education costs on to dependents. It passed the Senate 45-11 and the House 71-38.

Illinois leads the nation in exonerated individuals, with over 500 people having wrongful convictions overturned. Payouts to exonerees in Illinois remain some of the lowest in the country, but the Higher Education Student Assistance Act covers public university tuition and fees for exonerees.

The bill allows the state benefit to cover private, not-for-profit university costs so long as the total does not "exceed the maximum grant payable" towards a grantee in "the most expensive comparable" program at an Illinois public university.

If the recipient, either an exoneree or their dependent, maintains "satisfactory academic progress," grant funds can pay up to eight semesters or 12 quarters of full tuition and mandatory fees.

Mold public health campaign

Senate Bill 1087 requires the Illinois Department of Public Health to create a public health awareness campaign informing the public about the dangers and importance of removing indoor mold. It also requires IDPH to establish "procedures for parties that provide mold remediation services to register with the state."

The bill passed out of both chambers without opposition.

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JUNETEENTH

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JUNE 13TH - LEVITT AMP CONCERT SERIES AT 4TH & JACKSON 6PM

**JUNE 14TH - FREEISH LUNCH AND LEARN PANEL AT ALPLM 12PM
MUSEUM PARTY AT IL STATE MUSEUM (ALL DAY EVENT)
MR. & MISS JUNETEENTH PAGEANT 6PM
(SOUTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM)**

**JUNE 15TH - ANNUAL PARADE AT MLK 10AM
PARK CELEBRATION DAY 1 AT COMER COX PARK 11AM
LIVE NATIONAL ACT- MORRIS DAY AND THE TIME 7PM**

**JUNE 16TH - PARK CELEBRATION DAY 2 AT COMER COX PARK
FITNESS IN THE PARK 9AM
OUTDOOR CHURCH SERVICE 10AM**

**JUNE 17TH - STOP THE VIOLENCE COMMUNITY PANEL
AT ONE IN A MILLION 6PM**

**JUNE 18TH - YOUTH ENRICHMENT CAMP AT
ROUTE HISTORY MUSEUM**

**JUNE 18TH - COMMUNITY DISCUSSION WITH AUTHOR ANNETTE
GORDON REID ABOUT "ON JUNETEENTH "
HER NEW YORK BEST-SELLING BOOK AT ALPLM 6PM**

**JUNE 19TH - JUNETEENTH YOUTH BREAKFAST 10AM
AT LINCOLN LAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE - TRUTTER CENTER**

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From left to right: Matt Woodsen, Damien Kaplan, Cooper Coker and Gavin Gardner star in the musical *Jersey Boys*, which documents the many decades of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. PHOTO BY MATT FRANKLIN

Oh, what a night!

The Muni hits high notes with *Jersey Boys*

THEATER | Courtney Wick

The Muni's *Jersey Boys* is an impressive, energy-packed romp documenting the many decades of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. It is brilliantly structured, with each of the original Four Seasons narrating a different "season" of their lives. The story begins on the seedy streets of their youth and transitions to their 1960s Top-40 glory – then to their inevitable fall from the height of fame. Unlike most jukebox musicals, where songs are cut into an independent storyline, the songs in *Jersey Boys* are the story, sung to us through a biographical musical timeline. With classic numbers like "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry" and "Walk Like a Man," *Jersey Boys* continuously delivers hits that feel like home.

Directing duo Christie Lazarides and Craig Williams have wanted to bring this show to Springfield for a long time. "I first saw *Jersey Boys* in Chicago in 2009 and was immediately captivated," Lazarides said. "I have never before wanted to turn right around, sit down and watch an entire show again."

She and Williams have created that same joyous energy at The Muni. The show's perpetual scene-to-scene motion develops like a movie reel, with layers of background activity and interesting characters peppering the stage. This is accomplished with a cast of only 20 people, with each ensemble member playing at least two and as many as 15 different

characters. Even with the many quick changes and moving pieces, each beat of their *Jersey Boys* is seamless, dynamic and fun.

We are first introduced to Tommy Devito, a degenerate hustler and musician who brought the group together, played masterfully by Gavin Gardner. Gardner turns on a gameshow host smile during his well-crooned musical numbers while maintaining Devito's slimeball persona. He's a guy you love to hate.

Cooper Coker plays teenage prodigy Bob Gaudio, and is expertly cast, considering Coker is an amazing vocalist at only 17 years old himself. He's decades younger than some of his fellow castmates, but said that didn't create any barriers.

"I'm an old soul," said Coker. "When the four of us were cast we all messaged each other, then we went to dinner and boom, it clicked. We love hanging out," he said.

The true magic of the show exudes from how in-sync the four leads are. Their harmonies are tight and pitch-perfect, thanks to vocal director Zoey Zara. The choreography by Anna Maisenbacher is both vibrant and nostalgic. You might forget you're not watching the actual Four Seasons, and it's hard to tell where the characters begin and the person playing that character ends. Even after a late-night rehearsal, the four of them – now the only ones left onstage – were laughing and playfully shoving

each other in a tight circle, just like any real-life musical group would be after a proud performance.

The second act showcases Matt Woodsen's narration as Nick Massi. Woodsen shines as the quietest member of The Four Seasons. He ably depicts the delicate balance between Massi's neuroticisms and his well-justified growing bitterness toward his bandmates.

The final narrator is Frankie Valli himself. Damien Kaplan's portrayal of Valli is particularly noteworthy, a masterclass in embodying the transformation of a naïve, young singer into the seasoned star grappling with fame. Kaplan's vocal prowess is on full display, effortlessly hitting high notes that define Valli's signature sound while conveying the emotional depth of his character. Kaplan has been waiting a long time to play this part, and it shows.

"It is by far my favorite role," Kaplan said. "I've wanted to play Frankie Valli since I first saw it in the early 2000s." Valli wraps up the show by walking offstage to continue touring, which he still does to this day.

My only critique of the script itself is the underdevelopment of the female characters, who appear as peripheral figures to supplement the male-dominated narrative. Despite this, performers like Ellen Tuttle as a reporter, Lorraine, and Leanne Telger as Valli's daughter,

Francine, manage to shine with vulnerable authenticity. A standout is Molly Schunicht, whose portrayal of Valli's rough-and-tumble first wife felt both visceral and sincere. Jakob Hankins' Joe Pesci (yes, that Joe Pesci) is also a spot-on, funny performance. The entire cast is a tour de force.

I highly recommend seeing this tune-filled time capsule. Whether you're a lifelong fan of The Four Seasons or a newcomer to their sound, The Muni's *Jersey Boys* will leave you dancing in your seat. This is one of Springfield's theatrical triumphs you truly shouldn't miss. □

Courtney Wick is a freelance writer from Springfield who is active in the area theater scene. Most recently, she wrote and directed the murder-mystery comedy "Nightmare at the Hot Mess Hair Salon," a follow-up to her previous production, "Nightmare at the Sweet Dreams Inn."

Jersey Boys continues its run at the Springfield Muni Opera, June 5-8. Performances start at 8:30 p.m. and tickets are available at TheMuni.org, or at The Muni box office beginning 90 minutes before each performance.

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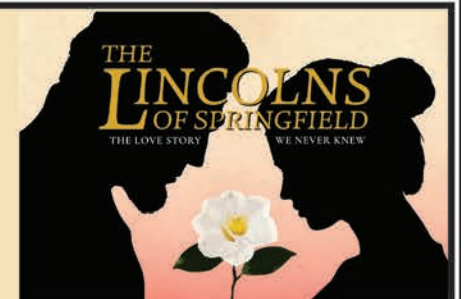
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Keep picnic menus simple

Pair bread, cold cuts and wine with summertime entertainment

FOOD | Peter Glatz

I am very passionate about both food and music and few things bring me more pleasure than dining al fresco at a musical performance. Al fresco in Italian translates to “in the cool,” and has come to refer to dining in the fresh air. The combination of delicious food, live music and a beautiful outdoor setting can create an enjoyable experience. Summertime in the Land of Lincoln provides numerous opportunities to pack a picnic basket and catch a show. The Springfield Muni and Levitt AMP Springfield Music Series, and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington are perfect places to enjoy a moveable feast.

My first experiences picnicking at an outdoor performance venue go back to my college days when general admission lawn seats at Highland Park’s Ravinia Festival were only \$10. (This summer, lawn seats for James Taylor will set you back \$77!) My early picnics usually consisted of submarine sandwiches purchased at an Italian deli. Sprawled out on a blanket, I was perfectly content. But as I looked around, I grew envious of the well-heeled folks who carted in tables, chairs, tablecloths, candelabras, champagne buckets and an elaborate spread of food.

In later years, my festival picnics also grew way too elaborate and I let my ego forgo sensibility. I planned complex menus which took me hours to assemble. I upgraded my set to a large wagon with a cooler, picnic basket, chairs and table all precariously secured with bungee cords. One day, as I huffed and puffed, pulling my overloaded wagon up a hill, I vowed to embrace simplicity in my future picnic planning.

The French have a long tradition of outdoor picnics, or as they would say: le pique-nique. In preparing a theme for this week’s column, I reached out to Stephanie Rivin, an American winemaker living and making wines in Bordeaux, and asked her what a typical French countryside picnic would consist of. “Picnicking is a big part of my life and I think I have it down pretty good. I’ve done very extravagant picnics, and I realized that the simple ones are always the most enjoyable because you’re just living in that moment of the picnic. You’re enjoying being outside, having a nice, simple spread. So I try to focus on bringing bread and some cold cuts and either butter or mustard and just letting everyone make their sandwich. There’s not a whole lot of containers you have to lug around. We sometimes do some veggies with a dip or cut-up fruits and cheeses. It makes packing and lugging it around easy and makes clean up a cinch. You don’t need utensils or plates. Everyone just gets to nibble. But the one splurge that I always try to remember



For your next picnic, try cold cuts, bread, cheese and some wine and don’t forget the live music.

PHOTO BY ANN SHAFFER GLATZ

is to bring a small bouquet of flowers because that’s a touch that makes it just a little more special, even just a jam jar with a few stems in it.”

I must admit that the simplicity of Rivin’s approach surprised me, given my perception that French cuisine epitomizes fine dining. But it should not have come as such a surprise, considering Rivin’s background. She honed her winemaking skills while living on a farm in Anderson Valley in California’s Mendocino County. When an opportunity presented itself for Stephanie to produce some French-style rosé wines for Whole Foods’ annual spring rose promotion, she moved to Bordeaux.

Looking at the complexity of how French wine was marketed in the U.S., she felt that all the chateau names, ranking and classification systems could be cumbersome for consumers to understand. Focusing on simplicity, she reasoned that a wine made in a straightforward style, with an easy-to-pronounce name, would bridge the gap and appeal to the American ideal. This was the genesis of her label French Blue, affordably priced wines that Rivin feels are very picnic-friendly. “Our sauvignon blanc and rosé wines have screw caps, which make them the most picnic-friendly wines out there. What I like about those two wines is that they’re really versatile,

especially with cured meats like salami or pork paté. The saltiness of the meats can pair well with the freshness and acidity of the wines,” Rivin said.

This summer I’m working in Champaign at the restaurant at Prairie Fruits Farm and Creamery, which is renowned for its farmstead cheeses, especially it’s chevre (fresh goat cheese). One of our most popular sandwiches, jambon beurre, is an iconic French picnic staple. It is simply ham on a buttered baguette, which sounds easy enough, but as the famous French chef Alain Ducasse noted, sometimes “the simpler things can be most difficult.” Jambon beurre is all about the quality of the ingredients. You should seek out artisanal demi baguettes, the best ham you can find, and European-style unsalted butter with 85% butterfat (most American butters are 80%).

When I go to the Muni to see my son, Robb, perform in *Music Man*, I’ll be packing jambon beurre sandwiches for a hand-held meal that doesn’t require any plates or utensils. For appetizers, I’ll be borrowing from the Spanish tapas tradition and bringing a tray of banderillas, little bites speared on wooden skewers, another utensil-free hand-held treat. To accompany my moveable feast, I’ll be enjoying the French Blue wines that Stephanie Rivin kindly gifted me.

Jambon beurre

Makes 1 sandwich

Ingredients:

- 1 fresh demi baguette
- 1 ½ tablespoons 85% butterfat unsalted European-style butter such as Plugra
- 1 ½ tablespoons goat cheese
- 4 ounces of thinly sliced cooked ham, at room temperature
- 2 radishes, thinly sliced into matchsticks
- 4 tiny cornichons, halved lengthwise

Preparation:

Heat oven to 275 degrees F. Place the baguette in the oven and bake until the outside crisps, about 10 minutes. Remove from the oven, split in half lengthwise and allow to cool.

When the baguette has cooled, spread butter on the bottom half and spread goat cheese on the top half.

Top the buttered side with the radishes and top the goat cheese side with the cornichons. Pile on the ham over the goat cheese and cornichons, then close the sandwich, and cut in half on the bias (at a 45-degree angle).

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Buried treasures from the '60s

Doris Kearns Goodwin's new memoir offers behind-the-scenes glimpses of historical events

BOOK REVIEW | Glenna R. Schroeder-Lein

If you had 300 cubic foot boxes of documents, diaries and other materials, mostly from the 1960s, in your basement and garage, what would you do?

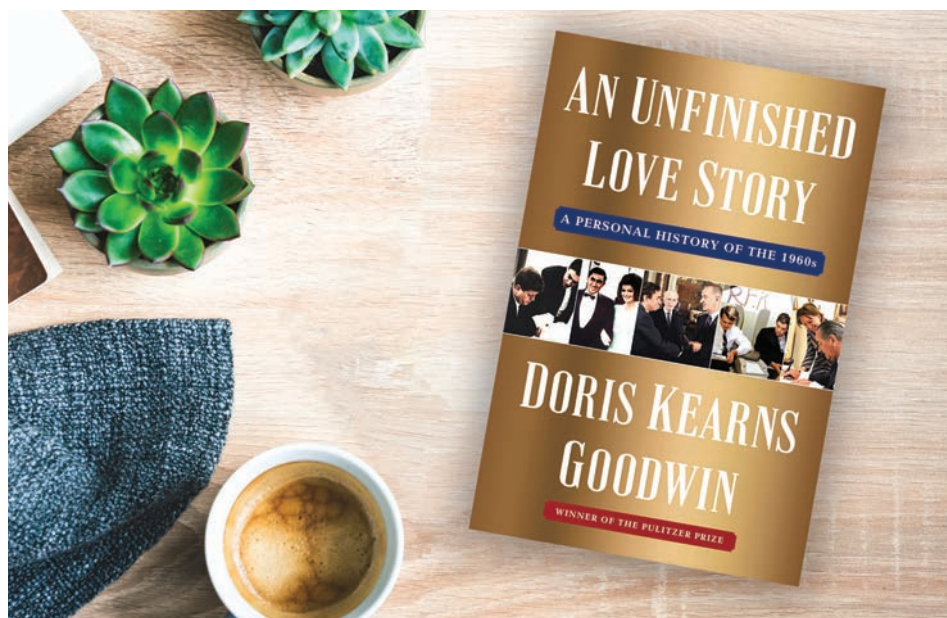
When Doris Kearns Goodwin and her husband, Richard (Dick) Goodwin, assessed their situation in 2012, they did not panic or call a junk hauler. Instead, they decided to examine as much of the stash as possible – and write another book.

Dick Goodwin had been, among other things, a significant speechwriter for John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, both during their campaigns and their presidencies, and most of the papers were his. Doris, familiar to many in Springfield for her award-winning Lincoln study *Team of Rivals* (2005), had herself worked for LBJ in 1967-68, as well as helped him with his memoir after his presidency. This collaboration had led to her own first book, *Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream* (1976).

Because of the assassination of JFK, Dick went to work for LBJ, but Johnson, who had a bias against the Kennedy family, was always suspicious of Dick because of his connection and continuing friendship with members of the clan, particularly Jackie and Robert. Instrumental in helping JFK to set up the Peace Corps as well as the Alliance for Progress and later developing the Great Society program for LBJ, Dick broke with Johnson over the president's expansion of the Vietnam War and went back to working at the Peace Corps offices.

During the presidential campaign of 1968, Dick worked for both Eugene McCarthy and then Bobby Kennedy, when the latter decided to run. Although he was not in the room when Kennedy was shot in Los Angeles, Dick was with Bobby when he died.

Dick and Doris, whose times working for LBJ did not overlap, met in June 1972, when he was



An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2024; 467 pp., notes, bibliography, index.

40 and she was 29. They hit it off immediately and were married in December 1975. Soon after, Doris quit teaching to write full time and raise their three sons. Dick, no longer in full-time service to politicians, was also at home writing books, articles and columns. Doris found that her books benefited from discussions with Dick, and from his understanding of political processes and possibilities.

Because of the stress and trauma of his experiences in the 1960s, for many years Dick was not ready to investigate any of his papers from that era. It was only soon after he turned 80 that he decided it was now or never and proposed to work on them.

Initially Dick hired a friend to help him

sort through the boxes to get the materials into chronological order. Then Dick and Doris allotted several hours each week to their project. They examined documents together and Doris asked Dick questions to stimulate his recollections about the incidents, while recording these conversations.

Doris especially appreciated several results of their work together. Because the project included some correspondence and other materials from Dick's pre-1960s life, she got a better idea of what her husband was like as a young man, before she met him. In addition, working together on the raw materials of the period helped them to moderate their perpetual rivalry of opinion between Dick's advocacy of JFK and his

presidency and Doris's partisanship for LBJ.

Dick died in May 2018, at the age of 86, from nasal cancer. He worked with Doris as long as he was able and wanted her to finish the book. The resulting volume is an effective mixture of several types of writing. Much of the focus is on the historical events of the 1960s in which Dick played an important part, far beyond what could be mentioned in this review. The value and interest of the primary sources in the Goodwins' collection (now housed at the University of Texas at Austin) should not be underestimated. The book is also a memoir/biography of Dick, including much about his perspective on the events he participated in.

To a lesser extent, the book is a memoir for Doris as well. Being 11 years younger than Dick, she was in high school, at Colby College, and in her early career when Dick was involved with JFK and LBJ. Nevertheless, she participated in integrating her college sorority and attended Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington in 1963, an event that Dick also attended, although they did not meet. In addition, the book exudes the excitement of the Goodwins' hunt for relevant materials in their vast collection of papers.

An Unfinished Love Story is a compelling and fascinating read for anyone interested in memoirs, mid-20th-century American history, presidential studies, and behind-the-scenes glimpses of major historical events.

Springfield historian and former manuscripts librarian Glenna R. Schroeder-Lein has written a number of books, articles and book reviews on various aspects of U.S. history. Doris Kearns Goodwin is scheduled to speak about her new book June 11 at Hoogland Center for the Arts. However, tickets for the event, sponsored by the Lincoln Presidential Foundation, are sold out.

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MUSIC



Taichi Fukumura named new ISO conductor

MUSIC | Scott Faingold

Following an exciting 2023-2024 season which doubled as a fierce, seven-month contest to hire a new music director/conductor, the Illinois Symphony Orchestra has announced the winner: Maestro Taichi Fukumura. The selection process took an unexpected turn in April, when Naomi Woo withdrew from the competition to become music director of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, narrowing the field considerably.

Former conductor Ken Lam announced his departure for China last year – he is now director of orchestral studies at The Tianjin Juilliard School as well as resident conductor of the Tianjin Juilliard Orchestra. He retains a position as creative adviser for ISO.

Fukumura is no stranger to Illinois, having spent much of his early career in Chicago, where he earned a master's degree in music and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from Northwestern University. He will be leaving his current position as assistant conductor for the Fort Worth Symphony to claim his post as ISO music director. Discussing the orchestra's dual home bases of Springfield and Bloomington-Normal during an interview held over Zoom last week, Fukumura called ISO "a unique orchestra with a very dynamic setup." Having grown up in Boston, he was surprised to encounter a sense of familiarity upon spending time in the Land of Lincoln. "Being in Springfield made me feel at home because of all the architecture and the history," he enthused. "Just the fact that there *is* so much history is very

similar to New England."

Fukumura is looking forward to working with the ISO's musicians. "We have not that many concerts together per year but every event matters to them," he said. "And when the [musical] programs present challenges, that is when they go the extra mile and step up." Speaking of challenges, there are several positions within the orchestra that will need to be filled soon with new musicians, a process Fukumura describes as a "golden opportunity." He hopes to start filling the spots with musicians both local and regional, anticipating the ability to take advantage of both Springfield's and BloNo's proximity to larger cities like Chicago and St. Louis, with their attendant plethora of musical talent.

"The plan is to do everything to make ISO attractive to potential musicians," he said. "Every event should be meaningful to both audiences and musicians, where we mix and juggle repertoire." He plans to combine some familiar pieces which might be new to this orchestra, along with some more contemporary compositions rarely heard before.

"Where do we want the orchestra to be in five, 10 years?" This was one of the primary questions on the committee's collective mind during the selection process, according to Trevor Orthmann, ISO executive director. "We were looking for positive energy and passion," he said. Surveys of the orchestra's musicians were one tool used to help determine who would be the new musical director. "Chemistry with the orchestra, the ability to make

our musicians feel comfortable, and skill on the podium" were some of the most important traits on the committee's list – along with the ability to connect with various constituencies in both the Springfield and Bloomington-Normal communities. The search process began last year with 55 applicants, eventually winnowing down to four and finally leaving Fukumura as the last baton standing.

For his part, the newly announced music director is thrilled to get started. "One of the big things that strikes me about this organization is that it is a very exciting one at the cusp of some great artistic growth," he said. "There have been very good, smart [administrative] decisions made in recent years leading up to here." These decisions include the incorporation of the Illinois Symphony Youth Orchestras program, which became a part of the ISO in 2020, including the Starter Strings program, which has shown significant growth recently in attracting beginning musicians interested in learning violin, viola or cello. "No orchestra can do well without the support of the people in the community and the musicians," concluded Maestro Fukumura. All the ingredients seem to be in place for an exciting and successful future for the ISO. □

Scott Faingold is a journalist, educator and musician. He has been director of student media at University of Illinois Springfield, founding editor of Activator magazine, a staff reporter for Illinois Times and co-host of Old School Bleep, a music-centered podcast.

Upcoming ISO events in Springfield

Annual dinner meeting and end of the season celebration: Sunday, June 9, 5:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut, Springfield.
Sips & Sounds Series: Friday, June 28, 6:30 p.m., Boone's, 301 W. Edwards; Friday, July 26, 6:30 p.m., Anvil & Forge, 619 E. Washington; Friday, Aug. 23, 6:30 p.m. Casa Real, 1121 Lincolnshire; Friday, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m., Obed & Isaac's, 500 S. Sixth.

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	Chick Fritz Main Stage Washington St.	Solution Printing Stage Washington St Side	MWFB Main Stage 5th Street	Alamo Stage 5th Street Side	Old State Capitol Acoustic Stage
5:00 PM				Blind Mind 5:00-5:45	5:00 PM Mike Davis 5:00-5:45
5:15 PM	13 GRIT 5:00-6:00				5:15 PM
5:30 PM					5:30 PM
5:45 PM				Al'Maculate Conception 5:45-6:30	5:45 PM The Pepper Sprouts 5:45-6:30
6:00 PM		Dark Surface 6:00-6:45			6:00 PM
6:15 PM					6:15 PM
6:30 PM				Sonic Sunday 6:30-7:15	6:30 PM Emily Perkins 6:30-7:15
6:45 PM	Off The Wall 6:45-7:45				6:45 PM
7:00 PM					7:00 PM
7:15 PM				Ryan Napier 7:15-8:15	7:15 PM Jacob Burke 7:15-8:00
7:30 PM					7:30 PM
7:45 PM		The 4 County Band 7:45-8:45			7:45 PM
8:00 PM				Isaiah Christian & The Rebel Saints 8:15-9:00	8:00 PM John Wahl 8:00-8:45
8:15 PM					8:15 PM
8:30 PM					8:30 PM
8:45 PM	Drew Cagle & The Reputaion 8:45-9:45				8:45 PM
9:00 PM					9:00 PM
9:15 PM				Pimpin' Henry 9:00-10:00	9:15 PM
9:30 PM					9:30 PM
9:45 PM		The Lovelorn 9:45-10:45			9:45 PM
10:00 PM				Before The Fire Dies 10:00-11:00	10:00 PM
10:15 PM					10:15 PM
10:30 PM					10:30 PM
10:45 PM	John Kennedy and the Multiple Shooters 10:45-12:00				10:45 PM
11:00 PM			Fireside Relics 11:00-12:00		11:00 PM
11:15 PM					11:15 PM
11:30 PM					11:30 PM
12:00 AM					12:00 AM

Friday, June 7th ↗

Saturday, June 8th ↘



Legacy of Giving Music Festival STAGE LINE-UPS

	Chick Fritz Main Stage Washington St.	Solution Printing Stage Washington St. Side	MWFB Main Stage 5th Street	Alamo Stage 5th Street Side	Old State Capitol Acoustic Stage
12:00 PM		Blacklight Orchestra 12:00-12:45		Paul Bill, Jr. 12:00-12:45	
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM	The Stifftones 12:45-1:30		The Saturday Brothers 12:45-1:30		Years of the Songs 12:45-1:30
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM					
1:30 PM		Crash Planet 1:30-2:15		Despised Mourning 1:30-2:15	TBA 1:30-2:15
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM	Aileana Rawlins Band 2:15-3:00		Keep 2:15-3:00		Terce 2:15-3:00
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM		The Complaint Line 3:00-3:45		R&B Live Ladies Edition 3:00-3:45	TBA 3:00-3:45
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM	Black Queen 3:45-4:30		We Are Ayra 3:45-4:30		Lydia Cunningham 3:45-4:30
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM		Engine Huey 4:30-5:15		Riffstorm 4:30-5:15	Scooter Brown 4:30-5:15
4:45 PM					
5:00 PM					
5:15 PM	COMMIT THIS TO MEMORY 5:15-6:00		Corduroy Cat 5:15-6:15		Whitney Devine 5:15-6:00
5:30 PM					
5:45 PM					
6:00 PM		Acid Fog 6:00-6:45		Chris Camp & His Blues Ambassadors 6:15-7:00	TBA 6:00-6:45
6:15 PM					
6:30 PM					
6:45 PM	Johanna Chandler 6:45-7:45		Catfish Seminar 7:00-8:00		The Tangents 6:45-7:30
7:00 PM					
7:15 PM					
7:30 PM					
7:45 PM		Robber Baron 7:45-8:45		The Tangents Band 8:00-9:00	Jonas Woodstock 7:30-8:15
8:00 PM					
8:15 PM					
8:30 PM					
8:45 PM	UNCHAINED 8:45-9:45		Dead Man's Dog 9:00-10:00		
9:00 PM					
9:15 PM					
9:30 PM					
9:45 PM		Pinch of Grace 9:45-10:45		Dysfunctional Family 10:00-11:00	
10:00 PM					
10:15 PM					
10:30 PM					
10:45 PM	Joel Gragg & The Filaments 10:45-12:00		Harlem Heyfield 11:00-12:00		
11:00 PM					
11:15 PM					
11:30 PM					
12:00 AM					

June music-making

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

As we drop into our first full weekend of June for 2024, the stage is set for a righteous run of wonderful live music experiences in the good old summertime. Let's get right to it and take a gander at what's in store for the next several days on the local scene.

First, we're jumping to next week on Friday, June 14, when JD Simo, a renowned guitarist of the American roots and blues variety and also one cool cat who did the guitar work for the 2022 blockbuster biopic, *Elvis*, plays an all-ages show at Casey's Pub inside the Knights of Columbus Hall. I'll have more on this next week, but for now know that JD is a great guy and performer. Plus, the presenting ZRH Foundation is an extraordinary organization, and this is your heads up.

The big news on the festival scene this weekend is the annual Legacy of Giving

Music Festival held around the Old State Capitol on Fifth and Washington streets. Popularly known as LoG (a continuation of the long-running SOHO festival created by the late Eric Welch), all the proceeds from this event go to local charities (\$4,500 raised in 2023) and bands donate their talent and time to play for this caring cause.

LoG happens on five stages with 60-some music acts across wide-ranging genres. It includes many local performers along with groups from outside our music community as well. There will be vendors selling drinks and food plus craft-based and artisan booths. The big show begins at 5 p.m. on Friday and noon Saturday with bands playing until midnight both days. The music is nonstop with smaller stages set next to the two larger ones, so when one band is done, the other kicks right in. The acoustic stage area is on

the south side of the Old State Capitol, away from the electrified bands, and ends around 9 p.m. each evening. Come on out and support this worthy cause, plus have a whole bunch of fun and get a good overall look at a large portion of the Springfield music scene while you're at it.

This Sunday, June 9, marks the return of the Paris-Belle House Concerts in Williamsville with a show by nationally known guitarist, songwriter and singer David Singley, who was born and raised in rural central Illinois. Singley has played with many of the top names in popular music. Visit the Paris-Belle Concerts Facebook page and/or send an email to Paris-belleconcerts@outlook.com for reservations and details. If you've never been to a house concert, you're in for a treat. As the name implies, it's a concert in a house, and there's usually some refreshments

involved along with the intimate setting. With no interruptions or distractions, the music is on center stage in the corner of a room and you're right there to enjoy it all.

My friend and yours, Johnny Burgin, brings his take on the blues to the Alamo this Monday for the Illinois Central Blues Club's weekly show. Johnny keeps on rockin' by playing almost every day (in the nighttime, actually) all over the U.S., Europe and Japan. He's showing up with a new CD in hand, *Ramblin' from Coast to Coast*, released on Straightshooter Records just last April. It's a continuation of his journey based on real Chicago-style blues with a refreshing, updated sound that's always on the move, but always grounded in the deep roots of authentic blues.

Be sure to check our listings for all the other happenings going on around town, until we meet up again next week. □

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Thursday Jun 6

MK Smith and Damian Zimmerman
1st and 3rd Boutique and Wine Bar, Petersburg, 6-8pm

Manny Lee
Casa Real Cantina and Grill, 6-8pm

Timo Arthur
Casey's Pub, 5-8pm

Dave Littrell
Curate, 6-9pm

Mary Jo Curry Band
Curve Inn, 6-9pm

Skillet with Icon For Hire
The Devon Lakeshore Amphitheater, Decatur, 7pm

Michael Lanham
The Gables, 10-11:30am

Power Play with Gene Jackson
The Gables, 12-3pm

Emily Perkins
Jacksonville Square, Jacksonville, 4:30-7:30pm

Friday Jun 7

Isaiah Case
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7-9pm

Robert Sampson
Bar Bella, 5-8pm

Friday Night Jazz & Blues - Tom Lowery Trio
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

Matt Eck
Crowne Plaza Springfield, 6:30-10pm

Gracia Harrison
Curate, 6-9pm

SmoothTimes
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

All American Throwbacks
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

Thomas J Beverly
El Taco Guapo at Lake Springfield Marina, 6-9pm

Michael Lanham
The Gables, 10-11:30am

Power Play with Gene Jackson
The Gables, 12-3pm

Wolf Crick Boys
George Rank's, 8-10pm

Wowie Zowie
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Robert Sampson
Hy-Vee Wahlburgers, 5:30-7pm

The Tangents
It's All About Wine, 4:30-6:30pm

Ricarda Rosalina
La Fiesta Grande, 6-9pm

Broken Stone
Locals Bar, Pawnee, 6pm

Michael Burnett and The Suns of Circumstance
Long Bridge Golf Course, 6:30-10:30pm

Stone Cold Blues Band
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 6-9pm

Brandon Elliott
The Railyard, 6-9pm

Deja Voodoo
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 8pm

Whitney Devine
Springfield Beer Company, Jacksonville, 6-9pm

Kazha with Doom Buggy, Chris Sorenson Project
The Blue Grouch, 7pm

2FlightsDown
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

Dance Monkey
Weebles Bar & Grill, 5:30pm

Saturday Jun 8

Stereo Typical
Aqua Sports Club, 6pm

Hank Williams IV
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

After School Special
The Cottage Inn, 2pm

The Remedy
The Cottage Inn, 5-9pm

Michael Lanham
Curate, 6-9pm

The Collective
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Angel Brown's Smooth N' Blue Band
Dana-Thomas House, 6-9pm

Swift - A Tribute to Taylor Swift
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

Spare Ribs
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur, 7-9pm

Dry Socket, Payasa, Blight Future, World View, Propaganda
Dumb Records, 7pm

Peaches and Bacon
Enos Park Neighborhood Garden, 5-7pm

Michael Lanham
The Gables, 10-11:30am

Power Play with Gene Jackson
The Gables, 12-3pm

Billy Galt
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Lick Creek
Locals Bar, Pawnee, 6pm

Ricarda Rosalina
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 7-10pm

Rod Grant
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

Hippies of the Heartland
Pizza Records, Jacksonville, 7-10pm

1 in the Gun
Pop's Place, Decatur, 9pm-1am

Joel Honey
The Railyard, 6-9pm

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

Mississippi Leghound
Sky Lounge, 7-10pm

Springfield Uketopians
Stella Coffee & Tea, 12-2pm

JackAsh
Win, Lose, Or Draught, 3-6pm

Sunday Jun 9

Dennis Glavine
Ad Astra Wine and Tapas Bar, 2-5pm

After School Special
Bar Bella, 1-4pm

Curt Smith
Brookhills Golf Club, 3-6pm

Sleeping Dogzz
Curve Inn, 1-6pm

Spafford
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 7pm

Micah Walk
El Taco Guapo at Lake Springfield Marina, 1-4pm

Avery Kern
The Filling Station, Rochester, 3-6pm

Long Way Home
Harvest Market Coffee Bar, 10am-1pm

Isaiah Christian
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

Manny Lee
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

David Singley
Paris-Belle House, Williamsville, 7pm

Billy Galt and The Blues Deacons
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

Matt Combs
Prop Club, 3-6pm

Not Petty
The Railyard, 1-4pm

Ricarda Rosalina
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 7-9pm

After School Special
Springfield Elks Lodge #158, 4pm

Exit 52
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-7pm

Monday Jun 10

Johnny Burgin
The Alamo, 7pm

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

Tuesday Jun 11

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

Stephanie and Danny
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 7-9pm

Wednesday Jun 12

After School Special
Coz's Pizza and Pub, 7:30pm

Devil's Daughter & The Black Water Band
Lake Press Club, 6-9pm

Not Petty
Obed and Isaac's, 6-9pm

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



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THE CALENDAR



Legacy of Giving Music Festival

Fri., June 7, 5 p.m.-12 a.m.
Sat., June 8, 12 p.m.-12 a.m.
Old State Capitol Plaza
217-306-7896

MUSIC | Annual festival to benefit 10 charities

it Springfield's largest family-friendly music festival is back Friday and Saturday with 62 acts on five stages. You read that right – 62! This popular two-day festival includes food, 30 vendors, a variety of arts and crafts and activities for kids such as inflatables and face painting – all for charity. This is a chance to help support local music, art and nonprofit organizations that help the community. More than \$60,000 has been raised for 10 local charities at this downtown event. Affiliated citywide activities include a bocce ball tourney, 5K and 10K race, bags tourney and disc golf tournament. Admission is \$10 or \$15 if you plan to attend both days. Check the Facebook page or website, logmusicfest.org, for more information and band lineup.

Special Music Events

Craig Morgan with Drew Baldrige

Fri., June 7, 7pm. Country music artist Craig Morgan has 25 charted Billboard songs and 2 billion career streams. Drew Baldrige will open. \$29-\$55. The Devon Lakeshore Amphitheater, Decatur, 620 E. Riverside Dr., 217-422-5911.

Empire Strikes Brass

Thu., June 6, 6-9:30pm. This brass funk-rock band from Asheville, N.C., has a lot to say with a big sound. Part of the Levitt Amp Springfield Music Series. Tulo & Eads will open. Free. Y Block, north of the Governor's Mansion, 217-544-1723.

First Friday Concert Series

Fri., June 7, 7pm. Directed by Mark Gifford. spicathedral.org. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-522-3342.

International Carillon Festival

June 6-9, 6pm. This popular festival has earned an unsurpassed tradition of presenting the world's finest carillonners. Bring a picnic

dinner and lawn chairs and blankets. carillon-rees.org. Free. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-3853.

Overdose and Resurrection

Sat., June 8, 6:30-10:30pm. Tributes to Poison and Journey. Call for ticket info. Part of the Sherman Village Park Amphitheatre Summer Tribute Concert Series. \$28.55. Sherman Village Park Amphitheater, Sherman, 1200 Rail Fence Dr., 217-496-2621.

The Vincents

Fri., June 7, 7-9pm. A night of rockabilly music. Part of the Downtown Concert Series 2024. Free. Downtown Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Central Park, 217-243-5679.

Books & Authors

Book signing

Sat., June 8, 1-2:30pm. Martha Miller will talk about her new book, *Torrid Summer*, and sign copies. The story is about a girl who visits a Florida beach bar named Magnolias where she learns the truth about sexuality, transgendered love and murder.

illinoiseagle.com. Illinois Eagle, 1133B W. Governor St.

An Evening with Doris Kearns Goodwin

Tue., June 11, 6-8:15pm. Pulitzer Prize-winner, bestselling author and "America's historian-in-chief," Goodwin, will share exclusive insights on her book, *An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s*. Presented by the Lincoln Presidential Foundation. \$40-\$1,000. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-557-6250.

Theater & Comedy

Belly Laffs' Summer Showcase Vol 1

Fri., June 7, 8pm. The summer showcase highlights a mix of favorite comics and new, upcoming comedians. Tickets available at the door. \$10-\$11. Laguna Brava Mexican Restaurant, 2466 Wabash Ave., 217-741-9955.

Comedy open mic

Second Sunday of every month, 6:30-8:30pm. Through July 7. Event features a different headliner each month. Hosted

by Cassandra Simpson and Ryne Thorson. Sign up at 6pm with show following at 6:30pm. Material may not be kid-friendly. Free. The Wakerly, 5 W. Old State Capitol Plaza, 217-670-2354.

Jersey Boys

Through June 8. A fantastic jukebox musical presented in a documentary-style format that dramatizes the formation, success and breakup of the 1960s rock 'n' roll group, The Four Seasons. themuni.org. \$12-\$22. Ages 5 and under free. The Muni, 815 E. Lake Dr., 217-793-MUNI.

The Lincolns of Springfield

Through June 7, 7pm and Through June 9, 2pm. The love story we never knew between Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln. This play was a hit in 2023 and is back for a second year. hcfta.org. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Ryan Conner

Fri., June 7, 8pm. Conner, originally from Washington, D.C., brings his unique brand of stand-up comedy to Petersburg. \$25. Broadgauge, Petersburg,

101 North 7th St., 217-386-5669.

Art & Architecture

Artist Gallery Talk

Thu., June 6, 5-6pm. Jeanine Coupe Ryding and Rosalyn Schwartz will discuss their pieces from the "Commanding Presence: 100 Years of Women Artists" exhibit. Reservations required. Free. Illinois Governor's Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-782-6450.

DIM 'N Friends Pop-Up Show

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through June 7. DIM Art House and SAA collaborate to create a unique pop-up exhibition featuring artists and friends of both organizations. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 2175232631.

Market Days at The Gables

June 6-8, 10am-5pm. Shop, eat, drink and socialize as local art and craft vendors line the streets. Features sidewalk sales, specials and live entertainment. Free admission. The Gables, 2800 Plaza Dr., 217-638-1360.

"Once and Again: Alterations" opening reception

Fri., June 7, 5:30-7:30pm. Using needle and thread for self-expression, Susan Lenz works to articulate the accumulated memory inherent in discarded things. Her work has appeared in national publications, numerous juried exhibitions, and at fine craft shows. springfieldart.org. Free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

"Spirituality"

Fridays, 12-8pm and Saturdays, 12-6pm. Through July 27. Pharmacy artists were asked to use spirituality as inspiration for their work in the current gallery exhibit. Free. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 217-622-7903.

Sublimation process demonstration

Sat., June 8, 11am-4pm. Annette Frazier will demonstrate the process of creating wind spinners while using sublimation - the process of infusing ink into an object. Free. HodgePodge Heaven, White Oaks Mall, 2501 Wabash Ave., 217-801-1598.

Film & Television

it All About the Levkoviches

Thu., June 6, 7-9pm. Drama. Part of the 8th annual Jewish Federation Film Series featuring award-winning films from around the world. Adults \$10 and students \$5. AMC Classic Springfield 12, 3141 Mercantile Dr.

Auditions

Waitress

Sat., June 8. Rehearsals begin Sept. 3. Performance dates are Oct. 11-27. Visit the website for audition materials and to schedule an audition. atthelegacy.com. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

Food & Drink

History Cooks: Sangamo Club

Fri., June 7, 12pm. Chef David Radwine, former general manager and executive chef at the club, will discuss its 150 years of tradition and fine dining. lcc.edu. Free. Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 S. Eighth St., 217-786-4918.

History

Edwards Place Guided Tours

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 1, 2pm. Through Dec. 21. A guided tour through the newly-restored first and second floors. See the authentic "Lincoln Courting Couch" from the parlor of the Ninian Edwards home where Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd were married and a piano that was likely played at their wedding. springfieldart.org. Adults \$5, children 10 and younger free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

it Sanctuary Tours

Thursdays, 1:30-3pm. Through June 27. See the beautiful sanctuary that houses seven Tiffany windows and the pew that Abe and Mary Lincoln used during their time at the church. lincolnschurch.org. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

Walk with Pride: A Tour of Springfield's LGBT+ History

Sat., June 8, 9-10:30am and Wed., June 12, 5:30-7:30pm. A 2.5-mile walking tour of historic LGBT+ sites in downtown Springfield led by Caroline Kionka of the library's Sangamon Valley Collection. Bring comfortable shoes and water. Questions encouraged. Call for registration and meeting place information. lincolnlbrary.info. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900, x5634.

Holiday Happenings

Juneteenth Talent Showcase

Wed., June 12, 5:30pm. Enjoy an evening of great music, poetry, dance and much more. Part of Springfield's Juneteenth Celebration. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

Fairs & Festivals

Car Show and Summer Cruise

Sat., June 8, 8am-9pm. Annual judged Car Show from 8am to 3pm in downtown in Jacksonville. From 5pm to 9pm the car cruise will take place along Morton Avenue. \$20 entry fee for competition / \$5 display only. Downtown Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Central Park, 217-243-5678.

Central Park Market

Thu., June 6, 4-8pm. This annual event hosts 60-plus

vendors from central Illinois. Includes live music, entertainment and local downtown businesses. jacksonvilleil.org. Downtown Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Central Park, 217-243-5678.

Garden Jamboree

Sat., June 8, 5-7pm. Enjoy free food and drinks while listening to the tunes of banjo and fiddle duo Peaches and Bacon during this fourth annual, family-friendly event. Includes face painting for the kids. enosparkgardens.org. Free. Enos Park Neighborhood Garden, 1022 N. Fifth St., 217-610-0720.

Legacy of Giving Music Festival

June 7-8. 60 bands. Five stages. 30 vendors. All for 10 charities. logmusicfest.org. Admission. Downtown Springfield, Downtown.

Sangamon County Fair

June 12-16. The premier county fair of central Illinois. Entertainment, livestock shows, exhibitors, carnival, rodeo and all the fair food you can imagine. See the website for more information and schedule of events. Admission \$5 for ages 5 and older. sangcofair.com. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, 316 W. Birch St., 488-2685.

Sparks in the Park

June 6-8. Pageant, food vendors and marketplace, beer tent, parade, carnival, 5K race and live music. Fireworks on Saturday night. Rochester Community Park, Rochester, 90 Wild Rose Lane.

Virginia BBQ

June 7-9. Three days of fun includes pageants, a fun run, baby contest, 10:30am Saturday parade, bags tournament and live music by The Aileana Rawlins Band, Micah Walk and Dave Littrell, Gabe Carlock and Brushville. Free. Virginia Town Square, Virginia, 1 South Side Square, 217-452-7786.

Fundraisers and Galas

Governor Duncan Barbecue

Sat., June 8, 5-8pm. Enjoy a buffet dinner, beverages, a benefit auction and entertainment by Wild Columbine. Advanced tickets are required. Tickets are available at the Jacksonville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, all Governor Duncan Association Board members or by calling. Proceeds benefit the mansion. \$40. Twisted Tree Music Hall, Jacksonville, 1061 E. Morton Ave., 217-491-1356.

Jazz in Bloom

Sat., June 8, 6-9pm. Experience the Dana-Thomas House as a guest. Reservations requested by June 1 — ticket includes live

music by Angel Brown's Smooth N' Blue Band, food and cash bar. Hosted by the Dana-Thomas House Foundation. \$65. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-788-9452.

Children's Corner

Kids Fare Garden Club

Mondays, 10-11am. Through Aug. 5. This gardening club for school-aged children will be taught by Alana Reynolds. Children will help manage three raised beds in the Enos Park Neighborhood Garden. Drop-ins are welcome. enosparkgardens.org. Free. Enos Park Neighborhood Garden, 1022 N. Fifth St., 217-610-0720.

Rochester Youth Fishing Derby

Sat., June 8, 9am. For pre-K to eighth-grade students. Event sponsored by village of Rochester Sparks in the Park Committee, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Scheels. Bring your fishing gear; bait will be provided. Participants will be awarded prizes for most and largest fish caught in an hour. Free. Rochester Community Park, Rochester, 90 Wild Rose Lane, 217-498-8411.

Springfield Heroes Summer Camp

Through June 7, 9am-3pm and Through June 14, 9am-3pm. Children in fourth- through sixth-grades will learn about Springfield's heroes and unlock their own superheroes. Includes field trips, outdoor activities, arts and crafts, dancing and more. Continental breakfast, lunch and snacks included. Presented by Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum. Abundant Faith Christian Center, 2525 Taylor Ave., 217-553-1815.

Nature, Science & Environment

Cicada Saturday

Sat., June 8, 10am-4pm. Join cicada enthusiasts for cicada-centric activities, information and family fun. U of I entomologist Dr. Kacie Athey will be present from noon until 2pm for the "Ask the Expert" portion of the event. lincolnmemorialgarden.org. Free. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

Kids Nature Fair

Sun., June 9, 12-3pm. Five hands-on activities for children to enjoy including painting flower pots and making popsicle stick bird feeders. Presented by Springfield Civic Garden Club. scgc-il.org. Free. Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, 4965 S. Second St., 217-899-3283.

4965 S. Second St., 217-899-3283.

Our Past - Our Future Springfield's Utility: An invitation for public participation

Sat., June 8, 9:30-11:30am. A presentation by Sustainable Springfield, a coalition for a clean and just utility. Attendees will be asked to join in focus groups to share their ideas and concerns on our utility's planning for the future. Environmental-friendly groups are invited to share their work. Refreshments provided. Free. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-652-7489.

Bulletin Board

Cat adoptions

Second Saturday of every month, 12-4pm and Second Sunday of every month, 12-4pm. Speak with an adoption coordinator about adopting, volunteering, being a foster parent or making a donation. Hosted by the Forever Home Feline Ranch. felineranch.org. PetSmart, 3183 S. Veterans Pkwy., 217-698-3091.

Comic and Toy Show

Sun., June 9, 10am-4pm. Toys, games, comics and cosplay showcase. Over 70 tables. A place to let your geekiness shine. Crowne Plaza Springfield, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy., 217-529-7777.

D-Day Remembrance Ceremony

Thu., June 6, 11am-12pm. Annual ceremony to honor the men and women who served in World War II to protect our freedom and deliver freedom around the world. Event helps ensure America and the world never forgets the sacrifices made on June 6, 1944 - 80 years ago. Free. Oak Ridge Cemetery, 1441 Monument Ave., 217-725-7466.

Day Trip: Exploring Spectacular Springfield

Tue., June 11, 10am-3pm. Tour the state Capitol, see Elijah Iles' House, picnic at Lincoln Park, visit the African American History Museum and stop by Sweet Treat Stop. www.centrollseniors.org. \$25. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-503-4629.

Health & Fitness

Springfield Heart & Stroke Walk

Sun., June 9, 1pm. Organized by the American Heart Association. Visit website to register, start a team or join as an individual. Proceeds from the event benefit the association. Check-in is at 1pm with the walk beginning at 1:30pm. Free, donations welcome. Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, 4965 S. Second St., 217-585-2941.

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Fire Light glow crew:

Pre School ages 3, 4 or 5

Firelight trail crew:

Kindergarten - 2nd grade

Firelight sidekicks:

3rd, 4th and 5th graders will serve as group assistants

Register in person, by calling Laurel UMC at 217 525-1866, or online at www.laurelumchurch.org/VBS
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www.laurelumchurch.org | 217-525-1866

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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PRAIRIE STATE BANK & TRUST, an Illinois Banking Corporation, Plaintiff, vs. NICHOLAS Y. STUBBS, CHELSEA STUBBS, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants. RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE No. 2023-FC-000189 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the Court in the above-entitled cause on February 22, 2024, the property hereinafter described will be sold to the highest bidder by the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois:

1. The name, address, and phone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is J. Nick Gentile Vice President & Commercial Lender for Prairie State Bank & Trust 3751 West Wabash Ave. Springfield, IL 62711 (217) 416-5148. The common address of the real estate: 1301 North 4th Street Springfield, IL 62702. Tax I.D. No. 14-22-353-033.

2. The legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonably certainty: LOT 17 OF BRADISH'S SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 5 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN. EXCEPT THE COAL AND MINERALS UNDERLYING SAID LOT, SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. TAX I.D. NO. 14-22-353-033. COMMONLY KNOWN AS 1301 NORTH 4TH STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702.

3. The real estate is located at 1301 North 4th Street Springfield, IL 62702. Tax I.D. No. 14-22-353-033 is an improved single-family home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths and approximately 1,544 square feet in size.

5. The times specified in the Judgment, if any, when the real estate may be inspected prior to sale: None.

6. The time and place of the sale: Tuesday July 2nd at 9:00am by the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois in the Sangamon South Auditorium on the first floor at 1 Copley Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701.

7. The terms of the sale: The sale of the real estate shall be by public auction and by open verbal bid. The sale shall be for cash, 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due in 24 hours. The purchaser shall take the property AS IS, WITH NO WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND.

8. The sale is subject to confirmation by the Court.

PRAIRIE STATE BANK & TRUST:
By: /s/Maureen Faller
Maureen Faller
Plaintiff's attorney
3751 W Wabash
Springfield, IL 62711
(217) 864-4918
Maureen.Faller@psbank.net

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT -SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. MELISSA J. MCGLOTHLIN; Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2023FC000076 Property Address: 224 South 8th Street Riverton, IL 62561 NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 27, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC; Plaintiff, vs. BROCK AARON DROCKTON; RHONDA DROCKTON; SOUTHWINDS SUBDIVISION HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 23 FC 116 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., Harvatin Law Office, 1100 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 28-12.0-153-002. Commonly known as 4 CHARLESTON CT., CHATHAM, IL 62629. The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Meaghan J. Diaz de Villegas, Esq. at Plaintiff's Attorney, Lender Legal PLLC, 1800 Pembroke Drive, Orlando Florida 32810. (407) 730-4644. LLS11424-IL INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3245121

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. Lynn Renee Burris, AKA Lynn Burris Defendants. Case No. 2020CH000078 2708 South Walnut Street, Springfield, IL 62704 Judge Adam Giganti NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause on January 10, 2024, Jack Campbell will on July 2, 2024, at the hour of 9:00AM at the Sangamon County Sheriff's Office, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Second Floor, Springfield, IL 62703, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: Commonly known as 2708 South Walnut Street, Springfield, IL 62704 Parcel Number(s): 22-09.0-132-003 The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence. Sale terms: Bidders must present, at the time of sale, a cashier's or certified check for 10% of the successful bid amount. The balance of the successful bid shall be paid within 24 hours, by similar funds. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. The property will NOT be open for inspection. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than the mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (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 call Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski LLC, One East Wacker, Suite 1250, Chicago, IL 60601. Phone number: 312-651-6700. Attorney file number: 20-006450. Edward R. Peterka MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff One East Wacker, Suite 1250 Chicago, IL 60601 Telephone: 312-651-6700 Fax: 614-220-5613 Attorney. No.: 6220416 Email: StateEFiling@manleydeas.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking corporation, successor by merger to Illini Bank, Plaintiff, vs. SAMANTHA ELDER, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. Case No. 2023FC000198 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court on the Complaint for Foreclosure in the above-entitled cause, the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. (A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information

regarding the real estate is: United Community Bank, Attn: Loss Mitigation, 1311 West Jefferson Street, Auburn, IL 62615; Telephone: (217) 438-5467 (B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 1512 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704 (C) A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Single family residence. (D) The real estate may be inspected prior to sale at the following times: Not applicable. (E) The time and place of the sale are: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Floor County Board Chambers, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois (F) The terms of the sale are: 10% cash or certified funds at the time of sale; balance within twenty-four (24) hours of sale. Plaintiff may credit bid at the sale. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Purchase following the sale and a Sheriff's Deed upon confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. (G) Title will be conveyed subject to real estate taxes for 2023 and subsequent years and special assessments, if any; to building restrictions and restrictive covenants of record; to easements of record or in place; to rights of way for roads, streets, and highways; to rights of tenants in possession, if any. Sale is subject to approval of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. Any real estate transfer tax which may be due as a result of the sale shall be paid by the purchaser. BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP Emmet A. Fairfield Registration No. 6180505 205 S. 5th Street - Suite 1000 P.O. Box 2459 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-8491 efairfield@bhsllaw.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DEBORAH LYNN MALTBY, DECEASED Case #2024-PR-225 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of DEBORAH LYNN MALTBY. Letters of Office have been issued to TAYLOR PEAK, 632 Robinson Lane, Winchester, IL 62694, 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 December 13, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 30th day of May, 2024. William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JIMMY ROSS McRILL, DECEASED Case #2024-PR-227 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of JIMMY ROSS McRILL. Letters of Office have been issued to MARY M. McRILL, 824 North 8th St., Springfield, IL 62702, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, on or before December 13, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 30th day of May, 2024. William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. 1215 South 4th Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LOGAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DENNIS L. CHAPMAN, Deceased NO. 2024-PR-20 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of DENNIS L. CHAPMAN, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on May 28, 2024, to Marilyn Chapman, 2516 S. Whittier, Springfield, IL 62704, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may

be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before November 29, 2024 or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 28th day of May, 2024. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF RONALD EUGENE STINE, Deceased. No.: 2024 PR 000222 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION Notice is given of the death of RONALD EUGENE STINE. Letters of office were issued on May 23, 2024 to PAMEL J. KEMP as Independent Representative whose attorney is FELDMANWASSER, 1307 South Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois or with the Representative, or both, on or before November 23, 2024, or within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery to a creditor whose name and post office address is known to or reasonably ascertainable by the representative, whichever is later, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative or the attorney within 10 days after filing. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. You may obtain a copy of a form of a petition to terminate independent administration from the Clerk of court at the above address. Dated this 30th day of May, 2024. FeldmanWasser 1307 S. Seventh St. Springfield, IL 62703 217/544-3403

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VICTORIA A. LITTLE, Deceased NO. 2024PR000215 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Victoria A. Little, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on May 23, 2024, to Jeffrey W. Little, 206 Pennsylvania Avenue, South Roxana, Illinois 62087, as Administrator, whose attorney is Gregory P. Sgro, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex,

200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before the 3rd day of December, 2024 or three months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 23rd day of May, 2024. Gregory P. Sgro Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE L. PARNELL SR., Deceased Case No. 2024-PR-219 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of GEORGE L. PARNELL, SR., Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on May 22, 2023, to Barbara Cheak 1170 Crosspoint Road, Conway, AR 72034, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before November 23, 2024 or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 22nd day of May, 2024. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of STANLEY ROSS BECKER, Deceased. No. 2024-PR-146 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of STANLEY ROSS BECKER of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on April 2, 2024 to CALE W. BECKER, 309 East Harpole Street, P.O. Box 355, Williamsville, Illinois 62693, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is JAMES S. DUNN, 2215 Greenbriar Road, Springfield, Illinois 62704.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Room 405, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, being May 30, 2024. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. 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 <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 May 30, 2024 JAMES S. DUNN – Reg. #3124262 Attorney at Law 2215 Greenbriar Road Springfield, Illinois 62704 217-528-2873 dunnandmclaw@aol.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of MARY A. BART, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-213 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Mary A. Bart of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on May 21, 2024, to Nicholas C. Bart, 3007 W. Hollywood, Chicago, Illinois 60659, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Randall W. Segatto, Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative or both, on or before November 28, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 22nd day of May, 2024. Randall W. Segatto - 06193211 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705-0079 (217) 544-4868 rsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY KATHLEEN ATTEBERRY CONWAY, DECEASED Case #2024-PR-216 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of MARY KATHLEEN ATTEBERRY CONWAY. Letters of Office have been issued to THOMAS MICHAEL CONWAY, SR., 80 Celeste Court, Springfield, IL 62703 as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before December 3, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 20th day of May, 2024. 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 ESTATE OF Teresa Lynn Smoot,

Deceased. No.: 2024-PR-186 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION Notice is given of the death of Teresa Lynn Smoot. Letters of Administration were issued on May 1, 2024 to Colter Smoot, P.O. Box 13205, Springfield, Illinois 62704, as Independent Representative whose attorney is FELDMAN WASSER, 1307 South Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of this court, Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois or with the representative, or both, on or before November 30, 2024 or within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery to a creditor whose name and post office address is known to or reasonably ascertainable by the representative, whichever is later, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of claims filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative or the attorney within 10 days after filing. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. You may obtain a copy of a form of a petition to terminate independent administration from the clerk of court at the above address. Dated this May 20, 2024. Kelli E. Gordon Feldman Wasser 1307 S. 7th Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-544-3403

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SCOTT McINTYRE, DECEASED Case #2024-PR-28 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of SCOTT McINTYRE. Letters of Office have been issued to NICOLE L. McINTYRE, 1021 E. Washington St., Riverton, IL 62561, 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 December 2, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 16th day of May, 2024. William P. 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: JANET ANN EDWARDS, Deceased. NO.: 2024-PR-209 NOTICE TO HEIRS To: Miranda Frankell, whose address is unknown: Notice is given to the above who is an heir in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an order was entered by the Court on

the 13th day of May, 2024, admitting the will to probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission any heir or legatee may file a petition with the Court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in 755 ILCS 5/6-21 of the Probate Act. You also have the right under 755 ILCS 5/8-1 of the Probate Act to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within six months after admission of the will to probate. William W. Edwards Independent Representative Filings are to be made with: Circuit Clerk Sangamon County Courthouse 200 S 9th Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 Randall W. Segatto - 06193211 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705-0079 217/544-4868 rsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of: JANET ANN EDWARDS, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-209 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Janet Ann Edwards of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on May 13, 2024, to William W. Edwards, 2241 S. College, Springfield, Illinois 62704, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before November 20, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 14th day of May, 2024. Randall W. Segatto - 06193211 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-4868 rsegatto@barberlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of: GINGER R. DAVIS, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-205 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Ginger R. Davis of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on May 13, 2024, to Martin Dale Davis, 8882 S. Myrtle Avenue, Tempe, Arizona 85284, as Executor, whose attorneys are Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP, P.O. Box 79, Springfield, Illinois 62705. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 or with the representative or both, on or before November 20, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 14th day of May, 2024.

Nornded Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL. 62702
 This is a private auction. In order to attend you must call 217-544-4521 a week prior to the auction date.
 Please leave your name, telephone number and an email address.
 Cash is the only form of payment accepted for the auction.
 Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance on or before June 12, 2024.
 No personal checks will be accepted for storage units that are in lien.
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
 Keith Ramey Unit #J-7
 Joanna Witherall Unit #1-18
 Justina Carr Unit #1-14
 Susan Grant Unit #10-12
 Dana Irwin Unit #6-30
 Angela Williams Unit #6-22
 Donald Caves Unit #5-23
 Qiana Harris Unit #4-41
 Bertha Day Unit #4-39
 Charlotte Burnett Unit #2-19
 Ashley Goforth Unit #11-9
 Richard Klassen Unit #1-43
 Donald Caves Unit #1-13
 Danny Crawford Unit #10-5
 William Richard Unit #10-2
 Dale Jefferies Unit #8-3
 Amy Goble-Billick Unit #7-1
 Larry Hagaman Unit #3-2
 Ashley Southwick Unit 11-44

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 SANGAMON COUNTY
 Kyle Kinnel, Petitioner and
 Felicia Glass, Respondent
 Case No. 2021-F-000316
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
 Notice is given you Felicia Glass Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced and you are summoned to a child custody case and for other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois on or before the 23rd day of June, 2022, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
 Joseph B. Roesch
 Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 SANGAMON COUNTY
 Kenneth W. Boggs, Petitioner vs.
 Bridget L. Boggs, Respondent
 Case No: 2024-OP-508
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
 Bridget L. Boggs, this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for an Order of Protection. Unless you file your Answer or otherwise file your Appearance in this cause in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth St., Room 405, Springfield, Illinois, on or before June 27, 2023 a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
 Joseph B. Roesch
 Clerk of the Court
 Date: May 30, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 UNITED COMMUNITY BANK, an Illinois banking

corporation, successor by merger to Illini Bank,
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 SAMANTHA ELDER, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND
 NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,
 Defendants.
 Case No. 2023FC000198
NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the court on the Complaint for Foreclosure in the above-entitled cause, the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.
 (A) The name, address and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is:
 United Community Bank, Attn: Loss Mitigation, 1311 West Jefferson Street, Auburn, IL 62615; Telephone: (217) 438-5467
 (B) The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 1512 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704
 (C) A description of the improvements on the real estate is:
 Single family residence.
 (D) The real estate may be inspected prior to sale at the following times:
 Not applicable.
 (E) The time and place of the sale are:
 Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Floor County Board Chambers, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois
 (F) The terms of the sale are:
 10% cash or certified funds at the time of sale; balance within twenty-four (24) hours of sale. Plaintiff may credit bid at the sale. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Purchase following the sale and a Sheriff's Deed upon confirmation of the sale by the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois.
 (G) Title will be conveyed subject to real estate taxes for 2023 and subsequent years and special assessments, if any; to building restrictions and restrictive covenants of record; to easements of record or in place; to rights of way for roads, streets, and highways; to rights of tenants in possession, if any. Sale is subject to approval of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois. Any real estate transfer tax which may be due as a result of the sale shall be paid by the purchaser.
 BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
 Emmet A. Fairfield
 Registration No. 6180505
 205 S. 5th Street – Suite 1000
 P.O. Box 2459
 Springfield, IL 62705
 (217) 544-8491
 efairfield@bhsllaw.com

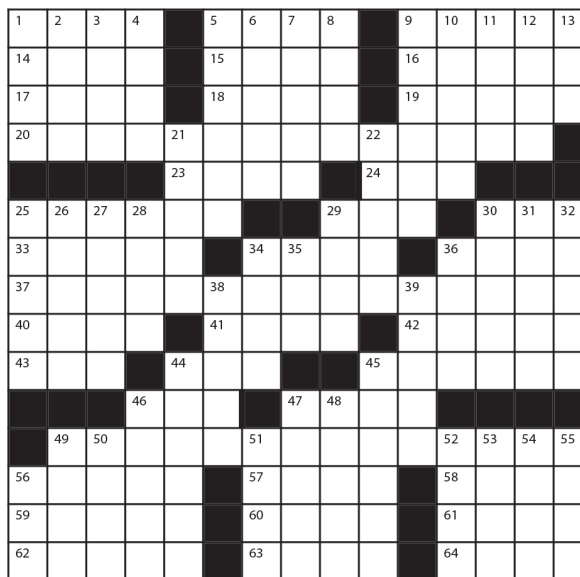
Play ball!

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 844

Across

1. Plays a kazoo
5. Indian prince
9. Huge crowd
14. Crude group?
15. Midmonth time
16. Gibson garnish
17. Sicilian hothead
18. Vault's prop
19. Teen hangouts
20. Baseball term/Broadway magazine
23. Fascinated by
24. Goof
25. Mouth puckerers
29. Ed.'s request
30. Overseas network
33. Kicking partner
34. Aroma
36. Small musical group
37. Firm

40. Hightailed it
41. Sign of laryngitis
42. Mountain group
43. Poetic contraction
44. No. on a business card
45. Bible parts
46. Amniotic
47. Diva's delivery
49. Famous 80's movie quote/baseball term
56. Threatening bacteria
57. Seed covering
58. Gift on "The Bachelor"



59. Still life subject, perhaps
 60. 1492 trio member
 61. Takes a turn
 62. -frutti
 63. Dates
 64. "What are the ___?"
- Down**
1. Worked the soil
 2. "What've you been ___?"
 3. Drop down list
 4. Scrape evidence
 5. Prepares to be picked
 6. Take in, as a stray
 7. Hospital dessert
 8. On the brine
 9. Guadalajara guy

10. TV studio sign
11. Small stream
12. Barbie or Ken
13. Nav. rank
21. Like notebook paper
22. Long
25. Cow catcher
26. Skip the big wedding
27. Track specialist
28. "Metamorphoses" author
29. Early course
30. Some cereals
31. Hogwash
32. Nat and Natalie
34. Face-to-face exam
35. Old PC platform
36. Alpine transport

38. -Roman
39. Night vision
44. South Seas getaway
45. Cellos' little cousins
46. Divvy up
47. High nest
48. German river
49. Neutral hue
50. Talk up
51. Bobbsey sister et al.
52. Therefore
53. Crucifix
54. Brought into play
55. Legendary loch
56. Young newt

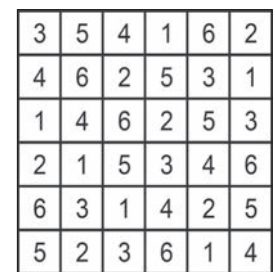
Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #843



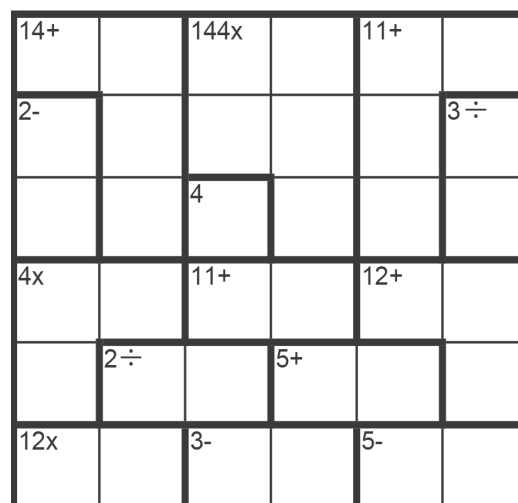
Sudoku answers from #843



JoshJosh answers from #843

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 844

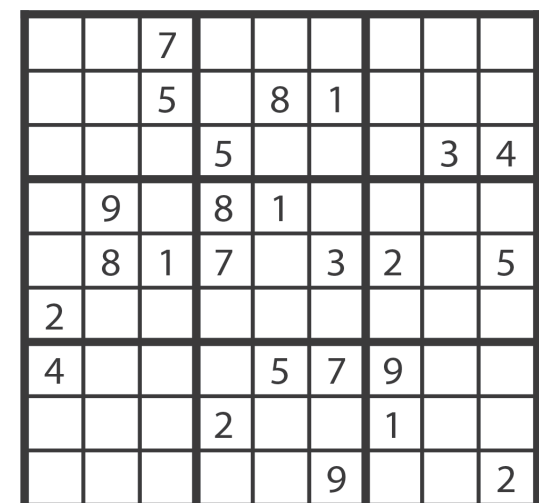
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty hard

Sudoku No. 844

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



Difficulty medium

Doctor. Teacher. Friend. Champion.

At SIU Medicine, we believe every patient deserves to feel like a champion, especially when it comes to health care.

You deserve to have an ally by your side, empowering you to make the best decisions with a trusted doctor who genuinely cares about you.

Amit
Sapra



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